

The Branch Catch-Up

2025 round-up

What a year!

Animal latest

Fish & Chip kittens - finding their happy place!

New Team Members

Meet the latest Branch recruits!



RSPCA
LINGS MID, NE & LINCOLN

A message from our Chair

Welcome to 2026 - I hope your year has started well! We're certainly excited about our plans for the coming year and look forward to sharing those with you!

Towards the end of 2025, our board undertook a strategy review, and we are delighted to formally launch our new Branch Animal Welfare Fund which will enable the charity to help even more animals in our branch area. The fund will support, for example, temporary animal boarding costs for people who are going into hospital, emergency veterinary treatment for owners without sufficient insurance funds, and providing money towards neutering, vaccinations and microchipping. This will be in addition to our ongoing activities to rehabilitate and rehome animals, both those rescued by the RSPCA Inspectorate or from members of the public who are in crisis and need their animal to be permanently rehomed.

To ensure effective management of the Fund, we have refocused our staffing and appointed two new team members who are introduced below.

Whitney Ball joins us on 4 February as our Animal Welfare Officer. She will manage all our animal rehoming work and also undertake public education and awareness raising activities. Whitney will lead on managing and distributing the new Animal Welfare Fund which will enable the charity to help even more animals in our branch area. Whitney comes with a wealth of expertise, having worked in the veterinary industry for 16 years, qualifying as a veterinary nurse in 2015. She has worked as a small animal nurse most of her career but has most recently been working in the charity sector as a veterinary nurse in a large equine charity.

With the creation of an Animal Welfare Officer role, there is a change in focus for our Branch Administrator who in addition to supporting Whitney's activities, and creating web & social media content to promote our branch and raise funds, will also undertake more finance & volunteer administration for the trustees. Sophie Rivart joins us on 16 February as our new Administrator. Sophie graduated from the University of Lincoln in 2020 and has worked in the entertainment sector as an experience host & shift manager at Odeon, where she's been involved in a wide range of people management, customer service and finance activities, as well as previously undertaken a social media and marketing role for a therapy business.

I did just want to take a moment to say farewell and heartfelt thanks to current Administrator Libby who has been doing an amazing job leading our animal rehoming work and providing admin support across all aspects of the branch. She leaves us to take up a new exciting Social Media and Marketing role on 6 February. We will miss you Libby!

Sophie Easteal, Chair and Trustee
seasteal@rspca-lincoln.org.uk



COVER PHOTO COMPETITION

Would your beloved pet like to be our next edition's cover star!? Please send your entries to our office by 31 March. Photos must be portrait ideally to work well on our cover.



Welcome to our new Team Members!

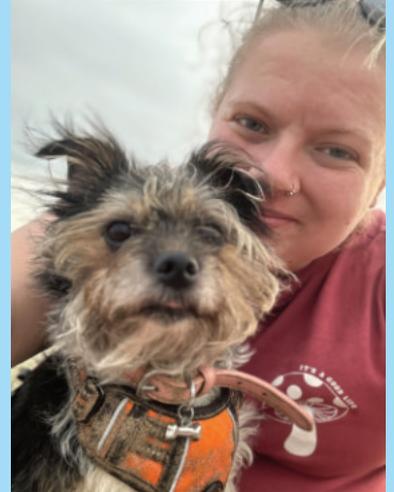
Sophie, Administrator

"I have grown up with guide dogs, Guinea pigs and enjoy meeting a variety of animals in the local area. I have fundraised in the past to continue the training of working dogs that allow for independence within their families. I am excited to join the RSPCA to better help and support the wider animal community and to help them find their forever homes. Pictured is Fred, a rescue who enjoys cosy blankets to wet weather walks and always knows when the post is coming."



Whitney, Animal Welfare Officer

"I have two terriers and share horses with my mum, that take up most of my time outside of work and I wouldn't have it any other way. They are all cheeky and mischievous and keep me on my toes. I am really looking forward to working with animals, owners, carers and all staff within the RSPCA, within the Lincolnshire area and wider teams."



Lee, Shop Manager, St Marks

Lee joined us before Christmas as Assistant Shop Manager at St Marks, taking forward Becky's amazing work there over the last year, as she began her new role overseeing our three shops.

"Hi everyone, I'm looking forward to meeting everyone! A bit about me, I'm engaged and also a lucky father of two beautiful children. We share our home with our family dog, a 4 year old bullmastiff crossed ridgeback named Cujo. I am a strong advocate of animal care and excited to work with you all.

I am keen to see what positive differences I will make to our retail work which is a key fundraising stream to support our branch animal welfare work."



Harriet, Shop Assistant, Woodhall Spa

Harriet joined us at the beginning of this year, and is loving the new role which she's doing alongside completing her PhD in Sociology!

"Hi! It has been so wonderful getting to know the staff and volunteers at Woodhall Spa and to interact with the regulars who come into the shop (especially those led in by someone with a wagging tail and a desire for treats).

I've always loved animals, having lived with dogs, cats, hamsters, the oldest goldfish ever and on one memorable occasion a pigeon, throughout my life and now regularly pet sit my sister's three dogs. I'm so glad to work somewhere that not only supports animals in need but regularly shows off the kindness and generosity of people and the community around us."



Animal latest

Fish & Chip Kittens!

A wriggling bag was left outside of a Boston fish and chip shop, with 7 kittens inside, all in a bad way - gunky eyes, sneezing and coughing, their little immune systems were doing all they could to survive the catflu they were all infected with.

Unfortunately one of them was so poorly that the kindest thing to do was ease their suffering before they had even reached our cattery facilities. Our branch does not have a main animal centre, meaning that larger cases like this can be a squeeze to fit in - but we knew these guys needed help, so split them between our 2 facilities in order to ensure they could get the TLC they needed.

2 kittens, named Ying and Yang, went to our Sleaford cattery whereas the remaining ones went to our Market Rasen facility. All of the kittens were still affected by the flu at this point - some more than others.

Sammy and Ying took the longest to recover, at some points it was touch and go for them but we are always grateful for the attention, care and love our facilities (as well as the local vets) provide for them.

Courses of antibiotics, daily monitoring, carefully administered amongst their usual care needs to get them ready for adoption were intrinsic in saving their little lives. Ying and Yang were rehomed together and spend their days causing havoc, another pairing Ophelia and Sophia were cute enough to persuade a visitor to take the both of them and the final pair, Sammy and Bobby, are currently reserved, pending a home visit stage to happen.

For more information on their rough beginning, the BBC also covered this story: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cz606y8j9leo>



REHOMING SUCCESS

Just some of our animals that have found their forever homes since the last edition



ROSCOE



JUNIOR



LUNA



MOWGLI



TAROT

Adoptions in 2025

2025 was a busy year for the branch, but it was all worth it as we welcomed and rehomed a substantial number of animals! In total, from the 1st January to the 31st December 2025:



The Branch took in 75 cats...



...and rehomed 73



The Branch took in 31 dogs...



...and rehomed 27



The Branch took in 0 guinea pigs...



...and rehomed 0



The Branch took in 1 rabbit...



...and rehomed 1

A TOTAL OF 107 ANIMALS!

A TOTAL OF 101 ANIMALS!

Our longest stay animals that found their forever homes in 2025 were:



LUNA
(463 days)



BRUCE
(428 days)

We really appreciate all of our lovely fosterers, cattery/kennel staff, trustees, volunteers and everyone else who had a part in our branch goings-on during 2025. We all pulled together and achieved some truly wonderful things!

Fundraising events

Santa Paws update - Huge amount raised!

You might have seen the National Society's update that together we raised an incredible £73,781.55 from the partnership with Pets at Home, through their Christmas Santa Paws event, with 53 branches taking part.

A number of amazing volunteers from our branch took turns hosting an information stand at the Pets at Home Tritton Road before Christmas, clocking up sufficient volunteer hours to be awarded an amazing £1,670.46!

That's all money that will go towards our animal rehabilitation and rehoming work!



Supporting local rescue centres this Christmas

Countryside Lincs

We are delighted to have been offered a free Education Exhibitor stand at the Countryside Lincs show on 19 April 2026 at the Lincolnshire Showground.

Do come along to meet our team and if you want to join us on the stand, please get in touch with our office. The show is an amazing opportunity to promote our branch with over 7,000 visitors expected.



Dunelm Christmas gifts galore

We were so grateful to be chosen as a Dunelm Christmas partner. Shoppers selected animal items to donate to us from the Dunelm range, and just look how much was given to us! This will be sold in our shops, to raise money for our branch animal rehoming work. Thank you so much to everyone being so generous, when we know Christmas is already such an expensive time of year. Mel and Becky braced themselves for transporting it all back in their cars, and it's now being stored to replenish our shop stock over the coming weeks.



WOOF FEST

IT'S BACK!
2026

FAMILY FUN DAY & DOG SHOW

Woof-Fest is back!

Later this year we will once again be running our amazing fun dog show - Woof-Fest. Please contact our office if you want to be involved! Woof-Fest will be an opportunity to get together as a branch and celebrate the work we do as a team, promote our branch, pat lots of beautiful dogs, as well as raise funds for even more rehoming work. Look out for more info and dates soon!

Around the shops

Christmas was a really busy time for our shops, with in-store fundraising as well as Christmas focused sales and beautiful shop windows.

Woodhall Spa ran a raffle for a hamper which raised £454! Do visit to support their 'date with a book' Valentine's day fundraising activity!



Do go in to our High Street store in the coming weeks, to try your luck with our amazing Tiger raffle!

Generously donated to us before the shop opened, Tigga has been a key part of our transition team over the last months as we got the brand new shop up and running. However, he is seeking a retirement in a loving home and we're hoping to raise lots and lots of money for our branch animals in the process!



**ANIMALS
REHOMED
IN 2026...
SO FAR**



**9
CATS**



**2
DOGS**



**0
GUINEA PIG**



**0
RABBIT**

Meet the Trustees of your Branch

We are always looking for people to join the Trustee board. Get in touch if you are interested in helping shape the future of the Branch!

Welcome our latest Trustee, Chris!

Chris tell us: "I have always loved animals, and joined the branch as a dog walker in 2013. Since then I have volunteered in different capacities, as fundraiser and home visitor, and finally as a Trustee. I am looking forward to playing a part in the growth of the branch and helping more animals find loving homes!"



SOPHIE



DAWN



AMY



PENNY



RACHEL



PRESTON



CHRIS



DEBBY



GWEN



BEN

**LINCOLN
LOTTERY**

Did you know that our branch has been supporting the Lincoln Lottery run by Lincolnshire County Council since 2018? Tickets start from just £1 a week, with big prizes available! They also run Super Draws which have prizes of £1,000!



EVERY RUNNER FOR EVERY ANIMAL

We are putting together a team for the Lincoln Half Marathon on Sunday 4th October 2026. If you would like to run and fundraise for us or volunteer in some other capacity, please contact:

office@rspca-lincoln.org.uk or call 01522 544862

