



**CANGEN GORLLEWIN GWYNEDD
WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH**

ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL

2011

ANNUAL REPORT



Elusen Gofrestredig Rhif 226126 Registered Charity No

2011

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April 2012

NOTICE OF BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING 2011

Dear Member,

You are invited, along with your friends, to attend the Annual General Meeting of the RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch. This will be held at the Institute Building, Bangor Street, Caernarfon on Monday 23rd April 2012, to commence promptly at 7.30pm.

NB The only branch members entitled to propose resolutions, speak, vote and be counted in the quorum at the meeting are those whose names were entered in the list of branch members more than three months before the date of the meeting.

(Mrs Freda Holme)
Hon. Branch Secretary.
Tel. 01758 750356

Arfaes, Llwyndyrys,
Y Ffor, Pwllheli,
Gwynedd, LL53 6NG

HONORARY OFFICERS:-

Chairman - Robert Eaglestone

Secretary - Mrs Freda Holme

Treasurer - Alun Rees

Regional Representative - Alun Rees

Deputy Regional Representative – Mrs Ann Rees (May 2011)

Friends of Bryn-y-Maen Representative - Mrs Ann Rees

ELECTED COMMITTEE / TRUSTEES:-

Miss Claire Davies (April 2011)

Mrs Margaret Eaglestone

Robert Eaglestone

Peter Hawley (April 2011)

David Hibbert

Mrs Patricia Hibbert

Mrs Freda Holme

Mrs Rhianon Jones

Alun Rees

Mrs Ann Rees

CO-OPTED COMMITTEE / TRUSTEES

Philip Caddick

AUXILIARY SECRETARIES:-

Bangor

D. Hibbert

Bethel

Mrs A. Rees

Caernarfon

P. Caddick

Pwllheli

Mrs F. Holme

Waunfawr & Rhosgadfan

Mrs M. Eaglestone

STAFF:-

Branch Support Specialist

Carl Lloyd

ACTION LINE

0300 1234 999

**RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch
Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ending 31 December 2011**

Objects and Public Benefit Statement

The RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and a separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (the Society), carrying out its direct animal welfare work in the area largely corresponding to the Unitary Authority area of Gwynedd Council.

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

The trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year, to ensure they remain focused on our charitable aims, and continue to deliver benefits to the public. We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

Advancement of Animal Welfare

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

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

Charitable Activities Pursued for the Public Benefit

1. We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals which are sick or injured and belong to local people on low incomes. *We do this through a voucher scheme redeemable at all the veterinary practices within and outside the Branch area. This work benefits those on means-tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.*

In 2011 we issued 471 vouchers for welfare assistance of which 396 (84%) were redeemed. In total we spent £43,586 on veterinary treatment, an increase of almost £10,000 compared to 2010.

2. We provide free or subsidised neutering and micro-chipping of companion animals belonging to owners living in the Branch area and on low income. We do this through voucher schemes in conjunction with *Dogs Trust*, *Cats Protection* and also Gwynedd Council. *This work helps to control dog/cat populations through neutering and assists those on means-tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter and micro-chip companion animals, thereby promoting responsible pet ownership.*

In 2011 we paid for the neutering of 577 and micro-chipping of 200 animals.

3. We support our local Inspectors by assisting in emergency payments for veterinary treatment, contributing to the Regional Board's Emergency Boarding and Voucher schemes, and purchasing additional equipment. We also support the North Wales Seal Rescue Unit. *The Society's Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' part of the RSPCA objects, and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.*
4. We rehome a small number of animals in need at low cost to people willing and able to have a companion animal. *Whilst we recognise that companion animals provide measurable benefits to people's physical and mental health, we consider the provision of pets as subsidiary to the main charitable aims of this service which is to reduce animal suffering. Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee for animals aims to highlight the ongoing personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the best interests of animals, and would therefore fall outside our objects, to rehome to those who could not afford them.*

In 2011 we rehomed 202 animals.

5. Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment and neutering and are assessed for rehoming. *This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering, through veterinary treatment and neutering.*
6. We do not have the facilities to take in lost animals, but when reported to us we publicise them on our Branch website and take steps to reunite them with their owners by keeping records of lost and found animals and offering advice. *This work benefits our local community (including Local Authorities) by reducing the numbers of animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.*
7. We respond to enquiries and requests for assistance received via e-mail, telephone calls or face-to-face and via the Society's National Call Centre (NCC) from the public about animals locally. *The public benefits through knowing that we endeavour to assist animals in need.*
8. We offer free animal care advice from our own experience and knowledge, or referring them to our own and other websites, RSPCA literature, the NCC or other bodies. *The public benefits through the promotion of responsible pet ownership.*
9. Within the terms of our governing document, we support the National Society, Regional Board, RSPCA Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre and other RSPCA Branches through collaborating on joint projects such as the Friends of Bryn-y-Maen Dog Show and providing additional funds. We conduct home-checks on behalf of RSPCA Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre and our own rehoming of animals. *The public benefits through the promotion of responsible pet ownership.*
10. When time permits, we give talks about our work to local groups, children's' clubs and so on. *The public benefits through the promotion of responsible pet ownership from an early age.*

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

At 31st December 2011 we had 79 Branch members (including former Meirionnydd Branch members) and approximately 40 occasional and regular volunteers.

Plans for the Future

We shall aim to continue with our existing activities providing resources, including manpower, allows. The West Gwynedd Branch trustees have set aside designated funding for the continuation of our free neutering and micro-chipping schemes. These schemes are also being extended to the former Meirionnydd Branch area.

We have finally completed the takeover of our neighbouring Meirionnydd Branch. Their Branch had been in National Council trusteeship since 2005 when the existing trustees there retired *en masse* due to age and ill-health. Their remaining funds have now been totally transferred to RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch and the Charity Commission has flagged them as “Ceased to exist”. The expansion should provide a better service of welfare and support to the animals of Meirionnydd and give greater inclusion for the current members of the Meirionnydd Branch. We are paying our neighbours RSPCA Aberconwy Branch £5,000 *per annum* towards the costs of providing their mobile clinic service on a weekly basis to Bangor and Blaenau Ffestiniog.

Thanks for Assistance

To all who have helped in any way during 2011.

Request for Volunteers

We need more volunteers to help with home visits, fostering, fund-raising and Committee members. If you can help in any way please speak to any committee member, phone Freda on 01758 750356, or e-mail Enquiries@RSPCAWestGwynedd.org.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Institute Building, Bangor Street, Caernarfon.
Monday, 23rd April 2012 at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Opening address and Chairman's welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Approval of minutes of AGM 2011
4. Matters arising
5. Financial Report
6. Adoption of Auditors
7. Branch Annual Report
8. Election of Committee
9. Inspectorate Report
10. RSPCA Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre Report
11. Guest Speaker – Inspector Andy Broadbent - **“Training to be an RSPCA Inspector”**
12. Closing remarks

***** TEA / COFFEE AND BISCUITS SUPPLIED *****



April 2012

Dear Fellow Members and Friends,

Welcome and thank you for attending our Annual general Meeting 2012. Time has passed so quickly since our last AGM and your committee has worked hard to maintain the fund raising and service in support of animal welfare in West Gwynedd.

Our area now includes the old Meirionnydd Branch, the legal formalities having been fully completed.

May I thank all the members of the committee for their efforts during the year and to all who have assisted in any way to aid animal welfare . Our Pwllheli shop has again played a major part in our fund-raising work.

Each year we request help for RSPCA week (30th April to 6th May) with fund-raising at local Tesco stores. Please, if you can spare an hour or even two, let a member of the committee know. Every penny collected helps local animals.

Robert Eaglestone

Hon Branch Chairman

RSPCA WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Institute Building, Bangor Street, Caernarfon
Monday, 18th April 2011 at 7.30pm.

Those present at the meeting are listed on page 8.

1 Chairman's Welcome

Robert Eaglestone, the Branch Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Kate Jones, Manager for Wales and Carl Lloyd, the new Branch Support Specialist who was attending his first Branch AGM.

2 Apologies received are listed on page 8.

3 Minutes of AGM 2010

These were proposed by Claire Davies, seconded by Ann Rees and accepted by the meeting.

4 There were no matters arising

5 Financial Report

Alun Rees gave financial details for 2010 as laid out in the Annual Report.

He commented on the fact that the branch's expenditure for the year was more than its income due to an increase in vet bills. We have been spending money in Meirionnydd Branch area for approximately 2 years whilst we are in the process of merging the two branches. The new branch will still be called West Gwynedd.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by David Hibbert, seconded by Peter Hawley and accepted by the meeting.

6 Adoption of Independent Examiners

Alun Rees proposed that the examiners, W.J. Matthews and Son, are retained. This was seconded by David Hibbert and accepted by the meeting.

7 Branch Annual Report

Freda gave details of the Branch activities for 2010 as laid out in the Annual Report.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Margaret Eaglestone, seconded by Claire Davies and accepted by the meeting.

8 Election of Committee

A paper ballot took place and as all proposals received 50% of the vote the following were elected to the Branch Committee:-

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Claire Davies | Margaret Eaglestone | Robert Eaglestone | Peter Hawley |
| David Hibbert | Patricia Hibbert | Freda Holme | Rhianon Jones |
| Alun Rees | Ann Rees | | |

9 Inspectorate Report

Inspector Mike Pugh gave details from the Inspectorate Report as laid out in the Annual Report. He commented on the fact that there had been a 17% increase in complaints and a 30% increase in prosecutions. He then showed photographs of some animal rescues. At the end of his report the Chairman, Robert Eaglestone, thanked the inspectors for all their work.

10 Bryn y Maen Animal Centre Report

As there was no one from the centre in attendance the Centre Report as laid out in the Annual Report was taken as read.

11 Guest Speaker, Inspector Mike Pugh, "Working with animals in Africa"

Mike gave an interesting illustrated talk from the time he spent in Africa including Lions in Serengeti and a chimp sanctuary in Sierra Leone. He also said that one of the main problems with dogs belonging to members of the Masai tribe was distemper transferred by Hyenas.

12 Closing remarks

The Chairman, Robert Eaglestone thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Chairman.....date.....

ATTENDANCE

Members (13)

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Cassie Clinch | Claire Davies | Margaret Eaglestone | Robert Eaglestone |
| Lesley Hardman | Peter Hawley | David Hibbert | Pat Hibbert |
| Freda Holme | Rhianon Jones | Alun Rees | Ann Rees |
| Lyn Williams | | | |

Staff

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Kate Jones, Manager for Wales | Carl Lloyd, B.S.S. | Insp. Mike Pugh |
| A.W.O. Mark Roberts | | |

Friends and Guests

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------|
| Charlotte James | Helen Mitchell | Steve Pape |
|-----------------|----------------|------------|

APOLOGIES RECEIVED

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Kathy Bell | Michael Burton | Philip Caddick | G. Elis-Williams |
| Ann Hawley | Sally Hyman, Regional Representative | | |
| Becky Lloyd, Animal Centre Manager | | Margaret McCabe | R.B. McLeod |
| Andrew McNamara | Enid McNamara | Olive Parry | Ann Pritchard |
| Griff Thomas | | | |

TREASURER'S REPORT & PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS 2011

After a protracted period of negotiation with the 3 finance companies with which RSPCA Meirionnydd Branch had investments, all monies have now been transferred to the expanded RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch. For this reason, the accounts for both Branches are included in this report. Please note that the amount transferred to RSPCA West Gwynedd in the Meirionnydd Branch accounts is less than that shown received from the Meirionnydd Branch in the RSPCA accounts. This is because the M. & G. Charifund income units are shown at cost in Meirionnydd's account and at the true value at time of transfer in the West Gwynedd accounts.

The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £86,751 (including £9,819 cash transferred from RSPCA Meirionnydd Branch) (2010: £59,682). Expenditure in the year amounted to £92,901 (2010: £64,350). This resulted in a deficit for the year of £6,150.

The substantial rise in income was largely due to the receipt of two shares of the "House to House" collections organised by RSPCA HQ. The profits gained from the use of professional canvassers are shared 50:50 between HQ and each of the Branches in existence at the time of the collection. As a result of RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch taking over RSPCA Meirionnydd Branch, the "new" Branch will receive two portions of the profit for the first 5 years. This resulted in receipt of £27,620 (2010: £12,626). The shops also produced an income of £32,187 (2010: £30,587) and the transfer of £9,819 cash from Meirionnydd explain most of the differences in income between this year and last.

The increase in expenditure was also due to a small number of factors. The contribution to Regional Emergency Boarding of £12,000 (2010: £6,000) was due to us having to pay for two Branches. The Regional contribution of £9,520 (2010: £258) was again due to two Branch contributions, and that because Meirionnydd Branch had been in RSPCA Council Trusteeship, relatively little expenditure had taken place there for the last few years. A donation of £5,000 towards the cost of the new miscellaneous animal block at Bryn-y-Maen was also extraordinary. Finally, the rise in vet bills to £43,586 (2010: £33,740) which includes £5,000 towards the running costs of RSPCA Aberconwy's mobile clinic made this the highest total expended in the Branch's history.

Reserves Policy

The Branch reserves policy remains unchanged from that given in the Annual Report of 1997. This is to maintain a level of reserves that will enable the Branch to ensure continuity of activities providing animal welfare and the ability to adjust, in a measured way, to any significant change in resources. Reserves are those funds which are freely available for general purposes and are uncommitted.

The trustees have established a policy of holding reserves of unrestricted funds equivalent to two to three years expenditure. Based on our current expenditure of £64,350 and balance of £176,776 in the investment and general funds, we have 2.7 years of reserve capital, though with projected year-on-year increases in spending, this figure is closer to 2.5 years.

This policy therefore conforms to the regulations on expendable endowment in paragraph 16 of the Charity Commission's guide to Charities' Reserves (CC19), namely:

".....many charities with an expendable endowment depend on the income it produces to fund core or continuing activities. Expending any of the endowment itself would reduce the income from it and might jeopardise some of those activities. The charity would then either have to increase its income from other sources, or have to cut back its activities. The endowment cannot be regarded as free funds if a charity has that degree of dependence on income from it."

This policy is subject to half-yearly review.


Investment Policy

Our policy has been changed slightly to reduce exposure to equities in the current climate, about 20% of our invested funds to be held in selected equities, about 40% to be held in bonds and gilts, no more than 10% to be held in current accounts, and the balance to be held in fixed interest notice account(s). As at 31st December 2011, the actual percentages as shown in the accounts were 21%, 37%, 13% and 29% respectively. The higher amount held in the current account was partly due to transfers from Meirionnydd Branch and also due to low interest rates and the volatility of other investment opportunities, it never appeared a good time to move money around.

Future Plans

Our major plan for the year is the continuation of the free dog neutering and micro-chipping scheme run in conjunction with the Dogs' Trust, and free cat neutering, both subject to the owner(s) being on means-tested benefits, and available while funds last.

It is also our intention to continue to provide assistance in the payment of veterinary bills to owners on low income and un-owned animals.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alun T Rees', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alun T Rees
Hon Branch Treasurer

R.S.P.C.A. MEIRIONNYDD BRANCH
ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 18th AUGUST 2011

Independent examiners report

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity 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 or the Act);
- * follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act); and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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

36 HIGH STREET
PWLLHELI
21st DECEMBER 2011

PHILIP O HORWOOD, F.C.A.

RSPCA MEIRIONNYDD BRANCH – DISSOLVED
CHARITY NUMBER: 223889
ACCOUNTING STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 18TH AUGUST 2011
Unrestricted Funds

INCOME

| Generated funds | 2011 | 2010 |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Donations and collections | - | 317 |
| Grants from HQ net | - | - |
| Investment income | 583 | 1,248 |
| Subscriptions etc | 65 | 86 |
| Door to Door | - | 12,626 |
| Pet insurance | - | 12 |
| | <u>648</u> | <u>14,289</u> |

EXPENDITURE

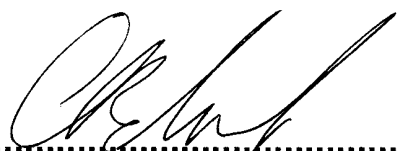
| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Charitable activities | | |
| Neutering | 160 | 30 |
| Welfare treatments | 725 | 671 |
| Voucher scheme | 1,500 | - |
| Boarding fees | 7,995 | 3,000 |
| Emergency Boarding scheme | <u>2,000</u> | <u>-</u> |
| | 12,380 | 3,701 |
| Governance costs | | |
| Audit | 90 | 88 |
| Insurance | - | - |
| Room hire | <u>15</u> | <u>-</u> |
| | 105 | 88 |
| Branch contribution | - | 3,420 |
| Total expenditure | 12,485 | 7,209 |
| Office equipment written off | <u>85</u> | <u>22</u> |
| | <u>12,570</u> | <u>7,231</u> |
| Deficit/Surplus for the year | <u><u>-11,922</u></u> | <u><u>7,058</u></u> |

RSPCA MEIRIONNYDD BRANCH – DISSOLVED
CHARITY NUMBER: 223889
Statement of assets and liabilities at PERIOD end
Balance sheet as at 18th August 2011

| Assets | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| 2019 M. & G. Charifund income units at cost ^(a) | 11,762 | 11,762 |
| HSBC Bank current account | 9,819 | 22,719 |
| C.O.I.F. Charities deposit account | 19,637 | 18,574 |
| Office equipment less depreciation | - | 85 |
| | <u>41,218</u> | <u>53,140</u> |
| Transferred to RSPCA West Gwynedd Group | -41,218 | |
| | <u>0</u> | |

Represented by Accumulated Fund

| | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Balance as at 1 st January | 53,140 | 46,082 |
| Deficit/Surplus for the year | -11,922 | 7,058 |
| | <u>41,218</u> | <u>53,140</u> |
| Transferred to RSPCA West Gwynedd Group | -41,218 | |
| | <u>0</u> | |



.....
Branch Support Specialist

.....
Chair

Independent Examiners' Report to the Members of RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch

I report on the accounts of the branch for the year ended 31st December 2011, which are set out on pages 14 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of branch committee and examiner

As the branch committee you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed:

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from the branch committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements

* to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 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 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Bryn Jones

**W. J. Matthews & Son
Chartered Accountants
11-15 Bridge Street,
Caernarfon,
Gwynedd.**

Dated:

15 March 2012

**R.S.P.C.A. WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2011**

| | General | Designated | Restricted | 2011 | | 2010 |
|---|----------|------------|------------|---------|--------|----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Income: | | | | | | |
| Legacies | - | - | - | | - | 71 |
| Membership subscriptions | 253 | - | - | 253 | | 156 |
| <i>From Voluntary Sources</i> | | | | | | |
| Sundry donations | 1,917 | - | - | 1,917 | 1,130 | |
| Flag Days | 4,488 | - | - | 4,488 | 4,020 | |
| House to house collections | 27,620 | - | - | 27,620 | 12,626 | |
| Jumble | 406 | - | - | 406 | 34,431 | 18,284 |
| Investment Income: | | | | | | |
| Bank interest received (Gross) | 71 | - | - | 71 | 90 | |
| Investment income (Gross) | 7,645 | - | - | 7,645 | 7,716 | 6,940 |
| Charitable Trading activities: | | | | | | |
| Dog boxes | 1,482 | - | - | 1,482 | 904 | |
| Charity Shop takings | 32,187 | - | - | 32,187 | 30,587 | |
| RSPCA sales | 10 | - | - | 10 | 778 | |
| Adoption fees | 90 | - | - | 90 | 295 | |
| VAT refund | 763 | - | - | 763 | 34,532 | 1,577 |
| Other income | | | | | | |
| Transfer from RSPCA Meirionnydd Branch | - | - | 9,819 | 9,819 | | - |
| | £76,932 | £ - | £9,819 | £86,751 | | £59,682 |
| Direct Charitable Expenditure: | | | | | | |
| Contribution to regional boarding | 12,000 | - | - | 12,000 | 6,000 | |
| Regional contribution/Quota | 258 | - | 9,262 | 9,520 | 258 | |
| Wales Inspectorate Voucher Scheme | 1,500 | - | - | 1,500 | 1,000 | |
| Regional board legacy scheme | 4 | - | - | 4 | - | |
| Donation to other charities | 511 | - | - | 511 | 831 | |
| Bryn y Maen – Small Animal Block | 2,500 | - | 2,500 | 5,000 | - | |
| Insurance | 356 | - | - | 356 | 636 | |
| Cost of goods for resale | 358 | - | - | 358 | 1,101 | |
| Veterinary costs | 20,673 | 10,425 | 12,488 | 43,586 | 33,740 | |
| Boarding | 3,016 | - | - | 3,016 | 2,846 | |
| Officers' travel | 1,856 | - | - | 1,856 | 2,228 | |
| Charity Shop rent | 11,555 | - | - | 11,555 | 12,200 | |
| Charity Shop heat and light | 545 | - | - | 545 | 745 | |
| Charity Shop trade refuse | 139 | - | - | 139 | 132 | |
| Charity Shop telephone | 158 | - | - | 158 | 90,104 | 200 |
| Other expenditure: | | | | | | |
| Postage and stationery | 252 | - | - | 252 | 250 | |
| Accountancy | 470 | - | - | 470 | 460 | |
| Repairs and Equipment | 940 | - | - | 940 | 255 | |
| Consumables | 61 | - | - | 61 | 250 | |
| VAT not recoverable | 1,014 | - | - | 1,014 | 1,182 | |
| Sundries | 60 | - | - | 60 | 2,797 | 36 |
| Total payments | £58,226 | £10,425 | £24,250 | £92,901 | | £64,350 |
| Net payments for the year | 18,706 | (10,425) | (14,431) | (6,150) | | (4,668) |
| Transfers between funds | (15,425) | 15,425 | - | - | | - |
| Cash and bank balances | | | | | | |
| At 31 st December 2010 | 42,941 | 20,000 | 41,953 | 104,894 | | 109,562 |
| At 31 st December 2011 | £46,222 | £25,000 | £27,522 | £98,744 | | £104,894 |

**R.S.P.C.A. WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
31st DECEMBER 2011**

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Monetary assets: | | |
| Investments: | | |
| Schroders Common Investment Fund: | | |
| The Charity Equity Fund | 42,717 | 47,082 |
| The Charity Fixed Interest Fund | 94,661 | 86,753 |
| COIF Charity Deposit Fund | 18,637 | - |
| M&G Charifund | 22,009 | - |
| | <u>£178,024</u> | <u>£133,835</u> |
| Bank and cash balances: | | |
| Bank Deposit Investment Account | 87,108 | 94,915 |
| Bank Current Accounts | 11,420 | 9,763 |
| Pay-Pal Account | 141 | 141 |
| Cash float | 75 | 75 |
| Total | <u>£98,744</u> | <u>£104,894</u> |
| General funds | 46,222 | 42,941 |
| Designated funds | 25,000 | 20,000 |
| Restricted funds | 27,522 | 41,953 |
| | <u>£98,744</u> | <u>£104,894</u> |
| Debtors: Trade debtors | <u>£1,969</u> | <u>£737</u> |
| Current Liabilities: | | |
| Trade creditors and accruals | <u>£492</u> | <u>£6,480</u> |

Approved by the Branch Committee on 15 March 2012.....and signed by

Dr. A. T. Rees

Honorary Treasurer



.....

**R.S.P.C.A. WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH
ACCOUNTING POLICIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2011**

The accounts have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities and comply with the 1993 Charities Act.

Restricted Funds

A sum of £36,960 was received in 2007 specifically to be spent in the Bangor area. At 1 January 2011 there was a balance of £28,434 in the fund. During 2011 a total of £6,388 was spent leaving a balance of £22,046.

The North Wales Emergency Boarding Restricted Fund was resurrected during 2008 with donations from the RSPCA Aberconwy Branch, RSPCA Wrexham and Deeside Branch, the RSPCA Llys Nini Branch, and a transfer from RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch general funds. At 1 January 2011 there was an opening balance of £13,519. No expenditure was incurred during the year to 31 December 2011.

The R.S.P.C.A. West Gwynedd Branch took over the administration and geographic area of the R.S.P.C.A. Meirionnydd Branch during 2011. Funds amounting to £52,119 were transferred over of which £9,819 was in the form of cash and £42,300 by way of investments. At the year end the investments had a market value of £40,646.

Designated Funds

A balance of £20,000 was brought forward from 2010 in the cat and dog free neutering scheme. A total of £10,425 was spent during the year ending 31 December 2011 leaving a balance of £9,575. The Committee agreed to top up this figure to give a balance of £25,000 at the year end.

Investments

The investments are stated at market value.

Trustees

No trustees received any remuneration in the year. (2010 – NIL).

Reimbursements made to trustees were as follows

| | No of trustees | 2011 Cost | No of trustees | 2010 Cost |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Travel costs reimbursed | One | 10 | None | NIL |

RSPCA WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH SECRETARY'S REPORT 2011

Another year has gone by and it has been an eventful one for the branch. At the beginning of the year West Gwynedd Branch officially took over Meirionnydd Branch and retained West Gwynedd as the name for the new enlarged branch. We have been busy getting to know the vets within the new area and hope to have as good a relationship with them as we have with the ones in our original area. Due to the larger area, an extra Committee member has been allocated to deal with neutering requests so there are now three almoners, Alun, Freda and Peter. Alun and Freda deal with requests for treatment, neutering and general requests and Peter deals with neutering requests only, for the time being.

Due to a lack of volunteer collectors and other circumstances flag days were only held in Bangor. We did however, have a full day collecting in Morrisons, Caernarfon.

During Tesco/RSPCA Week we collected in Bangor, Caernarfon and Porthmadog stores and also during that week volunteers collected at Llwyngwian Fawr Farm, (Dyffryn Ardudwy) and Barmouth. The total raised during the week was £4,264.43.

The Dog of the Year Show was once more organised by the Friends of Bryn y Maen at the RSPCA Animal Centre, Bryn y Maen, Colwyn Bay. The weather was reasonable and the local ATC again erected and took down the tents with the help of branch and animal centre people. Stalls were manned by some branches and animal centre staff and a good time was had by all. This was the last show organised by the Friends, we are all getting older and more infirm, so future shows will be run by the Bryn y Maen Animal Centre staff

Home-visits were undertaken for 6 dogs and 41 cats. These figures cover Bryn y Maen, Branch and other rescue centres' rehomed animals.

I am still the main cat fosterer for the branch but at the end of the year Shirley and Clive Evans decided to start fostering cats again which is a huge help. I also took in 2 dogs, one of which was an elderly Cavalier King Charles Spaniel that was being passed around from owner to owner. The one I accepted her off had been given her whilst waiting at the bus stop because their children were playing with her and liked her so she was given to them by the previous owner. This new owner only kept her a few weeks before I took her. She had several things wrong with her and I kept her for 2 months until she finished treatment. She was rehomed with a couple I know who already have 4 of the same breed and she is now a happy little dog who visits us at the shop with her 4 friends – and her owners.

Members of the public were given financial help by the branch to neuter 190 dogs, 376 cats, 9 rabbits and 2 other animals and to take for vet treatment 185 dogs, 200 cats and 7 rabbits and 4 other animals.

One of our neighbouring branches, Aberconwy, provides a mobile clinic at 2 places within our branch area, Bangor and Blaenau Ffestiniog. West Gwynedd Branch pays £5,000 per year for this facility and animals taken there for treatment were 544 dogs, 273 cats and 31 other animals.

The total amount spent on vet bills was £43,586 and on fostering, £3,016.

The branch is still running neutering schemes for dogs and cats belonging to members of the public who are on means-tested benefits or retirement pension. The dogs and cats are neutered free of charge and the dogs are also microchipped free of charge. The branch is running the dog neutering scheme in conjunction with the Dogs Trust which means that the branch purchases the vouchers from the Dogs Trust for £30 and then offers them free to the public.

The Branch Charity shop in Penygroes closed at the end of August after 12 years. Brenda Griffin, a long-serving volunteer, and myself spent September emptying the shop and selling-off fixtures and fittings. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in the running of the shop since it opened in August 1999 and also the customers who supported us all those years. It has been quite a change for me as I helped in the shop from the first day it opened until it closed.

The Branch shop in Pwllheli is still going strong and there is a good team of volunteers helping to run it. It is the only charity shop in Pwllheli that does not pay anyone involved with the running of it. This means that after the normal overheads like rent, electricity etc, all takings are spent on animals within the branch area. We are also one of the few shops that allows dogs in and we have our regulars of these as well as customers. We keep a stock of gravy bones as treats for them and one little dog, Charlie, won't let his owner pass the shop so we see him every day the shop is open.

Freda Holme
Hon. Branch Secretary

Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre

Annual Report 2011

2011 has been a busy year at Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre. The highlight of the year for the centre was the opening of our brand new Small Animal Unit, made possible through generous funding from a number of branches in Wales with the major contribution from RSPCA Clwyd & Colwyn Branch. The Grand Opening was held on 16th April and the unit has been filled to capacity since. We currently have 29 rabbits onsite, enjoying the luxury of indoor and outside access and most rabbits are co-sharing. We now have regular volunteers who help clean and socialise the animals and it is a wonderful working environment for the Bryn-y-Maen team.

Last year, we found homes for 532 animals, 242 of which were cats, 138 dogs, 63 rabbits and 69 small furies. Our major successes include 2 long stay dogs that went home in time for Christmas, an exotic parrot who was DNA tested by experts to determine sex and any diseases and subsequently rehomed, and an earless cat.

The weather wasn't as perfect as we would have liked for the Friends of Bryn-y-Maen Dog Show but the day was a great success. Funds raised have purchased a very posh set of agility equipment which now has its own fenced off area to help with the rehabilitation of our dogs. In November the Friends funded a new reception and shop for the centre which allows much more retail space and hopefully higher sales as a result. Also as a result of contribution from the Friends is a CCTV system which allows us to monitor dogs in our whelping pen and kennels from the staff accommodation on site so they are not disturbed and we can watch the behaviour of dogs overnight.

Our fundraising efforts continued to prove worthwhile with an increase of £5,000 on the previous year. Once again our annual 'Mutt Strutt' was very well supported and we nearly had a personal best on our Christmas raffle final total! Our volunteers and home visitors continue to be critical to our success and we remain forever grateful for all that they do.

We said goodbye to Natasha Ruddock who has moved on to follow her ambition of working with support dogs, and we welcomed Emma Wakefield who fills our knowledge gap on freshwater and tropical fish care! Our wonderful volunteer and member of staff Mags Richardson was awarded the RSPCA Victoria Bronze Medal for her contributions to animal welfare and the volunteering and fundraising she does at Bryn-y-Maen.

As you will have read, our major events and improvements to the centre have been made possible by Clwyd & Colwyn Branch and the Friends of Bryn-y-Maen, for which George Taylor and Anna Adair have been instrumental in achieving these successes. We wish them both a speedy recovery and continue to be thankful for everything they have done to greatly benefit the animals at our centre.

Kind regards
Becky Lloyd
Animal Centre Manager

**[Editor's note
Sadly Anna Adair passed away on 20th February 2012]**



ANNUAL REPORT 2011

WALES & WEST, GROUP 6

Group Statistics

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Total Complaints Completed | 2,546 |
| Case prosecution files submitted | 37 |
| Convictions & Cautions | 36 |
| Verbal Warnings | 66 |
| Inspector/AWO door knocks | 7,705 |
| Collections & Rescues | 2,059 |
| Market Visits | 382 |
| Market Animals seen | 869,406 |

Group Overview

2011 saw a growth in the officers within the group, with 2 AWO(T)'s being recruited in 2010, they were training throughout the majority of 2011 and passed out as Inspectors in September. They are now fully integrated into North Wales Inspectorate.

Claire Davies returned from maternity leave and really enjoyed her return to the group. However she is pregnant with her second child and will be going onto maternity leave in May.

2011 was a tough year on some of the officers but we go into 2012 with further changes, all for the better and what was requested by the Inspectors involved. AWO Mark Roberts is on training to become an Inspector, passing out at the end of March, he will then return to work in his old patch, the Lleyn Peninsula and down towards Barmouth.

2 of our Inspectors are going part time, Inspectors Chris Dunbar in April and Fred Armstrong in July. Although this appears to leave us short, we have a very strong team of officers and I have no doubt that the changes in areas, roles and hours, will have a positive effect not a negative one.

The work of the officers in WW6 has changed a little in 2011. Collections have gone from 2,525 in 2010 to 2,059; complaints completed from 2,484 to 2,546, with a substantial rise in 'door knocks' increasing by 718 over the year. Our prosecution files submitted have gone from 41 to 37, but there was a big increase in the conviction and cautions, going up by 14 to 36, increasing by over 50% on 2010. This shows the continuing commitment to the prosecution work.

Yet again the group has had to cope with the vacancies of officers training and maternity leave and the subsequent gaps in the roster. The level of commitment that they consistently show is obvious and very much appreciated by me.

The Market Inspectors went to 382 markets between them, seeing a total of approx 869,406 animals, mainly sheep, but also a large volume of cattle. Yet again, this is a huge volume of animals seen by just 2 Market Inspectors and there were few incidents needing intervention. Our presence is always appreciated and the farmers have no problems with asking for assistance and conferring with them.

Over the year, we have been using the RSPCA centres and find ourselves feeling very lucky to have Bryn y Maen on hand to help and take in the majority of our animals, with Gonsal picking up the ones we are unable to put with BYM. Their help over the year has been second to none and several of the staff at BYM and Gonsal have been out helping with both the removal of 40 dogs and the darting and capture of semi-wild horses within a herd.

Prosecution Case Work

SHOCK COLLAR CASE

Although this particular case did not go to court, we had a good file with a shock collar offence. It was a clear offence as a dog had a shock collar on and although it was not switched on, the law states that even by wearing a shock collar, there is an offence.

The owners were horrified that they had broken the law and a decision was made to caution them, as we believed it would not happen again and the dog was not harmed.

JONES – 11-1429

Mark Roberts, whilst an AWO went to a property in Blaenau Ffestiniog where he saw a dog in the most pitiful state. Although he had not been trained in prosecution work at this time, he knew that without doubt the dog was in the most awful condition and took the dog to a vet.

The dog was immediately euthanized and the owner was then visited by new Inspector Andy Broadbent and interviewed. The dog, an elderly bitch, had been in the family for many years but she had lost all her fur, became unable to get up or move about and eventually, when we arrived, she had become unrecognisable from the photos of her early days – she was emaciated, she had terrible sores where the skin had worn away due to her not being able to get up and out of her bed.

The owner was prosecuted and she received a 10 year disqualification order and was ordered to pay £85 costs.

MORRISON & LOTON – 11-0798

Inspectors have several ways in which to try and get the owners of animals onto the straight and narrow, rather than going straight into a caution and court. However, some just do not want to listen.

In this case, there were 2 dogs, owned by 2 people. The owners were given an advice notice on day one by Inspector Chris Dunbar to increase the amount of food they were giving the 2 dogs as they were both underweight and should be taken to the vets to be checked. On a return visit, they had not been taken to the vets and the dogs had lost more weight so the worst dog, the elderly bitch called 'Sasha' was removed with further advice to ensure the second dog was fed correctly and taken to the vets.

Again, upon a return visit the second dog, a young Merle cross-breed had not been taken to the vets to check his weight and skin condition, so a Warning Notice was issued – if they did not comply they risked being taken to court for this dog also.

Unfortunately, they did not comply and so the second dog, 'Bobster' was removed and the owners were interviewed. Both owners went to court and although they did not make life easy for us, they eventually pleaded guilty and received 4 years disqualification against owning dogs and an 18 month conditional discharge.

This case just goes to show that sometimes, people just will not listen to our advice.

JONES – 11-1420

Mr Jones was accused of setting his dog, a pit bull terrier type – a banned breed, onto an owned cat in Llandudno Junction, and killing it. It was a hugely unpleasant situation and one that we believed was not isolated. On first glance, it appeared to be a difficult one to prove, however, thanks to the perseverance of Inspector Mike Pugh and some excellent multi-agency work, there was enough information found and witnesses were willing to write statements, therefore a file was put together to get this horrific incident into court. Mr Jones pleaded

guilty and received a community order for 18 months, ordered to pay £656 towards costs and was disqualified from owning dogs for 5 years.

The Police took Mr Jones to court also due to the ownership of a banned breed.

2011 showed there were a great many different scenarios and that in North Wales, there are not a lot of simple 1 animal cases. We have had 2 large horse cases going through the courts, going all the way to a single rabbit, abandoned with no food and water in its hutch. Dogs seem to have had a rough deal this year, with several situations showing dogs kept in atrocious conditions.

The challenge for the Inspectors on a daily basis is to ensure the right people are interviewed about this cases, to persevere and find a way through it when it looks like there is a dead end, and then to get the files into our legal team in a timely fashion. They have done a great job on this in 2011.

2011 continued with many rescues, these always involve a lot of the group that are involved in the rope team. These rescues are tricky and often we have to wait for the prevailing weather to subside before we can attempt to rescue the animal, ensuring that we don't have to be rescued too!!

There have been a couple of places that we have had to return to a few times, one place being at Dorothea quarry and another near Llanberis. Both involved sheep falling over the edge with either no way out or a very long drop to the bottom of the crag. All were rescued safely with only one unfortunate animal which survived the ordeal, only to pass away once safely on the ground.

The work done by the RSPCA in North Wales is fantastic. The Inspectorate group work alongside the animal centres, branches, outside agencies and each other to get the help and support they need to ensure that all of the sick and injured wildlife has somewhere to go and that we can help prevent the suffering of animals in the coming years. Thank you to everyone.