

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

ANNUAL REVIEW 2022



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BATTERSEA IS HERE
FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT,
AND WE BELIEVE THEY SHOULD HAVE
THE CHANCE TO LIVE
WHERE THEY ARE TREATED WITH
COMPASSION, CARE AND RESPECT.

WELCOME

Looking back at a busy year for Battersea, as we plan for a bright future.

What a year 2022 has been. Battersea has had a very busy twelve months with lots to celebrate along the way, but it certainly wasn't without its challenges and setbacks.

At Battersea, we believe it is important that we look back at the year honestly, taking a moment to appreciate the successes and goals achieved, while also acknowledging the obstacles in our path and what we need to work on to continue to improve next year and beyond.

With the Covid-19 pandemic seemingly finally behind us, we had barely caught our breath before the next national challenge was upon us – the cost of living crisis. With bills increasing and the cost of everyday items soaring, many people have struggled this year. Battersea was by no means immune to the impact of the crisis, but we were fortunate to continue to have the support of so many to ensure we could not only keep taking care of our animals, but also support pet owners and help other rescues.

Throughout the year we sadly saw an increase in the number of animals being brought to us by owners no longer able to afford their dog or cat's care. It's upsetting that so many people have found themselves in such a difficult position, but our staff were always there to reassure owners that their pet would be well cared for. Of course, we want pets to stay with their loving owners if possible, which is why we increased the free advice we offered and began a pet food initiative with FareShare and our friends RSPCA, Dogs Trust and Cats Protection.



Working as a sector didn't stop with pet food plans in 2022. In what was a particularly turbulent year in British politics, Battersea and other charities continued to give a voice to animals undeterred. While Battersea celebrated a win when the Government proposed rental reform that included allowances for pets in rented properties, unfortunately calls for other urgently needed legislative changes, including the long-promised Kept Animals Bill, continued to be ignored.

Our year was not without sorrow. In September we lost Her Majesty The Queen. A

Above left: Battersea Ambassadors Amanda Holden and the late Paul O'Grady attending the royal celebrations.

Above right: Chair Paul Baldwin and Chief Exec Peter Laurie with former Battersea dog Olive.



lifelong animal lover and long-time Battersea supporter, the late Queen visited our staff and animals at our London and Windsor centres while Patron. We will always be grateful for everything Her Majesty did for Battersea and for animal welfare during her long and distinguished reign.

Battersea's long-standing royal patronage is just one strand of our rich heritage, and we were honoured to celebrate our history at a special event at Clarence House, hosted by our Patron, Her Majesty The Queen Camilla. It was a wonderful day, bringing together our

Ambassadors, friends, supporters and of course, some of our special animals, to belatedly mark our 160th anniversary as a charity.

As we prepared to enter 2023 and the final year of our current five-year strategy, we began to plan for Battersea's future. Ahead of creating a new ambitious strategy for 2024 and beyond, we began work this year to put the foundations in place, including developing a Global Programmes strategy to help us increase our impact on dogs and cats around the world, and a large-scale data programme to improve our vital processes and systems.

We know how fortunate we are as a charity to be able to plan for the future at a time when many organisations may be facing an uncertain time ahead. Our ability to continue being here for the dogs and cats that need us is only because of the support we receive from people like you. From the individuals running marathons and the kind people leaving gifts in their Will, to the businesses donating proceeds and the trusts and donors supporting our work, we simply wouldn't be here without you. Please know that all of our animals and people truly appreciate the difference your support makes to the work that we do.

And finally, although the report you are about to read is focused on 2022, it would be remiss of us to thank our supporters without thanking perhaps our greatest supporter of all, the late Paul O'Grady. A staunch animal welfare advocate and beloved Ambassador and friend to Battersea, Paul's passing in March 2023 was a shock to us all. His support for Battersea was unrivalled and his loss is felt every day, but we know that his legacy will live on for many years to come. Thank you, Paul.

And thanks to every one of you.

Peter Laurie
CEO

Paul Baldwin
Chair

OUR PURPOSE

For over 162 years Battersea has been here for every dog and cat, and we always will be.

At Battersea, we aim never to turn away a dog or cat in need of our help, ensuring they receive the best care possible no matter how long it takes to find them a place to live. We believe that they should have the chance to live where they are treated with compassion, care and respect.

All the knowledge we gather in our centres helps us to improve the lives of the animals we'll never meet through our work with other rescue organisations and charities.

We are experts in championing and supporting vulnerable dogs and cats, creating lasting change for animals and those who care for them, wherever they are, for as long as they need us.





CARE

We care wholeheartedly about our mission to be here for every dog and cat, and the work we each do to achieve this.

EXPERTISE

We are experts at what we do, focusing on continual improvement, learning and growing our expertise, so we can all be the best we can be.

DETERMINATION

We stay focused and solve problems to achieve our goals and our mission to be here for every dog and cat.

RESPECT

We treat one another with respect, just as we treat every dog and cat with respect.

INCLUSION

We champion diversity in all its forms so that everyone can be themselves and feel valued and included.

COLLABORATION

We understand that by working together across teams and with our partners, we achieve more for dogs and cats.

AND VALUES

DOING OUR PART

2022 was a difficult year for all of us, but Battersea and our supporters rose to the challenge.



CARING FOR OUR ANIMALS

Staff and volunteers showed great care and determination throughout a year that saw the number of stray animals double, an unusually high number of animals born on site and a considerable increase in dogs and cats with significant behavioural and medical issues in need of our help.



BEING HERE TO HELP

During a year of great uncertainty for so many, we remained steadfast in our mission to support dogs, cats, owners and other organisations caring for animals. Through advice, funding, food banks and much more, in 2022 we were here for every dog and cat, both at our centres and beyond.



USING OUR VOICE

In 2022 our country saw political volatility and long-awaited legislation stall, making campaigning a difficult task. Nevertheless, we persisted, using our platform to call for positive change to make the world a better place for our animals and those who love them.



SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

With the economy in a precarious state and the cost of living on the rise, we needed help from our loyal supporters more than ever. Despite many having to cut costs where they could, people still generously donated and fundraised for our cause, helping us continue our vital work.





1,258 dogs
found loving new
homes



1,819 cats
found loving new
homes



688 volunteers
generously donated
their time

A YEAR IN



323 delegates from
21 countries joined
our Academy



£75,995 raised
by heroic London
Marathon runners



3,450 operations,
an average of 14
every weekday



4 million views
of our free online
pet advice

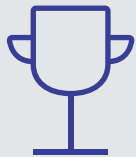


348,981 animals
benefitted from our
worldwide grants



724 dogs and
cats cared for
in foster homes

NUMBERS



6,732 dogs and
people got muddy
to raise funds



1,383 stray animals
taken in – over 500
more than 2021



689 legacies left
to Battersea by
kind supporters

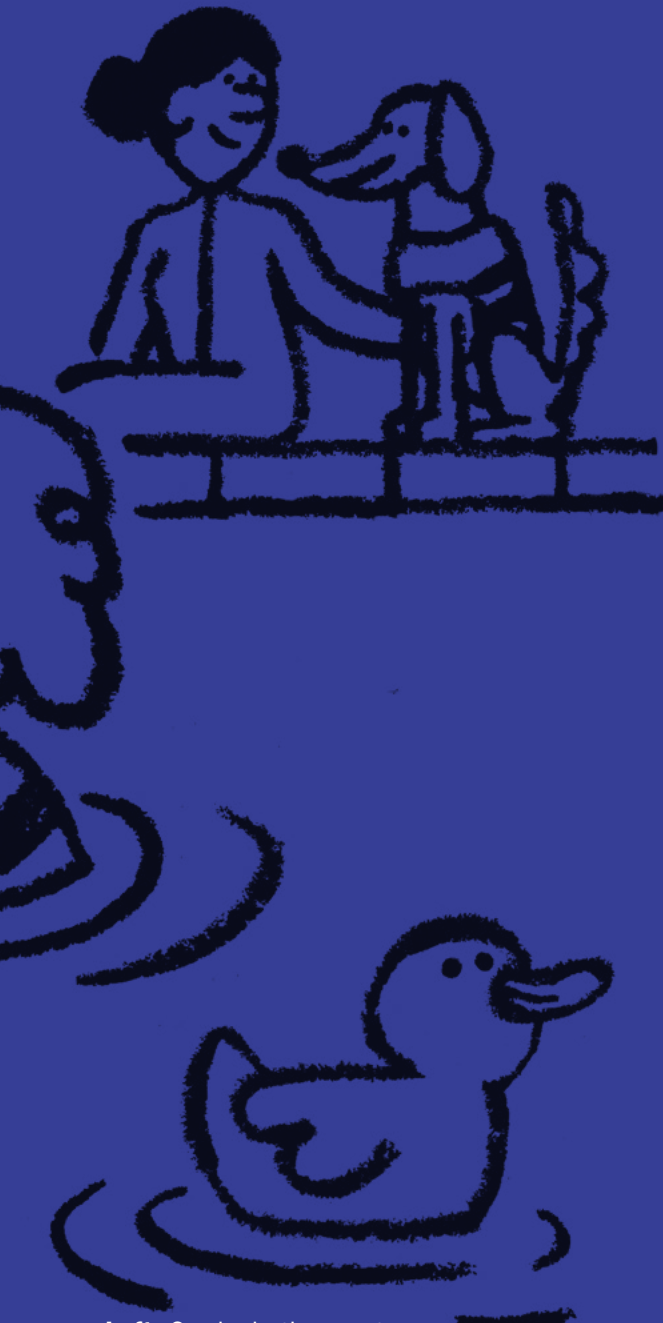
CARING FOR OUR ANIMALS

We are here for every dog and cat, including those we'll never meet. But the animals in our care will always be at the heart of everything we do.



We've had more young cats coming in because owners were surprised with unexpected pregnancies. Many weren't able to neuter their pet during the pandemic.

Bridie **Cattery Manager** ”



Left: Our hydrotherapy team runs 150 to 200 sessions every month to help keep animals happy and active.



Above: Our staff carefully follow intake processes to keep the animals as relaxed as possible.

RESCUE, REHABILITATE AND REHOME

Our dedicated staff and volunteers worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure each of the 4,531 animals that arrived at our gates received the love and expert care they deserved. Among the 2,278 dogs and 2,253 cats we took in were an increasing number of strays. Members of the public and local authorities brought to us 849 stray dogs – twice as many as we saw in 2021, and 534 cats – up almost 20 per cent on the previous year.

It wasn't just an increase in strays that boosted the number of cats in our care this year. The cattery faced a boom in the number of kittens born at Battersea. Due to a suspected decline in people getting their cat neutered while access to vets was restricted, a significant number of pregnant cats were brought to Battersea, and 133 kittens were born.

Sadly the cost of living crisis, like the pandemic before it, had a direct impact on our intake. Throughout the

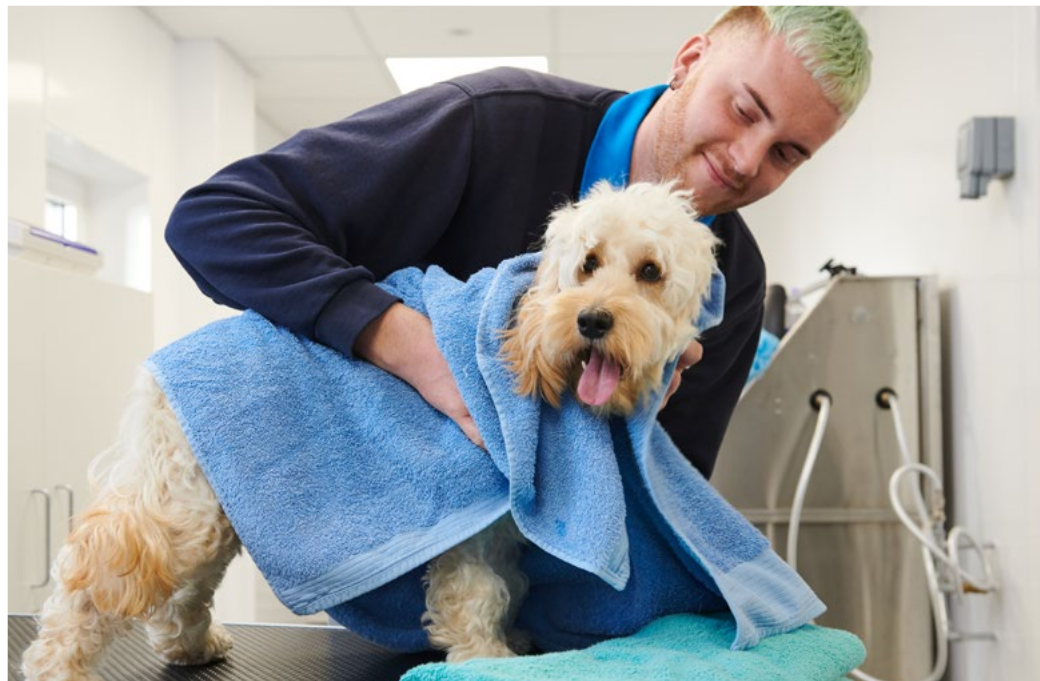


SHIRLEY
INTAKE TEAM

"As difficult as it can be working on the Lost Dogs Line and having those emotionally fraught conversations with owners, it's also incredibly rewarding. While the sad scenarios where an owner calls us and we're unable to find any matches are truly heart-breaking, hearing a customer cry down the phone with relief when we tell them their dog is safe and sound really does make it all worth it. I'm definitely proud to have played my part in this incredible team, helping get missing dogs back to their safe, loving homes."

Right: One of Battersea's residents enjoying the very best grooming care.

Far right: New owners leave our centre after rehoming one of our dogs.



year, approximately one in ten animals were brought to us by owners who could not afford to keep their pets. As the year progressed and the economic crisis worsened, the number of owners struggling was increasing and by the end of 2022, 16 per cent of animals brought into our centres were for financial reasons.

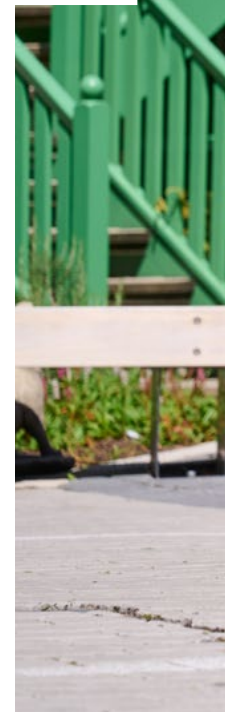
For 162 years we have prided ourselves on helping animals, regardless of their breed, behaviour or medical needs. We maintained our commitment to our aim to never turn an animal away, which was apparent in the number of animals, particularly dogs, coming to us with challenging behaviours. Many of these were given up by owners unable to cope with their pet's reactive behaviour around people or other dogs, in part as a result of the continued fallout from the impact of Covid when many people took on a new pup but couldn't provide the level of training or socialising the dog needed during

their first few months.

Our animal behaviourists developed new tools to help address these behaviours, including the introduction of enhanced assessments for our most challenging dogs. We also made improvements to the ongoing rehoming support we provide to new owners, including offering free and reduced-rate training classes.

With countless hours of training and development, our staff are better equipped than ever to support even the most challenging of cases being brought to us when no one else can help.

On 31 May our newly refurbished Kent building at our London centre was reopened by our President, HRH Prince Michael of Kent. The refurb provided additional kennels, indoor and outdoor exercise areas, grooming rooms and new spaces for potential owners to be





DID YOU KNOW?

The average length of stay at Battersea is 35 days for dogs and 28 for cats.

introduced to a dog or cat looking for a home. The building also features a number of pens and a special rehoming room for our feline residents. All of these changes were made possible thanks to the continued generosity of our supporters.

Our staff witnessed many touching reunions throughout the year, with our team helping 514 missing pets be reunited with their worried owners – a 64 per cent increase on 2021. It was also positive to see a significant decrease in the number of dogs and cats being reported to Battersea as lost, but concerning to still see one in five dogs and three out of every five cats arriving at Battersea's centres without a microchip.

2022 saw rehoming numbers continuing to climb back to pre-pandemic figures. There was a 25 per cent increase in the number of cats rehomed, with 1,819 felines settled in their homes, while 1,258 dogs – a 31 per cent year-on-year increase – walked off into the sunset with their new owners.

Through our staff's determination and collective expertise, we were able to maintain the year-on-year average length of stay of 35 days for our dogs, despite taking in many challenging cases. Our staff worked incredibly hard to get dogs assessed, trained, treated and matched with new owners as efficiently as possible. Over in the cattery, the rates also remained fairly consistent with an average length of 28 days in Battersea's care, up one day since last year.

STRAY INTAKE

2021 2022

30%
of total intake
were strays

70%
of intake were
gifts or other

Dogs

+101%



422
dogs in 2021

849
dogs in 2022

Cats



454
cats in 2021

534
cats in 2022

61%
of strays
were dogs

39%
of strays
were cats

Mave is unrecognisable from the dog that came to us. With enough love and care, dogs can be transformed.

Kaye
Centre Manager ”

IN FOCUS

BRAVE MAVE

Young Mave was found abandoned in a field with four other dogs, and in urgent need of help. Arriving at our Old Windsor centre in a state of neglect with heavily matted fur, the six-month-old pup was very nervous of staff and hid away in her kennel.

During initial behaviour assessments Mave appeared fearful of loud noises or any contact from handlers, so our experts concluded that she had very little previous experience with humans or the outside world. Having encountered this type of behaviour with new arrivals before, staff suspected it was highly likely Mave was an ex-puppy farm dog and had never received the care she needed.

Mave would require considerable support from all our teams to help her prepare for life as a pet. Our behaviour experts put a unique training plan in place, spending weeks slowly teaching Mave to be brave and allow humans to touch her when needed and to stay calm around everyday noises. Our Clinic team built up trust with the nervous pup until they were able to bring her in for dental surgery and neutering, and our kennel team were on hand to slowly get her used to being handled by people. The rehoming team knew that because of her history, Mave would need experienced owners with the time and patience to commit to the care and ongoing training she would need.

Mave was rehomed to an experienced family in Berkshire who understood that their new pet had had a tough start in life and were more than happy to take things at Mave's pace. With her new family's consistent love and care, Mave has since found a new lease of life.

Left: Mave feeling at home with her new owner Bonnie.



IN FOCUS

CHRISTMAS CAME EARLY

Snowflake, a petite and friendly nine-month-old cat, found herself at Battersea when her owner was unable to afford the cost of looking after her and her unexpected litter of kittens.

The young cat arrived at our London centre with her two-week-old kittens, Spruce, Fir, Pine, and Poinsettia in September. The small family were sent to stay with one of Battersea's dedicated foster carers where they could be cared for, socialised and learn how to be pet cats, before all being neutered to avoid history repeating itself.

While Snowflake enjoyed the comforts of her foster home, she struggled with being such a young mum. Her kittens were brought back to Battersea's London centre to give her a little break and prepare the kittens for rehoming.

Back in the care of Battersea's expert cattery team, the kittens were initially a little shy and wary of people. Skilled staff and dedicated volunteers devoted time each day to building up the kittens' confidence with supervised games and regular interactions until they were bright and playful little cats.

Fir became a bundle of energy who adored her play tunnel, and little Poinsettia was obsessed with wrestling her knitted mice, much to the amusement of her carers. Their brother Spruce was more of a sensitive soul, but he soon forgot his nerves when offered a string toy to play with. Pine was the most reserved of his siblings and liked to spend time alone watching the world go by from the window.

The commitment of the cattery team paid off, and the kittens were soon ready to each go to loving homes that suited their unique personalities.



Above: Fir and Pine before going to their new homes.

Right: Hand rearing is vital for our youngest and most vulnerable cats.



171 PUPPIES AND KITTENS
WERE BORN AT BATTERSEA IN 2022;
MORE THAN DOUBLE
THE 61 WE SAW IN 2021.
EACH NEEDED ROUND-THE-CLOCK
ATTENTION AND CARE
TO GET THE BEST START IN LIFE.



DID YOU KNOW?

Battersea's working animals have gone on to thrive in a wide variety of roles, from hospital cats and therapy dogs, pest control cats and sniffer dogs, to a Covid-detection dog and our most famous working animal, Larry, Chief Mouser at Number 10.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

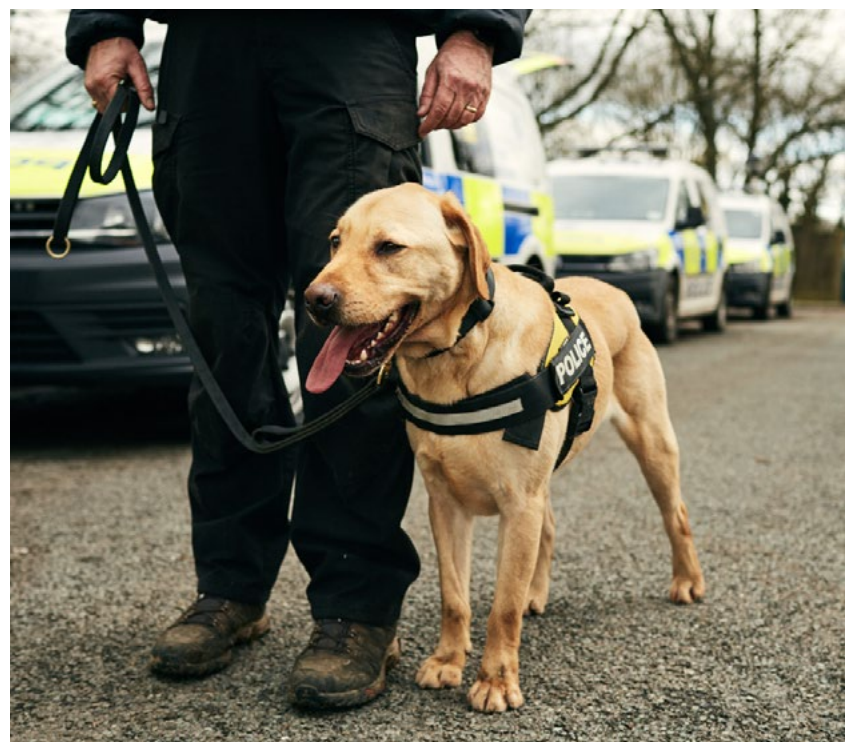
The Animal Partnerships team worked closely with 33 partners throughout the year, arranging for dogs and cats to be brought to Battersea's centres where they could receive specialist care or help ease the demand on smaller organisations. During 2022 the team was responsible for bringing 109 dogs and 69 cats from across the country, including a cat and her three kittens who travelled over 200 miles from Yorkshire. The team also worked with a number of other organisations to find special homes for some of our animals with more complex needs, including rural outlets for 88 cats and placements for nine working dogs.

Our Clinic team also worked closely with a number of partners across the year, providing crucial veterinary support to other animal welfare organisations that do not necessarily have the same level of resources, or in some cases specific specialist knowledge, as Battersea. By the end of 2022, 109 dogs and cats had been referred to our veterinary hospital from our friends at Blue Cross, RSPCA and Street Vet.

Top: An outlet cat enjoying the life of an intrepid explorer.

Bottom left: A former Battersea dog now working with the police.

Bottom right: Finding the right kind of home for Cooper has allowed his adventurous spirit to shine through.



IN FOCUS

SUPER COOPER

One-year-old Siberian Husky Cooper arrived at Battersea Old Windsor's gates as a stray, having been found wandering around Guildford with a chain lead on.

After a couple of days, it had become apparent to his Battersea carers that Cooper was neither house-trained nor used to handling. Being a bouncy young dog still navigating adolescence, he was also in need of some general training to help him grow into a well-rounded adult dog.

Once they had gained his trust, the team got to work building up his confidence around other dogs by going out for walks with his on-site friends. Staff and volunteers also made big efforts to get him accustomed to human interactions, helping Cooper make positive associations with general handling and his least favourite activity of all – putting on his harness.

Given Cooper's very specific needs, the team decided to consult one of Battersea's specialist animal partners, Siberian Husky Rescue, to help them find an experienced foster carer who could oversee his ongoing development. With thorough understanding of the breed, former Husky owner Niki was perfectly placed to continue Cooper's training and build up valuable socialisation skills whilst he waited for a permanent home to become available.

The partnership was extremely successful – so much so that after just a few weeks, Niki had completely fallen under the spell of Cooper's baby blue eyes and decided to make him a permanent addition to the family home. The pair have already been on many adventures together.



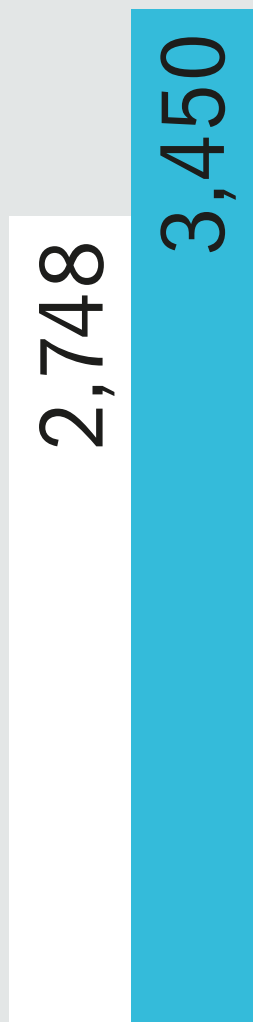
SORREL
ANIMAL
PARTNERSHIPS TEAM

"What I love most about the role is being able to find safe, secure homes for 'working' cats that aren't suited to typical family homes. It's really rewarding knowing that you've been able to help a cat find a new purpose – like assuming the important role of Head Mouse Catcher on a farm. Much like the rest of my team, I'm very much a believer that long-lasting relationships and cross-sector partnerships are invaluable in ensuring we can positively impact the lives of as many animals as possible."



A YEAR IN CLINIC

2021 2022



Total number of surgeries

+25%



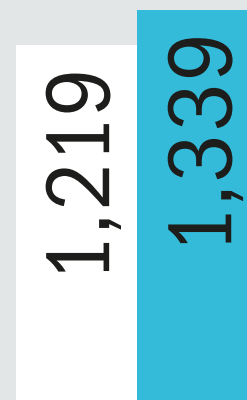
Dog neutering operations

+51%



Cat neutering operations

+139%



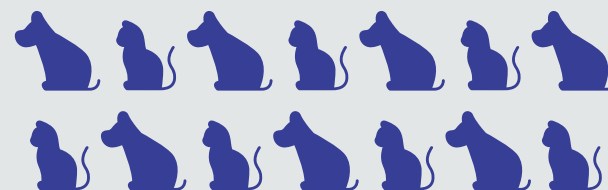
Dental procedures

+9%



Complex BOAS surgeries

+107%



14

Operations every weekday on average

Right: The addition of physiotherapy, including work with lasers (pictured), has made a great difference to Battersea animals and members of the public's pets alike.

MEDICAL MARVELS

As a rescue that takes in animals with a range of medical issues, our veterinary team provides vital care and rehabilitation. Our hydrotherapy services were in demand all year. Thankfully our facilities, generously funded by our supporters, were more than up to the challenge. The hydrotherapy team oversaw an average of 150-200 sessions a month for dogs and even a very small number of cats undergoing medical treatment or weight-loss plans, with others simply enjoying the novel form of enrichment.

To complement the brilliant rehabilitation work of our hydrotherapy centre, specially trained staff began to provide physiotherapy sessions for Battersea dogs and cats, as well as external animals with a medical referral. In its first year of operating, our physio service ran 148 appointments to help animals on their road to recovery.

Having supporters choose to fund our clinical and therapy work makes a huge difference to the work that we do and not only allow us to continually improve and increase the ways that we can treat and help the animals in our care, but also enables us to use our expertise to help more animals we would never otherwise see at Battersea.





Above: Our vets operating in our busy clinic.

Left: Gary and Clare Lapidus with their dog Ella during a special reception.

IN FOCUS

INVALUABLE SUPPORT

Gary and Clare Lapidus first learned about Battersea by watching Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs on television after moving to London. As dog lovers and fans of the show, they started making donations to support our work in 2014.

In 2018, Gary and Clare were ready to add a dog to their home and were introduced to Ella, a bouncy young Shih Tzu cross that had been brought to Battersea. Gary and Clare quickly made her part of their family, then asked how they could help more dogs like Ella.

The Prince Michael of Kent kennels at our London centre were in need of refurbishment and upgrades, including redesigned kennels, clinic rooms and chill out rooms to create a safe, clean and comfortable environment for the dogs in our care. When they were told this, Gary and Clare made a very generous donation to help rebuild the 'Public Kennel' blocks where Ella had once stayed. In May, Ella was there to help open the kennels that now bear her name.

Since then, the Lapidus family has generously supported our clinic by funding the work of our veterinary surgeons. With a multi-year commitment, they have enabled us to complete more operations that cover a wide range of procedures and advanced medical care for dogs and cats in our care; in 2022 alone there were 3,450 surgical procedures.

When asked why they have chosen to support Battersea, Gary replied; "We love dogs and Battersea has a global reputation for leadership in the care of our dog friends."

We are grateful to Gary, Clare and Ella for their continued support that allows us to help so many animals.

FROM THE UNDERDOGS
TO THE TOP CATS,
THE ANIMALS WE SEE ARE
NOT PERFECT
BUT WORTH IT.

IN FOCUS

GETTING ALONG SWIMMINGLY

Young Cane Corso Marvin was given a second chance at a happy and healthy life thanks to the dedicated support of Battersea's expert teams.

Before reaching Battersea, Marvin did not appear to have been treated with the love and care that he deserved. On arrival, it was clear that Marvin had a front limb weakness, causing his paws to sit flat to the ground. After diagnostic tests and advice from specialists, staff identified that Marvin had weak ligaments surrounding his carpal joints. Whilst this wasn't causing him any pain at the time, it was causing difficulties with his walking and immediate treatment would be needed to keep Marvin on his feet as he continued to grow.

To help him gain strength, staff created a bespoke physiotherapy plan to build up muscle and strength in Marvin's legs, and he also began visits to the hydrotherapy centre three times a week. With every session, the young dog was growing stronger and walking more confidently.

To support him on his road to recovery, Marvin was placed with one of Battersea's foster carers, Debbie. In addition to providing Marvin with round-the-clock support, Debbie taught him the essential skills he would need to settle in a new home, including house training and recall commands.

Once Marvin felt at home, he really started to show off his playful side. When he wasn't keeping himself busy chewing on a toy, the mischievous boy was begging Debbie for just one more treat. Gaining confidence as each day passed, Marvin looked forward to meeting new dogs and greeting adoring passers-by at the park.

Tracking his progress with regular clinic check-ups, Battersea's veterinary team were very pleased with how quickly his ligaments had strengthened in such a short amount of time, and felt he was finally ready to go to his new home in London, where he has continued to go from strength to strength.



Left and below:
Young Marvin
taking hydrotherapy
sessions in his stride.



Above: Our hydrotherapy team is there to guide our animals every step (and splash) of the way.

Left: Marvin enjoying home comforts while staying with his foster carer.



DID YOU KNOW?

It's not just our dogs that participate in hydrotherapy. A small number of our cats have also benefitted from sessions after being very carefully assessed for confidence in water.

FOSTERING AT BATTERSEA

742

foster animals in 2022

315

foster animals in 2021

+135%

year-on-year increase
in foster animals

16%

of our animals stay
with a foster carer

194

dog foster carers

115

cat foster carers

74,515 HOURS

volunteered by our foster carers

Being foster carers has given us the opportunity to spend time with dogs and meet so many sweet souls who need a second chance. It's been so rewarding. We would recommend becoming a foster carer to anyone.

**“ Amy and Jack
Foster carers**



TINA
FOSTER CARER

“Fostering cats for Battersea is one of the most rewarding things I've ever done. After our last cat passed away, we were distraught and didn't feel as though we could replace him. So we decided we'd help some less fortunate animals by giving them a temporary home, until they could find loving families of their own. By fostering these past eight years, we've been able to help many cats grow in confidence and go on to new lives in happy homes.”

A HOME FROM HOME

Thanks to the long-term generosity of donors, our kennel blocks and catteries are of the very highest standard, keeping our animals safe and warm for the duration of their time with us. While many of our dogs and cats are content with their temporary residence, others may find the unusual environment unsettling or counter-productive to their recovery or training if they are overcoming medical or behavioural problems. When this happens, our wonderful foster carers are always ready to open their hearts and their homes to some of our most vulnerable animals.

With the support of over 300 foster carers, we were able to send 724 dogs and cats to stay in temporary homes where they could relax away from the sights and sounds of kennel or cattery life, work on their expertly crafted training or treatment plans, or even learn how to

be a pet in a loving home for the first time. An impressive 194 dog foster carers and 115 cat foster carers selflessly volunteered their time to help Battersea's dogs and cats – from puppies born in their kitchen, to elderly cats in need of a little extra care, our foster carers have selflessly devoted their time to them all.

It wasn't just our foster carers offering home comforts to our dogs and cats this year. In September, Battersea's Communities programme was strengthened by the addition of a third Community launching in Basingstoke, alongside the existing hubs in Guildford and Ashford. The dogs and cats chosen to spend time out in a Battersea Community were often in need of a little extra help finding their new home, which is where our dedicated Community Rehoming Volunteers stepped in. Thirty volunteers donated their time to help care for 69 of Battersea's harder-to-rehome dogs and cats.



IN FOCUS

THE WONDER OF FOSTERING

Five-year-old Jack Russell Stevie was brought to our London centre after being found roaming the streets of Guildford with one of his eyes missing and seemingly blind in his remaining eye.

Stevie was suffering with glaucoma, which was causing him considerable discomfort. To ease his pain and distress, our vets made the necessary decision to remove his remaining eye – knowing that this was the best way of ensuring he could go on to live a full, happy life.

After undergoing the major operation at our London clinic, Stevie awoke feeling rather nervous of the world around him.

Thankfully, two of Battersea's foster carers, Amy and Jack, were there to spring into action and help Stevie adapt to his new lifestyle in a home environment. Removing obstacles, hiding away any sharp-edged furniture and offering him plenty of scent and voice signals during his play and training all had a significant effect in helping him regain his confidence.

It took next to no time for him to settle in, loving nothing more than wriggling himself onto their laps for plenty of cuddles and fuss.

When the time came for him to go to his new home in South London after two months in the couple's care, Amy gave Stevie a glowing report; "Once Stevie had developed an understanding of our home, he was strutting around like he owned the place! We made so many special memories with him. It's been so rewarding to see him transform from a nervous dog to such a happy and confident character."

Left: Stevie is now much more confident in the big wide world.

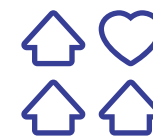
FOSTER CARERS
PROVIDE MORE THAN JUST A HOUSE.
THEY PREPARE DOGS AND CATS
FOR LIFE IN THEIR NEW HOME THROUGH
SOCIALISING, ENRICHMENT,
CARE AND TRAINING,
EVERY SINGLE DAY AND NIGHT.

Ella was our first experience of looking after a dog and the Battersea team had chosen her well for our large, busy family. She became a minor celebrity in the local area, sporting her blue 'looking for a home' coat and always happy to stop for a fuss with people who wanted to hear her story.

“ Debi
Community Rehoming Volunteer



Right: Debi and Ella spreading the word about rescue in their local community and enjoying quality time together.



69 animals found homes through our Communities



IN FOCUS

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Retired racing Greyhound Ella arrived at our Old Windsor centre with no experience of being in a traditional home.

After having routine surgery for an existing medical issue, Ella was sent to stay in a home in our Guildford Community. With round-the-clock support from her Community Rehoming Volunteer, Debi, she was able to learn the vital skills needed to settle in a family home. Her carers helped her with behavioural training and gave her confidence-building exercises, guided by Battersea's experts.

Despite not having much experience with toys in her earlier life, Ella gradually became more confident and loved chasing her tennis balls. Due to her racing past, her foster carer was unsure whether she would have good manners when playing with other dogs, but with a slow introduction, Ella learnt to play nicely with them and loved to explore new parks and green spaces.

After six months of treatment, recovery and care, Ella found a perfect permanent home with a lovely garden that she can zoom around to her heart's content.





BEING HERE TO HELP

During our 162 years, we've weathered our fair share of storms, but our mission to be here for every dog and cat has never wavered.



Left: We're not just here for animals, we're here for owners too. Offering support and advice whenever people need it.

Right: A member of staff with a feline resident at Cheltenham Animal Shelter, a recipient of a Battersea grant for help with the cost of living crisis.



COST OF LIVING

The cost of living crisis has had a direct impact on so many, from owners being unsure if they can continue to afford to feed their pet, to rescue organisations seeing a spike in demand for their services or a sharp decline in much-needed donations. As the year progressed, one in ten animals steadily increased to almost one in five dogs and cats being brought to our centres due to their owners' financial circumstances. Many of these much-loved pets required considerable veterinary treatment that their owners could not afford, placing extra demand on our clinical team.

While we were ready to care for every animal that needed us, we also wanted to help struggling owners and if we could, prevent them ever having to make the heartbreaking decision to give up their pet in the first place.

Aside from vet bills, the biggest challenge many owners were facing was the cost of pet food and whether or not they could continue to cover it as prices to feed themselves soared. Battersea strongly believes that no one should have to choose between feeding themselves or their pet. We set up a pet food project with food waste charity FareShare, alongside Cats Protection, Dogs Trust and RSPCA, to help distribute pet food to owners who may need help. Working together with our long-standing partner Mars Petcare, who generously pledged to donate tens of thousands of meals, and other pet food manufacturers, a sustainable infrastructure was put in place across England and Wales to start putting food into pet bowls via a network of up to 12,000 food banks, community groups and local charities. This vital project will help thousands of owners and their pets for many months to

Right: We're here to help keep pets and owners together during this challenging time.



come, all thanks to the generosity of corporate partners like Mars and Petplan, who kindly covered transportation costs.

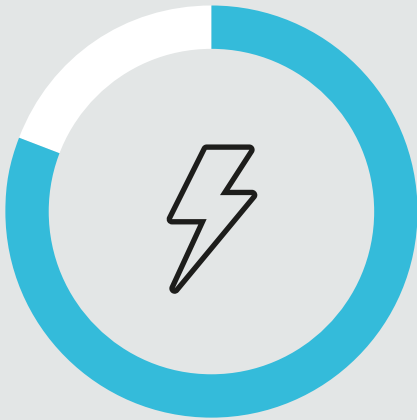
For the thousands of owners who could no longer care for their pet, bringing their beloved dog or cat to a rescue was the best choice. However, by early 2022 hundreds of rescues across the country were reporting huge waiting lists and alarming increases in their operational costs, marking an uncertain future for the sector. As a charity with a value of collaboration at its core, we wanted to share the resources we were fortunate enough to have, thanks to our supporters.

Alongside our work with partners through our regular Grants programme, in October we set up an emergency Grant scheme to provide funding to nine small rescues across the UK, including Feline Friends, Islay Dog Rescue and Cheltenham Animal Shelter. These £10,000 grants helped support the vital work they were doing in their communities to help dogs and cats.

As the economic crisis continues into 2023 and the longer-term impact on the sector begins to unfold, Battersea will remain here to help animals and owners, and share our resources with other rescues to ensure the nation's animals will always have somewhere to go where they will be treated with care and compassion.



COST OF LIVING IMPACT



81%

of rescue centres seeing an increase in energy bills



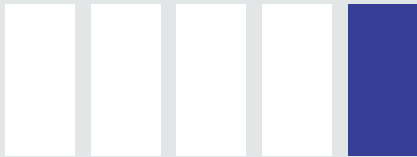
74%

of rescue centres have experienced an increase in food costs



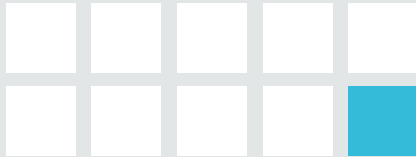
83%

of rescue centres have seen an increase in in-house vet bills



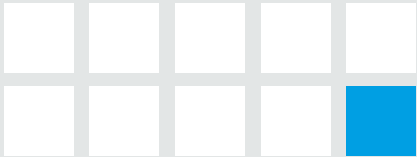
1 IN 5

owners have forgone basics in order to give their pet all it needs



1 IN 10

owners have gone into debt to pay for their pets' needs



1 IN 10

owners are worried they may need to give up their pet

IN FOCUS

OWNERS PAYING A HIGH PRICE

Bubbles the cat found herself at our Old Windsor centre at the grand age of twelve years old. Her owners told Battersea that against the backdrop of the cost of living crisis, they felt unable to meet the day-to-day costs of keeping a pet healthy and happy – especially with childcare outgoings to factor in. With the recent arrival of twins as well as having two older children, the financial strain on them was making it increasingly difficult to meet their beloved pet's needs.

Having owned Bubbles almost all of her life, parting with their pet was an extremely hard decision for the family to make – and not one they took lightly - but by reaching out to Battersea, they were comforted in the knowledge that we would find her a loving new home to meet her needs, where she could spend her golden years.

Despite some initial nervousness, Bubbles soon took cattery life in her stride and it wasn't too long before she was seeking out her favourite thing from everyone she met – lots of chin rubs. Defying the stereotypes associated with older cats, she was affectionately described by her care team as 'bubbly by name and bubbly by nature'. Coupled with her love of cuddles, she soon had the whole team smitten with her.

A few short weeks later, she went off happily to start her retirement with a loving new family in Surrey where she could enjoy chin rubs on demand.

Right: Bubbles the cat settling into cattery life before finding a new home.



DID YOU KNOW?

Since the pet food partnership launched, over 100 tonnes of food have gone out to pets (as of July 2023).



TRAINEE PETS

Our experts are always here to help, and not just with the animals directly in our care. Battersea's canine behaviour team for example, is on hand to provide advice and support to pet owners well beyond the reach of our three centres. Our behaviourists were able to respond to 693 enquiries to our free behaviour advice line, with two in five cases being about dogs that would have otherwise had no contact with Battersea. By the end of 2022, 80 per cent of the cases were resolved to such an extent that the dogs were able to remain in their loving homes. A further 11 per cent resulted in the dogs being given in to Battersea, where they could receive more expert training and specific support.

For those looking to work on their pet's behaviour by themselves, or pick up tips on a specific issue, we provided a whole range of engaging content online – from dog advice videos, cat animations and a wide variety of advice on our website – viewed four million times across the year, with an additional eight million views on pet advice across social media channels.

Our experts also worked with corporate partners to provide specialist advice. Retail business CarStore worked alongside our behaviour team to deliver a better service to any dog owners looking to buy a pet-friendly car. Our staff hosted training sessions for CarStore's advisors to teach them how to interact positively with dogs, read body language and remove any causes of stress to a dog during a visit to one of the company's centres, as well as sharing tips for staff to pass on to their customers.

Left: Our behaviourists working together with CarStore staff.



"Working with the animals that Battersea is known and loved for is amazing – often the dogs can teach you just as much as you teach them. I also love being able to support dogs outside our centres, whether that be helping owners through our behaviour advice line or exchanging knowledge with trainers from other rescues via our Academy. But undoubtedly the best part is seeing a dog you've helped go on to a new home and thrive – it's so heart-warming to know you've played a positive role in that dog's journey."

FROM OUR ANIMALS TO YOURS
WE SHARE EXPERT
PET ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE
SO THAT OWNERS CAN GIVE PETS THE
CARE AND ATTENTION
THEY DESERVE AND NEED.



IN FOCUS

ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY

The Battersea rehoming journey doesn't end once a dog or cat has left our care. We are here to offer our support to pet owners for as long as we're needed, and Battersea's experts provided crucial advice to help Nutmeg the cat's new family.

Four-year-old cat Nutmeg arrived at our London centre when her previous owners could no longer care for her. The cattery proved to be a worrying place for noise-sensitive Nutmeg, so to make her feel happier and more secure during her stay, our feline welfare team and cattery staff devised a special care plan to slowly build up the amount of time spent with her.

Nutmeg showed herself to be a sweet and affectionate cat, but when nerves or frustration got the better of her, she would swipe or nip her carers. With this in mind, our rehoming team matched her with a family experienced with shy cats, who were willing to dedicate the time and patience required to settle her in at her own pace.

When Nutmeg left to start her new life in March, she began to show her frustrated behaviours, swiping and nipping while being stroked, and her family needed help. They called our experts for advice, who listened carefully to the challenges the family were facing before discussing a variety of ways to help lower Nutmeg's frustration levels. Nutmeg's family put the advice into action and with time, patience and support from our experts, Nutmeg became much happier in her surroundings and no longer displayed frustrated behaviour.

Left: Physical and mental enrichment is a vital part of our cats' care.

Right: Our intensive Academy courses include workshops and interactive sessions.

GLOBAL PROGRAMMES

At Battersea we know how fortunate we are to have leading experts, experienced staff and a great number of supporters who understand and fund the work that we do. It is important to us that we share our resources with other rescues and organisations working with dogs and cats, as well as exchanging ideas and experiences so that we may all continue to learn and grow while helping more dogs and cats around the world.

Through our Academy, the learning function of our Global Programmes work, we were able to support 126 different rescues worldwide. Our experts delivered 28 courses to 323 delegates representing 21 countries, each with their own invaluable experiences to share. To make our Academy truly global, in February we launched Academy Online, allowing delegates to learn without having to put their usual responsibilities at their own rescues on hold to attend an on-site course. There is still an opportunity to attend courses at Battersea however, with a new 'applied week' being created for those that might benefit from hands-on learning at one of our centres, with further plans to be rolled out in 2023.





DID YOU KNOW?

Our Global Programmes team aims to help at least 100,000 animals a year by 2024.



Above: Our Academy delegates get to work directly with our animals during their course.

The Grants team had a very busy year, not only delivering an ongoing programme of funding to existing and new grantees, but also responding to unfolding crises in real time, setting up emergency funding schemes for rescues struggling in the cost-of-living crisis in the UK and conflict and turmoil in Ukraine and Sri Lanka, all of which had a detrimental impact on animal welfare in the respective countries.

In total, £4.9 million was awarded through 20 grants to organisations across six countries. This funding supported the important work of other rescues and organisations around the world, helping a combined 348,981 dogs and cats. These include animals in Greece being helped by Zero Stray Pawject, Nine Lives and Animal Action Greece, and animals closer

to home as part of a new UK-specific Grants programme, with Rain Rescue and StreetVet among the recipients this year.

It was only possible to award such significant funding thanks to generous donations from our trust supporters, including The Kennel Club Charitable Trust.

Our grants didn't just support the work of animal welfare organisations, they also continued to fund brilliant research, including a project at the Royal Veterinary College studying the phenomenon of the 'pandemic puppy' and what this means for dog welfare long term.

As we look ahead to 2023, there are a lot of exciting partnerships on the horizon as our Global Programmes team begins to deliver an ambitious new strategy.

When we saw the course offered, we were certain we could learn something, and wow did we learn!

Jax
Woodrock Rescue ”



Above: Academy delegates enjoying the hands-on approach to learning during a day in kennels.

IN FOCUS

LEARNING AROUND THE WORLD

Woodrock Rescue in Pretoria, South Africa, came across the Academy's intensive course online. As a small organisation operating in a very different environment to Battersea, manager Jax and co-founder Stella were keen to see what advice and expertise we could share – from how we use metrics and feed our animals, to the nuts and bolts of centre management. It was also a chance for Woodrock in turn to share their ideas and experiences with Battersea about the processes and techniques that work for them south of the equator.

Each session shared best practice suggestions on different aspects of animal welfare. Whilst some recommendations were easier to incorporate into Woodrock's day-to-day work than others, many of the learnings could be quickly implemented back home. For instance, idea-sharing around kennel management prompted them to use whiteboards outside kennels to indicate any behavioural issues –

helping them protect the safety of staff and better equip them to meet each individual dog's needs.

Woodrock said one of the biggest takeaways that came from the week's course with Battersea was around realistic goal setting. Regarding themselves as one of the leading shelters in South Africa, they left with an enhanced understanding that, to help maintain and grow this status, they would need to adopt a more strategic approach. To achieve this, on returning home they made a commitment to setting goals that they would frequently reassess, as well as piloting programmes to help them stay ahead of the pack.

One of these pilots was their 'home to home' adoption programme, through which they were able to help rehome two Dachshunds, Nina and Neelsie, with minimal disruption to the dogs' lives.

We're proud to collaborate with rescues like Woodrock doing invaluable work, and will continue to share our resources to help many animals beyond our gates, like Nina and Neelsie, get the love and care they deserve.

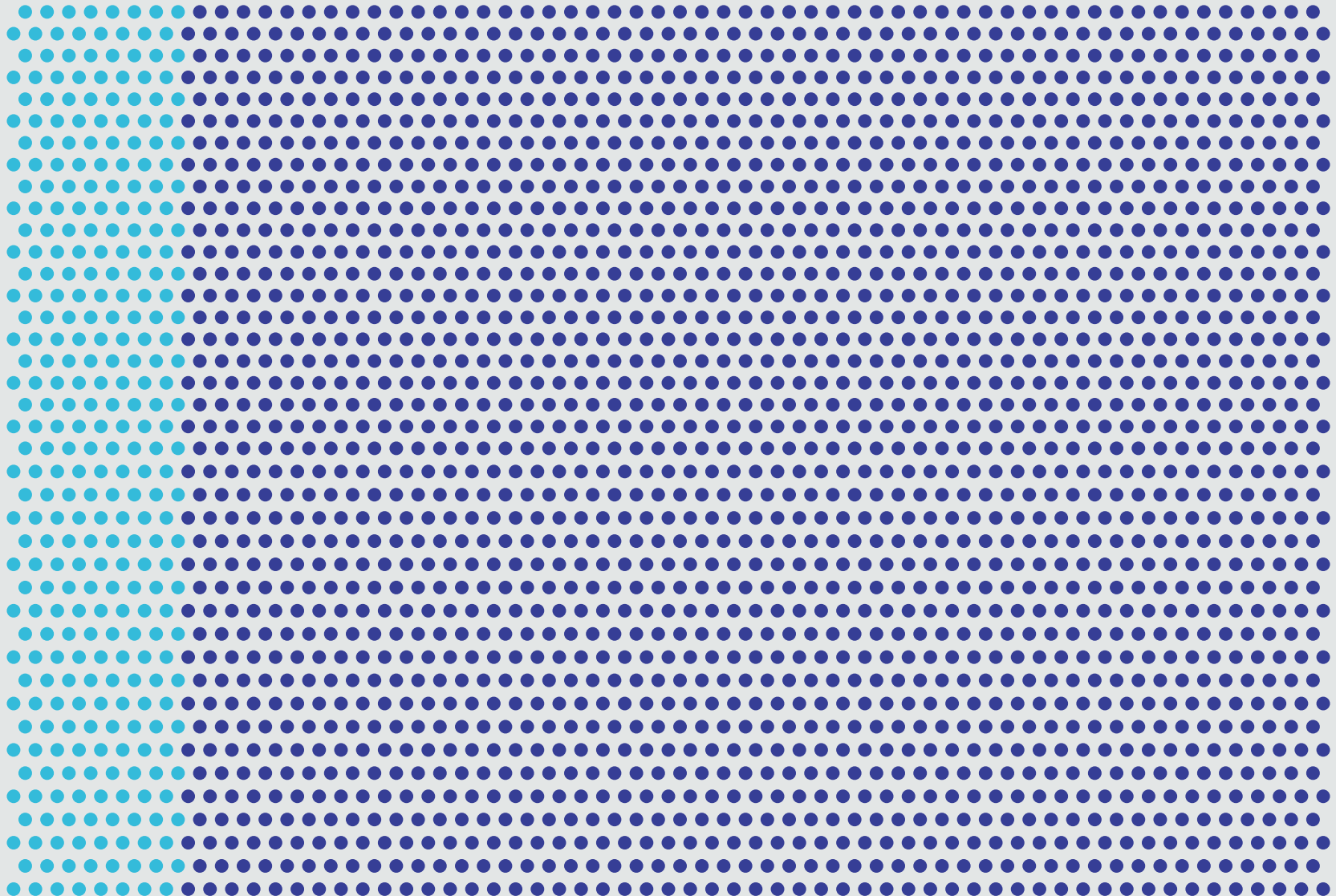
ACADEMY IMPACT

323

Delegates attended

2,105

Animals helped as a result



Right: Sri Lanka is home to millions of street cats and dogs.

IN FOCUS

QUEEN OF CATS

As both the recipient of a strategic grant and an additional emergency grant in response to the turmoil in Sri Lanka, Battersea worked closely with charity Dogstar throughout the year. Despite the charity's name, the work Battersea supported was in fact primarily cat-related. Rani is just one of the many cats that has benefitted from Dogstar's Battersea-funded cat neutering programme.

Mrs Sunanda and her cat Rani, which in Hindi means 'Queen', lived in one of the most remote parts of Negombo, Sri Lanka. Staff from local animal charity Dogstar met Mrs Sunanda whilst hosting outreach activities at a local shop and Mrs Sunanda immediately asked for their help to have her cat neutered. Due to the remote location and dangerous access route to her house, Mrs Sunanda had found it difficult to arrange for Rani to be neutered until now.

Mrs Sunanda and Dogstar arranged a date for volunteers to collect Rani and take her to the clinic. On the day, they found they could only reach the house by crossing a human-made bridge, made from a log across a river. Determined to help Rani and her owner, they took a leap of faith and crossed the river, soon safely returning across it with Rani in tow. Once at the clinic, Rani underwent the simple surgery and recovered well before staff returned her to her grateful owner.



Above: Battersea-funded transport helps staff and volunteers at Dogstar get to animals in need.

IN FOCUS

TECH HELPS TIMMY

Cotswolds Dogs & Cats Home received a Battersea grant at the start of 2022 to upgrade their IT systems and help them fulfil their dreams of becoming fully digital, making all of the administration work around intake, care and rehoming, much more efficient and freeing more time for staff to spend with the animals.

Timmy, a ten-year-old Yorkshire Terrier, came into the rescue's care when a change in circumstance meant his owner could no longer look after him. Soon after arriving, staff noticed Timmy was struggling with a few things. Whilst walking, he struggled on his back legs, causing him to drag them behind him from time to time. His teeth were also decaying and needed urgent treatment. After an initial vet check, Timmy received treatment and pain management for dental disease, an issue with a dislocating knee and osteoarthritis. After six weeks of expert care, he was ready to go to a new home with a special pain relief plan in place to manage his ongoing issues.

Cotswolds credits its new Battersea-funded digital systems with ensuring no time was wasted in diagnosing and treating Timmy's different medical issues, as their vet could now access his medical history and could complete prescriptions without delay. Staff were also able to share any behavioural assessment notes instantly online, saving them time and reducing the amount of time Timmy would need to be with them before he could go on to a new home - where he is reported to be doing very well.



In 2022 our
grants helped
348,981 animals

Bottom: Battersea grants are supporting UK rescues with the rehoming of thousands of animals.



USING OUR VOICE

During a year of economic crisis and political turmoil, it is more important than ever that Battersea speaks out on important issues and demands change.





10,305 people
pledged support for
renters with pets

Left: We used our platform to give animals a voice on a number of issues – from banned breeds and pet theft, to cat microchipping and pet friendly accommodation.

LEADING THE CHARGE

Despite political instability in Parliament, there were still opportunities for Battersea to campaign on serious issues, including the imbalance between pet-owning tenants and the number of pet friendly properties, the injustice of Breed Specific Legislation and the range of welfare improvements promised by the long-awaited Kept Animals Bill.

In a Parliamentary first, dogs were allowed to attend a special reception with 96 Parliamentarians, including Battersea MP Marsha de Cordova and peer Lord Zac Goldsmith, at our campaigning event in May.

While some legislation continued to stall throughout the year, despite pressure across the sector, other campaigning efforts saw real progress. Following proactive activity around our Pet Friendly Properties campaign, the Government unveiled a White Paper on proposed rental reform in July, which included recommendations from Battersea, giving many of our supporters hope that one of the barriers to pet ownership may be removed. With more people owning pets than ever and the cost of living crisis forcing people to consider moving home, this issue is only going to get worse if legislation to protect both landlords and tenants isn't introduced very soon.

It sadly wasn't a year of progress for all bills. After lots of work behind the scenes in 2022, the Kept Animals Bill was withdrawn from Parliament in 2023, meaning the welfare of thousands of animals in the UK and overseas will continue to suffer, including puppies being smuggled into the country, pets being abducted, and dogs with cropped ears being imported from overseas. Battersea will continue to campaign on these issues and many more in 2023 and beyond.

Right: Zeke exploring his new neighbourhood.



IN FOCUS

UNHAPPY BIRTHDAY

Confident young cat Zeke arrived at Battersea just 24 hours before his first birthday. His owners, who had him since he was a kitten, were told by their landlord that they weren't allowed to keep a pet in their rented flat – despite Zeke being a friendly, well-behaved cat. This left them facing the incredibly difficult decision to give up their beloved pet when faced with the harsh realities of trying to find alternative pet-friendly accommodation.

After being separated from his loving owners and the flat he had called home, the tabby found himself in new, unknown surroundings in our cattery. Thankfully, the caring and dedicated team were on hand to ensure Zeke was still able to spend his birthday doing what he enjoys most – curling up on laps and enjoying chin rubs.

Quickly becoming a firm favourite amongst his caregivers, his lovely temperament saw him fly through his assessments. Just six days after arriving, he had already been matched with a loving new family.

Unsurprisingly, he took to his new home like a duck to water, with new owners who adore him. They and Zeke look forward to spending many birthdays together as a family.





Left and below: Young Zeke enjoying lots of fuss and playtime with his loving new owners.



DID YOU KNOW?

One in ten animals are brought to Battersea due to a lack of pet friendly rented accommodation.

IN FOCUS

MILO'S HEARTBREAKING TALE

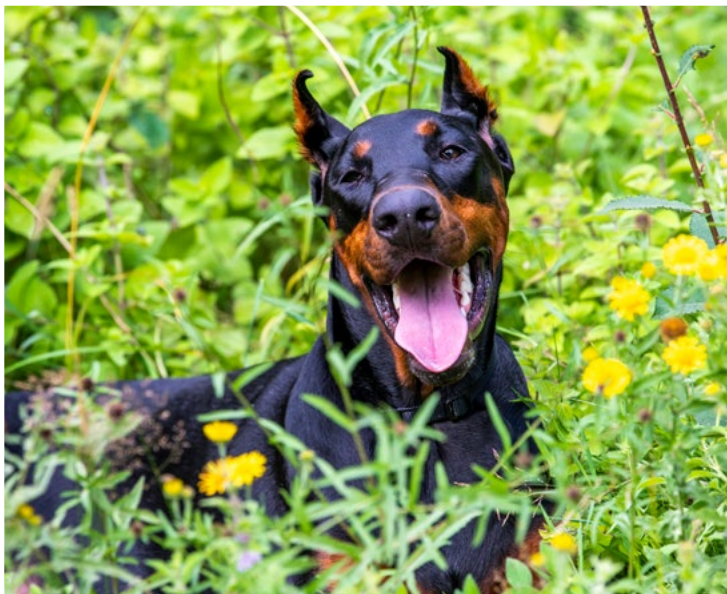
Milo was just six months old when he was brought to Battersea's London centre. In his short life, he had already had his ears cropped and tail docked – both of which have been illegal practices in the UK for some time.

Not only had the young Dobermann clearly been through a great ordeal in his short life, but he was also continuing to suffer as a result of the procedure on his ears. Upon assessing them more closely, our expert veterinary team were shocked to discover that cotton thread rather than surgical stitches had been used to sew his wounded ears closed and furthermore, the person who had done the procedure had neglected to ever remove the stitches, leading to his unclean skin to heal over the thread. Thankfully, Battersea vets were able to repair the damage at our clinic on site.

As a young dog with much to learn still, the Battersea team devoted time to teaching Milo manners and building a positive training foundation to help him grow into the lovely, well-rounded pet they knew he could be once settled.

Despite his difficult start to life, Milo came on in leaps and bounds and has since gone to a loving new home in Kent, where he is “well and truly part of the family” and enjoys the company of his ‘brother’ and role model – a fellow Dobermann.

If brought about sooner, the Kept Animals Bill may have protected innocent dogs like Milo. Battersea will keep campaigning for those in power to better protect our animals until we can see real positive change.



Left: Milo enjoying his new local green spaces.

Below: Milo is all grown up now, living a happy life with owner Grace.



NO ANIMAL
SHOULD STILL BE SUFFERING.
WE WON'T STOP UNTIL
ALL ANIMALS
ARE PROTECTED FROM HARM.

SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

When we say we couldn't do what we do without our supporters, we truly mean it. From our volunteers and fundraisers to our donors and partners, we thank you.



Being a kennel volunteer is the next best thing to owning a dog. Time is precious, but even volunteering for a few hours brings a lot to your life.

Michelle
Kennel Support Volunteer

OUR VOLUNTEERS

With the last of the Covid-19 restrictions lifted and operational work returning to pre-pandemic levels, we gladly welcomed our volunteers back on site. Between those helping at our centres and from their own homes, our 688 volunteers dedicated 113,328 hours to supporting the work of Battersea. Our 70 volunteers in non-animal-facing roles, including admin, fundraising support and archiving, gave over 3,000 hours of their time to making Battersea a better place.

From foster carers and Communities volunteers, to those keeping our cats company, playing fetch with our dogs, supporting our office staff and maintaining lovely green spaces, our volunteers did a brilliant job in 2022.

We are incredibly proud of all of our volunteers, and we were glad to see they felt the same way, with the first ever joint staff and volunteer survey finding 98 per cent of people felt proud to say they volunteered at Battersea. Through continued investment in our volunteering programme, we aim to maintain a strong relationship with all those who volunteer with us, ensuring they benefit from the experience as much as our animals and staff do.



DAVID
ARCHIVIST

"For the last three years I have volunteered once a week with my two Pugs, Mozart and Clara, assisting me. My advice to anyone considering volunteering is to just 'go for it'. Not only do you get back so much more than you put in, it's a really special feeling knowing that you're actively adding to the story of Battersea."

Left: From Stansted to Leeds – 6,732 supporters and their dogs took on our Muddy Dog Challenge to raise funds for Battersea.



OUR FUNDRAISERS

We are only able to offer our world-class care and expertise because of the generosity of others - from our regular donors and lottery players, to those who go the extra mile to fundraise and support our ongoing mission to help thousands of animals each year.

Our flagship fundraising event, Muddy Dog Challenge, saw thousands of Battersea supporters, new and old, sign up to get their hands or paws dirty for a good cause. The most popular event of the year was at a new location in the New Forest, with over 800 participants on the day raising almost £80,000.

Proving our supporters aren't afraid of a physical challenge, we were overwhelmed by the number of people wanting to run the London Marathon for our dogs and cats, with over 500 people vying for one of the 50 coveted spots this year, ultimately raising £75,995 between them. Taking things at a slower but no less impressive pace were the 228 people who took part in our Walk for Rescue challenge to raise £11,854.

Some of our fundraisers decided to challenge themselves in their own way, with 1,409 people opting for 'do your own thing' style fundraising, including nine brave people who skydived for every dog and cat, while others chose something less risky and bought tickets to one of our events, including our most popular Christmas Carol Concert yet.

Top left: One of our volunteers with the very important job of caring for a special guest at the Carol Concert.

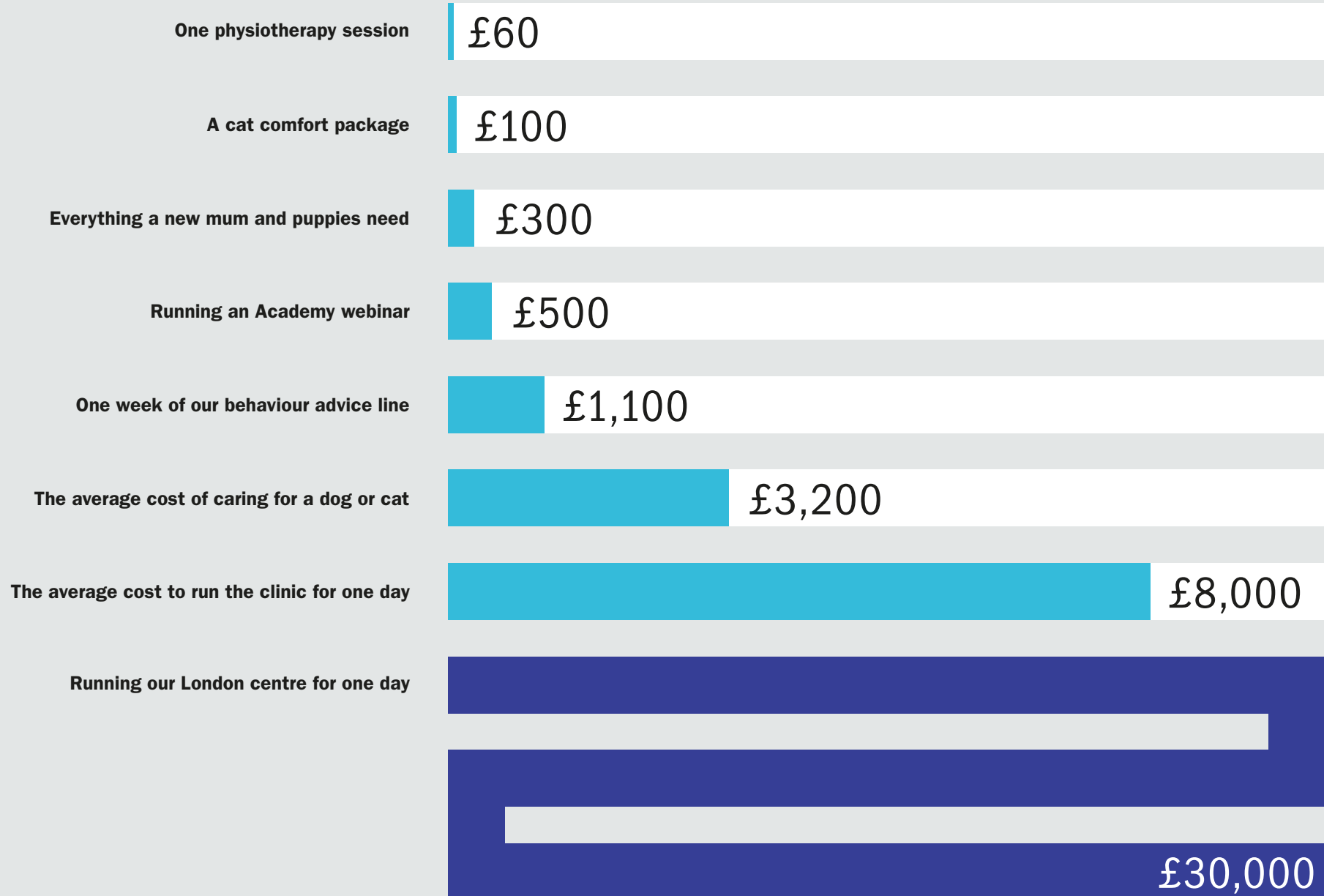
Bottom left: Our supporters will go to great lengths to raise money for our animals.



LAURA
FUNDRAISER

"The support I received from Battersea from the moment I told them my plans was incredible. It felt like Battersea was with me every step of the way and remained with me on my journey to this day. I will be forever grateful for the support Battersea has given me, and I want to thank them for being there in one of the most challenging and difficult times of my life."

THE COST OF CARE



Having rescue dogs myself, taking part in the Muddy Dog Challenge and supporting Battersea in any way that I could was really important to me, and I can't recommend this event enough.



Lavinia
Muddy Dog Participant

IN FOCUS

MUDDY DUO

One muddy pair taking on the obstacles this year was Stuart and his two-year-old French Pointer, Pepe. After suffering from a heart attack in 2021, Stuart started running as part of his rehabilitation and decided to team up with some friends and their faithful companions to take on the mud. Little did he know, Pepe would be his biggest support and the two would bond through their intensive training programme together.

Stuart said: "This was my first time taking part in the Muddy Dog Challenge and I loved having Pepe by my side. Pepe and I trained three times per week in the lead up to the challenge and it has helped us both so much - Pepe has even been using hay bales as obstacles in the fields where we have been training and he will now launch himself on them as soon as he sees one!"

The dedication of participants like Stuart and Pepe help Battersea's staff provide love and care for the thousands of dogs and cats every year that come through their gates.





WHAT IS MUDDY DOG CHALLENGE?

A fun obstacle course that you can take on with your dog by your side, following either a 2.5km or 5km course filled with challenges and of course, lots of mud. With different locations to choose from, people and their pets from across the country sign up to support Battersea.



Above and left: Participants getting stuck in for a good cause.

Far left: Stuart and Pepe before getting muddy for Battersea.

OUR DONORS

As our organisation began to see activity returning to pre-pandemic levels, our fundraising was no exception. With face-to-face fundraising back up and running, we were able to welcome 54,000 new regular givers, joining a wonderful community of over 200,000 regular supporters.

To engage further audiences in the work that we do, including providing pet advice and volunteer opportunities, we joined with several corporate partners for activity throughout the year, including Ernst & Young, X-Flow and CarStore.

Our total fundraising income of £29.7 million was thanks to so many wonderful people giving money to Battersea throughout the year. Some of those people were those who had kindly included Battersea in their Will. During 2022, the team received 689 new notifications that a Legacy had been left to Battersea to support our ongoing work and we're incredibly honoured that so many people want to support our work in that way.

There was a lot to be celebrated in 2022, in no small part thanks to our Patron and Ambassadors. We were honoured to be part of a garden party at Clarence House hosted by our Royal Patron, the then Duchess of Cornwall, to belatedly celebrate our 160th anniversary. Battersea staff, trustees, Ambassadors and perhaps most importantly of all, our animals, were all in attendance. The event was not only a chance to celebrate Battersea's long, colourful history and the royal patronage it has been fortunate enough to receive, but also an opportunity to thank some of our supporters for all of the help they have given to Battersea and the many animals we have cared for.



Above: Her Majesty The Queen Camilla meeting Battersea's guests of honour at a special reception at Clarence House.

Right: A pair of sighthounds enjoying playtime in an exercise paddock.



IN FOCUS

A DECADE OF SUPPORT

The Gerrick Rose Animal Trust is among Battersea's longest-standing donors, having gifted almost half a million pounds to our charity since they first began supporting us in 2012.

In 2022, ten years after their first gift, the Trust donated an incredible £35,000 towards a specific project: the construction of a valuable addition to our Old Windsor facilities – a specialist paddock for the sighthounds in our care.

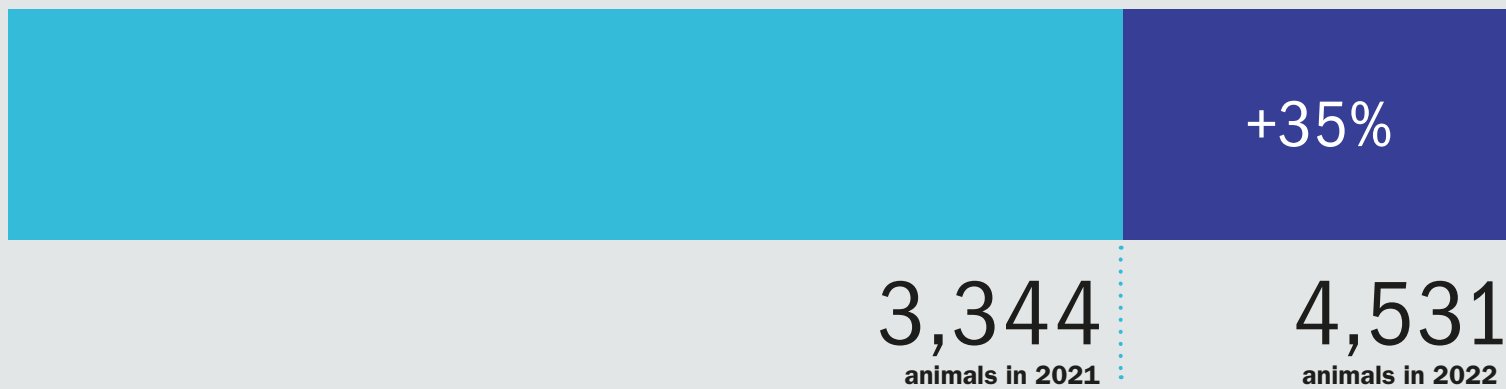
One of the many sighthounds to have benefitted from this generosity was two-year-old Lurcher, Panther. Arriving as a stray after being picked up by local dog wardens in Wokingham, this young girl spent many a happy day burning off her boundless energy in this enclosed sanctuary until she was ready to be rehomed.

This exercise area is far from the only thing the Gerrick Rose Animal Trust's kind and ongoing funding has enabled Battersea to deliver. From donating £340,000 for the creation of a specialist maternity unit in our Duchess of Cornwall kennels at our Old Windsor centre, to donating funds to support Battersea's work during the pandemic, their unwavering generosity is directly responsible for improving the lives of so many dogs and cats in need.

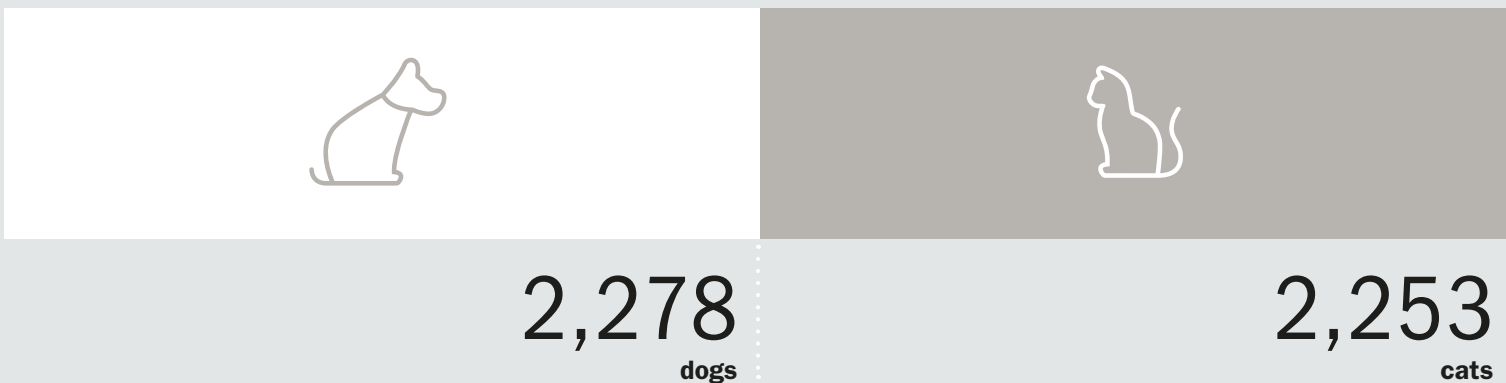


INTAKE AT BATTERSEA

Total intake



Animal split



Centre split



LEXI'S LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY

Two-year-old Golden Retriever Lexi was a lovable soul who captured hearts and minds during her considerable time in Battersea's care.

Whilst conducting initial medical checks, Battersea's veterinary experts noticed that Lexi was walking with a limp in her left hind leg. Although she didn't seem to be suffering or in any pain, she was unable to extend her leg normally and had lost lots of muscle mass around the area.

An X-ray later and it was discovered that Lexi had previously dislocated her hip following an accident, with her joint 'popping out' every time she went for a walk. The dislocation could no longer be resolved at this point and surgical intervention was required.

After reaching out to Battersea's wider network of veterinary experts and consulting with Matthew Pead – charity Trustee and Head of Small Animal Orthopaedics at the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) – it was decided that the best course of action would be to replace Lexi's hip in its entirety. Being a highly specialised and invasive procedure, Lexi was transferred to RVC to undergo her surgery. Despite being a young dog who was, to all other intents and purposes, a healthy animal, her care team had to be very careful not to overdo it during her recovery to ensure she didn't have any major complications.

Following the initial period of recovery, Lexi was always very enthusiastic about going for walks, and Battersea's specialist physiotherapy team played a crucial role in the next stage of her rehabilitation, working to strengthen her left hind leg through massage and exercises in our physiotherapy facilities.

After making great progress, both the RVC and our own veterinary team gave Lexi the all-clear to spend the final stages of recovery in the comfort of a foster home and she went off to spend a very happy final couple of weeks with a member of staff.

Just over 100 days and many hours of dedication and care later, Lexi left Battersea to start her new life.



SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER



Above: Lexi behaving perfectly during a check up with one of our Veterinary Care Assistants.

Left: Receiving a fuss from so many staff was tiring work for Lexi.

My thanks for the wonderful tour and to be able to see first-hand the amazing work that is being done. I know my uncle and auntie would be thrilled to know the impact their legacy is making.

“ Nicola
Michael and Lynda's niece



Above: The late Michael Sinclair and his wife Lynda.

IN FOCUS

A LASTING LEGACY

Michael Sinclair very kindly left an incredibly generous legacy of half of his residuary estate to Battersea. Described by friends as a man who valued friendship, honesty and fair play, Michael and his late wife Lynda shared a lifelong love of animals. They were devoted to Tudor, their King Charles Spaniel, and their two cats, Sadie and Sophie. They spent many days and nights bottle-feeding Sadie and Sophie when they were kittens, until they were ready to live long and happy, contented lives with Tudor.

It was their love of animals and devotion to their pets, as well as watching programmes on the television featuring Battersea, that inspired them to leave a legacy to Battersea. The loss of Lynda, around ten years before Michael's passing in July 2018, further inspired him to honour their love and her memory by giving this kind legacy to Battersea.

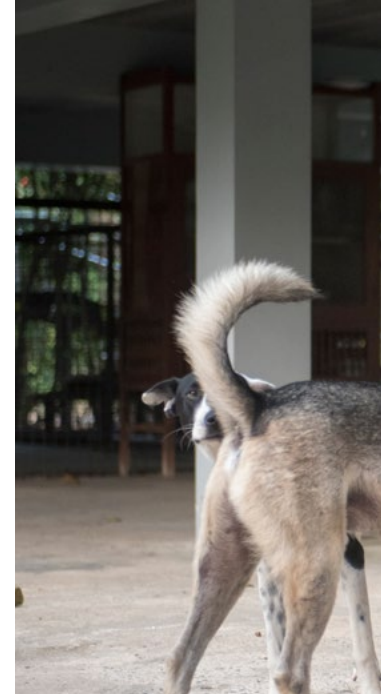
Michael's niece, Nicola, acted as Executor of his estate and was invited by the Legacy team to visit Battersea for a behind-the-scenes tour, along with other family and friends of people who had left legacies to Battersea.

The legacies left to Battersea by people like Michael and Lynda are vitally important to our work, allowing us to help thousands of dogs and cats every year.

WE CAN ONLY HELP
DOGS AND CATS
BECAUSE OF YOU.
OUR BRILLIANT SUPPORTERS
MAKE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE.

WHAT'S NEXT

After a very busy year filled with challenges and successes, we must now look to the future.



INCREASING IMPACT

Our mission to help more dogs and cats across the UK and around the world will continue in earnest. 2023 will mark the first full year of our Global Programmes strategy - including delivery of three multi-year strategic funding programmes, the implementation of country strategies for the UK, Greece and Thailand, and the launch of our redeveloped Academy content.



OFFERING SUPPORT

With the cost of living crisis looking to continue during 2023, we will increase the support we offer to help much-loved pets remain with their owners where they can. From offering pet supplies to food banks in our local communities and delivering on our plans as part of the pet food partnership, to increasing the output of our free pet advice and affordable training.



OUR VOICE

We will continue to campaign on key animal welfare issues, creating a new five-year plan to identify and prioritise the issues where Battersea can have the biggest impact and drive real legislative and behavioural change. Using our platform, we will continue to fight for renters to have the right to pet ownership and urge the Government to pass the Kept Animals Bill.



Above: A member of the Jai Dog team in Thailand, one of our focus countries for our Global Programmes work.

Below: Battersea will always campaign for those in power to protect our animals.



A NEW STRATEGY

Next year will be an exciting one for Battersea as a charity, as we enter the final year of delivering work in line with our current strategy, and begin working hard on planning the next. This new five-year strategy will outline our plans and ambitions, building on everything we have learned and achieved over the last five years, ready to be delivered from 2024.



INVESTING TO GROW

In order to achieve our ambitious vision for our long-term future, we must invest considerably in our data, systems and technology to drive growth and improvement. Building on plans made this year, we will begin to deliver the first stages of our complex data strategy project, as well as upgrading key digital products, including the website and donation platform.



OUR PEOPLE

We want to make Battersea the best possible place it can be for our staff and volunteers. Maximising the engagement and retention of our people, we will continue to create a workplace where everyone feels seen and safe, through continued delivery of our Diversity and Inclusion and Staff Survey action plans and other projects.

FINANCES

An overview of the funds we raised and the money we spent to continue being here for every dog and cat.

INCOME

In 2022 we raised a total income of £56.5 million from all activities, thanks entirely to our generous supporters and their fundraising efforts.

Through an array of fundraising activity, including challenges and events, corporate partnerships, philanthropic donations, the Paw Draw lottery and Gift Aid, we received £29.7 million. The lasting legacy of our generous supporters was reflected in £24 million being left to Battersea in people's Wills to allow us to continue our work. We also saw income through trading and investments, including royalties and retail, and bank interest and dividend income, totalling £1.5 million and £0.6 million respectively. And our fees for people rehoming and claiming animals brought in £700,000.

EXPENDITURE

Every penny we raise ultimately goes towards making the world a better place for dogs and cats. Our total expenditure in 2022 was £53 million, with £34.8 million spent on charitable activities.

The care of our animals is of the utmost importance, with £24.1 million spent on their care over the course of the year. We also dedicated funds to our campaigning work, spending £7.5 million on educating and raising awareness of the issues our sector is faced with. We awarded funding through our grants and delivered a range of Academy programmes, costing £3.2 million in total.

For every £1 we spent on fundraising activity last year, we were able to turn it into £3 to enable us to continue all of our vital work.

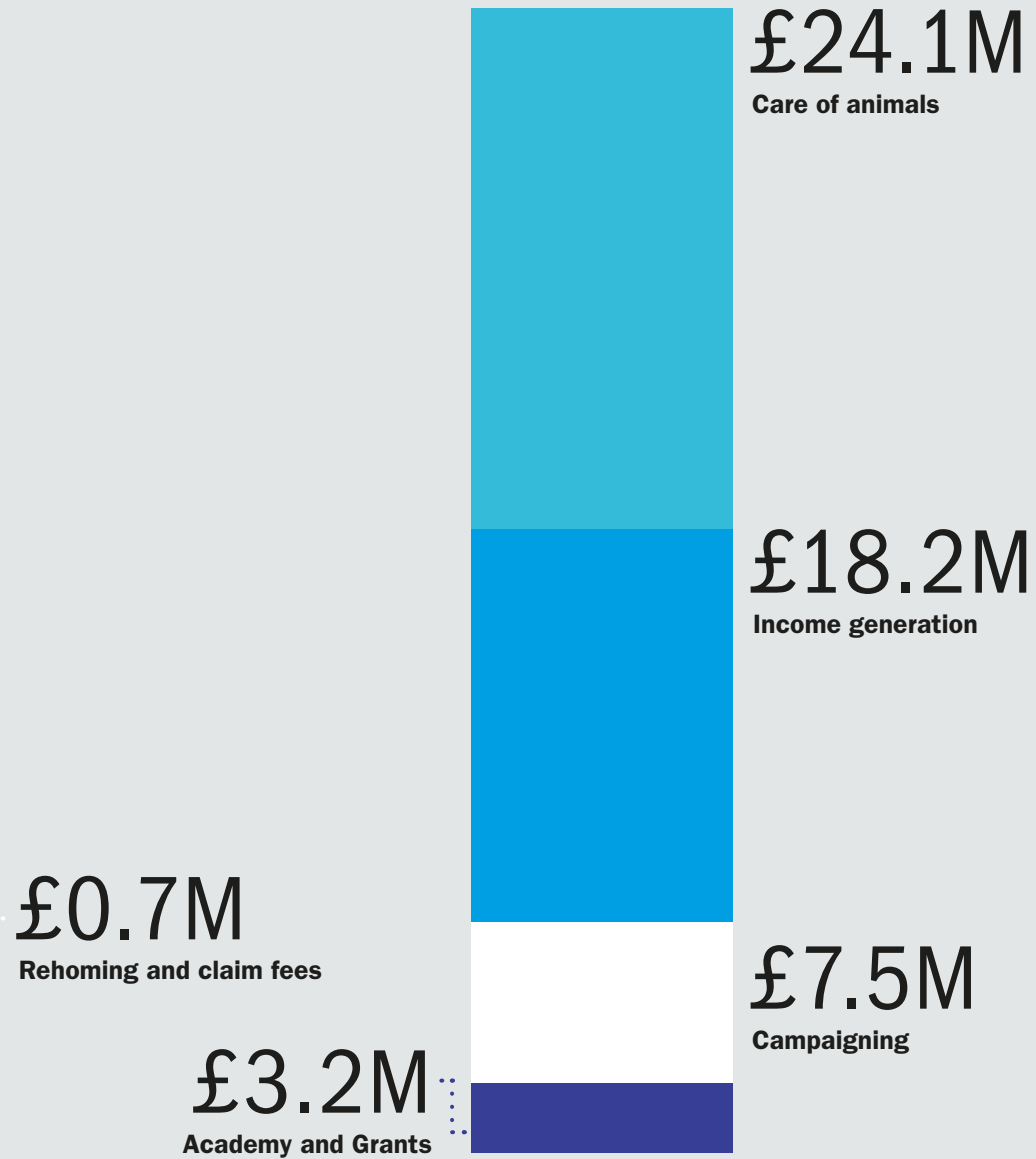
INCOME

£56.5M



EXPENDITURE

£53M



THANKS

Since our founder Mary Tealby began her work in 1860, our supporters have generously helped us in our mission to be here for every dog and cat. We are forever grateful to those that support our work and help preserve her legacy.

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

BGC Partners
Canine Cottages
EY
Happy Colour
ICAP
Mars Petcare
PayPal
Pendragon (CarStore)
Petplan
Vitabiotics

SPECIAL THANKS

Alexander Webb
Amelia Wilson
The Cadogan Charity
Cyrus and Natalia De Weck
Diane Reynolds
Frances Jacob
Gary and Clare Lapidus and Ella

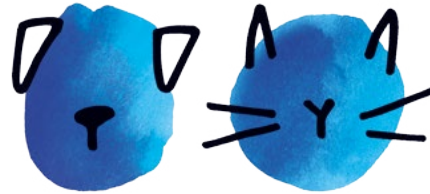
Gerrick Rose Animal Trust
George Thacker
James Paradise
Jonathan and Ronnie Newhouse
John and Anne Reise
John Wells and John Samuels
The Kathleen Laurence Charitable Trust
The Kennel Club Charitable Trust
The KM Williams Deceased Will Trust
Lady Marion Khalili and Tess
Martin Halford
Michael Maras and Amalia Asimakopoulou
Mike Willoughby
Oak Foundation
Players of People's Postcode Lottery
Tim and Beatrice Guest Charitable Trust

And other individuals and organisations who support our work anonymously.

FINALLY, FROM EVERY DOG AND CAT,

THANK YOU.

WE CAN ONLY HELP THE ANIMALS
AT OUR CENTRES AND BEYOND
BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUED SUPPORT
OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU.



BATTERSEA

HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT

PATRON HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN CAMILLA
PRESIDENT HRH PRINCE MICHAEL OF KENT GCVO

BATTERSEA.ORG.UK

BATTERSEA DOGS & CATS HOME

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