

OneKind

Annual report 2015



Ending cruelty to
Scotland's animals

Welcome from our Director



“This is a hugely exciting time for everyone at OneKind: our staff, volunteers and all of our supporters.”

Almost half of Scottish households own pets, our wildlife occupies a special place in our culture and psyche, and Scottish farms have a reputation for high quality and welfare. It’s fair to say that Scotland is a nation of animal-lovers. Yet so many animals that we share this country with continue to suffer as a result of cruelty – whether it’s accidental or wilful.

This suffering needn’t continue. The powers to protect these animals and ensure they have good lives are now fully devolved to the Scottish Parliament. And the Scottish public want to see these powers used. Polling commissioned by OneKind and other animal welfare charities in early 2016 “that asked the Scottish public whether they supported or opposed 10 key animal welfare policies” found that the majority supported every single one.

With the foundation stones of public support and political will in place, there is no reason why Scotland can’t become a world-leading nation in the way it treats animals and OneKind has a key role to play in delivering this vision.

OneKind has been based in Scotland since we were founded in the early 20th century as the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Vivisection. We started

with a focus on Scotland, and in 2015 we returned to this. Our aim is to become known as the charity that speaks up and campaigns for animals in Scotland, as reflected in our new strapline Ending Cruelty to Scotland’s Animals. By focusing on this mission and taking the opportunity presented to us in Scotland, we will be able to deliver so much more for animals. We will also, I hope, be able to grow into a more financially secure charity that is better able to deliver our goal of ending cruelty.

All this doesn’t mean to say OneKind won’t keep an international outlook. We will continue to work with other UK animal welfare charities to ensure the steps forward that we take in Scotland drive progress elsewhere. We will also continue to be an active member of Eurogroup for Animals, the European collaboration of animal welfare charities seeking to improve animal welfare laws across the continent. Our website, www.onekind.org, which has millions of unique users across the world, also continues to grow in importance as an international resource that educates and inspires its users to do more to protect animals. Finally, we continue to enjoy the generous support of donors, campaigners and members from across the UK and beyond, and we thank them for that, on behalf of the animals.

In addition to re-focusing OneKind, I hope that 2016 will mark the beginning of a new and deeper relationship with our supporters. We will be launching a membership scheme, which will give everyone the opportunity to join us as a member, bringing supporters closer to our work and creating a monthly income stream for OneKind. This will allow us to do more for animals by growing our campaigns and research programmes, and it will be critical in giving OneKind the long-term financial security we need to fulfil our objectives.

This is a hugely exciting time for everyone at OneKind: our staff, volunteers and all of our supporters. Together we have both the opportunity and ability to end cruelty and improve lives for millions of animals in Scotland and beyond. To succeed, however, we need you and animal-lovers everywhere to join us and take a stand against cruelty in all its forms.

Harry Huyton, Director

OneKind's vision and aims

OneKind was founded in 1911 to advance animal welfare, the protection of animals from cruelty and the prevention of animal suffering.

Our vision is for people to live in harmony with animals, ending cruelty in Scotland and working with others to deliver better animal welfare across the UK and globally. We achieve this by giving animals a voice through campaigning and lobbying for laws that will protect animals forever, and by inspiring people to make changes in their lives to reduce their negative impact on animals.

OneKind works in the mainstream of the animal protection movement to deliver positive change for animals in Scotland, and, through working with others, across the UK, Europe and beyond. We have decades of experience in helping to shape the legislative and cultural landscapes through high-profile campaigns, political lobbying, investigations and public education. We take a practical, evidence-based approach to understanding and developing solutions to animal welfare problems.

Our current priorities are to give wild animals the opportunity to thrive and live cruelty-free lives and to end the suffering of animals that are kept as pets and that are involved in the pet trade. In 2015 our specific aims were to:

- Secure a review of Scotland's pet breeding and vending legislation
- Make significant progress towards a positive list for pet ownership, restricting the species to those that can enjoy a good quality of life when kept as pets
- Build up an evidence base to support a 2016 campaign for the sale and use of snares to be banned
- Strengthen the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002 so that the fox hunting ban is made effective
- Get legislation introduced that bans the use of animals in circuses
- Support the Wild Animal Welfare Committee to provide authoritative and impartial advice to Government on wild animal welfare issues



Our Board and the OneKind team

OneKind is managed by a Board of Trustees to whom the Director reports. Our trustees are all volunteers, committed to OneKind's cause. Our trustees in 2016 are detailed here.

Sara Bannerman, Chair - Sara has over two decades' experience in the fundraising and marketing sectors, working with Glasgow Caledonian University, Sense Scotland and Erskine. Sara has been Head of External Relations at Erskine since 2014 with responsibility for Fundraising, Marketing and External Communications.

Stewart Gillies - Stuart has recently joined the board of OneKind and works as a lawyer in Edinburgh, specialising in Corporate, Banking and Finance law.

Mark Johnson - Mark is assistant clerk to the Justice Committee at the Scottish Parliament. Before joining the Parliament, Mark worked as a policy officer for the Scottish Government and as a development officer for a small environmental charity based in Orkney.

Roisin Williams - Roisin has been a board member since summer 2012 and has more than 20 years experience as a Human Resources professional, specialising in the area of employment law.

Roger Wilson - Roger joined the OneKind Board in April 2011 and spent three years in the role of Chair. Roger has extensive experience in the financial services sector, where he has had a variety of HR and Learning & Development roles.

Harry Huyton, Director - Harry is a life-long supporter of animal welfare and nature conservation causes. He has worked in the sector for fifteen years for a range of organisations including the RSPB, the Environment Agency and Cambridge University.

Our volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of OneKind. They're critical to achieving our goal of ending cruelty to Scotland's animals. By the end of 2015 we had approximately 40 active volunteers helping end cruelty to Scotland's animals in all sorts of different ways including campaigning, fundraising, research and communications. We also have an active volunteer group with a group leader in Edinburgh and we aim to grow the number of volunteers and establish groups in at least two other Scottish towns by the end of 2016.



Maureen Wallace OneKind volunteer

"I just hate cruelty to animals and don't understand why it still continues, I am very grateful to OneKind for their endless hard work and wanted to give something back. One of the things that brought OneKind to my attention is their fabulous campaign work. Also the fact they are local and have such a strong voice for animals in parliament makes me all the prouder to be part of the organisation. I would encourage others to get in touch and see how they can help bring about a real positive change"

Jillian Etherington
OneKind Volunteer

"I love OneKind because it loves all animals. There is a very wide scope to work on a variety of campaigns. I love the idea of a lobbying organisation as I feel they have a bigger impact. Volunteering has given me great experience surrounded by likeminded people, being part of a team and having great fun!"



How we helped end cruelty to Scotland's animals in 2015

OneKind's research, policy advocacy and campaigns continued to improve the lives of Scotland's animals in 2015. Amongst our achievements in 2015 we are most proud of securing a review of Scotland's pet breeding and vending laws, a review of the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002, and supporting the Wild Animal Welfare Committee, which achieved charitable status in September.

In addition to our main campaigns we published a comprehensive OneKind Manifesto for the UK General Election and sent copies to all newly-elected MPs, and prepared a new Manifesto for Scotland's Animals for publication in early 2016. A new report, *More Questions than Answers?* was also produced, highlighting the extent and nature of the testing of household products on animals following the UK Government's long awaited - but only partial - ban on such testing.

Protecting exotic pets

In 2014 OneKind launched Pet Origins, a major report that investigated the pet breeding industry across the UK. The report, and the investigative work behind it, revealed the serious welfare concerns around the breeding of exotic pets in particular, which are growing in popularity in Scotland, the UK and across the world. Millions of individual wild animals, for example, are imported annually into the European Union to supply the exotic pet trade, which involves over 1,000 species of mammals, birds, invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians, plus hundreds of fish species – at a minimum.

Following the launch of Pet Origins, OneKind launched a campaign to influence the Scottish Government to update the pet breeding and vending legislation, some of which dates from 1951 and is woefully out of date. As a direct result of this campaign and lobbying by the OneKind team, the Cabinet Secretary announced a complete review of the 'trade and importation of exotic animals as pets' in February 2015. This is a major victory for OneKind and securing a positive outcome from this review will continue to be a priority throughout 2016.



How we helped end cruelty to Scotland's animals in 2015

Banning snares

OneKind's long-running campaign to ban snares in Scotland led to new legislation in 2011, and further regulations intended to restrict their use and reduce their impact on wild animal welfare. Since then, OneKind has been monitoring snare use and gathering evidence of the impact of these regulations. We have done this both through professional investigations and through public reports to our dedicated website www.SnareWatch.org. To date, SnareWatch has received over 170 reports of snaring incidents from members of the public across the UK and our investigations have demonstrated that snare use in Scotland continues to be widespread and detrimental to the welfare of target and non-target animals.

This information will form the basis of a new campaign in 2016 that will make the case for a ban once again. The timing of the campaign will coincide with a legal requirement on the Scottish Government to review the snaring regulations by the end of the year.



SNAREWATCH

OneKind runs SnareWatch.org, a dedicated website that asks members of the public to report snares and snaring incidents. The aim is to build our evidence base and raise awareness of the impact snares have on animal welfare across the UK. SnareWatch has received over 170 unique reports, making it the largest such resource in the UK. 56% of these have involved people's pets. This map shows a sample of incidents reported in Scotland in 2015.



Hare gave birth while trapped in snare in Ayrshire

A brown hare was trapped in a snare in Cumnock, Ayrshire. The hare had already died and next to it was a tiny leveret which was only a few hours old. The hare had given birth to the leveret while trapped and was unable to care for her young before she died.



Cat snared at primary school

A cat had one of its legs removed after being caught in an illegal snare targeting rabbits that was set on the playing fields of a primary school. The snare was illegal as it was untagged and non-locking, making it lethal.



How we helped end cruelty to Scotland's animals in 2015



Gamekeeper snare left badger caught on electric fence by its head

Badger found snared and caught in a live electric fence by its head. The gamekeeper pleaded guilty to setting a snare and failing to inspect it within 24 hours and failing to fit identity tags.



Snare warning in Grampian

A Grampian resident warned of the legal use of snares in the Finzean and the Forest of Birse area, which are commonly used for dog walking.



Illegal snare found while children on wildlife lesson

An illegal snare was found in a wood in Kirkcaldy, Fife while school children were on an outdoor wildlife lesson.



Dead fox left hanging in snare

A Lanarkshire man walking his dog in Newarthill, Scotland found a snare set on a tree branch next to a fence. A dead fox was suspended in the snare.



How we helped end cruelty to Scotland's animals in 2015



Improving dog welfare

OneKind's long campaign against aversive training instruments including electric shock collars made good progress in 2015. In January 2015 we circulated a briefing to Members of the Scottish Parliament. It was well used during a debate on the subject, and highlighted the issue to press and media. At the end of the year, the Scottish Government published a consultation on whether to ban these cruel devices. OneKind responded to the consultation, making the case for a complete ban. Delivering the ban will be a priority for 2016.

Tail docking of dogs was banned in Scotland in 2007 following a long campaign by OneKind. Since then, thousands of puppies have kept their tails when they would otherwise have been cut off in their first week of life. However, a minority of people have continued to oppose the ban, particularly for working dogs of breeds that are vulnerable to tail injuries. In 2015 they managed to convince the Scottish Government to consider weakening the tail docking ban by introducing an exemption for certain working dog breeds. At all stages of the process, OneKind has contributed evidence and views to the Scottish Government and Scottish Parliament and will continue to oppose any move likely to have a net negative impact on dog welfare.

Improving the hunting ban

In July, the UK Government attempted to weaken the Hunting Act 2004 to allow full packs of dogs to hunt foxes in England and Wales. OneKind was appalled to see the current, weaker Scottish legislation held up by DEFRA as an example to be emulated: we wrote urgently to all Scottish MPs urging them to resist the proposed amendment and were delighted that all undertook to do so. As a result, the Government amendment was dropped.

This episode threw a spotlight on the urgent need for reform of the law that was meant to have banned fox hunting in Scotland, the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002, and in autumn 2015 OneKind launched a renewed campaign on hunting. Thousands of OneKind supporters took part in the campaign, and the OneKind policy team also met with and wrote to Ministers and officials. As a result of this, and the League Against Cruel Sports Scotland's exposé of Scottish hunts in 2014/15, the Scottish Government confirmed on 26 December that a comprehensive and independent review would take place. OneKind's response to the announcement was widely reported in the news throughout the day, in stark contrast to the usually positive media coverage of hunts on Boxing Day. The review is a significant step towards an effective fox hunting ban in Scotland and it will continue to be a focus for OneKind in 2016 and beyond. A comprehensive response was submitted to the review in March 2016.



How we helped end cruelty to Scotland's animals in 2015

Improving welfare in the wild

The Wild Animal Welfare Committee – a group of independent scientists and academics with specialist wildlife expertise – was founded in September 2014 with support from OneKind. In 2015 the Committee passed a number of significant milestones: achieving charitable status in September; launching its own website, and commissioning a review of the main effects of human activity on free-living wild animals in the UK. A response was submitted to a Home Office consultation on the use of wild animals in scientific procedures, and the Committee issued a call for evidence on the welfare of hunted foxes, prior to publishing a scientifically-evidenced statement in early 2016.

A worrying example of human impacts on wild animal welfare came to light at the end of the year, when information emerged about the shooting of beavers in the Tayside region of Scotland. Post-mortem examinations showed that a number of pregnant or lactating mothers had been killed, while others had been shot inexpertly or with the wrong ammunition, causing unnecessary suffering. OneKind responded strongly to this issue, demanding full protection for these harmless, once indigenous animals.



Ending the use of wild animals in circuses

For years, OneKind has taken a leading role in work to prevent the use of wild animals in circuses in Scotland. There are still no circuses based in Scotland but three tigers and two lions spent last winter at a centre in Aberdeenshire – a scenario that OneKind has repeatedly warned against, but which cannot be prevented until wild animal circuses are banned.

In June, the Scottish Government published the results of its public consultation, showing 98% support from respondents for a ban on the use of wild animals for performance in circuses. OneKind and Born Free Foundation held meetings with Scottish Government officials and MSPs and issued a joint briefing to all MSPs. At the end of June a Scottish Parliament Motion calling for a ban attracted cross-party support.

In response to parliamentary questions throughout the year, Cabinet Secretary Richard Lochhead MSP said that he was considering a ban on ethical grounds. By the end of the session, no proposal had emerged but the SNP manifesto contained a further commitment for a ban.

Raising awareness

In the news

OneKind had a strong profile in the press over 2015. Here are our top five stories from the year.

OneKind secures exotic pet review - In early 2015 our success in securing a complete review of the legislation that is meant to protect exotic pets was widely reported across Scottish media and beyond. The fact that this was a result of a OneKind campaign was made very clear, with the [BBC reporting](#) that “Environment Secretary Richard Lochhead announced the plan following talks with animal welfare charity OneKind”. As well as raising OneKind’s profile, the coverage helped convey our concerns over the exotic pet trade and our proposed solutions to a wide audience.



“OneKind believes that the most effective means of solving these problems is to limit the quest for ever more unusual specimens as so-called pets.”
Libby Anderson, OneKind Policy Advisor

Speaking up for animals in captivity - In March, Edinburgh zoo announced a third attempt at artificial insemination of their captive pandas. OneKind opposed this on welfare grounds and we successfully ensured the media responded to this news with balance rather than simply welcoming it without question. [Libby Anderson, our Policy Advisor](#), was widely quoted, arguing that “we have always believed that it is misguided to attempt to breed more captive pandas in Edinburgh Zoo when they will never return to the wild or improve protection for the wild population in their native habitat.”

Keeping the pressure on circuses – OneKind has long campaigned for a ban on the use of wild animals in circuses. In June we secured [extensive coverage](#) of the fact that 98 % of respondents to a Scottish Government consultation supported a ban.

Opposing the cruelty of electric shock collars - At the beginning of 2015 OneKind helped secure a parliamentary debate on whether electric shock collars should be made illegal. The [media coverage](#) of this debate and OneKind’s arguments as to why Scotland should follow Wales and ban these cruel devices helped us secure a full consultation on whether a ban should be introduced. The consultation closed at the beginning of 2016 and we hope it will lead to a ban in Scotland.

Boxing day marks the beginning of the end for fox hunting in Scotland - OneKind campaigned throughout Autumn 2015 to get the loopholes in the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002 closed so that fox hunting is banned for good in Scotland. On Boxing Day we were delighted to welcome the Scottish Government’s announcement that the legislation would be reviewed by Lord Bonomy. [The review and our response to it](#) dominated the news coverage of fox hunting in Scotland on Boxing Day; a key day in the hunting calendar that usually attracts positive media attention.

“Fox-hunting is supposedly banned in Scotland, yet if you were to attend any meet in Scotland today it would be perfectly clear that little has changed since the law came into force in 2002.”
Harry Huyton, Director of OneKind



Online

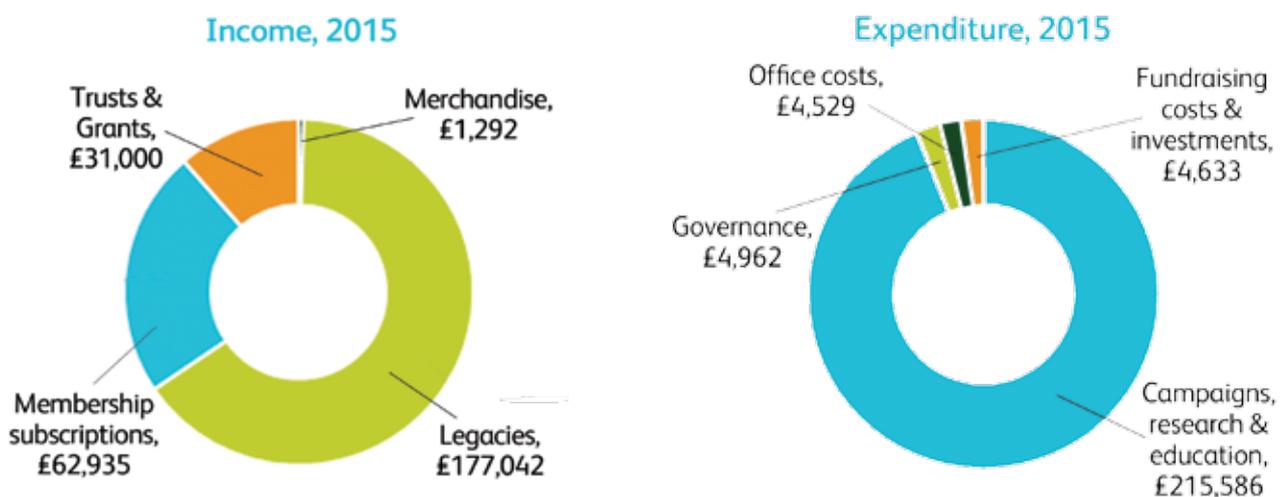
OneKind’s online presence continued to grow, providing a vital medium to get our message to a large audience within Scotland and across the world. Our website attracted 3.65 million users and 6.90 million page views in 2015. Most of this traffic was to our education pages and it originates from across the world, particularly the USA, India and the UK. In 2016 we plan to continue to review and grow the content in our education pages and to repackage them so that they are clearly for a global audience, distinct from our campaigns, investigations and education work in Scotland.

Financial review

Financial review

In 2015, OneKind raised £272,269 in charitable donations and earned £1,362 on the small amount of investments we hold as contingency. Our expenditure was £235,132, which meant our net income for 2015 was £38,499. This slightly strengthened OneKind's financial position going into 2016, however the increased income relative to 2014 (£163,322) was almost entirely due to legacies; a very welcome but unpredictable income source.

Looking ahead to 2016 and beyond, legacy income is expected to be significantly reduced. This is in line with the experience of the rest of the charity sector and is a major challenge for OneKind. OneKind therefore needs to grow its membership subscriptions and continue to develop its income from Trusts if we are to become financially sustainable and, in the longer term, if we are to grow. Growth is our long-term aim given the continued and unprecedented scale of animal suffering in Scotland and beyond.



94 % of our expenditure in 2015 went straight to our campaigns, research and education work that aims to end cruelty to Scotland's animals.

Thank you

On behalf of the animals we protect, OneKind would like to say thank you to all of our supporters and donors in 2015. OneKind is entirely dependent on the generosity of individuals. We don't take money from Government or businesses that might compromise our ability to speak up for animals.

In particular, we would like to give our thanks to the following individuals who left legacies to OneKind in 2015: Isabella Crawford Merrilees, Joan Dorcus Harris, Christina Robertson Rutherford, Robert Green, Norman Victor Dives, Queenie May Morrison, Robert Liddel White, Jean Mavis Perkins, Ellen McGregor, Ernest Leslie Thorley, and Christina Robertson Rutherford. Their generosity will be remembered, and their legacy will be a world that is kinder to animals.

We would also like to thank the following Trusts and organisations for their generous support of OneKind's work in 2015: The Alpaone Trust, the James Thom Howat Charitable Trust, the Lush Charity Pot, The Persula Foundation, the RS Macdonald Charitable Trust, the Russell Trust, the Walker 597 Animal Trust, the Walter P M Lawrie Trust.



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