



Eden Animal Rescue

We Rescue, Care and Rehome

Trustees Annual Report Year Ending 31 March 2018

Introduction

2017/18 was the first full operating year since the big move from Hardendale to our new home at Moorlands Head. It's really been a settling in year, sorting out the glitches in any new development, rather like a bigger version of moving into a new house! Staff and volunteers have worked hard to make it a great success and we have been rescuing, caring and rehoming record numbers of animals. We still can't keep up with the demand!

Targets

The main targets for the year were to finish settling in and to continue to improve on the way we care for our lovely animals.

Dog Behaviour and Socialisation Project 2016 to 2018

We received a grant in 2016 from Support Adoption for Pets (SAP) to develop this innovative project. Over the last two years the grant of £47,000 has paid for the cost of creating all the paddocks, the socialisation room and buying agility and training equipment. Even more importantly it has enabled us to work proactively with those dogs who have behavioural issues to improve their chances of being rehomed and also staying in those new homes. Thanks to volunteer Rob Holder and his team of helpers for their incredible work assisting staff and trustees to bring this project in on budget and with some great outcomes for our dogs. Also to Jen Cartmel's work with Vicki and Charlotte on dog behavioural training.

The Animals

The success of, and the publicity around, our new Centre seems to have increased the numbers of animals coming in during the year. 284 cats & kittens, 84 dogs and 33 small furies were rehomed. The number of cats, kittens and small furies were well up on 2016/17 (up 61 and 29 respectively). I volunteer in the cattery which was bursting at the seams during kitten season! I adopted Angus, a very large long haired black cat with a big heart and very loud purr! Couldn't resist! My dog, Sniff, came from Hardendale nearly five years ago and will be at the AGM, along with Jen's Molly. You may recall that Jen Ingle fostered and finally adopted Molly following her operation and she is now thriving in Jen's care. Hopefully, Molly will also be at the AGM. Lynn, Sarah and Vicki will be talking more about the animals at the meeting (the interesting bit!)

Finances for 2017/18

Finances have settled down after the move and we have again been very fortunate in the legacies left and in the vital fundraising activities carried out by so many people. The shop in particular raised around £26,944 over the year thanks to Nina & Bill and their team of volunteers. There was an operating loss of £6,568, but overall there is a surplus when legacies were taken into account. Due to the legacies received, the mortgage on Moorlands Head fell in the year from £285,664 to £128,530 (see also 'More Recent Events' on page 2). Also thanks to Inga for her efforts in gaining many grants to support our vital work.

Staff and Vounteers

Lynn Healey, our Development Manager, joined last September and has done a lot of work with staff and volunteers, getting our office administration into better shape, developing new fundraising initiatives, publicity and new contacts. Due to the larger facilities and greater

numbers of animals 3 new temporary staff (Mel Bousfield, John Anslow & Jack Nash) started work at the end of the year and have had a very positive effect on animal care. Many animals come in with significant and complex needs which require extra care and a lot of time and love. All staff and volunteers take great pride in the care and love they give.

Fundraising

Our fundraising activities continue to grow and develop and, as with any charity, we are always up against a changing economy where many people have little cash to spare. We have wonderful support from many of our local businesses both large and small who allow us to undertake collections, stalls and bag packs in aid of the charity. These are always a great way to meet with the general public so that they can find out about the work we do. Our larger events such as Centre open days and dog shows continue to be well supported both by locals and visitors to the area. The charity remains indebted to the many people who give up their time to help run all these events. Their contribution is invaluable. A special thank you to the many people who have attended our events and delved deep to give us whatever change they can spare. Every penny is appreciated.

Other Thanks

A big thank you to all members, supporters, volunteers, staff, trustees and funders for the assistance, hard work and sheer passion for our animals over the year. Also to the North Lakes Hotel and staff for free use of their room and for being dog friendly! We are their chosen charity at present.

More Recent Events

Since the 31 March this year we have received a bequest that has allowed us to repay the last of our mortgage for Moorlands Head, so the charity is now outright owner of its Centre. This is a wonderful piece of news and we all owe a great debt to Caroline Holland, trustees present and past, and the staff and volunteers who helped with the development and the move. Also to the kind legatees and donors who made this possible.

A sadder piece of news was received in late July with the resignation of Caroline as Chair and trustee. She felt that after ten years she had achieved her aims and wanted to concentrate on her family, animals and business. As trustees, we all thank her for her passion and work for our lovely charity and for all the animals that she has helped. Also very sad news was the recent loss of a long time resident, our Spot, who was dear to the hearts of staff and volunteers, sadly mourned and missed and will be long remembered.

Following Caroline's resignation I was elected as interim chair pending the AGM. A lot to pick up in only a few weeks, 'big' shoes to fill, so please bear with me if I don't know the answers to all your questions! If re-elected by members and elected as chair after the AGM, I hope to work with trustees to further improve our services so that we are able to rescue, care and rehome as many animals as possible.

Dave Simmons, Interim Chair and on behalf of Eden Animal Rescue Trustees - 25/9/2018

Footnote: The Legal Bit (a requirement, sorry!)

Eden Animal Rescue (EAR) is a Registered Charity (no:1117113) - Trustees currently are Sal Cawley, Allyson Jenyon, David Simmons, Sandra Taylor, Inga Voit & Jennifer Ingle (co-opted); EAR is also constituted as a Company Limited by Guarantee (no: 0573515159) and not having share capital under the Articles of Association.

The registered office: Moorlands Head, Newbiggin, Temple Sowerby, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 1TH. Trustees are elected by members at each AGM and control the activities of the charity, with some responsibilities being delegated to staff at the Centre and volunteers at the Shop. Additional trustees may be co-opted between AGMs.