



**RSPCA TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP
BRANCH
(Reg Charity No: 232260)**



**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2009**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The year under review saw an increase in the number of animals re-homed by the branch due in no small part to RSPCA Inspectors taking in more than 60 animals from one establishment. Due solely to the kindness and generosity of Tameside and Glossop residents, this branch successfully re-homed over 30 dogs and cats, with other RSPCA branches helping to find caring new homes for the remainder. Local families even took in those who were elderly and/or had ongoing medical problems and for this, we cannot thank them enough.

Fundraising effort was significantly reduced this year due to a reduction in the number of volunteers available to take part due to illness and other factors. This meant that the load fell even more heavily on those few people who could find time to help at supermarket collections. Despite this, the branch was able to organise and run four Fun Dog Shows, Coffee mornings, a fashion show, and sell donated goods on a market stall in addition to the above in store collections.

Several years ago the branch agreed to allow the National Society of the RSPCA's door to door donor recruitment drive to take place in our area and as a result we were fortunate this year to receive £12,975 as our share of the annual donations towards the work of the RSPCA. Our shortfall has therefore been very much reduced to £11,710 this year, eating a smaller hole in our reserves than could have been the case. Our grateful thanks go to those people who signed up to make regular donations for the benefit of all animals in RSPCA care.

Unfortunately we were unable to arrange a Community Animal Action Day (RSPCA's CAAD) this year but fully intend to hold at least two in the Tameside area during 2010. The days are intended to provide local residents the opportunity to have their pets seen by a veterinary surgeon, to receive free worming and flea treatments, free micro-chipping and vouchers towards neutering costs. We have recently been offered the use of the Oxford Park Bowlers' Pavilion and will be holding one of these days for Ashton West End residents' animals in the spring of 2010. We are actively looking to raise funds for similar events in the Hattersley and other identified areas of Tameside.

We continue to work closely with neighbouring branches especially that of RSPCA Bury and Oldham who are our closest neighbours. We have taken in and successfully rehomed 2 dogs who found it difficult to find homes in the Oldham area, donated food to other branches, and have been able to have our cats neutered there at much reduced rates.

Our grateful thanks also go to MyPetStop (Denton) for privately boarding our dogs and cats waiting for new homes, local veterinary surgeons who generously discount their normal practice fees and businesses who allow us to collect donations on their premises whether its in person or via a collecting box on their counters or in a small corner of their shops and stores. And, lastly but not least to those volunteers who regularly turn up to walk dogs or to help to socialise cats in branch care, and who open their hearts and homes to nurse very young, sick or recuperating animals.



Irene Platt
Honorary Chairman



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R.S.P.C.A. TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP BRANCH
HONORARY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: -	Vacant.
VICE PRESIDENTS: -	Andrew Gwynne M.P. David Heyes M.P. Tom Levitt M.P. James Purnell M.P.
CHAIRMAN: -	Mrs Irene Platt, 48 Regent Drive, Mossley OL5 9NZ (Tel: 01457 83 3788)
HON. SECRETARY: -	Sue Riley
HON. TREASURER: -	John Burrows, 6 Kingfisher Avenue, Audenshaw, Manchester. M34 5QH
REGIONAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: -	Mr. Richard Howard
DOG RE-HOMING COORDINATOR & KENNEL LIASON OFFICERS: -	Gail Hilton/Joyce Armfield (Tel: 0705 026 4531)
CAT RE-HOMING COORDINATOR & CATTERY LIASON OFFICER: -	Doris Mawhinney (Tel: 0797 775 7273)
FUNDRAISING CO-ORDINATORS	
GLOSSOP:-	Mrs Pauline Booth (co-opted)
TAMESIDE:-	Sue Riley/Irene Platt
OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS: -	Kath Birch, Angela Burrows, Angela Griffiths, Ken Hall, Albert Hibbert, Anne Kenyon, Elaine Padley, Jane Field (co- opted), Heather Tudor Wren (co-opted)

14 Trustees/Management Committee are elected from eligible members of the branch at the AGM & 3 co-options are allowed.

WEBSITE COORDINATORS:-	Rob Ashworth/Irene Platt
VETERINARY ADVISOR: -	Mr. Gavin McCoubrey MRCVS
BANKERS:	Barclays Bank Ltd., Stamford Street, Ashton- Under-Lyne The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Corporation Street, Hyde
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	Mr. John Simpson ACA
AUXILIARY SECRETARIES	
Ashton-Under-Lyne	Mr. Richard Howard
Audenshaw	Doris Mawhinney
Denton	Mr. Ken Hall.
Droylsden	Sue Riley
Dukinfield	Vacant
Glossop	Pauline Booth (Fundraising coordinator)
Hollingworth	Angela Griffiths
Mossley	Vacant
Mottram	Vacant
Stalybridge	Albert Hibbert
Branch Answerphone: -	07050 264 531
Website Address: -	www.rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk
Email: -	office@rspcal-tameside-glossop.org.uk

The TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP BRANCH operates in the North Region of the RSPCA

National Cruelty and Advice Line: 0300 1234 999

National Council Representative and Chairman of the Regional Board:

Mr. Paul Draycott, PO Box BR29, Leeds. LS13 2XL

National Control Centre (*Cruelty and Advice Line*):- 0300 1234 999

RSPCA Regional Headquarters (RHQ):- PO Box BR29, Leeds. LS13 2XL

Regional Manager:- Mike Hogg, Regional Headquarters (RHQ)

R.S.P.C.A. Inspectors:- Regional Superintendent Martin Marsh, (RHQ)

Branch Development Advisor:- Anne Corbishley, (RHQ)

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP BRANCH

(Reg Charity No: 232260)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2009

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was established in 1824. It is a charity, entirely supported by voluntary donations and its main function is to prevent cruelty to animals. This is achieved by over 300 Inspectors in England and Wales as well as thousands of voluntary workers who form the Society's Branches.

Constitution: The TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP BRANCH was established in 1899 and is an unincorporated charitable association and a branch of (and thus dependent upon) the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The RSPCA was incorporated by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1932 (as amended) and is governed by that Act and by the rules of the Society. These rules accord with rule XI of the Society's Rules and are approved by the Council. The Branch is constituted under the RSPCA Rules for Branches (amended and approved on 26 September 2002 and brought into force with effect from 1st January 2003) and is a registered charity number 232260.

Objects: 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 ie Tameside and Glossop, in accordance with the policies of the Society.

RSPCA Areas of Priority in Animal Welfare

(no significance is to be attached to the order in which these priorities are given)

Companion Animals: with particular importance being attached to responsible pet ownership, methods of population control and to the introduction of trained dog wardens.

Farm Animals: with particular reference to cruelties involved in certain intensive systems, and to the transport, export and slaughter of food animals.

Animal Experimentation: with particular emphasis on reducing both the total number of experiments which are carried out, and the numbers and suffering of such animals as are in fact used in these experiments.

Wild Animals: with particular reference to animals in captivity, blood sports, exploited species and the use of traps, snares and poisons in the control of wild animals.

Public Benefit:

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.

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 below, focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

- The branch makes grants, in the form of veterinary vouchers (Welfare Neutering and Treatment Schemes), to pet owners residing in the branch area and experiencing financial hardship, and would otherwise be unable to afford veterinary help for their animals. This alleviates the worry amongst socially isolated and/or financially challenged individuals who are dependent on the companionship their animals bring.

- Community Animal Welfare Days - These local events enable owners to take advantage of a free veterinary health check, neutering vouchers and other treatments for their animals. The action days also benefit the non-animal owning residents in the area as they experience fewer problems from unwanted and/or uncared for animals in the neighbourhood.
- The branch works with another organisation, MOSAIC, in Stockport, which supports young people who are recovering from drug and alcohol misuse with great success. By matching troubled young people with some of our equally troubled dogs and allowing them to walk out together, mutual benefits can be attained. It's been found by the support worker from MOSAIC that young people, having worked with the dogs, gain much self-esteem by knowing that they have helped to rehabilitate those they have walked and formed a bond with and that they (ie the dogs) have been able to find new homes.
- By recruiting volunteers from all walks of life we ensure that individuals gain valuable experience in caring for animals, interacting with professionals (eg social workers, housing officers, CPNs, etc.), animal adopters, and college students etc. all of which can and is often incorporated in CVs when looking for paid employment or by those wanting a change in career.

Governance: Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and drawn from individuals who have been members of the branch for at least 3 months. Additionally, the branch is able to co-opt up to 3 additional Trustees, who bring their skills and experience to the branch. All major decisions are made by the trustees at monthly meetings.

Paid Staff: The Branch has no paid employees and is run entirely by volunteers.

Address: The branch does not have a principal address but can be contacted via email, phone, website or through the chair (see list of committee members on page 1)

Training: Training is provided by the National Society of the RSPCA.

Risk Management: The Management Committee is to conduct a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Where appropriate, systems or procedures will be established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

Related Parties: The charity is guided by the national body of the RSPCA. The charity purchases goods for resale and medicines from the national body.

Investment Policy: There are no restrictions on the charity's power to invest. The investment strategy is set by the Trustees for a period of 3 years and takes into account recent demand for funds. This strategy is set within an overall policy which states that funds in excess of short term needs will be invested in low risk investments with a view to ensuring capital appreciation of the fund at a reasonable market rate. The unrestricted and restricted funds may be invested in any type of investment but ethical investment should be of primary consideration. In the year under review, in order to break-even, the charity required an income of £62,189 and a low risk strategy was implemented. Income fell short of this target by £11,710

Reserves Policy: It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level, which equates to at least 12 months unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds for support costs to cover the boarding costs of animals brought into the branch for re-homing by RSPCA Inspectors, applications from people on low income for financial help to meet assisted veterinary neutering costs or emergency assisted veterinary treatment costs for their animals and to cover our management and administration costs.

Future Plans: The charity plans to continue its activities in line with its objectives and will include the holding of Community Animal Action Days in the Branch area. Additionally, it is hoped to apply Trusts and other funders to contribute to the cost of the above Action Days and to pay for a support worker to accompany MOSAIC's services users when walking RSPCA dogs in care.

Achievement and Performance:

Branch Development: 2009 was the branch's 110th year of operation in the Tameside and Glossop area. We have developed a more pro-active approach to working with other branches in the area, especially Bury and Oldham Branch and have taken and rehomed dogs which they have found difficult to place in their own area. Additionally, we look forward to holding information sessions/days in local libraries and colleges during 2010.

Website Development: In order to develop the huge marketing potential of our website we are planning to recruit video/camcorder enthusiasts with experience of editing and uploading videos of our difficult to rehome animals.

Fundraising: (*We receive no state aid and depend on voluntary contributions and bequests*) We raise funds throughout the area by holding collections and stalls at supermarkets, organising Fun Dog Shows, placing collecting boxes in shops, holding a Fashion Show, microchipping dogs and cats and holding coffee mornings. The constant effort to raise much needed funds remains high on the agenda, as is demonstrated in this year's accounts where our shortfall was over £11,000.

Community Animal Action Days: It was hoped to run these events in Hattersley and Ashton-under-Lyne but we experienced great difficulty in identifying community buildings which would allow animal access and this has meant that we have had to postpone these activities until 2010.

Boarding: We continue to board both dogs and cats at My Petstop at Denton

Rehoming: See Branch statistics (below).

Fostering: We have a dedicated team, to whom we are indebted, who foster dogs and cats that require intensive care (mainly puppies and kittens)

Microchipping: The branch microchips all dogs & cats rehomed by us. We also offer a Microchipping service to the public (at a reasonable cost) when we run Fun dog shows and at Community Animal Action Days. We are looking at the possibility (if funds allow) of offering free microchipping to owners who attend our events throughout 2010.

Neutering (branch animals): It remains branch policy that where possible all animals should be neutered prior to being rehomed.

Assisted Neutering: Our assisted neutering scheme is operated to help reduce the number of unwanted animals in the area. With the help and generosity of local veterinary surgeons, we offer people on means tested benefit, the opportunity to have their animal neutered at 50% of the normal veterinary practice fee.

Assisted Treatment: This scheme is operated to prevent the unnecessary suffering of animals in need of urgent veterinary attention. In association with many local veterinary surgeons the branch is able to offer financial assistance to people on means-tested benefits. Due to pressures on limited branch funds, we are only able to offer help on bills over £40.00 and on a sliding scale of assistance up to a maximum of £25. Tameside residents are asked to take their animals to The RSPCA Greater Manchester Animal Hospital, if at all possible. People living in the Glossop area are outside the Hospital's catchments area and are therefore asked to contact a local veterinary surgeon to find out if the practice takes part in the scheme, before booking an appointment

Veterinary Vouchers: (*Only open to people in receipt of certain means tested benefits*) When an animal in urgent need of veterinary treatment and its owner is without any money to meet any of the Veterinary Surgeon's fees. The maximum amount offered on the vouchers is £20 or 25% of the bill whichever is the lesser. These vouchers are only available through the designated Branch officer and at the request of a veterinary surgeon who has fully assessed the situation. Additionally, RSPCA Inspectors have the authority to issue such vouchers in cases where without such treatment in their opinion the animal would continue to suffer.

BRANCH STATISTICS

2009				2008
ANIMALS REHOMED				
DOGS	CATS	MISC	TOTAL	TOTAL
101	231	0	332	301
WELFARE NEUTERING				
DOGS	CATS	MISC	TOTAL	TOTAL
2	15	2	19	35
PRIVATELY OWNED ANIMALS MICROCHIPPED				
DOGS	CATS	MISC	TOTAL	TOTAL
13	1	0	14	62
WELFARE TREATMENT				
DOGS	CATS	MISC	TOTAL	TOTAL
122	142	14	278	258

We had a large increase in the number of dogs re-homed during the year under review which directly relates to a large cruelty case which is sub-judice at the time of this report.



Our welfare neutering figures are down again this year as more owners who are in receipt of benefit and living in the branch's Tameside area are advised to go to the RSPCA's Greater Manchester Animal Hospital or to take advantage of the lower cost schemes operated by other large national animal welfare organisations.

Micro-chipping figures are significantly reduced and these numbers directly relate to the difficulty the branch has experienced in finding premises for the Community Animal Action Days in the designated areas of concern.



Welfare treatment figures continue to rise and we expect that this will be repeated in 2010 due to the credit crunch and increasing numbers of owners forced to rely on state benefits.

Irene Platt

Irene Platt

Date: 10 June 2010



**RSPCA TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP
BRANCH
(Reg Charity No: 232260)**

**ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2009**

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of
The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Tameside & Glossop Branch

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2009, which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

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 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 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 for disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning 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 qualified statement

This charity, in common with many others of similar size and organisation, derives a substantial proportion of its income from voluntary donations which cannot be fully controlled until they are entered into the accounting records, and are therefore not susceptible to independent verification.

In connection with my examination, no other matter, except that referred to in the above paragraph, has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting record in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

JAS -

John A Simpson
Chartered Accountant

Date: 18th June 2010

48 Bredbury Green, Romiley, Stockport, SK6 3DN

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP BRANCH**

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2009**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2009 £	Total 2008 £
Incoming Resources					
Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources	2	25,664		25,664	73,169
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objective	3	21,829		21,829	16,811
Activities for generating funds	4	2,313		2,313	3,695
Investment income	5	673		673	1,877
Total incoming resources		50,479	0	50,479	95,552
Resources Expended					
Costs of generating funds	6	1,791		1,791	2,393
Charitable expenditure:					
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	7	58,061		58,061	48,618
Management and administration	8	2,337	0	2,337	2,298
Total resources expended		62,189	0	62,189	53,309
Net movement in funds for the year		(11,710)	0	(11,710)	42,243
Balance at 1 January 2009		99,302	0	99,302	57,059
Balance at 31 December 2009		87,592	0	87,592	99,302

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP BRANCH


Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2009

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2009 £	Total 2008 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	10	0	0	0
Investments	11	75	75	75
		75	75	75
Current assets				
Stocks		3,315	3,315	3,938
Debtors	12	1,855	1,855	1,816
Cash at bank		89,281	89,281	100,705
		94,451	94,451	106,459
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	6,934	6,934	7,232
Net current assets		87,517	87,517	99,227
Total net assets		87,592	87,592	99,302

Funds

Unrestricted funds	87,592	99,302
Restricted funds	0	0
Total funds	87,592	99,302

Approved by the board of trustees on
and signed on its behalf by J Burrows



Date: 10th June 2010

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP BRANCH

Notes to the accounts For the year ended 31 December 2009

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective 2008). In preparing the financial statements, the charity follows best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

Incoming resources

Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources – These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- The charity becomes entitled to the donation, legacy or similar income and any conditions for receipt are met;
- The trustees are reasonably certain they will receive it; and
- The trustees are reasonably certain that the value can be reliably measured.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts – Incoming resources from tax claims are included on the SOFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Investment income - This and any associated tax credits are included in the accounts when receivable.

Expenditure and liabilities

Generally liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rate in order to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment	25% on reducing balance basis
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Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation.

Stocks

Stocks consist of purchased goods for resale. Stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Items donated for resale are not included in the accounts until they are sold.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP BRANCH

Notes to the accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2009

2 Donations and gifts	2009	2008
	£	£
Subscriptions	269	307
Collection boxes	4,469	6,133
Sale of donated goods	398	261
General donations	5,475	8,319
Legacies	1,000	44,676
Door to door collections	12,975	11,945
Other income	1,078	1,528
	<u>25,664</u>	<u>73,169</u>
3 Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	2009	2008
	£	£
Special events	2,214	1,651
Animal sales and adoptions	18,115	13,660
Regional funds	1,500	1,500
	<u>21,829</u>	<u>16,811</u>
4 Activities for general funds	2009	2008
	£	£
Sales of goods	<u>2,313</u>	<u>3,695</u>
5 Investment income	2009	2008
	£	£
Bank interest	667	1,871
Dividends	6	6
	<u>673</u>	<u>1,877</u>
6 Costs of generating funds	2009	2008
	£	£
Cost of goods sold	<u>1,791</u>	<u>2,393</u>

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP BRANCH

Notes to the accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2009

7 Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	2009	2008
	£	£
Vets fees	4,926	4,550
Boarding	35,275	30,241
Home-checker, fostering expenses & associated veterinary fees	13,862	11,022
Use of medicines for the treatment of animals and purchase of microchips	3,008	1,715
Branch regional contribution	990	1,050
Fund-raising expenses	-	40
	<u>58,061</u>	<u>48,618</u>
8 Management and administration	2009	2008
	£	£
Postage and stationary	230	168
Insurance	313	313
Other costs	1,344	1,367
Independent examiner's fees	450	450
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-
	<u>2,337</u>	<u>2,298</u>

9 Trustees' remuneration

The trustees received no remuneration during the year ended 31 December 2009 (2008: £ Nil).

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP BRANCH

Notes to the accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2009

10 Tangible fixed assets		Equipment
		£
Cost		
At 1 January 2009		1,532
Additions		0
At 31 December 2009		<u>1,532</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2009		1,532
Charge for the year		0
At 31 December 2009		<u>1,532</u>
Net book values		
At 31 December 2009		<u><u>0</u></u>
At 31 December 2008		<u><u>0</u></u>

11 Investments	2009	2008
	£	£
Market value at 1 January 2009	75	75
(Loss) / gain on revaluation	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Market value at 31 December 2009	<u><u>75</u></u>	<u><u>75</u></u>
Historical cost at 31 December 2009	<u><u>24</u></u>	<u><u>24</u></u>

All investments are listed UK securities

12 Debtors	2009	2008
	£	£
VAT receivable	1,855	1,416
Debtors	<u>0</u>	<u>400</u>
	<u><u>1,855</u></u>	<u><u>1,816</u></u>

13 Creditors	2009	2008
	£	£
Accruals	<u>6,934</u>	<u>7,232</u>
	<u><u>6,934</u></u>	<u><u>7,232</u></u>

14 Related party transactions

Goods and services were purchased from the national RSPCA charity to the value of £8,009. These goods were either sold during the year or held in stock at the year end. The total also includes medicines purchased for the treatment of animals.

NORTH REGION ANNUAL REPORT 2009

It is with great pleasure that I am reporting to you all on the events which have taken place within the North Region during 2009. As you will know, I took up post as your new Regional Manager in August 2009, replacing Alan Wolinski.

Last Autumn saw the sad loss of the Regional Superintendent, Dave Millard, whose death was a great loss to both staff and volunteers in the North Region. Dave's service spanned 37 years, the majority of which were spent in the North Region, both as an operational Inspector and as the Regional Superintendent for many years. His replacement is Martin Marsh, ex-Chief Inspector from the Liverpool area – again, an officer with some twenty-four years' service, the majority of which has been served on the North-West side of the region.

During the latter part of 2009 we saw a major re-structure of the education team as part of the Society's cost-saving measures. The Education Manager for the Region, Becky Ward, and many of her staff took voluntary redundancy as part of the re-structure process.

Also as part of the cost-saving exercise, we saw one of the Press Officers leaving the Society, likewise on voluntary redundancy. Sophie Corless, who had been with the region for approximately three-and-a-half years, left the Society, leaving us with one Press Officer moving forward into 2010.

The region's Inspectorate went through a major reorganisation in the autumn of 2009. This caused a number of officers to move around the region and the country to enable the Society's Inspectorate to be more responsive outside normal hours, ie on evenings and at weekends, through the implementation of a new roster. For many years, the Society's Inspectorate operated a Monday-to-Friday working system, downsizing and downgrading the service provided via our Inspectors to a very limited service on weekends and Bank Holidays. It is hoped that the rostering system will improve our service to animal welfare throughout the seven-day working week.

2009 has been a year for the organisation as a whole, and our region in particular, to look at cost-saving measures and ways in which to become more financially prudent than we've ever been before. Even with the financial constraints placed upon us, the region's branches, centres and Inspectorate staff have achieved great work and service in respect of animal welfare within the region.

Both our regional animal centres - Great Ayton and Felledge - have concentrated their efforts on dealing with Inspectorate-generated animals; in the main, these animals are the subject of cruelty or deemed to require removal to protect their future welfare. To continue the great work carried out by the Animal Centres, even though they are operating in times of financial difficulty, it was agreed to carry out extension work at both Great Ayton and Felledge, which will hopefully be completed in the early part of this year. At Great Ayton, a miscellaneous unit is being built, which will include facilities for small domestic animals other than dogs and cats, and there will also be a small facility for the short-term keeping of birds, both British native and non-indigenous. As reported in last year's annual report, agreement had been given by the National Society to complete the building of new kennels and cattery development at the School House at Felledge. I can report to you that this work has been ongoing this year and the expected completion date will be April 2010. This will again provide additional facilities for those animals most in need within the North Region – those animals subjected to, or likely to be subjected to, cruelty.

The workload dealt with by our Inspectorate teams does not appear to have diminished; in fact, the number of animals that they have dealt with seems to have increased. The number of prosecution files relating to offenders has again been considerably high in the region, and the highest across the whole country, with the highest concentration of the North Region's casework taking place on the North-Eastern side of the region. The case procedure has been very ably supported by the Animal Case Support Unit team at the Regional Headquarters in Leeds under the direction of Jean Gregg, and 2009 saw us reach a situation where we were able to turn around the prosecution files far more expediently than we had ever been able to do previously. I can report to you that there is a national review currently underway, examining the way in which the Society deals with prosecutions. It is hoped that by September 2010 we will have an upgraded and updated procedure, which will streamline prosecution work which, in turn, will hopefully result in animals being kept in care for shorter periods of time. This will, of course, help us to reduce what are quite enormous costs in dealing with this side of the RSPCA's work.

During November, the region experienced one of the biggest flood events ever to hit the UK in a number of years. This happened in the Cumbria area, centring around Cockermouth. Many teams of Inspectorate staff, branch volunteers and Liz Jones, one of our Branch Development Advisers (BDAs), came together as one team in order to assist in alleviating the distress and suffering of animals and people alike, and all credit is due to these people for the work carried out during the course of that event.

Staying in Cumbria, Appleby Horse Fair - which is the largest equine fair of its kind in Europe - took place again in the summer of 2009. The event was better manned than it had been in previous years and, due to the improved planning and manning levels, animal welfare was served better than ever before in previous years. I can report that, in 2010, we hope to see further improvements in the service that we are able to provide for the animals that are brought to this event.

This region is very proud of the relationship between its staff, branches and volunteers, and there is no doubt that the achievements of the full-time staff in this region would not be possible without the help and support that the forty-four branches, and fifteen animal centres associated with those branches, so willingly provide. Independently, you - the branches - provide a huge amount of creditable animal welfare work in your own right, and you are to be applauded for the work that you carry out. In support of that work, we have a very creditable team of BDAs led by our Animal Welfare Manager Peter Bolton, who provide assistance and guidance to the branches across a range of subjects, which is key to the excellent animal welfare delivery service we see in the North Region.

All 44 branches in the north region made a huge contribution to the animal welfare work undertaken by the national Society during 2009. Focussing our work in key priority areas, and giving priority to those animals identified through the Inspectorate, ensured that the branches in the North helped those animals with the highest welfare need.

North region branches re-homed a total of 16,405 animals, welfare neutered 8,468 owned animals, micro-chipped 11,582 animals and provided welfare treatment to 24,149 animals.

In addition to the proactive animal welfare work which was achieved by individual branches in 2009, the two Regional Boards in the North Region paid for the neutering of 236 animals, the micro-chipping of 3,318 animals and the provision of welfare assistance to 958 animals via Community Action Events and working in partnership with other organisations.

We are very fortunate that one of the three national Wildlife Centres is to be found in this region, and the work carried out there under the stewardship of Andrew Kelly has been of the highest standard. At total of 5,338 animals were admitted during 2009; 4,969 wildlife and 369 domestic/exotic species were treated and cared for at Stapeley Grange, with 44% of the wildlife (2,206) being released back to the wild. Included in the admissions were 79 case birds. The Stapeley Grange Cattery has also operated successfully and over the year, a total of 432 cats have been dealt with; of these, 338 were adopted, 60 were euthanased, 21 reunited with their owners, 12 feral cats were neutered and released back to the wild, and one cat was transferred to another AWD centre. It is with regret that, in the early part of 2010, we will be saying farewell to Andrew, who is leaving the Society to move onto other things. A new Manager has been appointed, and will take up post in June 2010.

I would like to finish by thanking everyone involved in the North Region for the work carried out, and for the great benefits in animal welfare which have been achieved during 2009.

I am sure that, as in years past, 2010 will see numerous challenges and, as always, the North Region will rise to those challenges and provide the same great service that it has unfailingly done in the past in the name of animal welfare.



Mike Hogg
Regional Manager

2009 ANNUAL REPORT FOR NORTH REGION GROUP N3

I am pleased to provide this annual report on the work of the RSPCA's City of Manchester Group for 2009. The past year has been very challenging, with change being very much the main theme. Geographic boundary changes have resulted in the composition of the groups altering on three occasions during the year, resulting in a move for myself to the Cheshire group for six months of the year; further change in September resulted in the formation of the City of Manchester Group, now N3, and my return to that Group area.

We have also seen the introduction of new rosters to integrate the Inspectors and Animal Collection Officers (ACOs). A real positive change has been the introduction of the Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) role, which has provided a positive career progression within the Inspectorate. ACO Donna Holt (8364) successfully completed the first AWO training course, and is now able to investigate 'normal' complaints in addition to dealing with collections. ACOs Helen Chapman and Dave Cottingham are currently undergoing their AWO training, and I am confident that they will successfully complete their training.

The group now comprises the following officers:

Chief Inspector Cathy Hyde 784

Deputy Chief Inspector Ben Strangwood 852

Inspector Natalie Avery 930

Inspector Jason Bowles 817

Inspector Cath Byrnes 729

Inspector Melissa Furey 891

Inspector Caroline Hall 823

Inspector Paul Heaton 256

Inspector Danni Jennings 20009

Inspector Lisa Lupson 945

Inspector Vicki McDonald 830

Inspector Nina Small 849

Inspector Helen Smith 994

Animal Welfare Officer Donna Holt 8364

Animal Collection Officer Helen Chapman 9337

Animal Collection Officer Dave Cottingham 8317

Animal Collection Officer Gina Ratcliff 8015

The number of complaints investigated in the N3 group area during 2009 showed a marked increase to 4,490 (from 3,726 in 2008) and collections also increased to just over 4,000. A total of 67 case files were submitted to Prosecutions Department at RSPCA Headquarters, resulting in a total of 76 verbal warnings, 24 Adult Written Cautions and 32 convictions.

Some prosecutions of note during the year are as follows:

Adams x 2: this case involved the neglect of 48 cats, found living in total squalor. Anne and Joan Adams (mother and daughter) were convicted of causing suffering and not meeting the needs of all of their cats. They both received a lifetime disqualification from keeping any animal and community punishment orders. The case highlighted the benefit of the Animal Welfare Act, as it was the conditions in which the cats were being kept which was the major issue; under the "old" 1911 Protection of Animals Act, this investigation would not have resulted in such a positive outcome. Thanks to the RSPCA Rochdale and District Branch, the majority of the cats were returned to good health and homes have been found for many of them. The case received extensive local and national press coverage, showing the RSPCA in a very positive light.

Hussain: this case involved three pit bull terriers, which had not received necessary veterinary treatment for their injuries. Mr Hussain was convicted of causing unnecessary suffering, and also for possession of an illegal breed. He received a disqualification from keeping any animal, community punishment order and costs.

Williams x 3: this family of three had 19 cats in their house; one room was full of cat faeces, and the house was infested with fleas. The family pleaded guilty to charges of causing unnecessary suffering and failing to meet the needs of the cats.

O'Connor: this was a very distressing case involving a cat being shot with a crossbow. Sadly, the much-loved family pet was killed. Chloe O'Connor received a custodial sentence at a Young Offenders Institute and a disqualification from keeping any animal.

Hayton and Smith: this case involved a dead dog and a severely emaciated dog. Both these dogs had been starved – the surviving dog gained 150% of its bodyweight whilst in RSPCA care, and was successfully re-homed. Both defendants were disqualified from keeping any animal and also received community punishment orders and costs.

Thanks to the hard work of the Press Office, both in region and at Headquarters, these cases received extensive and positive media coverage at both local and national level. As in previous years, the BBC Television series 'Animal 24/7' filmed with the officers in the group during the year, we have also worked with BBC TV programme 'Rogue Traders' on the issue of puppy trafficking, and with BBC North West Tonight in relation to the increased problem of animal abandonment during the recession.

Due to obvious financial constraints, we have been restricted in relation to the continuation of the very positive Community Action Days that we had held in the preceding two years. Thanks to the continued support of the RSPCA Manchester and Salford Branch, however, we did undertake a number of successful clinics during the year.

Other activities that have involved the group during the year include:

- Three group members attended the Appleby Horse Fair in Cumbria; this is the largest gathering of the gypsy and travelling community in Europe, and a variety of animal welfare issues were dealt with during the event.
- Two members of the group are members of the North Region Water Rescue Team and, as such, attended the severe flooding during November in Cumbria. DCI Ben Strangwood (852) was appointed the North Regional Co-ordinator.
- At the request of Greater Manchester Police, we have had probationary police officers spending time "shadowing" Inspectors for two days in order to gain an understanding of what we do and how we work in conjunction with the Police; this has the added benefit of increasing the Police Officers' understanding of the assistance that we need from them.
- We have played host to a number of Student and Probationary Inspectors during their field training.
- The Greater Manchester Police Authority has introduced a Lay Visitors Scheme, to ensure the welfare of both the Police Force's horses and dogs. The RSPCA were approached for input in the setting up and implementation of the scheme, and also provided training to the Lay Visitors selected to become members of the scheme.

In closing, I would like to thank all the N3 officers for their hard work and dedication in what has been a very challenging year. In addition the staff, in both Regional and National RSPCA Headquarters, has provided support and advice in a number of important areas – management and administrative support, press and prosecutions – and, finally, the staff and volunteers from all of the Branches - with whom we have the pleasure of working - all deserve our grateful thanks.

Cathy Hyde
Chief Inspector, 784



RSPCA TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP BRANCH
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