

MUTT STRUT – 27th September 2009 Press Release Report

Altogether, providing walkers manage to collect all the sponsorship money pledged we will have raised over £1,000, including the proceeds of a tombola and raffle. Bill Stubbs, Branch Manager, for Wigan, Leigh and district Branch said: This result is a tribute to the hard work put in by the main organiser, Anne Scotson, who lives in Leigh, plus an army of helpers.'



We had a good team of helpers, with a dozen new volunteers and, despite the novelty of this venue, over 50 people walked mostly with dogs. There were 160 legs walking over 260 miles altogether. Six lively dogs were given a day out from a neighbouring RSPCA Animal Centre and they walked and ran round the course with a series of sponsored humans. The Park Rangers were also of great assistance.



'Bonzo' is the name of our new mascot - whose costume is worn by Gina Senior - the lady who has run the London Marathon for us. 'Bonzo' and Branch Vice-President Tom Fishwick lead out the first group of walkers (see attached picture).

We microchipped a dozen dogs and gave out lots of welfare advice and leaflets. We also had support from two members of the

Council's Environmental Services Team, who handed out huge numbers of free dog fouling bags and leaflets. Microchipping your pet really is the best way to ensure that your animal has the best chance of being safely returned if it becomes lost or is stolen.

Anne Scotson added: 'This money will spent directly on helping local animals. It is the first time in many years that the Branch has held a big event in Leigh, so we are grateful to the many local people who have supported the Mutt Strutt. Hopefully, if more people offer to help, we can make this an annual event at Pennington Flash Country Park.'

If people would like to volunteer to help their local RSPCA Branch, they may phone us on 01942 824165, email us on contactus@rspca-wigan.co.uk, or write/call into our charity shop at 54a Market Street, Wigan, WN1 1HX.
