



## **CANINE PARTNERS**

Opening doors to independence



... from puppy

... to partner



# Annual Review 2005

## Our Mission:

The purpose of Canine Partners is to assist people with disabilities to enjoy a greater independence and a better quality of life and, where possible, to help them into education and employment, through the provision of specially trained dogs, whose well-being is a key consideration.

## The Charity

Canine Partners is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The Charity was formed on 27 June 1990 as Assistance Dogs for Disabled People. The name was changed later to Canine Partners, which is a registered charity.

<b>Patron:</b>	HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO
<b>Vice Patrons:</b>	Mrs Penny Vincenzi Mr Charles Vance
<b>Vice Presidents:</b>	Mr Chris Moon MBE MSc Mrs Elizabeth Ormerod MRCVS Mr Roger Jefcoate CBE Hon MA
<b>Trustees:</b>	Captain David Newberry MSc CEng RN (retd) (Chairman) Mrs Nicky Pendleton DipCOT MSc(Rehab) MBAOT (Vice Chair) Mr Philip Currie MBA FCA (Treasurer) Rear Admiral Colin Cooke-Priest CB Mr Allen Parton Mr Simon Clare BSc EdM FInstPet Mrs Jo Coulson (retired 28 April 2005) Mrs Jan Egerton CMCIPD (appointed 17 March 2005) Mr Spiro Sueref BSc(Hons) PGCert NutrMed RNutr Dr Keith Barnett OBE PhD FRCVS Mrs Gillian Taylor BVSc (Hons) MRCVS Mr Patrick Quinn (retired 28 January 2005) Dr Georgina Richards BSc LLM Mrs Jo Eddings

*Front Cover: Margie Woodward with Canine Partner Renee.*

*Back Cover: Clockwise from top left – Staff, partners and Trustees; Ximenis & Yarra; Endal; Frodo.*

## Chairman's Report

Canine Partners has progressed a long way over the last 15 years and continues to grow. Although receiving no financial assistance from the Government, the charity has still managed to increase its income year on year since 1995 and now supports 86 operational partnerships throughout England and Wales.

Consolidation has continued at the Heyshott Training Centre during 2005. The management structure in particular has been reviewed and, as a result, the Training and Aftercare departments have been amalgamated under a new post of Operational Director. Relevant staff have received cross-training and the new arrangements are already proving to be very successful in improving overall efficiency and cost effectiveness.

In line with our policy of making the maximum use of the Training Centre, on-site partnership residential courses were introduced during the year. These are used in tandem with existing 2 week courses at Holton Lee in Dorset and are already playing a significant part in achieving our target output of 27 partnerships by the end of 2006. As a result of the success of this concept, the feasibility of building more on-site accommodation is currently under investigation.

In order to support the existing number of partnerships, the Fundraising department has been strengthened and the process of setting up puppy satellites to ease the puppy parent shortages, has continued apace with 5 now established as far apart as Hull and the Isle of Wight. Furthermore, extending operations into Scotland is also under consideration and to test the temperature of the water two presentations were held recently in Glasgow and at Gleneagles. Both were very well received and there is undoubtedly much support for the idea, and as a result, many offers of future help were received.

We very much appreciate the continuing involvement of our Royal Patron, His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO, our Vice Patrons, Vice Presidents and the Fundraising Committee. This, coupled with hard working and committed Trustees, experienced and dedicated staff and the unstinting support of our volunteers, donors and supporters, puts Canine Partners in a strong position to face the challenges of the future.



David Newberry  
Chairman



## Achievements 2005

### A Royal Opening

His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO officially opened our new National Training Centre on Friday 17th June 2005. Completion of the Training Centre marks a significant milestone for Canine Partners, as we hope to double the number of assistance dogs trained here over the next 5 years.

Over 200 loyal supporters, donors, volunteers and fundraisers attended the event that was officially opened by our Patron, HRH The Duke of Gloucester. Canine Partners has been converting what was a disused polo yard into its National Training Centre, for the past 2 years, at a cost of £1.8 million. As the Charity itself receives no government funding, it is wholly dependent on public donations and legacies, help from the National Lottery and organisations such as Nestlé Purina, Zurich Financial Services and Morgan Stanley Investment.

Chairman David Newberry said "Our new Training Centre will help us to increase the number of people with disabilities whose lives we can transform with a Canine Partner. The Charity has come a long way in the past 15 years and we have ambitious goals for the coming years. Having our Patron HRH The Duke of Gloucester to open the Training Centre really puts a royal seal of approval on all the hard work and dedication we receive from our loyal staff and supporters, without whom we wouldn't be here."



## Project Synergy – Still going strong

Introduced in 2004, Project Synergy set out to recruit suitable candidates from Ford Open Prison as trainee canine training staff, in conjunction with the Inside Out Trust. Phase 1 of the project was to commence educating candidates in the skills of dog training in a constructive and harmonious environment, whilst ensuring overall supervision and preparation for a return to the Community.

"To date, Project Synergy has been an unqualified success and we have offered long-term employment to one of the current candidates," said Terry Knott, Chief Executive of Canine Partners. "Working with the dogs has had a major impact on behavioural issues with the candidates involved, which reinforces our beliefs that dogs can help humans in many different ways, both physically and mentally."

The Canine Partners' Council has agreed to expand the programme by taking on more candidates and is currently looking into having a puppy training facility on site at Ford Open Prison. The Charity is also working with the Home Office National Offenders Management Service (NOMS) to introduce this scheme to other national Assistance Dog organisations.



Andy Howe of NOMS comments, "Project Synergy provides prisoners with the opportunity to deliver reparative work in the community and begin the process of reintegrating back into society, as well as developing new skills to help them find employment on release. Reducing re-offending is at the heart of NOMS and the development of alliances, such as this one, will hopefully encourage other employers to take on offenders, making reducing re-offending everyone's responsibility."

## Objectives 2006

### Project GOSPEL – Gatehouse On-Site Project Enabling Learning

Project Gospel was launched in late 2005 as a pilot study, to start training disabled applicants on-site using existing facilities. The aim was to develop a future model to move all applicant training and matching to Heyshott.

Currently all applicant assessment is carried out at Heyshott, in a series of one-day visits by the applicants. After sufficient successful training days have been completed, the applicants are invited to a 2-week residential training course at Holton Lee in Dorset, a facility the charity has used for many years but which requires staff to be off-site for 14 days (including weekends) and results in Advanced Training ceasing during these times.

The move to on-site training enables the charity to complement the existing Holton Lee courses with one-to-one training courses five days a week. This enables both the applicants and staff to have a break at weekends and also enables the charity to continue Advanced Training as fewer Trainers are required to work with one applicant.

In December 2005, the first applicant was invited to on-site training and spent two weeks (excluding weekends) being trained intensively on a one-to-one basis using the Gatehouse (an adapted, accessible cottage) at our Training Centre. The applicant, Wendy Brown successfully graduated on 16th December 2005 with Wexford.

Following the first applicant, the new Charitable Operations department (Partnership and Training) reviewed the activities carried out and a list of changes were suggested to improve the systems in place for the second applicant.

By Summer 2006 we aim to have graduated an additional five applicants using the on-site training. During this time, the Charitable Operations department will be continually evaluating progress.

The future aim is to build accessible units on-site to enable the charity to train and match up to 8 applicants at any time without incurring external costs and whilst continuing our Advanced Training simultaneously. This has the potential to launch at least 60 partnerships per year. The Council of Trustees intend to commence building work in late 2006, or early 2007.



## Zurich Financial Services

Canine Partners are delighted to be in their 6th year of support from the Zurich Community Trust (UK) Ltd, the charitable arm of Zurich in the UK.

The Zurich Community Trust began supporting Canine Partners in 2001, initially for a 3 year partnership with £60,000 funding over the 3 years, jointly funded by the Zurich Community Trust and the staff of Zurich. During 2003 the staff agreed to continue the partnership for a further 2 years with increased funding of £50,000 per annum. In 2005 the staff from Zurich chose to continue for a further two years, taking the partnership to 7 years.

During the partnership to date, Canine Partners has received £215,000 in grants over 5 years to support the costs of Dog Training, Aftercare Support, Staff Training Fund and the costs of a senior Trainer for one year. Canine Partners has also received 'skillshare' assistance during the partnership to provide presentation skills to our volunteers and some of our disabled Partners; website advice; human resources and computer training.

We have also received items of equipment and prizes for events together with an additional £2,500 from staff fundraising activities. In addition, 6 volunteer challenges have been completed by staff, carrying out DIY projects at our Training Centre or helping with events. In 2006 a further 4 challenges will take place.

Canine Partners and Zurich have developed an excellent partnership, with awareness of the charities activities and partnerships being well-known among many of the staff. Whilst Canine Partners has welcomed the financial support we have received, we also value highly the interpersonal relationships that have been created and the significant level of support we receive from staff at events and shows. Canine Partners appreciates this additional support immensely.



# Financial Review 2005

## The Accounts

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 December 2005 and Balance Sheet at that date, shown on the following page, have been drawn up in conformity to SORP 2005 and of necessity, for comparison purposes, 2004 figures in some areas have been re-analysed.

The Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet are an exact copy of those incorporated in the Trustees Report and Financial Statements for 2005 which received an unqualified audit opinion on 4 April 2006. A copy of the full Trustees Report and Financial Statements for 2005 may be obtained from the Company Secretary on application to the Charity's registered office.

## The Year's Results

The Charity's total incoming resource amounted to £1,011,959 and whilst down on 2004 the direct comparison, excluding restricted building funding, of incoming resources for running the charity, showed an increase this year of 15.5%.

With the total resources expended on achieving income level, governance and charitable activities amounting to £963,306, a further £48,202 has been added to the general reserves. Expenditure increased by 11.9%.

## The Charity's Reserves at 31 December 2005

	£
General Operating Fund	234,811
Designated Building Fund	280,000
Restricted General Operating Fund	47,994
Restricted Building Fund	1,445,574
Total Reserve	2,008,379

The Trustees, at current level of partnerships, assess that a reserve equating to some three months of operating cost is required to cover their ongoing maintenance. The current General Operating Fund falls marginally short of need.

## Tangible Fixed Assets

Fixed assets held by the Charity are motor vehicles, computers, office furniture and equipment, dog training equipment and freehold land and buildings all of which are held for the charity's operational use.

Whilst there was minimal purchase of fixed assets in the year amounting to £9,982, covering final building costs and equipment, the overall Balance Sheet value on last year fell by £45,464 after charge for depreciation of £55,446.

## Income

Within the overall increase of 15.5% (excluding Building Fund donations) reported earlier:

Donations from all sources held steady for the year falling by just 1% to £778,821.

Legacy bequests increased in the year by 216% to £229,118

Investment income fell, as expected through depletion of deposits to cover building costs, by 74% to £3,855.

There was also a small surplus made on disposal of a minor asset amounting to £165.

## Expenditure

Resources expended in running the Charity for the year amounted to £963,306, excluding amortization of the new training centre, and grew by some 11.9% on 2004.

Total staff costs account for 57.6% of the year's expenditure. Charitable operational staff increased by 3 this year to cope with the training and placing of additional dogs to meet the rising partnership targets. This, in the main, accounts for the rise in staff cost of 14.7% over last year. Other costs increased by 8.2%.

Cost of generating funds was held steady with a small increase of 4.4%.

Charitable activity costs grew by 15.6% mainly due to additional staff.

Governance costs of £32,001 represents 3.2% of total cost of running the charity and comprise:

	£
Staff time and administration costs	14,371
Trustee Insurance	2,363
Audit Fees	3,323
Loan interest and charges	11,944

No Trustee drew any salary or fee during the year.

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income & Expenditure Account)  
for the year ended 31 December 2005**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds 2005 £	Total Funds 2004 £
		General	Designated	General	Building		
		£	£	£	£		
<b>Incoming resources</b>							
From generated funds							
Voluntary income		925,566	-	8,000	451	934,017	1,075,572
Activities for generating funds		73,922	-	-	-	73,922	85,859
Interest on deposited funds		3,855	-	-	-	3,855	14,863
Other incoming resources		165	-	-	-	165	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,003,508</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>1,011,959</b>	<b>1,176,294</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>							
Costs of generating funds							
Voluntary income		252,086	-	2,400	-	254,486	248,494
Cost of goods sold and other costs		46,177	-	-	-	46,177	39,395
		298,263		2,400		300,663	287,889
Charitable activities		603,770	-	26,872	32,132	662,774	545,395
Governance costs		32,001	-	-	-	32,001	27,681
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>934,034</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,272</b>	<b>32,132</b>	<b>995,438</b>	<b>860,965</b>
<b>Net incoming (outgoing) resources</b>		<b>69,474</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(21,272)</b>	<b>(31,681)</b>	<b>16,521</b>	<b>315,329</b>
Total funds brought forward		165,337	280,000	69,266	1,477,255	1,991,858	1,676,529
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>13/14</b>	<b>234,811</b>	<b>280,000</b>	<b>47,994</b>	<b>1,445,574</b>	<b>2,008,379</b>	<b>1,991,858</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2005**

	Notes	December 2005		December 2004	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Fixed Assets	8		2,030,557		2,076,021
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Sundry Stocks	9	25,278		25,958	
Sundry Debtors	10	135,388		19,460	
Short Term Deposits		107,607		118,613	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		20,593		47,553	
		288,866		211,584	
<b>Creditors</b> : Amounts falling due within one year	11	82,595		157,823	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			206,271		53,761
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>			2,236,828		2,129,782
<b>Liabilities</b> : Amounts falling due after more than one year	12		228,449		137,924
<b>Net Assets</b>			2,008,379		1,991,858
<b>Funds</b>					
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
General operating	13	234,811		165,337	
Designated new building	13	280,000	514,811	280,000	445,337
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
General operating	14	47,994		69,266	
New building	14	1,445,574	1,493,568	1,477,255	1,546,521
			2,008,379		1,991,858

We are grateful  
to everyone who has supported  
the work of Canine Partners



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