

CHARITY REGISTERED NUMBER:251482

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER

BRANCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

JOHN TURNER
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
400 THAMES VALLEY PARK DRIVE
THAMES VALLEY PARK
READING
BERKSHIRE
RG6 1PT

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered Charity Number: 251482

Chairman: Ms J L Martin

Chief Executive Officer: Ms J L Martin

Treasurer: Mrs S E Ayers

Trustees: Ms J L Martin
Mrs L Mills
Ms J Rainey
Mr S J Ayers
Mrs S E Ayers
Ms P Garden

Secretary: Mr S J Ayers

Registered Office: P.O. Box 8184
Reading
Berkshire
RG6 9PS

Accountants: John Turner
Chartered Accountant
400 Thames Valley Park Drive
Thames Valley Park
Reading
Berkshire
RG6 1PT

Bankers: CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Lloyds TSB
1-2 Market Place
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 2EQ

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

I report on the accounts which are set out on pages 5 to 11

Respective responsibilities of the branch and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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; follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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 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:

- a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to 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 an understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
John Turner FCA
Chartered Accountant
Berkshire House
252-256 Kings Road
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 4HP

Dated: 30 April 2017

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

REPORT OF THE BRANCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

The branch present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2017 under the Charities Act 2011, together with the financial statements for the year, and confirm that the latter comply with the requirements of the Act, the Trust Deed and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association established by Trust Deed. The charity operates as an autonomous branch of the national RSPCA subject to its rules for branches (as updated in 2006).

Organisation

A committee of Trustees, elected at the AGM governs the branch. All trustees are briefed on their responsibilities as trustees prior to their acceptance of the role. The trustees hold bi-monthly meetings at which decisions are made.

Risk policy

The trustees actively review the risks which the charity faces on a regular basis through the monthly meetings, which cover operational and financial reviews. The trustees examine the operational risks which the branch faces, and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks, which have been identified as:

- loss of reputation through error or fraud
- loss of income through error or fraud
- insufficient funds to cover the costs of animal welfare activities
- loss of income through poor investment performance
- insufficient volunteers for fundraising activities
- insufficient trustees for the branch to continue

Objectives and activities

The objects of the branch are to promote the work and objects of the National Society of the RSPCA with particular reference to the area of the branch.

The key aim is to find suitable new homes for as many animals as possible, and to provide proper care for those who have been mistreated or abandoned.

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

REPORT OF THE BRANCH (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

Achievements and performance

Financial review

The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £70,816 (2016 £95,592). Expenditure in the year amounted to £56,938 (2016 £53,046). Unrestricted reserves increased in the year from £246,709 to £269,640.

Investment policy

At 31 December 2017 the branch investment policy was:

- that the current account balance should not fall below £1,000;
- that the monies in the deposit account should be used to "top up" the current account when necessary, and
- that the remainder of investments should continue to be held in the M & G ChariBond and ChariFund.

The trustees recognise that this policy should be reviewed on an annual basis following the finalisation of the accounts for the previous year.

Reserves policy

The branch holds reserves in order that levels of service provided for animal welfare may be maintained should there be a reduction in incoming resources.

Reserves in this context mean funds that are freely available for the branch's general purposes after all commitments have been met.

The branch had unrestricted reserves of £269,640 as at 31 December 2017 represented by net assets of that amount. £2,000 of the reserves has been designated for improvements to fostering facilities and service for cats, dogs and rabbits together with the improvement of the branch infrastructure. Such reserves, after deduction of the designated funds, represent 473.6% of one year's expenditure based on gross expenditure levels in 2017.

It is the opinion of the Trustees that the existing reserves are sufficient to meet any reduction in incoming resources.

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

REPORT OF THE BRANCH (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

Accounting and reporting responsibilities


The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They 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.

Approved by the trustees on 30 April 2018 signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mrs S E Ayers
Trustee


RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		£	£
Tangible fixed assets			
Tangible assets	2	-	-
Investments		202,043	189,749
		<u>202,043</u>	<u>189,749</u>
Current assets			
Bank Accounts		83,721	82,025
Debtors		3,732	2,884
		<u>87,453</u>	<u>84,909</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	3	12,286	11,326
		<u>12,286</u>	<u>11,326</u>
Net current assets		<u>75,167</u>	<u>73,583</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>277,210</u>	<u>263,332</u>
Net assets		<u>277,210</u>	<u>263,332</u>
Capital funds			
Endowment funds		202,043	189,749
Restricted Funds		7,570	16,623
Unrestricted funds		67,597	56,960
		<u>277,210</u>	<u>263,332</u>
Total funds		<u>277,210</u>	<u>263,332</u>

Approved by the trustees on 30 April 2018 and signed on its behalf.


.....
Mrs S E Ayers

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements.

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	Restricted Funds £	Unrest'd Funds £	Total Funds 2017 £	Total Funds 2016 £
Incoming resources				
Incoming Resources from generated funds:				
Voluntary income	-	37,331	37,331	62,387
Activities to generate funds	-	33,485	33,485	33,205
	-	70,816	70,816	95,592
Total incoming resources	-	70,816	70,816	95,592
Resources expended				
Costs of generating funds	9,053	47,885	56,938	53,046
Total resources expended	9,053	47,885	56,938	53,046
Net movement in funds	(9,053)	22,931	13,878	42,546
Total funds brought forward	16,623	246,709	263,332	220,786
Total funds carried forward	7,570	269,640	277,210	263,332

Details of Incoming resources and resources used are given in the notes to the financial statements.

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
General Fund				
Balance B/fwd	56,960		31,220	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	22,931		38,150	
		79,891		69,370
Restricted Fund				
Balance B/fwd	16,623		12,227	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(9,053)		4,396	
		7,570		16,623
Endowment fund				
Opening balance	189,749		177,339	
		189,749		177,339
Total funds at 31 December 2017		277,210		263,332

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102), applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Plant and machinery - 25% per annum of cost

Investments

Investments are stated at their market value at the year end. Income from investments is accounted for on a cash basis.

Endowment fund

The endowment fund, which is expendable, is regularly increased by donations from the trustees. The trust deed allows this fund to be expended on the charity's objectives or retained as capital at the trustees' discretion. The income arising from the endowment is unrestricted.

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

2. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and Machinery £
Cost:	
At 1 January 2017	18,315
At 31 December 2017	18,315
Depreciation:	
At 1 January 2017	18,315
Charge for the year	-
At 31 December 2017	18,315
Net book value:	
At 31 December 2017	-
At 31 December 2016	-

3. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:-

	2017 £	2016 £
Accruals	12,286	11,326
	12,286	11,326

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

4. Incoming resources

	Restricted Funds 2017	Unrest'd Funds 2017	Total Funds 2017	Total Funds 2016
		£	£	£
Voluntary Income				
Dividends and interest	-	9,135	9,135	8,759
Increase in value of investments	-	12,294	12,294	12,410
Donations and legacies	-	15,902	15,902	41,218
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	37,331	37,331	62,387
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
 Activities for generating funds				
House to house collections	-	24,761	24,761	22,047
Collection boxes	-	117	117	278
Flag days	-	3,093	3,093	2,600
Fund-raising events	-	2,544	2,544	4,795
Subscriptions	-	465	465	496
VAT refunds	-	2,049	2,049	2,885
Other income	-	456	456	104
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	33,485	33,485	33,205
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

5. **Governance costs**

	Restricted Funds 2017	Unrest'd Funds 2017	Total Funds 2017	Total Funds 2016
Veterinary expenses	8,417	26,231	34,648	37,736
Printing, postage and stationery	-	258	258	388
Accountancy	-	480	480	480
Travel and telephone expense	-	1,619	1,619	2,733
Boarding and fostering	636	4,662	5,298	7,860
Cat Fostering Pens	-	7,966	7,966	-
Branch contribution	-	5,500	5,500	3,000
Insurance	-	812	812	541
Bank Charges	-	60	60	15
Sundry expenses	-	297	297	293
Change in value of investment	-	-	-	-
	<u>9,053</u>	<u>47,885</u>	<u>56,938</u>	<u>53,046</u>

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

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READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH

(Registered Charity No. 251482)

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



<p>RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>

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The front cover shows ...what you get very quickly if you put un-neutered male rabbits with un-neutered female rabbits!

Thanks to all those who contributed to this Report.

WE ARE A CHARITY REGISTERED IN ENGLAND & WALES.
CHARITY NUMBER 251482.

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>

CHAIR'S REPORT

It has been another busy year for the branch - many cats and rabbits have been rehomed and a lot of welfare assistance has been given.

Early in the year our cat co-ordinator of 5 years, Helena Peace stood down so she could spend more time volunteering with the wildlife collection team. Shortly afterwards Heather West also resigned as she was moving out of the area. We welcomed Jo Le'burn as our new cat co-ordinator who has smoothly stepped into their shoes. At about the same time Karen Manders joined the committee to help out with fundraising and she quickly threw herself into the role.

We have all been busy fundraising throughout the year to fund our activities. Penny and Mel have been arranging and co-ordinating the many street collections and stalls throughout the year and Karen organised a Pooches Tea Party with Paws of Pangbourne, to name only a few. Our fundraising through www.easyfundraising.org.uk is still working really well - this is a way that people can raise funds when they shop online without having to do anything and it doesn't cost them a bean! You just enter your details on the website once and select our branch as your nominated charity and then whenever you shop online, if the retailer is a donator, a proportion of your spend is made automatically. We have already raised over £1,400 without doing anything! PLEASE CAN YOU SIGN UP AND HELP US RAISE MORE FUNDS!!

We are still looking for a dog co-ordinator to manage the re-homing of dogs in the area. We are also short of people to foster the dogs - so if anyone wants to volunteer for either role please do get in touch. We have however been supporting the inspectors with boarding costs for dogs they collect in the area. We hold our monthly committee meetings in the newly refurbished offices of Field Seymour Parkes Solicitors - so thanks to them for allowing us to do so. We still have our lockup at Safestore in Cow Lane, Reading and sincere thanks go to them for donating this facility to the branch - it is invaluable.

This year we held our Christmas Volunteers Evening in Lime. Not so many attended this year but a fun time was had by all - thank for organising it Penny. Well done and thanks to all our volunteers and supporters throughout the year. We couldn't do all that we do without your help. Here's to another busy year in 2018!

Jo Martin
Chair

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Number: 251482

Trustees:

Ms J Martin – Chair
Mrs S Ayers – Treasurer, Joint Rabbit Rehoming & Fostering
Co-ordinator, Joint Welfare Officer
Mr S Ayers – Secretary, Joint Rabbit Rehoming & Fostering
Co-ordinator, Joint Welfare Officer
Mrs L Mills
Mrs M Ivey-Michie – Fund-raising Co-ordinator (to May)
Ms P Garden – Fund-raising Co-ordinator (from May onwards)
Mrs H West – Joint Cat Rehoming Co-ordinator (to April),
Cat Fostering, Guinea Pig Fostering (to July)
Ms H Peace – Joint Cat Rehoming Co-ordinator, Cat Fostering,
General Enquiries (to April)
Ms K Manders – Volunteer Co-ordinator (April onwards)
Ms J Rainey – Minutes Secretary

Principal Address: PO Box 8184
Reading
RG6 9PS

Auditors: John Turner FCA
Chartered Accountant
400 Thames Park Valley Drive
Thames Valley Park
Reading
Berkshire
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Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
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RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

REPORT OF THE BRANCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

The branch present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2017 under the Charities Act 2011, together with the financial statements for the year, and confirm that the latter comply with the requirements of the Act, the Trust Deed and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association established by Trust Deed. The charity operates as an autonomous branch of the national RSPCA subject to its rules for branches (as updated in 2006).

Organisation

A committee of Trustees, elected at the AGM governs the branch. All trustees are briefed on their responsibilities as trustees prior to their acceptance of the role. The trustees hold bi-monthly meetings at which decisions are made.

Risk policy

The trustees actively review the risks which the charity faces on a regular basis through the monthly meetings, which cover operational and financial reviews. The trustees examine the operational risks which the branch faces, and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks, which have been identified as:

- loss of reputation through error or fraud
- loss of income through error or fraud
- insufficient funds to cover the costs of animal welfare activities
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- insufficient trustees for the branch to continue

Objectives and activities

The objects of the branch are to promote the work and objects of the National Society of the RSPCA with particular reference to the area of the branch.

The key aim is to find suitable new homes for as many animals as possible, and to provide proper care for those who have been mistreated or abandoned.

Achievements and performance

Financial review

The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £70,816 (2016 £95,592). Expenditure in the year amounted to £56,938 (2016 £53,046). Unrestricted reserves increased in the year from £246,709 to £269,640.

Investment policy

At 31 December 2017 the branch investment policy was:

- that the current account balance should not fall below £1,000;

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

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The branch had unrestricted reserves of £269,640 as at 31 December 2017 represented by net assets of that amount. £2,000 of the reserves has been designated for improvements to fostering facilities and service for cats, dogs and rabbits together with the improvement of the branch infrastructure. Such reserves, after deduction of the designated funds, represent 473.6% of one year's expenditure based on gross expenditure levels in 2017.

It is the opinion of the Trustees that the existing reserves are sufficient to meet any reduction in incoming resources.

Accounting and reporting responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
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- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They 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.

Approved by the trustees on 30 April 2018 signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mrs S E Ayers
Trustee

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

PUBLIC BENEFIT

OBJECTS & PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The RSPCA Reading With Oxon Border Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and a separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (the Society), carrying out its direct animal welfare work in the areas of Reading and the surrounding area .

The objects of the Branch are to promote the work and objects of the Society - to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals by all lawful means - with particular reference to the area of the Branch, in accordance with the policies of the Society.

The trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year, to ensure they remain 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.

ADVANCEMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE

Under the Charities Act 2006, the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. This legislation and the Animal Welfare Act of the same year indicate an acceptance by society that treating living creatures with compassion has a moral benefit for the public as a whole. Whilst this public benefit is clear, it is sometimes difficult to quantify and must be balanced against any detriment.

The Branch's animal welfare work, although local in nature, benefits society at large, and also aims to help people in need with the care of their animals. The next section of this report highlights the Branch's main activities and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All our charitable activities, as described in more detail in the following pages of this report, focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES PURSUED FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

We support our local Inspector[s] by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned animals, including pets whose owners suffer ill health or financial difficulties or pass away. The Society's Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' part of the RSPCA objects, and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals which are sick or injured and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this through a voucher scheme. 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 and microchipping of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes. We do this by a voucher scheme. We also provide a free neutering scheme for bull-breeds via the local Inspectors. This work helps to control dog/cat populations through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter and microchip companion animals, thereby promoting responsible pet ownership.

**RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017**

Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccination, neutering, micro-chipping and are assessed for rehoming. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering.

We re-home animals in need at low cost to people willing and able to have a companion animal. Whilst we recognise that companion animals provide measurable benefits to people's physical and mental health, we consider the provision of pets as subsidiary to the main charitable aim of this service, which is to reduce animal suffering. Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee for animals aims to highlight the ongoing personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the best interests of animals, and therefore would fall outside our objects, to rehome to those who could not afford them.

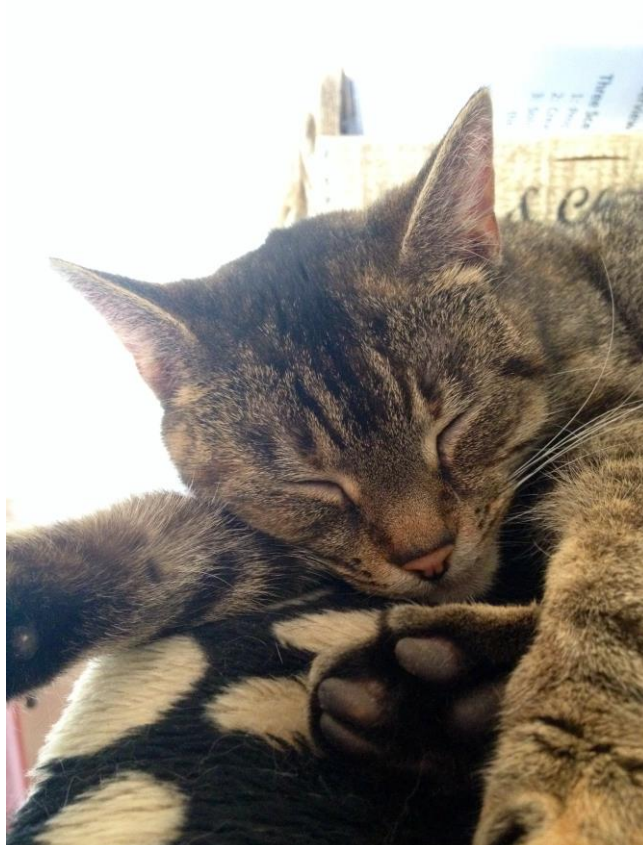
We take in, free of charge, lost animals. This work benefits our local community (including local authorities) by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.

We respond to enquiries (both direct and via the Society's national call centre) from the public about animals locally. The public benefits from knowing that we can intervene to assist animals in need.

We offer free animal care advice by giving appropriate information to adopters and responding to enquiries from the public. The public benefits through the promotion of responsible pet ownership.

Within the terms of our governing document, we support the National Society.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fostering and fundraising. This benefits local people and companies by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

[illegible]

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

SECRETARY'S REPORT

During the past year the Charities Commission continued to publish further guidance on its expectations of how a 'good' Charity should be run. Our HQ colleagues commissioned a Governance Review, which was carried out by Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP. Clearly, running the main RSPCA business is vastly more complex than a small Branch such as ours, but each Branch has a role to play to ensure that the reputation of the RSPCA is upheld, that we act in a way that does not give rise to negative publicity and ensure that the RSPCA continues to meet its charitable objectives.

There were many governance documents prepared for Branch implementation. Many were not applicable to our operations, but for those that were it was gratifying to find that we already met the standards expected of us.

One way that HQ can monitor the activity across the Branches is via the monthly reported Summary of Animal Welfare Achievements (SAWA). As the name implies this gives an overview of our non-financial performance in terms of, in our case, the volume of animals that have been taken into our care or that we have financially supported.

2017 SAWA Highlights

	Dog	Cat	Rabbit	Guinea pig /other	TOTAL
Animals taken into care	6 *	86	36	-	128
Animals rehomed	-	43	38	4	85
Microchipped	-	44	20	-	64
Foster animals neutered	-	75	30	-	105
Welfare neutering vouchers issued	69	1	4	-	74
Welfare assistance vouchers issued	166	64	9	-	239

* We did not have a dog rehoming activity during 2017. We did, however, agree to fund up to 3 weeks' boarding costs for these dogs until such time as a space became available at an animal centre.

Once again I would also like to recognise Jean Rainey's efforts as Minutes secretary and for compiling the 2017 annual report

Steve Ayers, Hon Branch Secretary

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

WELFARE ASSISTANCE

It has been a busy year for Welfare Assistance with both general Welfare and Neutering higher than previous years. Neutering assistance was higher as the Branch utilised the £10,000 grant from the Regional Board to promote a neutering scheme in the area.

Total assistance given in the year was £24,444 (2016 £17,536). This is made up of £14,422 consultations and general Welfare and £10,022 Neutering scheme. The total number of vouchers issued was 402, split 298 Welfare and 104 Neutering (2016 361).

Consultations/General Welfare

As at end February 2018, 229 (84%) of vouchers issued were redeemed, compared to 80% in 2016.

Below is further analysis of Welfare Assistance:

	Issued	Redeemed	% redemption	av cost (redeemed)
Consultation	159	132	83%	£34
Donation for further treatment	112	97	87%	£68
Euthanasia	27	21	78%	£76
Total	298	250	84%	£50

	Issued	Redeemed	% redemption	av cost (redeemed)
Dog	199	169	85%	£54
Cat	80	64	80%	£45
Other Small Animals	19	17	89%	£31
Total	298	229	80%	£50

Neutering Scheme

	Issued	Redeemed	% redemption	av cost (redeemed)
Dog	97	70	72%	£101
Cat	2	1	50%	£25
Other Small Animals	5	4	80%	£34
Total	104	75	72%	£50

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

Split of the 97 dog neuter vouchers was 32 Bull Breed vouchers and 65 other breeds. There were 63 spay and 41 castrate vouchers issued. As at the end February 2018, 75 (72%) of the vouchers had been redeemed (61% in 2016). A further analysis of the 65 'other' neutering vouchers shows that in 18 instances (28%) the Branch was able to combine the voucher with a donation towards other emergency procedures. These were:-

- 11 dog pyometra - these were life threatening cases
- 2 neuterings + lump removal
- 3 neuter + emergency dental work
- 2 emergency spays - complication giving birth

We are fortunate in our Branch area that the local Cat Protection League Branches & TVAW (Thames Valley Animal Welfare) regularly run cat neutering schemes, which is the reason why we do not issue many cat neutering vouchers.

We are grateful to the following vets for offering special/discounted neutering rates - Shinfield Road, Active Vetcare (all 3 branches in Reading), Castle, Easipetcare.

Steve & Sandra Ayers
Welfare Assistance



CAT RE-HOMING

I started as the new cat co-ordinator for the Branch in April 2017. In that year we have helped 94 cats: 28 were transferred to rehoming centres, 57 were rehomed directly through the branch to lovely families and sadly 11 were put to sleep due to disease or critical illnesses. We currently have 9 more waiting to be rehomed. We have had so many cats with interesting stories and who now have wonderful homes to start their new journeys including:

Willoughby

Taken into branch in February 2017, having been found hiding in a rabbit hutch, Willoughby had a paralysed tail with the bone exposed. X-rays also revealed a hip displacement requiring surgery. Willoughby was operated on, having a tail amputation and surgery for his hip displacement and after weeks of rest and lots of TLC was ready for adoption. Willoughby has settled into his new home and is loving his new life.

Feral Mum

April saw the start of a busy few months ahead with stray mums and their kittens. A feral mum had given birth in an enormous cardboard box to 5 kittens in an agricultural warehouse. We rescued the kittens but mum wasn't returning and when we had sightings she was too terrified to be caught. A trap was set and we were lucky that she was tempted by some tuna so it wasn't long before she was back with her kittens again. Mum and kittens are all now enjoying their new homes.



Mary was a long time stray being fed by different people. It was only when she gave birth in a flower pot to a couple of lovely flowers that we were contacted! All three were rescued and looked after by the Branch before being found loving homes.



Mary's Kittens

**RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017**

Amber came into Branch as a stray in a very poor condition. After lots of feeding and TLC we were able to put Amber up for adoption. Sadly Amber's first adopters weren't quite right for her but the great news is that Amber's 'ever after' home was quickly found and she is now a very happy girl.



Mac came in with his brother via the Inspectors as their family were unable to cope. Mac needed some medical help before he could be put up for adoption. We treated his skin allergy and needed to amputate his broken infected tail. With all this happening he was also diagnosed as being deaf and having a serious heart murmur...! However we are glad to say that all this didn't prevent Mac getting a loving new home.

Mavis Adorable Mavis was taken by her owners to her vet for euthanasia as she had a deformed leg. After being signed over to the Branch we helped Mavis continue her life as a playful kitten. It was decided that she may need her leg amputated but after a few weeks improvement was seen and her leg started to straighten. A recent vet check has shown that Mavis has a weakness in the leg and may be looking at surgery in the future. Mavis has been fortunate to be adopted by her fosterer and living the Life of Riley; she has a cheeky character!



Thank you to all the volunteers who help give these cats another chance. In 2017 we welcomed new helpers into the branch: Tracy is fostering, as well as already being Treasurer and Joint Welfare Co-ordinator Sandra is also fostering cats and Katy is helping with some of the vet side of things.

Jo Le'Brun
Cat Rehoming Co-ordinator

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

RABBIT RE-HOMING & FOSTERING



During 2017 we rehomed 36 rabbits (4 pairs and 28 single rabbits that we bonded with owner's existing bunnies). We took in 35 rabbits - Inspectorate Cases 4, Strays via vets 3; MOP 28. From members of the public (MOP) is were owners are no longer able to care for their rabbits.



*Arthur & Merlin -
rehomed 2017*



*Spud, bonded and rehomed
with Thumper in 2017*

As at end 2017, we had 17 rabbits in our care:

Molly & Quigley (in rescue since 2/14 - rehomed 2/18 after a national press release to find them a home)
Waffle & Biscuit (in rescue since 3/16 - reserved to be rehomed 5/18)
Bear & Esme (in rescue since 2/13, have had a couple of long-term foster homes. Aged 9 & 8)
Bailey (very nervous, bonded & rehomed 2/18)
Chesney (in rescue since 4/16 due to health issues; bonded with Poppy 2/18)

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

Poppy (in rescue since 4/16, also due to health issues; bonded with Chesney)
Claudia (feisty & proving very difficult to bond, so plan to rehome as single house rabbit)
Ruby (slightly less feisty, but still difficult to bond, so rehomed as single house rabbit 1/18)
Pancakes (difficult to handle, so will probably stay in rescue until find a very experienced rabbit owner who does not mind a rabbit that lunges & bites)
Sova & Kani (2 young males, rehomed 2/18)
Sephi (older female, bonded & rehomed 1/18)
Hugo (young male, bonded & rehomed 3/18)
Archie (young male, slightly timid)



Claudia



Sova & Kani

Poppy, one of our long-term rabbits, has suffered from on-going gut related issues since coming into rescue in April 2016. It proved difficult for the vets to determine why her droppings didn't form correctly. Related to this was the fact that she ate vast quantities of food but found it difficult to maintain her weight. In conversation with one of our volunteers, Nicola Clements, it transpired that she had a rabbit showing similar symptoms, which had been largely alleviated after investigation by Ivan Crotaz - a local rabbit vet specialist. We took Poppy as a referral to Ivan and after x-rays, he prescribed 2 drugs that helped by resetting the control mechanism that manages gut contractions and countered any inflammation of the gut. This vastly improved her condition and increased our knowledge, which will help if future cases arise.

**RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017**



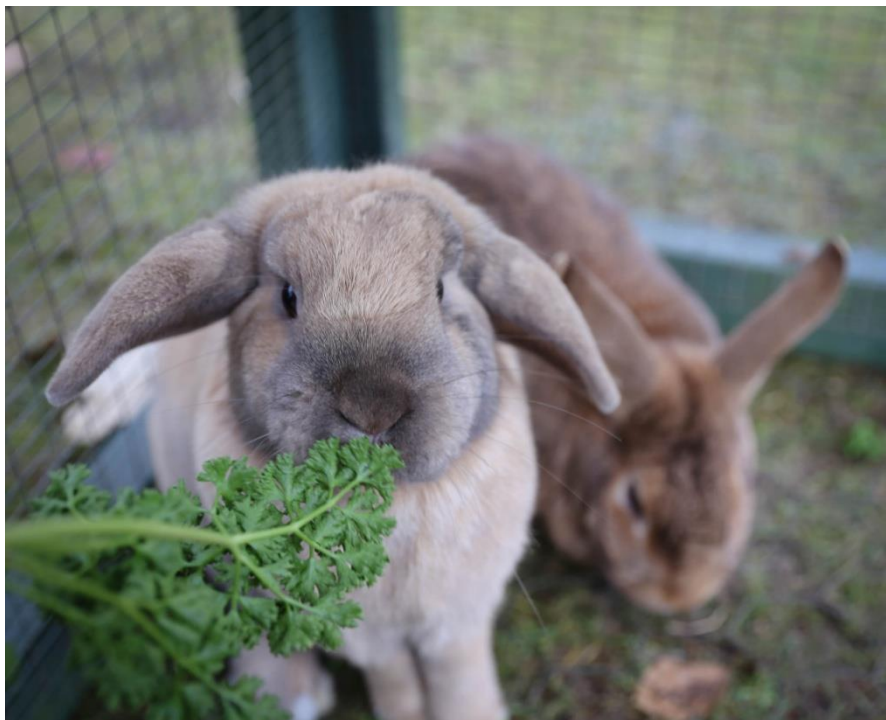
Pretty Poppy



Chesney with his Christmas toy

We would like to thank our wonderful bunny volunteers, Nicola Clements, Sandie Burton and Lisa Davies, who assist with grooming, nail trimming and health checking the bunnies. We are also grateful to Rob & Jessie Platt who look after the rabbits when we are on holiday, Cheryl Keates for taking such brilliant photos of our rabbits and Bob & Maggie Campbell for collecting and delivering cardboard and newspapers to the rescue.

Our thanks also to all at School Road vets, Tilehurst, Shinfield Vets and Ivan Crotaz (Kynoch vets).



Biscuit & Waffle - now reserved & due to go to their new home May 18

**Steve & Sandra Ayers
Rabbit Rehoming Coordinators**

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the offices of Field, Seymour, Parkes, 1 London Street, Reading, RG1 4W on May 15th 2017.

Present:	Ms Jo Martin	Chair
	Mr Steve Ayers	Secretary/Joint Welfare Officer/Joint Rabbit Rehoming Co-ordinator
	Mrs Sandra Ayers	Treasurer/Joint Welfare Officer/Joint Rabbit Rehoming Co-ordinator
	Ms Penny Garden	Fund-raising Co-ordinator
	Mrs Heather West	Joint Cat Rehoming Co-ordinator/Cat Fosterer/Guinea Pigs
	Ms Jo Le'Burn	Joint Cat Rehoming Co-ordinator
	Mrs Mel Ivey-Michie	Volunteer Co-ordinator
	Ms Jean Rainey	Minutes Secretary
	Mrs R Jane Griffiths	Branch Member & Volunteer
	Ms Karen Manders	Branch Member & Volunteer
	Mr David Millward	Volunteer
	Mr Paul Watkins	Volunteer
	Ms Nicola Clements	Volunteer

1. **Chair's Welcome**

- 1.1 Jo Martin welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked them all for coming.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

- 2.1 Apologies were received from Mrs Lindsay Mills (Committee Member), Branch members Mrs Tracey Joy, Ms Nicole Gillam, Mr Andrew Ball & Mrs Jean Moore, volunteer Ms Paula Matthews, Ms Lorraine Cooke (Branch Support Specialist) and Inspector Sandy Barlow.

3. **Minutes of Previous AGM**

- 3.1 The minutes of the AGM of 16th May 2016 were agreed unanimously. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. **Accounts for Last Financial Year**

- 4.1 Sandra Ayers, the Treasurer, gave an overview of the accounts and the Branch financial position. She commented that 2016 had been a successful year

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>

and our reserves had increased to £263k or 4.7 years' operating costs (3.9 years in 2015). Our Receipts had been boosted by three major items: a Regional Grant

of £10k for dog neutering, which will be spent in 2017, a legacy of £9750 to be spent on dog welfare and an increase in the value of our investments. Our share of the National Door-to Door collection was over £22k, we received £11,805 of general donations and just over £9k in adoption fees. Expenditure was in line with 2105 with the majority (86%) on veterinary fees and fostering costs. Overheads that we had control over (travel and telephone costs) made up 5% of our expenditure. Sandra thanked the Rehoming Co-ordinators for their excellent budget tracking and control and the volunteers for their fundraising efforts. Jo thanked Sandra for managing our finances so well.

4.2 Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Sandra Ayers, seconded by Jo Martin and agreed unanimously.

5. Appointment of Branch Auditor

5.1 Sandra Ayers proposed that the current auditor, Mr John Turner, be appointed for the incoming year. This was seconded by Jo Martin and agreed unanimously.

6. Annual Report for 2016

6.1 Jo Martin proposed that the Committee's Annual Report for 2016 be accepted. This was seconded by Steve Ayers and agreed unanimously.

7. Election of Branch Committee

7.1 A vote was taken for the election of the Branch Committee. All those nominated were elected.

8. Consideration of Resolutions

8.1 No resolutions had been received.

9. Awards

9.1 Steve announced some service awards for volunteers:

Five years - Paul Watkins (Street collections, helped by his dog Monty)
Joan Fraser (Street collections)
Nicola Clements (Rabbit care & re-homing)
Heather West (Cat re-homing, Trustee)
Helena Peace (Cat re-homing, Fund-raising, Trustee)
Jo Martin (Chair, Fund-raising)

Ten years - Darren Russell (Street collections)

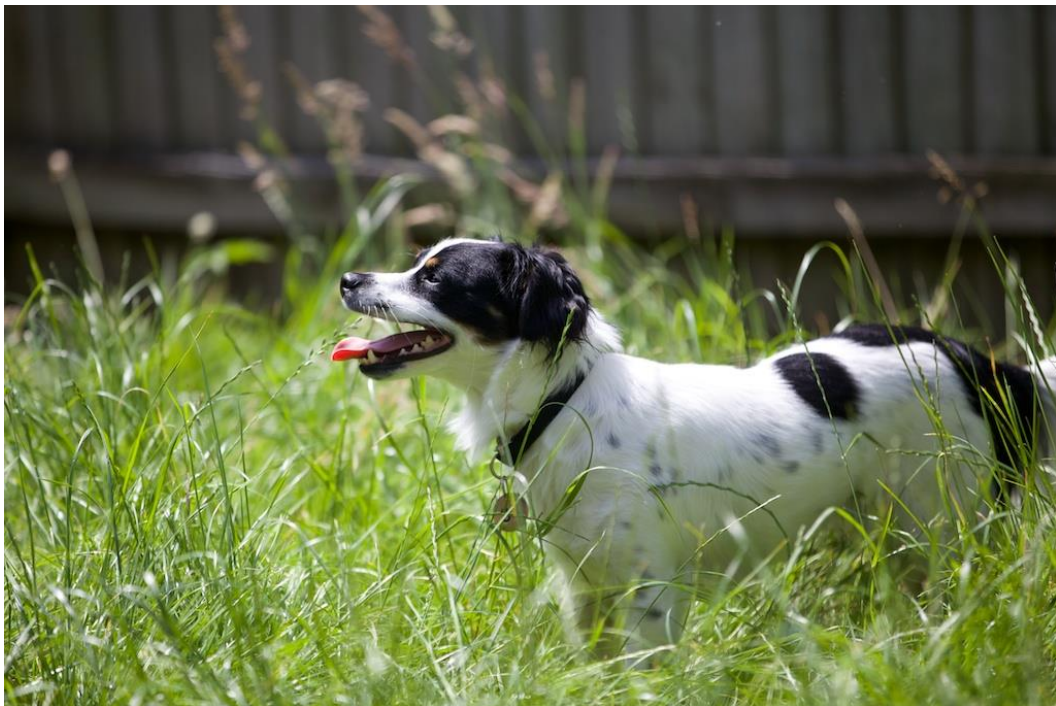
RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

Twenty Five years - Sylvia Brathwaite (Street collections for 32 years!)

Jo thanked all the award recipients on behalf of the Branch Committee for all their hard work and dedication. Steve thanked Lorraine Cooke for collecting the badges and certificates from Horsham and bringing them over to Reading in time for the meeting.

10. Talk by Katherine Riley

10.1 Katherine Riley, Head of Wills, Disputes and Contentious Probate at Field Seymour, Parkes LLP, gave a very interesting talk about a recent Supreme Court case over a disputed will where the testator had left their £500k estate to be divided between three animal charities and which was challenged by her daughter. The talk raised many interesting points about wills and charity legacies and was enjoyed by all present. After the talk the Chair warmly thanked Ms Riley on behalf of the meeting.



RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

RSPCA INSPECTORATE TEAM SSW6 ANNUAL REPORT 2017

I am very pleased to present the annual report of work carried out in SSW6 during 2017.

The team has seen a number of changes over a very busy year. At the start of the year, I took over the role of Chief Inspector from John Harrod, who retired after 19 years as a Chief Inspector. The summer was incredibly busy for us and we felt the effect when our two longest-serving Inspectors, Derek Wilkins and Will Hendry, retired at the end of August. After almost 80 years in service between them, they left a big hole in the team. In the autumn, we said a temporary farewell to another member of the team, Inspector Nikki Denham, who has become a mum for the first time.



Despite the decreasing number of staff, the team has shown true dedication and has worked harder than ever to provide our animal welfare service to the public. The team may have shrunk in size but it's grown stronger as a result and I am proud of their achievements, which I share with you below.

The team were asked to investigate over a thousand more complaints of animal cruelty in 2017 than in 2016 and they resolved 2,585 complaints of neglect or cruelty. The team responded to 2,744 collections and rescues of animals in distress. Despite being three Inspectors down, the group submitted 21 case file investigations in 2017 - eight more than the previous year, which took some considerable effort. Four of the files of evidence were marked No Proceedings, seven were dealt with by way of Adult Written Cautions and ten were presented to the Courts.

Thank you to all our branches for your support and hard work in 2017. Without you, we would not be able to achieve the figures I have just outlined. The support from our Branch network enables officers to do so much for animal welfare. Whether you are providing funding for a welfare issue to be resolved, or taking in

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

animals for officers, it all helps to prevent animals suffering and improve animals' lives and we are very grateful to you.

We work closely with other agencies and charities and I would also like to thank the Police, Fire & Rescue, World Horse Welfare, Redwings and the many vets who have worked with us to help rescue animals and seek justice for the neglect and cruelty our officers deal with.



On a hot Saturday in June, DCI Sharon Chrisp was called to a dog left in a car. Billy the Jack Russell was left in the car by his owners. It was the midday sun and Billy was hidden from view in a cage on the back seat of the dark coloured vehicle. He was covered in a blanket, which his owners said was to "keep people's eyes off him". When Billy was rescued by the Police he was

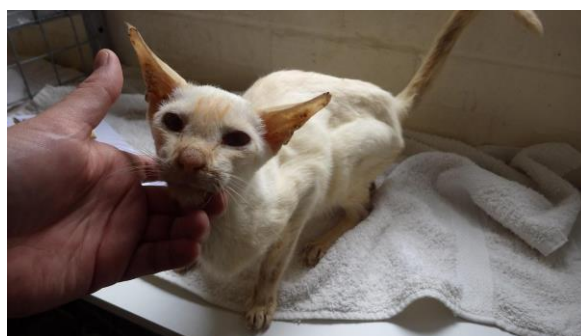
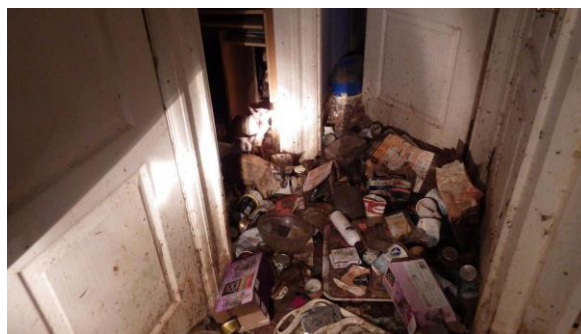
found "laying on his side panting violently". His owners had been advised just four days earlier by the Police that it was too hot to leave him in the car but they persisted in putting him at risk, showing no remorse or concern for the welfare of their dog. DCI Chrisp says she believes Billy would not be with us today if the Police had not intervened and rescued him. Billy's owners were banned for ten years from owning dogs, deprived of the ownership of Billy and ordered to pay £700 costs and fines each. Billy is being rehomed.

Inspector Nikki Denham investigated a case involving ten oriental type cats, with a multitude of health conditions, found living in shocking conditions. Fire crews and paramedics first entered the property due to concerns about the awful smell coming from within. Nikki and Animal Collection Officer Phil Hamilton were called to the scene and had to wear protective clothing to deal with what they found inside.



RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

They had to climb over debris that filled half the height of the doorway to get into the property. They were unable to see the floor because of the rubbish which included tins, bottles and faeces. The cats were underweight and had dental disease and cat flu. Unfortunately, six cats did not survive due to the extent of their ill health. Post-mortem examinations found they had been suffering from a disease called Amyloidosis. The condition leads to decreased liver function and eventually liver failure. This is a congenital disease whereby inbreeding creates an increased risk of the disease being passed down to later generations. After a guilty plea, the defendant was convicted of five offences under S9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006. She was disqualified from keeping all animals for 10 years, received a two week curfew order and £360 costs. She was ordered to pay an additional £1250 costs after her appeal was dismissed.



AWO Justine Hermon was first on scene at a serious complaint about a 12 week old puppy 'Charlie', who had been deliberately injured by a male who jointly owned the dog with his partner. When Justine arrived, she could immediately see that Charlie wasn't well and

with permission, she took him straight to a vet. DCI Sharon Chrisp investigated. She discovered that the defendant had lost his temper with the dog and caused some serious injuries, including six broken ribs and facial swelling. DCI Sharon Chrisp interviewed the defendant, who originally blamed Charlie's injuries on an accident with a door. A brave witness came forward and gave an in depth statement of what they saw. The defendant pleaded guilty to causing unnecessary suffering to Charlie and was banned from keeping animals for ten years. He was

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

also given a community order and ordered to pay £2692 in costs and fines - the second biggest fine that Reading Magistrates Court have ever issued. Charlie was eventually signed over to the RSPCA and is now enjoying life in his new home.



DCI Sandy Barlow received an alarming report that a Halal butchers in Reading were giving away a "free baby chicken" with every £20 spent. Someone had rung in concerned about how the baby chickens were being kept. After investigating, Sandy found that the only "baby" chickens that were being given away in the special offer were those that were already skinned and boned and in the freezer cabinet! You would think that being a butcher's may have given the game away about the type of chickens on offer but if there's one thing we've learnt in this job - people often have some funny ideas! The owner of the butchers had a good laugh - as did Sandy.

Inspector Jan Edwards spent a great deal of time in Highclere, dealing with two fields of abandoned horses. From September onwards, one by one, horses were showing classic signs of ill health due to worms and had to be removed because they were suffering. Grazing was depleted and the situation worsened. Jan and the local Police worked closely together to try and find an owner. Despite several notices being left at the fields, no one came forward to claim responsibility for



any of the horses. The RSPCA provided hay until a team, led by Jan, organised two warrants to remove all the remaining horses to prevent any more suffering. With the help of World Horse Welfare, Redwings, vets and local Police, a total of 59 equines have been removed from the two fields over a period of four months. Despite a thorough investigation, the team have been unsuccessful in tracing an owner so we have been unable to pursue a full investigation.

And here are some of our favourite 2017 rescues and collections.....



DCI Sandy Barlow and ACO Phil Hamilton had a rather strange collection of a Rhea, which was wandering around a car park in Reading. They managed to secure the bird, arrange transport and return it to its owner.

Inspector Nikki Denham was a little apprehensive when she got called to a tarantula in a cupboard under the stairs. On attending Nikki said it was "very hard to see in the dark but I could see it wasn't moving." On rescuing the creature it immediately became apparent that it was made of plastic! The caller was very embarrassed as her young son confirmed it was his. This story got picked up by the National Press, including the BBC and The Telegraph.



ACO Darren Woodroof needed the help of Fire & Rescue when he was called to a pigeon caught in netting. It was midnight in Reading and much to the amusement of several passers-by, the Fire Crew brought out their ladder to rescue the bird. The pigeon spent the night resting before Darren successfully released it the next morning. This slightly blurry image fittingly represents a rather tired Darren during the midnight rescue! It shows the Fire Crew in action. Stories like this one show just how dedicated Fire & Rescue are in helping us rescue all sorts of creatures

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

AWO Laura Wheeler and ACO Phil Hamilton rescued a chicken from a warehouse. The warehouse stored windows and had lots of good hiding places for a chicken! It was eventually caught and returned to its owner who lived nearby.



At the beginning of the year, ACO Phil Hamilton visited a woman who had purchased and successfully hatched an Emu egg, which she bought from eBay for £30! She had used YouTube videos to follow the hatching process. Emus grow very large in size and they are a dangerous animal to keep. They are completely unsuitable as domestic pets. Following a report of concern for the bird, Phil visited the owner, who agreed to sign it over to the RSPCA - but not before she had spoken to a national newspaper about her story. This led to a phone-in on BBC Radio 2's Jeremy Vine show, which Phil participated in. Phil made such a good impression that he was invited back onto the show for a special exotics live phone-in. Phil went along with Nicola White (Senior Scientific Officer in Exotics and Wildlife Trade) and answered questions from the public. The Emu was looked after by a specialist quarantine establishment for a while but now she is enjoying her new life in a zoo.



Thank you again to all our branches for your continued help and support.

Kerry Gabriel
Chief Inspector (12494)
SSW6

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>

FUNDRAISING & VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Volunteers report

Mel Ivey stepped down from her longstanding role as volunteer coordinator with the branch after a number of years of assistance. Initially this role was taken over by jointly by me (collections) and Karen Manders (new volunteer recruitment) but due to other commitments Karen also stepped down following the end of the financial year.

Recruitment of volunteers to the branch continued to be a challenging task in the 2017 financial year and unfortunately the number volunteers were reduced due to a mixture of relocations and competing work demands. We do however continue to have a small very reliable volunteer base who go above and beyond to assist on fundraising and assistance with animals where ever possible. The contribution of this group cannot be underestimated and our thanks go out to them.

Throughout 2017 we continued with our regular street collections, collections at Tesco and tombolas.

Our annual Christmas get together continues to be a fantastic way to say thank you for all those who volunteer and very generously give their time throughout the branch through fundraising, fostering, pet assistance, home checkers and trustees and is funded by the trustees personally

Fundraising report

The primary source of fundraising in the 2017 financial year remained street collections (including collections at Tesco branches) raising £3,093.

We once again attended the Woodley Christmas fair where we ran a tombola and raised £ 246. We also ran a tombola at Mapledurham which raised £180.90. Thanks to information from one of our volunteers we also attended Reading Waterfest and hosted a tombola that which raised £110. We continue to participate in the EasyFundraising scheme to generate donations when members shop online. This is a very easy way to generate revenue for the charity and we continue to try and raise the profile of it.

Karen Manders who assisted as fundraising coordinator throughout the year but sadly had to step down due to other work commitments arranged a Pooches Tea Party at Paws of Pangbourne which raised £276. Our thanks to both Karen and Paws for their assistance with that.

Penelope Garden, Fund-raising Co-ordinator

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

I report on the accounts which are set out on pages 5 to 11

Respective responsibilities of the branch and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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; follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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 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:

- a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to 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 an understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....

Dated: 30 April 2018

John Turner FCA

Chartered Accountant

400 Thames Valley Park Drive

Thames Valley Park

Reading

Berkshire

RG6 1PT

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>
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RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		£	£
Tangible fixed assets			
Tangible assets	2	-	-
Investments		202,043	189,749
		<u>202,043</u>	<u>189,749</u>
Current assets			
Bank Accounts		83,721	82,025
Debtors		3,732	2,884
		<u>87,453</u>	<u>84,909</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	3	12,286	11,326
		<u>12,286</u>	<u>11,326</u>
Net current assets		75,167	73,583
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>277,210</u>	<u>263,332</u>
Net assets		<u>277,210</u>	<u>263,332</u>
Capital funds			
Endowment funds		202,043	189,749
Restricted Funds		7,570	16,623
Unrestricted funds		67,597	56,960
		<u>277,210</u>	<u>263,332</u>
Total funds		<u>277,210</u>	<u>263,332</u>

Approved by the trustees on 22 April 2018 and signed on its behalf.

.....
Mrs S E Ayers

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements.

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>
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RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	Restricted Funds £	Unrest'd Funds £	Total Funds 2017 £	Total Funds 2016 £
Incoming resources				
Incoming Resources from generated funds:				
Voluntary income	-	37,331	37,331	62,387
Activities to generate funds	-	33,485	33,485	33,205
	-	70,816	70,816	95,592
Total incoming resources	-	70,816	70,816	95,592
Resources expended				
Costs of generating funds	9,053	47,885	56,938	53,046
Total resources expended	9,053	47,885	56,938	53,046
Net movement in funds	(9,053)	22,931	13,878	42,546
Total funds brought forward	16,623	246,709	263,332	220,786
Total funds carried forward	7,570	269,640	277,210	263,332

Details of Incoming resources and resources used are given in the notes to the financial statements.

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>
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RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
General Fund				
Balance B/fwd	56,960		31,220	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	22,931		38,150	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
		79,891		69,370
Restricted Fund				
Balance B/fwd	16,623		12,227	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(9,053)		4,396	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
		7,570		16,623
Endowment fund				
Opening balance	189,749		177,339	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
		189,749		177,339
Total funds at 31 December 2017		<hr/>		<hr/>
		277,210		263,332
		<hr/>		<hr/>

RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102) applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Plant and machinery - 25% per annum of cost

Investments

Investments are stated at their market value at the year end. Income from investments is accounted for on a cash basis.

Endowment fund

The endowment fund, which is expendable, is regularly increased by donations from the trustees. The trust deed allows this fund to be expended on the charity's objectives or retained as capital at the trustees' discretion. The income arising from the endowment is unrestricted.

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>
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RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

2. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and Machinery £
Cost:	
At 1 January 2017	18,315
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2017	18,315
	<hr/>
Depreciation:	
At 1 January 2017	18,315
Charge for the year	-
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2017	18,315
	<hr/>
Net book value:	
At 31 December 2017	-
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 December 2016	-
	<hr/> <hr/>

3. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:-

	2017 £	2016 £
Accruals	12,286	11,326
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,286	11,326
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>
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RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

4. **Incoming resources**

	Restricted Funds 2017	Unrest'd Funds 2017 £	Total Funds 2017 £	Total Funds 2016 £
Voluntary Income				
Dividends and interest	-	9,135	9,135	8,759
Increase in value of investments	-	12,294	12,294	12,410
Donations and legacies	-	15,902	15,902	41,218
	<hr/> -	<hr/> 37,371	<hr/> 37,371	<hr/> 62,387
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
 Activities for generating funds				
House to house collections	-	24,761	24,761	22,047
Collection boxes	-	117	117	278
Flag days	-	3,093	3,093	2,600
Fund-raising events	-	2,544	2,544	4,795
Subscriptions	-	465	465	496
VAT refunds	-	2,049	2,049	2,885
Other income	-	456	456	104
	<hr/> -	<hr/> 33,485	<hr/> 33,485	<hr/> 33,205
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

<p style="text-align: center;">RSPCA READING WITH OXON BORDER BRANCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017</p>
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RSPCA READING WITH BERKS & OXON BORDER BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

5. Governance costs

	Restricted Funds 2017	Unrest'd Funds 2017	Total Funds 2017	Total Funds 2016
Veterinary expenses	8,417	26,231	34,648	37,736
Printing, postage and stationery	-	258	258	388
Accountancy	-	480	480	480
Travel and telephone expense	-	1,619	1,619	2,733
Boarding and fostering	636	4,662	5,298	7,860
Cat Fostering Pens	-	7,966	7,966	-
Branch contribution	-	5,500	5,500	3,000
Insurance	-	812	812	541
Bank Charges	-	60	60	15
Sundry expenses	-	297	297	293
Change in value of investment	-	-	-	-
	<hr/> 9,053	<hr/> 47,885	<hr/> 56,938	<hr/> 53,046

LEGACIES AND FLOWERS IN MEMORIAM

This Branch is always very grateful to those people who think of the RSPCA when they make their Wills and to those who, although suffering great distress through bereavement, remember the Society when asking for money to be sent to a charity rather than have flowers sent to mark the passing of those they love.

To anyone wishing to make a legacy to the local Branch, the following wording is respectfully suggested:

"I give the sum of £...(or the item specified) to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Reading with Oxon Border Branch, PO Box 8184, Reading RG6 9PS (Registered Charity number 251482) for its general purposes, and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper officer for the time being of the said charity shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said legacy."

It is recommended that the preparation of a Will is entrusted to a solicitor.

