



Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Liverpool Branch



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2009



PATRONS:

Sir James Sharples, Q.P.M.

PRESIDENT:

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

The Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley

The Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Sefton

A LITTLE HISTORY

“The Liverpool Society For Preventing Wanton Cruelty To Brute Animals” was formed by a group of people who got together in the Crown & Anchor Coffee House in Bold Street Liverpool at 7pm on the 25th October 1809. This came into being the first animal welfare society in the world. 1809 was the jubilee year of H.M. George III and 25th October was jubilee day. England was at war with France and Napoleon had banned trade between the conquered continental countries and England.

Reports of the Society’s work appeared regularly in “Billings Liverpool Advertiser and Marine Intelligence”. These reports were ill received by certain hauliers and carters who could see that their sick and infirm animals might be prevented from working. This resulted in members of the Society being waylaid after their meetings and in consequence meetings had to be held in secret.

In succession, RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH was established in 1841.

Front cover photograph: “Nesky” – Looking for a home

Back cover photograph: Halewood Montage

Photos: Gwyn Dean



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**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF
CRUELTY TO ANIMALS LIVERPOOL BRANCH**

Year ended 31st December 2009

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Registered Charity No. 232254

Principal Office: 19 Taptan Way Wavertree Technology Park Liverpool L13 1DA

Phone: 0151 220 3812

Fax: 0151 220 3821

The Governing Documents and Constitution:

RSPCA Branch Model Rules revised September 2006 and the Charity Commission Scheme 30th April 1971. The Charity is constituted as an unincorporated association.

BRANCH COMMITTEE

Officers:

Chairman: Ms J. CLOUGH

Hon. Treasurer: Mr W. WALSH

Hon. Secretary: Mr D. GRANT

Members:

Mrs T. GRANT

Mr T. J. HALL

Mrs F. LYE

Mrs C. MALTON

Mrs E. VAUTRINOT

Miss J. VAUTRINOT

INVESTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Mrs T. GRANT

Mrs F. LYE

Mr W. WALSH

Mrs C. MALTON

Appointment of Trustees:

Trustees are elected from Branch members at every Annual General Meeting to carry on the work for the ensuing year. The members of the Committee shall consist of no less than seven or more than fourteen elected members. The elected Committee can co-opt not more than three persons who shall be members of the Branch Committee until the next Annual General Meeting and who are eligible to be appointed as officers of the Branch.



Branch Secretary & Administrator:
Mr J.P. SMALLWOOD, D.M.A., A.C.I.S., F.R.S.A.

Animal Centre Manager
Miss K. FALCONER

Bankers:
HSBC BANK plc
99-101 Lord Street, Liverpool L2 6PG

Auditors:
Messrs. MOORE STEPHENS
110-114 Duke Street, Liverpool L1 5AG
(0151 703 1080)

Investment Managers:
RATHBONE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD
Port of Liverpool Building, Pier Head, Liverpool L3 INW
(0151 236 6666)



LIVERPOOL BRANCH

1809-2010

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2009

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2009.

LEGAL STATUS

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association, its registered charity number being 232254. The principal office is at 19 Tipton Way, Wavertree Technology Park, Liverpool L13 1DA.

Trustees are elected from Branch members at every Annual General Meeting to carry on the work for the ensuing year. The members of the Committee shall consist of no less than seven or more than fourteen elected members. The elected Committee can co-opt not more than three persons who shall be members of the Branch Committee until the next Annual General Meeting and who are eligible to be appointed as officers of the Branch. All trustees are briefed on their responsibilities as trustees prior to their acceptance of the role.

The RSPCA Liverpool Branch is a separate Charity (No. 232254) from the National Society but is subject to and operates under the Rules for the National Society and the Rules for Branches as updated in 2006.

OBJECTIVES, FUNCTIONS and PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The object of the charity is to prevent cruelty and to promote kindness to animals within the Liverpool and Merseyside area as defined by the Society. Stray and unwanted dogs, cats, small mammals and birds are taken into care as are welfare boarders whose owners are temporarily in hospital or other institutions. The Branch offers boarding to animals the subject of abuse and neglect that have been brought to the Centre by the Inspectors and AWOs. Where possible lost animals are returned to their owners, others are found new homes. There is provision for the painless euthanasia of aged and unfit animals at

owners' request. Financial assistance is given towards neutering costs and towards treatment in needy cases. The objects and functions have remained unchanged in 2009.

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 Charity Commission.

Charitable activities pursued for the public benefit

We support our local inspectors by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned animals. We also offer a boarding service for animals whose owners are in hospital or other institutions and charge a reasonable boarding fee for that service.

As well as providing education, information and advice the Society's Inspectorate 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 human sentiments towards animals which brings moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

We offer the public free veterinary consultations and minor treatment at our clinic in Kirkby. We only ask for a small donation to offset our costs. It cost the Branch £6150 net in 2009 to offer this service in an area of Merseyside without a private veterinary practice.

We also make a contribution towards neutering costs for animals owned by those in receipt of



benefits or on low incomes. We also offer to make a small contribution towards veterinary treatment in needy cases.

In partnership with local authorities on Merseyside, the PDSA and Dogs' Trust, we offer free microchipping through the Greater Merseyside Dog Welfare Forum's roadshow which in 2009 visited 12 venues in Merseyside, Wirral and South Lancashire and microchipped 925 dogs and gave 466 health checks from the PDSA veterinary nurses.

Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccinations, neutering, microchipping and are assessed for rehoming. This helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering.

We rehome neutered and vaccinated animals in need at low cost to people willing to have a companion animal. While we recognise that companion animals provide measurable benefits to people's physical and mental health, we consider that 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 rehoming 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 stray and abandoned animals and endeavour to reunite them with their owners. This work benefits our local community including our partner local authorities by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.

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

We offer free animal care advice by distributing animal care material on request both to

individuals and schools. The public thus benefits through the promotion of responsible pet ownership.

Within the terms of our governing document we support the National Society by providing office accommodation and boat storage at reasonable cost to our local group Inspectors. We support other Branches by sharing expertise through the Animal Centre Managers meetings and play a leading role in the Greater Merseyside Dog Welfare Forum which includes representatives from Merseyside and Cheshire Police, Dogs' Trust, RSPCA Inspectors together with local authority officers responsible for the dog warden service.

We offer volunteering opportunities for those wishing to support our work through serving as Trustees or by dog walking and cat care.

We offer work placements to people with physical and mental disabilities and, where possible and within budget restraints, work placements through the government's New Deal and other schemes.

The Branch strives to be a good and responsible employer and offers job opportunities at fair rates of pay, above the minimum wage in an area with high unemployment. This benefits local people by providing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

ORGANISATION

The Branch operates as an autonomous Branch of the RSPCA subject to its rules for Branches. The Branch is governed by a Committee elected at the AGM who are Trustees of the Branch. The Committee is responsible for the management, financial affairs and animal welfare activities conducted by the Branch.

The Committee employs a Secretary/Administrator, financial and administrative staff, an Animal Centre Manager, office, kennel, cattery staff and a driver to undertake those activities on its behalf. The Animal Centre, formerly known as "The Horses



Rest” is now called the Halewood Animal Centre and is located in Higher Road, Halewood; the office is at 19 Tipton Way, Wavertree Technology Park, Liverpool L13 1DA and the Clinic is at 115 Broad Lane, Kirkby. The Clinic is staffed by volunteers.

The Committee meets 6 times a year to consider financial reports, animal statistics and to take significant policy or financial decisions on behalf of the Branch.

The day to day management of the Branch is delegated to the Secretary/Administrator who has, in turn, further delegated the day to day management of the Animal Centre to the Animal Centre Manager

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In its Annual Report for 2008 the Branch once again made reference to the volatility of legacy income which had realised £514,793 in that year compared to £70,000 in 2007. This enabled the Branch to earmark £200,000 to put with the Society's pledged sum of £400,000 to make a start on rebuilding Halewood. In 2009 however legacy income totalled £126,552 – some way short of the sum required to cover the cost of operations. This is a state of affairs that the Branch has learned to live with!

The statement of financial activities shown on p 11 shows total incoming resource of £531,934 compared with £1,104,418 in 2008. This reflects the legacy income fall referred to above, but also a diminution of income from fees from £430,245 in 2008 to £302,144 in 2009 which has resulted from the revision in the contract for charging local authorities for strays, including the total loss of income from euthanasia for dogs after the statutory 7 day retention period. Discussions are taking place with the local authorities consortium as this situation was not envisaged when the two tier fine regime was introduced.

Resources spent on charitable activity totalled £627,614 and is analysed in note 5. Governance

costs of £79,737 relates to management and administration, the cost of compliance and any other costs not treated as direct.

There was a deficit of £181,178 of income over expenditure which, as mentioned in previous reports, is hoped not to be a trend in future years.

The Branch Investment Portfolio, under the management of Rathbone Investment Management showed a fall of £75,420 to close at £1,056,545 at year end. This reflects the net disposals of investments of £165,445 to fund the continuing operations of the Branch balanced by the gains on revaluation of the portfolio at the year end of £90,025.

The Branch is thus some way off its stated policy of having two years' running costs in reserve and this will diminish in 2010 when the new kennel block is constructed.

As set out in some detail in note 14 – Pensions – in June 2009 the Branch was notified by the Trustees of the Scottish Voluntary Sector Pension Scheme (SVSPS) of their decision to close their defined benefit (final salary) scheme with effect from 1st April 2010. This followed an actuarial review of the scheme in 2008 which showed a shortfall of £20.438m. This scheme has approximately 140 small to medium sized charities as members and is known in the pension world as a “last man standing scheme”. This means that the deficit is shared between the remaining employers who, worryingly, because many are reliant on government or local authority funding to survive, there is a potential for the burden to fall on a diminishing cohort of employers over the years.

The Branch share of the deficit, if we were to withdraw from the scheme has been calculated at £825,559.40. The other choice is to pay an annual sum of £15,823.97 which will be reviewed when the next actuarial review is conducted in 2011. This sum is less than the employers' contribution at present and will protect the pensions of the Branch employees in the scheme



RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2009 and no Trustee received any remuneration or expenses.

OPERATIONS & ACTIVITIES

In 2009 the Branch was proud to celebrate its Bicentenary as the oldest animal charity in the world. Little would those earnest, pioneering young women have imagined that their clandestine meetings to form The Liverpool Society for Preventing Wanton Cruelty to Brute Animals would have evolved into an organisation in Liverpool still caring for unfortunate animals over 200 years later.

As in many things these Liverpool forerunners had stolen a march on the London campaigners who subsequently established a "Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals" in 1824 and in whose first minute book it was recorded that "a correspondent Society seemed to be in progress in Liverpool".

In 1833 a member of the London Society's Committee came to Liverpool and reported back to London "that there is a sort of incipient Society for the same objects in Liverpool at present confined to a few ladies whose Jane Roscoe is leader". Jane Roscoe was the daughter of anti-slavery campaigner William Roscoe, and subsequently married Francis Hornblower in 1838.

To mark this auspicious occasion the Branch held a Charity Dinner at the Alicia Hotel on 23rd October 2009 attended by actor Ricky Tomlinson. Local radio presenter and supporter Alan Connan acted as MC and organised a first class raffle which ensured a successful evening which raised £2,000 for Branch funds.

It was fitting therefore that the long awaited project to start the redevelopment of Halewood should start to make significant progress.

Planning consent was obtained to replace the ageing quarantine block and the kennels

housing the long stay dogs brought in by the Inspectorate. At the time of writing the design of the kennels and much needed associated veterinary facilities are being finalised with a view to a start on site in August for completion later in the year.

It was also very pleasing that to mark its bicentenary the Society held its 2009 Branch Networking Conference in Liverpool in March. The conference was really well attended by lots of Branches from the North and Wales in particular who found it a convenient location. Liverpool Town Hall provided an impressive backdrop to the event and the conference was graced with a warm and entertaining welcome by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Councillor Steve Rotherham. During the day the Branch Secretary/Administrator John Smallwood and Steve Hughes from Liverpool City Council led a workshop on the work of the Merseyside Dog Welfare Forum.

In 2009 the council consortium made up of Liverpool, Halton, Knowsley & Sefton Councils invited tenders for kennelling stray dogs embracing a two tier fee, based on kennelling for up to 48 hours and from 48 hours to 7 days (the statutory period for holding strays).

The Branch tender of £35 for 48 hours and £85 for up to 7 days was accepted and this has resulted in the majority of claimed dogs being claimed in the first two days. This has resulted in a slight loss of income balanced by the lifting of pressure on Karen Falconer and the staff having to deal with often hostile owners faced with a hefty fine to claim their dog.

The Merseyside Dog Welfare Forum, chaired by the Secretary/Administrator goes from strength to strength, with representatives from the Dogs' Trust even travelling from the North East to attend! The Forum is also well supported by Merseyside Police Dog Section who now have the task of vetting and identifying dogs potentially falling under the remit of the Dangerous Dogs Act. The Merseyside Force has been particularly



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responsive in tackling the issue of “status dogs” and the risk they can pose, tragically brought home by the killing of young John Paul Massey in Wavertree – the second tragedy involving a young child on Merseyside in 3 years.

In 2009 the Liverpool consortium entered the RSPCA Animal Welfare Footprint with an entry highlighting the work of the Forum. The Forum’s entry was successfully named as one of the winners in the innovation category and Steve Hughes of Liverpool City Council was invited to attend a reception at the House of Lords hosted by the RSPCA and attended by Baroness Foulkes who presented the awards.

HALEWOOD ANIMAL CENTRE

As mentioned earlier in this report significant progress was made in 2009 in putting in hand the first phase of the much needed redevelopment of Halewood. The first phase is to be the replacement of the ageing quarantine block with a total of 32 kennels and veterinary facilities which will enable dogs and cats to be neutered on site before rehoming. Knowsley Council’s planning policies for the green belt restrict any new buildings to replacements only, which will make the management of the site difficult while work is in progress.

Animal numbers seem to have stabilised at around 3000 dogs and 500 cats received. It is to everyone’s credit that so many are found good new homes – one of the highest rehoming figures for RSPCA Centres nationally.

The Centre is still one of the biggest centres in the UK for the reception of stray dogs. A recent survey of members of the Association of Dogs and Cats Homes revealed that out of the 22,300 strays received by members rescue centres in the UK, 18200 were received by only 5 centres (Battersea, Birmingham, RSPCA Liverpool Branch, Newcastle Cats & Dogs and Edinburgh).

Sadly, but predictably, only 843 dogs and 12 cats were claimed by their owners, which although is in

line with national statistics, highlights the definition of these animals and stray/unwanted.

During the year the Branch was able to offer boarding to 91 animals brought in by the Inspectorate.

The Branch continued to be supported by David Yates’ veterinary team at Greater Manchester Animal Hospital although the mobile neutering vehicle suffered terminal frost damage during the Christmas bad weather. The Branch is very appreciative of the offer by Warrington, Halton & St Helens Branches to use their new veterinary facilities to neuter Liverpool dogs. We are also appreciative of collaboration with Liverpool University’s Veterinary School who are now neutering our cats prior to rehoming.

KIRKBY CLINIC

Kirkby Clinic continues to offer valuable veterinary advice to pet owners who otherwise would not be able to access a veterinary service. Sue Johnson, supported by vets from the Salford Clinic gave advice to 617 pet owners during the year.

RISK ANALYSIS

The main risk to the Branch would be if it was unable to operate its Halewood Centre because of fire or other destruction. The Branch has had a professional valuation of the facility and is insured against total loss at £1.85m. The Branch now carries insurance against total loss of income.

Significant risk would also follow loss of income if local authorities made other arrangements for kennelling stray dogs. This would be unlikely to happen overnight, but in this eventuality the Branch would wish to continue to operate Halewood as a rehoming centre for unwanted animals on a smaller scale with capacity to offer kennelling to those other Branches in the region without kennelling facilities of their own and to the Region’s Inspectorate.



Other significant risks which have been identified are :-

- * Loss of income and reserves through falls in the value of the Branch investments
- * Insufficient Trustees for the Branch to continue
- * Insufficient funds to cover the cost of animal welfare activities
- * Loss of income through error or fraud

Trustees have now recruited suitable additional Trustees to sustain the Branch work.

The most significant source of income, apart from the unpredictable income from legacies, is in fees charged to local authorities for kennelling stray dogs.

Trustees are satisfied that there are sufficiently robust procedures in place together with the employment of suitably qualified and experienced staff to minimise the risk from error and fraud.

RESERVES POLICY

For some years the Branch Trustees have strived to maintain reserves equating to two years' running costs. This would equate to £1,404,000 but following the world wide fall in the value of investment portfolios it is not likely that the Branch will be able to achieve that position without substantial legacy income. Free reserves stood at £1,051,137 at the year end with £200,000 earmarked for the Halewood redevelopment Phase 1.

INVESTMENT POLICY

The Branch portfolio is managed by Rathbone Investment Management on a discretionary basis. The value of the fund at 31st December 2009 was £1,056,545 compared with £1,131,965 at 2008..

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the surplus or deficiency for the year then ended. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies, as described on pages 13 & 14 and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The Trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Approved by the Committee
on 26th April 2010
J. Clough, D. Grant - Trustees**



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Liverpool Branch for the year ended 31st December 2009 set out on pages 11 to 22 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified for the revaluation of fixed asset investments and the accounting policies set out on page 13 to 14.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations made under Section 44 of the Charities Act 1993. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND THE AUDITORS

As described in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities you are responsible as trustees for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). We have been appointed as auditors under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 44 of that Act.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Trustees Annual Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records or if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We read other information contained in the Trustees Annual Report, and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

BASIS OF AUDIT OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

OPINION

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the charity's state of affairs as at 31 December 2009 and of its incoming resources and application of resources in the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

110 – 114 Duke Street
Liverpool
L1 5AG

MOORE STEPHENS
Chartered Accountants
& Registered Auditors

5th May 2010



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

31 DECEMBER 2009

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2009 £	Restricted Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2008 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
<u>Incoming Resources from Generated Funds</u>					
Voluntary Income					
Donations	2	52,201	-	52,201	55,434
Legacies	3	126,552	-	126,552	514,793
		178,753	-	178,753	570,227
Activities for Generating Funds					
Sales, Events and Promotions		4,431	-	4,431	2,445
		4,431	-	4,431	2,445
Investment Income					
Investment income	4	38,268	-	38,268	44,004
		38,268	-	38,268	44,004
<u>Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities</u>					
Fees charged		302,144	-	302,144	430,245
		302,144	-	302,144	430,245
<u>Other Incoming Resources</u>					
Other income		8,338	-	8,338	7,497
Grant from RSPCA Horsham		-	-	-	50,000
		8,338	-	8,338	57,497
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		531,934	-	531,934	1,104,418
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of Generating Funds					
Investment Management Costs		5,761	-	5,761	3,808
Charitable Activities	5	616,338	11,276	627,614	610,245
Governance Costs	6	79,737	-	79,737	74,484
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	7	701,836	11,276	713,112	688,537
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(169,902)	(11,276)	(181,178)	415,881
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES					
Net (losses)/gains on disposal of investment assets		(24,949)	-	(24,949)	(21,897)
Unrealised gains / (losses) on investments		90,025	-	90,025	(178,370)
Net movement in funds relating to the year		(104,826)	(11,276)	(116,102)	215,614
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds brought forward		1,539,540	43,681	1,583,221	1,367,607
Total Funds carried forward		1,434,714	32,405	1,467,119	1,583,221

The notes on pages 13 to 22 form part of these financial statements



**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO
ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH**

BALANCE SHEET

31 DECEMBER 2009

	Note	2009		2008	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9		383,577		394,581
Investments	10		1,056,545		1,131,965
			<u>1,440,122</u>		<u>1,526,546</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	11		-		-
Debtors	12		37,783		77,912
Cash at bank			24,838		31,645
			<u>62,621</u>		<u>109,557</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	13		<u>(35,624)</u>		<u>(52,882)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			26,997		56,675
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>1,467,119</u>		<u>1,583,221</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>1,467,119</u>		<u>1,583,221</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted	16		1,434,714		1,539,540
Restricted	17		32,405		43,681
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>1,467,119</u>		<u>1,583,221</u>

These financial statements were approved and signed by the member of the committee on 26th April 2010

J. Clough
.....
Trustee

D. Grant
.....
Trustee



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified for the revaluation of fixed asset investments, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act 1993.

Legacies, donations , voluntary income and fees charged

Cash donations, gifts and fees charged are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become receivable. Fees charged are monies invoiced to Local Council Authorities for the accommodation of stray dogs. Legacies are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the monetary value of the Legacy is known and confirmation has been received that the legacy is due.

Grants

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are disclosed in the financial statements at market value. Unrealised gains or losses on investments are provided for in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Share Disposals

Realised gains / losses on the sale of shares are calculated by deducting the cost of investments from the net proceeds received. Unrealised gains / losses represent the movement during the year of the market value of listed investments, net of any unrealised gains / losses becoming realised on disposal of investments during the year.

Taxation

The society is a registered charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Freehold Buildings	- 2% on cost
Fixtures and Fittings	- 20% reducing balance method
Motor Vehicles	- 25% reducing balance method

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

Governance activity

Staff costs and accommodation costs of the branch office, 19, Tipton Way, Liverpool, are apportioned between Governance costs and Charitable activity costs in the ratio of 2:3. This is based on the level of staff time attributable to the two functions. Due to the nature of the management function it is not possible to split costs between Governance Activity and Support Costs.

Pension costs

The charity operated a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. The contributions to the scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities so as to spread the cost of pensions over the service lives of employees. Variations from the regular costs are spread over the average expected remaining working lives of current members in the scheme.

2. DONATIONS

	Total Funds 2009	Total Funds 2008
	£	£
Subscriptions, donations and collections	52,201	55,434

3. LEGACIES

	Total Funds 2009	Total Funds 2008
	£	£
Legacies	126,552	514,793

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Value 2009	Value 2008	Income 2009	Income 2008
	£	£	£	£
UK quoted and foreign investments	902,850	717,403	36,731	34,564
UK portfolio cash	153,695	414,562	1,537	9,440
	<u>1,056,545</u>	<u>1,131,965</u>	<u>38,268</u>	<u>44,004</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds 2009	Restricted Funds 2009	Total Funds 2009	Total Funds 2008
			£	£
Provision of charitable services:				
Branch Office	88,069	-	88,069	86,043
Halewood Animal Home	514,640	11,276	525,916	512,011
Kirkby Clinic	13,629	-	13,629	12,191
	<u>616,338</u>	<u>11,276</u>	<u>627,614</u>	<u>610,245</u>



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES *(continued)*

Analysis of provision of charitable services:

	Branch	Halewood	Kirkby	Total 2009	Total 2008
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds					
Wages	71,407	337,181	-	408,588	391,253
Rent	9,300	-	-	9,300	9,120
Staff redundancy				-	8,910
Rates and insurance	1,083	19,828	1,736	22,647	21,258
Light and heat	1,156	33,311	266	34,733	26,962
Printing, stationery and telephone	3,982	4,555	140	8,677	7,202
Repairs – equipment	780	21,098	660	22,538	18,539
Repairs – Buildings	-	3,997	-	3,997	4,881
Motor expenses	-	11,108	-	11,108	12,957
Food	-	9,550	-	9,550	8,334
Vets and drugs	-	17,880	9,823	27,703	32,614
Neutering	-	5,121	-	5,121	7,165
Sundry	-	10,735	643	11,378	13,621
Cleaning	361	28,128	355	28,844	29,041
Depreciation – Net	-	12,148	6	12,154	12,069
	<u>88,069</u>	<u>514,640</u>	<u>13,629</u>	<u>616,338</u>	<u>603,926</u>
Restricted Funds					
Re-development					
Halewood	-	11,276	-	11,276	6,319
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,276</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,276</u>	<u>6,319</u>

6. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Total Funds 2009	Total Funds 2008
	£	£
Salaries	47,604	45,971
Rent	6,200	6,080
Rates and insurance	722	1,626
Light and heat	771	683
Repairs & renewals – equipment	520	514
Repairs & renewals – buildings	-	-
Printing, stationery and phone	2,655	2,259
Audit fee	7,180	4,400
Motor and travelling	570	436
Computer costs	1,495	1,454
Quota parent society	990	1,050
Bank interest and charges	2,114	3,078
General expenses	8,453	6,281
Depreciation	463	578
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	74
	<u>79,737</u>	<u>74,484</u>



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

7. TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Staff costs	Depreciation	Other costs	Total Funds 2009	Total Funds 2008
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of generating funds	-	-	5,761	5,761	3,808
Charitable activity	408,588	12,154	206,872	627,614	610,245
Governance activity	47,604	463	31,670	79,737	74,484
	<u>456,192</u>	<u>12,617</u>	<u>244,303</u>	<u>713,112</u>	<u>688,537</u>

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2009		2008
	£		£
Wages and salaries	403,730		387,162
Redundancy	-		8,910
Social security costs	30,427		29,526
Other pension costs	22,035		20,536
	<u>456,192</u>		<u>446,134</u>

Particulars of employees:

The average number of staff employed by the charity during the financial year amounted to:

	2009		2008
	No.		No.
Branch	5		5
Halewood	20		21
	<u>25</u>		<u>26</u>

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more. No trustee received any remuneration or expenses.

	2009		2008
	£		£
Other costs:			
Premises	78,370		70,610
Legal and professional	7,180		4,400
Restricted Funds	11,276		6,319
Other	147,477		148,427
	<u>244,303</u>		<u>229,756</u>

8. OPERATING ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)

Operating profit/loss is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2009		2008
	£		£
Staff pension contributions	22,035		20,536
Depreciation	12,617		12,797
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of charitable purposes fixed assets	176		74
Auditors' remuneration			
- as auditors	7,180		4,400
	<u>41,908</u>		<u>37,807</u>



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Equipment £	Total £
COST			
At 1 January 2009	539,840	60,078	599,918
Additions	-	1,784	1,784
Disposals	-	(6,898)	(6,898)
At 31 December 2009	<u>539,840</u>	<u>54,964</u>	<u>594,804</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2009	155,387	49,950	205,337
Charge for the year	10,265	2,347	12,612
On disposals	-	(6,722)	(6,722)
At 31 December 2009	<u>165,652</u>	<u>45,575</u>	<u>211,227</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2009	<u>374,188</u>	<u>9,389</u>	<u>383,577</u>
At 31 December 2008	<u>384,453</u>	<u>10,128</u>	<u>394,581</u>

All of the tangible fixed assets included above are for use by the charity.

10. INVESTMENTS

Movement in market value

	2009 £	2008 £
Market value at 1 January 2009	1,131,965	840,390
Acquisitions at cost	252,429	584,258
Disposals at opening book value	(417,874)	(114,313)
Net (losses)/gains on revaluations in the year ended 31 December 2009	<u>90,025</u>	<u>(178,370)</u>
Market value at 31 December 2009	<u>1,056,545</u>	<u>1,131,965</u>
Historical cost at 31 December 2009	<u>857,761</u>	<u>762,528</u>

Analysis of investments at 31 December 2009 between funds

	Total Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2008 £
Listed investments		
UK quoted shares	734,581	607,069
Foreign Investments	168,269	110,334
Other		
UK cash held as part of portfolio	<u>153,695</u>	<u>414,562</u>
	<u>1,056,545</u>	<u>1,131,965</u>



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

10. INVESTMENTS *(continued)*

		£
Quoted investments		Unrestricted Fund
Fixed interest		500,703
Ordinary shares		402,147
Cash		153,695
		1,056,545

The following investments each represent more than 5% of the portfolio by value :-

a) Skipton Building Society PIBS	£107,200
b) Treasury 4% Stock 7.9.2016	£78,466
c) Treasury 4.75% Stock 7.3.2020	£53,385

11. STOCKS

	2009	2008
	£	£
Stock	-	-
	-	-

12. DEBTORS

	2009	2008
	£	£
Fees receivable	30,403	48,044
Other debtors	563	23,217
Prepayments	6,817	6,651
	37,783	77,912

13. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2009	2008
	£	£
Trade creditors	9,659	20,242
Other creditors	11,010	20,714
Accruals	14,955	11,926
	35,624	52,882



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

14. PENSIONS

The RSPCA, Liverpool Branch participates in the SVS Pension Scheme. The SVS Pension Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The Scheme is funded and is contracted out of the state scheme.

The Scheme operated a single benefit structure, final salary with a 1/60th accrual rate until 30 September 2007. From October 2007 there are two benefit structures available. These are final salary with a 1/60th accrual rate and final salary with a 1/80th accrual rate.

An employer can elect to operate different benefit structures for their active members and their new entrants. An employer can only operate one open benefit structure at any one time. An open benefit structure is one which new entrants are able to join.

The RSPCA, Liverpool Branch has elected to operate the final salary with a 1/60th accrual rate benefit structure for employees from October 2007.

The Trustee commissions an actuarial valuation of the Scheme every 3 years. The main purpose of the valuation is to determine the financial position of the Scheme in order to determine the level of future contributions required so that the Scheme can meet its pension obligations as they fall due.

The actuarial valuation assesses whether the Scheme's assets at the valuation date are likely to be sufficient to pay the pension benefits accrued by members as at the valuation date. Asset values are calculated by reference to market levels. Accrued pension benefits are valued by discounting expected future benefit payments using a discount rate calculated by reference to the expected future investment returns.

During the accounting period the RSPCA, Liverpool Branch paid contributions at the rate of 15.2%. Member contributions were 7.5%.

As at the balance sheet date there were 8 active members of the Scheme employed by the charity. The RSPCA, Liverpool Branch continues to offer membership of the Scheme to its employees.

It is not possible in the normal course of events to identify on a consistent and reasonable basis the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to individual participating employers. This because the scheme is a multi-employer scheme where the scheme assets are co-mingled for investment purposes and benefits are paid from total scheme assets. Accordingly, due to the nature of the Scheme, the accounting charge for the period under FRS17 represents the employer contribution payable.

The last formal valuation of the Scheme was performed as at 30 September 2005. Preliminary results of the formal valuation as at 30 September 2008 have been calculated by a professionally qualified actuary using the Projected Unit Method. The market value of the Scheme's assets as at the 30 September 2008 was £45.1 million. The valuation revealed a shortfall of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £20.438 million (equivalent to a past service funding level of 68.8%).

The financial assumptions underlying the valuation as at 30 September 2008 were as follows:

	% pa
- Investment return pre retirement	6.80
- Investment return post retirement	4.60
- Rate of salary increases	4.20% for five years and 4.70% p.a. thereafter
- Rate of pension increases:	
for pensionable service pre 6 April 2005	3.00
for pensionable service post 5 April 2005	2.30
- Rate of price inflation	3.20



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

14. PENSIONS (Continued)

The long term joint contribution rates required from employers and members to meet the cost of future benefit accrual were assessed at:

Benefit structure	Long Term joint contribution rate (% of pensionable salaries)
Final salary 1/60 th accrual rate	20.0% comprising employer contributions of 12.5% and member contributions of 7.5% or employer contributions of 14.0% and member contributions of 6.0%
Final salary 1/80 th accrual rate	15.3% comprising employer contributions of 9.3% and member contributions of 6.0%

If an actuarial valuation reveals a shortfall of assets compared to liabilities the Trustee must prepare a recovery plan setting out the steps to be taken to make up the shortfall.

In view of the past service shortfall it was agreed that the joint contribution rates, including the deficit contribution of 2.7%, shown in the table below would be payable with effect from 1 October 2007.

Benefit structure	Joint contribution rate (% of pensionable salaries)
Final salary 1/60 th accrual rate	22.7% comprising employer contributions of 15.2% and member contributions of 7.5% or employer contributions of 16.7% and member contributions of 6.0%
Final salary 1/80 th accrual rate	18.0% comprising employer contributions of 12.0% and member contributions of 6.0%

New employers joining the Scheme pay contributions at the ongoing joint future service contribution rate. This rate applies from the date the employer joins the Scheme to the date of the second actuarial valuation of the Scheme following the date of joining.

New employers also pay an additional age loading if the average age of their members is higher than the average age of the Scheme membership. This loading applies from the date the employer joins the Scheme to the date of the second actuarial valuation of the Scheme following the date of joining, or such earlier date as agreed between the SVSPS Pensions Committee and the Scheme Actuary.

Employers that have closed the Scheme to new entrants and are required to pay an additional contribution loading to reflect the higher costs of a closed arrangement. This loading is based on actuarial advice and is subject to change from time to time. The loading is currently 3.5%.

If the valuation assumptions are borne out in practice this pattern of contributions should be sufficient to eliminate the past service deficit at the 2005 valuation, on an on-going funding basis, by 31 March 2022.

A copy of the recovery plan must be sent to the Pensions Regulator. The Regulator has the power under Part 3 of the Pensions Act 2004 to issue Scheme funding directions where it believes that the actuarial valuation assumptions and/or recovery plan are inappropriate. For example the Regulator could require that the Trustee strengthens the actuarial assumptions (which would increase the scheme liabilities and hence have impact on the recovery plan) or impose a schedule of contributions on the Scheme (which would effectively amend the terms of the recovery plan).



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

14. PENSIONS (Continued)

The recovery plan from the 2008 valuation will be submitted to the Pensions Regulator in due course.

The next actuarial valuation of the Scheme will be carried out as at 30 September 2011.

Following a change in legislation in September 2005 there is a potential debt on the employer that could be levied by the Trustee of the Scheme. The debt is due in the event of the employer ceasing to participate in the Scheme or the Scheme winding up.

The debt for the Scheme as a whole is calculated by comparing the liabilities for the Scheme (calculated on a buyout basis i.e. the cost of securing benefits by purchasing annuity policies from an insurer, plus an allowance for expenses) with the assets of the Scheme. If the liabilities exceed assets there is a buy-out debt.

The leaving employer's share of the buy-out debt is the proportion of the Scheme's liability attributable to employment with the leaving employer compared to the total amount of the Scheme's liabilities (relating to employment with all the currently participating employers). The leaving employer's debt therefore includes a share of any 'orphan' liabilities in respect of previously participating employers.

The amount of the debt therefore depends on many factors including total Scheme liabilities, Scheme investment performance, the liabilities in respect of current and former employees of the employer, financial conditions at the time of the cessation event and the insurance buy-out market. The amounts of debt can therefore be volatile over time.

The RSPCA, Liverpool Branch has been notified by the Pensions Trust of the estimated employer debt on withdrawal from the Plan based on the financial position of the Scheme as at 30 September 2008. As of this date the estimated employer debt for the RSPCA, Liverpool Branch was £826,000.

With effect from 1st April 2010 the SVS Pension Scheme is to close to future accrual of benefits. The RSPCA Liverpool Branch is to continue to contribute to the scheme to fund the deficit and continuing expenses of the scheme. The annual contribution is estimated at £15,824.

15. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 December 2009 the charity had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below.

	2009		2008	
	Land and buildings £	Other items £	Land and buildings £	Other items £
Operating leases which expire:				
Within 1 year	-	-	-	-
Within 2 to 5 years	-	-	-	-
After more than 5 years	16,000	-	16,000	-
	<u>16,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,000</u>	<u>-</u>



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS IN UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Other net assets £	Total £
Unrestricted funds	<u>383,577</u>	<u>1,051,137</u>	<u>1,434,714</u>

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS IN RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Other net assets £	Total £
Restricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>32,405</u>	<u>32,405</u>

This Restricted Fund represents a grant by RSPCA Headquarters in Horsham of £50,000 towards the re-development of the facilities at Halewood Animal Centre less expenditure during the two years ended 31st December 2009. A further grant of £350,000 will be made available as the project develops.



HAVE YOU CONSIDERED INCLUDING RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH IN YOUR WILL?

IF NOT PLEASE DO SO NOW - THE NEED FOR FUNDS IS URGENT

The following are forms of bequest that you may find suitable. Your Legal Adviser and the Branch Secretary would be pleased to offer assistance if required. Please note that the words **RSPCA Liverpool Branch** are most important.

It should be noted that all wills and codicils to be valid must be signed by the testator and two witnesses, all expressly stating in writing that they have signed in the presence of all.

FORM OF BEQUEST TO THE RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH

"I Bequeath to the **RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH** (CR 232254) for the general purposes of the Branch, the sum of £ free of all duties and taxes payable at my death and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper Officer for the time being of the said Branch shall be sufficient discharge to my Trustee."

FORM OF BEQUEST OF RESIDUE TO THE RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH

"I Give my real and personal property (including any property over which I may have any general power of appointment or disposition by Will) to my Trustees for the payment of my debts, funeral and testamentary expenses and any legacies and all taxes and duties thereon and subject thereto to the **RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH** (CR 232254) for the general purposes of the Branch and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper Officer for the time being of the said Branch shall be sufficient discharge to my Trustees."

FORM OF BEQUEST OF WHOLE ESTATE TO RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH

"I Give my real and personal property (including any property over which I may have any general power of appointment or disposition by Will) to my Trustees for the payment of my debts, funeral and testamentary expenses and all taxes and duties thereon and subject thereto the whole of my Estate to the **RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH** (CR 232254) for- the general purposes of the Branch and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper Officer for the time being of the said Branch shall be sufficient discharge to my Trustees."



Establishment	Business Hours	Closed	Veterinary Surgeon in attendance
<p>1. BRANCH OFFICE 19 Taptan Way Liverpool L13 1DA Tel: 0151-220 3812 Fax: 0151-220 3821</p>	<p>9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday</p>	<p>Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays</p>	
<p>2. ANIMAL CENTRE Higher Road, Halewood, Liverpool L26 9TX</p> <p>Incorporating: (i) Liverpool Dogs Home (Est. 1883) (ii) Liverpool Cats Shelter (Est 1907) (iii) Liverpool Horses Rest (Est 1917) Tel: 0151 486 1706 Fax: 0151 486 4710</p>	<p>6 days a week 1 p.m - 4.30 p.m. WEDNESDAY CLOSED ALL DAY Office 7 days a week 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.</p>		<p>Routine Weekly and When required</p>
<p>3. KIRKBY CLINIC 115 Broad Lane, Southdene, Kirkby Liverpool L32 6QD</p>	<p>Tuesday a.m. only</p>		<p>Tuesday 9 a.m to 11.00 a.m.</p>



ANIMALS IN THE CARE OF RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH

CHARGES

All charges include VAT at the current rate	Dogs	Cats
1. ANIMAL CENTRE		
Adoptions (Mongrel & Cross Breed)	£75.00	£37.00
Adoption (Breed dogs)	£120.00	
Claiming fee (per day)	N/A	£6.00
Unwanted animal to be found a home	£35.00	£20.00
Destruction	£35.25	£25.00
Collection fee, per journey	£20.00	£20.00
Microchip	£15.00	£15.00
2. KIRKBY CLINIC		
Owners of sick and injured animals who require treatment for their pets and cannot afford private veterinary surgeons' fees are required to place as much money as they can afford in the collecting box provided at the Clinic.		



MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS RSPCA

Subject to the “Rules for Branches” and the “Rules and Bye-Laws” issued by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the RSPCA consists of LIFE and ANNUAL MEMBERS as follows:-

A - LIFE MEMBERS

A subscription of not less than £750 single or £1,000 joint shall constitute the subscriber a Life Member of the National Society of the RSPCA and on election a Life Member of the RSPCA Liverpool Branch.

B - ANNUAL MEMBERS

An annual subscription of £24.00 single or £36.00 joint, shall constitute the subscriber a full Annual Member with full voting powers at any General Meeting of the National Society RSPCA and on election of RSPCA Liverpool Branch. A Membership Application Form must be completed and forwarded with your subscription to- RSPCA, Horsham, Sussex RH13 9RS
Application forms are obtainable from the RSPCA Horsham, or RSPCA Liverpool Branch Office.

C - ANNUAL DONORS - RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH ONLY

Persons wishing to support the RSPCA Liverpool Branch, but who do not wish to support the National Society, are most welcome and their annual donations will be gratefully received for the benefit of the unfortunate animals on Merseyside which come into care.

All such donors will be notified of Branch functions and events but will, due to the Rules laid down by the National Society, unfortunately surrender their Voting Rights at any National or RSPCA Branch General Meeting.

NOTE

It should be noted that a donation, received from the proceeds of a collecting box, function, or from friends or relatives of a deceased person (in their memory), does not entitle the collector, sponsor or donor to membership of the RSPCA or RSPCA Liverpool Branch in particular.



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. A 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 unflinchingly done in the past in the name of animal welfare.

Mike Hogg
Regional Manager



ANNUAL REPORT 2008 – GROUP N4

In many ways, 2009 has been a year of transition for the Liverpool group; there have been a number of changes due to major re-organisation, including the group area increasing further east towards Bolton and north into Preston. Martin Marsh, who many of you will know personally, has been promoted to the position of Regional Superintendent, and is now based at North Regional Headquarters in Leeds. I have been advised that Martin's good nature and sense of humour will be missed, and I now have the difficult job of filling his shoes, but I will endeavour to carry on from what Martin has achieved.

During 2009, the team in N4 consisted of:

Deputy Chief Inspector Leanne Hardy 783

Inspector Anne-Marie Atherton 20013

Inspector Jonathan Brooks 910

Inspector Karen Chisholm 863

Inspector Victoria Hancox 965

Inspector Carla Hay 358

Inspector Susie Micallef 893

Inspector Claire Roberts 877

Inspector Ian Robertson 752

Inspector Louise Showering 927

Animal Welfare Officer Andrew Kench 231

Animal Collection Officer Matthew Brown 11425

Animal Collection Officer Derek Hampson 8358

Animal Collection Officer Adam Hung 11363 – Adam has now left the RSPCA, and I would like to pass on my thanks for his service, and wish him well in his new chosen career

Animal Collection Officer Gail Platt 10858

By the time this report is being read, the N4 Group should have had all of its Animal Collection Officers (ACOs) up-skilled and re-trained as Animal Welfare Officers (AWOs). This will not only benefit animal welfare, but also embellish staff welfare, as the new role brings with it more responsibility and room for development.

The N4 group assisted with the floods in Cumbria, sending three “flood and fast water”-trained officers to assist animals and people alike in the Cockermouth area.

In January last year, Inspector Brooks rescued a cat which had become trapped in a car engine. Despite the fact that the car had travelled 15 miles, the cat was removed uninjured and returned to its owner.

In February, Inspector Showering investigated the owner of 109 cats and, within six months, with a lot of hard work and dedication to the job in hand, she managed to reduce the numbers down to a more manageable 21, with the willing and able assistance of Wendy at Halewood Animal Centre.



In July, Inspector Roberts and ACO Hampson attended a micro-chipping event in Skelmersdale, where over 250 dogs were chipped in one day. In the same month, Inspector Roberts removed an eight-week-old puppy from a family in Skelmersdale. The puppy had a badly broken leg, which had to be amputated, and it was placed into foster care, and eventually signed over. The owner of the puppy received an Adult Written Caution.

In October, Inspector Showering was called to a pub in Garston, where she found a stray Harris Hawk, trapped by its jesses on an aerial on the roof; assisted by the Fire Service, she succeeded in freeing the bird, which was then returned to its owner.

In total, the officers in N4 rescued/collected 5,173 animals, investigated 5,189 complaints of cruelty, which led to 30 Adult Written Cautions being served, and 32 Convictions obtained through the Courts.

I would like to thank all the branches and volunteers for their continued support of our work, and look forward to working with you in the years ahead.

Simon Small
Chief Inspector, 810



- URGENT -
HOW YOU CAN HELP THE ANIMALS IN OUR CARE

The cost of running the Halewood Animal Centre is about £500,000 a year - or £1400 a day. We receive no financial support and rely completely on fees charged, donations and legacies to keep the Centre open.

The Government has given charities like ours a big boost by setting up its "Gift Aid" scheme - where we claim the tax back on any donation that a UK taxpayer makes to us. If you would like to help please complete the form below and send it with your donation to

RSPCA Liverpool Branch
19 Taptan Way, Liverpool L13 1DA

Does your employer have a payroll giving facility? If so you can receive tax relief on your donations which will be deducted from your pay. Please speak to your payroll section - Remember to specify **(RSPCA LIVERPOOL BRANCH)**

Any supporters with shares to spare can make a tax efficient donation to the Branch by donating shares to boost our flagging portfolio!

Please contact John Smallwood at Taptan Way for details.



To enable RSPCA Liverpool Branch to claim back the tax already paid on your donation(s) please complete this form (or a photocopy) and return it to
RSPCA Liverpool Branch 19 Taptan Way Liverpool L13 1DA.

Title: _____ Forenames: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

I am a UK tax payer and I want RSPCA Liverpool Branch to claim back the tax on all donations I have made since 6th April 2000, and all future donations.

Signed: _____ Date: ___/___/___

The Inland Revenue have asked us to remind you that you must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax we reclaim on your donations in the tax year.



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