

**The Self Help Group for Farmers, Pet Owners and Others experiencing difficulties
with the RSPCA (The SHG)**

Press Release

For Immediate Release

22nd May 2008

RSPCA KILLS PENSIONER'S DOG WHILE SHE'S IN HOSPITAL

SHG says elderly people and animals at risk from RSPCA

The SHG condemns the killing of another elderly woman's pet dog by the RSPCA. Jean Stack was forced to leave her Yorkshire terrier, Whiskey, alone when she was taken into Whiston hospital. It seems that the tragedy occurred because the RSPCA were just a little bit quicker at killing a dog than usual.

Anne Kasica of the SHG said:

"This is a very sad story, but far from unique. The RSPCA acts as if it is above the law."

"Nothing can replace Whiskey. Jean's loss is terrible, particularly when she, like many other pensioners, was so keen to see her dog looked after properly."

"Our advice to anyone is that, if you don't want your pet killed, don't involve the RSPCA."

"We are mostly involved when things go wrong, but people do often seek our advice as to how their dogs and other pets might be looked after if something happens to them."

"Our advice is simple – make arrangements to leave your money and your pets to the Cinnamon Trust. This is a responsible charity, which works to keep elderly people and their animals together, and which really cares about animals and people. They will never put a healthy dog down, unlike the RSPCA, and they can make good use of your money."

Ernest Vine, also of the SHG said:

"The RSPCA are killing healthy dogs all the time, but they will still take your money."

"Before killing a dog, the RSPCA will claim that they have 'tried to re-home it', despite having been severely criticised by animal lovers for the inflexibility of their re-homing policy leading to the loss of many excellent homes."

"The RSPCA will then feed your money to their greedy lawyers, who they pay over £200,000 per week to prosecute people."

"The story of Whiskey shows just how hard they try to re-home animals. We are very concerned by the number of cruelty cases that the RSPCA is taking against the elderly, and also at the truly immense cost of the RSPCA's lawyers. Only last week, we have learned that one cruelty trial will last ten weeks and the RSPCA prosecutes thousands of people a year for cruelty."

“I suppose their answer to it all is simple – just kill as many animals as you can and they will not suffer.”

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Notes to Editors: -

The original investigation into Whiskey’s killing was conducted by Vicki Kellaway of the Liverpool Echo.

1. The Liverpool Echo has reported that the RSPCA has already apologised for its “blunder”. The charity’s excuse this time is apparently that “they had no way of knowing the dog was anything other than a stray”. *Presumably, the RSPCA believes that its policy of killing strays so quickly is a popular one with the public and will be readily understood.*
2. This is a tragic story, but far from unique. The RSPCA puts down thousands of healthy dogs a year. It admits to killing more than 2,000 perfectly healthy animals – that’s more than 40 a week.
3. Jean Stack had no idea her dog had been destroyed until she came back from hospital. She asked her son to inquire about the dog’s whereabouts, and he was told that Whiskey had been destroyed the same day. After Mrs Stack was taken into hospital, Whiskey was subsequently taken from her home in Huyton to the local police station. He was then transferred to the RSPCA in Halewood, where it was apparently assumed that he was a stray.
4. Mr Stack said:

“Mum had a turn so the carer decided to call an ambulance. I’ve told her what happened, she keeps forgetting and asking me where her dog has gone.”

5. RSPCA Liverpool branch secretary John Smallwood said:

“Everyone at the scene acted in good faith but unfortunately nobody advised us Whiskey was anything other than a stray.”

References:

[I’m so sad to have lost my best pal](#)

Liverpool Echo, UK - 9 hours ago

AN ELDERLY woman’s pet dog was put down by the **RSPCA** while she was in hospital. Jean Stack was forced to leave her Yorkshire terrier, Whiskey, ...

The Cinnamon Trust

<http://www.cinnamon.org.uk/>

RSPCA Policy Inflexible

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/7410808.stm>

Useful Contacts:

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The SHG was officially formed in June 1990 and has been helping people to defend themselves and their animals from the RSPCA ever since.

The national help line number is **08700 72 66 89**

A copy of this and previous press releases from The SHG are online at

<http://www.the-shg.org/SHGPressReleases.htm>

Background information on the Self Help Group for Farmers Pet Owners and Other Experiencing Difficulties with the RSPCA can be found at <http://www.the-shg.org>

Details of further criticisms of the RSPCA can be found at the RSPCA-Animadversion website:

<http://cheetah.webtribe.net/~animadversion>