



A Note From Our CEO and Chair

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We Rescued 114 Dogs + 70 Cats

We Reunited 95 Dogs + 19 Cats

We Rehomed 130 Dogs + 79 Cats







What a year it's been!

The past 12 months have seen new challenges, new friends, new opportunities, and much more. While it wasn't exactly a walk in the park, we're so proud of how our pack came together and adapted. Read on to see what we've been up to, and the exciting plans we have in store for the future.

Lindsay Fyffe-Jardine

Having steered through the stormy waters of 2020, Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home started 2021 in the darkness of lockdown. While the year ended without the celebratory lifting of restrictions that we had hoped, it left us reflecting on the many challenges that have set the Home on an exciting new course.

This year there were rising calls for help from pet owners experiencing difficulties and pet surrender. Our entire team handled the added pressure with their characteristic grit, from the people on the front line manning the phones and caring for the animals to the fundraisers and communicators that keep us going and keep us connected. What I witnessed was a digging deep, an uprising if you will, of determination and grit. Every member of the team at the Home pushed themselves each day to do more for the dogs and cats and for those pets in loving homes with owners who were struggling. That fighting spirit, mixed with a loving and quiet determination, saw us climb our way towards the light of spring. The path that lay ahead was paved with opportunity; to do more beyond the walls of the Home and to respond to the needs of dogs and cats, and help them stay with their families. Among the pets who came to us, we saw remarkable stories of rehabilitation and healing. The moments of celebration that our wonderful team marked came often.

2021 allowed us to truly recognise the pet'

Pet ownership is one of the greatest joys that we can experience, the care and love for another being who will devote their energy, loyalty and purest of loves back at you.



But life can be complicated. Unemployment, homelessness, domestic abuse, addiction or poor mental health can all contribute to pet poverty. These factors are often out of our control. Being unable to afford enough food or expensive vet bills doesn't mean a pet isn't loved, and that the dog or cat doesn't love its owner back unconditionally.

In 2021 we took bold steps to tackle these fundamental animal welfare challenges through community outreach, including the expansion of our pioneering pet food bank service. There is a way to keep pets in loving homes and it's by acknowledging and addressing pet poverty problems. It's by ensuring that when someone needs that help, they can access pet food and veterinary care, for the entire time they need that support. I'm proud to say that's exactly what we can now offer.

It is an enormous privilege to be the Home's CEO, to work with both the amazing staff team and its trustees. What I witness on a daily basis cannot be measured, it must be felt. The energy, love and determination permeate everything that we do. This is an energy I look forward to harnessing into the years ahead as we continue to help the lives of pets and their owners.

Doreen Graham

On 5 January, Scotland was plunged into yet another lockdown, which meant Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home was once again closed to the public. Covid had succeeded where two World Wars had failed, and everyone involved with the Home looked to how they could secure its survival.

The team working on site carried on so the dogs and cats were still cared for. The CEO and senior leadership team produced an inspiring new strategy which put our inextricable link with our pets at its heart. Working with food banks in Scotland ensured pets stayed with their owners. Heartbreaking goodbyes, as pets were signed over for all the wrong reasons, almost became a thing of the past. Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home was offering hope to pet owners who had hit hard times.

Our community outreach supported veterinary advocacy and was able to react when needed to support pets and people, influence animal welfare outcomes and prevent pets becoming homeless which supported the mental health of owners.

Highlighting the importance of our pets within our families is essential. As an animal welfare charity our innovative approach enabled the Home to reach out, both locally and further afield, to individuals and organisations able to support our work. This has taken us to some surprising places.

In the autumn, the Home established a presence on The Giving Block, which enabled us to reach global supporters.

One such supporter is Pawthereum, a community-run charity cryptocurrency project focussed on supporting animal welfare organisations. The founder is based in Finland, with members world-wide. The Home was gifted 26 Ethereum, which is approximately £87,000.



The largest cryptocurrency donation in Scottish history

We learned to do some things in different ways, such as Zoom board meetings and fundraising events. We have learned new words such as Ethereum. And we learned that the future of the Home was impossible without committed, caring people at its heart.

I am passionate about Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home. I see that passion reflected in the inspiration, energy, creativity and determination of our supporters, volunteers, members of staff, the Senior Leadership Team, our CEO and all the Trustees.

Thank you.

Fighting pet poverty isn't easy, but when we get our claws into something, we commit.





Pack In Pet Poverty!

The Home's Pack In Pet Poverty campaign was part of Challenge Poverty Week, which took place from 4 to 10 October. This week was led by the Poverty Alliance highlighting how low incomes, high costs, lack of decent work, and lack of access to help and services that people need are affecting thousands of local households.

The Home supported their call for wide-ranging government action, including delivery of the Minimum Income Guarantee, doubling of child benefit payments, increased investment in fuel poverty solutions and ensuring that all employers are paying the real Living Wage.

Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home Animal Champion and Lucy's Law Campaigner, Marc the Vet (Marc Abraham OBE), joined the team during Challenge Poverty Week to lend his support. The campaign was the first of its kind to highlight that where there is a pet in crisis, there is often a person in crisis. We believe that the companionship of a pet is unrivalled for human wellbeing and something that everyone who can provide a stable and loving home deserves.



As the cost of living rose in 2021, so did the need for additional support, and we saw a 77% increase in the demand for our on-site pet food bank service from 2020. In response to this demand, we took Paws Pantry on the road and delivered new 'pop up' services in the community. 52 foodbanks and community groups were regularly supplied with pet essentials for owners in need. By the end of 2021, 2,000 pets were being cared for through this service each month.

Paws Pantry is a one-stop shop for dog and cat owners, with supplies of food, toys, treats, jackets, beds and enrichment materials, all of which can be accessed by the public with no referral or criteria. By working with established organisations, we found we could get to the heart of communities and provide support for people and their pets, reaching those who would not otherwise be able to access our services.

Helping pets through the fuel poverty crisis

As part of the rise in cost of living, we were also seeing a growing fuel poverty crisis across Scotland, with many owners reporting that they were anxious about keeping their pets warm. At the end of 2021 we began operating our dog winter jacket fitting service in the community to help dog owners over the winter period, while at the same time accessing other pet essentials.

Mike, Community Outreach Manager at Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, describes some of the issues that he has seen in the community that prompted the establishment of this service.

"As the Scottish summer turned to autumn. the weather took a turn for the worse. Seasonal changes were matched with a rise in the cost of living, creating a crisis that hit those most in need the hardest. While out and about with the food bank, I was hearing more and more stories from those who were making the awful decision between eating and heating, those relying on layering up or sleeping with their pet to keep warm through the winter months. One man I met even apologised to me if he smelled like his dog, because he couldn't afford to heat his home and let his dog sleep in his coat. We didn't just want pets in loving homes to be well fed, we also needed them to be warm and comfortable. To achieve this, our winter jacket fitting service was established and we increased our presence in the community visiting 15 food banks across the central belt and the borders fitting over 30 jackets. We also supplied bedding and blankets, along with food, to make sure that those most in need had the support to keep their pet warm, fed and loved on the run up to Christmas."

Mike Dougan, Community Outreach Manager



Anna's Story

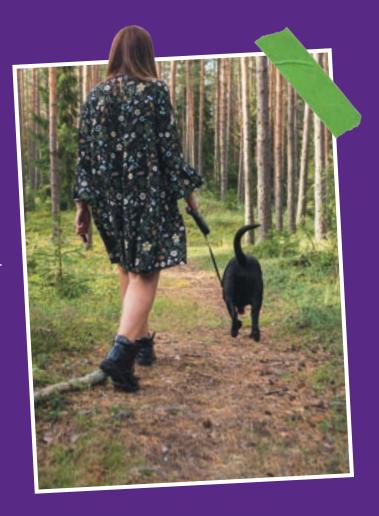
Anna*, 25, from Edinburgh and her much-loved lurcher, Lily*, first visited a Paws Pantry pop-up food bank when she needed dog food and other pet essentials. Lily was showing typical puppy behaviour that was becoming increasingly destructive, causing stress for Anna and her mother, who she lives with. Our Paws Pantry outreach team worked with Anna and Lily to provide training techniques to improve Lily's behaviour, as well as giving Anna the food and equipment she needed to keep a happy and healthy pet.

"I got Lily last year when she was just 12 weeks old. She had a lot of energy and was play biting and nibbling all the time, chewing on furniture and destroying things.

Since then, Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home have been amazing and there's been a major change in Lily. They gave me puppy mats and helped me teach her how to pee outside. They've showed me how to give treats when I want her to do something and it's stopped her chewing on the wallpaper. They gave us a wee glider and games for her, she's fair away with them. It's been getting her brain working, which is what she really needed.

Before this she wouldn't drink out of her water bowl, she would only drink out of a bath tap. They gave me a new bowl and it made such a difference. Now she finds her bowl when she needs it and I've stopped giving her milk on their advice, just plain water.

Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home have helped a lot.



When you're skirt,

if you've not got that much money, you can still get cat food and dog food.

I see lots of dogs out on the street and they don't have enough to eat so I'd always recommend going to the pet food bank.

She's settled so much and it's improved my confidence too. I've learned how to handle her. I'd love to volunteer with animals now and be able to help other dogs like Lily."

^{*} Names have been changed to protect identity.

Finding loving homes for pets. And pets for loving homes.

One of our biggest challenges over lockdown was managing the logistics around rehoming our animals, while limiting in-person contact. In March 2021 we reopened our doors for this service, and did so by continuing our online application process. This process was an enormous success, allowing us to find the best possible match for our pets who needed forever homes, while adhering to guidelines on contact between our staff and the public to reduce the spread of Covid. A bonus of the online rehoming process was the reduction of footfall in our kennels and cattery, which has had a positive effect on our animals' wellbeing, and allowed staff more time for pet enrichment.

Just like humans, our dogs and cats have felt the pressures of lockdown, and this was reflected in many of the animals that were being surrendered to the Home last year. The kennel and cattery team saw more animals with separation anxiety and other complex behavioural issues. These are often caused when animals are unused to being left alone, particularly when young. These cases often required significant time with our training staff before they were ready to be rehomed.

However, as with all challenges at Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, successes closely follow. It was a year of happy tears as we said goodbye to many much-loved residents who left us for their forever homes. A total of 130 dogs and 79 cats were rehomed in 2021, while 95 dogs and 19 cats were reunited with their owners.





River's New Home

River, a nine-year-old lurcher, was found by a member of the public in May 2021, roaming a field close to Dunbar. She was brought to Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, where our team immediately tended to her needs, while attempting to trace an owner.

Unfortunately she wasn't microchipped and an owner could not be found. Stray cases often bring with them uncertainty, and it is vital that they are assessed by our experienced kennel and veterinary staff for any physical or behavioural issues that might affect their care. River was very nervous of her surroundings and seemed as though she was used to being alone. Luckily though, she showed no signs of poor health, and the team knew that once they had worked on building her confidence, she would make a fantastic pet.



Once in a comfortable and loving environment, River's sweet nature began to shine through. She enjoyed playing in the paddocks with her favourite toys and in a short time her confidence grew. After routine health checks, microchipping and spaying, she was ready to find her forever home.

kiver and her new family

When Emma and Scott walked through the doors of Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, it was love at first sight, and a life-changing new start for both River and her family. Emma said:

"River has settled in well. She is a sweet natured, well mannered, loving girl. She loves her walks, cuddles on the sofa and her new comfy bed. River is happy to meet other dogs, children and adults on her travels, everyone River meets loves her. Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to rehome River, I can honestly say it is the best thing we have ever done."



Lucky Eranda

12-year-old Lucky and Panda were surrendered to Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home in August 2019, when their owner was no longer able to take care of them. Little did the staff know at the time that it would be nearly two years before they were fit and well enough to be rehomed. Routine veterinary checks identified a number of health issues that would need to be resolved before they would be ready to move on to their forever home. But as with all challenges at Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, our staff were ready to do anything it took to make them another success story.

Both cats needed dental work, and Lucky in particular faced a significant recovery time from his treatment. He later became ill with a flu virus and some skin issues that required testing for ringworm.

Despite their issues, both cats were extremely good natured and developed close bonds with our cattery staff. The veterinary treatment that they received while at the Home had a hugely positive impact on their health and wellbeing and eventually, after a lot of one-to-one care and patience, we were able to advertise them. But the wait wasn't yet over – it was time to find a very special owner that was willing to take on two older cats, and ensure that their special bond wasn't broken. Luckily, Fiona spotted the pair on our website, and was ready to give them the life they deserved. She said:

"When Lucky and Panda first arrived in our home they were very reserved. Panda headed straight for his cardboard box, disappeared under his purple blanket and wasn't seen for 24 hours. Meanwhile Lucky politely declined to leave his chosen spot under the sofa. They emerged the next day, warily, obviously missing all their friends at the Home. They became accustomed to their new home in small steps, but after about a month or so they had completed a full examination of every room and a complete inventory of every cupboard.





Lucky and Panda are cats of great personality – wonderful company, always ready to greet us as we come through the door. Lucky is very affectionate and likes to be the centre of attention. Panda is more self-contained, and friendly, smart and well behaved. Their favourite spot for playtime is a large purple cat tunnel, which results in some healthy competition – pouncing, springing and ambushing each other. Meal times are greeted with a chorus of excitement and expectation and consumed with serious attention, and at the end each checks the other's bowl for scraps – usually unsuccessfully. They really are the most lovely and sweet cats to be around!

I chose to rehome from Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home because my daughter rehomed two of your cats 13 years ago, and has never looked back! We're very pleased to be able to support this valued local organisation, with such a high reputation, while at the same time enjoying the pleasure of offering a home to two cats in need."

With no government backing, our fundraising has to be a breed apart to keep us up and running.

It costs over £2 million every year to run the Home. We rely almost entirely on public donations, partnerships, events and charitable trusts to keep our services running. While the challenges of Covid restrictions persisted in 2021, so did the loyal support of our customers and donors, who answered our calls for help when we needed them most. From fundraising appeals to cryptocurrency, 2021 was a year that proved the unwavering love for Scotland's homeless dogs and cats that makes our vital work possible.



Kindness in the Community

In 2021, regular donors (Companions) provided a steady income to the Home donating a staggering total of £140,228, with 1,751 new sign ups during the year. Meanwhile, gifts in wills remained a vital pillar of support, with £695,519 donated by 32 individuals.

One of our most significant online campaigns came in the form of a crowdfunder for a very special British Bulldog, Hugo. Hugo needed surgery to help him breathe better, as well as ongoing care during his recovery, and a digital fundraising campaign was launched in October to secure the necessary funds. £4,783 was given by 235 generous supporters over a two-week period, and we are delighted to say that Hugo has gone on to find a loving forever home after his successful treatment.

Our summer raffle, sponsored by Wardman UK and Ooni, raised over £12,000. Meanwhile it was a record-busting year for our Christmas appeal, with almost £39,000 generously given in one-off donations and over £15,000 from businesses and organisations.





The things we do for pets!

Despite the obvious lockdown restrictions on events and fundraising, our dedicated supporters went through mud, desert and fire on their way to raising £32,269 for our pets and owners in need. Our Virtual Dog and Cat Show, hosted by animal welfare campaigner and Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home Animal Champion Marc Abraham OBE, was a smash hit, raising £1,791 and providing endless comments of appreciation from our digital followers.

Another of our incredible Animal Champions, Dion Leonard, took on a mind-blowing challenge in July, when he ran the Badwater 135 on California, known as the 'World's Toughest Footrace'. Supported by his celebrity pooch Gobi, he completed the gruelling 135-mile ultramarathon and raised £3,695 for Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home in the process.

Meanwhile an annual favourite, In The Dog House, made its in-person return, with participants competing to raise the most money from our kennels in a bid to be set free. In the end £5,517 was raised from this event and a fantastic day was had by all.

Gaming proved to be an exciting new income stream for the Home, with gamers raising an incredible £2.434.



Dion Leonard running the Badwater 135



Our firewalk raised £1,464.25

Paddocks by the from

Launched in September 2020, our paddock hire service has proved a hit with both dog owners and their pets alike, and raised £15,261 in 2021. Paddocks by the Prom gives members of the public the chance to hire three of our seven outdoor secure paddocks and dog runs on our Seafield site, offering a safe and secure environment for walks, training, play, and even the occasional Zoomie.

1,776

PADDOCK
BOOKINGS







Keeping it current with crypto

One of our biggest fundraising success stories of the year was born of sheer innovation and came as somewhat of a surprise to both our team and UK charitable sector. In September, Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home became one of the UK's first charities to accept donations in cryptocurrency through The Giving Block platform, and the interest in our work quickly escalated among online cryptocurrency and NFT communities.

By November the Home had secured Scotland's largest ever cryptocurrency donation of 26 Ethereum (£87,000) from Pawthereum, a community-run charity cryptocurrency project focussed on supporting animal welfare organisations. The funds were given specifically to support the running of the Home's pet food bank for the whole of 2022. A total of £139,804 was given by cryptocurrency donors before the end of 2021, including Shiba Shelter, Saint Inu, Cool Dogs, and Approving Corgis.

Paws for Progress

Partnerships are at the heart of everything we do at the Home, and the ways we receive that support are too many to mention. However, one notable relationship in 2021 has changed the lives of both our residents and those at Polmont Young Offenders Institute. In 2020 we started working with Paws for Progress for an exciting new programme that allowed Polmont students to learn animal training and rehabilitation, while giving our dogs a second chance with some life-changing new skills. Fast track through lockdown restrictions and the team were finally ready to deliver the programme in 2021 – and what a success it has been. Paws for Progress 'Pup School' brought 17 of our residents through their programme during the year and thanks to reaching their full potential, all of these dogs have since been rehomed.







Speaking for those who can't

Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home has continued to be a voice for dogs and cats and a force for change through our advocacy work across Scotland and the UK.

Early in 2021 the Home joined the election coalition campaign More for Scotland's Animals, which asked new and returning MSPs to recognise the importance of animals to their constituents. It requested a pledge to their protection from cruelty and exploitation, and the education of the public on animal welfare. Following the success of the campaign and the collaboration, the group intends to continue its work into 2022.







This year we also joined forces with animal welfare organisations across the UK to campaign against two issues at the top of the animal welfare agenda - snaring and greyhound racing. We believe that there is no space in today's world for either of these cruel practices, which harm so many wild and companion animals each year. We will continue to advocate for full bans in Scotland and the UK.

Further to this, we have lent our voice to several Scottish Government consultations, including the Social Housing Charter, Commercial and Non-Commercial Movements of Pets into Great Britain and the Ending the Need for Food Banks consultation.

A Light Through Lockdown

The ongoing impact of the pandemic was felt throughout Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, with the return to normal working patterns often feeling out of reach. The Home's wellbeing strategy became more important than ever as we continued to feel the onsite pressures of Covid, as well as getting to grips with long-term working from home and the associated isolation. Every member of staff worked on a personal Wellness Action Plan with their manager and those on site were encouraged to make use of the Home's wellness space, Paws and Chill. For those remote working, virtual tea breaks, weekly group catch-ups, walking meetings and virtual social events became mainstays of the working week. We couldn't be prouder of the resilience and determination shown by our staff during this challenging time.



Fili's Farewell

In November Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home's longest serving employee, Fifi Smith, retired after 40 years of service.

The much-loved cattery assistant was renowned for her work with stray and abandoned cats at the rescue shelter, having started work there at just 17 years of age. Fifi was first appointed in 1981 as a kennel hand, working with stray dogs. She later moved on to working with dogs in the Home's boarding service, before a permanent move to the cattery, where she found her true passion lay.

Her incredible feline expertise was a benefit to so many at the Home, and of course the many stories she has told of celebrities, diplomats, the fantastic customers and supporters she has encountered over the years. On behalf of everyone of Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, enormous thanks go to Fifi for her significant contribution to animal welfare over the last four decades.



160 Years' Service

A dedicated group of our female staff celebrated a combined 160 years in animal welfare work in 2021.

Recipients of the Home's long service awards included Nonnie Kent (25 years), Jeni Anderson (30 years), Angie Gerrard (30 years), Wendy Mullen (35 years) and Fifi Smith (40 years). The women were recognised for their outstanding contributions to animal welfare at the Home over significant periods.

The award winners have been a mainstay of our frontline work at the Home over their many decades in post. Many have held multiple roles at the Home before reaching their incredible milestone and seen significant changes there during their employment. Wendy Mullen, Kennel Manager at Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, started her career here in the 1980s as a summer job and was quickly hooked.

Living Hours

Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home was the first animal welfare organisation in Scotland to become an accredited Living Wage employer and demonstrate leadership in an industry where front-line staff are often earning a lower income. In October we extended our Living Wage commitment by becoming one of the first employers in Scotland to earn the newly-unveiled Living Hours accreditation. This status means we can guarantee working hours, which is essential to help our staff plan both their finances and their personal lives, ensuring a better work-life balance.



Angela Gerrard and Fifi Smith were known as the cattery 'Dream Team' for decades, caring for thousands of cats during their time at the Home, including round the clock care for hundreds of kittens.

Nonnie Kent, now Rehoming Operations Manager, started her time at the Home working directly in the kennels, before being promoted to Assistant Kennel Manager and then moving into Operations. Meanwhile Jeni Anderson, Rehoming Customer Support, has been a familiar face at the Home for decades, and now manages the busy phone lines and front desk. During the 12-month period to 31 December 2021, the Home reported a deficit of £165k prior to unrealised gains on investments (£142k surplus including the unrealised gain on investments).

The Home is honoured to continue to receive generous donations in the form of legacies. We are extremely grateful to everyone who chose to bequeath funds to the Home and we will continue to honour their memory through our work.

This summary has been extracted from the full accounts which were approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by Doreen Graham, Chair. They do not constitute the charity's statutory accounts. The full accounts have been audited and the auditor's opinion was unqualified.

Copies of the audited accounts can be obtained by writing to the Home.

(£114)

(£2,187)

£141,718

£54,252

£269,713

INCOME	2021	2020
Donations and Legacies	£1,727,051	£2,397,754
Charitable Activities	£47,899	£58,397
Investment Income	£78,567	£93,434
Paddock Hire	£15,261	£4,088
Grant Income	£49,150	£179,330
TOTAL INCOME	£1,917,928	£2,733,003
EXPENDITURE	2021	2020
Charitable Activities	£1,380,086	£1,673,656
Raising Funds	£703,479	£814,120
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£2,083,565	£2,487,776
Net Income (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses	(£165,637)	£245,227
Realised gain on investments	£38,805	£22,757
Unrealised (loss)/gain on investments	£270,851	(£52,523)

(Loss)/gain on disposal of tangible assets

Gain/(loss) on disposal of cryptocurrency

Net movement in funds for the year



Without your support, and the support of those who are no longer with us, we'd never be able to keep the Home going. Whether you've visited, donated, rehomed, or supported us in any other way, we can't thank you enough.

And to our business partners, groups and charitable trusts we work with, we're so proud and grateful to be part of such a caring and giving community – you've helped more pets and staff than we could possibly count. We can't wait for next year! Thank you!

Board of Trustees

Doreen Graham, Chair
Sue Stahly, Vice Chair
Craig Marshall, Treasurer
Emma Barrett
Catherine Brown
Leanne Goold (until August 2021)
Roslyn Neely
Julie MacDonald (until November 2021)
David Hancock
Murray Stewart
David Welsh

Senior Leadership Team

Lindsay Fyffe-Jardine, CEO
Nicola Gunn, Director of Development and
External Affairs
Jamie Simpson, Director of Operations
Alison Coltman, Director of Finance and
Business Development/Company Secretary



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