

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION**TRUST INFORMATION**FOUNDER

R C Thornton (deceased)

TRUSTEES

Mrs S J Thornton (Chair)
A H Isaacs
H D C Thornton

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

25 Pelham Place
London
SW7 2NQ

CHARITY COMMISSION NUMBER

326383

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Daniel Valentine ACA
Begbies
Unit 14 Park Barn
Evegate Business Park
Smeeth
Ashford
TN25 6SX

BANKERS

C Hoare & Co
37 Fleet Street
London
EC4P 4DQ

SOLICITORS

Charles Russell Speechlys
5 Fleet Place
London
EC2M 7RD

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
(Charity Commission number 326383)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2024

Objects and activities furthering the public benefit

The objects of the charity are to pay or apply the income or capital to charitable institutions, or charitable purposes, in such manner and in such proportions as the trustees may from time to time in their absolute discretion determine.

The trustees' policy is to support by grants (and in certain circumstances by loan) charities selected by the trustees. The Foundation also makes occasional educational grants for individuals. On providing the grants, the trustees have complied with their duty in Section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The trustees have agreed the grants for the next 12 months and do not welcome unsolicited applications in the meantime.

Financial review and achievements

The total income for the year was £70,708 compared to £63,643 in the prior year. Charitable donations were £1,000 and management and administration expenses including broker's fees were £12,210, resulting in a gain (before investment gains and losses) for the year of £57,498. After net gains on investments assets of £549,403, the surplus for the year was £606,901.

At the end of the year, the balance on the Unrestricted Fund amounted to £5,050,777.

Reserves, investment policies and plans for future periods

The trustees do not consider that there is a need to maintain a specific level of reserves to achieve the objectives of the Foundation other than to meet future commitments. Their policy is regularly to distribute the whole of the net income together with a part of investment gains whether arising in the current or prior years.

The trustees' investment policy is to invest primarily for growth and they have consequently considered it acceptable to distribute more than the net income by way of charitable donations.

The charity is exposed to the volatility in equity and investment markets due to wider economic conditions and has been adversely impacted by the Covid-19 outbreak. However the trustees' investment policy is to invest primarily for long term growth and believe current market values will improve over time and confirm the charity remains a going concern.

Governing document and organisation

The governing document is the charitable trust deed dated 9th June 1983. The power of appointing new and additional trustees is vested in the trustees, provided that their number shall not exceed five, nor be less than two in number.

The investments are held under the names of the current trustees.

Risk management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Foundation is exposed, in particular those related to the investment strategy. They are satisfied that adequate procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to these risks.



Mrs S. J. Thornton - Chairman
1 November 2024

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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 Foundation's financial activities during the year and of its 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 judgements 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Foundation will continue in operation.

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

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2024**

I report on the accounts of the Thornton Foundation ('the Foundation') for the year ended 5th April 2024, which are set out on pages 5 to 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



Daniel Valentine ACA
Begbies Chartered Accountants
Unit 14 Park Barn
Evegate Business Park
Smeeth
Ashford
TN25 6SX

8/11/2024

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<u>Unrestricted general fund</u>			
Income:			
Investment income	2	<u>70,708</u>	<u>63,643</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities			
Donations	3	1,000	61,800
Governance costs	4	<u>11,610</u>	<u>11,160</u>
		12,610	72,960
Raising funds			
Brokers' fees		<u>600</u>	<u>672</u>
Total expenditure		<u>13,210</u>	<u>73,632</u>
Net (losses)/gains on investment assets		549,403	(253,113)
Net (expenditure)/income		606,901	(263,102)
Reconciliation of funds			
Balance brought forward		<u>4,443,876</u>	4,706,978
Balance carried forward		<u><u>5,050,777</u></u>	<u><u>4,443,876</u></u>

The notes on pages 7 to 11 form part of these accounts.

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
BALANCE SHEET AT 5TH APRIL 2024

	<u>Notes</u>	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets			
Investments	6	4,976,419	4,426,981
Current Assets			
Cash at bank	7	83,358	76,395
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amount falling due within one year	8	<u>(9,000)</u>	<u>(59,500)</u>
Net current assets		<u>74,358</u>	<u>16,895</u>
 Net Assets		 <u><u>5,050,777</u></u>	 <u><u>4,443,876</u></u>
 Represented by			
Funds			
Unrestricted general fund		<u><u>5,050,777</u></u>	<u><u>4,443,876</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 1 November 2024



.....
Mrs S. J. Thornton - Chairman

The notes on pages 7 to 11 form part of these accounts.

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Foundation are 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* (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) published on 16 July 2014, and the *Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011.

These financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

(b) Unrestricted fund

The trustees may pay or apply the whole or any part or parts of the income or capital funds for any charitable purpose as the trustees in their absolute discretion think fit.

(c) Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. Gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposal of investments during the year are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities.

All investment income is recognised when the dividend becomes payable.

(d) Expenditure

Costs of charitable activities are direct costs of the charity in undertaking its work to meet its charitable objectives and consist of charitable donations and governance costs. Governance costs includes those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

Grants are accounted for by reference to the date on which the obligation for payment becomes unconditional.

Other expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis with the irrecoverable element of VAT included within the category of expense to which it relates.

(e) Foreign currency

Transactions denominated in foreign currency are recorded at actual exchange rates at the date of the transaction. Assets denominated in foreign currency at the year end are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange current at the balance sheet date. Any gain or loss arising from a change in exchange rates subsequent to the date of the transaction is included as an exchange gain or loss in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(f) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Investments are referred to in (c) above. All other basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2024

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fixed asset investments		
EPIC Oriental Focus Fund - Class B £	23,482	22,360
VT EPIC Asian Centric Global Growth Fund	46,524	41,007
	70,006	63,367
Bank interest	702	276
	70,708	63,643

3. CHARITABLE DONATIONS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Institutions		
Chase Africa	-	2,000
Crohn's & Colitis UK	1,000	-
Helen and Douglas House	-	3,000
Institute of Cancer Research	-	30,000
Keble College, Oxford	-	5,000
Keble College, Oxford - Retirement of Warden	-	2,000
MacMillan Cancer Support	-	2,000
Prickles Hedgehog Rescue	-	300
Prisoners of Conscience	-	3,000
Rainbow Trust	-	3,000
St Paul's Church Knightsbridge	-	1,000
Tait Memorial Trust	-	3,000
University Of Edinburgh Development Trust	-	4,500
Wessex Children's Hospice Trust (Naomi House & Jacksplace)	-	3,000
	1,000	61,800

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2024

4. GOVERNANCE

	2024 £	2023 £
Accountancy and independent examination charges	9,375	9,000
Irrecoverable VAT	1,875	1,800
Bank charges	360	360
	<u>11,610</u>	<u>11,160</u>

5. STAFF COSTS, TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no employees during the year (2023: nil).

None of the trustees received remuneration during the year. No trustees were reimbursed expenses in the year (2023: Nil). There were no other related party transactions in the year.

6. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	£
Market value at 6th April 2023	4,426,981
Additions at cost	-
	<u>4,426,981</u>
Disposal at opening book value	-
	<u>4,426,981</u>
Net unrealised gain on revaluation	549,438
Market value at 5th April 2024	<u>4,976,419</u>
Historical cost at 5th April 2024 (2023: £1,026,076)	<u>1,026,076</u>

**Analysis of investments held at 5th April 2024
at valuation -**

	TOTAL £
Listed investments	
EPIC Oriental Focus Fund Class B GBP	1,200,879
VT EPIC Asian Centric Global Growth Fund - Class R £ Net Inc	3,775,540
	<u>4,976,419</u>

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2024

7. CASH AT BANK

	2024	2023
	£	£
C Hoare & Co		
Current account	60,998	53,399
Evelyn Partners		
Sterling accounts	20,787	21,387
Euro income account	1,573	1,609
	<u>83,358</u>	<u>76,395</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Begbies	9,000	9,000
Charitable donations payable	-	50,500
	<u>9,000</u>	<u>59,500</u>

9. TOTAL NET ASSETS SINCE INCEPTION

		£
Capital introduced by R.C.Thornton in 1983		1,100,520
Investment income and royalties	2,940,712	
Deposit account interest	280,015	
VAT recovered	47,982	
Underwriting commission	3,173	
Transitional tax relief received	<u>11,015</u>	
		<u>3,282,897</u>
		4,383,417
Net gains on revaluation and disposal of investment assets		<u>8,685,927</u>
		13,069,344
Less:		
Charitable donations (see Note 10)	7,467,269	
Exchange losses	21,081	
Management and administration	<u>530,217</u>	
		<u>8,018,567</u>
Total net assets at 5th April 2024		<u>5,050,777</u>

THE THORNTON FOUNDATION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2024

10. TOTAL CHARITABLE DONATIONS SINCE INCEPTION

Year to 5 April:-

2024	1,000
2023	61,800
2022	60,480
2021	131,461
2020	1,114,680
2019	134,500
2018	230,884
2017	160,340
2016	106,000
2015	94,700
2014	140,640
2013	100,388
2012	204,203
2011	218,675
2010	153,745
2009	321,450
2008	274,800
2007	226,250
2006	215,000
2005	173,000
2004	102,400
2003	226,913
2002	116,041
2001	356,936
2000	103,800
1999	182,670
1998	120,012
1997	314,322
1996	188,168
1995	291,142
1994	72,579
1993	184,280
1992	82,225
1991	144,565
1990	142,630
1989	156,045
1988	313,795
1987	100,250
1986	64,850
1985	51,950
1984	27,700

7,467,269

