

The Brenda Phillips Memorial Health Fund

This fund was set up in 2007 and is to be kept and maintained within the Flatcoated Retriever Society. It is to be used to support health initiatives that relate to the breed and contribute to the funding of research in to diseases/conditions that affect the Flatcoated Retriever. Details of the fund's accounts are made available within the Society's annual accounts and published in the Yearbook.

In 2008 the fund was in the fortunate position to be able to donate money towards helping the AHT raise £50,000 for the purchase a piece of equipment used to treat primary glaucoma.

We were also able to subsidise DNA testing in October 2009 which allowed us to carry out a preliminary investigation into juvenile renal dysplasia. Subsequently in 2014, money from the fund was used to finance the provision of free DNA kits to owners of FCR affected with conditions under surveillance by the Society to enable collection and storage of DNA at the AHT for future research into those conditions.

Health seminars for Flatcoated Retriever owners were held in 2011 and in the summer of 2016. The recent seminar was provided free for Society members, the cost of the day being financed by the health fund and external sponsorship.

In the spring of 2016 the fund enabled us to donate £1000 in order that the FCR will be one of the 75 breeds to participate in the AHT/KC Give a Dog a Genome project (further information about this project is available on the DNA Research page in the health section on the Society website)

The Brenda Phillips Memorial Health Fund had a balance of just over £16,000 for the year ended 31st December 2015. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has organised fund-raising initiatives and for the donations that have been made to the health fund over the years. These include donations from litter recordings, sale of the Society calendar, donations from the patellar screening scheme carried out by Jane Alexander MRCVS at the Championship show, donations from raffles and the sale of very popular hand knitted socks to name but a few. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Brenda Phillips Memorial Health Fund can do so by contacting the Society's Hon. Treasurer.

November 2016.