



**RSPCA TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP
BRANCH**

(Reg Charity No: 232260)

**110th ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2008**



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2008 was the branch's 109th year of operation in the Tameside and Glossop area and our volunteers (ie everyone in the branch) have seen enormous changes to their working practices even over the last 20 years. Developing from a purely fund-raising committee who simply paid for private boarding and veterinary welfare schemes with very little direct contact with the animals in branch care, our volunteers now find themselves socialising often traumatised cats and kittens, dogs and puppies. Volunteer Fosterers take animals needing extra care into their own homes until their vaccinations are complete, or they have recovered from operations, or they are old enough to come into private boarding. Others undertake pre- and post- adoption home visits to ensure a good match is made between the animal and its new family. Much of this hands-on work with our boarded animals has been made possible through the generosity and open door policy of MyPetStop in Denton, who are happy to allow us to visit as and when volunteers are available.

A further development which was unimaginable, even 20 years ago, is the success of the internet in rehoming animals. Our website goes from strength to strength and can often be found in second place to that of the RSPCA's National Society if people "Google" for the RSPCA.

However, as in the past the branch can only survive to help animals in our area as long as we have the wherewithal to pay for their welfare needs. The credit crunch is about to really hit hard and we are already experiencing an increase in the number of people needing to rehome their animals due having to move into rented accommodation with a "no pets" policy and a correspondingly decrease in the number of people prepared to take on the financial commitment of adopting an animal. Without sufficient regular income we will be forced to "shut up shop", leaving many Tameside and Glossop animals in desperate circumstances. Our Inspectors could be faced with the task of finding alternative accommodation with other branches, also facing the same situation, or having to destroy a perfectly healthy animal simply because there was nowhere to place them. So, please consider offering a couple of hours to help our few dedicated fundraisers, with one of our public collections or events. Every pound raised really can make a difference.

In October we held our first Community Animal Action Days in the Whitfield area of Glossop. Over 60 owners living in the area took advantage of a free veterinary health check for their animals and were offered advice, had their animals microchipped and were given free worming and flea treatments to take away. Neutering vouchers were also distributed at the time. Our thanks go to the Whitfield Community Centre who took the bold step of allowing dogs, cats and other animals into their building without mishap, to Ann Mee who was our veterinary surgeon for the Day and to Andrea Yates, High Peak's Neighbourhood Coordinator. We are hoping to organise other similar days in Hattersley and Asthon-under-Lyne in 2009 but are finding it extremely difficult to find community buildings where committees are willing to allow animal access.

Another successful venture for the branch has been the joint working with MOSAIC, a Stockport based organisation which supports young people recovering from drug and alcohol abuse. MOSAIC was funded to employ a part time worker, whose remit was to support, on a one to one basis, clients who wished to walk and help rehabilitate the dogs in RSPCA care. It has been found that many young people find it easier to open up to their support worker during these walks and experience increased self esteem through helping a defenceless animal to regain trust in humans, thus enabling them to be successfully adopted. (see page 13).

We are indebted to individual donors and supporters, private businesses, supermarkets, market managers and the local press who have generously supported our fundraising events, appeals for new homes and publicity drives and would like to take this opportunity to thank local veterinary surgeons who so generously allow discounts to the branch and accept branch vouchers to help local animal owners experiencing financial hardship to access private veterinary care.



Irene Platt
Honorary Chairman



INDEX TO ANNUAL REVIEW, REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST December 2008

Chairman's Report	Previous page
Trustees	Page 1
Regional HQ Information	Page 1
Trustees' Report	Page 2
Constitution	
Areas of Priority	
Public Benefit	
Governance	
Training, Risk Management & Related Parties	Page 3
Investment & Reserves Policies	Page 3
Future Plans	Page 3
Achievements & Performance (including Branch Statistics)	Pages 3 & 4
Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2009	Page 5
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 6
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 7
Balance Sheet	Page 8
Notes to the Accounts	Pages 9 to 12
Further Reports	
Mosaic	Page 13
North Region	Page 14
North Region Group N2	Page 15

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 & KENNELS LIASON OFFICER: -	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: -	Angela Griffiths, Angela Burrows, Kath Birch, Ken Hall, Albert Hibbert (co-opted), Anne Kenyon (co-opted)

The Trustees/Committee are elected from eligible members of the branch at the AGM (3 co-options are allowed).

WEB SITE 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. Ian Mcilveen, Hillside House, 149 Norley Rd, Cuddington, Northwich CW8 2LB

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

RSPCA Regional Headquarters:-

PO Box BR29, Leeds. LS13 2XL

Regional Manager:-

Mr. Alan Wolinski, Regional Headquarters (RHQ)

R.S.P.C.A. Inspectors:-

Regional Superintendent Dave Millard, RHQ

Branch Development Advisor:-

Mr. James Stevens, 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 2008

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: to “*promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals*” with particular reference to the area of benefit i.e. Tameside and Glossop.

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 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, who would otherwise be unable to afford veterinary help for their animals. This alleviates the worry amongst socially isolated and/or financially impoverished individuals who are dependent on the companionship their animals bring.

We organised a Community Animal Welfare Day in Glossop during the latter part of the year enabling owners to take advantage of a free health check, neutering vouchers and other treatments for their animals. These 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 also worked with another organisation, MOSAIC, which supports young people who are recovering from drug and alcohol misuse with great success. (see page 13)

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. 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 £53,309 and a low risk strategy was implemented. Income exceeded this target by £42,243

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.

Plans for Future Periods: 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.

Achievement and Performance:

Branch Development: 2008 was the branch's 109th year of operation in the Tameside and Glossop area. Developing from a purely fund-raising committee who simply paid for private boarding and veterinary welfare schemes, Trustees and other volunteers now play a much more "hands on" role in dealing with the animals in our care.

Website Development: The branch's website is high in the ranking order of the most popular search engine "Google" and has become our main tool for advertising the animals seeking new home and explaining the work undertaken.

Spreading the Word: In July, three committee members took part in Ashton 6th Form College Student Enrichment Day. Three groups of approximately 20 students attended presentations on the work of the branch and took part in an "Imagine you are an RSPCA Inspector" exercise.

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. We struggle to make ends meet each year but luckily in 2008 a supporter left a legacy in her will and this has enabled us to "keep our heads above the financial water waterline" and to put aside some reserves to see us safely through the next 12 months.

Community Animal Action Days: The first of several planned action days was held in the Whitfield area of Glossop. Other similar days in Hattersley and Ashton-under-Lyne were planned but the difficulty in identifying community buildings which would allow animal access has meant that these events had to be postponed.

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.

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

2008				2007
ANIMALS REHOMED				
DOGS	CATS	MISC	TOTAL	TOTAL
74	226	0	301	383
WELFARE NEUTERING				
DOGS	CATS	MISC	TOTAL	TOTAL
22	9	4	35	86
PRIVATELY OWNED ANIMALS MICROCHIPPED				
DOGS	CATS	MISC	TOTAL	
58	4	0	62	13
WELFARE TREATMENT				
DOGS	CATS	MISC	TOTAL	
115	141	2	258	213

Irene Platt

Irene Platt

Date: 10th June 2009





**RSPCA TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP
BRANCH
(Reg Charity No: 232260)
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2008**

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 2008, which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

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

JA Simpson

John A Simpson
Chartered Accountant

Date: 10th June 2009

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 2008

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2008 £	Total 2007 £
Incoming Resources					
Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources	2	73,169		73,169	38,526
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objective	3	16,811		16,811	23,458
Activities for generating funds	4	3,695		3,695	3,846
Investment income	5	1,877		1,877	1,800
Total incoming resources		95,552	0	95,552	67,630
Resources Expended					
Costs of generating funds	6	2,393		2,393	2,112
Charitable expenditure:					
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	7	48,618		48,618	50,733
Management and administration	8	2,268	30	2,298	2,468
Total resources expended		53,279	30	53,309	55,313
Net movement in funds for the year		42,273	(30)	42,243	12,317
Balance at 1 January 2008		57,029	30	57,059	44,742
Balance at 31 December 2008		99,302	0	99,302	57,059

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these accounts.

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

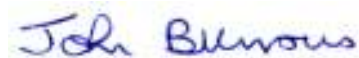
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2008

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2008 £	Total 2007 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	10	0	0	0
Investments	11	75	75	75
		75	75	75
Current assets				
Stocks		3,938	3,938	1,343
Debtors	12	1,816	1,816	2,686
Cash at bank		100,705	100,705	56,288
		106,459	106,459	60,317
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	7,232	7,232	3,333
Net current assets		99,227	99,227	56,984
Total net assets		99,302	99,302	57,059

Funds

Unrestricted funds	99,302	57,029
Restricted funds	0	30
Total funds	99,302	57,059

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



Date: 10th June 2009

The notes on pages 9 to 12 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 2008

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 2007). 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
-----------	-------------------------------

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 2008

2 Donations and gifts	2008	2007
	£	£
Subscriptions	307	308
Collection boxes	6,133	4,995
Sale of donated goods	261	518
General donations	8,319	9,562
Legacies	44,676	14,146
Door to door collections	11,945	8,484
Other income	1,528	513
	<u>73,169</u>	<u>38,526</u>

3 Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	2008	2007
	£	£
Special events	1,651	2,119
Animal sales and adoptions	13,660	19,839
Regional funds	1,500	1,500
	<u>16,811</u>	<u>23,458</u>

4 Activities for general funds	2008	2007
	£	£
Sales of goods	<u>3,695</u>	<u>3,846</u>

5 Investment income	2008	2007
	£	£
Bank interest	1,871	1,800
Dividends	6	-
	<u>1,877</u>	<u>1,800</u>

6 Costs of generating funds	2008	2007
	£	£
Cost of goods sold	<u>2,393</u>	<u>2,112</u>

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

Notes to the accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2008

7 Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	2008	2007
	£	£
Vets fees	4,550	4,350
Boarding	30,241	30,872
Home-checker, fostering expenses & associated veterinary fees	11,022	10,585
Use of medicines for the treatment of animals	392	2,192
Branch regional contribution	1,050	1,050
Purchase of microchips	1,323	1,126
Animal food costs	-	213
Fund-raising expenses	40	225
Depreciation (restricted fund camera)	-	120
	<u>48,618</u>	<u>50,733</u>
8 Management and administration	2008	2007
	£	£
Postage and stationary	168	388
Insurance	313	275
Other costs	1,367	1,312
Independent examiner's fees	450	450
Miscellaneous expenses	-	43
	<u>2,298</u>	<u>2,468</u>

9 Trustees' remuneration

The trustees received no remuneration during the year ended 31 December 2008 (2007: £ Nil).

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

Notes to the accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2008

10 Tangible fixed assets	Equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 January 2008	1,532
Additions	0
At 31 December 2008	<u>1,532</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2008	1,532
Charge for the year	0
At 31 December 2008	<u>1,532</u>
Net book values	
At 31 December 2008	<u>0</u>
At 31 December 2007	<u>0</u>

11 Investments	2008	2007
	£	£
Market value at 1 January 2008	75	75
(Loss) / gain on revaluation	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Market value at 31 December 2008	<u>75</u>	<u>75</u>
Historical cost at 31 December 2008	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>

All investments are listed UK securities

12 Debtors	2008	2007
	£	£
VAT receivable	1,416	1,890
Debtors	<u>400</u>	<u>796</u>
	<u>1,816</u>	<u>2,686</u>

13 Creditors	2008	2007
	£	£
Accruals	<u>7,232</u>	<u>3,333</u>
	<u>7,232</u>	<u>3,333</u>

14 Related party transactions

Goods and services were purchased from the national RSPCA charity to the value of £9,794. 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.

WORKING TOGETHER: MOSAIC AND THE RSPCA

(Report from Mosaic's Young Persons' Key Worker)

Last year an agreement was made between Mosaic, the Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service and the RSPCA at Tameside as part of a health initiatives project.

Since August 2008 there have been 15 referrals (16-25 year olds) for dog walking. Referrals are via discussion with young persons' key worker and the support worker.

We have just completed an annual evaluation of the project. All the information and feedback so far has been very positive, and the dog walking is beneficial to all involved, including the dogs.

We aim to reduce the harm that drugs and alcohol causes to the individuals at Mosaic. To improve the physical, social, emotional and cognitive outcomes from people with a wide range of difficulties. These include mental, physical and social issues.

Most of the young people who have been dog walking are keen to go again, and the three weekly sessions are booked up. Young people are engaging in 2 hours of physical activity, in this time we manage to walk two dogs.

The young people are developing skills and an understanding of self care and the care of others, particularly dogs.

Our young people are now able to visit the dogs in the kennels and see the living area. This is a positive factor and gives the clients an insight into the life of a rescued dog whilst in kennels and helps them to try and understand how stressful this can be.

We are able to use the play areas when available, which gives the dogs an opportunity to have a free run in a safe area. Giving the dogs these opportunities is beneficial to the dogs and allows them to develop trust with humans that they may never have had and experience the fun of play.

Giving young people this opportunity is great for building their self esteem and confidences, helps them feel that they are making a positive contribution to society.

We asked the young people to rate their mood before and after sessions (0 = low mood and 10 happy positive mood) and the positive improvement in mood was drastic. For example:

Mood before session	5	4	3	5	5
Mood after session	8	10	10	9	8



What the young people have said about the dog walking:

“I liked walking the dogs and helping out.”

“I enjoyed the chance for a rescue animal to be walked.”

“It got me out of the house and I found it fun.”

“I liked the experience of handling the dogs.”

2008 ANNUAL REPORT FOR NORTH REGION

2008 was another extremely busy year for the RSPCA in the North, during which committed staff and volunteers achieved considerable benefits for so many animals in need.

The 45 North region branches made a huge contribution to the animal welfare work undertaken by the national society during 2008. Focussing their work on the key priority areas and giving priority to those animals identified through the inspectorate ensured that they helped those animals in greatest need. The regional centre at Great Ayton accepted and cared for more case animals than any other animal centre in the RSPCA. The magnificent new branch animal centre at Sheffield opened after years in the planning. The national society agreed to complete the building of new kennels and development of the schoolhouse at Felledge. In addition to the animal welfare work achieved by individual branches in 2008, the North Regional Boards paid for the neutering of 1,454 animals, the micro-chipping of 3,048 animals and welfare assistance for 1,439 animals through Community Action events and partnership working.

2008 was the first full year since the Animal Welfare Act 2006 came in, and the response received by the inspectorate from members of the public was good. It would appear that, in the vast majority of instances, people responded to the written notification of improvements required when they realised its legally enforceable standard.

Despite the extra burden which the new legislation has placed on inspectors, the North region still manages, year on year, to respond more quickly to those complaints deemed to be emergencies. In 2008, we attended 8% more calls within one hour than in 2007. At the same time, we managed to maintain our response level to non-urgent complaints, which is a credit to all members of the team.

It follows that the workload of the inspectorate is reflected in that of the North regional administration team, and members of staff within the Animal Case Support Unit worked hard to process the ever-increasing submission of case files with motivation in the face of relentless pressure.

The education strategy - to train teachers to include animal welfare in their lesson planning - continued to be successfully delivered throughout the North region in 2008. The area of work with the biggest growth was in the delivery of training sessions to student teachers at universities. In 2008, the team secured additional training opportunities to students on new courses at Sheffield Hallam University, the University of Manchester and the Teach First programme at Liverpool John Moores University.

2008 saw lots of staffing changes within the education department, including a considerable period where it was operating with vacancies but I am pleased to say that, by the end of the year, it was up to full strength.

Highlights from the North regional press office in 2008 included - in February, a regional awareness-raising campaign focussing on airguns, - in July, a release promoting the re-homing of large numbers of cats at RSPCA animal centres received good coverage, - in August, we saw wide coverage of the RSPCA's 'Cruelty Statistics' which included the provision of audio interviews with key spokespeople for the first time, and was so successful that it is being rolled out across all regions as a result, and - in September, the story of a rare blonde hedgehog that was brought into Stapeley Grange Wildlife Centre became international news.

The North press officers also began work on the launch of RSPCA PetRetreat, and continued to work with the BBC series 'Animal 24/7'.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped to make 2008 what it was: a year of significant developments and successful co-operation resulting in welfare benefits to many animals.

Alan Wolinski
Regional Manager

2008 ANNUAL REPORT FOR NORTH REGION GROUP N2

I am very pleased to report on the work of the RSPCA's Manchester City Inspectorate group for 2008. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the inspectors for their hard work and dedication to what is always a very demanding role – but even more so in what has proved to be a very challenging year.

I would also like to express my thanks to the Animal Collections Officers (ACOs) who cover the Group N2 area, who work from the Group N3 office under the direction of Chief Inspector Brett Witchalls. The collection figures for the Group N2 area are amongst the highest in the country and, although the geographic area of N2 is small in relation to that of other groups, the traffic and road systems within Manchester are not the easiest!

Also to be thanked are the staff at both Headquarters and Regional Headquarters. Within Headquarters, we work closely with the Prosecutions Department – the Prosecution Case Managers are always on hand to advise on the more difficult aspects relating to case investigations and prosecutions work, and the high standards that are set and maintained ensure that, when a case progresses to Court, it is always professionally presented; the high success rates achieved at Court by the Society are the envy of many other prosecuting agencies. The Training Department also provides essential on-going training and this year provided Animal Welfare Act Refresher Training to the whole of the inspectorate. This was well-received and allowed the increasing knowledge and experience in relation to the application of the act to demonstrate how effective the legislation is proving to be. As a charity reliant upon public support, it is essential to advertise what we do and, to this end, the Regional Press Officers work tirelessly to ensure that we are well-represented in the media with regard to the many aspects of the work which we undertake. Valued support is also provided from Regional Management and the administrative staff, Branch Development Advisers, Education Officers, and my neighbouring Chief Inspectors who are always very supportive.

For part of 2008, we were lucky enough to have a temporary duty officer, Inspector Vicky Hancox (965), assigned to the group. This meant that, for the first time in many years, we were at full strength for part of the year. In March, Inspector Cath Byrnes (729) returned from her six months career break, during which she travelled to Peru, USA, Fiji, Australia, ending with time spent with her family in South Africa. Group N2 comprises:

Chief Inspector Cathy Hyde (784)
Deputy Chief Inspector Ben Strangwood (852)
Inspector Paul Heaton (256)
Inspector Cath Byrnes (729)
Inspector Vicki McDonald (830)
Inspector Melissa Furey (891)
Inspector Natalie Avery (930)
Inspector Lorna Bracegirdle (933)

Included in my group are two Regional Collection Officers - Glynis Bennett and Phil Selley – who undertake proactive work in relation to dealing with feral cat colonies. The criteria for this service is that cats, if they are in good health and are clear of Felv/Fiv and can therefore be returned to the colony, are neutered and re-released. This not only ensures the size of a colony is controlled, but also that the health and welfare of the cats is monitored. In addition, Phil and Glynis have provided help with the transportation of wildlife to and from Stapeley Grange Wildlife Hospital, and with the movement of a large number of inspectorate animals, whether case-related or for re-homing purposes.

The number of complaints investigated in the Group N2 area during 2008 showed an increase to 3,726 (from 2,924 in 2007). For the majority of the year, we were able to deal with all level of complaints but, due to an ever-increasing workload toward the end of 2008, we were again placing normal complaints into an overflow file. This file, however, was reviewed and managed on an ongoing basis in an effort to ensure that complaints of a serious nature were highlighted and dealt with.

Case-file submissions to Headquarters during 2008 showed a dramatic increase to 82, together with an increase in recorded convictions recorded (34). Some of the cases which were concluded through the Courts during the year, which are of particular note, are as follows:

Grange x 3: Deputy Chief Inspector Ben Strangwood (852)

This case involved the neglect of “Rusty”, an elderly Red Setter, who was underweight and had also lost the majority of his fur due to an untreated flea allergy. The family pleaded guilty and “Rusty” was confiscated from them. The parents received a lifetime disqualification from keeping any animal, whilst their daughter received a 15-years disqualification. “Rusty” was handed over to RSPCA care; happily, the foster carer who had been looking after him was happy to give him a permanent home, which was a very satisfactory conclusion for all involved.

Eckersley & Richardson: Deputy Chief Inspector Ben Strangwood (852)

This was a disturbing case involving two juveniles, who were caught on CCTV kicking a hedgehog around before putting it down a drain. It was not clear if the hedgehog had died as a result of being kicked, or whether it had drowned in the drain. The District Judge hearing the case gave them an absolute discharge due to their age and early guilty pleas.

Wakino: Inspector Paul Heaton (256)

Whilst at the RSPCA Greater Manchester Animal Hospital, Inspector Paul Heaton was made aware of a Rottweiler dog with a badly damaged tail, which had been brought into the Animal Hospital by its owner. It appeared that attempts had been made to dock the tail and, as a result, it was badly damaged and infected, and had to be removed due to the damage. The owner suggested that she had left the dog in the care of two ‘friends’, but was unable to provide their details. She received a two years conditional discharge, was banned from keeping any animal for ten years and costs were awarded.

Oliver: Inspector Cath Byrnes (729)

This case involved the neglect of “Rex”, a 14-month-old Mastiff-type dog. When Inspector Byrnes attended the address, she found “Rex” curled up on the sofa in a very emaciated state. When weighed at the veterinary surgery, the dog weighed 23kg, when his ideal weight should have been 45–50 kg. Jeanette Oliver, the owner of the dog, was found guilty at Court, and was sentenced to a two years Community Order (which involved 120 hours of unpaid work), £375.00 costs, a deprivation order giving custody of “Rex” to the RSPCA, and a 15 years Disqualification Order from keeping any animal.

Nicholls: Inspector Vicki McDonald (830)

Mr Nicholls lost his temper with his Staffordshire Bull Terrier puppy, “Buster”. He admitted to causing suffering and was ordered to complete a Community Punishment Order of 200 hours of unpaid work, and was also disqualified from keeping any animal for a period of ten years.

Johnson: Inspector Melissa Furey (891)

This case involved an adult German Shepherd bitch and puppy, kept outside in squalid conditions at a garage in Farnworth. This was a good example of the Animal Welfare Act enabling us to deal with animals being kept in an unacceptable environment. Mr Johnson was ordered to complete 150 hours of unpaid work, to pay £1,000.00 costs and was also disqualified from keeping any animal for life – he will be unable to appeal against this disqualification for a period of 15 years.

Downing: Inspector Natalie Avery (930)

This case involved a security guard who was keeping a total of 21 dogs in his terraced house in Clayton, Greater Manchester. The conditions inside the property were atrocious, the smell was overpowering, and there was no food or water available to the animals. The Magistrates took this matter very seriously, and Mr Downing received a Community Punishment Order, costs and a 15-years disqualification from keeping any animal.

Farrelley & Jackson: Inspector Lorna Bracegirdle (933)

Mr Jackson brought home “Bess”, a ten-week-old Rottweiler puppy as a pet for himself and his partner. The puppy was found with a badly broken leg which they had not had treated. Mr Jackson suggested that “Bess” had been run over by a quad bike whilst he had been out walking with her. Miss Farrelley, however, suggested that “Bess” had been injured by Mr Jackson. Miss Farrelley, who was fairly co-operative and pleaded guilty to failing to seek veterinary treatment for “Bess”, received a two years conditional discharge, and was ordered to pay £250.00 costs. Mr Jackson proved very difficult to deal with and failed to attend Court; following his arrest, he was sentenced to four weeks custody, and was also disqualified from keeping any animal for a period of ten years - and he cannot appeal against this for two years. “Bess” recovered well, and was successfully re-homed.

As mentioned, we are an organisation which is entirely reliant upon donations from the public, so we were very pleased to attract a huge amount of media coverage at both local and national levels for our work in Manchester. We have received extensive coverage in relation to various aspects of our work, with articles appearing on a regular basis in the Manchester Evening News and on BBC Greater Manchester Radio, BBC North West Tonight and Granada Reports. In addition, the BBC Television Series, “Animal 24/7”, filmed with the group during the year - some of the programmes have already been screened, and the next series is due to start in March 2009.

Following the successful introduction of the proactive “Community Animal Action Days2 project in 2007, we once again joined forces with the Crime and Disorder “Respect Action Week” teams, which enabled us to run a number of very successful veterinary clinics, offering free veterinary checks, microchipping, flea and worming treatments and neutering vouchers across Manchester. These events provided us with a real opportunity to undertake some positive pro-active work, supported by the “Respect” Teams who provided venues, publicity and assistance with funding. The RSPCA Manchester and Salford Branch also provided financial support and people to assist with running the events. In addition, the RSPCA Tameside and Glossop Branch funded a successful day in Glossop. At these events during the year, we saw and treated a total of 584 animals.

Deputy Chief Inspector Strangwood attended the RSPCA Annual General Meeting in order to receive the Anderson-Plumbe Award in recognition of his outstanding work during 2007. Inspector Byrnes won her section in the Inspectorate Photographic Awards for her “Oliver” case-file photographs, while Deputy Chief Inspector Strangwood received a Commendation in his section.

Other activities in which the group has been involved with during the year are as follows:

- Being “shadowed” by trainee Police Officers
- Rope rescue, boat training, ladder training, dog behaviour training and Animal Welfare Act Refresher Training
- Attendance at the Appleby Horse Fair
- Attendance at the Grand National Race Meeting
- Providing coaching and mentoring to both trainee and probationary inspectors who joined the group in order to obtain experience and knowledge
- Attendance at the floods in Morpeth as part of the Regional Flood Team

In closing, I would once again like to record my sincere thanks to all of my group’s inspectors and ACOs for their hard work and dedication in what is always a challenging role, regional staff for their assistance and support and, finally, the staff and volunteers from all of the branches, with whom we have the pleasure of working for the benefit of animal welfare.

Cathy Hyde
Chief Inspector, 784 – Group N2









**RSPCA TAMESIDE AND GLOSSOP
BRANCH**

www.rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk