



Richmondshire Refugee Support Group

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025

Charity Number: 1206408

Charitable Objectives

To advance the education and relieve financial hardship of those granted refugee status and other displaced people predominantly in the former Richmondshire District of North Yorkshire and surrounding area through:

- increasing opportunities to engage with service providers, to enable those providers to adapt services to better meet the needs of that community.
- providing peer support and other activities that build people's confidence and enable them to participate more effectively with the wider community.
- promoting educational, training, social and recreational events involving the local community

RRSG is an Unincorporated Association. The organisation works closely with the Refugee Council and benefits from their overview in terms of mentoring, DBS checks and training courses.

Trustees

RRSG has four trustees, all elected at the AGM:

- Annette Clark
- Iryna Koroieva
- Elaine Wood
- John Pritchard

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Officers

RRSG has three officers, all elected at the AGM:

- Chair: Annette Clark
- Secretary: John Pritchard
- Treasurer: Iryna Koroieva

Administrative Information

Principal address: 63 Frenchgate, Richmond North Yorkshire DL10 7AE

Email contact: rrsg773@gmail.com

Number of Members as of 31st December 2025: 34 Replace with 30

Bank: Darlington Credit Union, 41 Tubwell Row, Darlington, DL1 1DP

Independent examiner: William Gedye

Policies and procedures maintained:

- Equal Opportunities
- Health and Safety
- Safeguarding Adults
- Safeguarding Children

Final RRSG Annual Report ending December 2025
8th June 2026

- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
- Financial Procedures

Serious incidents: None

Chair's Report

RRSG was formed at the end of 2017 to support families arriving from Syria and Iraq. At that time, it was a small group of volunteers supporting just a few families. However, the organisation has grown significantly since then. During the period 1 January to 31 December 2025 the charity supported a total of 39 Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan families totalling some 211 individuals, who had arrived from 2021. In addition, the charity supports Ukrainian families in the area numbering around 100 people. The primary role of the charity remains the same – to welcome families to the area and provide them with the support and encouragement they need as they seek to rebuild their lives. The organisation has continued to work closely with the Refugee Council, North Yorkshire Council and the MOD as we support the families.

Some of the highlights from our activities this year include:

- Supporting Afghan families who are looking at moving on to new accommodation at the end of their initial support with housing.
- Supporting families to access medical and employment related appointments.
- Sourcing and servicing bikes, to enable them to better access Richmond and the surrounding area for work or pleasure
- Operating a maternity grant scheme to help with the initial costs of maternity items for a first, UK newborn child.
- Operating a store to take donations of clothes and household goods to distribute them to families and those families staying in the area for a short time, until July '25 when the MOD buildings became unavailable. Closure was marked with a highly successful open event when families were able to take quality goods to their homes. We continue to support families with repairs for TVs/sewing machines and installations of such as security cameras.
- Supporting the Refugee Council with
 - Women's Group sessions including topics such as Healthwatch, Health, housing, volunteering with charity shops such as Oxfam.
 - A trip to Fountains Abbey to celebrate Refugee Week. 81 people went from the Richmond area with a total of 200 from across several Yorkshire groups.
 - 2 trips to the Yorkshire Dales National Park to Hazel Brow farm to introduce the families to the animals, have a guided walk across meadows to the river, and to learn about the culture of the Dales.
 - Dales Countryside Museum – 25 went to engage with printing & walking
- Raising funds by running coffee mornings in Richmond Town Hall.
- Organising monthly 'Hokey Cokey' sessions – craft and play days for the ladies and children, culminating in producing decorations for a Christmas tree for the annual tree festival at Richmond's Methodist church.
- Applying for, and successfully receiving, three grants from the Marsh Awards – operated by the Refugee Council. This was built on the successful bids won last year. The 3 new awards of £400 each are for bicycles and bike maintenance; 10 pin bowling – aimed at teenagers, and a cookbook – a collection of recipes and

associated stories, memories and quotes from those living in the Richmondshire area.

- RRSg volunteers and ladies from families joined together to break the fast, during Ramadan for the Itfar meal – Ramadan's purpose was explained and we joined together with a better understanding whilst enjoying some wonderful food.
- RRSg volunteers undertake Safeguarding training via the Refugee Council and Swift open up training such as Cultural Awareness and the Lived Experience.
- Encouraging families to participate in local events in Richmondshire such as:
 - MayFest Community Festival with 11 ladies and 27 children joining others from the community to take part in a drumming circle and balloon modelling.
 - Swaledale Festival – tickets were given so that 15 adults & children could attend a puppet show at the Georgian Theatre
 - Organising exclusive cinema screenings provided free by the Station Cinema.
 - Registering families with the local libraries enabling access to IT, books and events.

With regard to our activities supporting the Ukrainian families our regular activities during the year have included:

- Language classes for those learning English – three online classes with a total of 27 students. There is one face to face class delivered each week, with 7 - 8 students attending and a series of lessons (five classes) for those with lower English language proficiency. 13 people attend.
- Informal coffee and chat sessions with native English speakers (two hours per week).
- A Ukrainian language Saturday school (two classes for different age group), around 8 - 9 pupils in each group.
- Monthly meeting with attendance of about 10 – 12 people. The aim is to help the community share experiences and to help mutual support.
- The Slava Ukrainian photographic exhibition, set up last year, has proven to be a great success. Feedback from both the general public and Ukrainians has been positive, so plans are to widen access to the exhibition.
- There has been increased activity in the area to help the Ukrainian community integrate into the wider community, and to help inform the wider community about Ukraine. In particular:
 - Vyshyvanka day – to celebrate the tradition Ukrainian embroidered wear with a free concert at St Mary's church in Richmond with performances of Ukrainian music.
 - Ukrainian Independence Day, - celebrated with a Market Square stall
 - Talks about Ukraine delivered to 3 Rotary clubs in the area
 - Attendance at Remembrance Sunday in Richmond.
 - A short commemoration at Richmond's War Memorial with a moment of silence and the laying of flowers to remember the full-scale invasion

Treasurer's Report

The statement below sets out the income and expenditure for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025. The year-end balance is more than that at the end of the 2024 financial year, which was £24,692.52. The Charity is solvent and has funds sufficient to fulfil its commitments to funders. The charity operates as a going concern.

Unrestricted Funds	Yr End Balance 2024	Income 2025	Expenditure 2025	Year End Balance 2025
1. General Fund	£ 3,135.88	£ 937.82	£ 2,396.79	£ 1,676.91
Sub Total	£ 3,135.88	£ 937.82	£ 2,396.79	£ 1,676.91
Restricted Funds				
2. English @ Home grant	£ 3065.23	£ 3,164.00	£ 1,877.73	£ 4,351.50
3. Loving Earth Grant	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
4. Ukraine Fund	£ 17,900.443	£ 32,287.00	£ 29,433.89	£ 20,753.54
5. Walking Grant NYCC	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
6. Space Creative Project	£ 340.98	£ 0.00	£ 229.40	£ 111.58
7. TV Grant from Blenk irons	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
8. Summer Activities Grant NYCC	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
9. Richmond Town Council	£ 250.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£250
10. Room Hire	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£0.00
Sub total	£ 21,556.64	£ 35,451.00	£ 31,541.00	£ 25,466.62
Overall total	£ 24,692.52	£36,388.82	£ 33,937.81	£ 27,143.53

All of the income has come from grants, donations or other general fund raising.

- None of the income has come from endowments.
- The charity has no fixed or investment assets.

- The year-end balance is more than that at the end of the 2024 financial year. This relates mainly to the Restricted Funds received during 2025 where grant agreements note that they will be expended on agreed activities in 2025.
- The charity operates as a going concern



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Richmond Refugee Support Group		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	Charity no (if any)	126408
Set out on pages	1-2		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2024**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

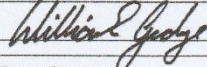
~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:  Date: 27 April 2026

Name: William Gedye

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

IER

Address: 55 Maison Dieu

Richmond

DL10 7AU

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

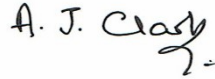
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. J. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Full name: Annette Jane Clark

Position: Chair

Date: 8th June 2026