



Society for Companion Animal Studies

Annual Review 2010

SOCIETY FOR COMPANION ANIMAL STUDIES

Chairman's foreword

Throughout 2010 SCAS focused on improving its communications, enhancing its training offering and increasing the level of engagement with professionals in the field. It was a busy year full of new launches for SCAS and saw us sharing more information about the human companion animal bond (HCAB) and offering alternative ways for our members to engage with the charity's activity.

The important role of the HCAB in the health and well-being of people and animals is attracting more attention than ever before. Over the past 12 months SCAS has made significant progress in raising awareness of this role and influencing opinion and education in its practical application.

As SCAS looks ahead to the future, planning for resources to support our work and overall sustainability for the organisation remain key priorities. To this end, we're very grateful for the invaluable support and contributions received from SCAS members and The Blue Cross as well as key organisations including The Kennel Club Charitable Trust.



Elizabeth Ormerod
Chairman, SCAS



Our mission

To enhance the health and well-being of people and animals by promoting and supporting their interactions.

Five guiding principles

- To advance the understanding of relationships between people and companion animals
- To raise awareness of the human-companion animal bond by disseminating information about human-companion animal relationships
- To promote the quality of life of people and companion animals by encouraging responsible attitudes
- To raise awareness of the health and social benefits of companion animal ownership
- To promote humane education, through the fostering of kindness, respect and empathy to humans and companion animals

Best practice for animal-assisted interventions

In July and November of 2010, SCAS facilitated the first meeting of a new steering group set up by SCAS to explore how guidelines for practising animal-assisted interventions in the UK can be developed. As public awareness of the benefits of animal-assisted interventions (AAI) increases, and more providers set up programmes, there is a growing need to ensure a consistent, responsible and safe approach to these interventions.

Members of the group were drawn from the existing SCAS membership and represented people working within different health and animal welfare professions. With the invaluable contribution of their knowledge and expertise, SCAS was able to begin the process of developing a Code of Practice for AAI providers in the UK, due to be launched in 2011.



New pet loss support course

Our pet loss distance learning programme for veterinary professionals was launched in the summer of 2010 and is accredited by the British Veterinary Nursing Association (BVNA). Over 50 students have either completed or are currently undertaking the training and we have received excellent feedback on the course content which provides practical guidelines and tips on how to introduce pet loss support protocols into practice management.

Dealing with the impact of pet loss and the euthanasia of a much-loved pet on both clients and staff can be very challenging. To tackle this issue the course has been co-written by leading international experts in pet loss support and aims to provide the specialist knowledge and skills required by the entire veterinary practice team.

scas.org.uk

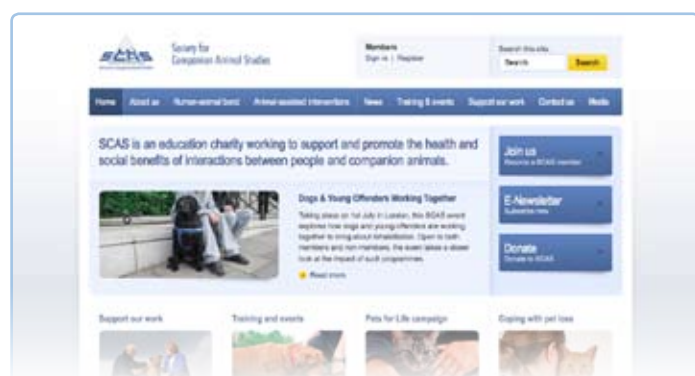
With a very different look and feel and a whole host of new features for audiences to enjoy, the new SCAS website was launched successfully in December. The design of the site ensures that details about current SCAS activity are available

at a glance and users can easily navigate through a wealth of information on the human-companion animal bond.

The site includes areas dedicated to the Pets for Life campaign, the Pet Bereavement Support Service, training and events and users can sign up to receive the bi-monthly SCAS e-Newsletter. There is also a member-only area where members are invited to register on the site to explore resources, including the quarterly Journal, network with other members and access discounts. Register at scas.org.uk/register

Pets for Life campaign

In November 2010 SCAS delivered two presentations at the fifth UK Dementia Congress, the UK's largest dementia-focused event. This was an opportunity to raise awareness of the important relationship between older people and pets with a key audience. At the conference, SCAS presented research on developing pet friendly practices within care homes and announced its plans to develop a 'Pet Friendly Care Kit' to be launched in 2011. The kit forms part of the next phase of our prominent Pets for Life campaign which seeks to encourage housing providers, care home managers and staff to implement responsible pet policies. It is being designed in association with SCAS vice chairman Jane Fossey, a clinical psychologist with over 20 years' experience of working with older people and care home settings. The importance of the



The new website is already proving to be a valuable resource to both the SCAS team and our members. We're able to communicate core activity in a more fun and interesting way and the wealth of information held by the charity is now much more accessible and easy to share.

LIZ HOWLAND, SCAS PROJECT MANAGER



Other SCAS achievements in 2010 include:

Our Pet Bereavement Support Service, jointly run with The Blue Cross, responded to 6,560 phone calls and 577 emails

Published our quarterly Journal reporting the latest news and developments

27 students completed the AAI 8 day training course: Companion Animals in Therapeutic Practice

Welcomed 65 new members to our community of committed supporters

Responded to an increased demand for information on the HCAB from individuals and organisations

Represented SCAS at the IAHAIO international conference and Annual General Assembly in Stockholm

Delivered lectures to over 1,000 veterinary students and staff on the HCAB and pet loss

Pets for Life campaign has also received acknowledgement from those in the care and housing sector, including Anchor Trust as well as in the pet care sector from the Pet Food Manufacturers' Association (PFMA).

Companion animals and young offenders

In November 2010, SCAS hosted a seminar with Joan Dalton, director of Project POOCH (US) and leading authority on dog training and offender rehabilitation. The event, produced alongside The Scottish Prison Service (SPS) and Stirling University, was held at Polmont HMYOI, the country's largest young offenders' institution with over 700 residents.

Dalton headed a stellar line-up of speakers that included Elizabeth Ormerod, SCAS chairman, Alexandra More, unit team leader in The State Hospital, Carstairs, and Rebecca Leonardi, who is leading a project at Polmont HMYOI as part of her PhD at Stirling University.

With over 20 years' experience of working with young people, Dalton shared how Project Pooch was set up and why it continues to be so successful today. Delegates also heard how a pioneering AAI programme is due to be launched at Polmont HMYOI which will enable participants to learn how to train and rehabilitate rescue dogs and prepare them for rehoming.

The event illustrated SCAS' aim to promote the work of these important programmes and their contribution to the health and well-being of many groups in society.

There are currently no guidelines to assist or monitor AAI providers whether it's during a programme set up or during their practice. There is a real sense among those currently working in the field that the time is right for UK-based recommendations.

GILL PEARCE, ACCREDITED COUNSELLOR AND AAI PROVIDER

Financial Activities Statement

The Society for Companion Animal Studies Limited

Summarised Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2010

Note	2010 General Funds £'000s	2010 Restricted Funds £'000s	2010 Total Funds £'000s	2009 General Funds £'000s	2009 Restricted Funds £'000s	2009 Total Funds £'000s
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Membership & other income	42		42	28		28
Grants received – Blue Cross & other (1)	85	6	91	85	0	85
Total Incoming Resources	127	6	133	113	0	113
CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE						
Staff costs	90		90	65	2	67
Other charitable expenses	56		56	51	1	52
Total Resources Expended	146		146	116	3	119
Net incoming Resources for the year	(19)	6	(13)	(3)	(3)	(6)
Fund balances brought forward at 1st January 2010	91	8	99	94	11	105
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2010	72	14	86	91	8	99

The Society for Companion Animal Studies Limited Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2010

	2010 £'000s	2010 £'000s	2009 £'000s	2009 £'000s
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	29		53	
Cash at Bank and in hand	61		53	
		90		106
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors		(4)		(7)
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		86		99
RESERVES				
General Funds		72		91
Restricted Funds		14		8
		86		99

Notes: (1) Grants received – Blue Cross & other includes £85,000 from The Blue Cross (2009 £85,000) and £5,500 from the Kennel Club Charitable Trust.

This is an extract from the 2010 Statutory Accounts available from: Marilyn Vaux, Financial Controller, SCAS, The Blue Cross, Shilton Road, Burford, Oxon, OX18 4PF.

Governance and Special Advisers

PATRONS

Roger Gale MP
Dr Desmond Morris
Dr Colin Murray Parkes

HON. VICE PRESIDENTS

Professor Sam Ahmedzai
Walter Beswick
(deceased 01/02/2011)
Dr Andrew Edney
Dr Roger Mugford

CHAIRMAN

Elizabeth Ormerod

SCAS TEAM

Julia Dando, Training Manager
Jo-Ann Fowler, Director
Liz Howland, Project Manager
Emily Wood, Project
Administrator

COMPANY SECRETARY

Neil Smith
(resigned 31/01/2011)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Walter Beswick
(deceased 01/02/2011)
Dr Andrew Edney
Jane Fossey
Steve Goody
Kim Hamilton
Elizabeth Ormerod
Diane Sinclair
Mary Whyham MBE

REGISTERED OFFICE

SCAS, The Blue Cross,
Shilton Road, Burford,
Oxfordshire, OX18 4PF

BANKERS

National Westminster Bank plc
London SW1W 9QP

AUDITORS

The Gallagher Partnership LLP
Chartered Accountants
London EC2A 4RR



The year ahead ...

In 2011 SCAS will continue to promote and support the health and social benefits of interactions between people and companion animals. We aim to achieve this through the support of our members, volunteers and key supporters and contributors – here's a preview of what lies ahead ...

ENHANCING the SCAS training programme by delivering new courses such as practical training for therapy dogs and introductory level training in animal-assisted interventions

LAUNCHING a Pet Friendly Care Kit consisting of essential information required by housing providers to develop a safe environment in which older residents can benefit from contact with pets

PROMOTING best practice for AAI through the development of a Code of Practice for UK providers

COMMUNICATING the importance of interactions between people and animals through the promotion of SCAS activity to relevant sectors and groups in society

Thank you

SCAS would like to extend special thanks to The Blue Cross, volunteers of the Pet Bereavement Support Service and to all of our individual members and contributors.



Society for Companion Animal Studies (SCAS)
The Blue Cross, Shilton Road, Burford, Oxon OX18 4PF

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SCAS registered charity number: 1070938
The Blue Cross is a charity registered in England and Wales (224392) and in Scotland (SC040154).
Company registration number: 03535393