

**Charity Registration No. 313051**

**Company Registration No. 01002955 (England and Wales)**

**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**

**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**COUNCIL'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**  
**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
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# **ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**

## **(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

### **COUNCIL'S REPORT**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The Trustees (who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their report and the financial statements for Alpine Club Library (the Company) for the year end 31 December 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report for Companies Act purposes.

The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

#### **Our purposes and general activities**

The Alpine Club Library charity's purpose and principal activity is to care for and manage the collections of mountaineering books, tracts, archives, artefacts, photographs and paintings owned, in the main, by the Alpine Club, and to make them available to the public. Based in the Alpine Club's London premises, the Alpine Club Library manages one of the most significant collections of mountain material world-wide which provides an important source of reference.

To achieve these purposes, the Library gains funds by: the sale of duplicate books; the sale of reproduction rights for photographs; commissions from painting sales; contributions from members of the public and organisations who use the Library; occasional support from grant making bodies and occasional appeals primarily - though not exclusively - to the Club membership. The Library actively seeks donations in kind of archives, photographs, paintings and books. We consider all items for addition to our collections and we also retain duplicates (and triplicates or quadruples) as needed. We publish a regular list of surplus books for sale; recycling books back into circulation for interested readers. The acquisition and disposal of rare and important book volumes is only carried out in consultation with the Club; a restricted Acquisitions & Restoration Fund exists for the purposes of acquiring specialist books. There has been no change in these policies during the year.

In shaping the objectives for the year and planning the activities, the Members of Council have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'Public Benefit: Running A Charity (PB2)'.

#### **Financial review and reserves policy**

The results for the year show a surplus of £59,455 (2022: deficit £182,801), after accounting for total gains on investments of £54,917 (2022: losses £206,557). Realised gains for the year totalled £3,395 (2022: losses £47,562). Unrealised gains which are not cash items and solely reflect the movement of the investments with regard to the value of the portfolio at the year end totalled £51,522 (2022: losses £158,994).

Total funds carried forward were £1,457,369 (2022: £1,397,914) of which £1,299,141 (2022: £1,247,315) were unrestricted funds, £14,382 (2022: £nil) were designated and £143,846 were restricted funds (2022: £150,599).

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure, which is between £20,000 and £40,000 at current levels. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. In the event of reserves not meeting the required amount to fund the expenditure of the charity, the trustees have discussed realising some of the charity's investments to meet the shortfall. The charity had free reserves of £1,209,445 at the year end (2022: £1,146,166).

With the authority of the Charity Commissioners, the Library's investments were managed on a discretionary basis by Quilter Cheviot Asset Management. These investments provide a vital source of income to support the salary for our professional Librarian and the costs of our premises. Investment income for the year was £49,082 (2022: £36,382). The value of listed investments increased from £1,119,247 to £1,222,862 at 31 December 2023.

Note 14 sets out an analysis of the assets attributable to the various funds and a description of the funds held. These assets are sufficient to meet the charity's obligations on a fund by fund basis.

# **ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

## **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

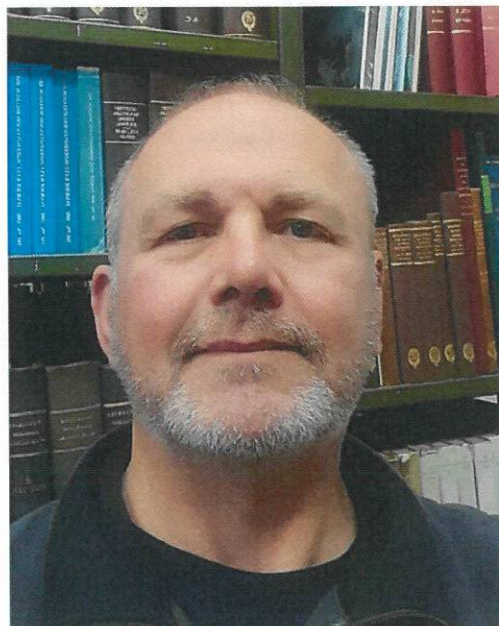
### **People and Events**

Just as for 2022, physical visitor numbers to the Library remained low during 2023 relative to historical pre-Covid levels. It seems that the majority of AC members now prefer to do their research and access material online, either through the website or via emails. As I have previously noted, although this approach is time efficient, I remain convinced that teasing out key details is often enhanced by a physical visit and first-hand perusal of the relevant documents.

Arguably the most momentous event of the year was Barbara Grigor-Taylor's decision to step down from her role as our Honorary Librarian at the end of the year. Barbara has been a stalwart member of the Library for two decades since George Band, then Chair of the Library Council, invited her to become a Trustee in 2004. She then took over responsibility for the listing and sale of donated duplicate books after the death of Mike Hewson in 2014 and has continued to issue those listings to AC members ever since. Also in 2014, Barbara was appointed as deputy to Jerry Lovatt, taking over many of his day-to-day duties, especially during the two interregnums between Librarians. She was then appointed as Honorary Librarian in 2016 when Jerry stepped down from that role. Barbara also served on the Club's Property Sub-Committee during a somewhat fraught period when a move outside London was being contemplated and when architectural plans for a major revamp of the Charlotte Road premises were submitted for planning consent. During her term as Honorary Librarian Barbara re-established contact with renowned conservation binder Cyril Titus, who now handles all the Library's rebinding and conservation requirements for books, archives and some original artwork. Her sales of donated duplicate books have provided a vital source of funding for this essential conservation work.

Barbara's appointment as Honorary Librarian more-or-less coincided with my appointment as a Library Trustee after being involved with the logistics of mounting the major exhibition of AC paintings celebrating the Golden Age of Alpinism in the Alpine Museum in Chamonix. So, I know from first-hand experience how much time, effort and resolve that she has devoted to the Library during her long tenure. A recent example of that dedicated effort was the hugely successful landmark exhibition Everest by 'those who were there' 1921, 1922, 1924, curated by Barbara to commemorate the centenary of the first reconnaissance expedition to Mount Everest and the 1922 and 1924 climbing expeditions, exploring the experiences of expedition members as told in their own words and through their artefacts, correspondence and artworks. Barbara also wrote the accompanying catalogue that reproduced every item from the exhibition. This proved to be such a best-seller that the original print run of 300 copies completely sold out and a second impression had to be published. I am deeply grateful for her amazing level of support, and it is therefore my great pleasure to be able to take this opportunity to thank her profusely for that on behalf of the Library Council and the whole Library team.

Following Barbara's indication that she wished to step down, the Club had the unenviable task of seeking a new Honorary Librarian. The post was advertised widely to the whole AC membership and a number of expressions of interest was received. Following a selection and interview process, the President, on behalf of the AC Committee, was pleased to offer the position to Gordon Turner. Gordon is currently Director of Clinical Governance at the West London NHS Trust; he has had a long involvement in sports medicine and, amongst other posts, was previously the Head of Sports Medicine at Glenmore Lodge. He also has a long-term interest in rare and collectible mountaineering literature, and has been an AC Library Volunteer since 2016. In fact, it was Gordon's eagle eye that spotted a copy of Douglas Freshfield's Across Country from Thonon to Trent for sale in an online auction catalogue in 2021; Freshfield's first and rarest book, published in 1865. It turns out that this was the copy "missing" from the ACL bookshelves, and after many phone calls and email exchanges the sale was eventually cancelled and this valuable volume restored to its rightful place on the reserve shelves of the Library, where it is now once more available for perusal. So, I think it is fair to say that Gordon has an excellent knowledge of ACL operations. He is already developing ideas for Library improvements, and it is a pleasure to welcome him to the Library team.



**Gordon Turner, our new Honorary Librarian**

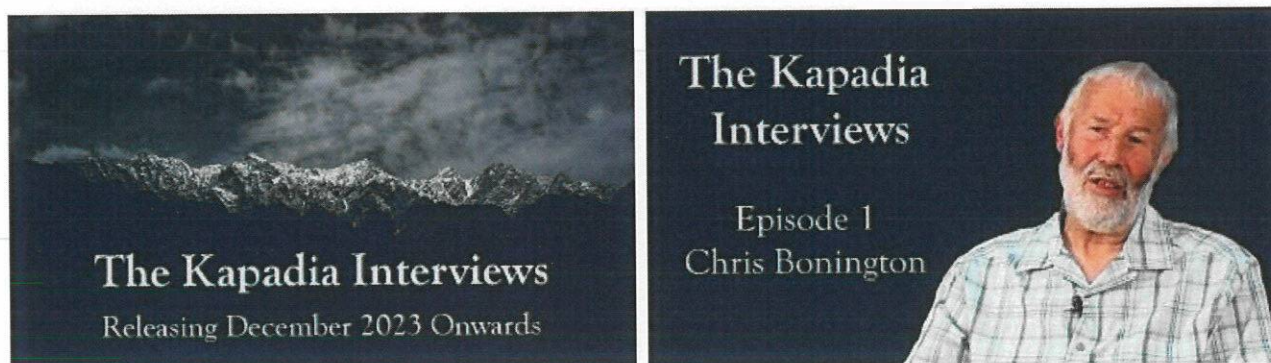


## ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

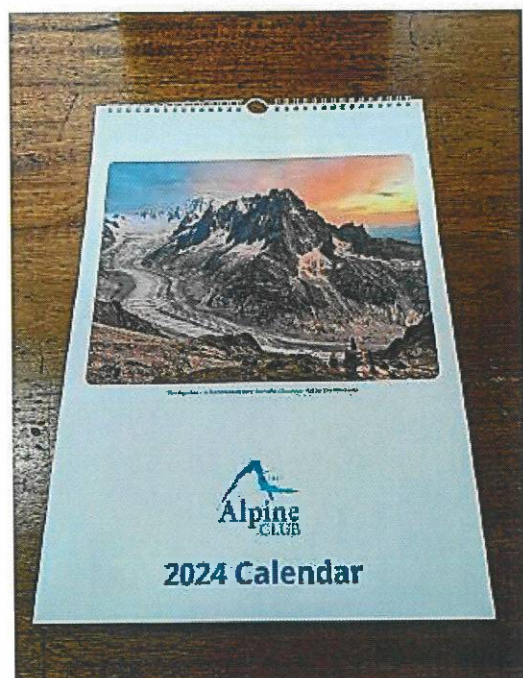
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Another exciting development during the year was the start of the Kapadia Interview project, overseen by Adam Butterworth and Emma MacDonald, which involved uploading Harish Kapadia's interview archive to YouTube. At the last count twenty-five episodes have gone live, including interviews with Chris Bonington, Stephen Venables, Tamotsu Nakamura, Bernadette McDonald and Tony Streather amongst others. All of the interviews can be viewed via a dedicated YouTube playlist.



This year the Club revived its photographic competition, with four competition categories; Alpine Climbing, Mountain Landscape, AC Gatherings and The Unusual. A total of over 100 photographs were submitted, and they were judged by John Cleare. The four winning photographs, together with twelve other highly commended images were then printed and exhibited in the Lecture Room at Charlotte Road as Current AC Photographers during the autumn. Following the exhibition, the winning photographs and nine other selected images were reproduced for the Alpine Club 2024 Calendar, and eight were reproduced in vinyl to strikingly adorn the exterior windows in the side wall of the clubhouse in Mills Court.



In October, we were extremely pleased to receive an unsolicited donation of \$10,000 from the Chalten Fund of the Marin Community Foundation recommended by the Holdfast Collective, which is the new charitable arm of Patagonia. The donation was not allocated for any specific purpose, but for "general operating support". After discussion between the AC and the ACL, it was used to support the ongoing project to digitise and update the Himalayan Index. It was felt that this was a worthy cause that both meets the aims of the Foundation and has the potential to be of longstanding benefit to alpinists and expeditioners globally.



# ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

## (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

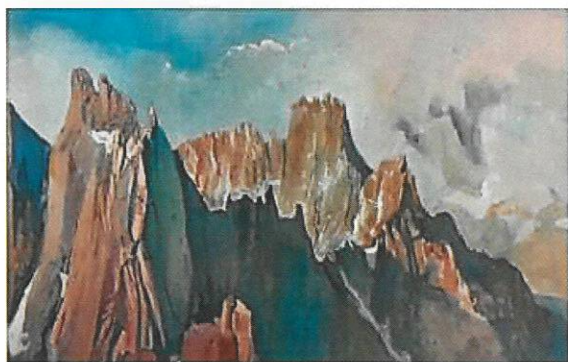
I reported last year that Library Trustees now have a fixed term of office of three years, and it is therefore necessary to appoint or re-appoint several trustees each year. At the 2023 AGM, Trevor Campbell Davis and Barbara Grigor-Taylor were re-appointed as AC-nominated Trustees. The Library and its Keepers continue to make progress towards our goal of streamlining and integrating online information about the collections in order to be able to provide a better and more easily accessible service to members. In particular, there is now a regular feature in the AC Newsletter, The Bigger Picture, that highlights selected photographs, drawings, lithographs and other artworks from the Club's collections. At the risk of repetition, I feel I need to reiterate that collections don't get smaller but inevitably increase in size over time. This not only puts continual pressure on space, but also on the work required to organise and manage the holdings. We are therefore always looking for volunteers to help with custodianship of the collections. If you are interested in helping out or would like more information about volunteering opportunities, please contact me ([chair.ac@alpineclub.org](mailto:chair.ac@alpineclub.org)) or any of the Keepers. Not only can the work itself be very rewarding, but it also opens the door to a truly wondrous world of mountaineering heritage.

#### Exhibitions

Following the lead of 2022, we also had a full schedule of exhibitions in the Charlotte Road Lecture Room in 2023.

#### John Colton: Over the Hill

The year started with John Colton's *Over the Hill*, which ran from February to April. This evocative exhibition paid homage to John's long and rich career as a climber and painter. Indeed, as a *peintre-alpiniste* in the best sense of the term, John Colton's pictures matched the calibre of his many climbs in technical terms. His careful use of white gouache (or bodycolour), for example, in his A5 sketchbook-sized paintings, suggested he was a far more competent practitioner than perhaps acknowledged by the light-hearted exhibition title. Lots of the works on display were also accompanied by memorable anecdotes of mischief and of antagonizing the authorities whilst climbing. This made for a rewarding insight into John's approach to both his climbing and his painting and, yet, despite an obvious attempt to look back and review a life in the mountains and the inevitable accompanying nostalgia, John's pictures always felt fresh and relevant. In conveying strong memories of various cols, summits and ridges, many of the pictures favoured a light, cheerful palette. Above all, *Over the Hill* revealed a great love of the subject.



"Aiguilles" by John Colton



"From the Walker Spur" by John Colton

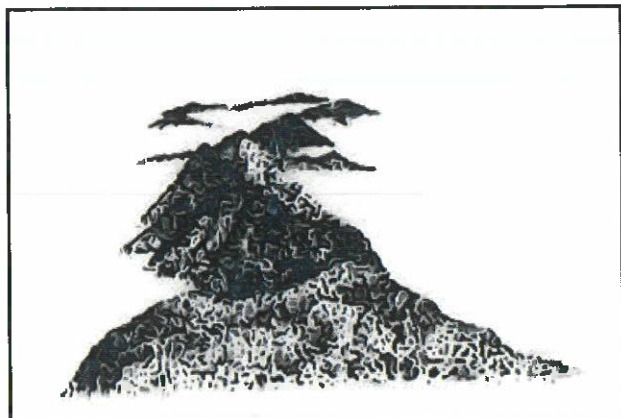
#### Heather Dawe: No Substance but Light

A few of the pictures in this compelling exhibition by the poet and painter Heather Dawe, which ran from May to July, were a first of their kind to be shown at the Alpine Club. Using a synthesis of preparatory sketches and the application of Artificial Intelligence, the 'ridge' drawings were unusual and thought provoking. As a specialist in implementing AI into industry, Heather's works were a deliberate attempt to see how the lines would blur between the human hand and technology. Other paintings represented the Canadian Alps, the Himalaya, the Alps and, closer to home, the Highlands and the Lake District. Together with the AI pictures, the other theme Heather was keen to explore through her work on display was the power of 'going places in my mind' as she summarized it. The sense of memory and even dream came across in her mountain-scapes and, doubtless, a reminiscence from the lockdown period. Heather's painting of Nanda Devi, a mountain she is looking forward to seeing in person, was a perfect example of this blend of imagination and sense of longing.

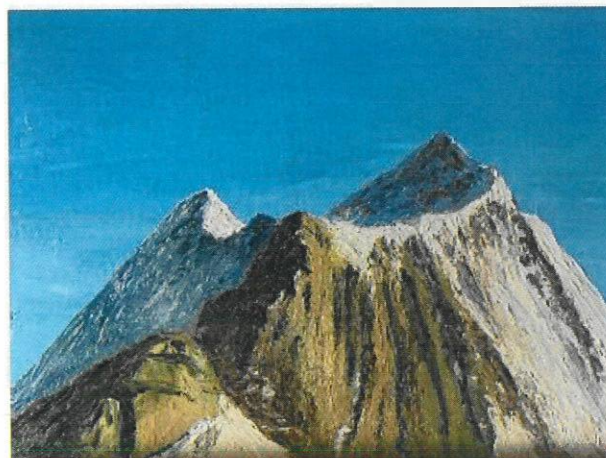
## ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**



*"North Kintail Ridge" by Heather Dawe*



*"Nanda Devi" by Heather Dawe*

### Current AC Photographers

In 2023, the Alpine Club held a photographic competition among its membership to seek out the best mountain photography from the past five years within four competition categories; Alpine Climbing, Mountain Landscape, AC Gatherings and The Unusual. A total of 113 photographs were submitted by 31 members, and the four winners were selected by professional photographer and AC member John Cleare. The winners were; Ian Welstead approaching the North-West Summit of Mount Waddington, Canadian Coastal Mountains by Simon Richardson, Sgùrr a'Mhadaidh Ruaidh, Trotternish, Skye by Andrew Moore, Regroup on the Windjoch, Saas Fee by Nathan Moore, and Lac Noir summit fishing by Tim MacLean, respectively. The four winning photographs, together with twelve other highly commended images and a number of historic monochrome photographs from the Club's collection were exhibited in the Lecture Room at Charlotte Road as Current AC Photographers during the autumn, curated by Bernie Ingrams.

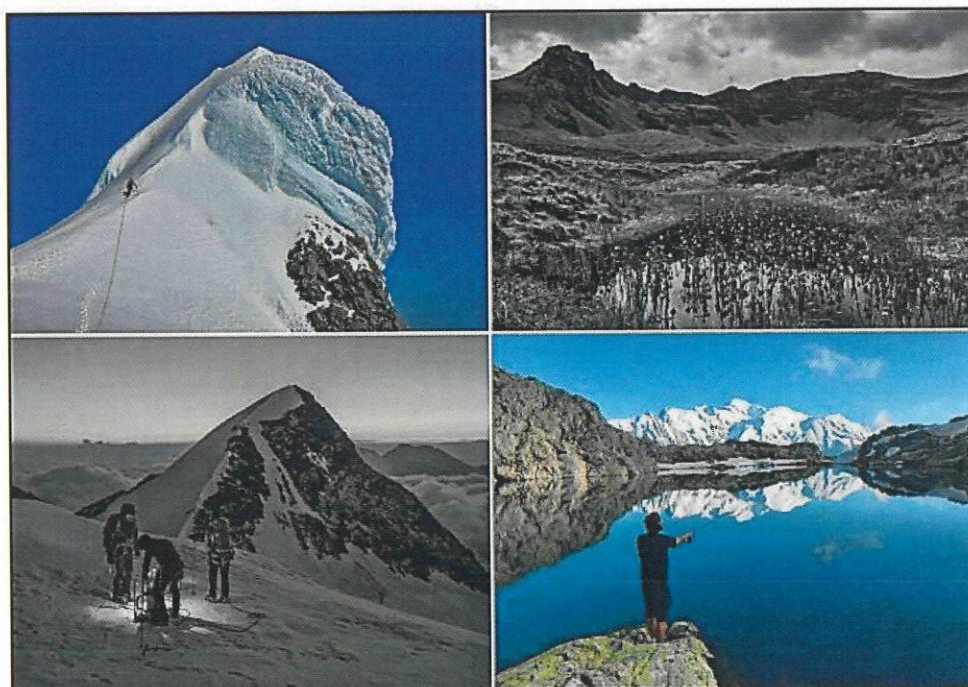


Photo Competition Winners. Clockwise from top left: "Ian Welstead approaching the North-West Summit of Mount Waddington, Canadian Coastal Mountains" by Simon Richardson, "Sgùrr a'Mhadaidh Ruaidh, Trotternish, Skye" by Andrew Moore, "Lac Noir summit fishing" by Tim MacLean and "Regroup on the Windjoch, Saas Fee" by Nathan Moore



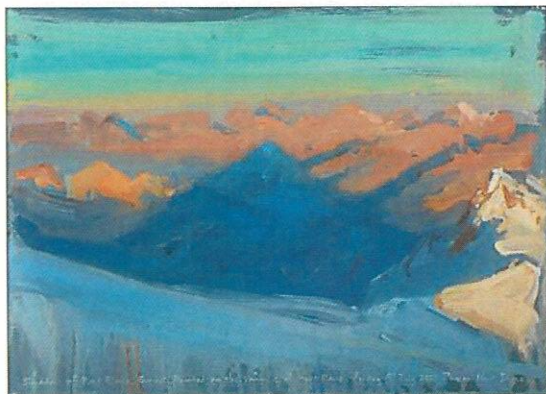
## ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

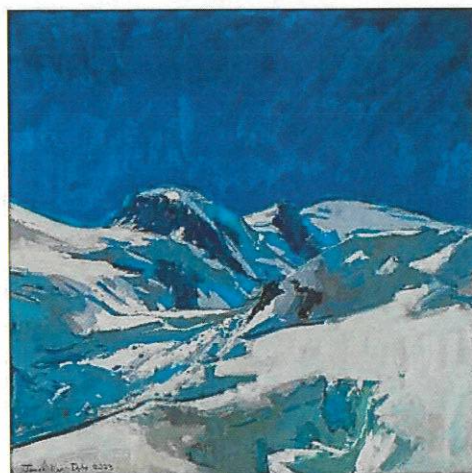
#### James Hart-Dyke: Mont Blanc - The Summit Paintings

In July 2022, the landscape painter James Hart-Dyke set out to climb Mont Blanc via the ancien passage, better known today as the Grands Mulets route. The aim of the expedition was to emulate as closely as possible the conditions under which Gabriel Loppé made his now well-known 'sunset' summit pictures on August 6th 1873, as witnessed by Leslie Stephen and beautifully written up in *The Playground of Europe*. Since Loppé's time no artist had hitherto painted on the summit of Mont Blanc and, therefore, accompanied by William Mitchell (AC Keeper of Pictures) and a retinue of guides and Loppé enthusiasts, the climb was mounted and expertly led by erstwhile French climbing legend, Christophe Profit. 150 years on, James Hart Dyke managed to complete two oil sketches on the summit between 8.30 and 9.45pm on that clear but cold summer's night. These two pictures formed the centrepiece of Mont Blanc - The Summit Paintings, our final exhibition of the year, which featured several other oil studies painted on the spot during the climb made on foot there and back from Chamonix. A number of much larger format canvases, subsequently painted in James's studio, further enhanced this wonderful exhibition.



"Shadow of Mont Blanc  
painted from the summit" by  
James Hart-Dyke

"Les Petites Montées, Mont  
Blanc" by James Hart-Dyke



#### Collections

Further books from the collection of J.H. Emlyn Jones (AC President 1979-1982) were donated to the Library by his widow Louise. These included a number of volumes inscribed to him from George Band, Bernard Pierre and John Hunt. Archives donated from his personal library included his diary from the 1950 Annapurna Himal expedition led by Bill Tilman, Jock Harrison's diary from the 1938 Masherbrum expedition and Arnold Lunn's diary of his climbs in 1902 and 1903. The entire Emlyn Jones collection now features under his name in the online Library catalogue.



## ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023*

Over the year, conservator Cyril Titus undertook ten major restoration projects, all funded by proceeds from the sale of donated duplicate books. Amongst them were the three diaries from J.H. Emlyn Jones' library and a large volume of AC Minutes. The latter was simply too large and too awkward to handle and read. So, it has been re-bound into three more manageable volumes. This is part of an ongoing project to restore all historic AC Minute books for easier use and reference.

The Honorary Archivist, Glyn Hughes, has collected the remaining material from the Eileen Healey archive that relates to Cho Oyu. This is a substantial amount of material, and will require significant editing to select the most appropriate material for scanning. He has also received a tranche of letters from John Porter relating to the 1953 Everest expedition. These were written by Shipton, Odell, Tilman and Hunt to Glen Denny, an American journalist researching an article on Eric Shipton for the journal *Quest*. Significantly, we have also been offered the complete Wilfred Noyce archive. This includes his diaries from expeditions to Everest, Trivor and Machapuchare. The material is currently held by a relative in Windsor, awaiting collection and delivery to Charlotte Road.

We reported last year that the mountaineering photos of the late Rick Allen had been bequeathed to AC Member Roy Lindsay who had loaned them to the AC for copying before they are eventually deposited into the archives of the Scottish Mountaineering Club and the National Library of Scotland. However, during the process of sorting and scanning, it was discovered that many of the images of Nanga Parbat accredited to Rick Allen had actually been taken by Sandy Allen. As a result, Bernie Ingrams and Peter Payne are engaged in the process of trying to resolve this issue for accreditation and copyright purposes.

Interest in the pictures from the AC collection displayed on ArtUK and The Watercolour World continues to increase, with our presence on ArtUK providing a small but steady income stream that helps to pay for conservation of the picture collection. In that context, during May we consulted Apelles Fine Art Services about cleaning Robert Collier's large painting of the Argentière Glacier. It was duly removed from the wall next to the bar and sent to the restorer Paola Bernardi in West London. Thanks to the Victorian fad for glazing paintings, Paola was able to confirm that the picture had never been touched since it was painted over 150 years ago. Behind the glass a thick film of grime, mostly tobacco smoke and dust, had built up on the canvas overlaying an oxidised and yellowed varnish. Once this was removed the colours regained their original intensity and the Collier returned in September wholly transformed. It now sits resplendently overlooking the bar once again.



Tom Bourdillon's  
ice-axe

## ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Nigel Buckley, Keeper of Artefacts, was excited to be offered Tom Bourdillon's ice axe and alpine guidebooks by David and Kevin Fitzgerald. They are sons of AC member Frank Fitzgerald who worked with Tom at the Rocket Propulsion Establishment in Westcott. The ice axe was manufactured by Alfred Bhend of Grindelwald and is believed to have been used by Bourdillon on the 1953 Everest expedition.

It is always good to end on a high note, and I am delighted to report that the Mathews Monument has at last been moved from its old location outside the old Couette Hotel in Chamonix, craned over the moraine ridge, and now sits on a much more prominent site on the approach road to the railway station. This is the result of a prolonged three-year process of negotiation with the Chamonix authorities that has called upon all the diplomatic skills of Charlie Burbridge, our tactful Keeper of Monuments. The move was treated as a major event by the Mayor of Chamonix, and enthusiastically driven by Claire Burnett of the Chamonix Information Office, to such an extent that the Mayor's Office paid all the removal costs. For our part, the AC has paid for the cleaning of the monument and restoration of the inscription. As a result, it now appears in the natural colour of the local granite from which it was hewed rather than being draped in its previous dingy black, probably coal-fired, coat. Originally, the monument was dedicated to the memory of C.E. Mathews, a founding member of the AC, but has now been rededicated to also represent the shared history and comradeship between Chamonix and the Alpine Club. The Mayor has organised an official ceremony for 5pm on Saturday the 6th of July, where he will unveil the monument in its restored state. The Chamonix authorities are keen to assemble as many members of the AC and also the local British community, in addition to the great and good of Chamonix, for the event.

The cleaned and renovated Mathews Monument on its new site on the road from the railway station in Chamonix.



# ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

## (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

### End Note

As always, I end this report by expressing my deep gratitude to everyone in the Library team, Librarian, Trustees, Keepers, Members and Volunteers, who again gave their time so generously and ungrudgingly throughout the year. Thanks also to everyone who supplied me with the details of activities needed to compile this report; and especially to William Mitchell for his detailed exhibition reports.

**Philip Meredith**

Chair of the Council of Trustees of the Alpine Club Library

May 2024

### Reference and administrative details

Charity number:	313051
Company number:	01002955
Registered office:	55 Charlotte Road, London, EC2A 3QF
Company secretary:	Professor Philip Meredith

### Our advisers

Independent Examiners and Auditors	TC Group
Bankers	NatWest Group
Investment advisors	Quilter Cheviot Limited
Honorary solicitor	P G C Sanders

### Members of Council

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law.

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Professor Philip Meredith (Chairman)  
Barbara Grigor-Taylor  
Kimball Morrison  
Robin Ashcroft  
Trevor Campbell Davis  
Alan Henderson  
Stephen Venables



# **ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**

## **(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

## **COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **Structure, governance and management**

Alpine Club Library is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 22 February 1971. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

The Library is managed by a Council of Trustees, comprising five members nominated by the Alpine Club, one by the Royal Geographical Society and one by the British Mountaineering Council. Day to day book library operations are in the care of a salaried professional librarian who works closely with the Honorary Librarian. Other collections are managed by our volunteer Honorary Keepers and Honorary Archivist.

None of the Members of Council has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Members of Council are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £5 in the event of a winding up. The Members of Council are fully aware of their responsibilities as Trustees of the charity.

#### **Risk**

The Board of Trustees holds overall responsibility for Risk Management for the organisation and has conducted a review of the major risks to which the organisation is exposed. Consequently and where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to manage the risks that the Charity faces.

#### **Appreciation**

Finally, I cannot end this report without expressing gratitude to everyone in the Library Team and to all the Volunteers who gave their time so ungrudgingly throughout the year. Without your efforts the ACL could not function. Thank you!

#### **We are open to the public 46 weeks of the year**

The Library opens to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (except during August and the Christmas – New Year week), but please email to check, particularly if travelling from afar. Appointments are possible on other days by prior arrangement with the Librarian. Some of our historic items are only available by appointment. The catalogues of Books and Archives, and the Himalayan Index (which lists all summits and climbs in the Himalayas) can also be accessed via the Alpine Club website. We always look forward to welcoming visitors.

#### **Statement of the Members of Council's responsibilities**

The directors, who constitute the Executive Committee, are responsible for preparing the Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Executive Committee to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the Executive Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities' SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue in business.

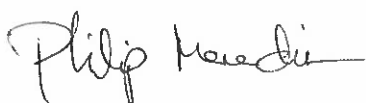
**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**  
**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**COUNCIL'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023***

The Executive Committee is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

On behalf of the board of Members of Council



**Professor Philip Meredith (Chairman)**

Council 10.10.2024

Dated: .....

**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY  
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

**TO THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charitable Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the Charitable Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charitable Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charitable Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

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.

*TC Group*

**Mr Mark Cummins FCCA FCIE**  
**for and on behalf of**  
TC Group  
The Courtyard  
Shoreham Road  
Upper Beeding  
Steyning  
West Sussex  
BN44 3TN

Dated: *11 October 2024*



**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**  
**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies		8,213	509	-	8,722	7,121
Other trading activities		17,730	10,275	132	28,137	21,217
Investment income	5	41,082	-	-	41,082	36,382
<b>Total income</b>		<b>67,025</b>	<b>10,784</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>77,941</b>	<b>64,720</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		8,495	-	-	8,495	8,872
Charitable activities:						
Library operation		50,574	7,449	6,885	64,908	32,092
<b>Total expenditure</b>	6	<b>59,069</b>	<b>7,449</b>	<b>6,885</b>	<b>73,403</b>	<b>40,964</b>
Net gains/(loss) on investments	10	54,917	-	-	54,917	(206,557)
Transfers between funds		(11,047)	11,047	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>51,826</b>	<b>14,382</b>	<b>(6,753)</b>	<b>59,455</b>	<b>(182,801)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		1,247,315	-	150,599	1,397,914	1,580,715
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	15	<b>1,299,141</b>	<b>14,382</b>	<b>143,846</b>	<b>1,457,369</b>	<b>1,397,914</b>

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

All income and gains for the period are recognised above. All of the activities are classified as continuing.

**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**  
**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	9		100,743		101,149
Investments	10		1,222,862		1,119,247
			<u>1,323,605</u>		<u>1,220,396</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	11	995		1,095	
Cash at bank and in hand		147,939		179,837	
		<u>148,934</u>		<u>180,837</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	(15,170)		(3,414)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>133,764</u>		<u>177,518</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u><u>1,457,369</u></u>		<u><u>1,397,914</u></u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted funds	13		143,846		150,599
Unrestricted general funds	15		1,299,141		1,247,315
Unrestricted designated funds	14		14,382		-
			<u>1,457,369</u>		<u>1,397,914</u>

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its result for each year in accordance with the requirements of section 396 of the Act and which otherwise comply with its requirements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The accounts were approved by the Board on 10.10.2024



.....  
**Professor Philip Meredith (Chairman)**  
**Council**

**Company Registration No. 01002955**

**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**  
**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1 Legal status of charitable company**

Alpine Club Library is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The charitable company's registered number and registered office can be found in the Council's report.

In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the charity.

**2 Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Alpine Club Library meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). There are no material uncertainties about Alpine Club Library's ability to continue as a going concern.

The functional currency of the charity is pounds sterling. Items are rounded to the nearest pound.

**2.2 Income**

Income is derived from the promotion, support and maintenance of a mountaineering library.

Primary income generating activities being the sale of duplicate books, the sale of reproduction rights for photographs, commissions from painting sales alongside donations. Income from these activities is recognised when the proceeds are realised.

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Investment income is accounted for when receivable.

**2.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis with the irrecoverable element of VAT included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Charitable activity costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity. These are shown within support costs.

**2.4 Fund accounting**

Funds held by the charity are either:

Restricted funds – these are funds subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Members of Council.



**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY  
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**2 Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.4 Fund accounting (continued)**

Unrestricted designated funds – these are unrestricted funds that have been ring fenced by the Trustees for projects and causes.

The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

**2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets in use at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Over 4 years
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No depreciation has been provided on the paintings, as the directors consider that the nature of these assets can only appreciate in value.

**2.6 Investments**

Investments are included at fair value at the balance sheet date. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**2.7 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discounts offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**2.8 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments. The trustees seek to use short term deposits where possible to maximise the return on monies held at the bank and to manage cash flow.

**2.9 Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

**2.10 Cash Flow Statement**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the charity is claiming exemption from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on account of it being a small charity.

**2.11 Foreign currency**

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Day to day transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing on the dates of the transactions. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

**2.12 Estimates and judgements**

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed by trustees on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised.

The trustees do not consider that there are any critical estimates or areas of judgement that need to be brought to the attention of the readers of the financial statements.

**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY****(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****3 Taxation**

The charitable company is registered as a charity and all of its income falls within the exemptions under Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

**4 Comparative funds – Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	7,121	-	7,121
Other trading activities	21,217	-	21,217
Investment income	36,382	-	36,382
<b>Total income</b>	<b>64,720</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64,720</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	8,872	-	8,872
Charitable activities			
Library operation	31,056	1,036	32,092
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>39,928</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>40,964</b>
Net gains on investments	(199,728)	(6,829)	(206,557)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(174,936)</b>	<b>(7,865)</b>	<b>(182,801)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward	1,422,251	158,464	1,580,715
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>1,247,315</b>	<b>150,599</b>	<b>1,397,914</b>

**5 Investment income**

	2023 £	2022 £
Income from listed investments	41,082	36,382
	<b>41,082</b>	<b>36,382</b>

**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**  
**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>6 Expenditure</b>	<b>Staff costs</b>	<b>Other costs</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Raising funds</b>				
Investment management fees	-	8,495	8,495	8,872
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Library operation:				
Activities undertaken directly	33,760	27,308	61,068	30,052
Support costs	-	3,840	3,840	2,040
<b>Total charitable activities</b>	<b>33,760</b>	<b>31,148</b>	<b>64,908</b>	<b>32,092</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>33,760</b>	<b>39,643</b>	<b>73,403</b>	<b>40,964</b>

Support costs include governance costs which comprise payments to the Independent Examiner of £3,840 for Examination Fees (2022: £2,040). Other costs include depreciation of £406 (2022: £405).

**7 Members Of Council**

No Trustees received any remuneration during the year. During the year four trustees were reimbursed expenditure totalling £2,416 (2022: four trustees were reimbursed expenditure totalling £2,278).

**8 Employees**

**Number of employees**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	<b>2023 Number</b>	<b>2022 Number</b>
Administration staff	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Employment costs</b>	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
Wages and salaries	<b>33,760</b>	<b>4,046</b>
	<b>33,760</b>	<b>4,046</b>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more in 2023 or 2022. The trustees are the key management and were not remunerated during the period or previous year.



**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**  
**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**9 Tangible fixed assets**

	Paintings	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	100,000	4,626	104,626
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 January 2023	-	3,476	3,476
Charge for the year	-	406	406
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	-	3,883	3,883
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 December 2023	100,000	743	100,743
At 31 December 2022	100,000	1,150	101,150

**10 Fixed asset investments**

	Listed investments
	£
Fair value at 1 January 2023	1,119,247
Disposals at opening book value	(147,064)
Acquisitions at cost	199,157
Change in value in the year	51,522
<b>Fair value at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>1,222,862</b>
The investment assets are held:	
In the UK	847,421
Outside the UK	375,441
	<b>1,222,862</b>
Historical cost:	
At 31 December 2023	943,737
At 31 December 2022	862,791

**ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY**  
**(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**10 Fixed asset investments (continued)**

Gain on investment assets totalling £54,917 (2022: loss £206,557) are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities comprising a gain on disposal of investments of £3,395 (2022: loss £47,562), unrealised gain on investments of £51,522 (2022: loss of £158,994).

<b>11 Debtors</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	995	-
Other debtors	-	1,095
	<u>995</u>	<u>1,095</u>

<b>12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	11,330	174
Accruals	3,840	3,240
	<u>15,170</u>	<u>3,414</u>

**13 Restricted funds**

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	<b>Balance at 1 January 2023</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>Gains/ (losses)</b>	<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Himalayan Index Fund	4,278	-	-	-	4,278
Acquisition Fund	10,335	-	-	-	10,335
Librarian Fund	35,986	132	(6,885)	-	29,233
Pictures & Preservation Fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
	<u>150,599</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>(6,885)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143,846</u>

# ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 13 Restricted funds

(continued)

The Himalayan Index Fund is used to maintain the charity's database which stores data on ascents of, and attempts on, mountains over 6,000 metres.

The Acquisition Fund is used to facilitate the purchase, at short notice, any special item which comes on the market.

The Librarian Fund is used to fund one day a week of the staff costs of the permanent librarian.

The Pictures and Preservation Fund relates to 3 specific Ruskin paintings donated by Dr Charles Warren.

#### 14 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include designated funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Balance at				Balance at
	1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Keeper's Fund	-	10,784	(7,449)	11,047	14,382
	-	10,784	(7,449)	11,047	14,382

The Keeper's Fund is used to ring-fence funds to directly support the activities of our keepers. Incoming resources represent income generated by keepers throughout the year.

#### 15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestrict ed funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 December 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	743	-	100,000	100,743
Investments	1,222,862	-	-	1,222,862
Current assets	90,706	14,382	43,846	148,934
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(15,170)	-	-	(15,170)
	<u>1,299,141</u>	<u>14,382</u>	<u>143,846</u>	<u>1,457,369</u>

# ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	(continued)			
	Unrestrict ed funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 December 2022 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	1,149	-	100,000	101,149
Investments	1,126,076	-	(6,829)	1,119,247
Current assets	122,468	-	58,464	180,932
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(2,378)	-	(1,036)	(3,414)
	<u>1,247,315</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,599</u>	<u>1,397,914</u>

#### 16 Related parties

The Alpine Club is a related party to the charity as it has the power to appoint 5 members of the council of the Alpine Club Library.

During the year the charity paid rent & services of £17,500 to the Alpine Club (2022: £17,500). The Alpine Club made donations to the charity during the year of £17,500 (2022: £17,500). At the balance sheet date the Alpine Club Library owed £nil (2022: £1,995) to the Alpine Club.

#### 17 Control

The charity is under the control of the board of trustees. No one member has overall control.