



**CANGEN GORLLEWIN GWYNEDD
WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH**

ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL

2013

ANNUAL REPORT



Elusen Gofrestredig Rhif 226126 Registered Charity No

RSPCA West Gwynedd Annual Report 2013

INDEX

	Page
Notice of Meeting and List of Officers	1
Objects and Public Benefits Statement	2
Agenda	5
Letter from the Chairman	6
Minutes of AGM 2013	7
Treasurer's Report	9
Financial Accounts	11
Secretary's Report	16
Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre Annual Report	18
Inspectorate Report	19
List of Events 2014	22

March 2014

NOTICE OF BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

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 14th April 2014, 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 Ffôr, 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

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

ELECTED COMMITTEE / TRUSTEES:-

Miss Claire Davies

Mrs Margaret Eaglestone

Robert Eaglestone

Peter Hawley

David Hibbert

Mrs Patricia Hibbert

Mrs Freda Holme

Miss Linda Joyce-Jones (from April 2013)

Mrs Rhianon Jones

Alun Rees

Mrs Ann Rees

CO-OPTED COMMITTEE / TRUSTEES

Richard Williams

AUXILIARY SECRETARIES:-

Bangor

D. Hibbert

Bethesda

Miss Claire Davies

Bethel & Caernarfon

Mrs Ann Rees

Dyffryn Nantlle

Miss Linda Joyce-Jones

Pwllheli

Mrs F. Holme

Wunfawr & 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 2013**

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 income. *We do this through a voucher scheme redeemable at all the veterinary practices within and outside the Branch area. We also contribute to the costs of RSPCA Aberconwy Branch's mobile clinic. 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 2013 we issued 454 vouchers for welfare assistance of which 346 (76%) were redeemed. In total we spent £43,037 on veterinary treatment (including neutering). 960 animals were treated by the clinic. The number of vouchers requested, the percentage used and the amount spent on welfare assistance were all less than in 2012.

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 a voucher scheme in conjunction with Dogs Trust, and collaboration with 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 2013 we issued neutering vouchers for 777 animals and we paid for the full cost of neutering 610 and micro-chipping of 157 animals. All these figures were higher than in 2012 and shows a significant shift from treatment to neutering.

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 2013 we rehomed 256 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 2013 we had 72 Branch members (76 in 2012) and approximately 40 occasional and regular volunteers.

12. Following extensive and energetic activities with Pets at Home, Bangor we have now been chosen as their charity partner. *The public and the charity benefit from increased opportunity to rehome animals, raise funds and the promotion of responsible pet ownership*

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 now cover the whole of Gwynedd. Promotions are being targeted at housing estates managed by Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd by posters, inclusion in their newsletter and possibly by distribution of flyers in Maesgeirchen initially.

We are continuing to pay our neighbours RSPCA Aberconwy Branch towards the costs of providing their mobile clinic service on a weekly basis to Bangor and Blaenau Ffestiniog, and have increased the payment to £8,000 per annum. We are also in discussion with Aberconwy about extending the service to Caernarfon.

We are increasing the number and variety of events that we organize or participate in to raise the Branch profile, increase opportunities of recruiting new members and volunteers and provide more ways for the public to contact the Society.

Thanks for Assistance

To all who have helped in any way during 2013.

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, 14th April 2014 at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Opening address and Chairman's welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Approval of minutes of AGM 2013
4. Matters arising
5. Financial Report
6. Adoption of Auditors
7. Branch Annual Report
8. Election of Committee
9. Inspectorate Report
10. Bryn y Maen Animal Centre Report
11. Guest Speaker – RSPCA Chief Inspectorate Officer, Kevin Degenhard –“Current Inspectorate Work in England and Wales and the Society's long association with animals in war”
12. Closing remarks

***** TEA / COFFEE AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED *****

April 2014

Dear fellow members, friends and supporters,

Another busy year has passed in our support for animal welfare in West Gwynedd as you will see from our Annual reports.

The need for support of animal welfare continues and we have assisted whenever possible with our policy of financial aid where the need is greatest.

Alongside the committee members our band of volunteers have and continue to raise funds and promote animal welfare in our area.

Our thanks go out to all the Inspectorate for their constant work in covering the demands of such a large area with their welfare advice and sadly having to prosecute some members of the public for animal cruelty.

Our shop in Pwllheli continues to raise funds on a regular basis and our thanks go to all volunteers and members of the public for their support in all our fund raising efforts.

May I urge anyone who is able to give a few hours to any of our proposed events to contact a member of the committee.

May I thank my fellow officers and committee members for their help and support during the year.



Robert Eaglestone
Hon Branch Chairman

RSPCA WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Institute Building, Bangor Street, Caernarfon
Monday, 29th April 2013 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 and introduced Vet. Jim Mason and Regional Council Member, Paul Baxter.

2 Apologies received are listed on page 8.

3 Minutes of AGM 2013

These were proposed by Margaret Eaglestone, seconded by Peter Hawley and accepted by the meeting.

4 There were no matters arising

5 Financial Report

Alun Rees presented his report and stressed the benefits of the welfare work undertaken by the Branch giving details of the number of animals helped and the money spent by the Branch during the year. The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £82,241 and expenditure was £77,758. He stated that the Branch's major plan for 2013 was to continue the free neutering of dogs and cats. Acceptance of the report was proposed by Freda Holme, seconded by Margaret Eaglestone 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 Peter Hawley and accepted by the meeting.

7 Branch Annual Report

Freda gave details of the Branch fundraising activities during the year including the Branch shop in Pwllheli.

She talked about the dog show at Bryn y Maen where a stall was manned by the Branch and reminded the meeting that the date for 2013 was Sunday, 19th May.

She gave details of the almoning work and home visits undertaken by the Branch..

She mentioned the work done in the area by the RSPCA Mobile Clinic which is the subject of the talk later in the evening.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Alun Rees, seconded by Peter Hawley 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
Linda Joyce-Jones	Alun Rees	Ann Rees	

9 Inspectorate Report

Chief Inspector Helen Mead gave details from the Inspectorate Report, as laid out in the Annual Report. She firstly commented on the fact that Mark Roberts was now an Inspector. She said prosecutions had increased, some quite serious ones with lots of animals etc. It had been a bad year for horses and lots of advice had been given to the public.

2 horses had an interesting disease, equine motor neurone disease, and this is now to have a paper written about it.

She finished by saying that all in all it had been a good year with all cases dealt with effectively.

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 read by Carl Lloyd, BSS.

11 Guest Speaker, Vet. Jim Mason – “RSPCA Mobile Clinics”

Jim started by thanking the Branch for inviting him to the meeting. He apologised for the fact that Pam Wilson, Clinic Manager couldn't attend as she was collecting at Tesco for Aberconwy Branch. He gave an interesting and informative illustrated talk about the history and usage of the mobile clinic. He was thanked at the end of his talk by Chairman, Robert Eaglestone.

12 Regional Council Member, Paul Baxter

Paul said he was glad to be at the meeting and commented on the press criticism of the Society, mainly driven by the Countryside Alliance. He said he was pleased to be the council member for Wales and thanked Ann and Alun Rees for their hard work on the Regional Board.

13 Closing comments

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

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

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

ATTENDANCE

Members (9)

Margaret Eaglestone	Robert Eaglestone	Peter Hawley	Freda Holme
Rhianon Jones	Linda Joyce-Jones	Alun Rees	Ann Rees
Mandy Thomas	Lynn Williams		

Staff

Kate Jones, Manager for Wales	Carl Lloyd, BSS	Chief Insp. Helen Mead
-------------------------------	-----------------	------------------------

Friends and Guests

Paul Baxter, Reg. Coun.	Angela Devonside	Eirlys Fisher	Ffion Flood
Lucy Flood	Zoe Flood	Lesley Hardman	Eric Hughes
Lauren Hughes	Sue Mann	Jim Mason	Gerald Terschovitz
Wendy Terschovitz	Keymar Wake	George Williams	Richard Williams

APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Cassie Clinch	Claire Davies	Ann Hawley	Catherine Head
David Hibbert	Pat Hibbert	Margaret McCabe	Andrew McNamara
Enid McNamara	Ann Pritchard	Becky Lloyd, Manager, Bryn y Maen	
Pam Wilson			

TREASURER'S REPORT & PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS 2013

The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £85,697 plus £18,644 investment income totalling £104,341 (2012: £82,241 ex-investment income). Expenditure in the year amounted to £95,274 (2012: £77,758). This resulted in a surplus for the year of £9,067.

The slight increase in income came from the receipt of the improvement in the allocation of the 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. In this, the third year of the scheme since takeover, we received £41,466 (2012: £37,992). Our one remaining shop at Pwllheli produced a slightly reduced income of £24,158 (2012: £25,663).

The recorded increase in expenditure was almost entirely due to the transfer of £25,000 between accounts. This was offset by a decrease in demand for veterinary assistance. For the first time in many years the cost of vet bills dropped to £43,037 (2012: £51,013) which includes £8,000 towards the running costs of RSPCA Aberconwy's mobile clinic. There was a noticeable switch of emphasis from assistance for treatment to neutering, especially with multi-cat households. The contribution to Regional Emergency Boarding of £6,000 (2012: £2,000) was substantially increased. The Regional contribution for 2013 was £2,169 (2012: NIL).

Reserves Policy

The Branch reserves policy remains unchanged from that given in the Annual Report of 1997. This is to maintain a level of financial reserves that will enable the Branch to ensure continuity of activities providing animal welfare support 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 £95,274 and balance of £281,454 in the investment and general funds, we have just under 3.0 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

Due to the relatively strong recovery in equities during 2013 and the continued poor interest rates available, the £18,637 in the CCLA COIF Charities Deposit Fund (at the time 0.95% p.a.) plus some £6,363 from our cash accounts were transferred to our M&G Charifund Account. As a result, at 31st December 2013 38% of our invested funds are now held in selected equities, about 28% is held in bonds and gilts, no more than 6% is held in current accounts, and the 28% balance to be held in fixed interest notice account(s).

Future Plans

Our major plan for the year is the expansion 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 or low income, 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.

We are also actively investigating the expansion of the mobile clinic to include Caernarfon.

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

RSPCA WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER : 226126

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2013**

**W J MATTHEWS & SON
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

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 2013, which are set out on pages 2 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of Branch committee and examiner

the Branch committee is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Branch committee considers that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed:

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner. 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 you as 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

* to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and

* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

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

Bryn Jones

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



Dated: 10 March 2014

**RSPCA WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2013**

	General	Designated	Restricted	2013	2012
	£	£	£	£	£
Income:					
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Membership subscriptions	222	-	-	222	247
<i>From Voluntary Sources</i>					
Sundry donations	1,645	-	-	1,645	987
Gift aid	1	-	-	1	943
Flag Days	4,147	-	-	4,147	4,199
House to house collections	41,466	-	-	41,466	37,992
Jumble	663	-	-	663	47,922
				1,073	45,194
Investment Income:					
Bank interest received (Gross)	-	-	-	-	52
Investment income (Gross)	9,231	-	-	9,231	8,129
Charitable Trading activities:					
Dog boxes	1,675	-	-	1,675	1,291
Charity Shop takings	24,158	-	-	24,158	25,663
RSPCA sales	279	-	-	279	24
Adoption fees	90	-	-	90	40
VAT refund	2,120	-	-	2,120	28,322
Other income					
Investment proceeds	-	-	18,644	18,644	-
	£85,697	£ -	£18,644	£104,341	£82,241
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Contribution to regional boarding	6,000	-	-	6,000	2,000
RSPCA Animal Fighting Fund	-	-	-	-	5,000
Regional contribution/Quota	2,168	-	-	2,168	-
Wales Inspectorate Voucher Scheme	-	-	-	-	1,300
Insurance	511	-	-	511	370
Cost of goods for resale	194	-	-	194	495
Veterinary costs	14,981	14,009	14,047	43,037	51,013
Boarding	2,443	-	-	2,443	2,514
Officers' travel	2,030	-	-	2,030	2,290
Charity Shop rent	9,620	-	-	9,620	9,620
Charity Shop heat and light	632	-	-	632	383
Charity Shop trade refuse	166	-	-	166	151
Charity Shop telephone	137	-	-	137	66,938
				161	75,297
Other expenditure:					
Postage and stationery	538	-	-	538	317
Advertising	104	-	-	104	100
Accountancy	492	-	-	492	580
Repairs and Equipment	880	-	-	880	46
Consumables	113	-	-	113	274
VAT not recoverable	1,199	-	-	1,199	1,012
Funds invested	25,000	-	-	25,000	-
Sundries	10	-	-	10	28,336
				132	2,461
Total payments	£67,218	£14,009	£14,047	£95,274	£77,758
Net income/ (payments) for the year	18,479	(14,009)	4,597	9,067	4,483
Transfers between funds	(14,009)	14,009	-	-	-
Cash and bank balances					
At 31 st December 2012	67,002	25,000	11,225	103,227	98,744
At 31 st December 2013	£71,472	£25,000	£15,822	£112,294	£103,227

RSPCA WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
31st DECEMBER 2013,

	2013	2012
	£	£
Monetary assets:		
Investments:		
Schroders Common Investment Fund:		
The Charity Equity Fund	65,866	48,201
The Charity Fixed Interest Fund	89,102	94,818
COIF Charity Deposit Fund	-	18,637
M&G Charifund	55,014	24,224
	<u>£209,982</u>	<u>£185,880</u>
Bank and cash balances:		
Bank Deposit Investment Account		92,145
89,849		
Bank Current Accounts	19,933	13,162
Pay-Pal Account	141	141
Cash float	75	75
Total	<u>£112,294</u>	<u>£112,294</u>
£103,227		
General funds	71,472	67,002
Designated funds	25,000	25,000
Restricted funds	15,822	11,225
	<u>£112,294</u>	<u>£103,227</u>
Debtors: Trade debtors	<u>£1,053</u>	<u>£1,500</u>
Current Liabilities:		
Trade creditors and accruals	<u>£504</u>	<u>£504</u>

Approved by the Branch Committee on 10 MARCH 2014 and signed by

Dr. A. T. Rees
Honorary Treasurer



.....

**RSPCA WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH
ACCOUNTING POLICIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2013**

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 2011 Charities Act.

Restricted Funds

A sum of £36,960 was received in 2007 specifically to be spent in the Bangor area. At 1 January 2013 there was a balance of £13,777 in the fund. During 2013 a total of £6,280 was spent leaving a balance of £7,497.

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 transferr from RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch general funds. At 1 January 2013 there was an opening balance of £13,519. No expenditure was incurred during the year to 31 December 2013.

The RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch took over the administration and geographic area of the RSPCA 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. During 2013 an amount of £7,767 was spent from the fund and £18,644 of the investments were converted to cash. At the year end the investments had a market value of £29,057.

Designated Funds

A balance of £25,000 was brought forward from 2012 in the cat and dog free neutering scheme. A total of £14,009 was spent during the year ending 31 December 2013 leaving a balance of £10,991. 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 2013. (2012 – NIL).

Reimbursements made to trustees were as follows

		2013		2012
	No of trustees	Cost	No of trustees	Cost
Travel costs reimbursed	One	£63	None	NIL

RSPCA WEST GWYNEDD BRANCH SECRETARY'S REPORT 2013

During 2013 we collected at Tesco stores in Bangor, Caernarfon and Porthmadog and raised almost £4,000.

The Branch held various fundraising events during the year which as well as raising funds keeps the existence of the Branch in the public eye and promotes our almoning schemes.

Due to the collaboration between the National RSPCA and Pets at Home, various events were held in the Bangor Store. An Animal Awareness Day was held in September when the RSPCA Mobile Clinic was in attendance giving free animal health checks. Volunteer recruiting, Branch and society advertising and fun events also took place. During the rest of 2013 various collections of money and food & treats were held for animals in the Animal Centre and Branch care.



The Original Factory Shop, Pwllheli, nominated the Branch as its charity for 2013 and raised £715

The Dog Show was again held at the RSPCA Animal Centre, Bryn y Maen, organised by the staff from the centre on behalf of the Friends of Bryn y Maen. The Branch, as usual, manned a stall selling drinks and sweets and also had a "Name the Dog" competition. Freda dressed as a black and white dog to promote this and also had a dog face paint. She and Ann walked round the field persuading people to part with their money. The proceeds were given to the centre.

We still have a charity shop in Pwllheli which raises much-needed funds for the Branch. It is the Branch's main fundraiser and in 2013 the profit was £13,450. All staff are volunteers and we have very supportive customers, with or without dogs.

The adopters of animals rehomed into our area from Bryn y Maen Animal Centre are visited by members of the Branch before the animal is allowed to go to its new home. I do home visits for any animals rehomed by the Branch. All home visitors have been trained by the animal centre.

The Branch gives financial help to members of the public who are unable to pay veterinary fees and are on means-tested benefit, retirement pension or are fulltime students. We do not pay the full amount but give a percentage of the cost. We helped 1,303 animals during the year.

We also continue to run free neutering schemes for cats and dogs using the same owner criteria. The dog scheme is in conjunction with The Dog's Trust and includes free microchipping. We helped neuter 610 animals during the year. It is important to encourage neutering of animals as it can improve the animal's health as well as preventing unwanted offspring.

We still have an RSPCA mobile clinic visiting Bangor and Blaenau Ffestiniog. West Gwynedd Branch pays £8,000 per year for this facility which is supplied by Aberconwy Branch. Pet owners, on the above-mentioned benefits, should have no qualms about attending these clinics as there is a fully-qualified vet in attendance.



Freda Holme
Hon. Branch Secretary

Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre

Annual Report 2013

2013 was another interesting and exciting year for Bryn-y-Maen, seeing changes both locally and nationally. Through the collective knowledge and expertise of our staff and volunteers we have been able to support and collaborate with our inspectorate teams, Branches and local community groups throughout the year, together improving the lives of the animals that came into our care.

During 2013 we found homes for a total of 619 animals. These included 359 Cats, 164 Dogs, 40 Rabbits, 22 Guinea Pigs and a variety of other small animals and birds. It was a particularly challenging year for our cattery that saw record numbers of cats coming into our care from what at times seemed like a never ending stream of desperate feline friends looking for help. On the positive side, we did find homes for a record number of cats this year!

Once again, our volunteers can be found at the very heart of our success this year at of Bryn y Maen. Every day of the year, our volunteers care for, nurture and enrich the lives of the centre animals. Without their dedication, patience and hard work we simply would not be able to give so many animals a second chance at finding their perfect homes.

To better communicate with our growing number of supporters, we have also this year increased our use of social media to help reach our goals. We now have an active Facebook page and a dynamic group of Twitter followers whose support has been instrumental in the success of our special appeals and our Amazon Wish List.

Fundraising events are always an important part of our annual calendar; in 2013 the team looked at new inventive ways to raise money. This included members of the team taking part in a sponsored silence, cycling from Cardiff to Holyhead and organising our first ever Cat Crazy Day. Our Dog Show proved to be another great success with over 130 entries. A special thanks must go to Mags, who dedicated much of her spare time to holding a variety of very successful fundraising events for the centre. During 2013 we saw the real success of our relationship with our local Pets at Home store. We had large amounts of food and enrichment items donated through their charity partnership scheme, these items benefited so many of the animals in our care.

Anne Davies (Animal Care Assistant) sadly left us after an amazing 11 years of service. Anne's hard work and dedication to the animals she cared for is legendary and will be greatly missed. That said, we look forward to seeing Anne in the New Year when she intends to volunteer her spare time to help support our fundraising activities!

Becky (Centre Manager) embarked on her teacher-training course at Bangor University in 2013, which took her away from her duties at the centre for 10 months and meant that Natalie and I fulfilled the roles of Acting Deputy Manager and Acting Manager respectively until her return in July 2014.

Celebrations also took place in September to congratulate another longstanding member of staff, Dave Hizzett, who marked his 30th year of working at Bryn-y-Maen. We helped Dave mark his anniversary in style by organising for him to spend some time helping training police dogs. Dave has many amazing stories of the animals he has worked with over the years; we have been encouraging him to write a book...so watch this space!

Finally, all of us at the centre would like to thank all the Branches and the Friends of Bryn-y-Maen for their continued support of the centre and we look forward to working together in 2014 to help improve the lives of animals in our care and the local communities.

Kind Regards

Vicky Williams
Deputy Manager
Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre



ANNUAL REPORT 2013

North Wales Inspectorate Group

Group Statistics

	2013	2012
Total Complaints Completed	2,421	2,543
Case prosecution files submitted	27	42
Convictions & Cautions	20	42
Verbal Warnings	59	76
Inspector/AWO door knocks	6,791	8,361
Collections & Rescues	2,022	1,462
Market Visits	355	362
Market Animals seen	712,585	729,475

Group Overview

2013 saw the North Wales group of Inspectorate 'carry on as normal' and as always, we achieved a great deal, some excellent work and managed to stay on top of the work coming in. It is never an easy feat especially when we were 1 officer down for over 5 months and had two full time officers cut down to part time hours.

The cases that were put forward to the prosecution department were difficult and time consuming but the Inspectors are patient people and the time put in pays off.

Prosecution Case Work

Halliwell & Edwards – 13-0185

This had been an ongoing job for many years regarding a multiple cat household in Wrexham. Numerous visits had been made to the mother and 2 daughters living at the address and much advice had been given regarding the numbers of cats that were at the property and neutering vouchers had been issued.

Inspector Kia Thomas was able to remove 32 cats from the address all of which were suffering from the different stages of cat flu and one cat also had an untreated leg injury.

The defendants pleaded guilty and 2 of them were given disqualifications for life for all animals and the 3rd defendant who said she did not always live at the property was disqualified for 12 months from keeping cats.

This case highlights the problem of over-breeding and keeping colonies of cats together. If the defendants had followed the advice of the Inspectors in the first instance and neutered what cats they had at the time and vaccinated them against preventable diseases these cats would have been prevented from suffering unnecessarily and lives spared.

Jones – 13-0629

Inspector Fred Armstrong was called to a field in Deeside where there was a foal that appeared unable to stand. On his arrival Inspector Armstrong found that the foal was collapsed and in a very thin body condition, there were also 5 adult horses and 2 other foals in the field one of which was also in a very thin condition however still able to stand. A vet was called and the foal had to be removed. There was no food available in the field.

The following day Inspector Armstrong went back to the field to meet the owner who failed to turn up and saw that the second thin foal was now collapsed. Food had still not been provided for the horses.

Inspector Armstrong called the vet out again and the second foal was removed and he then provided food for the remaining horses.

The owner received a 5 year disqualification for keeping Equines, incurred £2,500 costs and 120 hours community service order to be completed with 12 months.

Kinsella – 13-1058

This was another incident that has been a historical problem for the Inspectors in the Wrexham area. A lady was keeping 2 horses on a piece of land that was entirely unsuitable for their needs. The Inspectors gave the owner much advice which was also initially adhered to and then standards would slip and the horse's needs again would not be adequately met.

Following an incident with one of the horses getting its feet entangled in barbed wire and the owner failing to get any veterinary treatment for one of the horses whose condition had dramatically deteriorated a vet was called and Inspector Phil Lewis was able to safely remove both of the horses.

Unfortunately both horses had to be euthanized one due to its poor condition and the other due to its temperament and fear of humans. The owner had allegedly rescued the horse which had previously had some bad experiences with humans. Rather than work with it and bring it on she had just left it unhandled in the field so it ended up with an extremely negative association towards humans which after much work was putting the horse under undue stress.

Mrs Kinsella was prosecuted and disqualified from keeping equines for 5 years, she received a community order and had a curfew imposed and had to pay £750 in costs.

Jones x 2 – 13-1300

Inspector Fred Armstrong removed a dog from a house in Rhyl. The English Bull Terrier had such a severe skin condition that the caller initially thought that it would have to be euthanized. Luckily with treatment the dog made a full recovery.

The owners were prosecuted and both received a 10 year disqualification from keeping dogs, 14 weeks suspended prison sentence for 12 months each along with 200 hours of community service and £1,000 costs for each to pay.

Evans – 12-1085

This case was Inspector Mark Roberts first case, just months after graduation to Inspector. It was initially investigated in 2012 however due to the complexity and number of equines involved it took over 12 months for the case to conclude which resulted with Mr Evans eventually appearing in court at the end of 2013.

Mr Evans was a farmer and horse breeder of Welsh Mountain Ponies. In June 2012 Inspector Roberts and several colleagues attended the farm with the Police, a vet and a partner charity following reports that many horses at the location were suffering from neglect and living in appalling conditions.

This charity had been trying to work with Mr Evans for at least 12 months prior to the RSPCA getting involved however the advice was falling on deaf ears and no improvements were being seen. It was at this point that the RSPCA were called in.

9 ponies were in such a bad state that they had to be euthanized on the farm as they were all suffering from untreatable hoof conditions. Another 50 ponies were removed due to the suffering caused from inappropriate hoof care and living in an unsuitable environment.

Mr Evans was found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering to these ponies and was jailed for 10 weeks and was disqualified from having any involvement with horses for 10 years.

This is another example where over breeding has resulted in the unnecessary suffering of many animals. It does however demonstrate the great work that the Inspectors do and what can be achieved in one day when they work alongside other organisations such as World Horse Welfare and the Police. Not forgetting of course that there were so many people within the RSPCA that helped, not least Gareth Johnson our equine rehoming officer, to whom I was able to literally hand over the reins of the ponies involved here.

Other Activities

Alongside the prosecutions, the majority of the work that our Inspectors and Animal Collections Officers do consists of collections and rescues and educating the public to prevent cruelty cases before they arise.

One of the most news-worthy rescues came in the form of a Minke Whale which was stranded at Pensarn beach in early December. There appeared to be nothing physically wrong with the whale so the team assembled consisting of the RSPCA, the RNLI and Coastguard, led by Mike Pugh, turned the whale around and watched it swim back out into the wider ocean. Thankfully it has not been seen again and therefore what a great success story.

In 2013 our Inspectors and ACOs attended an Animal Action Event in Wrexham alongside the Dogs Trust and Cats Protection which saw many animals receiving free health checks and vouchers towards the cost of neutering/micro-chipping and flea & worm treatment.

Inspector Rachael Davies attended an Emergency Service Event in Holywell promoting the work of the RSPCA and answering any questions the public had about our work and what they can do to help.

ACO Will Galvin went into a number of local schools with the RSPCA Animal Centre Staff educating the youngsters and raising their awareness of the RSPCA and how they can help animals.

As usual there were many sheep rescues in and around the Snowdonia National Park which resulted in days where most of the group were tied up with rope rescues.

A more unusual collection that Inspector Mark Roberts attended at the end of the year was to collect an orphaned otter cub. A member of the public had been out walking on Boxing Day near the village of Talsarnau and found the young cub on a bank. With no sign of the mother returning and the cub getting increasingly distressed it was taken to a local vet and then collected by Inspector Roberts who transferred him to the RSPCA Stapeley Grange Wildlife Centre.

The otter rehabilitation co-ordinator at the centre said the otter cub was around 9-10 weeks old and really feisty which is a good sign. He thought the recent bad weather may have been to blame for the separation from its mother and said when the cub is big enough to fend for itself it will be released back into the wild. Another great wildlife outcome.

Throughout 2013 Inspector Andy Broadbent has been working very closely with the Border Force Agency at the Port at Holyhead following some intelligence gathering activities first set up by our Special Operations Unit which was focusing on the import and export of puppies and equines in and out of Great Britain.

Inspector Broadbent has spent over 30 ½ hours working on this project which was made up of 6 visits to the port over night going into the early hours of the morning when activity seems to be at its highest for taking animals in and out of the country.

Inspector Broadbent saw a total of 235 animals including 81 horses, 154 dogs/puppies which worked out at an average of 7.7 animals an hour that he saw moving through the port. He gave 6 drivers advice on animal welfare issues relating to poor transport conditions and 4 offences were detected. 2 were resolved at the port and the animals were deemed fit to continue, 1 related to horses with no passports and that was reported to the local Trading Standards officer and the final offence related to a man who was travelling with a healthy Pit Bull Terrier which is a banned breed. This was reported to the Local Dog Licensing Officer of the Police to follow up.


8 Intelligence reports were also submitted to the RSPCA Intelligence Department and Inspector Broadbent also assisted the Border Force Agency with identifying a horse box that was being used to smuggle illegal drugs into the country.

This work has been extremely important, but just scratches the service on the animal welfare issues that are being highlighted from the import and export of animals between Ireland and Holyhead. Inspector Broadbent will continue to work closely at the port and develop his already strong relationship with the Border Force Agency.

The work within the Inspectorate is only possible with the help of the teams around them, so thank you to everyone who has been a part of the Wales team, especially in North Wales, we could not do it all without you.

I would like to thank the officers within the group for working so tirelessly and appreciate all the hard work put in year after year, and a big thank you to Rachael who has really supported my work throughout 2013 as my Deputy Chief Inspector.

2014 Events List (so far)

Date	Description
Thu 17 April	Pet-food & Fund-raising Collection at ASDA, Pwllheli
Sun 27 April	Quiz Night The Vaynol Arms, Pentir, LL57 4EA 8:00 for 8:30 start
Sat 10 May	Rabbit Awareness Day Pets at Home, Bangor, LL57 4SJ Do you know what RAW stands for? This event will answer this question for you and any others you may have about Rabbits, their needs and how to care for them.
Sun 18 May	RSPCA Bryn-y-Maen (LL28 5EJ) Dog Show We join our friends at our Animal Centre Bryn-y-Maen for this well established date in their calendar, celebrating rescue dogs. There will be side stalls, Barbecue, Tombola , plus many events for the children such as face painting.
Mon 16 – Sun 22 June	 Collections at TESCO Bangor, Caernarfon & Porthmadog Our biggest single fund-raising event of the year. Can we top £4,000 collected for animal welfare in 2014?
Sat 5 July	Stall at Caernarfon Show Wern Ddu Fields, Bethel Road, Caernarfon on the B4366 (LL55 1HD) We will have our merchandise stall, and seasonal advice on animal care. We will have a fun competition for children to help design a poster and much more for little hands to do. Come and say hello.
Sun 6 July	RSPCA Bryn-y-Maen (LL28 5EJ) Cat Crazy Day We will be running competitions with local schools, and the winners will be announced on the day, We have our Cat-less Cat Show, Name the litter of Kittens, Bollywood Dancing Demo, Cup Cake Party Stall , Cat themed Flower Arranging Demos to name but a few. It will be the Cats Whiskers!!
Sat & Sun 6 - 7 Dec	November & December - Festive Food Appeal Pets at Home, Bangor, LL57 4SJ In November & December we will once again have our collection bins in store to collect food, bedding and other festive treats for the animals in the Branch's and Bryn-y- Maen's care. Members of our Branch will be in store on December 6&7 to be on hand to receive your donations. RSPCA Christmas cards for sale.

Other events are planned for 2014. Details to be confirmed.

Visit our website at www.RSPCAWestGwynedd.org for updates and additions