



**RESCUE  
HOTEL**

*...Supporting Cardiff Dogs Home*

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2020 – 2021**





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The Rescue Hotel  
c/o Cardiff Dogs Home  
Westpoint Industrial Estate  
Penarth Road  
Cardiff  
CF11 8JQ

## Foreword

### A message from the Chair of Trustees

2020 was a challenging year for all charities, this however did not deter the Trustees who successfully registered the organisation as a charity with the Charities Commission during the first lock down period.

Since gaining charitable status the charity has gone from strength to strength and grown at an exceptional rate. For a charity run entirely by volunteers we are immensely proud of the work that we have achieved in the past 12 months.

Throughout the pandemic we have effectively adapted to new ways of working, moving our traditional fundraising activities largely online and exploring new opportunities through grants and corporate sponsors.

As we look forward to the 2021-2022 year, I am confident that we can continue to make a lasting impact to the abandoned dogs in Cardiff as well as improving access to facilities and education for the resident dog owners of the city.

Toria Acreman  
Chair of Trustees





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## **Behavioural Training Partnership with Valleys Dog Training**

### **Case Study - Jemima**

Jemima is a very loving dog but has been taught no manners or how to walk on a lead. Due to her size, the lack of lead walking skills was a major issue as very few people would be strong enough to control her on a walk. She was also dog reactive causing even more issues while walking on a lead. Thanks to the work of our behaviourist, Jemima has been successfully rehomed with 2 other dogs. Her new family have worked extremely closely with our behaviourist and she is now thriving in a home environment.



### **Case Study – Lyra**



Lyra arrived with us as a bewildered stray who was dumped in a car park. She had zero manners and no idea how act as a dog. She was reactive to people and dogs initially. Thanks to the extensive work of our behaviourist, she learnt that good manners mean good things, namely food. She now walks lovely on the lead rather than hopping along like a kangaroo and can pass other dogs without even so much as a sideways glance at them. This training proved invaluable in finding her forever home. She is now living happily with

another ex-resident Luna and is thriving.



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## Miles for Smiles



Miles for Smiles was our first fundraising campaign, with no previous experience of running an event like this we were unsure of how successful it would be.

We were overwhelmed with the response from the general public, over 70 people signed up to run or walk one of 4 set distances (30, 44, 70 or 100 miles) across the month of September. Our aim was to make the challenge accessible for people

of all ages and abilities with the youngest participant being just 6 years old.

Our participants battled the elements throughout the month putting in the hard miles all to help put a smile on our dogs faces.

It wasn't just our participants that got behind the event though but also their friends and family whose combined sponsorship of our participants raised a huge total of £13,793.





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## Veterinary Suite

In 2020 we started out on a journey to build a new veterinary suite on site at Cardiff Dogs Home. Due to changes in how vets work since the pandemic the cost of treating our resident dogs was spiralling and a long-term solution was needed to make the facility more self-sustainable in terms of veterinary costs.

The project has been generously supported by Admiral Insurance who donated £25,000, Battersea Dogs and Cats Home who donated £10,000 and PetPlan Insurance who donated £5,000.

The facility will ensure that on arrival, all dogs will be health checked in a timely fashion. At present, they can wait up to 7 days for a health check. They can also be vaccinated and treated for any conditions they come into CDH with. They can be given flea and worm treatments and neutered on site if required.

Not only will the facility benefit the dogs who find themselves at CDH but those who have already found loving homes by offering affordable basic health checks, neutering and dental treatment.

The facility is currently under construction and we are looking forward to welcoming the new addition to site.





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## Saving Naya

Naya's story was incredibly tragic and touched the hearts of so many people. She was found in a cardboard box left for dead by a wheelie bin during terrible thunderstorms. Upon arrival the staff had to remove dead flies from her mouth, she had multiple bite wounds, a punctured lung and 2 severely damaged legs. According to the vets treating her, the wounds and injuries were consistent with having been used as a bait dog – a dog used to train other dogs to fight.



Thanks to our wonderful supporters we were able to raise over £12,000 which was required for the numerous specialist treatments that Naya needed. She stole the hearts of so many people that followed her story and in particular stole the heart of the kind veterinary nurse that provided her round the clock care, so much so that she officially adopted her.



Naya is now fighting fit, happy and healthy. Sadly, her story is a rare happy ending in the very long, and extremely violent, history of dog fighting



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## Kennel Refurbishment

At the end of 2020 we launched a huge campaign to completely refurbish the 44 steel kennels at Cardiff Dogs Home, built in the early 1990s, and given an estimated lifespan of 25 years.

Our aim is to improve the layout, construction, and sizes of the kennels to provide higher welfare standards for the dogs, as well as making them easier to clean and maintain. Lighting, heating, and drainage to the building will also be improved. To create extra room and a greater level of comfort for the dogs, we will be reducing the number of kennels to 38. All kennels will have solid walls between them to allow as much privacy for the dogs as possible while they are in their kennels. All kennels will be insulated, and sleeping platforms will also be installed to allow additional insulation from the cold in the winter months.

It is hoped that by fundraising for these improvements, a better facility can be provided for the dogs and visitors for many years to come.

We are aiming to raise £500,000 and are hugely encouraged that over £48,000 was raised in the first 3 months the campaign was launched. We are also eternally grateful to our wonderful ambassador Sam Warburton who have offered a huge amount of support the campaign.





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## Thank you

We're extremely grateful to all the people and organisations who donate time and money to make our work possible.

In our first year as a registered charity our supporters helped us to realise some ideas that had previously been dreams.

There are too many to name here, but we'd like to extend a special thanks to the funders, trusts, corporate partners and sponsors mentioned below who made a major contribution to our work over the past year.



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## Financial Activities

	<b>2020/2021</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	
Unrestricted Income	£74,559
Restricted Income	£88,238
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b><u>£162,797</u></b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	
Unrestricted Funds Expended	£29,517
Restricted Funds Expended	£22,549
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b><u>£52,066</u></b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b><u>£110,730</u></b>