Wild Bird Rescue Dorset

Charity Number: 1194952

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the period
1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Wild Bird Rescue Dorset
Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the Financial Period
from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

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 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 2025, Wild Bird Rescue Dorset had an intake of 615 birds across 37 different species. We achieved a survival rate of 70.92% in the first 24 hours and 81.29% after 24 hours. This means most birds were either successfully hand reared, or treated and rehabilitated, before being released back into the wild.

Due to our small setup, limited facilities, and ongoing funding pressures, our aim is to remain at a sustainable level of around 500 intakes per year. We exceeded this again, reaching over 600 intakes.

All fledgling release sites were carefully assessed for safety and suitability, in line with each species natural habitat. Older birds were usually released back to their original territories to rejoin established family groups or territories.

We again saw unprecedented numbers of birds injured by cats. Domestic cat related injuries continued to account for a substantial proportion of our admissions. Despite veterinary input and antibiotic treatment, many of these birds did not survive due to secondary infection and crush injuries. This is a significant concern for species already under pressure and approaching red list status. We encourage cat owners and educate as much as we can verbally and on social media for owners to build catios or net their gardens to allow their cats to enjoy the outdoors and sunshine without decimating our wildlife.

This year we recorded fewer cases of avian pox but a clear rise in trichomoniasis (canker). During the autumn period there was a noticeable increase of young pigeons admitted. Cases of aspergillosis were lower than in previous years. In contrast, metabolic bone disease and adeno virus appeared more frequently, particularly in wood pigeons, feral pigeons, and collared doves.

Blackbird and starling admissions were again significantly lower this year. This is most likely linked to the ongoing spread of Usutu Virus USUV, a mosquito borne virus first confirmed in the UK in London in 2020. Affected birds present with weakness, lethargy, loss of coordination and seizures and often die suddenly. Many local blackbird populations were heavily impacted this year, and birds presenting with clinical signs rarely survived despite intensive supportive care.

We introduced new diagnostic tests for canker, salmonella, adeno virus and candida. We also sourced a new trichomoniasis treatment from Australia which has shown strong results in canker cases, alongside veterinary prescribed Metronidazole.

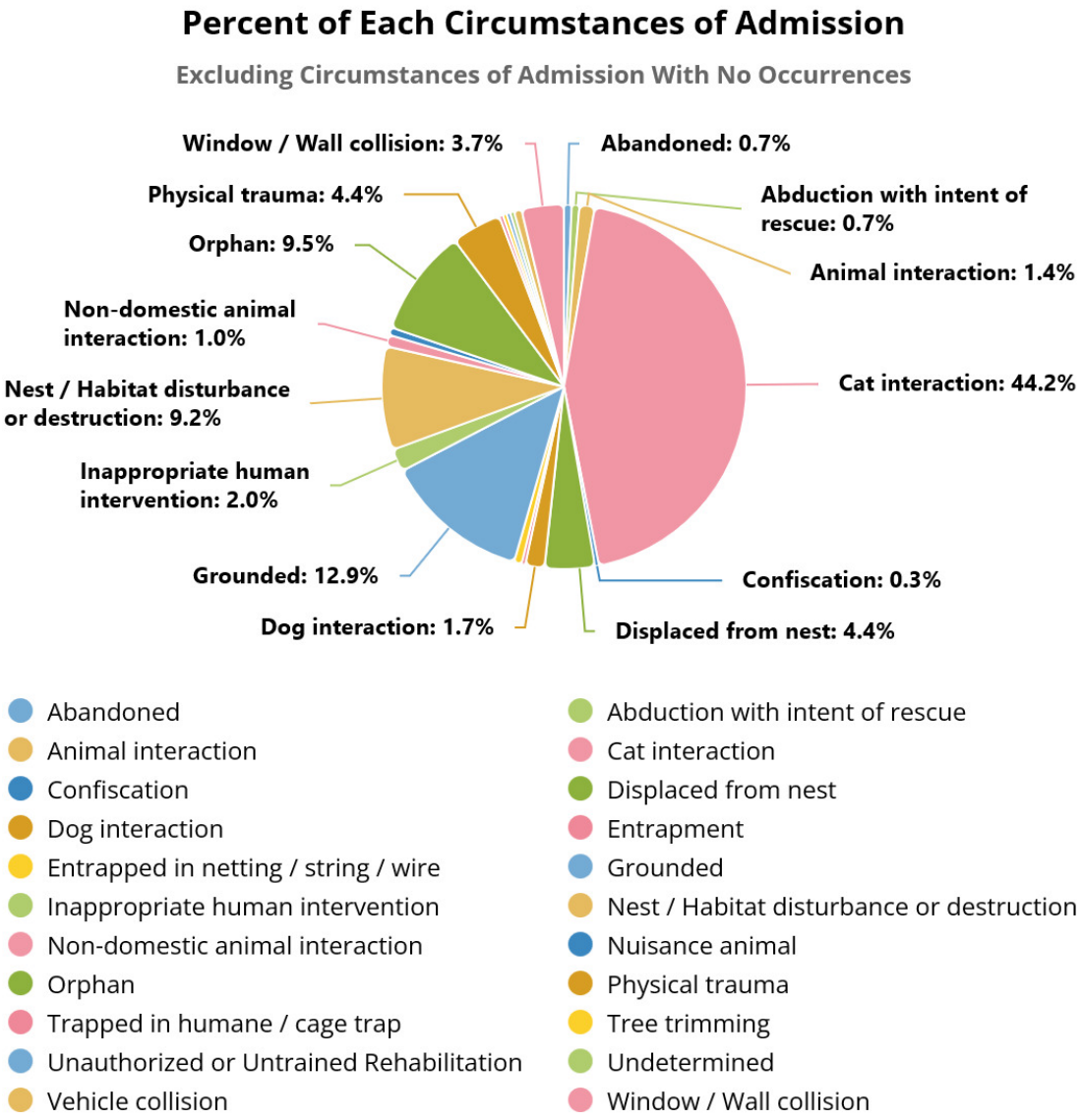
Due to limited quarantine capacity, we asked finders of birds suspected of PMV or pox to take them directly to a veterinary practice. We currently cannot safely house more than four high risk infection cases at one time. As an organisation, we do not support long term captivity for wild birds with incurable conditions. If a bird cannot be successfully rehabilitated and released, we believe humane euthanasia is the only ethical option. This follows the principles and guidance of our registration with the British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council.

We continue to maintain strong working relationships with other local rescues, sharing certain species when appropriate. This allows birds, especially migratory fledglings, to be raised alongside others of the same species, improving survival rates post release. This cooperation also helps all rescues maintain safe capacity levels without compromising the standard of care.
Overview figures for the year 2025

- 615 birds admitted
- 37 various species
- 411 released back to the wild
- 154 died despite treatment

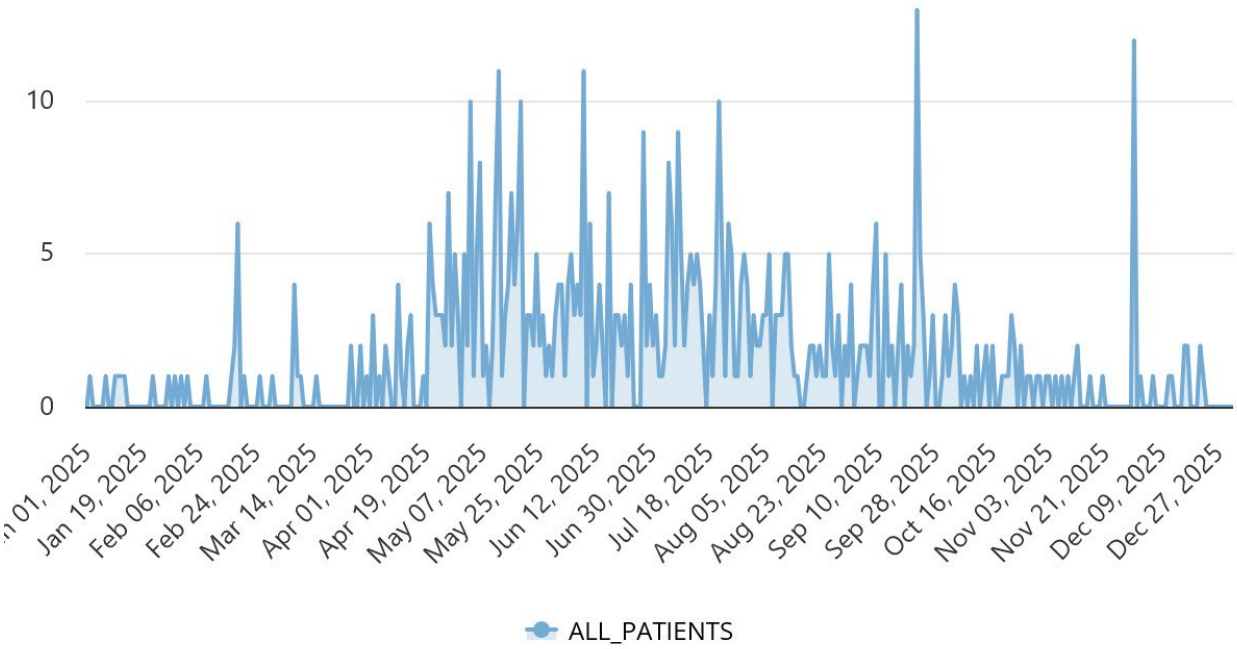
- 18 humanely euthanised on welfare grounds
- 32 Remained in care at year end

We were fortunate to receive continued support from local veterinary practices and dedicated volunteers throughout the year. Below are some interesting pie charts showing our intake patterns and outcomes across 2025.

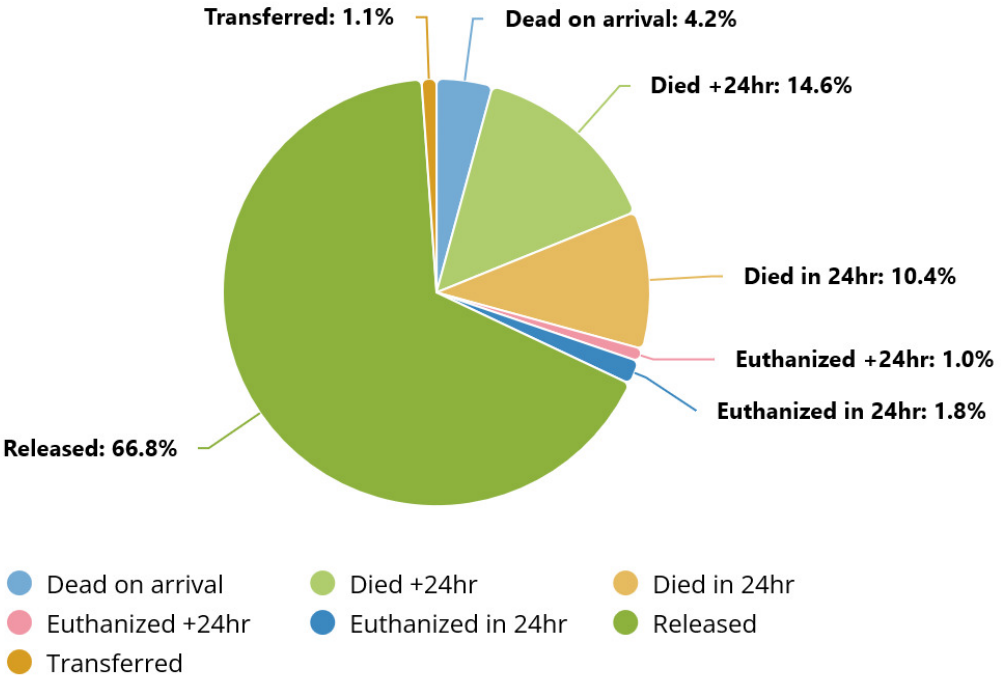


Patients Admitted

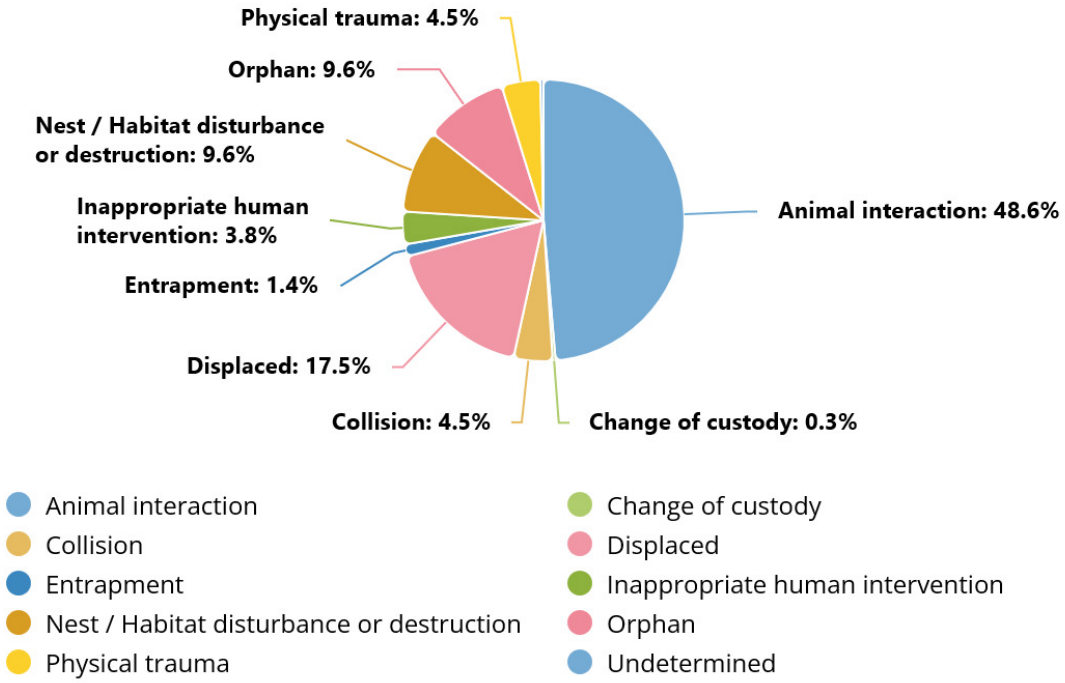
Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025 • Grouped by Day



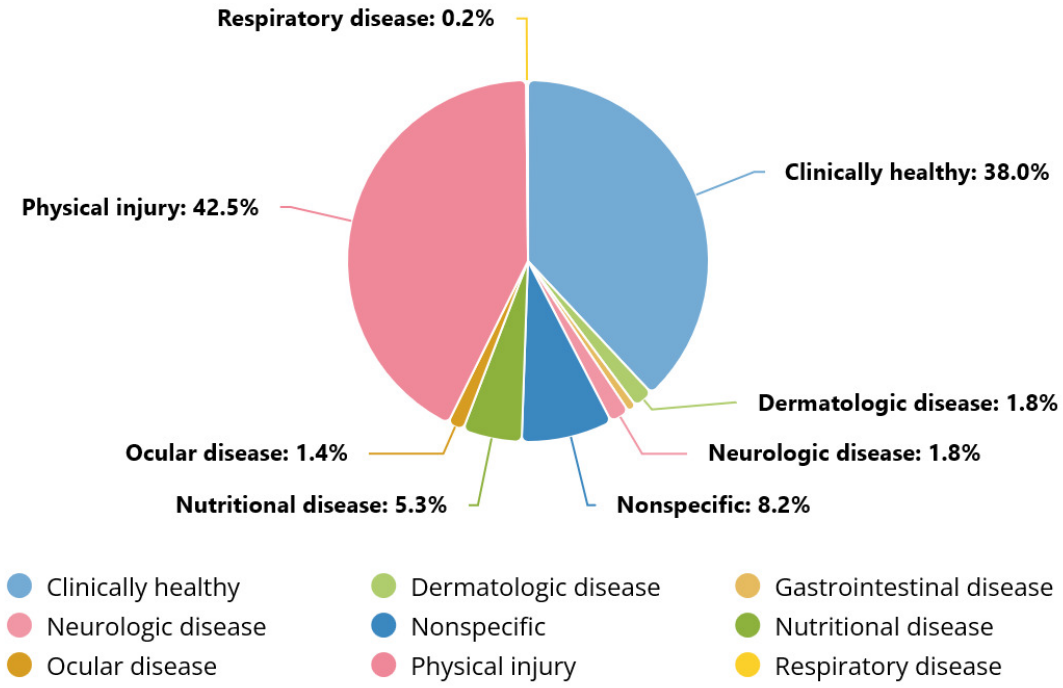
Disposition Percentages



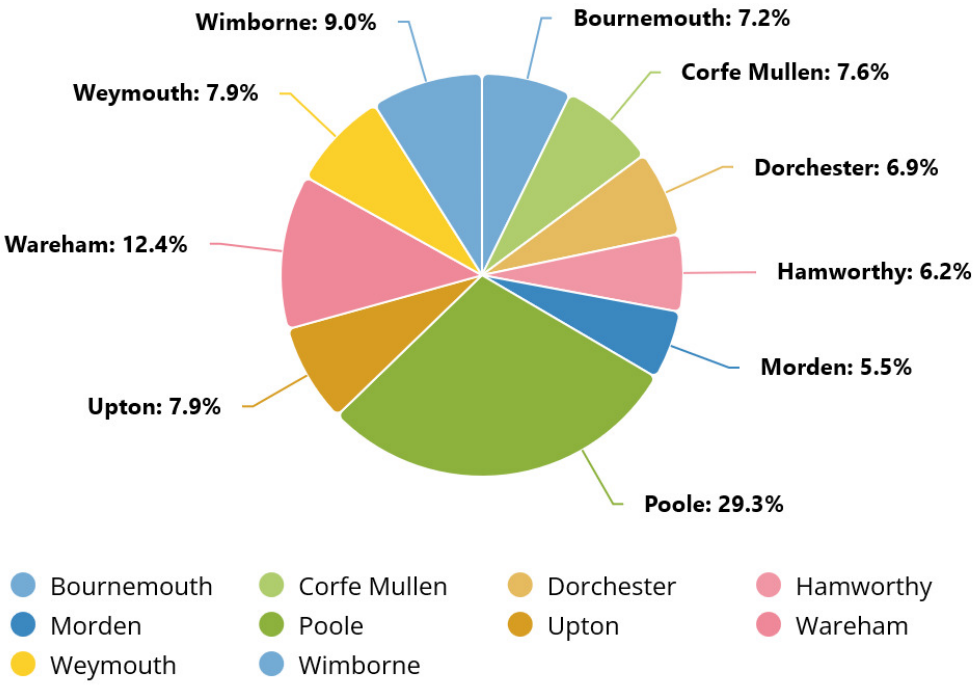
Root Circumstances of Admission



Root Clinical Classifications

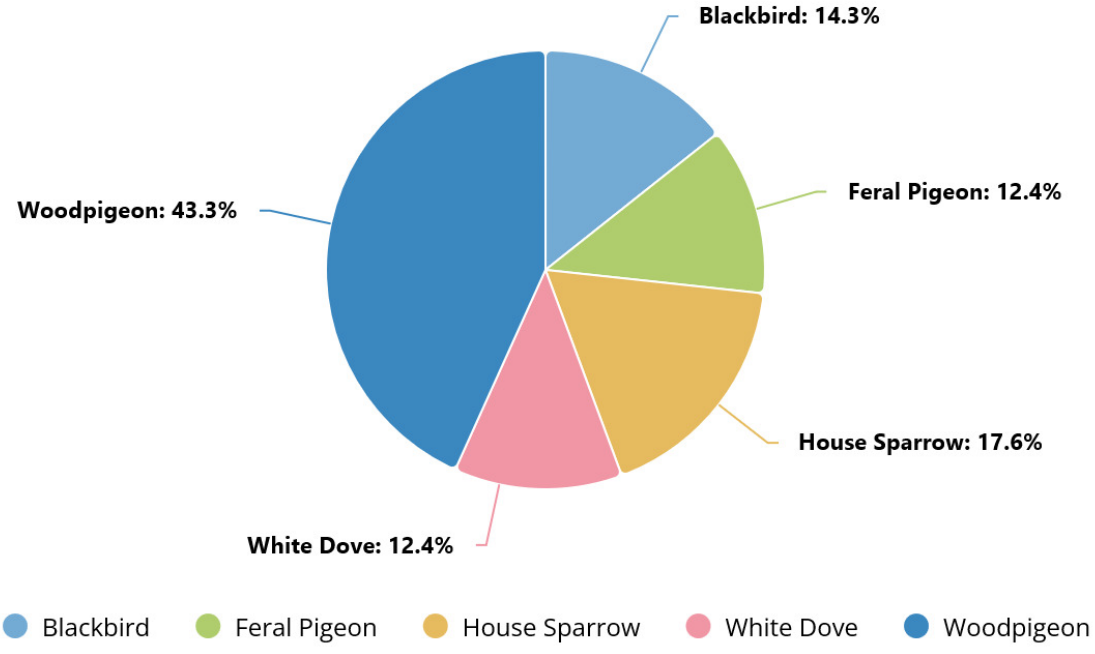


Most Prevalent Cities



Most Prevalent Patients

Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025 • Grouped by Day



Wild Bird Rescue Dorset currently has 1 support volunteer who is able to soft release wood pigeons and feral pigeons. 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 affecting wild birds, along with practical ways the public can support our work. Our weekly Sunday morning social media posts have encouraged people to clean their bird baths and feeding areas, helping to reduce the spread of disease and support efforts against the ongoing risk of avian influenza. We regularly add new articles and information to our website and social media, which many people now rely on as a helpful source of guidance.

We also provide seasonal advice throughout the year. These posts are shared across our platforms, with further information available on our website. Our Facebook page currently has 3,300 followers, and our Instagram account has 345 followers.

We remained in close contact with a wide network of wildlife and bird rescuers, carers, rehabilitators and vets across Dorset and the wider UK. This happened through social media and email, allowing us to share tips, updates and knowledge. We continue to be registered with The British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council as a trusted rescue.

We were pleased to see more veterinary practices willing to accept wild birds from the public and contact us for rehabilitation support. This has eased pressure at busy times, especially when arranging transport for very sick birds can be difficult. We are extremely grateful for this growing support.

Our annual veterinary inspection was completed by Lynwood Veterinary Practice in Wareham, carried out by Jennifer Stevens BVetMedSci BVS MRCVS. The inspection was very thorough, and they are happy to continue working with us.

Although there were no official local avian influenza outbreaks, we continued to follow strict biosecurity measures to protect the rescue. All birds were triaged outside in full PPE and then quarantined. Some veterinary practices were unable to accept wild birds, and those who did often restricted involvement to euthanasia only. As we do not accept waterfowl or water related birds, poultry or raptors, our risk remains lower, but we intend to keep our precautions in place for the foreseeable future.

Our small charity shop had another strong year and continues to provide essential financial support. It is run entirely by volunteers, with Maureen, who is in her eighties, managing the shop with remarkable dedication. The shop currently opens four days a week for three hours per day. Due to increased popularity, space has become limited and we may look into a larger premises if funds allow. One of our volunteers has also set up an online Vinted page, which is helping to bring in additional income.

We have set up a Linktree account to place all key links in one accessible location. We were also fortunate to receive upgrades to pro accounts from companies such as SketchNow and Canva.

ChatGPT is used within the rescue as a time saving tool for creating and developing some social media ideas.

Within the rescue, Trustee Christopher Keevil completed his Level 3 Wildlife Rehabilitation qualification with Distinction. The Founder Sandra and Trustee Christopher also attended a Microscopy Course, which has given us the skills to diagnose a wide variety of conditions in house, saving both time and resources.

We are incredibly grateful for the support we received from local individuals and businesses this year. Their kindness has made a real difference, whether through financial contributions, volunteering, or providing useful resources. Every act of support has helped us give injured and vulnerable birds the best possible chance to recover and return to the wild.

Thanks to this generosity, we were able to invest in veterinary style cages. These are more hygienic, easier to clean, reduce cross contamination and prevent feather damage due to their solid plastic sides. They were purpose built and have improved cleanliness and efficiency within the rescue.

We also raised funds for a professional microscope. Much of this was donated in memory of a young girl, and her family generously chose to support the rescue in her name. The microscope will be called “May’s Light” so her memory continues through the lives it helps us save. It can capture photos and videos, which will allow us to share findings for educational purposes and may eventually support other rescues.

We also received funds dedicated to building a larger pigeon loft. The new structure will be named “Shirley’s Shed” in honour of the donor who left the money for this purpose. Groundworks are required before construction can begin. This work was delayed due to a very busy season and limited manpower, but the project remains planned for Spring 2026.

We successfully claimed just over £500 in Gift Aid this year. We can only claim this when donors pay tax and complete a form, and we are very grateful to those who took the extra step to make this possible.

The support we have received has meant a great deal to us. It has allowed us to improve welfare standards, strengthen our processes, and continue developing the rescue so we can help more birds in need. It has also brought us closer to many kind and compassionate people who care about protecting our wildlife. By continuing to raise awareness and encouraging others to get involved, we hope to keep making a positive difference for the birds that depend on us.

Finally, we updated the Charity’s Objects to include other species, both wild, feral and domesticated, as we often take in a range of non avian animals and lost pets.

We applied for a Schedule 1 license to include species such as Firecrests and other Schedule 1 birds. After careful consideration, it was concluded that our current practices comply with legal requirements, and a license is not required given the small number of these species admitted for rehabilitation.

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 vet's 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: 21st September 2026

Statement of Financial Activity

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2025

CC16a Report at end of this document

Disposition of Funds

The charity holds both unrestricted and restricted funds. Restricted funds are applied solely towards the purposes specified by the relevant donors or grant providers. Further details are included in the accompanying financial accounts.

Notes to the Accounts

a) Accounting Policies

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

b) Reimbursement of Out-of-Pocket Expenses

Only essential travel expenses were claimed 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

Details of the charity's fixed assets are included in the accompanying financial accounts.

e) Creditors

Cheques issued prior to the end of the financial year but not appearing in the end of financial year 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: 21st September 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	WILD BIRD RESCUE DORSET		
On accounts for the year ended	31 DECEMBER 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1194952
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/12/2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:	Clark Jamison Ltd	**Date:**	14/10/26
Name:	CLARK JAMISON LTD		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):			
Address:	ARENA, HOLYROOD CLOSE, POOLE, DORSET, BH17 7FJ		

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

1194952

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/01/2025	To	31/12/2025

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 including Gift Aid	19,911	3,000	-	22,911	11,408
Much Loved Tribute Platform	1,452	-	-	1,452	-
Social Media & Mechandising	360	-	-	360	279
Charity Shop Sales	14,048	-	-	14,048	8,918
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	35,771	3,000	-	38,771	20,605
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	35,771	3,000	-	38,771	20,605
A3 Payments					
Feed & Consumables	12,308	-	-	12,308	7,989
Vetinary & Medication	4,440	191	-	4,631	4,010
Equipment Expensed & Maintenance	1,516	-	-	1,516	2,960
Pest Control & Waste Disposal	754	-	-	754	1,378
Shop Rent & Other Costs	4,500	-	-	4,500	3,107
Travel Costs	1,351	-	-	1,351	797
Training	584	-	-	584	537
Other Running Costs	1,414	-	-	1,414	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	26,867	191	-	27,058	20,778
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Equipment	9,327	3,150	-	12,477	-
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	9,327	3,150	-	12,477	-
Total payments	36,194	3,341	-	39,535	20,778
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 423	- 341	-	- 764	- 173
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,644	350	-	3,994	4,167
Cash funds this year end	3,221	9	-	3,230	3,994

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank & Cash	3,221	9	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,221	9	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Equipment	Unrestricted	9,327	7,462
	Equipment	Restricted	3,150	2,520
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		SANDRA CRISTEL BECKER	21/09/2026