



**NEWCASTLE
DOG & CAT
SHELTER**

Issue 11

SHELTERLIFE

The news update from Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter



Read Milo's Story: From neglect to new beginnings. Page 4

www.dogandcatshelter.com

Charity registration number 1201840





Andrea Lady Wylie and Chris Bray with Major

Welcome from the Chair and Chief Executive

As we look forward to another year of compassion and care at Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, we are filled with immense gratitude for the unwavering support from our community. This past year has seen remarkable transformations, both in the lives of the animals we care for, and in our ability to reach out and connect with those who support our mission.

High Standards of Care

The quality of care we provide remains exemplary. We scored 94% on our inspection from the Association of Dog & Cat Homes (ADCH), highlighting the dedication and expertise of our team. This score is a great endorsement of the care we provide.

Our Financial Challenges

One of the significant challenges we faced this year was the difficult decision to mothball our admissions unit on Clarendon Road. By bringing all our animal care and rehoming services under one roof at Benton North Farm, we have lowered site costs while ensuring the best possible care for the animals as staff are more flexible on one site.

Due to the presence of having newly admitted dogs on site, our rehoming centre at Benton North Farm has been closed to the public. We have noticed a

considerable improvement in the wellbeing of our animals. This positive development suggests continuing to operate on an appointment basis which is beneficial for the animal's health and wellbeing.

Empowering Education and Awareness

Our commitment to community outreach has seen us take dogs to care homes and schools. Our work in schools is about educating children about animal welfare, and an exciting new school programme is in the pipeline. Meanwhile our Care Home Companions programme helps improve the health and wellbeing of older people in care, many of whom have had pets before in their personal lives. Research shows that as little as ten minutes spent with an animal can improve health and wellbeing, and work is being done to spread the joy only animals can bring.



Hagrid cooling down in his doggy pool

Sustainable Income and Growth

We are grateful to everyone who supports the Shelter via our lottery and regular giving programme. This regular income stream is a lifeline for the Shelter, which we can depend on arriving with us each month, helping us to plan for the future.

Transformative Partnerships and Community Support

Our Troubled Tails appeal is a highlight over the past year, including an exciting new partnership with Herbal Dog Co, our first corporate supporter of the appeal. All monthly donations to the Troubled Tails Appeal help us care for animals. Support from Troubled Tails contributes towards critical vet treatments, bespoke training and rehoming services for animals like Milo and Ruby, whose stories of resilience and recovery inspire us all.

Looking Ahead: Capital Investments and Future Plans

While we are proud of our achievements over the past year, there are major challenges ahead. Our facilities require substantial capital investment, including new roofs, kennel blocks, and more urgently a new cattery. This redevelopment is a massive financial undertaking, and we will be seeking donations to support these essential upgrades.

Shelter Values:

These are the values that all staff and volunteers follow.

Compassion: Be kind to others and ourselves.

Commitment: Be accountable for what we say and do.

Adaptability: To take on whatever comes our way.

Support: Be there with the right help at the right time.

Enjoyment: Be ready to share in the smiles and wins...

Thank You for Your Continued Support

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our supporters, including our dedicated volunteers, corporate partners, and individual donors. Your generosity and dedication make a world of difference to the animals in our care. Together, we can continue to provide love, care, and second chances to those who need it most.

For those looking to make a difference, we invite businesses and individuals to get involved by contributing time, resources, or financial support. Please reach out to us at fundraising@dogandcatshelter.com to explore how you can support our mission, saving lives across the North East.

Warm regards,

Chris Bray
Chief Executive

Andrea, Lady Wylie
Chair

Troubled Tails:

Making a difference, one tail at a time!



Milo with his proud new owners



Blythman & Partners performed a crucial operation to remove broken teeth



Milo was scared on arrival with a history of suspected neglect

Milo's Troubled Tail: Overcoming Fear and Pain

Milo, a blue Cane Corso puppy, arrived at Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter completely shut down. With severe trauma to his mouth and a suspected history of neglect, Milo was found locked in a cupboard, terrified, cowering, and growling in fear. Physically and emotionally, he was in a state of distress.

We immediately assigned a staff member for Milo and placed him in a calm and quiet room away from other dogs, allowing him to relax and begin his recovery. We prioritised work on confidence and trust in people. Milo was petrified of everything and needed a slow process of socialisation to build up trust with humans. We also addressed his medical

needs, and he underwent a crucial operation performed by our vets, Blythman & Partners, to remove baby teeth that were broken and damaged due to severe trauma.

With gentle care and patience our staff member earned Milo's trust. Gradually, short introductions to other humans and animals helped him overcome his fears. Milo eventually learned to walk on a lead, climb stairs, and play with his newfound friend Nellie. After 51 days in our care, Milo was rehomed, leaving behind a troubled past for a future filled with love and joy.

Milo's dental cost £137.51



Ruby quickly adapted to life on three legs



Ruby living her best life at the beach



Ruby with her new foster family

IT COSTS ON AVERAGE £25 TO PROVIDE DAILY CARE FOR A DOG, INCLUDING FOOD, SHELTER AND MEDICAL TREATMENT.

Ruby's Troubled Tail: Resilient Despite Adversity

Ruby, a six-month-old tan Saluki x Greyhound, arrived at the Shelter with a broken leg. Her previous owners, unable to afford vet care, made the difficult decision to surrender her. X-rays revealed the leg had been broken for a period of time and had begun to heal incorrectly.

To relieve her pain and give her a chance at a better life with a quicker recovery, a difficult decision was made along with a veterinary professional, to amputate Ruby's leg. Within 24 hours of the surgery, Ruby was back to her usual self, running around with newfound freedom. Ruby is currently being fostered and continues to exemplify the strength and resilience of animals.

Ruby's vet costs £841.51

Help Our Troubled Tails

Stories like those of Milo and Ruby are at the very heart of everything we do. Each animal that arrives here at the Shelter brings unique challenges because of their own life experiences. Fear, mistrust, and a lack of confidence are common in their initial days. We provide not only a place to stay but also an environment of care, compassion, and trust-building. Your support can make a life-changing impact for animals like Milo and Ruby and get those troubled tails wagging again.

Be a Constant in Their Lives

Your regular giving can provide the stability and assurance to give every animal in the Shelter's care the chance to thrive in a loving environment.



Join Troubled Tails Today

Scan the QR code above to make a one-off or regular gift to our Troubled Tails Appeal. Alternatively you can donate by cheque and send this to us at Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, Benton North Farm, Benton Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 8EH.

Together we can give animals like Milo and Ruby a second chance.

Troubled Tails:

Meet Our Heartwarming Rescues and Remarkable Rehomes

At Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, we often highlight the overlooked issue of rehoming black animals through stories like those of Coal and Flame, two kittens who survived a house fire, and Timmy, a senior cat whose journey of resilience has inspired many. Their stories reflect our purpose to care for and find loving homes for all animals.



Ember, Coal and Flare



Coal, one of the miracle kittens saved from a house fire



Flame, had to stay a little longer at the Shelter following a hernia operation

Coal and Flame

Coal and Flame, black domestic short hair cats, arrived at our Shelter at 12-weeks-old after being rescued from a devastating house fire. Along with their siblings Blaze, Ember, and Flare, they faced longer wait times for adoption compared to their lighter-coated siblings. Despite their playful nature and loving personalities, the pair remained with us longer. Coal was rehomed after 32 days, while Flame recently found her forever home after nearly two months.

Black cats are often the last to be rehomed, partly due to superstitions and the difficulty in photographing them. Katie Fulcher-Watkins, Rehoming Assistant, notes, "Families often look for specific coat colours. Unfortunately, this means that pure black cats are often overlooked. Ginger cats, for instance, are highly sought after and often rehomed first."

Coal's Vet Costs £54.33
Flame's Vet Costs £164.97

Timmy's Troubled Tail

Timmy, a 17-year-old black cat, was the definition of resilience. He faced hyperthyroidism and a significant surgical procedure before he eventually passed away in his loving forever home. His legacy inspires our community to embrace the adoption of senior pets.

After Timmy was surrendered to us he was diagnosed with a lifelong thyroid condition. Despite his health battles and partial deafness, Timmy's unshakeable will to live captivated our hearts. During his recovery, he was fostered by a dedicated member of our Animal Care team, who helped him recover in a home environment.

After 155 days of care, Timmy found his forever home, where he was cherished. Matthew and Kelly, Timmy's adoptive parents, reflected: "Initially, we thought we were doing Timmy a favour, but it was he who enriched our lives immensely."

Matthew and Kelly feel extremely lucky they were able to spend Timmy's twilight years with him whilst Timmy enjoyed making every corner of their home his own and his love for his favourite blankets and enjoyment of the finer things in life.

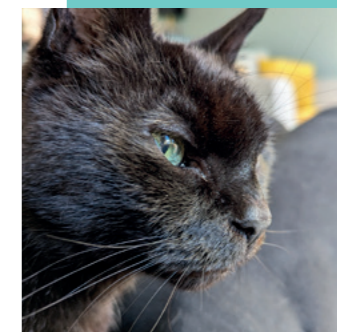
Timmy's Vet Costs £879.28

Help Our Troubled Tails

The stories of Coal, Flame, and Timmy represent our absolute commitment at Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter to improve the lives of animals when they need it most. Your support can make a life-changing impact for animals like them. By supporting our Troubled Tails appeal with a regular or one-off gift, your generosity can provide necessary medical treatment, a nurturing environment, and the chance to find their forever home.



Timmy the senior cat with his loving owner



Timmy was a beautiful and kind soul



A close-up of Timmy's surgical scar



Join Troubled Tails Today

Scan the QR code above to make a one-off or regular gift to our Troubled Tails Appeal. Alternatively you can donate by cheque and send this to us at Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, Benton North Farm, Benton Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 8EH.

Together we can give animals like Coal, Flame and Timmy a second chance.



Phoebe and Millie enjoying their new view

Heartwarming Rehoming Success: Phoebe and Millie Find a New Home

We recently celebrated a heartwarming success, when two of our longest serving residents, Phoebe and Millie, found their forever home. After spending many years with us, these well-loved horses have finally settled into a spacious new field with fellow equine friends.

Millie, a striking 14-year-old black and white Appaloosa horse, had been with us for for almost five years. When she was finally rehomed it was a joyful milestone for our team.

Phoebe, a 25-year-old black and white Piebald Cob, had an even longer stay, spending over nine years in our care. Despite the strong bonds we formed with her, it was clear a larger field and the companionship of other horses would provide a better quality of life.

Aimee Shorter, our Animal Welfare Manager, shared her joy on visiting the horses in their new home.

"Both girls are being little stars, they let us catch them and put their rugs on. They've already made a couple of little friends and both are standing up for themselves against any that try their luck. The field is massive and the herd is nice and small, so they've got loads of space. I'm thrilled to be just five minutes away from them, so I can see them all the time!"



Phoebe and Millie making new friends



Let's work together to ensure all these wonderful animals find the homes they deserve. Your support can make a world of difference.



PLAY OUR WEEKLY LOTTERY AND YOU COULD WIN UP TO £10,000!

For just £2 per week you'll be supporting our mission to save animals lives across the North East.

Text PLAY to 72700 to join!

For less than the cost of a coffee you'll be helping North East animals in need, just like Shadow.

(Pictured on this page)

You must be 18 plus and a resident of Great Britain. T's & C's apply, standard network message rates apply. Charity registration number 1201840



£2
per week

Meet the animals that found their forever homes

The rehoming journey for every animal in our care is as different, special and unique as they are. Our small yet dedicated rehoming team work tirelessly to find the perfect fit for each animal looking for their forever home. The importance of finding the right fit for each animal can be echoed in stories like Skye's, who was featured in the last edition of Shelterlife, so it only seems fitting to update her story one year on.

Skye arrived with us March 2023 after struggling with separation anxiety, Skye had been self-mutilating and pulling her own fur out due to her stress when being left alone for any length of time. Initially when Skye arrived into our care, she deteriorated due to the stress of a new environment and began to fur pluck an even larger area, leaving herself with large scabs and severe bruising. Skye was quickly placed into a foster home with one of our dedicated team members, where she started on her road to recovery. This was to be key to Skye's success, with patience, routine and dedication from her amazing foster carer, Skye began to relax and heal and her bubbly personality shone through. As Skye continued to heal, she was signed off for rehoming 4 months after arriving with us. This was where our rehoming team stepped in to find Sykes next saviour and her forever home.

Skye's happy ever after was found in June 2023 when she found her fairy tale ending and at only 3 years old, she will be reaping the benefit for years to come. Skye's devoted new family could not do more for Skye to ensure her life is as comfortable and routine as necessary to continue to help Skye adapt to the world

and deal with her separation anxiety. Skye can regularly be found taking part in a Park Run on a Saturday with her new owner Lee, Skye has done as much for her new family as they have for Skye, being united in their dedication to providing the best life possible for Skye, the whole family have rallied together and are stronger than ever. Meeting new four-legged friends for Skye and their owners has widened everyone's world. A regular at their family BBQs where Skye is often the last one standing, she really is the centre of her family's world, even if she does enjoy digging holes in the lawn. Whilst Skye is living her best life she is also in the best condition of her life, with no obvious scarring or lasting damage from the injuries she caused herself, her coat is in amazing condition with no signs that Skye ever feels the need to harm herself again. From zoomies to sofa snuggles Skye really has it all!

This achievement is a testament to our commitment to providing comprehensive care and finding loving homes for every animal. Many of our animals need a little extra care and attention before they are ready to be rehomed. They can arrive in poor health or with behavioural issues that require attention. Our team works

tirelessly to ensure that each animal receives the care they need, from medical treatments and surgeries to behavioural training and socialisation, ensuring they are fully prepared for their next chapter.



Skye found her forever home in June 2023



Skye's anxiety caused severe plucking and self-harm



How to rehome an animal

If you are interested in rehoming an animal from the Shelter, please fill out an application form on your chosen animal's page.



Meet our Dogs



Meet our Cats



Meet our Farm Friends



Ozzy being reunited with his owners



Ozzy making friends with our staff



Ozzy being looked after by the Shelter

A Heartwarming Reunion: Ozzy's Journey Back Home

The Unexpected Visitor

Ozzy's story is wonderful but unusual, as he essentially rescued himself! He began visiting the Shelter as a young and friendly cat, who seemed to enjoy wandering around and eyeing up the farm cats' food. Ozzy became friends with our staff and volunteers and appeared to be hungry and in search of food. We decided to scan Ozzy for a microchip to see if he had an owner, as he appeared to be lost and discovered Ozzy did in fact have an owner and that he had been missing for three months.

A Happy Reunion

When his owners walked through the door to collect Ozzy there wasn't a dry eye in the house and the reunion was a happy and emotional occasion for everyone. It also turned out that Ozzy's owner worked as our local postman, so it seemed like Ozzy knew exactly where to come for help.

"A cat with a microchip has a much stronger chance of being promptly returned home"

This reunion highlights the importance of microchipping and keeping details updated. Microchipping helps reunite pets with their owners and provides peace of mind. In 2024, a new law was introduced stating that all owned cats must be microchipped or face a potential fine of up to £500. Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter supports the new legislation and stories like Ozzy's show exactly why we believe microchipping is important.

Anjuli Hakin, Head of Animal Welfare, explained: "A cat with a microchip has a much stronger chance of being promptly returned home than a cat without. But we urge owners to ensure their details are up-to-date, so we know how to find them."

What to Do With a Stray Cat

Encounters with stray cats are not uncommon and, while the instinct to help is natural, it's crucial to approach these situations with knowledge and care. There are some essential steps to take upon finding a stray cat, ensuring the well-being of both the cat and the community.

1 Before Labelling a Cat as Stray
Check for Identification: A quick way to determine if a cat is lost is to look for an identification tag or to have them scanned for a microchip at a local vet, which can provide details about the owner.
Assess the Cat's Health: Well-groomed cats of a healthy weight are likely to have a home nearby, while a distinctly unkempt appearance may suggest they're lost or stray.

2 Feeding Stray Cats: A Cautionary Note
The Shelter advises against feeding unfamiliar cats, as it may discourage them from returning to their homes and could inadvertently cause dietary issues.

3 Identifying Feral vs. Stray Cats
Understanding the difference between a feral and a stray cat is critical. Feral cats, often wary and unapproachable, are best left undisturbed, while strays may appear lost but can become friendly over time.

4 Additional Tips for Handling Stray Cats
If you suspect the cat is pregnant:
• Check the cat's tummy, carefully and without startling them (or touching their tummy) – if the mammary glands appear more prominent, the cat may be still nursing her young
• Take the cat to the vet by safely wrapping them in a blanket or putting them in a cardboard box. The vet will be able to scan for a microchip, which is vital in locating an owner and may also lead to finding the location of any kittens
• If safe to do so, go back to the area where the cat was found and have a look around the area for any signs of kittens. Check under bushes and shrubs, and listen out for their cries
If you suspect the cat is injured:
If you have found an injured cat and you have a secure cat carrier and the cat will let you, you could take the cat to a vet. You may like to call them first to check they will offer this service for free.

5 Contacting Animal Welfare
If you are still concerned, you can call our welfare team on **0191 215 0435** for advice, or alternatively contact your local animal welfare services at the council.



Looking for advice on what to do for a stray cat? **Please scan the QR code to visit our website:**



Looking for advice on what to do for a stray dog? **Please scan the QR code to visit our website:**



Shelter Myth Busters

With online misinformation a common issue in modern times, the following section aims to bust some common myths about rehoming or owning a rescue animal:

"You can't adopt if you have children or other animals."

We rehome pets to families with children and other animals. The key is finding the right match, considering the animal's temperament and household dynamics listed on their profile.

"You can't adopt if you live in a flat or have a small garden/yard."

While some pets need more space, many thrive in smaller homes with the right care and exercise.

"All animals from rescue centres have been mistreated."

Not all of our animals have been mistreated. Many end up here due to changes in their owners' circumstances. Our rescue pets can be loving and well-adjusted with a stable environment.

"I was turned down to adopt because I work full time."

Full-time employment doesn't disqualify you from adopting. Ensure your pet's well-being during your absence with options like pet sitters or dog walkers.

"I can't adopt because I don't have a 6ft fence."

Not all dogs need a 6ft fence. The requirement depends on the dog's size and athleticism.

"All rescue dogs are old."

We care for dogs of all ages, from puppies to seniors. Potential adopters can find a companion that fits their lifestyle.



Bernie was rehomed in April 2024

"All animals that aren't reclaimed/rehomed after a certain time period are euthanised."

Euthanasia is only ever considered for animals with untreatable health issues, severe behavioural problems or banned breeds. Our mission is to rehome every animal in our care.

"Animals that can't live with children are aggressive and dangerous."

Not all dogs that can't live with children are aggressive. Reasons include fear, resource guarding, health concerns, or lack of socialisation. Proper training and understanding can help these dogs thrive.

"Rescue centres are too expensive."

Adoption fees cover medical treatment, neutering, microchipping, and vaccinations, making it cost-effective compared to private pet acquisition. Fees support our operations but do not cover all of our costs.

"I don't need to microchip my pet as it doesn't go outside."

Microchipping dogs and cats is now a legal requirement. It means they can be identified and reunited with their owners if they escape or get lost.



Our Shelter dreams aim to help dogs like Ben the lurcher

Shelter Dreams

At Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, we have a variety of projects that we'd like to complete, ranging from improving our facilities to implementing more pet educational programmes, and companion visits to those who would benefit. However we need funds to do this. We will leave some information below about a few of our "Shelter Dreams" and thank those that supported this section last year, any donations have been restricted for this purpose.

New Kennels

We are experiencing an increase in the number of enquiries from owners who can no longer look after their dogs. To combat this, we are looking to build some additional kennels so that we can help more dogs in need. We'd also love to be able to build some additional exercise pens so that our dogs can burn off more of their energy to help them settle in the kennel environment.

New Cattery

In our most recent inspection from the Association of Dog & Cat Homes we are very proud to have scored 94% showing the outstanding quality of our care. Sadly one area that was marked for improvement is

our cattery, which is deemed to be not of a modern standard. A new cattery is a long term goal for the Shelter, and funding is being sought to help raise the majority of the capital funds required to undertake this. Our future dream is to have a new cattery to help us accommodate and care for our cats in a more modern setting.

Energy efficiency and heating

Thanks to the kind generosity of its local community, the Shelter now has a number of solar panels on the dog main block roof, and discussions are under way to secure batteries. We are extremely grateful to GEC Power who arranged and paid for the installation and to Electrical Solutions NE who provided all the of the solar panels and kit free of charge. This is a massive leap in improving energy efficiency at the Shelter but more work could be done to improve our boilers and take away some of the maintenance headaches that are experienced during the winter period.

Leaving a Gift In Your Will:

How you can make a Lifelong Impact

At Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, we've been dedicated to rescuing and rehoming neglected, unwanted, and abused animals for over a century. Running the Shelter costs over £1.2 million every year, and gifts in wills are a lifeline that help us continue our work. Leaving a gift in your Will, no matter how big or small, ensures we can keep providing the care and love that every animal deserves.

The importance of leaving a gift in your Will

Gifts in Wills are crucial to our Shelter, funding everything from life-saving medical treatments and daily care to much-needed facilities upgrades. By including Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter in your Will, you become an essential part of our community, helping us save lives and bring joy to animals and families across the North East.



Darwin sat with his toys

Making a Difference: Darwin's Story

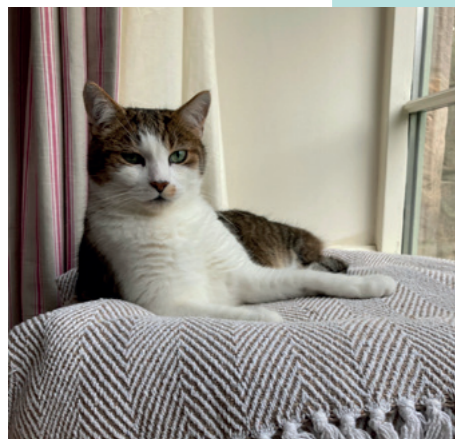
Darwin's journey is a testament to the impact your legacy can have. Darwin, a mischievous cat, came to us after his owner of 10 years could no longer care for him. He had a challenging start, struggling to settle and often intimidating our staff. The stress led Darwin to over-groom, leaving a sore patch on his chest.

Thankfully, one of our dedicated foster families stepped in, giving Darwin a safe space to decompress and begin healing. It took three patient weeks for Darwin to start trusting his foster carers. He gradually relaxed, revealing his affectionate side and even becoming a bit of a lap cat.

Ready for his forever home, Darwin faced more challenges. His trust issues made it difficult for him to make a good first impression, and he was returned twice by potential adopters. But after 254 days in our care, Darwin finally found a family who embraced his quirky behaviour. Now, Darwin enjoys basking in the sun, watching wildlife from his favourite spot by the window, and cuddling on his new family's laps.

Darwin's story highlights that there is a perfect home for every animal, and with your support, we can help more animals like him find their forever homes too.

Darwin's Vet Costs £148.60



Darwin looking out the window

How to leave a gift in your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will to Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter is simple:

- 1 Consult a Solicitor:** Use a solicitor to make sure your will reflects your wishes. The Law Society can help you find one.
- 2 Decide on Your Gift:** You can leave a percentage of your estate (residuary gift) or a fixed sum of money (pecuniary gift). Both types are invaluable to us.
- 3 Include Our Details:** Make sure your will includes our full name and charity number: Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, Benton North Farm, Benton Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 8EH. Registered Charity Number 1201840.
- 4 Inform Loved Ones:** Let your family and executors know about your decision to include us in your will.
- 5 Notify Us:** If you feel comfortable, please let us know about your gift. This helps us plan for the future and allows us to thank you properly for your kindness.

A Lasting Legacy

By leaving a gift in your Will to Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, you ensure your love for animals continues. Your support helps us provide the care and compassion every animal deserves. Together, we can make a lasting impact, giving more animals the chance to find their forever homes and the love they need to thrive.



Leaving a legacy can help cats like Darwin

Running the Shelter costs over £1.2 million every year, and gifts in Wills are a lifeline that help us continue our work.

Scan the QR below for more information about leaving a gift in your will



Community Fundraising: Can you Run an Event for the Shelter?

At Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, we are profoundly thankful for the incredible support we receive from people in the community that significantly impact on the lives of the animals we care for. Here is just a small selection of those remarkable community fundraising efforts.

The Gavel Lodge's Valentine's Masquerade Ball

The Gavel Lodge hosted a Valentine's Masquerade Ball at the Grand Hotel Gosforth Park Newcastle, raising an impressive £4,000 for us. The event featured a drinks reception, a four-course meal and live entertainment.

Iain Riddell, our Fundraising & Marketing Manager, expressed our gratitude: "We're incredibly thankful for the partnership with The Gavel Lodge and for everyone who helped make the Valentine's Masquerade Ball a success. The funds raised are essential for our ongoing efforts to provide care and shelter for animals in need."

Colin Bowman, a member of The Gavel Lodge and organiser of the event, highlighted the importance of supporting animal welfare. "Supporting the community and giving back, especially to animals who are often our closest companions, is crucial. We're pleased with the event's success and the difference it will make in the lives of many animals. This shows the impact of community efforts towards a common goal."

This event continues a longstanding relationship between the Northumberland Freemasons and our Shelter. They have previously supported our events and donated funds to refit our Shelter van, which is used for vet visits and supermarket donation runs.



Colin and Jill Bowman at the Valentine's Masquerade Ball



The Gavel Lodge raised £4,000 in aid of the Shelter Masquerade Ball

Farne Primary School and Little Seeds Playgroup

The school and playgroup invited Niamh Bell, our Community Fundraising Officer to speak to their students about the Shelter and its animals. Additionally, Little Seeds Playgroup collected a fantastic array of toys and treats. Their warm welcome for Niamh and their kindness and donations are much appreciated.

Incredible Achievement by Owen McCann and Friends

Owen McCann, along with Philip Magee and friends, completed the challenging Three Peaks Challenge and raised £1,007 for the Shelter. Their dedication has not only brought us much-needed funds but we also hope their efforts will inspire others in the community to complete a similar challenge in aid of the Shelter.



Has Owen McCann inspired you to do a challenge event in aid of the Shelter?

The Impact of Community Support

The support from schools, colleges, and community groups is invaluable to Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter. These contributions not only provide essential resources for our animals but also raise awareness about our mission within the community. We are deeply grateful for the kindness and generosity shown by all these groups.

Giving Back to the Community

Our Shelter believes in giving back and supporting the community and, in addition to our rehoming services, we donate surplus food to local food banks, helping animals remain with their families and in their homes.

Research suggests that as little as 10 minutes spent with an animal can reduce stress, which positively improves our overall health. Our Care Home Companions Project takes animals into care homes to help improve the physical, emotional and mental wellbeing of residents.

Our Schools Programme educates children of all ages about animal care, fostering a sense of responsibility and compassion towards animals from a young age.

If you, your friends or a community organisation you're involved with is interested in supporting Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, please email us at fundraising@dogandcatshelter.com.



A visit to Croft Dene Care Home in Wallsend



Surplus food being given to the People's Kitchen to help people keep their dogs at home

Corporate Partnerships – Can Your Business or Workplace Support the Shelter?

At Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, we are incredibly grateful for the unwavering support from our community and we would like to focus on just a small number of our wonderful and generous donors to highlight the significant impact their contributions make.

Herbal Dog Company Partners with Newcastle Dog and Cat Shelter

Our blossoming partnership between the Herbal Dog Company and the Shelter is all about bringing out the best in our furry friends.

Every week, a dedicated team of volunteers from Herbal Dog Co. roll up their sleeves and get stuck in at the Shelter. They're not just in it for the cuddles, although there are plenty of those, these volunteers help create engaging social media content, sharing heartwarming stories of the Shelter's animals and offer simple tips and techniques to overcome common pet health issues. It's all about supporting the Shelter in telling the tales of its delightful residents and helping pet owners everywhere.

In addition to their hands-on support, Herbal Dog Co. also makes a generous monthly donation to the Troubled Tails Appeal, ensuring the Shelter can continue its vital work. This financial backing helps us care for animals in need.

And Herbal Dog Co. also donates its top-notch products to the Shelter, enhancing the well-being of the animals with a range of supplements like calming drops, itchy skin solutions and digestive support.

Gemma Stocks, the Founder of Herbal Dog Co., shared her excitement about the partnership: "We were on the lookout for a way to give back to the community, and the Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter was the perfect match, right in our backyard. The Shelter does such important work transforming the lives of local animals. We're absolutely chuffed to support their efforts with our time, donations, and products. It's a joy to be part of their mission to give every animal a loving home."



Herbal Dog Co. with Major and staff from the Shelter

Exceptional Support from Miller Groundbreaking

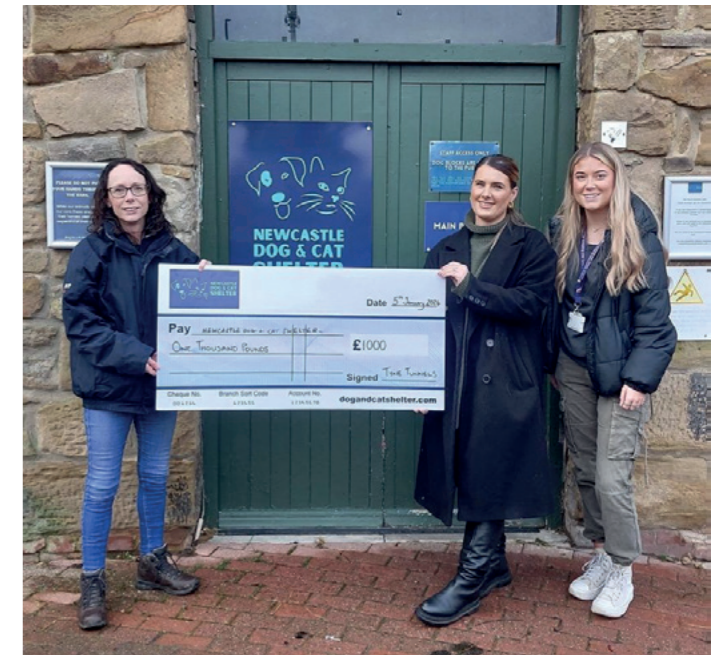
Miller Groundbreaking is a 'cornerstone supporter,' dedicating time and resources throughout the year. Their contributions have included helping with the refurbishment of kennels and carrying out essential repairs on our site. Their efforts culminated in an impressive fundraising total of £2,500, significantly enhancing our capacity to care for animals.

Generous Donation from Tyne Tunnels

Tyne Tunnels chose us as their Charity of the Year, making generous donations totalling £3,115. Their ongoing support has been instrumental in helping us maintain and improve our facilities, ensuring a safe and comfortable environment for our animals.

Outstanding Contribution by Brewers Decorator Centres

Brewers Decorator Centres in Newcastle hosted The Big Exhibition in aid of the Shelter, raising an incredible £2,100. Their continuing support helps us maintain and improve our facilities, providing a better environment for our animals.



Tyne Tunnels have made donations totalling £3,115



We extend our deepest gratitude to all of our supporters. Your kindness and generosity make a world of difference to the animals in our care. Together, we can continue to provide care and a loving forever home for animals in need.

Get Involved

By contributing time, resources, or financial support, companies can play a crucial role in supporting animal welfare. For more information, please email us at fundraising@dogandcatshelter.com.



TTM Management with Nellie the office dog

Pawfect Opportunity to Make a Difference at Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter

At Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, we proudly celebrate our volunteers and during National Volunteers' Week, we honoured the tremendous positive impact of both new and long-standing volunteers.

Chris Bray, Chief Executive of Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, said: "We are deeply thankful for the dedication and enthusiasm of all our wonderful volunteers. Their commitment, skills, and passion for our work is absolutely vital. Quite simply, they are an essential part of our team."

Research has consistently shown that interacting with animals can significantly improve human health and wellbeing. This sentiment was echoed by Linda, a dedicated volunteer, who shared her experience: "I have always loved animals right from when I was born, and I have had animals all my life. I just wanted to get involved with helping animals because of what they have been through in the past which is some horrendous situations. It is lovely to be able to

come in and take them out of their shells and make them happy, make yourself happy when you see them happy until they get rehomed again. Walking, exercise, fresh air, it is all beneficial to your wellbeing working with the animals - they are giving you something and you are giving them something."

A significant milestone this year was the appointment of Wendy McGauley as our new Volunteer Manager.

Made possible by generous funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund via North Tyneside Council and administered by VODA, Wendy has already been instrumental in strengthening volunteer engagement, recruiting and supporting additional volunteers from the local community.

Caroline Donaldson, Community Partnership Advisor, North Tyneside Council, expressed her support: "We are delighted to support a brilliant, local charity to expand their services and build on the already fantastic work they do for the animals of our borough."



Wendy with Ben the lurcher

Wendy McGauley, our Volunteer Manager, shared her thoughts: "It's a pleasure to join Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter and support our incredible volunteers. On an average week, our volunteers collectively contribute almost 200 hours of their time. Volunteering can transform lives, and our volunteers are crucial to our daily operations and our future.

"Everyone at the Shelter is looking forward to welcoming and supporting new volunteers from the local community. There are many opportunities available, from animal care and rehoming admin to maintenance, retail, and fundraising, so there is a role to suit everyone!"

Each member of the Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter team is committed to ensuring every animal receives the care and love they deserve while working towards finding them loving forever homes. We rely on the support of volunteers and donors to continue our vital work and receive no statutory Government funding.

To find out more about current volunteer opportunities, please visit our Shelter's website.



TTM Management saying hello to our farm animals

Corporate Volunteering Days at the Shelter

We are excited to offer corporate volunteering opportunities that allow businesses to make a tangible impact. We have a calendar on our website that allows businesses to book a day at the Shelter for their team and we ask that they raise a minimum of £200. The day involves helping with tasks such as painting and gardening with the support of our maintenance team.

TTM Management's Heartwarming Day with Us

TTM Management recently spent a day volunteering at Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter. They raised £200 from their community and helped set up the Shelter's shop for Barktoberfest. Their team also contributed by gardening, tidying, assisting our staff, and, of course, spending time with our adorable animals!

Corporate volunteering not only supports the Shelter but also provides a fantastic team-building experience for businesses. It's a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community while fostering teamwork and morale within your organisation.

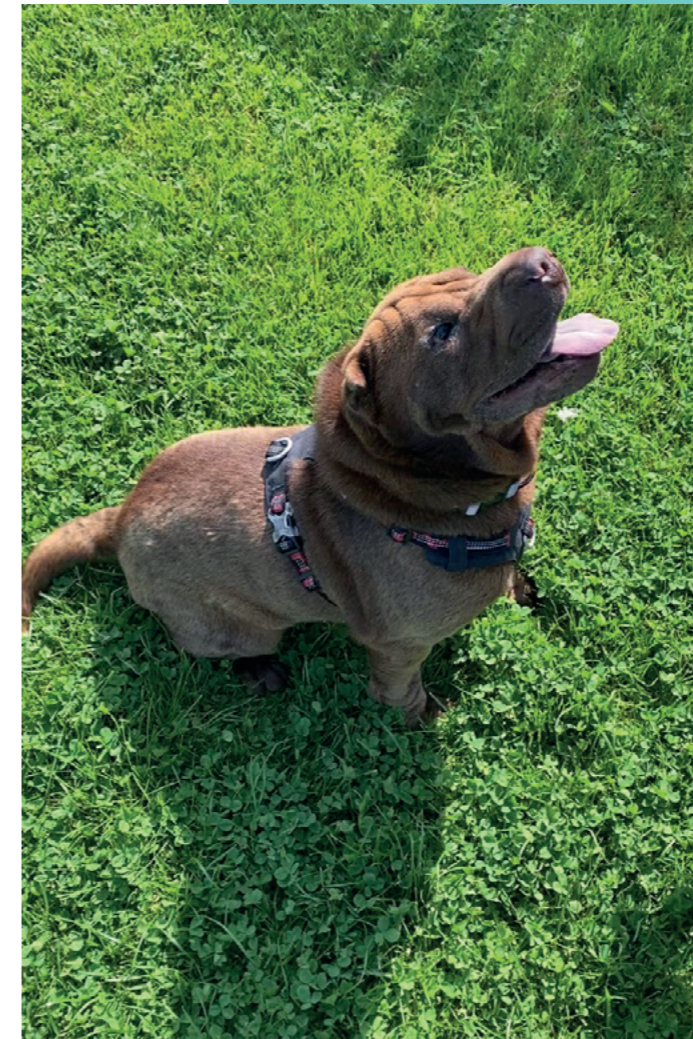


Pets Foundation awarded £10,000 to the Shelter to support its vet bills

Terrific Support From Trusts & Foundations

At Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, the generous support from Trusts and Foundations plays a vital role in our ability to continue both our essential maintenance work and the ongoing services that directly impact the lives of countless animals in need.

We are truly grateful to the Pets Foundation for their incredibly generous donation of £10,000. This funding will be instrumental in covering the costs of vital veterinary treatments for the animals in our care, ensuring they continue to receive the medical attention they need to live healthy and happy lives.



Yoko enjoying the sunshine after being signed off by the vet

With the help of the Pets foundation grant, we have been able to provide the treatment that Yoko desperately needed



Yoko receiving treatment for her chronic eye condition.

Amy Angus, Head of Charity and Community at the Pets Foundation said: "We are thrilled to award Newcastle Dog and Cat Shelter with a grant of £10,000 towards their vital work in providing veterinary care for animals in need. This funding will make a significant difference in the lives of countless animals, and we are proud to support their continued dedication to animal welfare."

One dog in particular that this grant has helped with is the lovely Yoko, our 8 year old Shar-pei, who has been with us since April 2024. When Yoko arrived into our care, she was suffering from a mild skin condition alongside chronic eye and ear issues which would require extensive vet treatments and operations. With the help of the Pets foundation grant, we have been able to provide the treatment that Yoko desperately needed and she is now pain free and on the road to recovery to start a new life in her forever home.

Many thanks to the following Trusts and Foundations for supporting Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter:

ADCH Cost of Living Emergency Fund, Awards for All
 Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust, Mars Food Fund – ADCH, Michael & Shirley Hunt Charitable Trust, Pets Foundation, RW Mann Trust, The Audrey Emma Lamb Trust, The Beryl Evetts and Robert Luff Animal Welfare Trust Limited, The Gallimore Trust, The Lord Barnby Foundation. The Oldhurst Trust. The Walker 597 Trust, Voda Large Capital Grant, Voda Medium Grant 1-10K, Waggel - Second Chance Grants



Can you help more animals like Milo, Ruby, Coal, Flame or Timmy?

Your donations make a huge difference to all the animals in our care. Thank you for considering a donation to Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter - it really means a lot. There are several ways you can donate...



Online

Scan the QR code or visit www.dogandcatshelter.com/donate

You can donate a single amount or set up a monthly donation on a secure form.



By phone

0191 215 0435

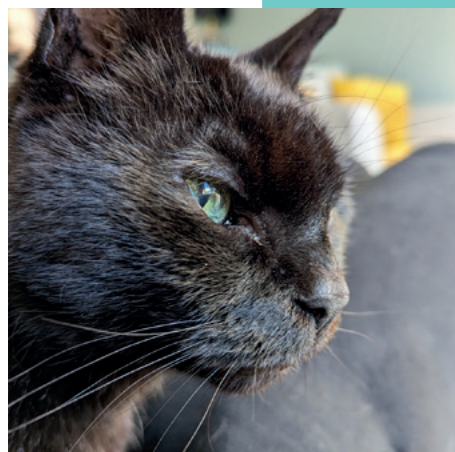
A member of our team will be happy to speak to you to take your donation over the phone.



By post

Newcastle Dog and Cat Shelter, Benton North Farm, Benton Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 8EH

Complete the form on the next page to make a donation by cheque or by standing order and return to the above address.



Please complete this form to donate by post.

Charity Reg No: 1201840

Title: _____ First name: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Donation type:

- I would like to make a **one-off** donation
Please make cheques payable to 'Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter', and return it to Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, North Benton Farm, Benton Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 8EH.
- I would like to make a **regular** gift
You can set up a direct debit on our Shelter website by scanning the QR code below, or please call us and a member of the team will help set up your donation.
- I would like to receive the **shelter eNewsletter**
You can sign up to the Shelter eNewsletter here, or alternatively please return the form above and we will ensure you are added.

Gift Aid Declaration (Your donation is worth more to us if you Gift Aid it)

- I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter.
I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. *giftaid it*

Signature: _____ Name: _____ Date: _____

Please notify Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter if you: • Want to cancel this declaration • Change your name or home address • No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains
If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.



Please scan the QR code below to set up a Regular Donation on the Shelter website:

If you are unable to use our online donation form please give our team a call on 0191 215 0435 and they will be happy to help.



GDPR & You. We'd like to keep in touch.

If you are happy with how we currently get in touch you do not need to do anything. If you would like to change the way that we communicate with you please look carefully at the options listed. We take data seriously. The Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter Privacy Policy is available online at: <https://www.dogandcatshelter.com/privacy-policy/>

Please tick if you are happy to receive information by

email: (please leave your email address below)

Please tick if you DO NOT want to receive information by

post phone

Please return in the envelope provided or to Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, Benton North Farm, Benton Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 8EH

Whats on?

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 7th Sept '24 | 12th/13th Sept '24 | 24th Sept '24 | 7th Dec '24 | 25th Jan '25 |
| Junior Great North Run* | Whisky Indy Love Fest | Close House Golf Day | Shelter Christmas Market | Burns Night Dinner |

*Adult Great North Run is SOLD OUT

For more information about our upcoming events please head over to: www.dogandcatshelter.com/events

Saving lives across the North East since 1896, thanks to our supporters

We extend our deepest gratitude to all our amazing supporters. Your kindness and generosity make a world of difference to our animals. Together, we can continue to provide care and a loving forever home to animals in need.

For more information on how you can support Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, please reach out to us at fundraising@dogandcatshelter.com. Thank you for being a part of our journey and helping us make a difference.



Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter

Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter, Benton North Farm, Benton Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 8EH

Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter Shops

Four Lane Ends Charity Shop - 341 Benton Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE7 7EE Tel: 0191 429 0370

Wallsend Charity Shop - 147-149 Wallsend High Street, Wallsend, NE28 7RL Tel: 0191 263 7664

Email info@dogandcatshelter.com | Website www.dogandcatshelter.com | Tel 0191 215 0435

Find us on: @Dog_Cat_NCLE | @newcastledogandcatshelter | /newcastle-dog-cat-shelter ncleredogandcatshelter