



# Annual report

April 2017- March 2018

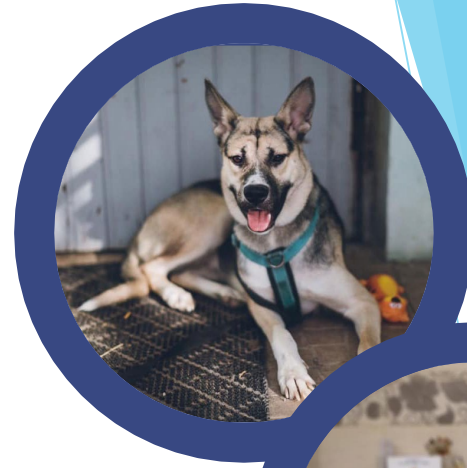
Charity Commission Registration Number: 1155562



# Overview

- ▶ This was a tough but nevertheless a successful year for us.
- ▶ Our main challenge this year was to maintain our ongoing programmes and develop our affiliated Russian charity - Russian LAPA - despite the disruption to our work caused by a serious and long-term illness of an active member of our small team - our Founder and Trustee Natalia Chumak. We are pleased to report that we managed to overcome this challenge.
- ▶ Our main achievement this year was that our bespoke educational programme for children on responsible and safe treatment of animals received recognition and support from a leading international welfare charity Dogs Trust Worldwide and their Grant Programme for international educational projects.
- ▶ We are grateful to everyone who supports our work and makes it possible for us to help animals who cannot help themselves.

Thank you!



# Our income

- ▶ Our annual income has gradually increased over the years and reached **£63,159** in **2017/2018**. This has allowed us to maintain a consistent level of commitment in relation to our ongoing programmes and build up a healthy reserve. The main sources of income growth continued to be public donations and donations from one of our trustees as well as a receipt of a grant from Dogs Trust Worldwide to support the growth of our educational programme.

Income received



# Sterilisation programme

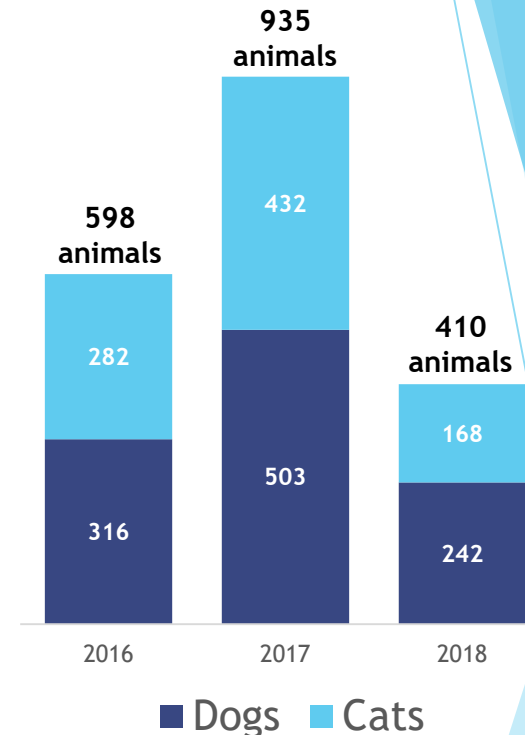
This year we have paid for the sterilisation of **410 animals** (**242 dogs** and **168 cats**). This is a lower number than last year, but for a good reason. We had to introduce significant changes due to the registration of Russian LAPA in October 2016. As a result, we had to downsize temporarily in order to allow for the new system to settle down.

Despite the modest numbers, as far as we know, our sterilisation programme remained one of the largest privately financed sterilisation programmes in Russia.

**One female cat** can give birth to 3 - 4 kittens at a time 3 - 4 times a year. That's **up to 16 kittens a year**. **One female dog** can give birth to 4 - 15 puppies at a time 1 - 2 times a year. That's **up to 30 puppies a year**.

Many will die suffering and the survivors will go on to reproduce at the same rate. So you can see how quickly the numbers can add up.

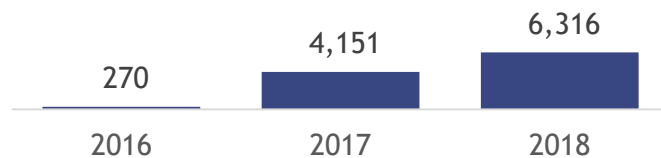
This makes our programme so important. Not only sterilisation saves and improves the life of every cat and dog sterilised, but each sterilisation also prevents the birth of thousands of unwanted kittens and puppies who are destined to die early or suffer their whole, often short, lives.



# Educational programme

- ▶ With support from Dog Trust Worldwide we became the only dedicated team in Russia with a full-time teacher on board leading our educational programme. This year we have conducted **328 lessons** and reached out to **6,316 children**. This represents a c.50% increase compared to the previous year. This is our first year of conducting our educational programme on a full-time basis all year round and it has proven to be very successful.
- ▶ We conducted our lessons in **36 schools**, **4 kindergardens**, **3 summer school camps** and a number of non- school locations.

Children reached





# Educational programme (contd.)

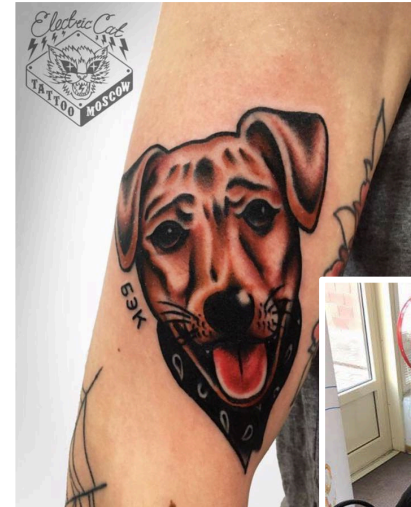
- ▶ Our programme has evolved significantly with the introduction of a full-time professional teacher.
- ▶ It now consists of 3 sequential lessons tailored to a number of age groups compared to 1 lessons for all ages that we had before.
- ▶ We have developed good relationships with some schools and try to visit each class for at least 2 lessons out of 3 available within each programme. The repeat visits help to improve the impact of our lessons.
- ▶ We offer our lessons in Russian or English which makes them more versatile and more attractive to schools.
- ▶ We are keen to maintain the highest professional standards in delivering our course. In March 2018 our teacher attended a specialist training programme organised by Dogs Trust in London.
- ▶ Our programme remains the leading educational programme in Russia for children on responsible treatment of animals.



# Our activities and events

## ELECTRIC CAT TATTOO, April 2017

A Moscow based tattoo studio Electric Cat Tattoo carried out a fundraising project for LAPA and for a Moscow based municipal shelter "Pechatniki". They offered animal tattoos to their customers and donated the proceeds to us. We have spent the funds raised on sterilising 3 animals from "Loyal Friend" shelter in Kaluga.



## ECO FAIR, April 2017

Russian LAPA took part in the annual Eco-Fair organised by the Anglo-American School of Moscow. We were previously welcomed by this school with our educational programmes.

The children played with our puppet characters Peach and SnowPea and took part in our quiz on what dogs and cats need to be happy. The children concluded that people and animals want very similar things - water, food, shelter, play and a loving family.



# Our activities and events

## CONFERENCE, April 2017

At the end of April Russian LAPA took part in a conference organised by a leading Russian university in Moscow - Moscow Institute of International Relations. The conference was focused on the topic of interaction between animals and humans in the urban environment. That included the issue of stray animals as well as other issues such as wild life, parks, zoos, etc.

We gave a presentation about our educational programme and we also had a stand in the lobby so that our team could talk to the participants of the conference about our work. There were a few students at the conference and we hope that they took away something positive from this event.





# Our activities and events

## FAMILY PETS FESTIVAL, July 2017

We held a summer festival "Family pets" in Kuzminki park in Moscow which was a great success. Hundreds of people came over and brought along their four-legged family members.

There were lots of activities on the day, including interactive lectures from a vet and a dog behaviourist for adult pet owners, workshops for kids, face painting and an interactive show for all the visitors.

Our raffle and charity stall were very popular too and generated more than £500 which was shared between a municipal shelter "Pechatniki" and Russian LAPA. All the money was spent on helping animals.

The festival promoted the "Adopt from shelters, Don't Buy" principle and raised awareness on how the stray overpopulation issue can be resolved, how best to look after their pets. We also educated people on how they can make a difference as part of their every day lives.



# Our activities and events

## CATCAFE MOSCOW, July 2017

We organised an interactive lesson about responsible pet ownership in the Catcafe in Moscow. This is an amazing café which is a home for a dozen beautiful rescued cats. Customers have a chance to enjoy a cup of tea and spend some time with the cats.

A lot of people who live in big cities cannot have a pet due to their lifestyles or restrictions by landlords. Visiting a catcafe is a great chance to have some quality time with furry and purry friends, and it promotes the idea of adopting animals from the shelters.



# Our activities and events

## COVERAGE ON TV, March 2018

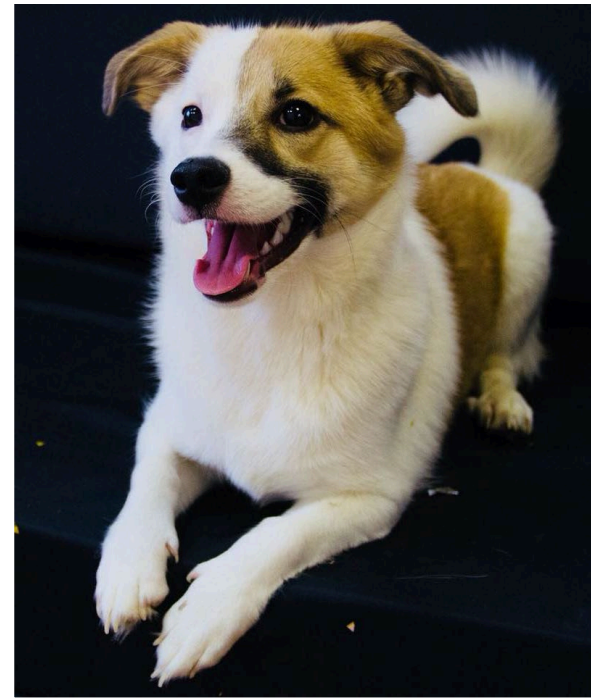
LAPA's work has received [great coverage on Russian TV \("Vidnoe TV"\)](#).

Our teacher, Galina Novak (featured in the video), conducted several lessons for primary school children in a public library in a town of Vidnoe in the Moscow region. These lessons attracted local media.

During the lessons the children were very engaged. The issues discussed included where stray animals come from and how to prevent animal suffering by being responsible pet owners.

When interviewed, Galina explained to the reporter that our lessons had a broader benefit as well. By learning about responsibility towards animals children also learn about essential human values which are important for their every day lives and not just in respect of animals.

Some children were also interviewed and they said (in a very grown up way) that animals should not be abandoned and that there are many stray animals who need our help. We were very proud of these kids!



# What's next

There is a lot of work to be done and we have a busy year ahead. It is clear to us that we need to focus our efforts on developing our presence in Russia. This will be our priority next year.

We also hope to increase awareness about our work and generate more support for our work in the UK, especially among the Russian-speaking community in the UK.







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