

# THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK

England & Wales · Charity number 1115428

## Details

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Other names	THE TOPSY FOUNDATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	<a href="#">05823488</a>
Registered	2006-07-19
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	William Sturges Llp 14-16 Caxton Street London SW1H 0QY
Phone	07765671277
Email	<a href="mailto:hilary@topsyfoundation.org.uk">hilary@topsyfoundation.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.topsyfoundation.org.uk">www.topsyfoundation.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** A TO RELIEVE POVERTY, SUFFERING AND DISTRESS AND TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OF PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA SUFFERING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIV AND AIDS; ANDB TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC ABOUT HIV AND AIDS, ITS TRANSMISSION, PREVENTION AND CONSEQUENCES;C TO PROVIDE EDUCATION (INCLUDING PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL AND SKILLS TRAINING) TO ASSIST IN THE SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA AND IN PARTICULAR OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THAT COUNTRY.IN EACH CASE BY PROVIDING GRANTS AND OTHER MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS AND/OR ORGANISATIONS BASED IN SOUTH AFRICA INCLUDING THE TOPSY FOUNDATION, SOUTH AFRICA.

**Activities:** Topsy Foundation UK's main aim is to assist the work of the Topsy Foundation, South Africa, a registered charity in that country. Topsy SA partners with rural communities in South Africa, in which many people have been affected by HIV and AIDS. There is a specific emphasis on children and their families through medical care, food security and the training of pre-school teachers and staff .

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** SOUTH AFRICA
- South Africa

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£35,813	£30,469	-	-
2024-03-31	£22,678	£22,710	-	-
2023-03-31	£21,180	£22,432	-	-
2022-03-31	£20,324	£19,661	-	-
2021-03-31	£25,310	£22,392	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Bronwyn Belinda Middleton		2026-04-15
Fiona Adam Ghosh		2020-10-05
Foszia Turner-Stylianou		2017-05-11
JEFF RODRIGUES		2013-08-06
Professor Hugh Edward Montgomery		2023-06-26
Susan Frances Angoy		2015-01-22
Susan Rae Murphy		2021-08-31
Tsehaynesh Abebe		2026-01-15

**THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1115428

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# Accounts

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REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2025



CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, ACMA  
MINSTEAD HOUSE, UTTOXETER ROAD  
KINGSTONE  
ST14 8QH

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK

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## **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### Constitution

The Topsy Foundation UK is a Registered Charity - Number 1115428

The Charity is a Company Limited by guarantee and incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 - Number 05823488

### Trustees

The Trustees who served during or for part of the year, were as follows:

Rodney Waldeck                      - Chairman  
Susan Angoy  
Fiona Ghosh                          - Interim Chair from July 2024  
Natasha Huber  
Professor Hugh Montgomery OBE  
Suzy Murphy  
Jeff Rodrigues  
Foszia Turner-Stylianou  
Gwyneth Williams OBE        - resigned November 2024

Trustees are also Directors of the Topsy Foundation UK.

### Patrons

Sir Geoffrey Bindman QC  
The Lady Birt CB  
Alan Donnelly  
Douglas Downie

### Company Secretary

Brenda Huber

### Registered Office

c/o William Sturges LLP  
Burford House  
14 Caxton Street  
London  
SW1H 0QY

### Independent Examiner

Mr Christopher Thomas, ACMA  
Minstead House  
Uttoxeter Road  
Kingstone  
ST14 8QH

### Bankers

Virgin Money  
35 Regent Street  
London  
SW1Y 4ND

### Website:

[www.topsyfoundation.org.uk](http://www.topsyfoundation.org.uk)

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The Trustees are pleased to present their Report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Legal and Administrative information on page 3 is also included as part of the Report. The Financial Statements comply with current statutory requirements and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Objective

The objectives of the Charity remain, as always to:

- Relieve poverty, suffering, and distress and to promote and protect the physical and mental health of people in South Africa suffering from the consequences of HIV and AIDS;
- Provide education (including pre-school education and vocational and skills training) to assist in the social, educational, and economic development of people in South Africa and in particular women and children in that country;
- Advance the education of the public about HIV and Aids, its transmission, prevention, and consequences;
- Provide grants and other material assistance to individuals and/or organisations based in South Africa including the Topsy Foundation, South Africa which is an independent and separately registered charity in that country.

## Tribute to Rodney Waldeck, by Susan Angoy



We are broken-hearted to share the sad news that our beloved Rodney Waldeck died on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Rodney was the Chair and founder member of Topsy UK and a Board member of The Topsy Foundation South Africa.

It is hard to find words that adequately describe Rodney's extraordinary contributions to, and love of Topsy and of humanity. He was an inspirational leader who led with generosity, kindness, and a deep commitment to the causes of equality, social justice, and education. Rodney dedicated his life to further these values and had the gift to inspire all those he touched to do similarly. Nothing ever seemed impossible to him. This made it possible for his positivity to affect us all and bring out the best in each of us.

He was so much more than a colleague. He was our dearest friend, always striving to help others, even during the final stages of his illness when many would have focused inwards upon themselves. He was unstinting in his desire to make a difference to friends, colleagues, and those he loved most. And in return, we loved him.

I know he would not want to see platitudes written about him. He was funny, daring, and full of life – and of course style!

Rodney was the driving force behind Topsy UK. The gap he leaves is enormous. But the memory of his spirit and love will remain with us all forever. His impact reaches far and will continue to do so through the work of Topsy.

Although his physical presence is here no longer, he continues to live within us all and in those who Topsy touches.

## **Organisation and Management**

Over the year, the Trustees held 2 online Board meetings. The Trustees also maintained regular contact with each other by email, telephone and in person. The Chair was in regular contact with Directors of Topsy South Africa, and particularly frequently with the Grootvlei-based Executive Director and the staff member responsible for fundraising.

Detailed statistics and reports of the work are shared on a regular basis, and the Chair was given all the SA financials and forecasts.

## **Appointment and Removal of Trustees**

The Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Articles of Association provide for a minimum of three trustees, with one third of trustees, or the number nearest to one third, due for re-appointment in any one year.

In July 2024 Susan Angoy, Jeff Rodriguez and Gwyneth Williams were reappointed, in terms of the special provision allowing for appointment for more than 2 terms.

They, together with Fiona Ghosh, Natasha Huber, Prof Hugh Montgomery, Suzy Murphy, Jeff Rodrigues and Foszia Turner-Stylianou, comprised the Board of Trustees and are Directors of the company.

In July, Fiona Ghosh was appointed as Interim Chair.

In October, we were deeply saddened by the sudden passing of our indefatigable Chairman, Rodney Waldeck. An irreplaceable loss for the charity and for Rodney's many friends and family.

In November, Gwyneth Williams resigned as Trustee after 12 years of dedication to Topsy. We are deeply grateful for her service and steady commitment, and for her unique ability to identify the opportunities to approach her wide circle of influence and wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement.

## **Charitable Achievements/The Public Duty**

Topsy SA's area of operations continued to be serviced from its main centre at Grootvlei, as well as in those new areas where work was started at the end of 2020. Programmes took place in 2 sub-districts of Southern Mpumalanga Province, some 40 - 50 miles South of Johannesburg. Both districts are ill-served by public transport – increasing costs for Topsy SA's work. Poor employment opportunities are another feature of these areas – with youth unemployment more than 40%!

Topsy SA is the only NGO of its kind in the areas closer to the operational centre at Grootvlei. It is also the only one offering a food security project in the area of expanded operations in Govan Mbeki municipality.

The education, care and protection of children often made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS or in families grappling with low incomes, remained the main emphasis of the programmes. Thousands of carers and adult family members were also included in parts of the work, primarily by being involved in the food security programme - the main part of which is the vegetable garden project.

Work was also sustained in the professionally run groups for parents, as well as a small women's health programme. The latter included cervical cancer screening for a monthly average of 10 women.

In the UK, we continued our volunteer-run and supported efforts aimed at assisting the work of Topsy South Africa. Topsy UK's grants are a vital part of sustaining this work, particularly as we are able to allocate some of the funds to less 'glamorous' costs that other donors often overlook, such as insurance, vehicle repairs, etc. Fundraising and raising the profile of the work in South Africa are the main methods used in the UK.

### **Fundraising in 2024:**

The year has been busy and especially noteworthy are the following events:

1. Jeff Rodriguez, participated in another extreme Cycle challenge this year, raising £2000.
2. Suzy Murphy walked the North Downs raising £1100.
3. Topsy invited over 70 friends and supporters to an Auction on 13 June in the beautiful Killick Music Rooms in Mayfair, London gifted by Killick & Co. We were treated to a fascinating discussion between Prof Hugh Montgomery, OBE and Dr Richard Marshall, CBE about their experiences in rural South Africa at the height of the HIV Aids crisis.

Stephen Riris soothed the room with a flawless flamenco guitar performance, and a live auction of various donated prizes led by John Battersby of Canon Collins Trust.

We are grateful to Susan Angoy for sponsoring the catering at this event. We enjoyed a wonderful evening, felt the support from so many attendees as well as raising £6720 for Topsy.

4. Topsy UK was selected to be one of 3 charities to pitch at a TFN Fundraising event in November 2024. We raised £7100 for Topsy and increased awareness amongst a new audience.
5. Several friends of Topsy made special donations in memory of Rodney, for which we are grateful.

These events allowed us to send a bumper grant totalling £26000 / ZAR 604000 to Topsy South Africa. In this way, we were able to support when a major SA donor was unable to meet their pledge.

We are also grateful for the continued generosity of our Patrons, notably Douglas Downie who supported our TFN bid; a generous donation from Susan Angoy to cover the catering for the Auction; and the sustained professional support of Brenda Huber, our Company Secretary, as well as her daughter, Alice Huber, who facilitates donations by her employer, The Bank of New York. Their generous and unflinching support is a real source of strength to Topsy UK.

## Impact of Topsy South Africa's work

### 1. Early learning and stimulation:

The Early Childhood Development Programme continued our partnerships with 22 ECD centres. In addition, through holistic activities, Topsy supported on average 2000 children a month.

- Early learning and stimulation
- Regular access to the Play and Learn Centre for children 3 - 5
- Support of Practitioners in ECD centres
- Training and mentoring for ECDC principals and practitioners



### 2. Healthcare:

- Growth monitoring and evaluation
- Vision and hearing tests
- Primary Health Care with minor ailments medication
- Referrals for specialised care

3. Food Security and nutritional support grew dramatically and reached a combined total of over 5,527 beneficiaries per month
  - Three months of emergency food parcels until beneficiaries can establish a garden
  - Vegetable gardens in individual households, schools, ECD centres and communal areas
  - Donations of Rise Against Hunger rice packs fortified with vitamins, minerals and protein
  - Food Forward donations
  - 60 Primary and secondary schools received support to grow vegetable gardens providing fresh and nutritious lunches to their learners



4. Community workers continued their home support and increased their monthly visits on average 400 per month, providing psycho-social support to over 1600 women and children per month.
5. In the coldest months of the year, June and July, we distributed blankets to 229 households with orphaned and vulnerable children, benefiting 958 adults and children.



6. The Women's Health Programme continues to be a significant benefit to the communities from Dipaleseng. A constant average of 45 females receive pap smears monthly, and all women in need of colposcopic biopsy and referral receive additional services. All women on the programme also receive breast cancer screening as well as general health awareness. In addition, more than 700 families receive home visits, including health awareness, every month.

We continue to be impressed by the caring and consistent efforts of the amazing team at Grootvlei and for the work they do to relieve the challenges faced by that community.

### **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements**

Law applicable to Charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of the financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements;
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by



Fiona Ghosh

Interim Chairman of the Board

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK

I report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 11 to 15.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) in England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 144 of the 2011 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiners report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view", and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiners statement**

In connection with my examination no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities that have not been met; or
2. To which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Christopher Thomas, ACMA  
Minstead House, Uttoxeter Road, Kingstone, ST14 8QH

21<sup>st</sup> October 2025

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
BALANCE SHEET  
AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Total Funds 2025 £	Prior Year Funds 2024 £
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			
Debtors		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		8,857	3,513
Total current assets		<u>8,857</u>	<u>3,513</u>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>			
Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year		-	-
Net Current Assets		<u>8,857</u>	<u>3,513</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><b>8,857</b></u>	<u><b>3,513</b></u>
<b><u>The funds of the charity:</u></b>			
Unrestricted funds	4	<u><b>8,857</b></u>	<u><b>3,513</b></u>

For the year ended 31 March 2025, the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under s.477 of Companies Act 2006. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the financial year in accordance with s.476 of the Act. The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities.

- (a) Ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with s.386 of the Companies Act 2006, and
- (b) Preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company, as at the end of the financial year, and of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of s.394 and s.395 of the Companies Act 2006, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of that Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These Accounts have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to Companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Trustees on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2025 and signed on their behalf



..... Fiona Ghosh - Interim Chairman of the Board

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Income</b>					
Donations & legacies	2	23,789	-	23,789	13,032
Deposit Interest		105	-	105	187
Other activities	2	11,919	-	11,919	9,459
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>35,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,813</b>	<b>22,678</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
Direct Charitable Expenditure	3	26,000	-	26,000	21,600
<b>Other Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on Raising Funds	3	4,469	-	4,469	1,110
Expenditure on Charitable activities		-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>30,469</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,469</b>	<b>22,710</b>
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		5,344	-	5,344	(32)
Transfer between Funds	4	-	-	-	-
Funds Balance brought forward		3,513	-	3,513	3,545
<b>Funds Balance carried forward</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8,857</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,857</b>	<b>3,513</b>

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
NOTES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 1  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), issued in October 2019.

(b) Charity Status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 4. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

(c) Fund Accounting

Restricted Funds are applied by the Trustees only on activities that fall within the restriction. Unrestricted Funds are available for the use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

(d) Income

All Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled.

(e) Expenditure

All Expenditure is accounted for on an Accruals basis and is recognised when the liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure comprises amounts contributed to its Charitable Activities.

Expenditure on raising funds are costs associated with attracting income.

Expenditure on Charitable activities are incurred on administration and statutory requirements.

(f) Taxation

The Charity is exempt from taxation on its charitable activities.

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
 NOTES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 2  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2. Donations & legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Individuals & firms	23,789	-	23,789	13,032
Charitable Foundations	-	-	-	-
Other activities	11,919	-	11,919	9,459
	<u>35,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,708</u>	<u>22,491</u>

3. Total Expenditure

	Costs 2025 £	Costs 2024 £
Charitable Activities	26,000	21,600
Expenditure on Raising funds	4,469	1,110
	<u>30,469</u>	<u>21,710</u>

Expenditure on Raising funds:

Sundry Expenses including Subscriptions	388	315
Registered office services	360	360
Cost of Topsy Events	3,721	435
	<u>4,469</u>	<u>1,110</u>

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
 NOTES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 3  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4. Movement in funds

	1 April 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	31 March 2025 £
Restricted Funds:					
Topsy Foundation SA	-	-	(26,000)	26,000	-
Topsy Foundation UK	-	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	-	-	(26,000)	26,000	-
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Fund	3,513	35,813	(4,470)	(26,000)	8,857
Total Unrestricted Funds	3,513	35,813	(4,470)	(26,000)	8,857

Purpose of Restricted Funds :

- Topsy Foundation SA - These are grants/donations for projects run by Topsy Foundation, South Africa
- Topsy Foundation UK - These are contributions towards the costs of running the UK office.

5. No Trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of travel expenses during the year ended 31 March 2025.

**THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1115428

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# Accounts

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REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2021



Emergency Covid-19 food parcel delivery, physically distanced residents.

CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, ACMA  
MINSTEAD HOUSE, UTTOXETER RAOD  
KINGSTONE  
ST14 8QH



At one of the ECD centres

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## **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### Constitution

The Topsy Foundation UK is a Registered Charity - Number 1115428

The Charity is a Company Limited by guarantee and incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 - Number 05823488

### Trustees

The Trustees who served during or for part of the year, were as follows:

Rodney Waldeck	- Chairman
Susan Angoy	
Fiona Ghosh	- appointed 5 October 2020
Jeff Rodrigues	
Ewa Skowronska	- resigned 28 May 2020
Foszia Turner-Stylianou	
Natasha Huber	- appointed 19 November 2020
Gwyneth Williams	

Trustees are also Directors of the Topsy Foundation UK.

### Patrons

Sir Geoffrey Bindman QC  
The Lady Birt CB  
Alan Donnelly  
Douglas Downie  
Paloma Faith

### Company Secretary

Brenda Huber

### Registered Office

c/o William Sturges LLP  
Burford House  
14 Caxton Street  
London  
SW1H 0QY

### Independent Examiner

Mr Christopher Thomas, ACMA  
Minstead House  
Uttoxeter Road  
Kingstone  
ST14 8QH

### Bankers

Clydesdale Bank PLC  
Level 15, The Leadenhall Building  
122 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3V 4AB

### Website:

[www.topsyfoundation.org.uk](http://www.topsyfoundation.org.uk)

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The Trustees are pleased to present their Report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Legal and Administrative information on page 3 is also included as part of the Report. The Financial Statements comply with current statutory requirements and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Objects

The objects of the Charity are to:

- Relieve poverty, suffering and distress and to promote and protect the physical and mental health of people in South Africa suffering from the consequences of HIV and AIDS;
- Provide education (including pre-school education and vocational and skills training) to assist in the social, educational, and economic development of people in South Africa and in particular women and children in that country;
- Advance the education of the public about HIV and Aids, its transmission, prevention, and consequences;
- Provide grants and other material assistance to individuals and/or organisations based in South Africa including the Topsy Foundation, South Africa which is a (separate) registered charity in that country.

Organisation and Management

- The Trustees held 2 Zoom-style Board meetings during the year. The Trustees also maintain regular contact with each other by email and telephone. The Chairman is in monthly contact with the Executive Director in South Africa, and more frequently during the six months following the Covid lockdown start in SA. We are supplied with detailed statistics and reports of the work on at least a quarterly basis.

Appointment and Removal of Trustees

- The Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Articles of Associations provide for a minimum of three trustees, with one third of trustees, or the number nearest to one third, due for re-appointment in any one year. Foszia Turner-Stylianou and Gwyneth Williams were reappointed
- They, together, with Fiona Ghosh, Natasha Huber, Jeff Rodrigues, and Rodney Waldeck, comprised the Board of Trustees and are Directors of the company.

Trustee Induction and training

The induction process for any newly appointed trustee comprises an initial meeting with the Chair and the Board, on powers and responsibilities of the Board, charitable activities, and fundraising strategies. New Trustees are made aware of the history of the organisation, given a note on the role of Trustees, as well as agreeing to become conversant with the Charity Commission guidance 'The Essential Trustee'. They are also given copies of the Minutes of the meeting immediately prior to joining, asked to consult the most recent annual report, and are given copies of the most up-to-date financial statements.

## Reserves Policy

- It remains the policy of the Charity to maintain unrestricted funds which are the free reserves of the Charity at a level to cover six months operational costs.

## Risk Management

- The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular, those related to the operations and finances of the Trust and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate their exposure to the major risks.

Topsy UK had its planned work upended in this pandemic year, as did our namesake, the independent Foundation we support in South Africa. Swift adjustments and additional action were required in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Topsy SA started this financial year with 29 staff, drawn mainly from local communities, in the sub-district of Dipaleseng, Mpumalanga Province. This district is an under resourced, employment- and transport- poor part of the Province, some 40 miles South of Johannesburg.

It is the *only* NGO in the region

The education, care and protection of children often made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS and/or grappling with low incomes, remained the main emphasis of the programmes. Carers and adult family members are also included in some of the work, like the vegetable garden project, as well as a small women's health programme.

In the UK, we continued our volunteer-run and supported efforts aimed at assisting the work of Topsy South Africa. Fundraising and raising the profile of the work in South Africa are the main methods we use in the UK.

Like many other charities, plans in the UK to hold in-person events were abandoned, leaving us facing a bleak fundraising outlook. We are pleased to report, however, a better outcome. Thanks to the efforts of our Trustees and supporters, the donations sent to Topsy South Africa were the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in Rand value in 5 years – ZAR453,000.

These efforts included:

- A wonderful surprise offer from a young man – Jamini-Joseph Ghosh, who knew of Topsy SA's work. JJ, after some weeks of lockdown in the UK, persuaded 2 other 17-year-old school friends to raise money by running a half marathon. He realised that raising funds would be one way of making a difference for children with fewer material resources facing lockdown in that part of South Africa.
- Continued generous support of our Company Secretary Brenda Huber, and Alice, Natasha, and Robert Huber
- Continued generous support from Patrons, the Lady Birt, and Douglas Downie
- Another sterling cycle riding effort from our Trustee, Jeff Rodrigues.
- 2 imaginative cycle rides by Hilary Farrell and her friends in Worthing
- Grants from the Souter Trust, Microsoft, and the Bank of New York-Mellon

## How we helped Topsy SA

Topsy UK grants included £3,500 towards PPE, replacement seeds, sanitisers & soaps and additional transport costs meeting Covid-related needs. The majority of our grants went to support core costs,

including insurance and the ever-present need for transport. We took the view that such costs were often the most difficult to source. The impact of our support would be that much greater, by helping to ensure that Topsy SA could continue its 20-year-old valuable work at a time of great stress and uncertainty.

A summary of the work we supported in South Africa is arranged under 4 main headings: **Perseverance, Understanding, Struggle and Hope.**

### **Perseverance**

The first strict lock-down rules started in March 2020 in South Africa, creating logistic problems. These, and the need to incorporate preventive health measures, meant taking steps to quickly prepare for operating in the changed circumstances. The steps included making applications within the State system so that the Director and some of the staff on the ground could be classed as essential workers. This permitted them to travel between municipalities and the area served by the Centre. It also allowed Topsy SA's essential community outreach efforts to continue. Work included:

- distribution of PPE-related items, sanitizers, etc
- health education and advice
- the distribution of parcels of fortified food provided by donors. Over **900 families** were included in this programme.

### **Understanding**

Topsy SA, and we in the UK, were established in response to another pandemic – HIV/AIDS. Staff in South Africa that worked during the years when NGOs were in the forefront of the response, helped the organisation build a strong reputation in the communities served by the Foundation. When Covid-19 arrived, Topsy SA was therefore well placed to take quick action to respond to community needs.

The fact that most of Topsy SA's staff live in the communities also made it easier to provide health education and advice about transmission of the virus and the steps needed to avoid/reduce such transmission.

The Exec Director, anticipating what might lie in store, decided to release all the seed stock to people working the vegetable gardens shortly before the first strict lockdown in March 2020. More than **6,000** people were then in a position to continue their own efforts, providing access to fresh food throughout the year.



A resident's garden near Topsy centre in Grootvlei

### **Struggle**

The 2 main programmes continue to be Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Food Security. The wider community, including parents and carers are included in the latter.

Trained Community Outreach staff have always been vital service providers and links to people in the area Topsy serves. Community outreach proved particularly important while other facilities were closed, providing support to vulnerable children and families.

2000 children were reached through ECD activities – when these were permitted under Covid-related rules. The result of the latter was that for almost half the year, children could not attend their pre-schools, nor the facilities at Topsy SA's main centre. This of course resulted in big gaps in the system of monthly health checks for the children in the programme, as well as the informal and formal training provided for staff at the pre-schools. At one point in the latter half of 2020, it seemed that close to half of the 27 facilities Topsy supports might not be able to re-open. Fortunately, the staff of the pre-schools, encouraged by community members and Topsy staff, were determined to continue, allowing all but five of the pre-schools to eventually re-start when Government rules permitted.

Topsy Foundation's Holistic Early Childhood Development Model is made up of 6 programmes, one of which is the Growth Monitoring Programme.

The consultations are administered by nursing sisters and form a part of the overall programme. Each child receives a thorough medical examination from Topsy nursing sisters. This directly influences the quality of life for vulnerable children by supporting their development and well-being. Community outreach workers are then in a position to follow up on their visits to families.

Some 600 children were seen every month when Covid rules permitted.

A new partnership with Headstart Kids was initiated in Nov 2020 for 100 children in Grootvlei. Headstart donated Nutrilite™ Little Bits™ Dietary Supplement, a micronutrient supplement enhanced with organic plant nutrients that provides 15 essential vitamins and minerals.



At Topsy SA's main, Grootvlei, centre

### Hope

This came in the shape of a successful application to SASOL, the South African energy company. It made the largest grant that the Foundation has received in 5 years. Funds were provided for Topsy SA's existing programmes.

The company also asked Topsy SA to extend its programmes to another municipal area, some 40 miles from the main centre at Grootvlei. The first phase of the expansion included:

- 12 additional jobs created, including community outreach workers
- 2775 beneficiaries reached through home visits (1003 homes) in the 3 months ending March 2021
- Helping to establish 491 vegetable gardens, allowing more than 1340 adults and children to help themselves

Topsy SA's plan is to use its expertise in ECD-related provision by extending the scope of the programme late in 2021 to help ECD work in the area – if the Company's funding position permits.

## Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

Law applicable to Charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of the financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements;
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by



Rodney Waldeck

Chairman of the Board

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK

I report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 11 to 15.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) in England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to :

- Examine the accounts under section 144 of the 2011 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiners report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiners statement**

In connection with my examination no matters have come to my attention :

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements :
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities that have not been met; or
2. To which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Christopher Thomas, ACMA  
Minstead House, Uttoxeter Road, Kingstone, ST14 8QH



5<sup>th</sup> of October 2021

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
BALANCE SHEET  
AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	Total Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Funds 2020 £
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			
Debtors		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		4,134	1,216
Total current assets		4,134	1,216
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>			
Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year		-	-
Net Current Assets		4,134	1,216
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>4,134</b>	<b>1,216</b>
<b><u>The funds of the charity:</u></b>			
Unrestricted funds	4	4,134	1,216

For the year ended 31 March 2021, the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under s.477 of Companies Act 2006. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the financial year in accordance with s.476 of the Act. The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities.

- (a) Ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with s.386 of the Companies Act 2006, and
- (b) Preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company, as at the end of the financial year, and of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of s.394 and s.395 of the Companies Act 2006, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of that Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These Accounts have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to Companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Trustees on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2021 and signed on their behalf



..... Rodney Waldeck – Chairman

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
<b>Income</b>					
Donations & legacies	2	17,300	-	17,300	13,408
Deposit Interest		-	-	-	20
Other activities	2	8,010	-	8,010	670
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>25,310</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,310</b>	<b>14,098</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
Direct Charitable Expenditure	3	21,200	-	21,200	13,100
<b>Other Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on Raising Funds	3	1,192	-	1,192	842
Expenditure on Charitable activities		-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>22,392</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,392</b>	<b>13,942</b>
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		2,918	-	2,918	136
Transfer between Funds	4	-	-	-	-
Funds Balance brought forward		1,216	-	1,216	1,060
<b>Funds Balance carried forward</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4,134</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,134</b>	<b>1,216</b>

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
NOTES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 1  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

(b) Charity Status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 4. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

(c) Fund Accounting

Restricted Funds are applied by the Trustees only on activities that fall within the restriction. Unrestricted Funds are available for the use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

(d) Income

All Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled.

(e) Expenditure

All Expenditure is accounted for on an Accruals basis and is recognised when the liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure comprises amounts contributed to its Charitable Activities.

Expenditure on raising funds are costs associated with attracting income.

Expenditure on Charitable activities are incurred on administration and statutory requirements.

(f) Taxation

The Charity is exempt from taxation on its charitable activities.

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
 NOTES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 2  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2. Donations & legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Individuals & firms	14,450	-	14,450	13,408
Charitable Foundations	2,850	-	2,850	-
Other activities	8,010	-	8,010	670
	<u>25,310</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,310</u>	<u>14,078</u>

3. Total Expenditure

	Costs 2021 £	Costs 2020 £
Charitable Activities	21,200	13,100
Expenditure on Raising funds	<u>1,192</u>	<u>842</u>
	<u>22,392</u>	<u>13,942</u>

Expenditure on Raising funds :

Fundraising Consultant, Website and Exhibition	-	-
Sundry Expenses including Subscriptions	832	482
Registered office services	360	360
Cost of Topsy events	-	-
	<u>1,192</u>	<u>842</u>

THE TOPSY FOUNDATION UK  
 NOTES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 3  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

4. Movement in funds

	1 April 2020 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	31 March 2021 £
Restricted Funds:					
Topsy Foundation SA	-	-	(21,200)	21,200	-
Topsy Foundation UK	-	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	-	-	(21,200)	21,200	-
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Fund	1,216	25,310	(1,192)	(21,200)	4,134
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,216	25,310	(1,192)	(21,200)	4,134

Purpose of Restricted Funds :

- Topsy Foundation SA - These are grants/donations for projects run by Topsy Foundation, South Africa
- Topsy Foundation UK - These are contributions towards the costs of running the UK office.

5. No Trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of travel expenses during the year ended 31 March 2021.