Wild Bird Rescue Dorset

Charity Number: 1194952

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the period
1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

20th March 2024

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset
Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the Financial Period
from 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

Reference & Administration Details

Charity Details:

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration no: 1194952, registered with the Charity Commission on 25th June 2021.

The charity is registered with HM Revenue & Customs for Gift Aid.

Charity's Address

Phylcott, West Morden, Dorset, BH20 7EA
Phone: 07719658751
Email: sandy@wildbirdrescuedorset.uk
Website: www.wildbirdrescuedorset.uk
Facebook: facebook.com/wildbirdrescuedorset
Instagram: #wildbirdrescuedorset

Names of the Charity Trustees who Manage the Charity

Sandra Cristel Becker
Christopher Keevil
Karen Peirce
Angela Welch

Names & Addresses of Advisors

None

Bank

Lloyds Bank plc. Registered Office: 25 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7HN

Structure, Governance & Management

Type of Governing Document:

Constitution – based on the Charity Commission's model governing document for Foundation Charitable Incorporated Organisations, ie: where the Trustees are the only Members of the charity.

Governance

The charity is governed by the Trustees and meetings are held twice yearly, or more frequently if it is deemed necessary. Additional Trustees can be appointed by way of agreement by all existing Trustees by vote. All newly appointed and existing Trustees are reminded regularly of their responsibilities.

Risk Management

The Trustees have identified major risks which face the charity and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the effect of those risks. Trustees take reputational, operational, and financial risk very seriously. Risks are monitored regularly and managed positively to limit the adverse consequences that can arise from unfavourable events.

Organisation

The Trustees continue to discuss the financial affairs and management of the charity, and to leave the day-to-day running of the charity to its Founder Sandra Cristel Becker. In the event of any need to acquire capital items, this is presented to the trustees for their decision.

Trustee Selection Methods:

There must be at least three charity trustees. In accordance with the Constitution, Trustees are appointed or re-appointed for a term of one year, to be extended automatically unless otherwise dictated by terms laid out in the Constitution.

In appointing Trustees due consideration is given to ensuring that the Trustees have, among them, the skills and experience necessary to manage the charity effectively and in accordance with charity law.

Objects

Statutory Declaration on Public Benefit

The object of the CIO is for the benefit of the public;
To further the conservation and preservation of the wild bird species by providing a rescue, care and rehabilitation service for sick, injured, or orphaned wild birds, with the aim of eventually releasing them back to the wild to their natural habitat. Occasional rescue, care, rehabilitation and / or rehoming of other wild, abandoned, feral or injured creatures.

Activities & Performance

Statutory Declaration

The Trustees of Wild Bird Rescue Dorset confirm that they have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Wild Bird Care and Rehabilitation

During 2024, Wild Bird Rescue Dorset had an intake of 581 birds and 47 various species. We had a fantastic result this year of almost 65% of birds making a full recovery and were able to be released.

Due to our small set up and limited facilities and future funding, we aim to stay around 500 intakes maximum a year.

All release sites for fledglings were carefully vetted for safety and in line with the species' natural habitat. Older birds were mainly released back to their originating area to join their family and territory. We, once again, encountered an unprecedented number of "catted" birds this year, which many succumbed to infection, despite veterinary support and antibiotics. Catted birds amounted to well over half of intakes at almost 60%, which is drastic for the species of birds that are now heading towards being red listed.

We saw less pox and canker but more aspergillus infections this year, prevalent amongst wood pigeons, feral pigeons and collared doves. Many pigeons and doves died within a couple of days of being admitted, mainly from emaciation, most likely due to aspergillus infections, which is virtually impossible to cure despite trying various remedies.

We encouraged finders of any PMV and pox pigeons to be taken directly to a vet as our current quarantine facilities are not adequate to house more than 4. We are all under the agreement that any bird that is unable to be successfully rehabbed and released should be humanely put to sleep. To keep a wild animal in captivity promotes unnecessary cruelty and is not natural for any wild creature. Captivity due to incurable conditions such as PMV or severe wing damage etc, should not be normalized. This is also in keeping with the rules and protocols of our registration with the British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council.

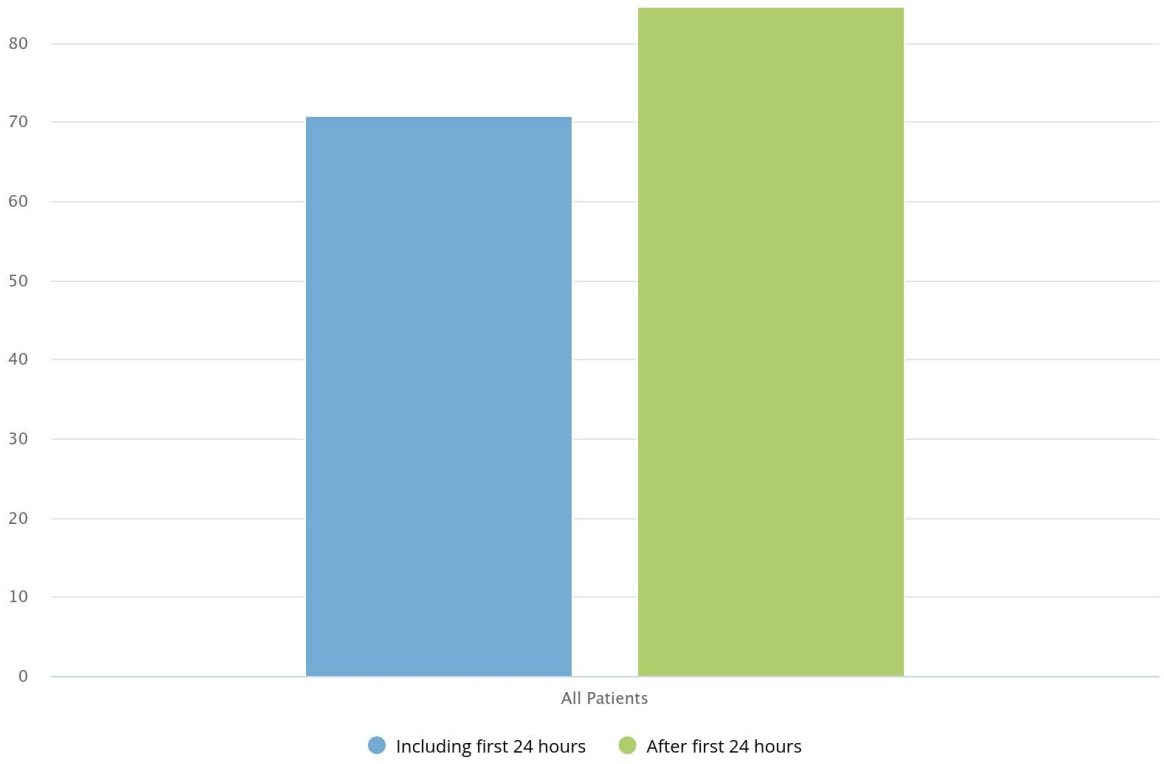
Blackbirds and starlings were down this year most likely due to the virus that has become prevalent primarily within that species called the Usutu virus (USUV). This is a mosquito-borne virus that can kill blackbirds and other birds. It was first detected in the UK in London in 2020. Birds show signs of weakness, lethargy, loss of coordination, and seizures and can die very suddenly.

Only 2.4% of birds were transferred to other rescues (rare species, sea birds, or raptors). We still have a good working relationship with other local rescues and will continue to exchange certain birds such as migratory fledglings so that the rehabbers who have a good existing flock can intake others of the same species, which ensures a better survival rate upon release. By allowing certain species being raised together and "sharing the load" between us all, meant we all have reasonable capacity. Moreover, the quality of care was not affected by the high numbers of varying species being cared for at the same time.

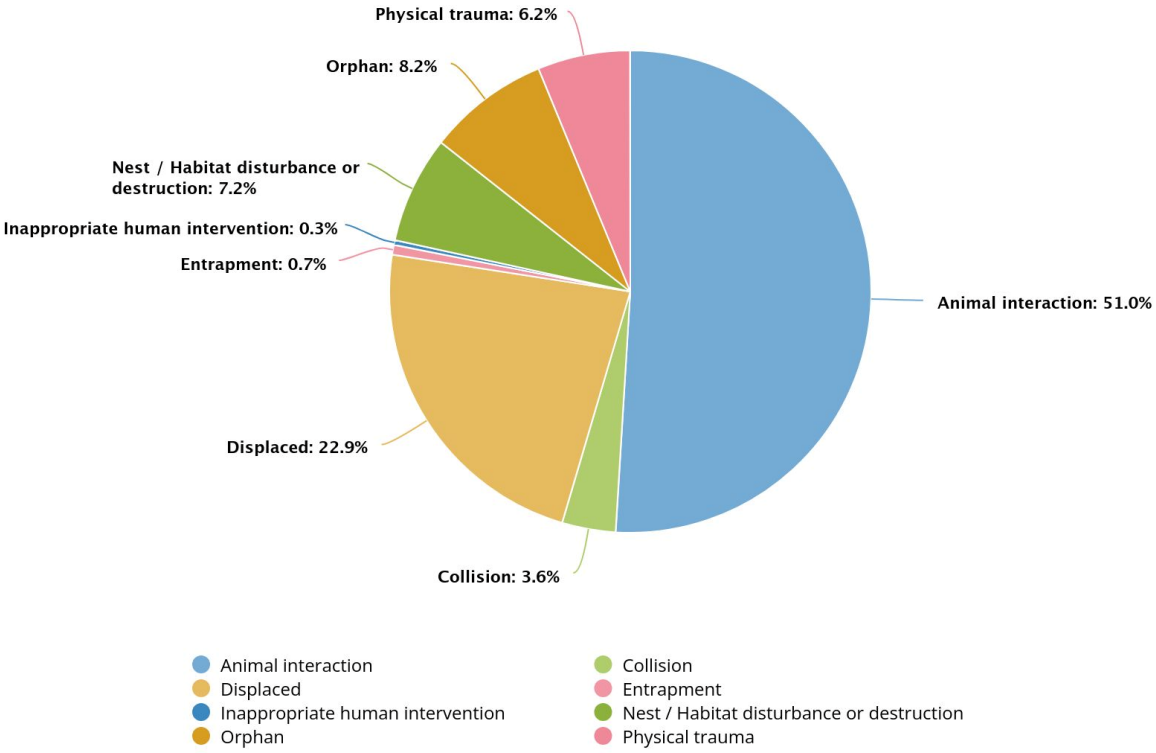
Overview: 375 birds made a full recovery and were released. 14 were transferred. 191 died in total either by euthanasia, dead on arrival, or passed away on site. 5 still in care.

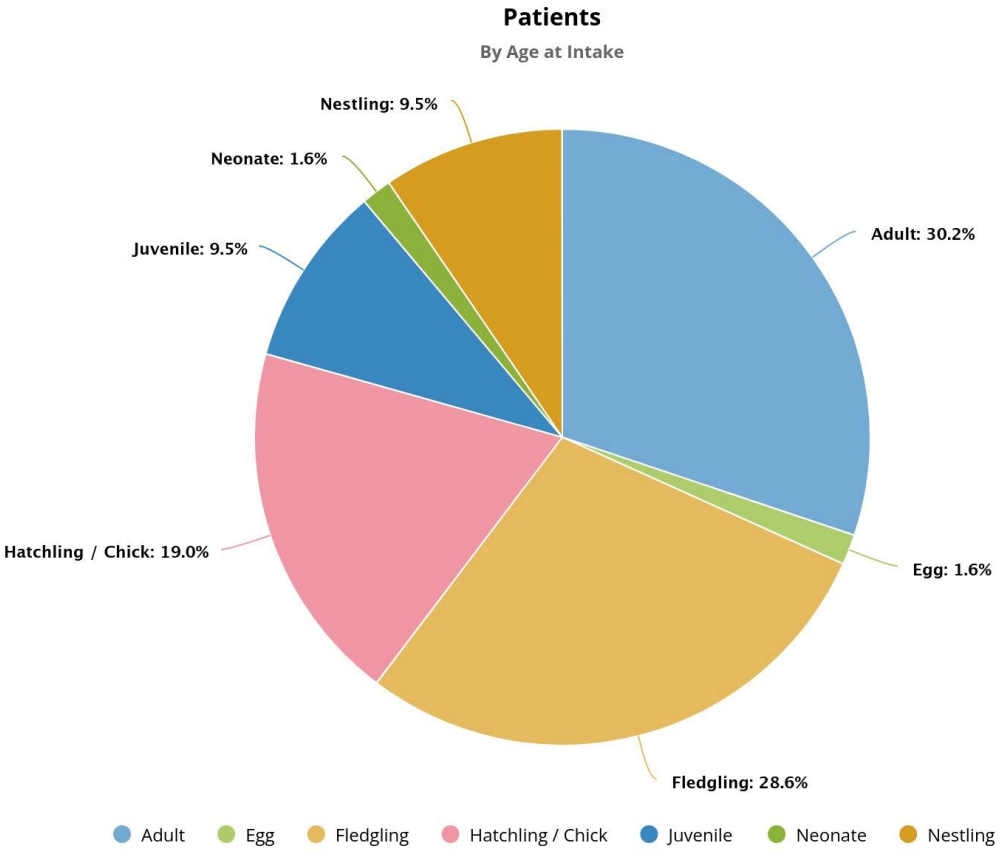
We were very lucky to have fantastic support from local vets and committed, hardworking support volunteers. Below are some informative pie charts of our intakes over the year.

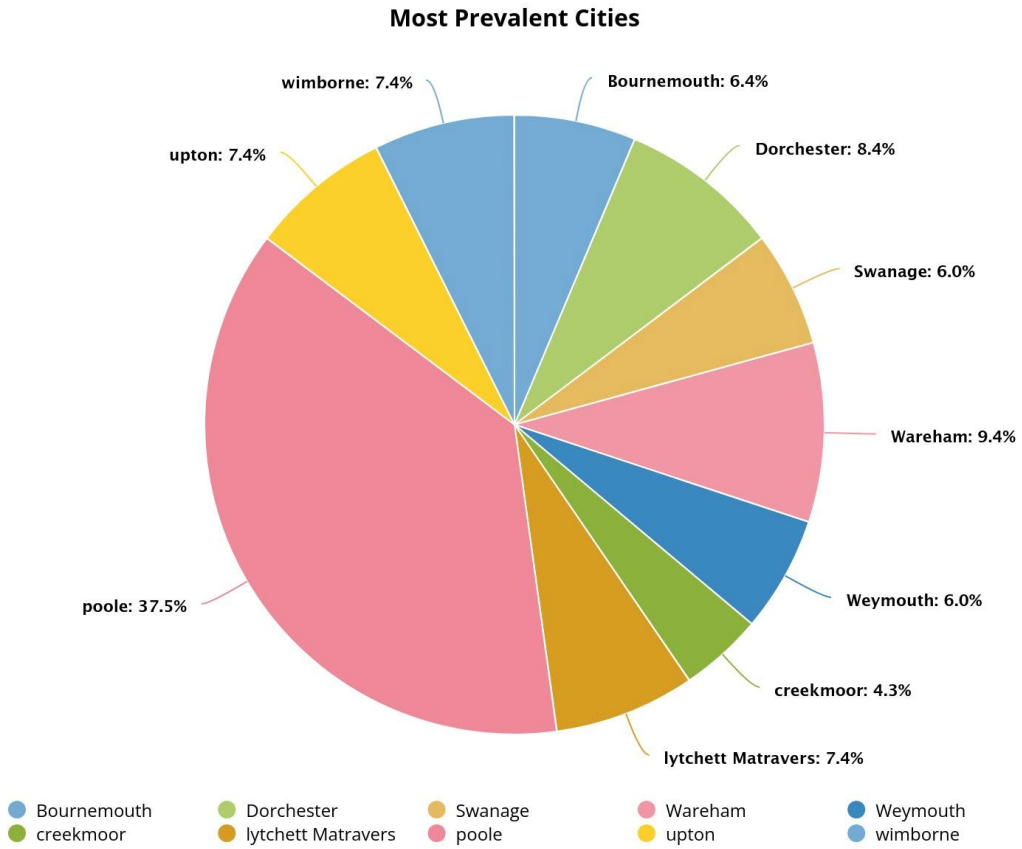
Survival Rate

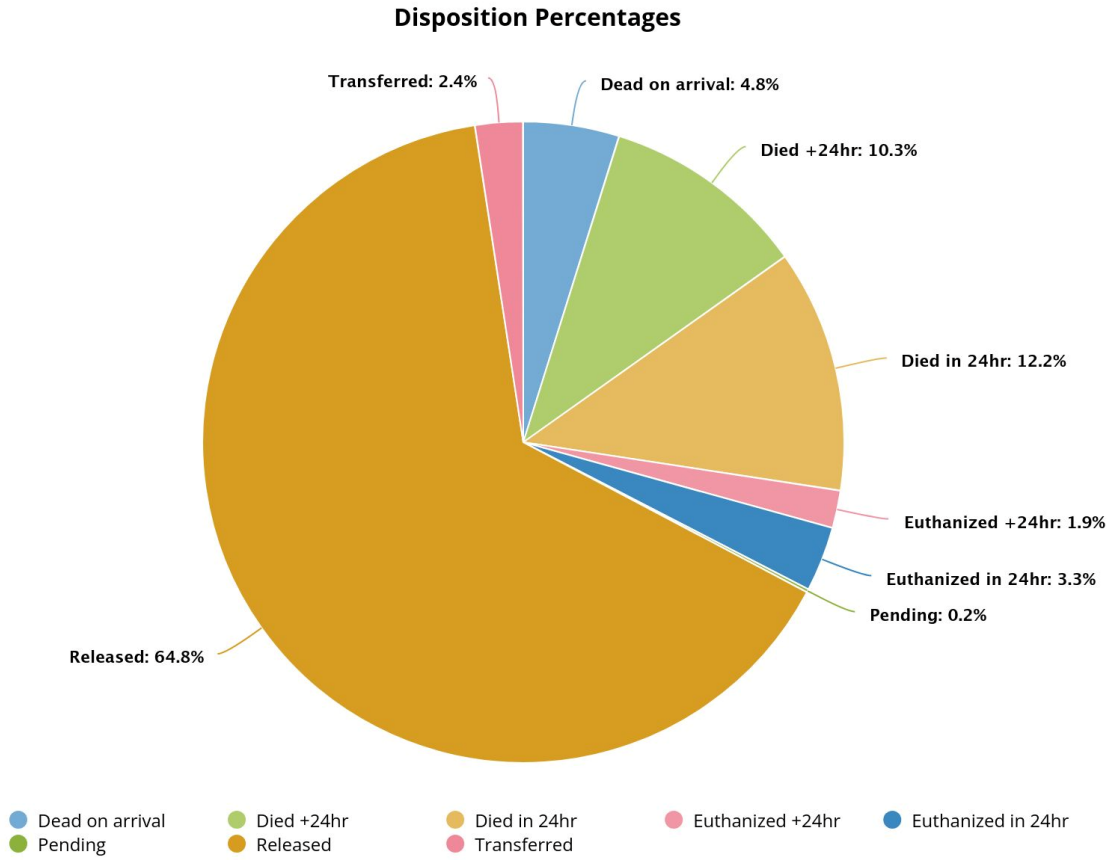


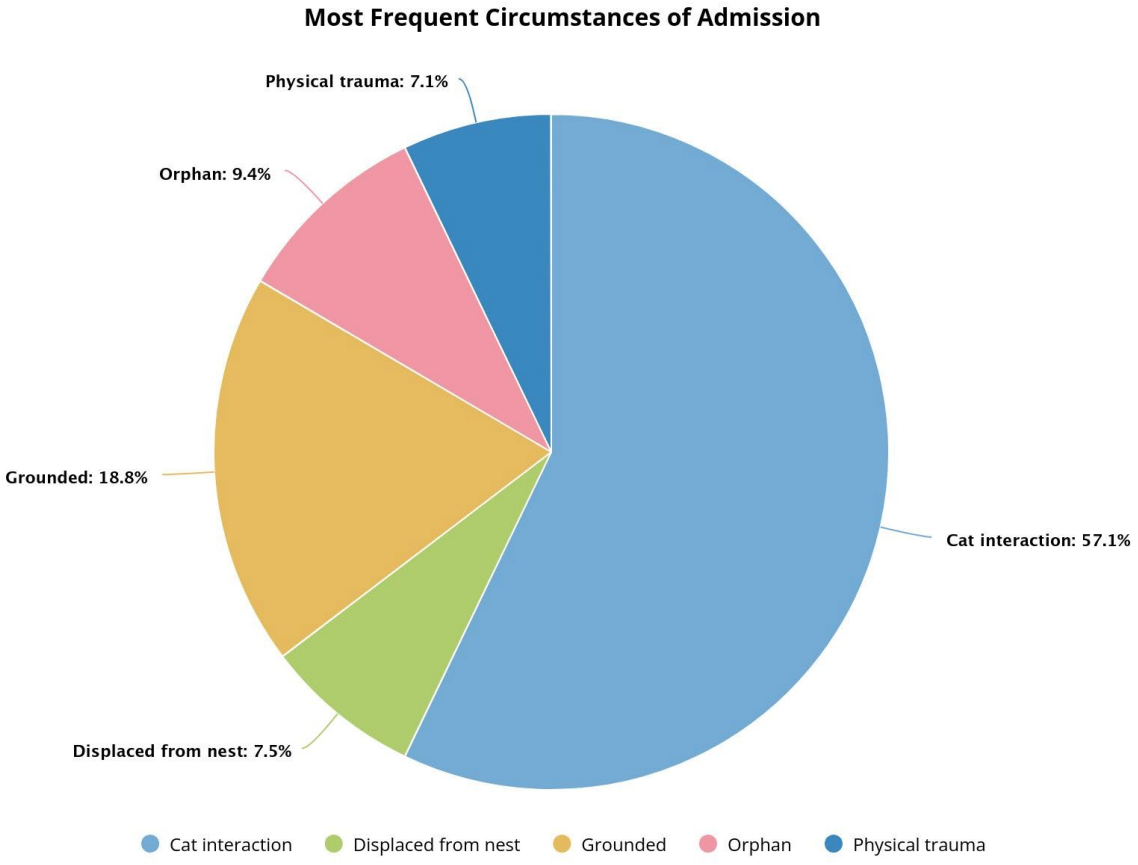
Root Circumstances of Admission




Patients
By Age at Intake
Nestling: 9.5%
Neonate: 1.6%
Juvenile: 9.5%
Adult: 30.2%
Hatchling / Chick: 19.0%
Egg: 1.6%
Fledgling: 28.6%
Adult
Egg
Fledgling
Hatchling / Chick
Juvenile
Neonate
Nestling


Most Prevalent Cities
wimborne: 7.4%
Bournemouth: 6.4%
upton: 7.4%
Dorchester: 8.4%
Swanage: 6.0%
Wareham: 9.4%
poole: 37.5%
Weymouth: 6.0%
creekmoor: 4.3%
lytchett Matravers: 7.4%
Bournemouth
Dorchester
Swanage
Wareham
Weymouth
creekmoor
lytchett Matravers
poole
upton
wimborne


Disposition Percentages
Transferred: 2.4%
Dead on arrival: 4.8%
Died +24hr: 10.3%
Died in 24hr: 12.2%
Euthanized +24hr: 1.9%
Euthanized in 24hr: 3.3%
Pending: 0.2%
Released: 64.8%
Dead on arrival
Died +24hr
Died in 24hr
Euthanized +24hr
Euthanized in 24hr
Pending
Released
Transferred


Most Frequent Circumstances of Admission
Physical trauma: 7.1%
Orphan: 9.4%
Grounded: 18.8%
Displaced from nest: 7.5%
Cat interaction: 57.1%
Cat interaction
Displaced from nest
Grounded
Orphan
Physical trauma

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset currently has 1 support volunteer who is able to soft release wood pigeons and feral pigeons. We trialed a new volunteer but unfortunately this did not work out.
We do not have any volunteers on site at the rescue at this time.

We have a few volunteers locally who are happy to assist with collecting birds from local vets or finders. We also encourage finders to bring the birds directly to the rescue where possible, or advised to take to a vet, depending on the severity of injury/illness, for example broken legs, wings or open wounds exposing internal organs. This saves crucial time in getting the bird veterinary help and cuts down travel time and stress for an injured or sick bird. Many local vets in the area contact us regarding the rehabilitation of birds that have been brought to them by the general public.

Other Activities

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset has continued to raise public awareness of conservation issues relating to wild birds, and the way individuals may support our work. We have recently started a Sunday morning social media event every week trying to encourage people to scrub their bird baths and clean their feeding areas to help cut down on the amount of disease and to try and curb the ever persistent bird flu that constantly poses a threat. We are often adding new articles and information via our website, which is proving to be a good source of information for many.

We are also planning to visit local seaside towns to catch, treat, and release as many feral pigeons with stringfoot as possible. We will aim to carry this out after baby bird season has subsided.

We regularly post online and provide seasonally appropriate information and advice. Further information is also available on our website and via social media. Our Facebook page currently stands at 2400 thousand followers, and 233 Instagram followers.

We maintained contact with a network of wildlife and bird rescuers, carers, rehabilitators and vets across Dorset and the UK by way of social media, and email, where tips, advice and information relating to birds and other wildlife were discussed and shared. We are still registered with The British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council, where we are registered and listed as a trusted rescue.

We were happy to witness a positive change in more vet practices willing to take in birds by the public and contacting us to collect and rehab. This alleviates a lot of pressure when we are busy and trying to find a volunteer driver or the time to take a very poorly bird to a vet asap. We are very grateful for this support.

Our yearly veterinary inspection by Lynwood Veterinary Practice in February 2024, was carried out by Anna Alborino Veterinary Surgeon BSc BVetMed MRCVS. She was very thorough and is happy to continue working with us.

Although there were no official Avian Bird Flu outbreaks, we continued with extreme measures to ensure that no dangerous pathogens entered our rescue. All birds were triaged outside in full PPE before entry into the rescue and quarantined. Unfortunately, some vets would not see any wild birds at all, and those that did would only euthanise. As we do not take in any waterfowl or water related birds, poultry, or raptors, we have already minimized our risks to the virus, however, the protocols remain in place for the foreseeable future.

Our little charity shop is doing very well and is helping to support us financially. Maureen is in her 80s and runs the shop for us voluntarily, along with a couple of other volunteers that come when they can. The shop is open 4 days a week for 3 hours. We are running out of space now as it has become so popular that we may look into a larger premises depending on funds.

Within the rescue The Chair and Founder, Sandra Becker, completed her Level 3 of Veterinary Assistant and Animal Care with distinction. A local veterinary practice kindly donated some large outdoor veterinary cages they no longer had use for. The Founder and a Trustee attended a

Hospital Day Seminar at Secret World, where we were able to network with other rescues and vets nationwide.

We've been very fortunate over the past year to receive incredible support from local individuals and businesses. The kindness and generosity of our community have been vital in keeping the rescue going. Whether it's financial donations, volunteering time, or providing resources, every contribution has helped us care for injured and vulnerable birds, giving them the best chance to recover and return to the wild where they belong.

This support has meant the world to us and has also helped us connect with so many wonderful people who share our passion for protecting our wild birds. We're so grateful for this generosity and hope to continue raising awareness of what we do. By encouraging others to get involved, or simply knowing how to help an injured animal they find, we can work together to make a real difference for the wildlife that needs us most.

Financial Review

Principal Sources of Funding and Outgoings

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset's principal source of funds is from private donations.

The charity was supported by a few local businesses, who raised funds by selling certain items and granting us the profit. This has helped the rescue and promotes what we do and encourages other local businesses to find innovative ways to raise funds for us.

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset are registered as a CIO Charity with HMRC so that Gift Aid may be reclaimed on donations where the donor indicates that is their wish. The forms are available on our website and can be filled out and directly sent to us via this online method.

Statement of the Charity's Policy on Reserves

The Charity's policy on reserves is to generate and maintain a balance which is sufficient:

a) to preserve the financial viability of the Charity in the event that unforeseen and/or unavoidable circumstance precipitate a short-term fall in its income;

b) to enable the Charity, in the interests of meeting its objectives, to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before donations are received and to cover the risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large vets bill.

For these purposes the Charity will endeavour in the future to generate and maintain reserves which are at least 20% of its annual turnover.

Details of Any Funds Materially in Deficit

The Trustees declare that the charity had no funds which were materially in deficit at the date of the statement of assets & liabilities.

State of the Charity's Finances

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset's current resources from unrestricted funds are only just sufficient to meet its immediate outgoings. Being a newly registered charity, we aim to raise these funds so that we have funds in place that will sustain us for a few months ahead.

Particulars of Any Outstanding Guarantee Given by the Charity

The Trustees declare that the charity has given no guarantee where potential liability is outstanding at the date of the statement of assets & liabilities.

Particulars of Any Outstanding Debt

The Trustees declare that the charity has no outstanding debts which are secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the charity at the date of the statement of assets & liabilities.

Statutory Statements on Liabilities

The Trustees declare that:
• The charity has given no guarantees where potential liability under the guarantee is outstanding at the date of this statement (eg: any outstanding/ongoing contract or legalundertaking to buy or provide specific services);

• The charity has no debt outstanding at the date of this statement which is owed by the CIO and which is secured by an express charge on any assets of the CIO (eg: a mortgage on property owned by the charity).

Remuneration of Trustees

All Trustees act in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration or other material benefits from their services to the Charity.

Out-of-pocket expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred by Trustees in promoting the purposes of the Charity are reimbursed at cost.

Declaration

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,



Sandra C Becker, Principal Trustee. Date: 20th March 2025

Statement of Financial Activity

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2024

CC16a Report at end of this document

Disposition of Funds

The Charity has no designated or restricted funds

Notes to the Accounts

a) Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011Section 133, using the Receipts and Payments basis available to small charities.

b) Reimbursement of Out-of-Pocket Expenses

No Trustees received any reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses in the financial year.

c) Salaries & Professional Fees

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset does not charge any professional fees for the services that it provides.
No trustee receives any payments for the services they provide to the charity.
In the current financial year the charity employed no staff or external contractors.

d) Fixed Assets

The charity has no fixed assets

e) Creditors

Cheques issued prior to the end of the financial year but not appearing in the end of financialyear bank statement are only reported as outstanding creditors if they remain unpresented atthe time of producing the financial statements.

f) Rounding Discrepancies

All amounts are recorded to the penny, but in these accounts are shown as digitally rounded to the nearest pound. This can occasionally result in a total apparently not being the sum of its constituent amounts. All individual amounts, and their totals, are nevertheless correct.

Approval of the Board of Trustees

The Trustees declare that they have approved the above Annual Report & Statement of Financial Activity.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Sandra C Becker, Principal Trustee. Date: 20th March 2025

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

WILD BIRD RESCUE DORSET	No 1194952	CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2024	To	31/12/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations cash	515	-	-	515	1,645
Fund Raising Events	-	-	-	-	-
Collection Boxes	-	-	-	-	
Shop sales	8,918	-	-	8,918	7,168
Donations Paypal	1,568	-	-	1,568	543
Paypal Just Giving	1,577	-	-	1,577	287
AMAZON SMILE	150	-	-	150	253
DONATIONS DIRECT TO BANK	6,883	-	-	515	9,661
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	20,255	350	-	20,605	19,896
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	20,255	350	-	20,605	19,896
A3 Payments					
insurances	111	-	-	111	100
Vets fees (Treatments)	1,461			1,461	915
Admin fees (Website, Wordpress etc)	-	-	-	-	132
Marketing (Christmas cards, posters, FEES)	-	-	-	-	203
technical reference books	-			-	143
Training courses	797	-	-	797	189
EQUIPMENT(INC CONSUMABLES)	3,182	-	-	3,182	6,869
FEED	4,807	-	-	4,807	4,905
MAINTENANCE	200			200	402
PEST CONTROL	784	-	-	784	122
Donation to other bird charity	-				-
MEDICATION DIRECT PURCHASE	1,858	-	-	1,858	698
Veterinary medication	691			691	531
Association fees(British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council)	115			115	115
volunteer costs	-				-
Shop utilitty payments	251			251	250
sum up Debit card machine fees	52			52	47
miscellaneous items	65			65	56
shop rent	2,754			2,754	2,419
Sub total	20,778	-	-	20,778	18,109
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	20,778	-	-	20,778	18,109
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 523	350	-	- 173	1,787
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 523	350	-	- 173	1,787

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds

B1 Cash funds

	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
BANK	3,386	-	-
CASH net flow this year	608	-	-
		-	-
Total cash funds	3,994	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Donations direct to vets for vet fees		350	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
NONE		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Metal Feed Shed	Equipment	734	700
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
NONE		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval