CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name: **Richmond Exotics** | No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date: 01/04/2025	To	Period end date: 31/03/2026

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					
Misc Donations	7,602	-	-	7,602	-
Adoption Fee Donation	5,927	-	-	5,927	-
Boarding Fee Donation	200	-	-	200	-
Experience Fee Donation	2,430	-	-	2,430	-
Go Fund Me Donation	1,440	-	-	1,440	-
Pound on Payday Don	595	-	-	595	-
Raffle Entry Donation	618	-	-	618	-
Grant Donation	729	-	-	729	-
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	19,541	-	-	19,541	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,541	-	-	19,541	-
A3 Payments					
Stock	3,917	-	-	3,917	-
Salaries	4,136	-	-	4,136	-
Property Costs	2,656	-	-	2,656	-
Bank Charges	68	-	-	68	-
Insurance	1,705	-	-	1,705	-
Travel and Subs	2,255	-	-	2,255	-
General Admin	4,911	-	-	4,911	-
Sundry Expenses	107	-	-	107	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	19,755	-	-	19,755	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	19,755	-	-	19,755	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 214	-	-	- 214	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	288	-	-	288	-
Cash funds this year end	74	-	-	74	-

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2026

Richmond Exotics

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Richmond Exotics

Charity Number: 1209875

Principal Address: Clays Garden Centre, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE37 2PA

Trustees serving during the year:

- Peter Coyne
- Amy Lamb
- Elaine Allen
- Christine Smith
- Natasha Thurlbeck
- Ben Beadle

Chief Executive Officer:

- Rebecca Richmond

Operations Coordinator:

- Christopher Richmond

The charity is governed by its constitution and managed by a Board of Trustees, who are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the organisation.

Structure, Governance and Management

Richmond Exotics is a charitable organisation established to improve the welfare of exotic animals through rescue, rehabilitation, rehoming, education and responsible ownership initiatives.

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees who oversee the charity's activities, finances, strategic direction and compliance responsibilities. Day-to-day operations are managed by the Chief Executive Officer with support from staff and volunteers. During the reporting period the charity continued to strengthen its governance by formally defining its operational remit, ensuring resources are focused on the areas of greatest need while maintaining high standards of animal welfare.

Objectives and Public Benefit

The charity's mission is:

"Richmond Exotics exists to protect, rehabilitate and rehome exotic animals while empowering communities through education, advocacy and compassionate care. We champion welfare standards, challenge misinformation and build inclusive pathways for responsible ownership and lifelong support."

The charity's charitable purposes are:

- To relieve the suffering of exotic animals through rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming.
- To advance education by providing accessible and accurate information on exotic animal care and ownership responsibilities.
- To promote animal welfare by advocating best practice and reducing harm caused by misinformation.
- To foster community engagement through outreach programmes and inclusive educational experiences.
- To support sustainable ownership by developing resources and guidance which help owners make informed lifelong commitments to their animals.

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and believe the charity's activities have furthered these objectives throughout the reporting period.

Activities and Achievements

Relocation to New Rescue Facilities

The most significant achievement during the reporting year was the successful relocation of the charity into new premises at Clay's Garden Centre.

After receiving the keys in March 2026, the charity undertook a substantial programme of work to establish a safe, stable and publicly accessible rescue facility, officially opening to visitors in April 2026. This move marked a transformative step in the charity's development, providing increased capacity, improved facilities and greater opportunities for community engagement.

Within a short period, the charity:

- Relocated all enclosures and equipment from two residential properties.
- Built four large animal enclosures.
- Constructed a custom-built iguana enclosure.
- Installed and assembled donated racking and storage systems.
- Established office facilities and a small charity shop area.
- Safely relocated more than 60 animals and invertebrates into their new accommodation.

The trustees would like to formally record their thanks to Clay's Garden Centre for the support and generosity shown during the move and establishment of the new rescue centre.

Facility Development

Since opening the new premises, the charity has continued to invest in improving facilities and animal welfare standards, including:

- Construction of a large indoor and outdoor meerkat enclosure.
- Upgrading windows to improve insulation and animal comfort.
- Improving tortoise accommodation, introducing six-foot enclosures as the minimum standard.
- Beginning insulation works to the rescue roof.
- Securing additional building space through the generous support of neighbouring businesses.

Volunteer Development

Volunteer recruitment and development remained a major priority throughout the year. The charity successfully recruited and trained more than 20 volunteers, significantly increasing operational capacity and helping support the growing demands on the organisation.

Defining the Charity's Remit

During the year trustees undertook a strategic review of the charity's scope and formally defined its rescue remit.

The charity reaffirmed its commitment to focusing on exotic animals where existing rescue provision is limited or insufficient to meet demand. Particular focus is placed on reptiles, exotic mammals and birds, while recognising the importance of maintaining manageable capacity to ensure high welfare standards for every animal in care. Where specialist organisations already provide effective support, owners are signposted to the most appropriate services.

Licensing and Regulatory Compliance

The charity continued to work closely with local authorities and licensing bodies throughout the year. Following changes to operational requirements associated with species housed at the rescue, trustees worked extensively with regulators to identify a proportionate and appropriate licensing framework for the organisation's activities. This process required significant trustee involvement and remains an important aspect of the charity's governance and compliance responsibilities.

Animal Welfare Impact

The charity continued to experience significant demand for its services.

During the reporting period, to September 2026, the charity recorded:

- 119 animal surrenders
- 106 new animal registrations
- 126 successful adoptions and rehomings

Demand consistently exceeded available capacity. Throughout the year the waiting list remained above 18 animals and stood at 22 animals at year end. Tortoises accounted for approximately 95% of animals awaiting placement. Despite these capacity pressures, the charity continued to support owners through direct rehoming assistance, advice and signposting to alternative rescue provision wherever possible.

The charity also assisted numerous animals without them entering rescue, helping facilitate alternative placements and direct rehoming arrangements where appropriate.

Plans for Future Periods

The charity's priorities for the coming year include:

- Expanding the rescue site through the development of additional enclosed outdoor space.
- Relocating office facilities into dedicated premises.
- Constructing a new outdoor tortoise exercise area.
- Further developing parrot accommodation, including a heated indoor aviary and outdoor flight.
- Completing insulation improvements to the rescue building.
- Continuing volunteer recruitment and training.
- Improving data collection to better capture the full scale of assistance provided to animals and owners.

Trustee Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved this Trustees' Annual Report and confirm that, in their opinion, it accurately reflects the activities and achievements of the charity during the reporting period.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Name: _____Elaine Allen_____

Position: _____Secretary_____

Date: _____04/11/2026_____