

Impact Report 2025

**Bristol Animal
Rescue Centre**



Welcome

I am delighted to have been appointed Chair of Trustees and would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I have received.

As we look back on 2025, I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together. This report highlights the dedication of our staff, volunteers, supporters and partners, whose compassion and commitment have helped change the lives of so many animals.

Behind every figure is a story, and this report reflects the care, kindness and second chances made possible by our wonderful community. Thank you for your continued support, we truly couldn't do this without you.

I look forward to everything we can achieve together in 2026.



Ben Davies
Chair of Trustees

Chair of Trustees
Bristol Animal Rescue Centre

Finding Home on the Water

Just before Christmas, a frightened puppy named Joseph arrived at Bristol A.R.C. in a washing basket alongside his sibling. Nervous and overwhelmed by kennel life, he needed time, patience, and reassurance to help him feel safe.

With support from our team and time in foster care, Joseph's confidence began to grow and his gentle, curious personality emerged. Soon, he was ready to find a home of his own.

Now known as Rico, he has found an unusual but perfect match with Tallulah, living aboard a narrowboat and enjoying a life full of adventure.

From watching the world go by from the window to exploring new towpaths, Rico has embraced his new life with confidence.

From a nervous puppy to a much-loved companion, Rico's story is a reminder that every animal deserves the chance to find the right home.



The Reality Behind the Numbers

Animal rescue centres across the country described 2025 as 'their hardest year yet' - and while its difficult to say whether last year topped the challenge charts for Bristol A.R.C., it certainly felt like one for the history books.

By the end of 2025, we had taken in **718 animals**, placing significant pressure on our facilities, staff and resources. Demand for our services was even greater than the number of animals we were able to accommodate, with **167 surrender** enquiries received in May alone – around **1 in every 6** calls to the centre.

At the same time, the wider system is under strain. Over half of the stray dogs we took in went unclaimed, highlighting a worrying trend in responsible pet ownership and the growing number of animals without safe homes.

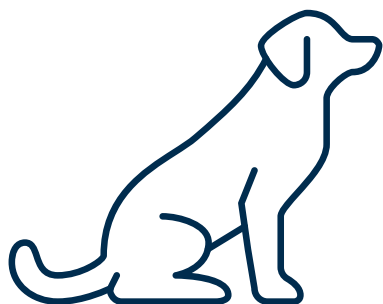
Behind every number is an individual story - an animal in need and an owner facing impossible choices.

While our supporters rallied around us with financial donations, food, and other essential supplies, the steep rise in unavoidable costs, including gas, electricity, water, and staff wages, far outpaced income growth.



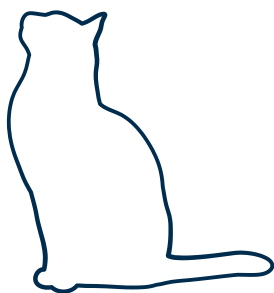
IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

WITH YOUR SUPPORT IN 2025



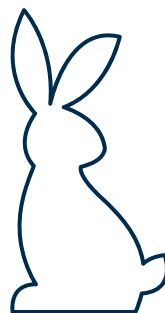
89

dogs rehomed



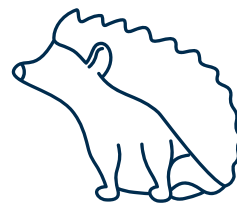
194

cats rehomed



72

small animals
rehomed



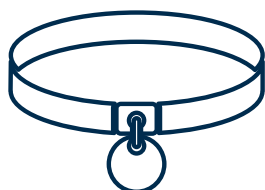
151

wildlife
admissions



51% of intake

consisted of stray
animals arriving
at our centre



155

lost pets
reunited with
their owners



31% of intake

was referred
through the RSPCA
Inspectorate and
National Call Centre



133

animals
fostered



3,804

veterinary
consultations
delivered



919

animals
neutered or
microchipped



23

community
support sessions
delivered



22,284

animal care days
provided

Preventing Crisis Before It Happens

While rescue is vital, prevention is where long-term change happens. In 2025, we expanded our community outreach work by launching our **Community Pet Support Scheme**, helping pet owners during difficult times.

We continued our well-attended veterinary outreach clinics in Knowle West and Lawrence Weston, delivering **1,335** consultations. These sessions provided low-cost veterinary support, advice, and practical guidance to help people keep their pets healthy and well cared for.

In addition, we worked with community partners to provide pet welfare advice and free pet food in Hartcliffe and Withywood, helping families stay together during challenging times.

Feedback from pet owners who accessed these services was overwhelmingly positive. Many told us that the support, advice, and practical assistance they received helped them continue caring for their pets during difficult circumstances.



Fostering: Transforming Welfare and Outcomes

In 2025, our fostering programme continued to play a vital role in improving welfare and supporting capacity at our centre.

Since the programme began **101 amazing foster carers** have enabled **237 animals** to benefit from a calm, safe place to recover and prepare for their new homes.

Fostering provides a vital bridge between rescue and rehoming, allowing animals to leave the kennel environment and experience home life. This reduces stress, supports recovery, and improves behavioural and medical assessment. For some animals, foster care is essential to maintaining welfare during treatment and rehabilitation.



Barney

Barney, an 11.5-year-old stray, arrived in December 2025 requiring significant veterinary care, including treatment for infection, chronic dry eye, and mobility issues.

He struggled with frequent eye treatment in the centre, so moved into foster care where he could decompress and continue treatment in a calm home environment. In foster, his infection resolved, he adapted well to care routines, and his affectionate personality began to emerge. He also received further treatment for pain and a benign lump while remaining settled in foster.

Barney was adopted in May 2026 after 101 days in foster care, achieving a successful long-term outcome.

Without our foster network, maintaining this level of welfare and achieving outcomes like Barney's would not be possible.

Week 1



Week 3



Our New CIO Status



Since December 1953, RSPCA Bristol & District Branch (Registered Charity No. 205858) and Bristol Dogs and Cats Home (Registered Charity No. 205858-1), have been operating as linked charities, and since 2018 we have used the working name Bristol Animal Rescue Centre.

We recognised that this was not the clearest position to explain to our supporters, and in December 2025 were pleased to move to a simpler charity legal structure of one active Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Our official charity name is now **RSPCA Bristol and District Branch CIO (Charity No. 1216045)**. Bristol Animal Rescue Centre remains our working name.

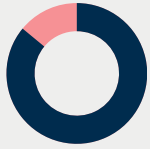
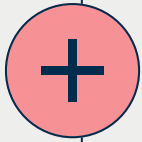
What this means

Our mission and services remain unchanged. We are still here supporting animals and their people across our community. The new structure provides a simpler, more secure legal foundation, while ensuring continuity in everything we do.

We will continue to provide essential services for animals when they need us most.

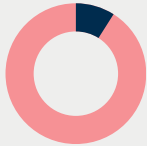
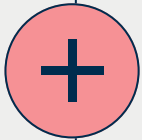
OUR FINANCIAL YEAR

TOTAL INCOME



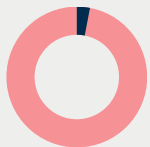
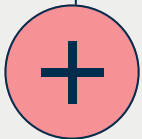
83%

Donations and Legacies



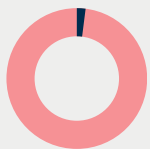
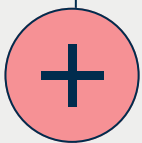
12%

Charitable Activity



3%

Investment Income



2%

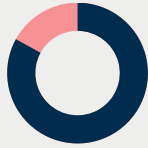
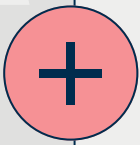
Other Trading Income

You can find our audited accounts and report
on the Charity Commission website:
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission



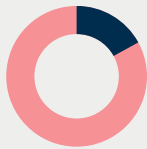
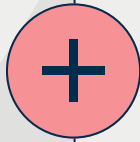
OUR FINANCIAL YEAR

TOTAL EXPENDITURE £



82%

Charitable Activity



18%

Raising Funds

Community Fundraising Highlights



35 runners ran for Team Bristol A.R.C. at the **Great Bristol Run**, raising an incredible **£12,500** between them!



Our lovely friends at **Magic Scissors** raised a fantastic **£1,316** through their annual sale of handmade Christmas cards.



Stepping into the cage for the first time, **Jordan Martin** raised **£1,275** in his first MMA fight - and secured a win!



It was a triumphant return of our **Christmas Fair**, held at Warmley Community Centre, raising over **£4,900**.

Supporting Our Work

The support we received from businesses, trusts and foundations in 2025 has made a direct difference to animals in our care. Every partnership, grant and donation has helped strengthen Bristol A.R.C.'s ability to respond to need across the wider Bristol & District area.

Your backing has supported everything we do, including providing veterinary treatment and behavioural rehabilitation, making improvements to our facilities, extending our community support, and so much more. We are grateful for the confidence you have placed in our work, and for choosing to stand alongside us.

We would like to recognise and thank our Business Patrons, Charity of the Year Partners, and the trusts and foundations that funded our work, as well as the many other businesses that supported Bristol A.R.C. throughout the year.

Our Supporters in 2025

Business Patrons

- PB Design and Developments
- Arm Ltd
- Balloon Lettings Company
- Broadridge
- Inside Travel Group

Corporate Partners

- Pets at Home
- Petplan
- Flexworks HR Consulting
- Left Handed Giant

Charity of the Year

- Hazlewoods
- Tilo Consulting
- AMD Solicitors
- Barcan+Kirby LLP
- Precision Resource Group

Trust and Foundations

- Gerrick Rose Animal Trust
- ShareGift
- The Betty Phillips Charitable Trust
- R G Hills Charitable Trust
- Petplan Charitable Trust
- Valerie White Memorial Trust





Pumpkin Opens Her Eyes to a Brighter Future

Pumpkin was suffering from serious untreated eye conditions that left her in pain and struggling to see the world around her. Like many animals we cared for in 2025, her situation was a direct result of the growing pressures facing pet owners, where access to timely veterinary care isn't always possible.

With expert veterinary treatment, careful monitoring and dedicated support from staff and volunteers, Pumpkin began her journey to recovery. Her progress was gradual but remarkable. As her condition improved, so did her confidence - transforming from a vulnerable, withdrawn cat into one ready to embrace life again.

Pumpkin's story is a powerful reminder of what timely intervention can achieve. Today, she is no longer defined by her condition. She has the chance to live comfortably, see clearly, and enjoy the safety every animal deserves.





← BETTY

Support animals like Betty with a monthly gift to Bristol Animal Rescue Centre.

Visit: bristolarc.org.uk/donate to set up your donation.

Bristol Animal Rescue Centre is the working name for RSPCA
Bristol & District CIO, Registered Charity 1216045

