

# THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 326567

## Details

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Other names	HOWLETTS AND PORT LYMPNE FOUNDATION, THE JOHN ASPINALL FOUNDATION, AKA THE HOWLETTS AND PORT LYMPNE FOUNDATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Trust
Registered	1984-04-27
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Website	<a href="https://www.aspinallfoundation.org">https://www.aspinallfoundation.org</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** (I) THE ADVANCEMENT AND PROMOTION (WHETHER IN ENGLAND OR ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD) FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF EDUCATION AND USEFUL KNOWLEDGE IN RELATION TO THE SCIENCE OF ZOOLOGY, THE PRESERVATION AND EXHIBITION OF LIVING ANIMALS AND IN PARTICULAR (WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE GENERALITY OF THE FOREGOING) ALL WILD ANIMALS IN DANGER OF EXTINCTION AND THE CONSERVATION OF THE NATURAL WILDLIFE INHABITANTS; (II) SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES AS THE TRUSTEES MAY BE DEED APPOINT.

**Activities:** The Foundation is actively involved and sponsor conservation activities both at Howletts and Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks, in addition to overseas projects in the Congo and Gabon and more recently in Indonesia and Madagascar. Our main spheres of conservation-based activity include captive breeding and ecosystem management and reintroduction of captive-bred and confiscated wild-born animals.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Animals, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Congo
- Gabon
- Indonesia
- Madagascar

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£1,950,000	£3,480,000	£32,428,000	20
2023-12-31	£1,529,000	£3,158,000	£33,581,000	22
2022-12-31	£1,921,000	£3,095,000	£35,374,000	22
2021-12-31	£2,325,000	£3,279,000	£38,731,000	22
2020-12-31	£1,948,000	£2,892,000	£37,675,000	19

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
<b>DAMIAN ASPINALL</b>	Chair	
Tansy Aspinall		2019-06-26

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 326567

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# Accounts

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Charity No. 326567

**Annual report and financial statements**

**For the year ended**

**31 December 2024**

# **The Aspinall Foundation**

**Report and financial statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

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# The Aspinall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Trustees:	Damian Aspinall Charles Filmer Tansy Aspinall Maarten Petermann
Charity number:	326567
Registered office:	Port Lympne Reserve Lympne Nr. Ashford Kent CT 21 4PD
Auditors:	Goldwins Limited 75 Maygrove Road West Hampstead London NW6 2EG
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 93 Baker Street London W1A 4SD
Solicitors	Girlings Solicitors LLP Stourside Place Station Road Ashford Kent TN23 1PP
Investment advisors	Slater Investment Limited Nicholas House 3 Laurence Pountney Hill London EC4R 0EU

# The Aspinall Foundation

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### For the year ended 31 December 2024

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The Aspinall Foundation ("Foundation" or "TAF") was established as a charitable trust by a Trust Deed on 30 March 1984 and registered as a charity under number 326567 on 27 April 1984. The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

## Introduction

Following the creation of Howletts and Port Lympne zoological parks in 1959 and 1975 respectively, The Aspinall Foundation was founded in 1984 as a UK registered charity (under the name of The Howletts and Port Lympne Foundation, and eventually The Aspinall Foundation), the vision of which has always been to contribute to global species conservation through integrating ex situ and in situ activities.

Our global wildlife conservation work, again spanning over thirty years, covers diverse issues including tackling the illegal wildlife trade, the "re-wilding" and eventual release of wild-born animals confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade and of captive-born animals, the reintroduction of species to sites where they have become locally extirpated, the reinforcement of small isolated populations of threatened species, the co-management of protected areas with national governments, the scientific evaluation of wild, reintroduced and captive wildlife populations, and the recovery of threatened species through community-based conservation.

On 29 March 2021, the Charity Commission opened a statutory inquiry into the Charity under section 46 of the Charities Act 2011.

The inquiry is examining:

- the administration, governance and management of the Charity by the trustees with specific regard to how conflicts of interest have been dealt with and managed.
- whether or not there has been any unauthorised trustee benefit; and
- whether or not the trustees have complied with and fulfilled their duties and responsibilities under charity law.

On 28 May 2025, the Charity Commission appointed interim managers to assist with the furtherance of their inquiry.

The trustees have continued to fully cooperate with the Commission regarding their questions.

# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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## “Conservation and Rewilding in Action”

The Aspinnall Foundation works to restore wildlife and habitats through conservation and rewilding. We focus on priority species, sites and actions, using our expertise to make a lasting impact.

Our goal is to restore and protect biodiversity and inspire global conservation efforts. Conservation

action: *Effective conservation supporting significant populations of priority threatened species or habitats.*

Ecosystem rewilding action: *Restoration of important habitats facilitated by species reintroductions and translocations.*

Species rewilding action: *Rehabilitation and release of captive species for conservation benefits.*



# The Aspinall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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### The Aspinall Foundation - Conservation and Rewilding in action

**Conservation action:** The Aspinall Foundation Madagascar Programme continues to facilitate effective community-based conservation of some of the most threatened species and habitats in the world. Our flagship “Saving the greater bamboo lemur” project works with community associations living in and around the eastern rainforests of Madagascar, leading to the recovery of a species thought to be on the brink of extinction and now ensuring the long-term survival of over half the total global population. Species-level lemur conservation projects are also ongoing for Critically Endangered crowned sifakas and black-and-white ruffed lemurs, while our Madagascar critical habitat projects focus on lowland rainforest, upland rainforest, dry deciduous forest, and freshwater wetlands, supporting diverse Critically Endangered endemic species including Madagascar fish eagle, Madagascar big-headed turtle, the damba mipentina cichlid fish, and numerous lemurs.

**Ecosystem rewilding action:** In Congo and Gabon The Aspinall Foundation’s ground- breaking long-term western gorilla reintroduction programme continues to re-establish two populations of this Critically Endangered species as the cornerstone of a wider ecosystem-level rewilding and restoration of the Batéké Plateau, a beautiful but degraded landscape. Thanks to the long-term gorilla reintroduction and associated site management projects, hippo and de Brazza’s monkey populations are recovering in the Lesio-Louna Reserve in Congo, whilst chimpanzees and Critically Endangered African forest elephants are recovering in the Batéké Plateau National Park in Gabon. There is potential to further restore the ecosystem with other species reintroductions, particularly with Defassa waterbuck, locally extirpated due to historical hunting pressure. In South Africa we are collaborating to rewild and restore the Loskop Dam Nature Reserve and surrounding landscape, home to reintroduced white rhinos and Critically Endangered Middelburg cycads, through improved management capacity and ongoing reintroduction of locally- extirpated species such as black-footed cats and in the future restoring the megafauna including cheetahs, black rhinos and savannah elephants. Elsewhere we continue to work with partners in Pakistan to develop an ambitious programme to reintroduce greater one- horned rhinos, within the context of a site-based restoration and rewilding programme.

**Species rewilding action:** Our western gorilla reintroduction programme in Congo and Gabon continues to provide opportunities for release of rehabilitated captive gorillas in order to reinforce the reintroduced gorilla populations and improve their long-term viability. Similarly, our Indonesia Programme rehabilitates hundreds of endemic primates, with associated release projects to reinforce small isolated wild populations that would otherwise struggle to survive. In Java these projects focus on Javan gibbons, eastern and western Javan ebony langurs, and Javan grizzled langurs, and in Sumatra our developing release project reinforces the small siamang population in the Isau-Isau Nature Reserve, a biodiverse forest supporting many high priority endemic species including Critically Endangered Sunda pangolins. In South Africa, we continued our diverse support to the cheetah metapopulation, and our field team continued to facilitate the rescue and release of numerous species across the country, from pangolins and bush-babies to leopards, rhinos and elephants. At a policy level we continued to collaborate with the IUCN Conservation Translocation Specialist Group to develop best-practice guidelines for wildlife releases for conservation benefits, to be published in 2025.

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Reference and administrative information

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## Overseas Conservation Projects



REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567



REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567



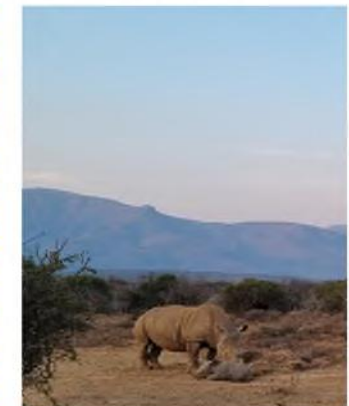
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REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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## Congo

### Goals

- Gorilla reintroduction
- Ecosystem restoration
- Sustainable protected area management

**Gorilla reintroduction:** The first ever reintroduction programme for gorillas, with the first releases dating back to 1996, to the Lesio-Louna Reserve from where they had been locally extirpated by hunting. Long-term post-release monitoring is ongoing, with some individuals having been monitored for over 25 years, and the reintroduced population is growing steadily.

**Ecosystem restoration:** Ongoing and long-term restoration of a beautiful but degraded landscape, facilitated by the gorilla reintroduction programme. Local hippo and de Brazza's monkey populations are recovering naturally due to the diverse activities of the Lesio-Louna management project. There is potential to further restore the ecosystem with other species reintroductions, particularly Defassa waterbuck and potentially southern reedbuck.

**Sustainable protected area management:** The Lesio-Louna Reserve (170,000ha / 420,000 acres), a globally-renowned Key Biodiversity Area, is managed through a co-management agreement between the Congo government and The Aspinall Foundation. Discussions are underway to explore the potential to expand the effective protected area to 1.2 million acres by incorporating the adjacent Lefini Reserve within a larger collaborative partnership.

### Gorillas

The reintroduced gorilla population in the Lesio-Louna Reserve has continued to undergo various changes to the composition of the various groups. A count carried out based on camera trap images at the end of 2024 indicated that about 60 gorillas are in the reserve. A large proportion of the females seen on camera trap images are carrying babies. The super- group led by Makoua for several years had started to split up during 2023, and during 2024 we have had no observations of Makoua himself. The largest group observed in 2024 comprised at least 17 individuals, and appears to consist of a small number of adult females plus numerous sub-adults and juveniles, many likely to be Makoua's offspring. The most frequently observed group consisted of a young silverback plus three adult females released since 2001 (Koto, Massabi and Tchivou), one young adult female, and the infants of each of these four females (Massabi's born around July 2021, Koto's in September 2023, and Tchivou's and the unnamed female's in July or August 2024). This group also had two additional members temporarily, in January and February 2024. The group was followed at various times by solitary silverbacks, including Elonga in February and Fubu in June. Other gorillas observed during 2024 include the eldest female in the project, Djembo, with a silverback resembling Djeke. Louboko ("Lulu") and Likendze have also been provisionally identified from camera trap footage. A solitary silverback, thought to be Teke, made a brief excursion outside the south-eastern limits of the Reserve in July.

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## Reference and administrative information

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**Kebu** has calmed since Fubu's departure from Abio 2 island although at certain moments he still seems slightly more nervous than the other island gorillas. He is still not eating any wild fruits although his acceptance of certain grasses and leaves is increasing. He is also not foraging himself and very little progress has been noted towards a potential release.



**Bomassa** has continued his growth and became very adventurous over the course of the year. While he still keeps clear of Joshi and is still quite a lot smaller in size, he seems less fearful of him than previously. His openness to all kinds of food has clearly rubbed off on Joshi and is very possibly a reason for which Joshi is adapting better to wild fruits than Kebu who is alone on his island without a Congolese-born companion.

**Joshi** continued his adaptation to wild fruits which began unexpectedly at the end of 2023, in particular the consumption of *Aframomum* fruits which he often ate in preference to bananas at the beginning of the year. This progress was lost slightly during the dry season when such fruits are less readily available but when the rainy season returned he was still happily eating both. He is however not very adventurous and we have seen little evidence of foraging for himself.



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### For the year ended 31 December 2024

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**Fubu** had a difficult start to the year, having been released in 2023 he appeared to have got into a fight with a group of gorillas and was finally found quite underweight in the south of the reserve several weeks later. The aim for 2024 was to build up his weight and strength in order for him to be able to return to the wild. He did on occasion disappear for a couple of days before returning to his



usual feeding spot with what looked like a full stomach and his food was

progressively cut in order to encourage him to forage further. However sadly his body was found half-eaten by a crocodile on the 11 August 2024, just over 13 months after his release on 29 June 2023. He had been receiving significant supplementary feeding almost daily for several months, given to him along the Louna River. Whether this led to a higher risk of crocodile attack is debatable, but it is possible.

At Iboubikro, **Kelle** (28.5) remained in the big cage through 2024 but **Yambo** ("**Sid**") finally died on 30 June at the grand-old age of 37 or so – Yambo was the first ever gorilla to be rescued by the project back in 1989 and his remarkable story encompasses over three decades of all the highs and lows of the project with so many memories to cherish. His health had been failing in old age and he was buried at Iboubikro having been at the project for 35 years.

### Team activities including missions and maintenance

Monthly missions were carried out to retrieve images from the network of camera traps that are placed around the reserve. Some challenges were experienced with certain cameras malfunctioning or being stolen but the camera trap programme in general is working well.



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**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

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The following table summarises the number of camera-trap videos taken per species in 2024:

Species	Number of images
Western lowland gorilla	57
Malbrouck's monkey	72
De Brazza's monkey	19
Moustached guenon	6
Giant pangolin	5
Hippopotamus	207
Forest buffalo	30
Red river hog	263
Sitatunga	268
Northern bushbuck	76
Yellow-backed duiker	105
Black-fronted duiker	28
Black-backed duiker	14
Blue duiker	1
Grimm's ("Common") duiker	2
Side-striped jackal	2
Serval	3
African civet	19
Genet	7
Black-footed mongoose	17
Cane rat	4
Guineafowl	18
Monitor lizard	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1224</b>



A group of 14 hippos was seen together regularly in the Louna river over the course of 2024.

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For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Birdlife continues to be abundant in the reserve with African darter, Hamerkop, and purple herons seen especially regularly. Several species of kingfishers and bustards, and occasionally grey parrots are sighted too

### Administrative efforts/ achievements for the year

One recruitment was made in 2024 as Muriel Makemy was hired as an administrative and tourism assistant paid for by tourism funds. The reserve conservateur was removed from his post by the ministry in February 2024 and replaced by the former deputy conservateur (2010-2020) Eugene Mbintsene who immediately collaborated effectively to improve the management of the Reserve.



Ecoguards on an anti-poaching mission dismantling a fish smoking installation

### Project visits from notable individuals

The reserve's good reputation among the diplomatic corps of the region has continued and we have received visits from the ambassadors of the EU, Germany and Italy as well as the Belgian and Spanish ambassadors to the DRC. The increased interest reflects a broader trend of fast growth in visitors to the reserve in the last couple of years. 1614 paying visitors came to the reserve in 2024 bringing a gross income of 160,461€ compared to 749 visitors and 101,138€ in 2022. 2025 will see the recruitment of a dedicated tourism team so that the ecoguards can concentrate 100% on monitoring and anti-poaching activities. The increase in tourism income is very important to the reserve as some of the indemnities to government ecoguards are paid from this revenue as well as nearly all of the maintenance costs at Iboubikro camp and any unexpected expenses which do not figure in the annual TAF budget (for repair work for instance).

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## Reference and administrative information

### For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Towards the end of 2024 an official visit was made by the Minister of Forest Economy with a view to preparing Lesio Louna for a visit from President Sassou Nguesso of Congo and Prime Minister Meloni of Italy. This was followed by a visit from a South African company on a reconnaissance mission for a place to build a luxury lodge originally to house the two leaders. However we never heard anything else about such a visit nor the construction of the lodge.



A small crew from SVT, Swedish public television, visited the reserve in February to film part of a documentary about gorilla reintroductions.

### Infrastructure works

The floating pontoon at Lac Bleu was destroyed in 2024 as someone had stolen two of the drums which acted as floaters and the lack of balance as a consequence of this led to the pontoon snapping in half. Using tourism funds a brand new, more solid pontoon with protection against theft of floating devices was constructed and installed.



### Grant funding applications

Initial discussions were held with the leadership of the World Bank-funded ProClimat project on a potential grant of around 2 million USD for the reserve. Certain rules will have to be followed (no salaries for armed ecoguards or military personnel, for instance) but otherwise if approved the project would bring a huge financial boost over three years. From initial discussions it is very likely that Lesio-Louna will be selected to be a beneficiary of the grant and internal discussions were held over what to put in the proposal. Running costs, monitoring equipment and new projects such as a new tourism camp and a total overhaul of the reserve's electricity system are being looked at.

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## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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## Gabon

### Goals

- Gorilla reintroduction
- Ecosystem restoration
- Supporting protected area management

**Gorilla reintroduction:** Gorilla reintroduction to the Bateke Plateau National Park in south-east Gabon, ongoing since the first releases in 2001. Most released gorillas are rehabilitated orphans rescued from the internal bush-meat trade, but this is also the only project in the world to have successfully rewilded zoo-born gorillas, now with successful reproduction by a released zoo-born gorilla. Long-term post-release monitoring is ongoing, with some individuals monitored for over 20 years.

**Ecosystem restoration:** Ongoing restoration of the National Park facilitated by the gorilla reintroduction programme. Natural recovery of chimpanzees, probable increasing forest elephant population, and remarkable but occasional observations of lion and spotted hyena.

**Supporting protected area management:** Support to the Gabon government to manage the Bateke Plateau National Park (182,000ha / 450,000 acres), a globally-renowned Key Biodiversity Area. Priority species include western gorillas (Critically Endangered; reintroduced population), forest elephants (Critically Endangered), and central chimpanzees (Endangered).

### Gorillas

The family group of Djongo, Mayombe and Taali continues to progress on their 3-ha pre-release island. Taali is becoming increasingly confident and independent. She can often be seen asking her parents to play with her. Djongo is the most accepting, whereas Mayombe can reject her, particularly during feeding time. Mayombe is growing in confidence, she is no longer afraid to remain alone at a feeding site and continue eating after the others have left. She is also more confident around the team, coming closer to the water to feed and doing some chest beating. She sometimes asks for food by clapping her hands. Djongo is very protective of his family and pays close attention to any potential threats, whether they are elephants on the island or other males on the other side of the river.

The Boumango group was observed directly or by camera traps almost every month, between the PPG camp and the canyon. The group was observed either with Boumango alone or with the females and their young. A newborn infant was confirmed at the beginning of the year and has since been seen regularly on camera and appears to be in good health. Through direct observation, the team identified the baby as a male, Dikélé's firstborn. Boumango was observed several times in front of the pre-release island, he exchanged chest beats and displays with Djongo. He seemed more interested in Djongo's group than the other way around, and Djongo sometimes ignored him when he knew he was there.

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### For the year ended 31 December 2024

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The Tonga group has been monitored by camera traps placed along the Lewou River. On one occasion in February, Tonga was directly observed alone, with the rest of the group hiding. A new baby was seen for the first time in October, but looked more than a year old in the camera trap footage.

The zoo-born silverback Ima was seen several times directly or with camera traps during the year. The two females who transferred to him during 2022, Okéli and Amvemande, were also seen in July with an approximately one-and-a-half-year-old baby each. Ima was very protective and didn't want the females to get closer from the river bank during direct observation. These are the first babies born to a released zoo-born gorilla.



The 42-year-old solitary silverback Djala died at the beginning of March, likely due to issues related to old-age. He was in good condition before his passing and had previously been seen every day at the same spot in front of the Mbie camp.

Djongo and Mayombe (both zoo-born in Europe), and their daughter Taali born in the Bateke Plateau National Park, Gabon.

### **Administrative efforts/ achievements for the year**

We continued to support the anti-poaching missions of the ANPN rangers throughout the year, financially and with logistical assistance.

From September 2023, we have had camera traps installed at the Nkoly site and on various beaches in Kessala, as part of a research study of the forest elephant population, funded by the International

# The Aspinal Foundation

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### For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Elephant Foundation (IEF). Since then, a mission has been carried out every month to collect data at these sites. Elephants are observed directly on almost every visit to the Kessala beaches.

The cameras were removed from the Nkoly and Kessala sites in September 2024 after a year of data collection. As part of the same project, DNA samples were collected at the Nkoly, Kessala and Mpassa sites and sent to the ANPN's scientific unit for analysis. 30 of the planned 50 samples have been collected, and the rest will be completed in 2025.

By the end of 2024, 27 camera traps had been deployed along the two main rivers (Mpassa and Lewou) for gorillas monitoring. Over the course of the year, they recorded more than 35 different species, including aardvarks, leopards, pangolins, chimpanzees, forest elephants and red river hogs, among others.



Forest elephants and red river hogs along the Mpassa River, caught on a camera-trap.

### Infrastructure works

The team worked on the road between the two camps. A river changed its course, which resulted in part of the road becoming flooded and swampy. Work continued for several months but was frequently interrupted by other activities and floods due to heavy rain.

The team also worked on the roads leading to the park twice in 2024, which required a weekly mission each time.

The tents platforms needed some maintenance on the support poles and some planks were changed. The whole structure was treated against termites.

Some sheet metal was changed on the roof of one of the accommodations at the base camp. Maintenance of the mirador included treatment of the wood against termites and the clearance of the surrounding areas.

In December the team built the release bridge for the future release of the Djongo group from the island.

The old helipad near the base camp was flooded by a diverted river, so a new site was chosen near the staff camp. It has been regularly maintained since its creation. The former landing zone opposite the island has also been reopened and regularly maintained.

# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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## Indonesia – Java & Sumatra

### Goals

- Combatting illegal wildlife trade
- Population reinforcements
- Supporting habitat protection

**Combatting illegal wildlife trade:** Support to the government of Indonesia to combat illegal wildlife trade through rescue and management of traded primates, and associated education and awareness-raising activities.

**Population reinforcements:** The Indonesia Programme has released more captive animals than any other Aspinnall Foundation project, with over 290 gibbons, langurs and siamangs released since 2012. Most of these are primates rescued from the illegal wildlife trade, whilst several zoo-born primates have been incorporated into the release programme. Release sites are chosen where releases will have positive impacts on local populations by reinforcing small, isolated populations and by improved site protection.

**Habitat protection:** Supporting the protection of Mt Tilu Nature Reserve (West Java), Coban Talun and Kondang Merak Protected Forests (East Java), and Isau-Isau Wildlife Reserve (South Sumatra), (combined total of c26,000ha / 65,000 acres). Priority species include siamangs, Javan gibbons, Javan ebony langurs, Javan grizzled langurs, and Critically Endangered Javan leopards and Sunda pangolins.

### 1.1 Background

Indonesia is one of the countries with the highest diversity of primate species in the world. Of the 600 or so primate species (and subspecies) in the world, approximately 64 species (and subspecies) are found living in their natural habitats in Indonesia. The Aspinnall Foundation (TAF), as one of the organizations committed to wildlife conservation efforts worldwide, collaborates with the Indonesian government, specifically the Ministry of Forestry (Kemenhut), in conservation efforts for protected primate species, particularly the Javan ebony langur (“lutung”, *Trachypithecus auratus* and *T. mauritius*), Javan gibbon (*Hylobates moloch*), Javan grizzled langur (“Surili”, *Presbytis comata*), and Sumatran Siamang (*Symphalangus syndactylus*). Since 2011, through primate rehabilitation efforts, animals rescued from illegal trade and captivity have been released back into their natural habitats. Since the collaboration began in 2011, a total of 404 primates have been successfully rehabilitated from surrendered or confiscated cases, including 269 Javan ebony langurs, 81 Javan gibbons, 21 Javan grizzled langurs, and 34 siamangs. Additionally, there have been 53 repatriated primates from the United Kingdom up to this year, including 27 Javan ebony langurs, 14 Javan gibbons, and 12 Javan grizzled langurs. Of these, 293 individuals have been successfully released back into their natural habitats, comprising 212 Javan ebony langurs, 60 Javan gibbons, 17 Javan grizzled langurs, and 4 siamangs.

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To ensure the smooth management of primate rehabilitation cooperation activities, TAF supports the provision of facilities and infrastructure, trained human resources in accordance with applicable standard procedures, and equipment and animal feed that are appropriate and guaranteed in terms of quality and quantity during rehabilitation. Currently, TAF has supported the construction of Wildlife Rehabilitation Centers (PRS) in three UPTs (West Java, East Java, and South Sumatra) with quarantine enclosures, socialization enclosures, PRS management offices, animal clinics, animal feed kitchens, and management staff at each project location.

#### 1.2 Objectives and Benefits

The objective of the collaboration is to support the rehabilitation of primates confiscated from illegal trade before they are released back into their natural habitat. It is hoped that through this collaboration, the animals will return to their habitat in good health and ready to live as wild animals and reproduce in the wild. In addition to primate rehabilitation efforts, TAF-IP also supports public awareness campaigns and capacity building for partners in primate rehabilitation management and other conservation aspects. Together with local partners supported by TAF-IP, additional supporting activities are also being pursued, such as community empowerment around the forest areas where rehabilitated animals are released into the wild.

#### 1.3 Location and Object of Cooperation

The program cooperation between the Ministry of Forestry/BBKSDA West Java and TAF-IP in West Java was established in 2010 with the establishment of the Java Primate Rehabilitation Center (PRS-PJ) in the Tikukur mountain protected forest block, with an administrative area in Alamendah Village, Rancabali District, Bandung Regency, West Java. PRS-PJ began operations in 2011 at a location managed by Perhutani, with a total area of 11,820 ha. PRS-PJ is one of the Special Conservation Institutions (LKK) in West Java, focusing on conservation cooperation for protected primates in West Java and endemic West Java primates such as the West Javan langur (*Trachypithecus mauritius*), Javan gibbon (*Hylobates moloch*), and Javan grizzled langur (*Presbytis comata*).

In 2011, the East Java Langur Rehabilitation Center (PRS-LJ) was also established in Plot 41C, with its administrative area in Tulungrejo Village, Bumiaji District, Batu City, East Java. The PRS-LJ is adjacent to the Coban Talun Nature Tourism Area managed by Econique, with a total area of approximately 4 hectares. The PRS-LJ is one of the conservation centers in East Java focused on the conservation of protected and endemic primates in East Java, such as the East Javan langur (*Trachypithecus auratus*).

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Then in 2023, the Siamang Animal Rehabilitation Center (PRS-Siamang) was established in the Punti Kayu TWA protection block, with an administrative area in Alang-alang Lebar District, Palembang City, South Sumatra. The PRS-Siamang is located within the same area as the Punti Kayu Resort office, with a total area of approximately 5.97 hectares. The PRS-Siamang is one of the conservation centers in South Sumatra focused on the conservation of protected and endemic primates of Sumatra, specifically the Siamang (*Symphalangus syndactylus*).



Map showing the location of the TAF-IP Animal Rehabilitation Centres in Indonesia.

This TAF-IP focuses on rehabilitation and release, with release sites used in this program being Nature Reserves (CA), Protected Forests (HL), National Parks (TN), and Wildlife Reserves (SM) located in West Java, East Java, and South Sumatra. Some of the areas used for release sites in West Java include the Gunung Tilu Nature Reserve, the Situ Patengan Nature Reserve, the Gunung Burangrang Nature Reserve, and the Kanaan Protected Forest. In East Java, the areas used are Coban Talun Protected Forest, Malang Selatan Protected Forest, Pulau Sempu Nature Reserve, Pulau Nusabarung Nature Reserve, Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park, and Raden Soerjo Forest Park. In South Sumatra, the area used is Isau-Isau Wildlife Sanctuary.

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## II. TAF-IP PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Based on the Memorandum of Understanding (MSP) between the Directorate General of KSDAE and The Aspinal Foundation Indonesia Program in the previous period, there were three areas of cooperation agreed upon, including:

- Supporting the Ministry of Forestry's efforts in the in-situ and ex-situ conservation of protected primate species (Javan ebony langur, Javan gibbon, Javan grizzled langur, and siamang);
- Supporting the Ministry of Forestry's efforts in increasing the capacity of human resources in the field of conservation in relevant agencies and communities;
- Supporting the Ministry of Forestry's efforts to raise awareness and involve the community in the conservation of protected primates.

### 2.1 Programs and Activities at the Java Primate Rehabilitation Center, West Java

The programs and activities at the Java Primate Rehabilitation Center (PRS-PJ), West Java, focus on rehabilitation and release. The following is an explanation of the programs and activities at PRS-PJ.

#### 2.1.1 Primate Rescue

During 2024, PRS-PJ and the West Java BBKSDA team rescued 16 primates that had been illegally bred or traded, including 8 Javan ebony langurs, 2 Javan gibbons, 1 Javan grizzled langur, and 5 siamangs. Additionally, by the end of 2024, 10 primates were repatriated from the United Kingdom (3 Javan ebony langurs and 7 Javan gibbons). Some non-endemic primates are translocated to the relevant PRS for release into their natural habitats.



Primate rescue at PRS-PJ, West Java.

#### 2.1.2 Animal Rehabilitation

Primate rehabilitation activities, both in the quarantine and socialization areas at PRS-PJ during 2024, were carried out routinely as usual.

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### For the year ended 31 December 2024

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#### a. Animal Health Program

During 2024, MCU was carried out in accordance with SOP, and feces were examined to check for endoparasite infections in animals on a routine basis. The MCU results for primates at PRS- PJ all indicated that they were free of viruses. Fecal examinations on some animals were positive for the parasitic worms *Trichuris* sp. and *Strongyloides* sp. The treatment administered was deworming medication for infected animals, specifically Panacur 10% containing febendazole (100 mg/ml) for three consecutive days.



Animal Health Program at PRS-PJ, West Java. Medical treatment of a Javan ebony langur suspected of having tetanus, which led to its death, and treatment with enrofloxacin injections for Salmonella.

#### b. Environment Enrichment

Environment enrichment (EE) is one of the efforts made to train and restore the instincts of rehabilitated animals so that their natural behaviour returns (the basic behaviour of animals in the wild). During 2024, environment enrichment was carried out on primates at PRS-PJ, as in the examples below.

Environmental enrichment activities at PRS-PJ, West Java.



#### c. Animal Rehabilitation Facility Maintenance

Maintenance and repair of facilities such as animal enclosures and the surrounding area of the PRS-PJ are routine activities carried out to keep all facilities well-maintained and functioning properly.



Maintenance of Animal Rehabilitation Facilities at PRS-PJ, West Java.

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#### 2.1.3 Release and Post-Release Monitoring

The release of rehabilitated animals is carried out in accordance with the operational standards and protocols of the IUCN guidelines for primate rehabilitation and the protocols applicable at the Ministry of Forestry related to conservation institutions. After the animals are released, monitoring is carried out for at least four months on a regular basis if the animals can still be tracked by the team.

##### a. Animal Release

In 2024, TAF-IP West Java together with BBKSDA West Java conducted three animal release activities, namely in May (3 Javan ebony langurs), July (1 Javan gibbon and 1 Javan grizzled langur), and November (1 Javan ebony langur). All release activities in 2024 were carried out in the Gunung Tilu Nature Reserve. From 2014 to the present, 108 primates have been released into forest areas in West Java, contributing to the increase in wild populations (Table 1).



Release of animals at PRS-PJ, West Java, 2024.

Table 1. Animal releases in West Java, 2014 to 2024, and births in the wild.

Species	No.	Birth
Javan ebony langur	31	4
Javan Gibbon	60	4
Javan grizzled langur	17	5

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#### b. Post-Release Monitoring

Post-release monitoring activities are carried out as long as the animals can still be monitored. The following are the results of post-release monitoring activities in 2024 in the Gunung Tilu CA area and the Situ Patengan CA area.

Table 2. Post-Release Monitoring of PRS-PJ, West Java.

Release location	Species
CA Gunung Tilu	Javan Gibbon, Javan ebony langur, Javan grizzled langur
CA Situ Patengan	Javan ebony langur
CA Gunung Burangrang	Javan grizzled langur, no longer monitored
HL Kanaan	Javan ebony langur, no longer monitored

In general, during post-release monitoring, the animals were observed to be active (playing, exploring, and sunbathing) or consuming natural food. The following is documentation of the results of post-release monitoring in the Gunung Tilu and Situ Patengan conservation areas.



Monitoring of animals after release into the wild by PRS-PJ, West Java.

#### 2.1.4 Public Awareness

Public awareness activities through educational activities are carried out to introduce and encourage the public to be more concerned about animals and their environment, especially primates. In 2024, a total of 35 educational activities were carried out (elementary school, junior high school, high school, university, and general public).



PRS-PJ Awareness Activities, West Java.

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#### 2.1.5 Human Resource Capacity Building and Community Involvement

We open opportunities for community involvement, both from partner agencies such as BKSDA and students from various universities in Indonesia, to participate in efforts to conserve endemic primates in West Java. One of the activities we carry out is research and student internships. Additionally, we facilitate local communities in training activities and participate in joint patrols between the West Java BKSDA and the Community Forestry Partners of CA Gunung Tilu. In 2024, 11 institutions conducted internships, 4 institutions participated in practical training and research, 5 MMP training sessions were held, and 14 patrols were conducted.



Human Resource Capacity Building and Community Engagement Activities at PRS-PJ, West Java.

#### 2.2 Programs and Activities at the Javan Langur Rehabilitation Centre, East Java

The programs and activities at the Javan Langur Rehabilitation Centre (PRS-LJ) in East Java focus on rehabilitation and release. The following is an explanation of the programs and activities at PRS-LJ.

##### 2.2.1 Primate Rescue

During 2024, PRS-LJ, together with the East Java BBKSDA team, rescued seven East Javan langurs that had been kept in captivity or traded illegally. The following is documentation of the rescue of East Javan langurs in 2024.



Animal rescue at PRS-LJ, East Java.

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### For the year ended 31 December 2024

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#### 2.2.2 Animal Rehabilitation

Primate rehabilitation activities, both in the quarantine and socialization areas at PRS-LJ during 2024, were carried out routinely as usual.

##### a. Animal Health Program

During 2024, MCU was carried out in accordance with SOP, and faeces were examined to check for endoparasite infections in animals on a routine basis. The MCU results for primates at PRS-LJ all indicated that they were free of viruses. Faecal examinations on some animals were positive for *Trichuris* sp. parasites. Treatment involved administering deworming medication to infected animals, specifically Panacur 10% containing febendazole (100 mg/ml) for three consecutive days.



Animal Health Program at PRS-LJ, East Java.

##### b. Environment Enrichment

Environment enrichment (EE) is one of the efforts made to train and restore the instincts of rehabilitated animals so that their natural behaviour returns (the basic behaviour of animals in the wild).



Environmental enrichment activities at PRS-LJ, East Java

##### c. Animal Rehabilitation Facility Maintenance

Maintenance and repair of facilities such as animal enclosures and the surrounding area of the PRS-PJ are routine activities carried out to keep all facilities well-maintained and functioning properly.



Maintenance of Animal Rehabilitation Facilities at PRS-LJ, East Java

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#### 2.2.3 Release and Post-Release Monitoring

The release of rehabilitated animals is carried out in accordance with the operational standards and protocols of the IUCN guidelines for primate rehabilitation and the protocols applicable at the Ministry of Forestry related to conservation institutions. After the animals are released, monitoring is carried out for at least four months on a regular basis if the animals can still be tracked by the team.

##### a. Wildlife Release

In 2024, TAF-IP East Java together with BBKSDA East Java conducted four wildlife release activities, namely in February (twice, with one animal released at each location), July (five animals), and October (five animals). The 2024 release activities were carried out in the Pulau Sempu Nature Reserve and Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park. To date, 181 East Javan langurs have been released into forest areas in East Java, and it has been observed that they have increased the population in the wild with recorded births.



Releases at PRS-LJ, East Java. b.

##### Post-Release Monitoring

Post-release monitoring activities are carried out as long as the animals can still be monitored. In general, during post-release monitoring, the animals are observed to be active (playing, exploring, and sunbathing) or consuming natural food. The following is documentation of post-release monitoring activities in 2024 in the Coban Talun conservation area.



Post-release monitoring of PRS-LJ, East Java.

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### 2.2.4 Public Awareness

Public awareness activities through educational activities are carried out to introduce and encourage the public to be more concerned about animals and their environment, especially primates. In 2024, a total of 20 educational activities were carried out (elementary school, junior high school, high school, university, and general public).



Awareness raising in PRS-LJ, East Java.

### 2.2.5 Human Resource Capacity Building and Community Involvement

We open opportunities for community involvement, both from partner agencies such as BBKSDA and students from various universities in Indonesia to participate in efforts to conserve endemic primates in East Java. One of the activities we carry out is research and student internships. In 2024, three institutions conducted internships, four institutions conducted research, and three training sessions were held.



Human Resource Capacity Building and Community Engagement Activities at PRS-LJ, East Java.

**2.3 Programs and Activities at the Siamang Animal Rehabilitation Centre, South Sumatra** The programs and activities at the Siamang Animal Rehabilitation Centre (PRS-Siamang), South Sumatra, focus on rehabilitation and release. The following is an explanation of the programs and activities at PRS-Siamang.

#### 2.3.1 Primate Rescue

During 2024, PRS-Siamang, together with the South Sumatra BBKSDA team, rescued 16 Siamangs that had been illegally kept.



Animal rescue activities at PRS-Siamang, South Sumatra.

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## Reference and administrative information

### For the year ended 31 December 2024

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#### 2.3.2 Animal Rehabilitation

Primate rehabilitation activities, both in the quarantine area and socialization cage facilities at PRS-Siamang during 2024, were carried out routinely as usual.

##### a. Animal Health Program

During 2024, MCU was conducted in accordance with SOP, and faeces examinations were routinely performed to check for endoparasite infections in animals. The MCU results for primates at PRS-Siamang all indicated that they were free of viruses. Faecal examinations on some animals at PRS-Siamang were positive for the parasite *Trichuris* sp. Treatment involved administering anthelmintic medication to infected animals, specifically Panacur 10% containing febendazole (100 mg/ml) for three consecutive days. In addition, in 2024 there were cases of Siamang suspected of lymphoma, melanoma, keratolytic agents, or bacterial infections; cases of pneumonia and chronic malnutrition leading to death; Siamang suspected of dislocation of the forearm, so it was bandaged for immobilization and given meloxicam orally.



Animal Health Program at PRS-Siamang, South Sumatra.

##### b. Environmental Enrichment (Environment Enrichment)

Environmental enrichment (EE) is one of the efforts made to train and restore the instincts of rehabilitated animals so that their natural behaviour returns (the basic behaviour of animals in the wild).



Environmental enrichment activities at PRS-Siamang, South Sumatra.

##### c. Animal Rehabilitation Facility Maintenance

Maintenance and repair of facilities such as animal enclosures and the surrounding area of the PRS-PJ are routine activities carried out to keep all facilities well-maintained and functioning properly.



Maintenance activities at the animal rehabilitation facility at PRS-Siamang, South Sumatra.

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#### 2.3.3 Release and Post-Release Monitoring

The release of rehabilitated animals is carried out in accordance with the operational standards and protocols of the IUCN guidelines for primate rehabilitation and the protocols applicable at the Ministry of Forestry related to conservation institutions. After the animals are released, monitoring is carried out for at least four months on a regular basis if the animals can still be tracked by the team.

##### a. Animal Release

In 2024, TAF-IP South Sumatra together with BKSDA South Sumatra conducted two animal release activities, one in June (1 siamang) and one in September (1 siamang). All release activities in 2024 were carried out in the Isau-Isau Wildlife Reserve. To date, four siamangs have been released into the forest area in South Sumatra.



Release activities at PRS-Siamang, South Sumatra.

##### b. Post-Release Monitoring

Post-release monitoring activities are carried out as long as the animals can still be monitored. Post-release monitoring activities in 2024 in the SM Isau-Isau area focussed on the released siamangs. Generally, during post-release monitoring, the animals are observed engaging in activities (playing, foraging, and sunbathing) or consuming natural food.

#### 2.3.4 Community Awareness

Community awareness activities through educational programs are conducted to introduce and encourage the community to be more concerned about wildlife and their environment, particularly primates. In 2024, a total of 5 educational activities were conducted (at elementary schools and universities).



Awareness-raising activities at PRS-Siamang, South Sumatra.

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### 2.3.5 Human Resource Capacity Building and Community Involvement

We open opportunities for community involvement, both from partner agencies such as the BKSDA and students from various universities in Indonesia, to participate in efforts to conserve endemic primates in South Sumatra. One of the activities we carry out is research and student internships. In 2024, one institution conducted an internship, one institution conducted research, and one training session was held.



Human Resource Capacity Building and Community Engagement Activities at PRS-Siamang.

### CONCLUSION

In general, TAF-IP activities at each UPT focus on rehabilitation and release into the wild. The activities carried out by TAF-IP on a regular basis are at the rehabilitation stage and post-release in the release area. This is the report on TAF-IP activities. This annual activity report is routinely prepared and submitted to the UPT of the Directorate General of KSDAE at each TAF project location in Indonesia as an administrative obligation for TAF in accordance with the terms of the MSP cooperation agreement.

### Appendix 1. TAF-IP Animal Rescue (Illegal Keeping and Trade) annual summary.

	Gibbon	Grizzled langur	West Ebony langur	East Ebony langur	Siamang	Total
2011	6	0	4	18	0	28
2012	7	1	0	1	0	9
2013	2	1	3	3	0	9
2014	1	4	1	13	0	19
2015	4	0	4	14	0	22
2016	9	0	10	16	0	35
2017	8	3	2	14	0	27
2018	6	2	8	17	0	33
2019	5	2	8	19	2	36
2020	7	4	2	16	0	29
2021	5	0	4	25	0	34
2022	7	1	6	19	0	33
2023	12	2	4	23	11	52
2024	2	1	8	7	20	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>404</b>

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### Appendix 2. TAF-IP Repatriation of Primates annual summary.

	Gibbon	East Ebony langur	Grizzled langur	Total
2011	0	0	0	0
2012	0	0	0	0
2013	1	6	0	7
2014	0	3	5	8
2015	0	0	7	7
2016	0	15	0	15
2017	6	0	0	6
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0	0
2024	7	3	0	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>53</b>

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### Appendix 3. TAF-IP Primate releases annual summary.

	Gibbons	Grizzled langurs	West Ebony langurs	East Ebony langurs	Siamang	Total
2012	0	0	0	12	0	12
2013	0	0	0	0	0	0
2014	4	0	0	11	0	15
2015	4	5	0	14	0	23
2016	2	5	4	15	0	26
2017	12	2	4	18	0	36
2018	10	0	4	8	0	22
2019	7	1	1	15	0	24
2020	2	1	2	16	0	21
2021	7	0	3	19	0	29
2022	7	2	0	16	0	25
2023	3	0	9	23	2	37
2024	2	1	4	14	2	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>293</b>



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## Madagascar

### Goals

- Saving the greater bamboo lemur
- Conserving other Critically Endangered and endemic species
- Developing community-based conservation and habitat restoration

**Saving the greater bamboo lemur:** Long-term species-level conservation programme developed for Critically Endangered greater bamboo lemurs, resulting in an increase in the known wild population from under 100 to over 1,000 in a decade. Our projects now protect over half the total known population of greater bamboo lemurs.

**Conserving other Critically Endangered and endemic species:** Species-level conservation programmes developed for Critically Endangered crowned sifakas and black-and-white ruffed lemurs. Site-level conservation activities implemented for other Critically Endangered lemurs including indri, diademed sifakas and mongoose lemurs, and other Critically Endangered species such as Madagascar fish eagle, Madagascar big-headed freshwater turtle, and the Damba Mipentina cichlid fish.

**Community-based conservation and habitat restoration:** Many of these Critically Endangered priority species occur sympatrically so we have been able to implement highly cost-effective ecosystem-level projects in three main biogeographic regions of Madagascar, to conserve and restore critical habitats through development of community-based resource management agreements, designation of habitat conservation zones, reforestation, education, and rural development micro-projects (combined area c60,000 ha / 150,000 acres).

### Focal species

Eastern rainforest zone, Critically Endangered lemurs: Greater bamboo lemur (*Prolemur simus*), Black-and-white ruffed lemur (*Varecia variegata*), Indri (*Indri indri*), Diademed sifaka (*Propithecus diadema*).

Western central dry-deciduous forest zone, Critically Endangered lemurs: Crowned sifaka (*Propithecus coronatus*), Mongoose lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*)

Western central freshwater wetlands, Critically Endangered birds, reptiles and cichlid fish: Madagascar fish eagle (*Haliaeetus vociferoides*), Madagascar big-headed turtle (*Erymnochelys madagascariensis*), Damba Mipentina fish (*Paretroplus maculatus*)

### Donors

The Aspinall Foundation Madagascar team, working with the UK office, continue to apply for grants for our core project activities. For 2024, our work has been supported by two grant funders:

- The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund is supporting our work in CAZ West.
- IUCN Save Our Species (Fondation Segré) has supported us in a year-long project focused on the fishing communities of Maevatanana /Ambato-Boeny (MAB).

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#### Social outreach and Education

Celebration days continue to provide an effective route to reach people on a wide scale. This year, as part of our project in CAZ, we celebrated World Environment Day in Sahanomana on June 20th, 2024. The event was attended by approximately 113 adults and 145 schoolchildren, and provided us with the opportunity to carry out additional awareness- raising on issues such as climate change.

Awareness-raising events are also valuable for encouraging gender equality, and, as part of our project in Maevatanana /Ambato-Boeny, women were encouraged to participate with demonstrations of folklore and traditional skills.

In Andriantantely we raised awareness among most of the villagers and schoolchildren near our sites. We re-explained the importance of lemur conservation, including their ecological, economic, and cultural benefits. More than 310 people (VOI members, women's associations, soccer teams, parents) and approximately 578 students were reached.

In addition, across all our project sites, we continued our annual distribution of conservation- themed materials such as notebooks for schoolchildren and calendars for adults, and our team hold frequent community meetings to support awareness-raising and ensure local people are fairly represented and to maintain communication.



Discussion and awareness raising with the community in Anosikary (left), and a Women and Girl Association from Komadio participating in an awareness-raising session (right)

#### Conservation Action

##### Rangers

Our year-long project in Maevatanana/Ambato-Boeny included training 10 local men as rangers to conduct patrols and monitor compliance with the closed fishing season. Thanks to their efforts a reduction of 50% was achieved in breaches of the regulations during the 2024 closed season for fishing.

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10 rangers were patrolling and monitoring 4 days per week within the transfer of management in the CAZ West area throughout the year. The first two days of each week, the patrols focused on biodiversity monitoring, and the last two days, they focused on habitat monitoring. All observations are recorded, including precise locations using GPS. Infractions observed include fire, forest clearance and damage to bamboo, which is a crucial food source for bamboo lemurs. Details of the threats and pressures observed are provided to the relevant VOI even if the offenders are not identified. The VOI reports on the infractions during their General Assembly, providing an opportunity to show not only that patrols are recording transgressions and offenders can face penalties, but also to reinforce the messaging about illegal activities and the importance of habitat/wildlife protection.

Although limited funding has been available for Andriantantely, during 2024 the team have continued to work with the local communities and 25 local rangers have carried out some patrols in the area. Results of the patrols indicate that previous conservation efforts have had an effect as the numbers of lemur traps has reduced and one of the lemur species, *Varecia variegata*, has extended its range as a result. Whilst the lemur populations overall are relatively stable unfortunately, some species, such as Indri and Diademed sifaka have reduced in number, most likely due to an increase in small-scale illegal logging and natural predators such as fossa.



Following training the rangers in MAB receive official recognition and are given a name tag with the signature of DIREDD (left). Ranger patrol in MAB recording illegal tree cutting (right).



TAF Madagascar Country Director intervenes to prevent a fire in the CAZ West area (left). CAZ West patrollers identify areas of illegally cut forest (right).

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CAZ West patrollers use smartphones and GPS units to record and report illegal activities (left). Patrollers observe evidence of damage to bamboo in CAZ West (right).

### Freshwater Fish

Our project in Maevatanana/Ambato-Boeny concentrated on the support of endemic freshwater fish species, which are in serious decline due to the threats from over-fishing, including the use of fine mesh nets, and the wide-scale introduction of non-native species. During the year, local women were trained to make regulation-compliant fishing nets and 450 nets were distributed to local fishers.

Another element of the project was the establishment of 4 ‘no fishing’ lakes which were populated with the by-catch donated from local fishers of native and endemic fish species. During 2024, there were donations of 905 fish across 4 endemic and 1 native species including two Critically Endangered species, *Paretroplus maculatus* (“damba mipentina”) and *Paretroplus menarambo*.



Local women employed to make traditional fishing nets (left). Critically Endangered endemic cichlid fish *Paretroplus maculatus* (right).

### Local Community Development

Our projects in Madagascar are local community-led, and we focus on developing the skills of local people to enable them to transition away from environmentally damaging subsistence lifestyles. In addition, climate change is increasingly impacting rural communities, and sustainability can only be achieved with the adoption of climate-smart, ecosystem-based adaptation techniques. We are working to reduce the anthropogenic threats to biodiversity and vulnerable habitats by supporting local community development.

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#### Agroforestry and Climate-Smart Agriculture

In Maevatanana/Ambato-Boeny we supported the local communities to produce their own compost to reduce reliance on harmful chemicals and to improve soil quality to increase productivity. We also encouraged them to diversify their crops with a wider variety of vegetables.

In CAZ West, as part of the larger multi-year project supported by CEPF we have over 200 community members participating in an agroforestry project that includes climate-smart agricultural training with establishing agroforestry plots to grow a diverse range of vegetables alongside fruit trees, cash crops like coffee, and native trees with beneficial uses such as medicinal.

In Andriantantely, although there has not been an externally-funded project in the area during 2024, the TAF Madagascar team has maintained support for the local communities through advice on sustainable market gardening and the provision of 2,106 packets of seeds across 6 varieties of vegetables to the 351 VOI members and women's associations.



Using a shredder to make compost (left). Mulching vegetable plots to retain moisture (right).

#### Teacher Training and School Market Gardens

The younger generation are the decision makers of the future. We aim to encourage Environmental Education to become mainstream in the school curriculum to instil the importance of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources at an early age. To achieve this, we work alongside local NGO Fanambinantsoa to train schoolteachers in the subject. Our project in CAZ West has regular training sessions and 50 teachers from 12 primary and secondary schools have benefited during 2024. As part of the school programme practical agricultural skills are also taught to the teachers and children, with each school establishing and maintaining market gardens, the produce from which can be used to provide nutritious school meals. In CAZ West approximately 1,200 schoolchildren, and in Maevatanana/Ambato-Boeny 411 schoolchildren, participated in these activities.

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Training schoolteachers (left). School market garden (right).

### Forest Restoration

Habitat loss, mainly due to human activities, is one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss in Madagascar. To help mitigate the problem we carry out extensive forest restoration at our project sites. During 2024 in Maevatanana/Ambato-Boeny 4 tree nurseries were established and managed by the local community, with 44,000 saplings being raised for transplantation in degraded areas of forest. In CAZ West, over 10,000 saplings were raised and women with weaving skills were taught to weave plant pots from biodegradable plant material to allow the use of plastic plant pots to be phased out. In Andriantantely it was possible to restore 10 hectares of degraded forest with 67 native species of saplings.

Climate change is increasingly having an impact on Madagascar and the reforestation programme has seen lower germination and reduced survival rates as a consequence of changes in rainfall patterns and increased heat.



Tree Nursery (left) and transplanting saplings (right) in Maevatanana/Ambato-Boeny.



Area of degraded forest in CAZ West to be restored (left). Local women in CAZ West make biodegradable plant pots (right).

# The Aspinal Foundation

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### Southern Africa

#### Goals

- Wildlife rescue
- Animal rewilding
- Landscape rewilding

**Wildlife Rescue:** The Aspinal Foundation is a founding member of WeWild Africa, a registered non-profit company in South Africa. Through WeWild Africa, The Aspinal Foundation facilitates or supports many in-country wildlife rescues, often resulting in subsequent release. During 2024 we translocated lions and leopards in danger of culling or killing and supported the development of the Wild and Free Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, focussing on rescuing and rewilding smaller species.

**Animal rewilding:** Captive populations in South Africa and globally can contribute to reintroduction and other conservation projects in southern Africa. Zoo-born cheetahs, a brown hyena and a honey badger have already been rewilded, and we continue to monitor their progress. Numerous species held in captive conditions in South Africa have also been rewilded through the collaborative efforts of WeWild Africa. Of particular note during 2024 was the rewilding of the last remaining elephant in Pretoria zoo, a significant landmark in rewilding from captivity. Baboo the tiger is also notable; rescued from the illegal pet trade in Pakistan, a collaborative effort with the Pakistan government resulted in Baboo's initial rehabilitation in Pakistan followed by translocation to natural habitat in a sanctuary in South Africa. We continue to provide care for the four lions sent from the UK to natural sanctuary environments in South Africa.

**Landscape rewilding:** A co-management agreement has been developed with the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) for the management of Loskop Dam Nature Reserve (23,500ha / 60,000 acres), a globally-renowned Key Biodiversity Area, home to reintroduced white rhinos and Critically Endangered Middelburg cycads. There is potential for an expansion project to protect another 30,000 ha (75,000 acres), and to provide connectivity to a wider landscape of protected areas. We are supporting the reintroduction of black-footed cats to the Reserve, and developing long-term plans to reintroduce additional lost megafauna such as black rhinos, cheetahs, elephants and lions. WeWild Africa also works with numerous private reserves in southern Africa to support restoration of local populations of endangered species, through critical interventions such as de-horning rhinos to reduce poaching threats, or through direct translocations to reintroduce or reinforce small populations. Highlights include our collaboration with African Parks to translocate 70 rhinos as part of their Rhino Rewild Initiative, and the relocation of 163 white-backed and cape vultures in one momentous operation.

#### Cheetahs

We supported the Cheetah Metapopulation Initiative in their efforts to manage cheetahs through strategic translocations and genetic management. Cheetahs are carefully monitored and translocated between reserves to prevent inbreeding and local extinctions. Thanks to the success of the initiative, the metapopulation is now in a position to provide cheetahs to supplement declining populations elsewhere in Africa.

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We have provided additional, focussed support to the cheetah program at Mount Camdeboo Private Reserve. We continue to monitor the successful rewilding of Nairo, the male cheetah born in the UK and brought to South Africa by The Aspinnall Foundation. His coalition with the male Molopo continues to be strong, and we replaced both their VHF tracking collars this year as the batteries were approaching depletion. Our team at Mount Camdeboo also successfully tracked Ava and her six cubs, sired by Nairo. Ava originated from a captive facility in South Africa, and the successful rewilding and reproduction of Ava and Nairo is

contributing valuable genetic diversity to South Africa's metapopulation.

Given the success of the rewilding of Nairo, zoo-born in the UK, WeWild helped facilitate the rewilding of a zoo-born female cheetah from Australia. A collaboration with the Wild Cat Conservation Centre in Sydney, WeWild Africa, The Metapopulation Initiative, and Mziki Private Game Reserve, resulted in the successful translocation and rewilding of Edie, born in Australia at the Wild Cat Conservation Centre. Edie's journey, characterised by extensive rewilding preparation and post-release monitoring, highlights again the potential for captive- born animals to bolster wild populations.

### Lions

We continue to support the adaptation of Azi and Zazu, and Zemo and Zala, all zoo-born in the UK, to their new lives in natural sanctuary settings in South Africa. Azi and Zazu were moved to a new naturalisation enclosure, built as a non-breeding enclosure with the intention to provide captive lions in South Africa with a better way of life in a wilder environment, allowing them to live a life of dignity.

There is a real urgency for a meaningful alternative to the captive lion industry to be provided. In a recent presentation to parliament, the National SPCA provided hard hitting findings. In a number of the 127 captive lion facilities inspected in 2022, the NSPCA found inadequate fencing and shelter, unhygienic conditions, inadequate fresh water, overstocking, inadequate diet, insufficient food, incompatible animals, piles of faecal mass, no environment enrichment or a lack of veterinary care.



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With over 8,000 captive lions in South Africa and more and more of the captive facilities closing down due to changing legislation, there will be increasing numbers of lions requiring a safe home and a better future. There are many farmers who have smaller parcels of land available on their properties and they could be willing to establish larger enclosures for lions if there is an example of a project that has worked. The intention of this project is not to breed lions in larger areas but rather to allow captive lions to live better lives in a better, wilder environment. This may not be possible for all of the lions in captivity but where landowners or conservation organisations have the means and willingness to provide some of the captive lions with more space and a wilder life, they should be encouraged to do so. The objectives of the naturalisation enclosure project are specified as: a) to provide a natural environment for a small non-breeding group of up to five captive lions to improve their welfare; b) to implement a hybrid feeding programme which will hopefully result in the lions being able to hunt for themselves; c) to provide a Case Study of what can be achieved in creating more space for the lions; d) to protect some of the last remaining natural land parcels in the region with a core aim of contributing to associated species; e) to create employment opportunities for local communities; f) to establish a world-class facility for the lions and to establish operational plans for other projects to utilise; g) to provide a safe, natural feeding space for local vulture populations; h) to document the process and the progress of the lions in a naturalisation enclosure; and i) to be a showcase project for the Free State Province on how captive lions could be managed. Progress towards these objectives will be assessed periodically.

### Rhinos

One of the main ways we protect rhinos is through dehorning and collaring, to reduce poaching risk. Dehorning is safe, painless, and has no lasting impact on the rhino's health or behaviour. Each horn is meticulously documented, weighed, measured and DNA-sampled to prevent illegal trade. Despite its resource-intensive nature, with each procedure costing up to \$1,000, dehorning remains a critical strategy to mitigate poaching risks. However, rhino horns grow back at a rate of 3 to 4 inches per year, meaning dehorning must be repeated every 12 to 24 months.



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At Loskop Dam Nature Reserve, WeWild Africa has been dehorning rhinos annually since 2021, in collaboration with MTPA and supported by DCM Surfaces. This annual event is now an integral part of our co-management activities for Loskop. In May 2024, we dehorned and collared the last two remaining white rhinos at Lionspruit Game Reserve, both males. We met with reserve management to review anti-poaching strategies and explore the possibility of introducing a female rhino for future breeding. Though Lionspruit spans just 1,500 hectares, it supports a rich array of wildlife, and a long-term goal is to rebuild a small, self-sustaining rhino population here.

In September 2024 we undertook the annual dehorning of the entire rhino population at Rietvlei Nature Reserve, a 4,000-hectare sanctuary nestled between Johannesburg and Pretoria. Rietvlei stands as a vital refuge for South Africa's wildlife amidst one of the most densely populated regions in Southern Africa. Home to over 1,600 large mammals, including rhinos, cheetahs, zebras, and 400 bird species, its urban surroundings make it a prime target for potential poaching.

We also assisted with the annual dehorning and collaring of the black and white rhinos at Imire Rhino and Wildlife Conservancy in Zimbabwe. Internationally recognised for its pioneering efforts, Imire began its black rhino breeding programme in the 1980s with seven orphaned calves, leading to many births and successful releases into the Zambezi Valley. Today Imire protects a healthy population of black and white rhinos in secure, free-roaming sanctuaries. With poaching still a threat, their focus remains on monitored habitats and strong community partnerships that support local livelihoods through conservation.

### Rhino translocations

In partnership with African Parks and other collaborators, we translocated 70 white rhinos during three rewilding missions in 2024, as part of African Parks Rhino Rewild Initiative – a 10-year plan to rewild 2000 white rhinos across Africa. The first translocation was of 40 rhinos to the Munywana Conservancy in KwaZulu-Natal, the first step in building a secure and thriving rhino population within this conservancy. The second translocation was to Dinokeng Game Reserve, supplementing the existing population in this 19,000-hectare reserve in Gauteng. The third translocation of the year was to a conservation area in KwaZulu-Natal spanning over 20,000 acres rich in diverse ecosystems.



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### **The World's Largest Vulture Relocation**

The first phase of a monumental project to secure the future of wild vulture populations in southern Africa was completed in January 2024 with the translocation of 163 Cape and African White-backed vultures from VulPro's existing facility in the north-west of South Africa to the Shamwari Private Game Reserve in the Eastern Cape, a journey of over 1,000 km. This project is a milestone in a two-year endeavour to establish a new VulPro breeding facility at Shamwari for non-releasable, rehabilitated vultures capable of breeding, and for repopulating the wild vulture population in the Eastern Cape Province. The second phase will involve relocating additional vulture species to further bolster conservation efforts.



### **Tsessebe translocation**

In partnership with Imire Rhino and Wildlife Conservation and Reilly Travers, WeWild Africa and The Aspinnall Foundation translocated and released fifteen tsessebe to boost the Reserve's population. These swift antelope, among Africa's fastest, can reach speeds of 90 km/h and are now thriving at Imire. Imire is a private reserve in Zimbabwe dedicated to restoring endangered species. We have also collaborated on the rewilding of mongoose and cheetah, contributing to the Reserve's growing biodiversity.



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### Small Wonders: Wildlife conservation beyond the giants

WeWild Africa, in collaboration with Wild and Free and with Over and Above Africa, is dedicated to rescuing and rewilding smaller, often overlooked species, such as bush-babies, owls and jackals. In 2024 our partnership launched the new state-of-the-art Wild and Free Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre near Kruger National Park, providing specialised care and tailored rehabilitation programs. Beyond rescue and rewilding, the centre focuses on community education, showing that no animal is too small to help. Rescued wildlife included white-backed and hooded vultures, side-striped and black-backed jackals, Barn, pearl-spotted and African wood owls, southern white-faced scops owls, spotted and Verreaux's eagle owls, various bats, banded, white-tailed and dwarf mongooses, lesser and thick-tailed bushbabies, tree squirrels, vervet monkeys, meerkats, bushpigs, caracals, common duikers, large-spotted genets, Nile crocodiles, nyalas, porcupines, scrub hares and servals.



### Leopard rescues: A partnership with Cheetah Outreach

This year WeWild Africa joined forces with Cheetah Outreach Trust to address human-wildlife conflict and aid in the rescue and relocation of leopards in South Africa. In August a male leopard was rescued from farmland in an area plagued by snares set for bushmeat. The leopard was relocated to Thabo Tholo, a safe conservation area, thanks to funding provided by WeWild Africa. In October/November a female leopard was captured near a tourist lodge in the Rooiberg area, where she threatened human safety by killing antelopes near visitor pathways. After being safely relocated to a conservation area in Limpopo, her movements were monitored with a GPS collar. Following her release she travelled 168km, even crossing into Botswana before returning to South Africa and heading back toward the conservation area.



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#### Saved from culling: A lioness relocation

WeWild Africa partnered with Babanango Game Reserve, Mount Camdeboo Game Reserve, and the Bateleurs, to successfully translocate two lionesses from Mount Camdeboo to Babanango, saving the lionesses from potential culling and helping to restock Babanango. The operation formed part of a larger restocking initiative at Babanango, with WeWild Africa also translocating two additional lions, from Kwandwe, and elephants from Addo and Tembe elephant parks.

#### Rescuing Baboo the tiger

Baboo, a Bengal tiger rescued from the exotic pet trade in Pakistan by the Islamabad Wildlife Management Board (IWMB) in a severely malnourished state with over 20 fractures, the four-month-old cub was placed under the care of IWMB and Second Chance Wildlife. With guidance from The Aspinall Foundation and South African vet Dr. Peter Caldwell, Baboo received intensive treatment, a tailored diet, and daily physical therapy.



After seven weeks he regained mobility and progressed to a larger enclosure. Pakistan's Federal Minister for Climate Change recommended relocating him to a more suitable home. IWMB and The Aspinall Foundation partnered with Isindile Big Cat and predator Sanctuary in South Africa's Free State, where Baboo, 17 months old and weighing over 70 kg, arrived after a multi-leg

journey by road and air. He will now share his new sanctuary with another rescued tiger.

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#### **Rewilding the last remaining elephant at the Pretoria Zoo**

On August 19th, 2024, Charlie, the lone African elephant from Pretoria National Zoological Gardens, was relocated to Shambala Private Game Reserve. This move, the result of extensive planning and advocacy, marks a significant milestone in global rewilding efforts from captivity. At 43 years old, Charlie now has the opportunity to spend his remaining years—potentially up to age 60-70—immersed in a natural environment, where he can eventually reconnect with other elephants. The 10-ton operation involved Charlie walking into his specially designed crate, being hoisted by a crane onto a specialized transportation truck, and embarking on his journey to freedom.



Charlie, now 43 years old, was born in 1982 in Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe. He was captured and sent to South Africa's Brian Boswell Circus in 1984 before being transferred to the National Zoological Gardens on July 30, 2001. African bush elephants can live up to 60-70 years, so Charlie still has plenty of time to enjoy his newfound freedom.

WeWild Africa partnered with the EMS Foundation, Shambala Private Game Reserve, and Conservation Solutions, in the translocation effort which was one of the most challenging elephant translocations undertaken to date in South Africa. Charlie is on a very specific diet which needed to be managed by WeWild Africa. The loading process took 3 hours to complete with numerous elephant capture and translocation specialists from WeWild Africa and Conservation Solutions, providing input and technical skills. Once loaded, Charlie's trip to Shambala Private Game Reserve took about 4 hours after which he was released into a specially designed holding enclosure which allowed the veterinary team to monitor him closely. He will then be released into larger areas as he settles.

#### **Loskop Dam Rewilding and Expansion Program**

Following years of collaboration and preparation, a co-management agreement for Loskop Dam Nature Reserve was signed with the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) on 28th February 2024, formalising a ground-breaking 25-year partnership to restore and expand the unique flora and fauna of the Loskop Dam Nature Reserve: Enhancing infrastructure, building community and tourism capacity, mobilising resources, and rewilding the Big Five.

In September 2021 we conducted a series of comprehensive aerial and terrestrial surveys of Loskop Dam, laying the groundwork for the project. By meticulously mapping the area, assessing its ecological status, and identifying key areas for intervention, we ensure that our restoration efforts are strategic and practical. Our surveys have provided valuable insight into the current state of the ecosystem, guiding our plans for habitat restoration, wildlife management, and community engagement.

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In November 2024 we focussed on the implementation of enhanced security and connectivity.



Both the front and back entry points of Loskop Dam Nature Reserve now feature CCTV cameras, licence plate recognition systems with 4G, and 100 Mbps WiFi setups. The main gate and the reserve office are equipped with 100mb WiFi, ensuring robust connectivity and comprehensive vehicle monitoring across the reserve. The Hondekraal gate now has two additional guards. A geo-hydrologist assessed sub-surface conditions, leading to two borehole drilling attempts. Upgraded solar and gas systems and a new water pump are now in place.

Further infrastructure works included the grading of the main service road through the reserve, with some sections completely rebuilt and others receiving necessary patch maintenance over 30 km, upgrades to the staff recreational football field, and the purchase of a new tractor and a Ford Ranger, enhancing management and maintenance capabilities.



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We continued to support and develop the black-footed cat breeding and reintroduction project at Loskop, managed by Delecia Gunn and the MTPA. We fitted tracking collars to cats prior to release, facilitating post-release monitoring and, where necessary, post-release interventions. As in previous years, since 2021, we organised the annual dehorning of the reintroduced population of white rhinos in Loskop.



Further details of these southern Africa projects and many more can be found through the [WeWild Africa website](#).

## Partnerships and Future Plans



### Romania

Hyphen, the European Bison, transported from Port Lympne to the Fagaras Mountains in the Southern Carpathians in December 2020, continues to thrive. He is generally solitary but contacts the herd of released females regularly, and may be the sire of some of their calves but DNA testing would be necessary to confirm this. The first reintroduced population in Romania, in Vanatori Neamt Nature Park, also continues to flourish, including some of the females sent from the UK and released back in June 2014.

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### Pakistan

We continue to work closely with the Pakistan Environment Trust to develop a programme to reintroduce greater one-horned rhinos to Pakistan. The Greater one-horned rhino is one of the iconic megafauna of the Indian sub-continent, and the proposed programme will see the return of rhinos to Pakistan for the first time in 400 years. Work has been ongoing to identify at least one reintroduction site in Pakistan to spearhead this programme, involving careful consideration of various ecological and socioeconomic factors to ascertain its suitability. The preferred site will be subject to a detailed feasibility study, planned for 2025 in collaboration with various international stakeholders. Once the site has been agreed upon, the programme will need investment in habitat restoration, in community involvement, and in development of appropriate infrastructure and security measures. In the initial stages of the programme a small number of rhinos will be sourced from the global captive population and/or from Nepal for transfer to Pakistan, where they will undergo a carefully monitored rewilding programme prior to full release into the reintroduction site. Additional transfers of rhinos to Pakistan are likely to be necessary over a number of years to build up appropriate levels of genetic diversity within the reintroduced population. Once breeding is successful in Pakistan, it may also be appropriate to return some of the offspring into regional or global populations, to reduce the potential for inbreeding within the Pakistan population and to help ensure optimum levels of genetic diversity across all populations of the species.

During 2024 a collaborative mission between the Pakistan Environment Trust and The Aspinall Foundation was undertaken to Nepal, to visit rhino projects in Chitwan National Park and in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, and to meet various organisations including the Nepalese National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). The whole visit was highly informative, and the contacts made will help with the upcoming feasibility study for rhino reintroduction to Pakistan.



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### Plans for the future

We have a long history of collaboration with partner organisations in Tanzania, particularly related to rewilding and reintroduction of eastern black rhinos. We continue to discuss opportunities for further rhino rewilding, and hope to realise some of these opportunities during 2025.

We are still working on the potential elephant transfer focussing on opportunities in Kenya, Gambia and Angola. The elephant herd in the UK has been habituated to spending time in the transport crates and we hope to make more progress in 2025.

In Congo we will continue to habituate Kebu and Joshi to their post release existence by increasing the amount of wild food they receive and reducing the domestic food. Bomassa now plays a key role in the rehabilitation process as his confidence and experience will continue to rub off on Joshi.

Monitoring of the released gorillas is a continuous process and is central to the work in Congo, the incredible footage that we routinely discover of the gorilla groups with our camera traps placed throughout the reserve is always a delight to see. We have grown accustomed to the footage of large groups as they amble past the camera with infants and black backs riding their mothers like cowboys, but it should not be forgotten that this is the most successful great ape reintroduction.

In Gabon we are continuing to monitor the released gorillas in the national park albeit mostly with camera traps. Again, the wonders of the ever-expanding gorilla groups that we routinely find in the camera trap footage is easy to grow accustomed to but we have successfully restored a sustainable gorilla population to this area, an incredible conservation milestone. Djongo, Mayombe and Taali, the zoo born family group (except Taali), are continuing to grow more confident and we hope to release them off the rehabilitation island as soon as safe to do so.

We will continue to work with ANPN to help protect the other fauna (and flora) within the national park. It is well documented that a continuous presence in a protected area boosts its overall conservation by deterring poaching and other illegal activities. Our presence in this remote site since 1998 has been one of the main reasons for the national park restoration and increased wildlife number (including the reappearance of the Batéké lion in 2015).

Our primate reintroduction projects in Java and Sumatra will continue with their successful release schedule in 2025.

In Madagascar director Maholy Ravaloharimanitra continues her valuable and increasingly internationally recognised work to protect some of the rarest primates on the planet, and their habitat. Maholy has been the recipient of several conservation awards and manages to attract donors to fund the foundation's efforts in Madagascar, a testament to her hard work which she will continue into 2025.

The plans in southern Africa for 2025 will be focused on supporting WeWild Africa and their great work, including the implementation of the Loskop Agreement and further expanding the reserve. We will continue to pursue opportunities for rewilding captive animals for conservation benefits.

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In Bangladesh we have been providing technical advice to partners in regards to wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and release, and hope to continue to develop this relationship in 2025. In Pakistan we continue to work closely with the Pakistan Environment Trust to develop a programme to reintroduce greater one-horned rhinos to Pakistan. The Greater one-horned rhino is one of the iconic megafauna of the Indian sub-continent, and the proposed programme will see the return of rhinos to Pakistan for the first time in 400 years. We have now identified a potential site called Lal Suhanra, a national park in the Bahawalpur district of Punjab province. The park was home to a pair of captive rhinos, donated to Pakistan by the Nepal government where they lived for 30 years. Sadly, they did not breed but the environment suited them so we hope that this could provide a launchpad for a concerted breeding effort for the species in the future in Pakistan.

We will continue our collaborative research and monitoring efforts, to continue to inform conservation and rewilding decision-making, within our own projects and more generally.

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The Trustees commissioned a full and detailed Governance Review during 2020. This has been carried out in accordance with the Charity Governance Code for Larger Charities (2020). Substantial progress has been made with most of the recommendations having been implemented.

## Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Foundation are:

1. The advancement and promotion (whether in England or elsewhere in the world) for the public benefit of education and useful knowledge in relation to the science of zoology, the preservation and exhibition of living animals and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) all wild animals in danger of extinction and the conservation of natural wildlife inhabitants.
2. Such other charitable purposes as the Trustees may by Deed appoint.

Our commitment is to conservation, through captive breeding, education, and reintroduction. We are working in some of the world's most fragile environments to save endangered animals and return them to the wild. We seek to meet our charitable objectives in three ways:

1. To halt the extinction of endangered species in the wild by reintroducing animals and developing sustainable conservation activities; providing economic benefits to local communities and helping manage wilderness areas.
2. Provide the most natural environment possible for animals in both animal parks and be world leaders in our animal husbandry and breeding programmes.
3. Increase public understanding of animal welfare and how we can all act to protect animals in their natural environments.

## Public benefit

Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 requires that charitable activities provide a public benefit. The Trustees confirm that, when planning its activities, they have complied with the duty to 'have regard' to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

The Foundation's work on the reintroduction of species, including scientific evaluations and co-management of protected areas, helps preserve the natural environment and natural resources for the public benefit, for both current and future generations.

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees comprises the key governance personnel of the Foundation. The Board of Trustees holds regular meetings, at least four each year, and is responsible for the strategic direction and policies of the Foundation. Trustees are available at short notice between meetings, if required, to deal with any matters which may need attention.

The Trust has created an Investment Committee and are considering whether establishing further committees would be beneficial.

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The day-to-day management is delegated, subject to a delegation matrix approved by the Board of Trustees, to relevant individuals from within the senior management team who are responsible for various operational matters including finance and employment. All delegated actions are monitored by the Trustees.

### **Appointment and removal of Trustees**

The Charity is run by a board of four Trustees. New Trustees may be appointed, up to a maximum of seven, by the existing Trustees. The statutory power to appoint a Trustee vests in the Chairman and is exercised by deed. If at any time, owing to retirement, death or removal, the number of Trustees is reduced to less than three, the Chairman shall immediately appoint one or more Trustees to replace the Trustees who have retired, died or been removed. A Trustee may be removed by being given written notice from the Chairman.

The Foundation Trust Deed requires that, where possible, only lineal descendants of the founder can be the board chair.

### **Trustee induction and training**

New Trustees are provided with an induction pack outlining their legal obligations under charity law, a copy of the charity's Trust Deed and recent financial performance of the charity. They are also given the opportunity to visit the Parks for a briefing on our work on breeding and caring for rare and endangered species.

All Trustees receive ongoing training in areas such as Trustee Roles and Responsibilities, Safeguarding and other relevant legal updates,

### **Policies**

The Board of Trustees has established a suite of policy statements. These cover recruitment, conflicts of interest, expenses, safeguarding, financial reserves, and investments. Policies are regularly updated and there is an ongoing process to add new policies as the need arises.

## **Related parties and relationships with other organisations**

The Foundation works closely with an associated charity, The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT'). The Aspinall Foundation and THWAT have two Trustees in common, Damian Aspinall and Tansy Aspinall. THWAT has established world-class animal welfare and captive breeding programmes in its two parks in Kent: Howletts Park and Port Lympne Reserve, which recently received an extremely positive conservation assessment report from DEFRA. The Foundation re-introduces animals from the parks' captive breeding programs back into the wild. The success of these programs can be measured by the number of captive births and animal reintroductions set out elsewhere in this report.

This work takes place alongside the other programmes the Foundation runs overseas, where it is protecting animals from human development and poaching.

The Foundation shares resources with THWAT helping to minimise costs.

## **Remuneration policy for key management personnel**

Key management personnel pay rates are set in line with other charities or companies of a similar size and with regard to our location and the necessary skills and experience for the role

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### **Fundraising activity**

The Foundation's approach to fundraising focuses on building relationships with individuals and companies that are committed to protecting rare and endangered species.

The Foundation aims to ensure that our supporters and the wider public are treated fairly and with respect. The Foundation remains fully committed to its core fundraising principles and is continually looking for ways to improve and to address new challenges.

#### **Fundraising approach:**

The Foundation uses a variety of fundraising approaches to engage with members of the public including working with face-to-face fundraisers, local events, community activities and utilising multiple channels, including direct mail, email, telephone, social media, online communications as well as our own in-house publications such as our supporters' magazine, Wildcry. These are vital ways to both raise awareness and engage people with the work of the Foundation.

Our own internal fundraising team carries out much of this activity, but we also work with carefully selected and trained professional partners with specific expertise to support our team.

The Foundation has a Personal Data Governance Framework in place which is regularly reviewed and updated to maintain and demonstrate compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Privacy and Electronic Communication Regulations.

#### **Fundraising Standards:**

The Foundation voluntarily subscribes to the Fundraising Regulator and its Code of Fundraising Practice. The Foundation is also a member of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising. No failures to comply with fundraising standards have been notified to the Foundation.

The Foundation is also signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service which enables individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications. The Foundation received and actioned requests where necessary from this service last year.

#### **Protection of vulnerable people:**

The Foundation is especially careful and sensitive when engaging with vulnerable people. This is reflected in our fundraising practices, through the guidance and training of our staff, and by choosing not to undertake door to door fundraising.

#### **Feedback and complaints:**

The Foundation had over 600,000 interactions with its supporters last year through a wide range of channels, including events, face-to-face, telephone, email, in the press, through social media and on the website. Supporter surveys have regularly been undertaken in order to get direct feedback from donors.

Where shortcomings have been identified, guidance and training for staff has been reviewed and enhanced, with new processes put in place, both to prevent recurrence of the issues and to improve supporter experience. The Foundation provides contact details for its complaints process and includes these details on its website.

The Foundation recorded no complaints in 2024.

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### Financial review

During 2024 the total income for the Foundation was £1,950,000 (2023: £1,529,000). This was from three main sources: donations from more than 9,000 regular supporters to the charity, corporate donations, and Gift Aid refunds. Income is directed towards the charitable work of the Foundation in both the UK and overseas in line with the Foundation's commitments to its supporters. The operating deficit for 2024 was £1,153,000 (2023 deficit of £1,793,000) and the new balance sheet position at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 was £32,428,000 (2023: £33,581,000).

### Investment policy

The objective of the Trust's investment policy is to maximise long-term capital returns with a reasonable tolerance to market volatility and a paramount focus on liquidity and diversification.

All investments held by the Foundation have been acquired in accordance with powers vested in the Trustees. Slater Investments Limited advises on the Foundation's investment portfolio. The Foundation had a net gain of £493,000 (2023: loss of £141,000) on investments.

### Reserves policy

At the year end the Foundation had total reserves of £32,428,000. Of this amount, £746,000 are restricted and not available for the general purposes of the charity.

Additionally, £23,975,000 was invested in long-term fixed assets which consisted of Freehold and Long Leasehold properties, Fine Art, and other items, and £112,000 in non-liquid investments. The free reserves available to the Foundation were therefore £7,595,000. There were no material amounts committed at the end of the reporting period.

The free reserves held are in line with the Investment and Reserves Policy which notes that the Foundation has limited fixed funding requirements and non-discretionary liabilities. Its annual administrative costs are approximately £850k. It is the policy of the Foundation to predominantly pursue an investment strategy aimed at maximising long-term capital returns to preserve its reserves.

It is difficult to forecast with any degree of certainty what future funding streams will look like. Nevertheless, the Trustees have adopted a policy to ensure that the resources of the Foundation are used in the most effective way to support its objects and also to ensure that the Foundation remains financially resilient. Our reserves policy is therefore to maintain sufficient reserves to enable the Foundation to continue its activities should there be a drop in income. As such reserves are required to provide an adequate level of working capital to ensure the ongoing viability of our core work, cover for risks of unforeseen expenditure and/or unanticipated loss of income.

The Trustees are also mindful of the fact that should the Foundation need to wind down its activities, there are commitments that would need to be met, including staff liabilities, operating costs commitments and the repayment of restricted fund donations.

In light of the above, the Trustees aim to maintain a level of reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of annual administrative costs. As such the objects of the reserves policy have been successfully achieved.

The reserves policy is reviewed at least annually by the Aspinall Foundation Investment Committee which reports to the Foundation's Trustee Board.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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### Principal risks and uncertainties and risk management

The Trustees are very aware of the types of major risks to which the Foundation is exposed, and they have prepared an appropriate Risk Management Register, which both identifies those risks and indicates what provision has been made for dealing with them. This was conducted in line with Charity Commission guidance CC26.

The principal risks to which the Foundation is exposed include:

- Reputational and financial risks arising from the Foundation's close association with The Howletts Wild Animal Trust
- Risks connected to overseas operations, such as fraud, theft, injury to staff member, death of animals
- Fraud or data breach in the Foundation
- Adverse media

The Trustees continue to keep under review the systems in place, which they believe are appropriate to the size of the Charity and the nature of its operations, in order to mitigate these risks.

These matters are considered at the quarterly board meetings (or more frequently if required).

### Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable 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 presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. 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 Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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### Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### Auditors

Goldwins Limited were re-appointed as the auditors of the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 31 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
Damian Aspinall  
Trustee

.....  
Tansy Aspinall  
Trustee

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Aspinall Foundation for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the consolidated and parent charity Balance Sheet, consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the group financial statements is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charity's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of the group's income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and the parent charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and the parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

## **Responsibilities of the trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

## **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the group's and parent charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group and the parent charity operate in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group and the parent charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

# **Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation**

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A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [\[www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities\]](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....  
**Goldwins Limited**  
**Statutory Auditor**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**75 Maygrove Road**  
**West Hampstead**  
**London NW6 2EG**  
**Date: 31 October 2025**

Goldwins Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds 2024 £'000	Total Funds 2023 £'000
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	1,275	61	1,336	1,224
Other trading activities	4	363	-	363	86
Investment income	5	251	-	251	219
<b>Total income</b>		<u>1,889</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>1,950</u>	<u>1,529</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	6	820	-	820	801
Charitable activities		2,660	-	2,660	2,357
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>3,480</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,480</u>	<u>3,158</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	493	-	493	(141)
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>		<u>(1,098)</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>(1,037)</u>	<u>(1,770)</u>
Other gains/(losses)	30	(116)	-	(116)	(23)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(1,214)</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>(1,153)</u>	<u>(1,793)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	28	32,896	685	33,581	35,374
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>31,682</u>	<u>746</u>	<u>32,428</u>	<u>33,581</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10		23,975		24,292
Investments	12		8,004		8,700
			<u>31,979</u>		<u>32,992</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	16	4		9	
Debtors	14	1,137		1,114	
Cash at bank and in hand		803		613	
		<u>1,944</u>		<u>1,736</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(995)</u>		<u>(897)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>949</u>		<u>839</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>32,928</u>		<u>33,831</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	20		(500)		(250)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>32,428</u></u>		<u><u>33,581</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	28		746		685
Unrestricted funds:	28				
General reserves		18,486		19,700	
Revaluation reserve		<u>13,196</u>		<u>13,196</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			31,682		32,896
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>32,428</u></u>		<u><u>33,581</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees on 31 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
**Damian Aspinall**  
Trustee

.....  
**Tansy Aspinall**  
Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Charity Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	11		23,975		24,292
Investments	13		8,004		8,700
			<u>31,979</u>		<u>32,992</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	17	4		9	
Debtors	15	1,137		1,114	
Cash at bank and in hand		803		368	
		<u>1,944</u>		<u>1,491</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	19	<u>(995)</u>		<u>(897)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>949</u>		<u>594</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			32,928		33,586
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	21		<u>(500)</u>		(250)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>32,428</u></u>		<u><u>33,336</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	29		532		531
Unrestricted funds:	29				
General reserves		18,700		19,609	
Revaluation reserve		<u>13,196</u>		<u>13,196</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			31,896		32,805
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>32,428</u></u>		<u><u>33,336</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees on 31 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
**Damian Aspinall**  
Trustee

.....  
**Tansy Aspinall**  
Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £'000	2024 £'000	2023 £'000	2023 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>					
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	22		(1,134)		(1,511)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Interest/ rent/ dividends from investments		251		219	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets investments		1,072		964	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		-		(44)	
<b>Cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			<b>1,323</b>		<b>1,139</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			<b>189</b>		<b>(372)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			613		1,008
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			1		(23)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	23		<b>803</b>		<b>613</b>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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### 1 Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements 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 charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### **Basis of Consolidation**

The consolidated Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet include the financial statements of the Foundation and its Subsidiary made up to 31 December 2024.

#### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

#### **Income**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Donations of gifts, services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable that economic benefit can be measured reliably, and is material to the accounts. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the Trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Unrestricted funds include a revaluation reserve representing restatement of investment assets at market values.

Restricted funds are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the trust arising from the express or implied wishes of the donors, in so far as these are intended to be binding on the trustees.

#### **Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity and its activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. Expenditure is allocated to categories in accordance with the main activity of the staff concerned or the substance of the costs incurred.

#### **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Freehold land and works of art are not depreciated, as these assets are, in the opinion of the trustees, worth in excess of their book values. The freehold mansion is depreciated at the rate of 2% per annum on cost.

Software & IT Equipment, Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment are stated at cost less depreciation at a rate of 25% reducing balance. Motor vehicles are stated at cost less depreciation at a rate of 25% straight line.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### **Operating leases**

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

#### **Fixed Asset 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. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities. Unlisted investments are stated at trustees' valuation.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued) Debtors

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

#### Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### 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. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

#### Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the Balance Sheet date. Gains or losses on translation are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### Pensions

The Foundation makes contributions to a defined contribution scheme for certain staff members. The cost of these contributions is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

### 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds £'000
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	1,146	78	1,224
Other trading activities	86	-	86
Investment income	219	-	219
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,451</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1,529</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	801	-	801
Charitable activities	2,352	5	2,357
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>3,153</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3,158</b>
Net gains / (losses) on investments	(141)	-	(141)
<b>Net income for the year</b>	<b>(1,843)</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>(1,770)</b>
Other gains/losses	(23)	-	(23)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(1,866)</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>(1,793)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>34,762</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>35,374</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>32,896</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>33,581</b>

### 3 Income from donations

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Legacies	116	16
Donations	1,024	937
Animal sponsorships	190	271
Grants	6	-
	<b>1,336</b>	<b>1,224</b>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
<b>4 Income from other trading activities</b>		
Dinner	332	-
Other	31	86
	<u>363</u>	<u>86</u>

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
<b>5 Income from investments</b>		
Income from listed investments	123	81
Rental income	60	66
Interest on loans	68	72
	<u>251</u>	<u>219</u>

## 6 Expenditure

	Basis of Allocation	Raising Funds		Charitable Activities			Governance Costs	2024	2023 Total
		Costs of Generating Funds	Costs of Investment	TAF Overseas Projects	Other Charitable Projects	Support Costs			
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b>Costs directly allocated to activities</b>									
Staff costs	Direct	187	-	318	-	317	-	822	845
Fundraising costs	Direct	236	-	-	-	-	-	236	275
Donations	Direct	-	-	1,304	-	-	-	1,304	1,182
Maintenance	Direct	-	-	-	-	104	-	104	128
Depreciation	Direct	-	-	-	-	317	-	317	168
Legal and professional fees	Direct	-	-	-	-	51	191	242	270
<b>Support costs allocated to activities</b>									
Other overheads	Income/ Direct	76	50	159	4	166	-	455	290
		<u>499</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>1,781</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>955</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>3,480</u>	<u>3,158</u>
Support costs		226	-	-	729	(955)	-	-	-
Governance costs		45	-	-	146	-	(191)	-	-
<b>Total expenditure 2024</b>		<u>770</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>1,781</u>	<u>879</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,480</u>	
<b>Total expenditure 2023</b>		<u>801</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,642</u>	<u>715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>3,158</u>

Of the total expenditure £0 was restricted (2023: £5,000) and £3,480,000 was unrestricted (2023: £3,153,000).

## 7 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
This is stated after charging / (crediting):		
Auditors' remuneration	11	11
Depreciation	317	168
	<u>317</u>	<u>168</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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### 8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from income tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

### 9 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Salaries and wages	714	745
Social security costs	64	45
Pension costs	21	35
Other staff costs	23	20
	<u>822</u>	<u>845</u>

The number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer's national insurance and pension costs) for the reporting period amounting to over £60,000 were as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	No.	No.
£70,000 - £79,999	1	1
£80,000 - £89,999		-
£90,000 - £99,999	1	1

The average number of employees during the period was:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	No.	No.
	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>

The total employee gross salary and benefits, including employer's national insurance and pension contributions of the key management personnel were £111,988 (2023: £107,484).

The charity trustees were not paid for employment by, nor did they receive any other employment benefits from the Trust in the year (2023: £nil). JDA Aspinall was reimbursed during the year a total of £2,871 (2023: £1,168) for travel expenses incurred on behalf of the Foundation. C Filmer was reimbursed £190.(2023: £30) for travel expenses. No other trustee received any reimbursement of expenses during the year (2023: £nil).

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

### 10 Tangible Fixed Assets - Group

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Motor Vehicles £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2024	22,966	3,108	36	168	26,278
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	22,966	3,108	36	168	26,278
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2024	1,854	-	27	105	1,986
Charge for the year	293	-	9	15	317
At 31 December 2024	2,147	-	36	120	2,303
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 31 December 2024	20,819	3,108	0	48	23,975
At 31 December 2023	21,112	3,108	9	63	24,292

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

### 11 Tangible Fixed Assets - Charity

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Motor Vehicles £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2024	22,966	3,108	36	168	26,278
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	22,966	3,108	36	168	26,278
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2024	1,854	-	27	105	1,986
Charge for the year	293	-	9	15	317
At 31 December 2024	2,147	-	36	120	2,303
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 31 December 2024	20,819	3,108	0	48	23,975
At 31 December 2023	21,112	3,108	9	63	24,292

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

### 12 Fixed Asset Investments - Group

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	7,892	8,593
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	112	107
	<u>8,004</u>	<u>8,700</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2024	8,700	9,805
Additions	5	-
Disposals	(1,194)	(964)
Net investment gains/(losses)	493	(141)
Market value at 31 December 2024	<u>8,004</u>	<u>8,700</u>

### 13 Fixed Asset Investments - Charity

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	7,892	8,593
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	112	107
	<u>8,005</u>	<u>8,700</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2024	8,700	9,805
Additions	5	-
Disposals	(1,194)	(964)
Net investment gains/(losses)	493	(141)
Market value at 31 December 2024	<u>8,004</u>	<u>8,700</u>

### 14 Debtors - Group

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	7	6
Long term debtors	875	875
Other debtors	255	233
	<u>1,137</u>	<u>1,114</u>

### 15 Debtors - Charity

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	7	6
Long term debtors	875	875
Other debtors	255	233
	<u>1,137</u>	<u>1,114</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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### 16 Stock - Group

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Stock	4	9

### 17 Stock - Charity

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Stock	4	9

### 18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - Group

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdraft	388	630
Trade creditors	226	105
Other creditors	300	7
Other taxes and social security	18	26
Accruals	63	129
	<u>995</u>	<u>897</u>

### 19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - Charity

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdraft	388	630
Trade creditors	226	105
Other creditors	300	7
Other taxes and social security	18	26
Accruals	63	129
	<u>995</u>	<u>897</u>

### 20 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - Group

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans	500	250
	<u>500</u>	<u>250</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

### 21 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - Charity

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans	500	250
	<u>500</u>	<u>250</u>

### 22 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	(1,037)	(1,770)
Interest, rent and dividends from investments	(251)	(219)
Depreciation charges	317	168
(Gains)/ losses on investments	(493)	141
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(23)	414
(Increase) / decrease in stock	5	6
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	348	(251)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>(1,134)</u>	<u>(1,511)</u>

### 23 Analysis of changes in cash during the year

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank and in hand	803	613
	<u>803</u>	<u>613</u>

### 24 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Group

	<b>General</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	23,975	-	23,975
Investments	8,004	-	8,004
Current assets	1,198	746	1,944
Current liabilities	(995)	-	(995)
Non-current liabilities	(500)	-	(500)
At 31 December 2024	<u>31,682</u>	<u>746</u>	<u>32,428</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

### 25 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Group 2023

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,292	-	24,292
Investments	8,700	-	8,700
Current assets	1,051	685	1,736
Current liabilities	(897)	-	(897)
Non-current liabilities	(250)	-	(250)
At 31 December 2023	<u>32,896</u>	<u>685</u>	<u>33,581</u>

### 26 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Charity

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	23,975	-	23,975
Investments	8,004	-	8,004
Current assets	1,412	532	1,944
Current liabilities	(995)	-	(995)
Non-current liabilities	(500)	-	(500)
At 31 December 2024	<u>31,896</u>	<u>532</u>	<u>32,428</u>

### 27 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Charity 2023

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,292	-	24,292
Investments	8,700	-	8,700
Current assets	960	531	1,491
Current liabilities	(897)	-	(897)
Non-current liabilities	(250)	-	(250)
At 31 December 2023	<u>32,805</u>	<u>531</u>	<u>33,336</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

### 28 Movement in Funds - Group

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	685	61	-	-	746
Total restricted funds	685	61	-	-	746
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	32,896	2,382	(3,596)	-	31,682
Total unrestricted funds	32,896	2,382	(3,596)	-	31,682
Total funds	33,581	2,443	(3,596)	-	32,428

### 29 Movement in Funds - Charity

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	531	1	-	-	532
Total restricted funds	531	1	-	-	532
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	32,805	2,327	(3,236)	-	31,896
Total unrestricted funds	32,805	2,327	(3,236)	-	31,896
Total funds	33,336	2,328	(3,236)	-	32,428

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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### 30 WeWild Africa NPC

WeWild Africa NPC (previously named The Aspinall Foundation South Africa until February 2023 ) is a South African registered non-profit company (number 2021/481489/08), which was established during 2021. The sole member was the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation until 3 December 2024 when TAF resigned as a member. The accounting period for WeWild Africa NPC ends on 28 February 2025: for the purposes of the consolidated accounts, management accounts for the period ending 03 December 2024 have been prepared.

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000
Assets at 3 December 2024	117	245
Liabilities at 3 December 2024	-	-
Reserves at 3 December 2024	<u>117</u>	<u>245</u>
Gross income for the period ending 3 December 2024	417	508
Expenditure for the period ending 3 December 2024	<u>(545)</u>	<u>(407)</u>
Surplus for the period ending 3 December 2024	(128)	101

The loss on disposal has been charged to the Income & Expense account.

### 31 Related Party Transactions

TAF USA is a US charitable foundation established independently from TAF. JDA Aspinall is a trustee of both entities.

During the year, TAF made a loan to TAF USA of \$50,000 to fund initial set up costs. Interest of 10% per annum was charged, and the loan was repaid during February 2025.

A donation of £4,479 was made by TAF to TAF USA during 2024.

The independent trustees agreed that the Foundation would pay Memina Capital Limited, for the provision of office space. During the year, the Foundation was charged £70,046 (2023: £19,472) by Memina Capital Limited for the provision of office space. JDA Aspinall is the sole director and shareholder of Memina Capital Limited.

During the year, the Foundation received income of £54,041 (2023 - £59,589) from JDA Aspinall for the rent of Howletts Mansion and other recharges. The rent has been calculated by reference to the lease and two independent, professional rental valuations of Howletts Mansion.

TAF and The Howletts Wild Animal Trust (THWAT) are registered charities with the same charitable purposes and the trustees of each charity have agreed that it is in the best interests of each to work collaboratively to further each party's charitable purposes. During January 2024 TAF entered into a Service Collaboration Agreement with THWAT which outlined the administrative services to be provided by THWAT to TAF, and the basis on which those services are to be charged.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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### 31 Related Party Transactions (continued)

During the year the Foundation received invoices from THWAT and its subsidiary of £270,913 (2023: £257,178) being recharges of costs incurred on its behalf, and The Aspinall Foundation raised invoices amounting to £148 (2023: £2,594) to THWAT and its subsidiary. The Foundation also has a short term loan account with THWAT. At the year end The Aspinall Foundation owed £181,936 to THWAT and its subsidiary (2023: £54,655).

During the year the Foundation received donated services from THWAT (comprising the costs of administration, finance, HR, premises and IT support) amounting to £101,393 (2023: £94,299). The services provided have been included in the financial statements in income as Gifts in Kind, with the expenses included in the appropriate expense account.

During the year, the Foundation was charged by Zedra Private Office (UK) Limited (formerly Alvarium PO Limited) £83,776 (2023 - £97,753) at arm's length for accounting, administrative, advisory and project services. CPN Filmer, one of the trustees, was a director of Alti/Alvarium PO Limited until he resigned his directorship on 7 May 2024. As this is a charitable foundation, fees are charged at a substantially discounted rate and comprise a fixed element for day to day accounting and administrative work, and a time-based element for additional advisory and project-based work. All invoices are approved by the Chairman and by one of the independent trustees.

The Foundation leases land and buildings to THWAT and its subsidiary for an annual rent of £1 (2023: £1).

Updated leases have been signed during 2024 with THWAT in relation to the TAF properties and is in line with how both charities have operated for many years.

Payments to related parties are all authorised by the Foundation's governing documents.

In May 2020, JDA Aspinall, CPN Filmer, B Goldsmith and RM Birley, in their capacity of Trustees of the Foundation, entered into a Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan 'CBIL' of £2,000,000. No interest or capital repayments were due during the Business Interruption Payment ('BIP') period (12 months from the date of the first drawdown). Thereafter, interest is charged at 2.09% above base rate, and 16 quarterly capital payments of £125,000 are due. The loan is guaranteed by Howletts & Port Lympne Estates Ltd ('HPLE') and The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT').

The CBIL was subsequently loaned from the Foundation to THWAT on the same terms as those of the original loan. JDA Aspinall is Chairman and trustee of THWAT and T Aspinall is a trustee of THWAT. The loan is authorised by the Foundation's governing documents. At the year end the balance due was £875,000. Interest payments of £63,322 (2023: £70,231) were made by THWAT to the Foundation.

During 2018, JDA Aspinall, CPN Filmer and RM Birley, in their capacity as Trustees of the Foundation entered into a Limited Guarantee and Indemnity agreement with Barclays Bank PLC for the liabilities of THWAT (amount £5,000,000).

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 326567

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# Accounts

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Charity No. 326567

**Annual report and financial statements**

**For the year ended**

**31 December 2023**

# **The Aspinall Foundation**

**Report and financial statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

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# The Aspinall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

### For the year ended 31 December 2023

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Trustees: Damian Aspinall (Chair)  
Robin Birley (resigned 1 May 2023)  
Charles Filmer  
Ben Goldsmith (resigned 1 May 2023)  
Tansy Aspinall  
Maarten Petermann

Charity number: 326567

Registered office: Port Lympne Reserve  
Lympne  
Nr. Ashford  
Kent  
CT 21 4PD

Auditors: Goldwins Limited  
75 Maygrove Road  
West Hampstead  
London  
NW6 2EG

Bankers Barclays Bank plc  
93 Baker Street  
London  
W1A 4SD

Solicitors Girlings Solicitors LLP  
Stourside Place  
Station Road  
Ashford  
Kent  
TN23 1PP

Investment advisors Slater Investment Limited  
Nicholas House  
3 Laurence Pountney Hill  
London  
EC4R 0EU

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### *Committed to Conservation*

The Aspinall Foundation ("Foundation" or "TAF") was established as a charitable trust by a Trust Deed on 30 March 1984 and registered as a charity under number 326567 on 27 April 1984. The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

## **Introduction**

Following the creation of Howletts and Port Lympne zoological parks in 1959 and 1975 respectively, The Aspinall Foundation was founded in 1984 as a UK registered charity (under the name of The Howletts and Port Lympne Foundation, and eventually The Aspinall Foundation), the vision of which has always been to contribute to global species conservation through integrating ex situ and in situ activities.

Our global wildlife conservation work, again spanning over thirty years, covers diverse issues including tackling the illegal wildlife trade, the "re-wilding" and eventual release of wild-born animals confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade and of captive-born animals, the reintroduction of species to sites where they have become locally extirpated, the reinforcement of small isolated populations of threatened species, the co-management of protected areas with national governments, the scientific evaluation of wild, reintroduced and captive wildlife populations, and the recovery of threatened species through community-based conservation.

# The Aspinnall Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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## Overseas Conservation Projects



THE  
ASPINALL  
FOUNDATION

MADAGASCAR  
LEMUR  
PROJECT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567



THE  
ASPINALL  
FOUNDATION

GABON  
GORILLA  
PROJECT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567



THE  
ASPINALL  
FOUNDATION

CONGO  
GORILLA  
PROJECT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567



THE  
ASPINALL  
FOUNDATION

JAVA  
PRIMATE  
PROJECT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567



THE  
ASPINALL  
FOUNDATION

SUMATRA  
PRIMATE  
PROJECT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567



THE  
ASPINALL  
FOUNDATION

SOUTHERN  
AFRICAN  
PROJECTS

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.326567

# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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## Congo

### Gorillas:

There appear to be several small groups in the reintroduction site now, following the apparent dispersal of numerous individuals from Makoua's group which had previously grown to over 30 gorillas. Most of the older female gorillas appear to have left Makoua during 2023. The oldest female in the Reserve, Djembo, released in 1996, has been recorded on camera traps with a silverback thought to be Djeke plus another female. The second-oldest female, Lengui, has also been recorded on camera traps with a silverback resembling Djeke. The females Koto, Massabi and Tchivou have been recorded on camera traps in a small group with a young silverback, Massabi's large infant, a new-born infant born to Koto in September, and one other gorilla. Another new-born infant was observed in a camera trap earlier in the year, with a female thought to be Likendze. One young male from the group has dispersed alone and was reported from the extreme south of the Reserve late in the year.

Fubu showed very good progress in the consumption of wild fruits and grasses and regularly exploring and finding food by himself. Having been moved to a soft release site on 30 November 2022, he was released on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2023. At the end of July he was found quite far south in the Reserve having clearly lost a lot of weight and with injuries presumably sustained during an interaction with one of the released gorilla groups. A mission organised with the Jane Goodall Institute in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of August to attempt to tranquilise and transport him back to the soft release site failed because he was very nervous and ran away, although the site that he found himself in was far from other groups of gorillas and he stayed put. He was then fed by the team twice a day for him to regain his health and had his injuries treated with antibiotics. He progressed slowly but well. At the beginning of December, he showed some new but very minor injuries, perhaps from another interaction with other gorillas. Camera trap footage from December showed him occasionally walking around with an unidentified male gorilla about 15 years of age – it seems that the relationship was friendly and there was hope that he would form a small group with the other gorilla. By the end of 2023 Fubu was showing improved confidence and the plan for 2024 will be to observe his progress and weight, and slowly reduce his feeding in a bid to encourage him to start foraging by himself again.



# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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At the start of the year, the two young gorillas (Boumassa and Loukolela) on Abio 1 island were firm friends. They sometimes retreated into the forest for several days, foraging for their own food without being sighted by the team. Sadly, in March Loukolela suddenly disappeared and his remains were discovered not long after, he had been caught and eaten by a crocodile by the banks of the river. The only upside of Loukolela's disappearance was that it



sparked a change in the relationship between Bomassa and Joshi as they started to be fed together at the same spot, something that was not possible before as Joshi would chase the younger away. Bomassa's limitless appetite and knowledge of wild food seems to have rubbed off on Joshi who started to copy Bomassa's eating habits, eating much more wild food. Bomassa occasionally tests Joshi but most of the time keeps his distance. Their relationship has never been overly friendly although there is now a peaceful coexistence.



Kebu started 2023 quite stressed after the sedation and transfer of Fubu to the release area, but he became more relaxed as the year wore on (perhaps Fubu's transfer off the island increased his confidence). Towards the end of 2023, his diet was changed to 100% wild food and, while he took to the grasses and leaves quickly, he didn't like the wild fruit much. We are trying to encourage him to eat more wild food and maintain a healthy weight at the same time

The silverbacks Kelle (27.5) and Yambo (36.5) remain in the big cage at Iboubikro, where they have been since June 2021.

### **Administrative efforts/ achievements for the year:**

After the retirement of Auguste Ngollo, long term monitoring assistant at the reserve, we were fortunate to be able to recruit Elie Djoli Camara. Ellie was previously an intern with the Congolese Protected Area Management Agency (ACFAP) and has already proven to be a great help with our continued monitoring programme.



# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### Project visits from notable individuals:

In July, we had a visit from the Minister of Tourism and a potential Kenyan investor in tourism, as part of a Kenyan presidential delegation.

In September, a delegation of attendees to the Three Basins Summit in Brazzaville visited the reserve – these included the directors of Corsair airline, several different media groups in France, and former international footballer Lassana Diarra. They visited the Abio gorillas and Iboubikro site before returning to Brazzaville. DG ACFAP was also present at the reserve during this visit.



In October, Cristian Samper of Jeff Bezos' Earth Fund and former UK DEFRA minister, Zac Goldsmith, visited the reserve to discuss a funding proposal submitted by TAF to the Earth Fund. They were shown all three rehabilitating gorillas as well as Fubu who had already been released by this point. Unfortunately, as this visit was carried out on fairly short notice, a concerted effort by the ecoguards to track a group of wild gorillas was not successful.

Throughout the year, private visits were carried out by the ambassadors to Congo of the European Union (on several occasions), Italy, USA, Germany (on two occasions) and Belgium, as well as the Belgian ambassador to the DRC. There seems to be a real word of mouth pattern amongst the embassies in Brazzaville and Kinshasa and many others have signalled an interest in visiting.

### Infrastructure works:

Three main infrastructural improvements were carried out during 2023:

The hill after the Mont Blanc control post leading to Lac Bleu and Iboubikro was in a bad state, causing problems for both visitors and the project cars. A project was carried out to lay concrete on the road to facilitate access. Repairs at Abio 2 consisted of equipping the TAF bungalow terraces with mosquito nets to allow sitting outside in the evening for both visitors and TAF staff; the mosquito net around the kitchen/living room hut was replaced and covered in anti-rust paint; the kitchen/living room hut for the workers also had its mosquito net wall replaced and was equipped with new furniture. After losing some electrical equipment due to lightning strikes on the buildings at Abio 2 camp, a lightning rod was installed to protect the solar power system.

# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### Releases:

Three dwarf crocodiles confiscated by the DDEF (departmental administration for forest economy in Brazzaville) from fishermen at Yoro port in Brazzaville were given to the reserve. In collaboration with PALF (media coverage) and ACFAP these three crocodiles were released into the Louna River in January 2023.

Fubu, a gorilla who arrived from Port Lympne in 2017, was released on June 29<sup>th</sup>, as described above.



### Team activities including missions and maintenance:

Monitoring missions are held regularly to count species seen and, in particular retrieve SD cards from the network on camera traps around the reserve. At the end of 2023, 23 cameras were placed around the reserve and the following species were recorded;

Species	No. Of videos
Hippopotamus	164
Red river hog	147
Sitatunga	120
Vervet monkey	89
Western lowland gorilla	57
Yellow-backed duiker	37
Forest buffalo	25
African civet	24
Black-fronted duiker	24
Black-backed duiker	18
Black-footed mongoose	18
Northern bushbuck	15
Servaline genet	15
Marsh mongoose	10
De Brazza monkey	6
Guineafowl	6
Unidentified bird	4
Greater cane rat	3
Side-striped jackal	3
Monitor lizard	2
Bat	1
Common duiker	1
Moustached guenon	1
Serval	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>791</b>

Fig 1 – Videos containing species at the reserve in 2023 (total amount of videos, not individuals)

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

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Maintenance work is carried out on a regular basis at the camps on everyday installations - generators, water pumps, solar power installations etc. A river cleaning (to remove fallen trees which gorillas could cross to escape the reserve) was carried out in November 2023 and will be carried out twice a year.

#### **Grant funding applications:**

Two funding opportunities were applied for in 2023:

An IUCN RISE grant was applied for in June 2023, linking the mitigation of gender-based violence with environmental protection. Two local partners were selected for this programme: Lisatour is a local socio-cultural NGO whose objectives are to help people discover the natural and cultural riches of the Republic of Congo, to develop community tourism, and to contribute to poverty reduction and peace through tourism. The work with the communities in the project area on a permanent basis in agro-pastoral and community-based tourism. The Association des Femmes Juristes du Congo is an NGO of women lawyers with a lot of experience in various topics. It works to draft laws governing the conditions of women and children. It denounces and fights against any form of discrimination regarding human rights in general; gathers and disseminates all information on the legal, social, economic and cultural status of women and children; and establishes relations and exchanges of ideas between women lawyers and legal circles.

Funding was also applied for from REDAA under the title "Researching and Developing Sustainable Use of Ecosystem Services in Rural Communities Surrounding a Protected Area whilst Increasing Biodiversity Protection", again in partnership with Lisatour. The idea was to work with local communities surrounding the reserve to identify the barriers to self-supporting change through the comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of a series of targeted activities to improve livelihoods, access to essential services, and awareness-raising. The results of this project would aim to improve living conditions and standards in communities surrounding the reserve, make the inhabitants more aware of the importance of conservation in the process and lead to a partnership with villages surrounding the reserve to cut down on poaching and other forms of encroachment.

Both applications were ultimately unsuccessful although they did allow us to forge links with the two potential partners who would both be interested in collaborating on future projects.

Unofficial discussions were had with World Bank representatives in Congo on the possibility of obtaining funding for the reserve and its surrounding areas under a programme due to launch in 2024.

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### Gabon

#### Gorillas:

The behaviour of Djongo's group has improved markedly this year, especially Mayombe's nervousness. She has become more secure in her environment over the last 12 months and is displaying reduced signs of stress in comparison to previous years. The team have noted that Mayombe has even begun interacting with the team and is not afraid when unfamiliar visitors are in the boat during feeding. Taali is growing well and is very playful, she has begun to show more independence in the later part of 2023, often climbing trees, whilst Mayombe watches from the ground. Djongo is usually calm, but is very invested in protecting his family from the presence of passing silverbacks on the other side of the river or elephants.



The 41-year-old solitary silverback Djala continues to be observed daily and provided with supplementary feeding. He disappeared briefly from the 23rd February, until found on the 3rd March very tired and emaciated with numerous wounds on his face and body which appeared to be infected. His movements were slow, and he didn't move properly (he moved on his elbows or wrists at times). This was likely, an altercation with Boumango's group. Djala was given medication and supplementary food for several months and he made a slow but full recovery. He has since been observed and fed daily opposite the Mbie camp and is back to his original form.

Boumango's group have been seen monthly either by camera trap or directly along the river. A newborn was spotted on camera trap footage at the end of December, the infant remains unsexed but is doing well. Bringing the total number of individuals in the group to 18. Boumango was seen several times in front of the pre-release island, where he exchanged charges, vocalizations and chest beats with Djongo, whilst the females on both sides were a little stressed but remained calm.

Tonga's group is regularly seen on camera trap along the Lewou river, collected on a monthly – bimonthly basis. According to the videos all individuals seen are in good physical condition, we estimate the number of individuals to be 13+. Two young males from the Tonga group were observed in November moving quickly and alone. It is assumed that these young adults have recently left the group and are looking to leave the Tonga group area.

The silverback Ima has only been observed twice during 2023, once directly and once on a camera trap. The two females who transferred to him during 2022, Okéli and Amvemande, have not been observed but are thought to remain with him.

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### Administrative efforts/ achievements for the year:

Camera trap collections and analysis have continued throughout the year of 2023, with over 35 species of animals observed either via camera trap footage or directly by the team. Key focus has been on a project surrounding forest elephants within the Bateke Plateaux, funded by The International Elephant Foundation from 2023, the project consists of camera trap placement and subsequent data collections to establish population, family groups, lone bulls, territories, etc. So far a total of 16 camera trap have been placed at 4 strategical sites. Throughout the remainder of the grant and into 2024, DNA sampling kits will be purchased for further genetic analysis to be completed, by a local student who is trained to identify and analyse the data provided monthly by the camera traps.



### Infrastructure works:

#### Work on the roads

The team worked on the road between the two camps. A river changed its course upward that led to a part of the road became flooded and swampy.

#### Tent platform

The tents platforms needed some maintenance on the support poles and some planks were changed as well. The whole structure was treated against termites as well.

#### Roof renovation base camp's house

Some sheet metal was changed on the roof of one of the facilities.

#### Dock Ntsa house cleaning

The wooden house was treated against termites and the surrounding areas were cleared.

#### Mirador maintenance

The wood was treated against termites and the surrounding areas were cleared.



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### **Team activities including missions and maintenance:**

Feeding gorillas daily

Camera trap missions

IEF missions (Kessala and Nkoly monthly)

Road maintenance

Rivers maintenance

Help for ANPN rangers' anti-poaching missions

Camp maintenance

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## Indonesia – Java & Sumatra

### 2023 – Primate Rehabilitation Centres:

To manage the victims of the illegal pet trade, The Aspinall Foundation Indonesia built and manages rehabilitation centres to receive confiscated and voluntarily surrendered primates. TAF follows the IUCN, and government standards and guidelines for the primate rehabilitation and reintroduction prior to reintroduction back into the wild. Below are details of the general facilities of the rehabilitation centres and its update for 2023:

#### West Java (Javan Primate Rehabilitation Centre):

This is the first rehabilitation centre built by TAF in 2011 and has 6 units: 12 cages of quarantine cages, 8 electric-shock habituation enclosures, and 12 net habituation enclosures. There is a supporting facility, which has: 1 unit field office, 1 unit animal clinic, 1 indoor household primates, keeper's hut, kitchen, and warehouse. Within the 12 ha of pine forest land, belonging to the MoEF (Ministry of Environment and Forestry), most of the annual maintenance takes place including net replacement, renewal of cage furniture (mostly made of bamboo), repainting of metal materials, repairing of buildings, and area cleaning. In 2023, several equipment were purchased: 1 new chiller, and other routine small equipment to support animal enclosures and husbandry, such as ropes, cleaning materials, food plates, etc. JPRC manages 3 species of Javan protected primates which are Javan gibbons, Javan langurs and grizzled langurs with a maximum capacity of 50 to 60 primates.

#### East Java (Javan Langur Rehabilitation Centre):

Javan langur rehabilitation centre (JLRC) is the second rehabilitation centre built in 2012 and has 3 units: 6 quarantine cages, and 7 Net habituation enclosures. The supporting facility consists of 1 field office with an animal clinic room in the same building, kitchen and warehouse. Located in 4 ha of open secondary forest land, belonging to the MoEF, the routine annual maintenance is similar to the JPRC. Total capacity is 20 to 30 langurs.

#### South Sumatra (Siamang Rehabilitation Centre):

SRC is the third centre built by TAF in 2022 just after COVID-19 pandemic. The construction process was completed in February 2023 and the centre has 5 units: 10 quarantine cages, 8 wire mesh habituation enclosures, a field office, an animal clinic room, and animal food store and preparation area. We had additional funding support from Dierenpark Amersfoort, Netherlands, in 2023 to build an information and education hut. The capacity of the SRC is 26 to 36 siamangs.



*Siamang Rehabilitation Center, Puntikayu, South Sumatra 2023*

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### 2023 – Rescue, Rehabilitation and Reintroduction

Total number of primates received from confiscation and voluntary surrender in 2023 was 48 primates. Among them 12 Javan gibbons, 2 grizzled langurs, 23 Javan langurs and 11 siamangs. There were also more young Javan gibbon orphans rescued this year and will take longer to rehabilitate.

#### Annual rescued (law enforcement & voluntary surrender in all centers)

	Gibbon	Grizzled langur	West Ebony langur	East Ebony langur	Siamang	Total
2011	6	0	4	18	0	28
2012	7	1	0	1	0	9
2013	2	1	3	3	0	9
2014	1	4	1	13	0	19
2015	4	0	4	14	0	22
2016	9	0	10	16	0	35
2017	8	3	2	13	0	26
2018	6	2	8	18	0	34
2019	5	2	8	21	2	38
2020	7	4	2	16	0	29
2021	5	0	4	26	0	35
2022	7	1	5	20	0	33
2023	12	2	4	19	11	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>365</b>

#### Annual released in all project sites

	Gibbons	Grizzled langurs	West Ebony langurs	East Ebony langurs	Siamang	Total
2012	0	0	0	13	0	13
2013	0	0	0	0	0	0
2014	4	0	0	10	0	14
2015	4	5	0	14	0	23
2016	2	5	4	15	0	26
2017	12	2	4	18	0	36
2018	10	0	4	8	0	22
2019	7	1	1	15	0	24
2020	2	1	2	16	0	21
2021	7	0	3	19	0	29
2022	7	2	0	16	0	25
2023	3	0	9	23	2	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>269</b>

### 2023 – Reintroduction:

Post COVID-19 pandemic, the reintroduction program continued carried out by the team in West, East and South Sumatra. TAF Indonesia successfully released a total of 37 primates. This brought the total number of released primates to 269 between 2012 – 2023. Javan langurs still rank highest in terms of total number of

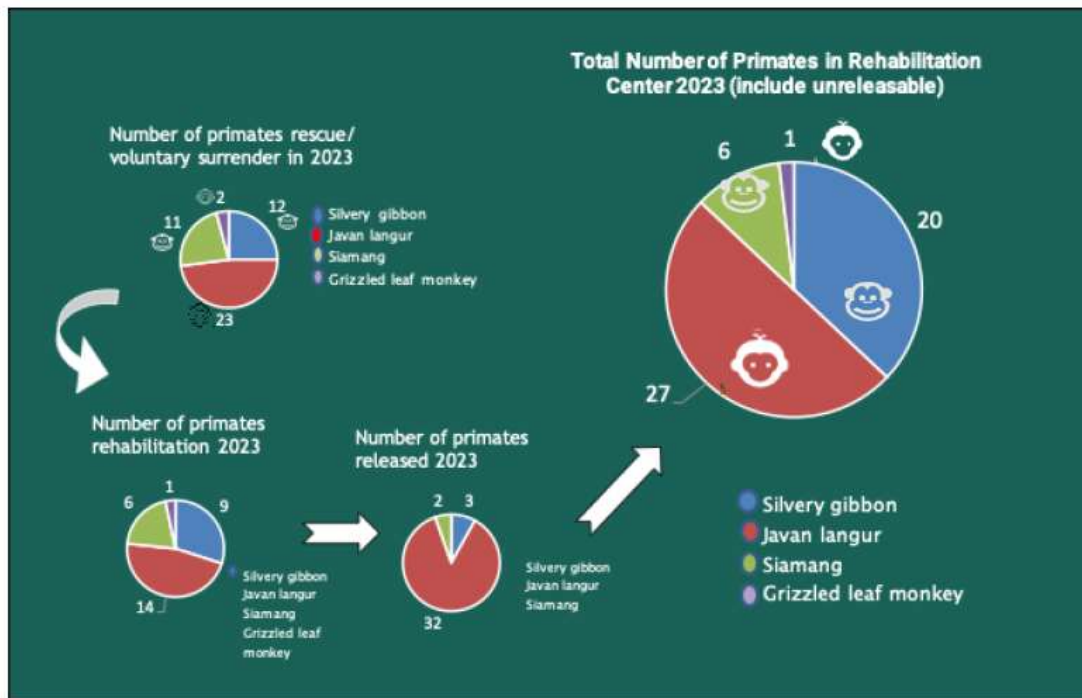
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individuals released. Only 3 Javan gibbons have been released this year because most of the rescued gibbons were at a very young age. This year the first siamang PAIR (Jon and Cimung), were released in Isau-isau protected forest, South Sumatra, and continue to be monitored by a joint monitoring team of TAF Indonesia and BKSDA (The Natural Resources Conservation Centre, Ministry of Forestry) South Sumatra.

Below is a summary and chart of primate's rescue, rehabilitation and reintroduction in 2023 with the total reintroduction of 37 primates (3 Javan gibbons, 9 Western Javan langurs, 23 Eastern Javan langurs and 2 Siamang).



Siamang (Jon and Cimung) a few days prior to rewilding at Isau-isau protected forest, south sumatra

### 2023 Post release monitoring:

Monitoring and observation of all released primates in the site release is so challenging and is not easy especially given our limited resources (personal and equipment) needed to follow and locate all the released

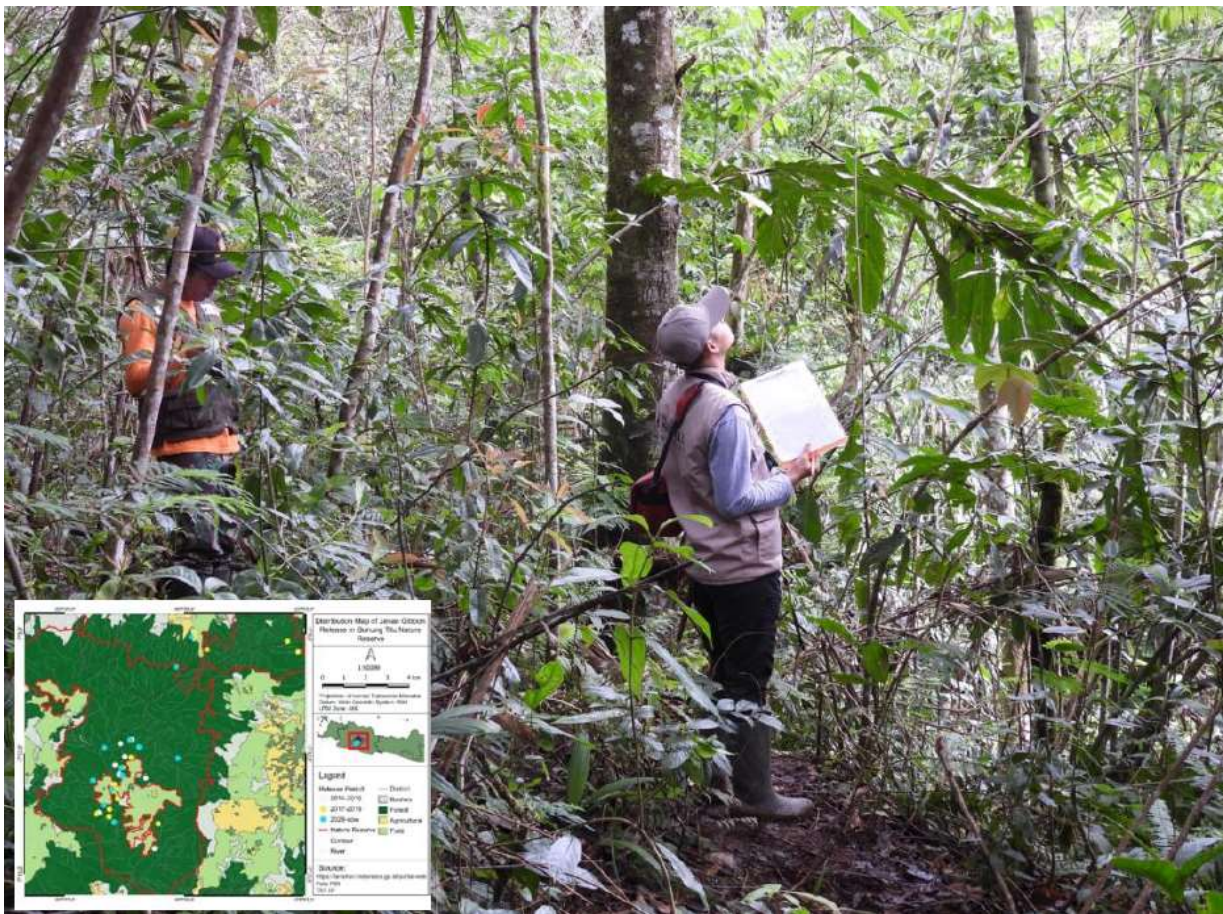
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primates. However, our team has confirmed that some of the released primates have successfully bred and given birth in the wild. A newborn Javan gibbon was observed in January born to one of the reintroduced gibbons (Cheri). In total, we have observed 4 gibbon infants, 4-6 grizzled langur infants, and more than 50 langur infants (54 Eastern Javan langurs and 2-3 Western Javan langurs). In West Java, we have a team of 6 monitors at release sites (covering 2 different sites and several forest blocks), 3-4 in East Java and 3 in South Sumatra. The team also has additional incidental volunteers from university students who joined the project for internship program and BKSDA rangers.

Not all rehabilitated primates survive during the process of rehabilitation and released. They have different health problems, diseases infection and stress. The TAF-IP medical team work hard to treat sick individuals, however, some of them do not survive. This year we loss total 13 individuals with 5 of them being siamang. Some of the siamang were received in a highly traumatised condition and were too young to survive this.



### 2023 – Medical and care:

Medical check-ups (MCU) are carried out for all new arrivals and primates who have health problems during their rehabilitation. Final MCU's are conducted prior to releasing the primates. In 2023, there was some discussion about virus infections in gibbons, how to best test future individuals, and strategy related rescue and management of the infected gibbons. To find out which variant of herpes virus infects these species of gibbons, a research plan has been discussed between TAF medical team, researchers from US and Europe, and Primate Research Study at Bogor Agriculture Institute (PSSP - IPB, Bogor). Previous successful studies on Hepatitis B viruses initiated by TAF, researchers from UK and Indonesia, have been used to inform reintroduction decisions and we hope this herpes study will also break through the gap of our knowledge about this virus in the wild.

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The other challenge this year is siamang husbandry management. We have recently opened the siamang rehabilitation program in Sumatra and we have had two cases of siamang losing condition. Our senior vet suspected a bacterial infection that may have come from the soil or water.



### 2023 – Research, Awareness and Education

#### Research:

In Java, for JPRC and JLRC, we have ongoing student research projects on primate behaviour and husbandry. For SRC in South Sumatra, a collaborative research program is being discussed with two universities in Lampung and South Sumatra province (Universitas Lampung (UNILA) and Universitas Sriwijaya (UNSRI)). The agreement between TAF Indonesia and UNILA was signed this year, and we plan to involve students and lecturers from the biology department there to help with post release monitoring and the collection of scientific data.

#### Awareness and Education programs:

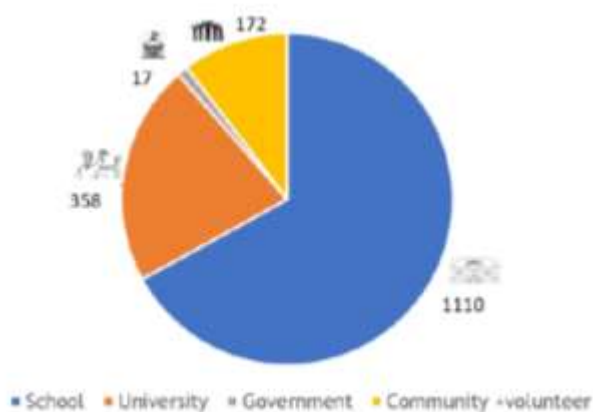
These programs are now running normally after being suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, with our team continuing school programs and awareness events.

Between October 23rd and 24th 2023, in-line with the celebration of the International Gibbon Day 2023, a two-day event was held in Bandung involving a seminar, educational talks and discussions about primate reintroduction. The event was attended by around 200 students, people from local communities, government officials and colleagues in the conservation field.

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Research Program Agreement between TAF and University of Lampung, Sumatra for Siamang Project



International Gibbon Day 2023

### 2023 – Community Engagement:

To help foster positive participation of the local communities around the release site surrounding Mt. Tilu NR, we started community ranger projects in West Java. This is the first project of this kind that we have initiated for the TAF Indonesia project and we received funding from OPCF (Ocean Park Conservation Fund) Hong Kong for 2023-2024.

The project started in August 2023, and the program continues to run monthly, with the progress of the project detailed below:

- Three training programs (theory and practical) have been completed on topics such as: SMART patrols, biodiversity and ecosystem introduction, methodology and technique for data collection in the field (wild animals, plants, and others), agroforestry, and the value of plant and bird diversity in Mt Tilu NR.
- Eight joint patrols have been undertaken with the Community Rangers
- The Community Rangers participated in data collection, utilising the knowledge gained from training and using the SMART patrol application.
- Evacuation and landslide countermeasures were practiced as part of disaster management
- Wildlife was monitored/observed and mist-net countermeasures for bird hunting implemented

Given the progress made at this stage of the project, we are confident that the remaining activities will be equally productive and continue in 2024.

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Smart Patrol training for Mt. Tilu community rangers, part of the community rangers project by TAF Indonesia supported by Ocean Park Conservation Fund, Hongkong.

### 2023 – Project official visitors:

1. IUCN SOS Asia Pacific Project Manager, Alexander Mc William, with his secretary visited the West Java project on 20 – 21st February 2023 to see and evaluate of the grant they donated for Javan gibbon reintroduction project 2021-2022.
2. TAF UK team - Amos Courage, Tony King and Daniel Hulme visited in March 2023. They visited the West Java centre and release site in Mt Tilu NR, followed by a visit to the Sumatran Siamang centre in South Sumatra and Padang Sugihan wildlife refuge. They also had a meeting with Hashim Djojohadikusumo (Chairman of Arsari Foundation), and Jansen Manansang (Director of Taman Safari Indonesia).
3. In May 2023, we had Holly Thompson, International Studbook Keeper of Javan Gibbons, from Perth Zoo visit the West Java centre to view our Javan gibbon facility and husbandry.
4. May 2023, Matt Ford, Animal Director of Howletts Wild Animal Park visited the West Java centre and the Mt Tilu release site.
5. August 2023, Project Manager of TAF Madagascar, Maholy Ravaloharimanitra visited the West Java centre.
6. Several officials visited for evaluation and a meeting conducted by BKSDA West Java, Central Java and DKI Jakarta province.
7. November 2023, there was an official visit from Deputy Minister, DR. Aloe Dohong, and a team from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to see our new Siamang Centre in South Sumatra.

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IUCN SOS Asia Pacific  
Project Manager Visit  
February 2023



Deputy Minister, Ministry of  
Environment and Forestry,  
Indonesia visit Siamang centre in  
Sumatra, Nov 2023

TAF UK team visited West  
java and Siamang Sumatra  
projects, March 2023



### 2023 – Administrative and Donors:

The administrative achievements and tasks completed for 2023:

1. Progress reports written and distributed (weekly, monthly, quarterly and semester reports) to TAF UK, BKSDA West Java, East Java, South Sumatra and Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF).
2. Series of meetings, drafting and finalisation of project evaluations and planning documents (including budgeting) for 2024 project by BKSDA West Java, East Java, South Sumatra.
3. Extend MoU with Primate Research Study (PSSP), IPB University, Bogor.
4. A new MoU signed for the research program between TAF Indonesia and University Lampung, Sumatra.
5. A new MoU between TAF Indonesia and Parahita Lab for animal testing agreement for Siamang Sumatra project.
6. Final report of IUCN SOS grant for Javan Gibbon Reintroduction project, West Java.

### Donors:

TAF Indonesia with the TAF UK fundraiser team continue to apply for grants for our additional project activities such as for education, awareness and capacity building. This year, we were successful in receiving support from the two donors below:

1. Dierenpark Amersfoort, Netherland for Sumatran Siamang Information project 2023 (completed 2023) .
2. Ocean Park Conservation Fund for Mt. Tilu Community Rangers Project 2023-2024 (on-going program).



DierenPark  
Amersfoort



OPCF  
Ocean Park Conservation Fund

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## Madagascar

### Social outreach and Education

#### CAZ:

We have used the celebration of the World Lemur Day as an opportunity to present the new project funded by CEPF to the community of Ranomainty. 177 school kids from the primary school of Ranomainty attended the organised activities with 24 for football players, coordinated by 6 teachers, 37 VOI members and 26 non-members.



Sharing notebooks during the celebration of the World Lemur Festival in Ranomainty



Football tournament as an incentive to get non-schooled teenager engaged in conservation

#### ADTL:

For Andriantantely, the day was dedicated to habitat/forest recovery. 62 people from the VOI were collecting wildlings and seeds in forest, potted them, shading and wetting 1,496 wildlings and 30 seeds from 40 different native species.



Awareness Raising – Andriantantely  
© Hery Nirina Randriahaingo



Potting seeds and wildlings  
© Hery Nirina Randriahaingo

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### Conservation action:

#### Rangers:

Four rangers from Komadio and two from Marofotra received training on fish population and fishing monitoring, as well as on laws and regulations related to fishing and freshwater. They also received training on fining processes and the transfer of management, along with laws and regulations related to forests and hunting.

Thanks to CEPF support, ten rangers from CAZ were equipped with new GPS devices, cameras, and binoculars. They were also updated on monitoring methods and practices. Rangers from Andriantantely were able to continue their monitoring and patrol work, although the number of days worked was reduced due to the lack of available funds.

#### Teachers:

In collaboration with the NGO Fanambinantsoa, and financed by CEPF, the first session of teacher training on environmental education and market gardening took place in December 2023 in Sakalava. Twenty-nine teachers from eight schools were trained during this session.

#### VOI:

Our team have ensured regular follow-up of the VOI's management tools (keeping track of the number of members and their contributions, keeping track of the activities conducted and their results)



Training of the rangers within MAB in collaboration with DRPEB 2023.11  
© Mamitiana Henriette Raharimalala



Teachers' training in Sakalava  
2023.12.23  
© ONG Fanambinantsoa

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Theoretical training on Agricultural technics in Raboana - 2023.11.26



Training on Rere monitoring and survey, organised by DWCT in Ankarafantsika - 2023.12.12

### Protection and Monitoring

#### Rangers:

There are 10 rangers patrolling and monitoring 4 days per week within the transfer of management in the CAZ area. Within Andriantantely and its surrounding area, 25 rangers are patrolling and monitoring within 3 days per week. Occasional patrolling and monitoring are conducted by the 10 rangers within the MAB area.



Rangers at work, Ranomainty

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### Camera trapping:

5 cameras in Andriantantely. 10 additional camera traps within CAZ, thanks to the support from CEPF



One of the rangers installing the camera trap in Ranomainty



Haingo, checking the camera traps in Andriantantely

### Results and actions:

In July, 3 hectares of forest were reported to be lost in Ranomainty due to illegal cutting. We supported the VOI in denouncing this infraction to the DREDD, but no follow-up was seen. The reason given by the DREDD is that the management transfer of the VOI had expired. In Andriantantely, 5 hectares of forest has been lost because of Tavy, whilst young trees transplanted by the VOI have been sabotaged and pulled up 5 times in Lanonana. In addition, 12 illegal 'settlings' were found, as were 5 illegal charcoal businesses, with 37 precious woods cut down, and 9 hunting trap found and dismantled. Awareness raising sessions (5 in total) have been organised and conducted in collaboration with local and regional authorities within the Andriantantely project area.

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### Observed threats and pressures to the species and their habitats:



Sakalava 2023.10



Andriantantely 2023



Anosikary 2023.08



Komadio 2023.10

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### Law enforcement and biodiversity:



Law enforcement in MAB 2023



Law enforcement in Andriantantely 2023.08



Picture from Andriantantely's camera trap



It is worth mentioning that the Bushnell is still the one that gives best quality photo/video



Flying fox in Ankadimalao - Anosikary



Crowned sifaka in Ankadimalao

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Western Sportive Lemur - Kamakama



Orchids - Kamakama

**Observed biodiversity:**



Indri in Andriantantely



Greater Bamboo Lemur in Andriantantely



Humblot's heron - Marofototra



Ankoay - Marofototra

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Varecia variegata - CAZ



Diademed sifaka - CAZ



### Forest / habitat recovery:

16,000 young trees were taken care in the tree nurseries of the CAZ project before they will be used for the reforestation project of the following year.



Vohiposa 2023.07.20



Dimbiazanjafy 2023.03.14

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Ala Maitso 2023.09



Sakalava 2023.10

### Reforestation:

In Andriantantely, 14.5 hectares of degraded forest have been restored and 7 hectares maintained (Invasive Alien Species removed). Regular follow-ups are used to ensure that all dead plants are replaced. We have a survival rate of 78.4%.



Reforestation with school kids, organised in collaboration with the VOI in Ranomainty



Reforestation in Andranomihotra 2023.03

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### Community supports and incentives:

In Ranomainty and Andriantantely, we have donated shirts to three teams to the football tournament winner as an incentive for the non-schooled teenagers of the village.

### General notes:

We are working with different groups of people in different communities to reach as much people as possible to raise awareness and educate. Currently, we are working with 18 community associations. Due to a lack of funds, we have suspended our intervention in Kamotro, Ambatomasina and Ankirihitra (supposedly taken over by Impact Madagascar), as well as within the Nosivolo project area.

Region	Sites	VOI	H.Q.	Members		
				T	M	F
Alaotra Mangoro	CAZ	Ala Maitso	Ranomainty	47	44	03
		Imaitsoanala	Sahanomana	37	19	18
		Mamy & Faniri	Raboana	55	50	05
		Mamelontsoa	Sakalava	51	33	18
Atsinanana	ADTL	Ainga Vao	Mangabe	31		
		Dimbiazanjafy	Lanonana	72		
		S. Sahanio	Ambodimanga	68		
		ATLM	Andranomihotra	40		
		Tambatra	Andonabe	50		
		S. Sahamanantsy	Andonabe	60		
		Tsirinala	Sandraka	N.D.		
		Sahavola	Ambodimolaina	-	-	-
		Mahatamana	Anivorano Est	-	-	-
		Manakana	Andonabe	-	-	-
Boeny	MAB	Lovasoa	Anosikary	30		
Betsiboka	MAB	Mitsinjo	Marofototra	34	26	8
		Tsimialonjafy	Komadio	49	48	1

### Lemur data

	CAZ	ADTL	MAB
<i>Prolemur simus</i>	65	679	
<i>Varecia variegata</i>	96	485	
<i>Indri indri</i>	158	1,343	
<i>Propithecus diadema</i>	61	124	
<i>Propithecus coronatus</i>			175
<i>Eulemur mongoz</i>			31
<i>Eulemur rufus</i>			19
<i>Eulemur rubriventer</i>	32	10	
<i>Eulemur fulvus</i>	150	528	
<i>Hapalemur griseus</i>	188	422	

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## South Africa

The Aspinall Foundation in South Africa has continued to implement groundbreaking activities in the region. Much focus has been placed on ensuring that we have been adequately addressing our mandate of responding to wildlife emergencies, rewilding captive animals, and restoring landscapes in the region. To date, we have rescued, translocated, or rewilded over 900 animals, from pangolins to elephants, whilst driving our agenda of securing large tracts of land for the conservation of endangered species.

### Emergency rescues and specialised wildlife interventions

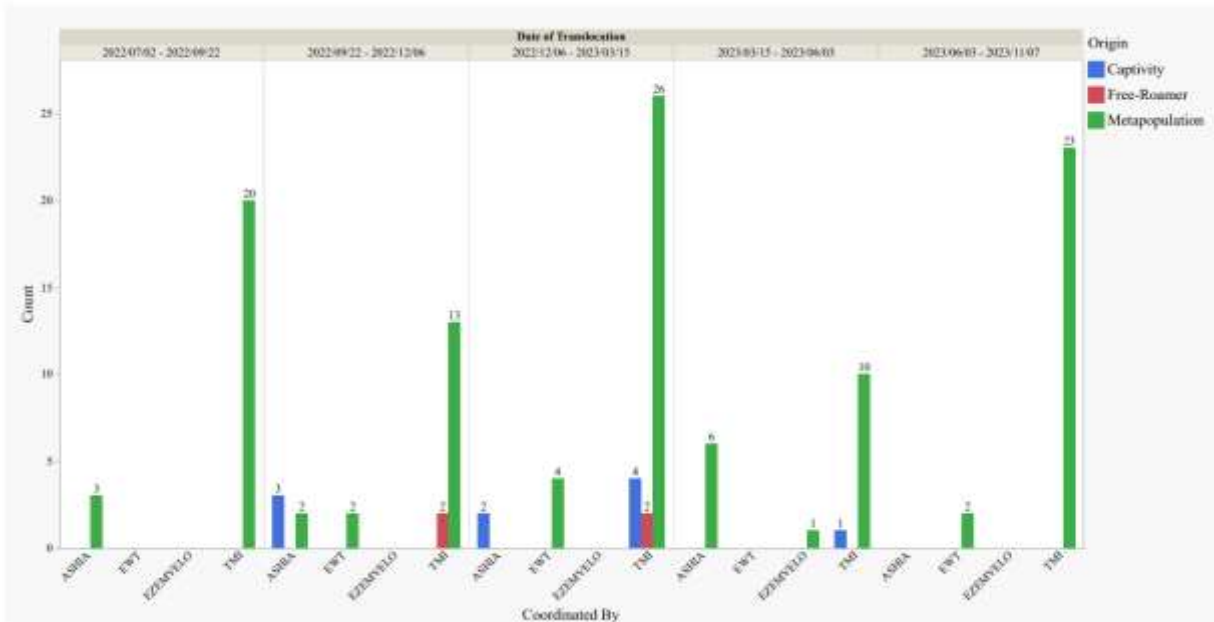
During 2023, the Aspinall Team implemented some of the most challenging wildlife interventions to date and in some of the most challenging conditions. Some of the key projects included the following:

- Translocation of 20 elephants from Addo Elephant National Park to Bellevue Forest Reserve, Babanango Game Reserve, and Shambala Private Game Reserve. This was the first time that family groups of elephants had been captured in Addo as it is extremely challenging to capture elephants here.
- We undertook our annual translocation of elephant bulls from Tembe Elephant Park to infuse their valuable tusker genetics into other reserves in South Africa. We translocated 3 bulls to Babanango and 2 bulls to Nambiti Game Reserve.
- Helicopter based operation involving driving 128 buffalo and 21 elephants out of the Phalaborwa Mining Company where they were at risk and chased back into the Greater Kruger National Park. The mining company then erected a fence which limited further elephants and other animals moving into the mining company area.
- We assisted with the removal of countless snares from elephants and other species throughout the greater Kruger Area.
- Translocation of 4 lions from Mount Camdeboo and Kwandwe Game Reserve to avoid the need for culling of lions at Mount Camdeboo. The lions were taken to Babanango Private Game Reserve where a new population is being established.
- We dehorned all of the rhinos at Loskop Dam Nature Reserve and Rietlvei Nature Reserve to reduce their attractiveness for poachers. We also rescued the last remaining white rhino at D’Nyala Nature Reserve as the other rhinos in the reserve had all been poached.
- We rescued and rewilded three pangolins in the Mpumalanga Province from the illegal trade.
- We assisted in establishing a new population of white rhino at Mount Verde Nature Reserve.
- We have rescued countless other species including zebra, giraffe, kudu, vultures, etc.
- We partnered with the Cheetah Metapopulation Initiative in South Africa to support the translocation of cheetahs between the reserve in order to manage genetics and then also to rewild captive born cheetahs wherever possible. We conducted a total of 90 cheetah translocations in 2023 and made a tangible difference to the cheetah population in South Africa. cheetahs wherever possible

# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023



Tembe Elephant Bull Translocation

# The Aspinnall Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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Rhino Dehorning Operation at Loskop Dam Nature



One of over 80 cheetah translocations for 2023

# The Aspinnall Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023



Various rhino rescue programmes



Removal of snare from young elephant



Various Pangolin rescues



Crocodile reintroduction and GPS monitoring programmes.

# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### Rewilding Interventions

The Aspinnall Foundation remains the only organisation actively rewilding captive animals, including a variety of species, in Southern Africa. We have managed to implement some very interesting and complex rewilding projects in 2023. The strategy has included the rewilding of animals from international sources but also rewilding of captive animals from within South Africa.

These projects include the following:

- We have successfully translocated 12 mongoose to Imire in Zimbabwe. Imire did not have banded mongoose until now and we have successfully rewilded captive mongoose from different backgrounds, to form a new population there. They were flown on a commercial flight to Harare from South Africa.
- Tembe, the honey badger from Howletts Wild Animal Park was successfully rewilded at Loskop Dam Nature Reserve. She was placed in soft release enclosure and released once the team at Loskop believed that she was ready for life in the wild.
- A tiger that was badly treated in Pakistan was translocated to a sanctuary in South Africa in partnership with the Pakistan Government. The young tiger was found with 11 broken bones and The Aspinnall Foundation was contacted for assistance.
- Three cheetahs were released from Hoedspruit endangered species centre. The one male was placed with Nairo to bond the two cheetah, in an effort to calm Nairo down and ensure that he remains within the boundaries of the reserve. We have successfully bonded the two and Nairo has taught the younger captive cheetah how to hunt. A success story as the new coalition continues to do very well.
- Our rewilded cheetah have produced over 20 cubs to date and the progeny is very healthy.
- 8 side-striped jackals to Gorongosa - we sent 8 side-striped jackals from captivity to Gorongosa in Mozambique to start a new population. They have settled in well and are being monitored through the use of VHF tracking collars.
- We have an ongoing relationship with the EMS Foundation where we are actively trying to remove elephants from captivity. This includes captive elephants from Pretoria Zoo and Johannesburg Zoo. The Minister of Environment in South Africa has approved the rewilding of the Pretoria Zoo elephant which will take place in 2024.
- Our long long standing relationship with Wild and Free has once again produced significant results with us rescuing and rewilding over 90 animals, including 13 banded mongoose, 6 bushbuck, 26 lesser bushbaby, 1 meerkat, etc.
- We assisted in the release of 5 serval at Loskop Dam Nature Reserve.
- Our ongoing black footed cat breeding project is doing very well and we are planning to release the cats during the first few months of 2024.



**Tiger from Pakistan walks into his new home in South Africa**

# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023



**We have successfully completed the development of the rewilding enclosure for Azi and Zazu, which has been approved by Government.**



**Caracal that was released with a collar so that she can be tracked.**



**Meerkat that was rescued and rewilded**

# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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**Mongoose that were flown to Zimbabwe and rewilded at Imire**

### **Landscape Restoration Project: Loskop Dam Nature Reserve**

Our initiative at Loskop Dam Nature Reserve is progressing exceptionally well now that the land proclamation issues have been resolved. We are in the final stages of concluding the agreement and we are comfortable that it should be signed by February 2024. The Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency have also requested that the scope of the agreement includes the larger Loskop cluster area which extends to Mabusa Nature Reserve, SS Skosana Nature Reserve and Mdala Nature Reserve.

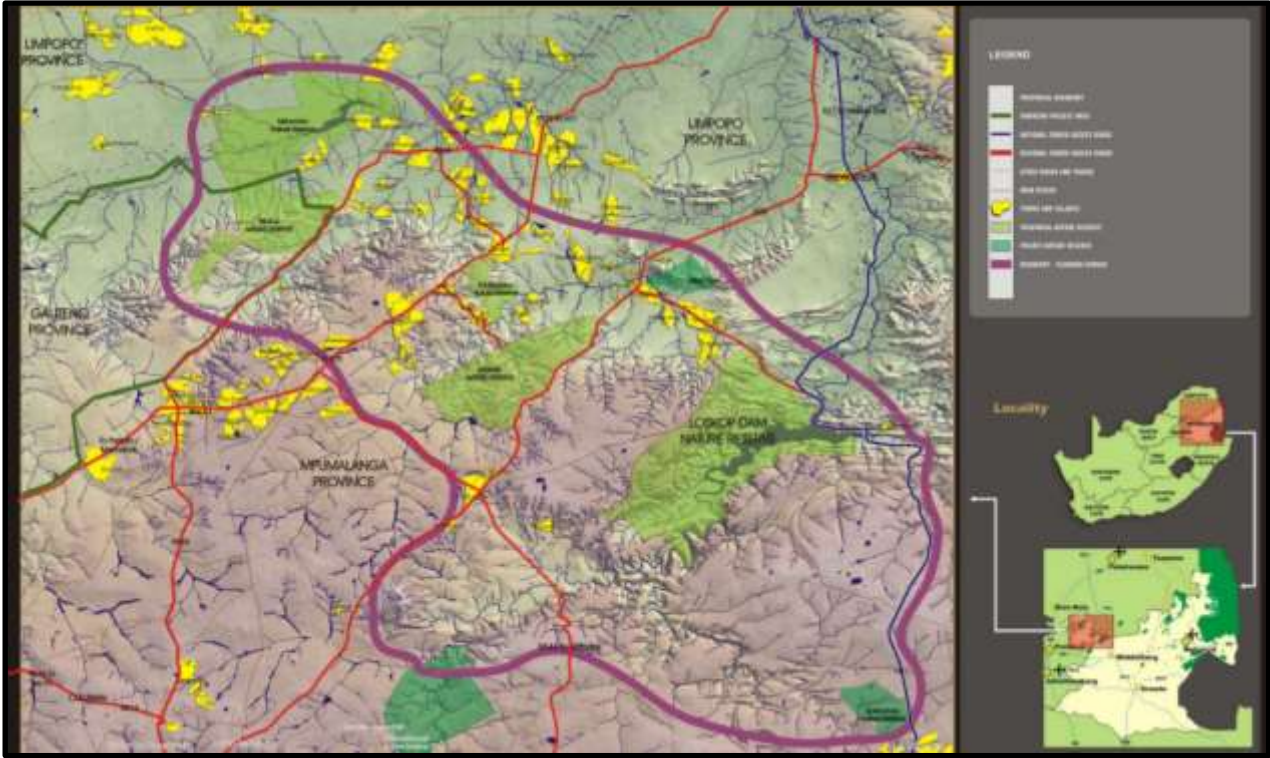
We have however continued with planning work and interventions at Loskop which includes fencing planning, wildlife interventions, aerial surveys, etc. Should the Loskop Agreement be signed as planned, it will be the first project of its kind in South Africa. We are actively exploring funding options and identifying opportunities for long term investment. The relationship between TAF and the MTPA is strong and the organisations are working well together.

We are ready to start implementing projects as soon as the agreement is signed as we want to make a meaningful impact as soon as possible. We are also making some significant progress in terms of expansion planning and we will be expanding the reserve to 50 000 ha in the first two years, almost doubling its size.

# The Aspinnall Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023



Loskop Cluster Map



Overview of Loskop

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### Romania

Hyphen, the European Bison, transported from Port Lympne to the Fagaras Mountains in the Southern Carpathians in December 2020, continues to thrive. He is generally solitary but contacts the herd of released females regularly, and may be the sire of some of their calves but DNA testing would be necessary to confirm this. The first reintroduced population in Romania, in Vanatori Neamt Nature Park, also continues to flourish, including some of the females sent from the UK and released back in June 2014.



# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### Pakistan

We continue to work closely with the Pakistan Environment Trust to develop a programme to reintroduce greater one-horned rhinos to Pakistan. The Greater one-horned rhino is one of the iconic megafauna of the Indian sub-continent, and the proposed programme will see the return of rhinos to Pakistan for the first time in 400 years. Work has been ongoing to identify at least one reintroduction site in Pakistan to spearhead this programme, involving careful consideration of various ecological and socioeconomic factors to ascertain its suitability. The preferred site will be subject to a detailed feasibility study, planned for 2024 in collaboration with various international stakeholders. Once the site has been agreed upon, the programme will need investment in habitat restoration, in community involvement, and in development of appropriate infrastructure and security measures. In the initial stages of the programme a small number of rhinos will be sourced from the global captive population and/or from Nepal for transfer to Pakistan, where they will undergo a carefully monitored rewilding programme prior to full release into the reintroduction site. Additional transfers of rhinos to Pakistan are likely to be necessary over a number of years to build up appropriate levels of genetic diversity within the reintroduced population. Once breeding is successful in Pakistan, it may also be appropriate to return some of the offspring into regional or global populations, to reduce the potential for inbreeding within the Pakistan population and to help ensure optimum levels of genetic diversity across all populations of the species.



# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### Plans for the future:

We are still working on the elephant transfer focusing on a reserve in Kenya that meets all the requirements needed for such a complex project. Our partners have already invested a lot of resources on the site, and we have had a good dialogue with the government officials. The elephant herd in the UK has been habituated to spending time in the transport crates and we hope to make significant progress in 2024.

In Congo we will continue to habituate Kebu and Joshi to their post release existence by increasing the amount of wild food they receive and reducing the domestic food. Bomassa now plays a key role in the rehabilitation process as his confidence and experience will continue to rub off on Joshi.

Monitoring of the released gorillas is a continuous process and is central to the work in Congo, the incredible footage that we routinely discover of the gorilla groups with our camera traps placed throughout the reserve is always a delight to see. We have grown accustomed to the footage of large groups as they amble past the camera with infants and black backs riding their mothers like cowboys, but it should not be forgotten that this is the most successful great ape reintroduction (and perhaps most successful reintroduction project).

In Gabon we are continuing to monitor the released gorillas in the national park albeit mostly with camera traps. Again, the wonders of the ever expanding gorilla groups that we routinely find in the camera trap footage is easy to grow accustomed to but we have successfully restored a sustainable gorilla population to this area, an incredible conservation milestone. Djongo, Mayombe and Taali, the zoo born family group (except Taali), are continuing to grow more confident and we hope to release them off the rehabilitation island as soon as safe to do so.

We will continue to work with ANPN to help protect the other fauna (and flora) within the national park. It is well documented that a continuous presence in a protected area boosts its overall conservation by deterring poaching and other illegal activities. Our presence in this remote site since 1998 has been one of the main reasons for the national park restoration and increased wildlife number (including the reappearance of the Bateke lion in 2015).

Our primate reintroduction projects in Java will continue with their successful release schedule in 2024 and our director Made Wedana has started work on a new project in Sumatra to rescue and rewild captive siamang gibbons. This will be our first managed project outside of Java.

In Madagascar director Maholy Ravaloharimanitra continues her valuable and increasingly internationally recognised work to protect some of the rarest primates on the planet (and their habitat). Maholy has been the recipient of several conservation awards and manages to attract donors to fund the foundation's efforts in Madagascar, a testament to her hard work which she will continue into 2024.

The plans in South Africa for 2023 will be focused on the implementation of the Loskop Agreement and further expanding the reserve. Unlocking this reserve will be a legacy project for the Foundation and will really be a pioneering project in South Africa.

From an intervention perspective, we intend to partner with African Parks in the translocation and rewilding of hundreds of rhinos in Southern Africa from John Hume's property. We will further be expanding our rewilding work in South Africa and will continue our large-scale elephant translocations.

In Pakistan we continue to work closely with the Pakistan Environment Trust to develop a programme to reintroduce greater one-horned rhinos to Pakistan. The Greater one-horned rhino is one of the iconic megafauna of the Indian sub-continent, and the proposed programme will see the return of rhinos to Pakistan for the first time in 400 years. We have now identified a potential site called Lal Suhanra, a national park in the Bahawalpur district of Punjab province. The park was home to a pair of captive rhinos, donated to Pakistan by the Nepal government where they lived for 30 years. Sadly, they did not breed but the environment suited them so we hope that this could provide a launchpad for a concerted breeding effort for the species in the future in Pakistan. We plan to visit Nepal next year to source rhinos for the project.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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The Trustees commissioned a full and detailed Governance Review during 2020. This has been carried out in accordance with the Charity Governance Code for Larger Charities (2020). Substantial progress has been made with most of the recommendations having been implemented.

## Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Foundation are:

1. The advancement and promotion (whether in England or elsewhere in the world) for the public benefit of education and useful knowledge in relation to the science of zoology, the preservation and exhibition of living animals and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) all wild animals in danger of extinction and the conservation of natural wildlife inhabitants.
2. Such other charitable purposes as the Trustees may by Deed appoint.

Our commitment is to conservation, through captive breeding, education, and reintroduction. We are working in some of the world's most fragile environments to save endangered animals and return them to the wild. We seek to meet our charitable objectives in three ways:

1. To halt the extinction of endangered species in the wild by reintroducing animals and developing sustainable conservation activities; providing economic benefits to local communities and helping manage wilderness areas.
2. Provide the most natural environment possible for animals in both animal parks and be world leaders in our animal husbandry and breeding programmes.
3. Increase public understanding of animal welfare and how we can all act to protect animals in their natural environments.

## Public benefit

Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 requires that charitable activities provide a public benefit. The Trustees confirm that, when planning its activities, they have complied with the duty to 'have regard' to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

The Foundation's work on the reintroduction of species, including scientific evaluations and co-management of protected areas, helps preserve the natural environment and natural resources for the public benefit, for both current and future generations.

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees comprises the key governance personnel of the Foundation. The Board of Trustees holds regular meetings, at least four each year, and is responsible for the strategic direction and policies of the Foundation. Trustees are available at short notice between meetings, if required, to deal with any matters which may need attention.

The Trust has created an Investment Committee and are considering whether establishing further committees would be beneficial.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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The day-to-day management is delegated, subject to a delegation matrix approved by the Board of Trustees, to relevant individuals from within the senior management team who are responsible for various operational matters including finance and employment. All delegated actions are monitored by the Trustees.

### **Appointment and removal of Trustees**

The Charity is run by a board of four Trustees. New Trustees may be appointed, up to a maximum of seven, by the existing Trustees. The statutory power to appoint a Trustee vests in the Chairman and is exercised by deed. If at any time, owing to retirement, death or removal, the number of Trustees is reduced to less than three, the Chairman shall immediately appoint one or more Trustees to replace the Trustees who have retired, died or been removed. A Trustee may be removed by being given written notice from the Chairman.

The Foundation Trust Deed requires that, where possible, only lineal descendants of the founder can be the board chair.

### **Trustee induction and training**

New Trustees are provided with an induction pack outlining their legal obligations under charity law, a copy of the charity's Trust Deed and recent financial performance of the charity. They are also given the opportunity to visit the Parks for a briefing on our work on breeding and caring for rare and endangered species.

All Trustees receive ongoing training in areas such as Trustee Roles and Responsibilities, Safeguarding and other relevant legal updates,

### **Policies**

The Board of Trustees has established a suite of policy statements. These cover recruitment, conflicts of interest, expenses, safeguarding, financial reserves, and investments. Policies are regularly updated and there is an ongoing process to add new policies as the need arises.

## **Related parties and relationships with other organisations**

The Foundation works closely with an associated charity, The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT'). The Aspinall Foundation and THWAT have two Trustees in common, Damian Aspinall and Tansy Aspinall. THWAT has established world-class animal welfare and captive breeding programmes in its two parks in Kent: Howletts Park and Port Lympne Reserve, which recently received an extremely positive conservation assessment report from DEFRA. The Foundation re-introduces animals from the parks' captive breeding programs back into the wild. The success of these programs can be measured by the number of captive births and animal reintroductions set out elsewhere in this report.

This work takes place alongside the other programmes the Foundation runs overseas, where it is protecting animals from human development and poaching.

The Foundation shares resources with THWAT helping to minimise costs.

## **Remuneration policy for key management personnel**

Key management personnel pay rates are set in line with other charities or companies of a similar size and with regard to our location and the necessary skills and experience for the role

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### **Fundraising activity**

The Foundation's approach to fundraising focuses on building relationships with individuals and companies that are committed to protecting rare and endangered species.

The Foundation aims to ensure that our supporters and the wider public are treated fairly and with respect. The Foundation remains fully committed to its core fundraising principles and is continually looking for ways to improve and to address new challenges.

#### **Fundraising approach:**

The Foundation uses a variety of fundraising approaches to engage with members of the public including working with face-to-face fundraisers, local events, community activities and utilising multiple channels, including direct mail, email, telephone, social media, online communications as well as our own in-house publications such as our supporters' magazine, Wildcry. These are vital ways to both raise awareness and engage people with the work of the Foundation.

Our own internal fundraising team carries out much of this activity, but we also work with carefully selected and trained professional partners with specific expertise to support our team.

The Foundation has a Personal Data Governance Framework in place which is regularly reviewed and updated to maintain and demonstrate compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Privacy and Electronic Communication Regulations.

#### **Fundraising Standards:**

The Foundation voluntarily subscribes to the Fundraising Regulator and its Code of Fundraising Practice. The Foundation is also a member of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising. No failures to comply with fundraising standards have been notified to the Foundation.

The Foundation is also signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service which enables individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications. The Foundation received and actioned requests where necessary from this service last year.

#### **Protection of vulnerable people:**

The Foundation is especially careful and sensitive when engaging with vulnerable people. This is reflected in our fundraising practices, through the guidance and training of our staff, and by choosing not to undertake door to door fundraising.

#### **Feedback and complaints:**

The Foundation had over 600,000 interactions with its supporters last year through a wide range of channels, including events, face-to-face, telephone, email, in the press, through social media and on the website. Supporter surveys have regularly been undertaken in order to get direct feedback from donors.

Where shortcomings have been identified, guidance and training for staff has been reviewed and enhanced, with new processes put in place, both to prevent recurrence of the issues and to improve supporter experience. The Foundation provides contact details for its complaints process and includes these details on its website.

The Foundation recorded one complaint in 2023 which was settled satisfactorily.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### Financial review

During 2023 the total income for the Foundation was £1,529,000 (2022: £1,921,000). This was from three main sources: donations from more than 9,000 regular supporters to the charity, corporate donations, and Gift Aid refunds. Income is directed towards the charitable work of the Foundation in both the UK and overseas in line with the Foundation's commitments to its supporters. The operating deficit for 2023 was £1,793,000 (2022 deficit of £3,357,000) and the new balance sheet position at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 was £33,581,000 (2022: £35,374,000)

### Investment policy

The objective of the Trust's investment policy is to maximise long-term capital returns with a reasonable tolerance to market volatility and a paramount focus on liquidity and diversification.

All investments held by the Foundation have been acquired in accordance with powers vested in the Trustees. Slater Investments Limited advises on the Foundation's investment portfolio. The Foundation had a net loss of £141,000 (2022 loss of £2,210,000) on investments.

### Reserves policy

At the year end the Foundation had total reserves of £33,581,000. Of this amount, £685,000 are restricted and not available for the general purposes of the charity.

Additionally, £24,292,000 was invested in long-term fixed assets which consisted of Freehold and Long Leasehold properties, Fine Art, and other items, and £107,000 in non-liquid investments. The free reserves available to the Foundation were therefore £8,497,000. There were no material amounts committed at the end of the reporting period.

The free reserves held are in line with the Investment and Reserves Policy which notes that the Foundation has limited fixed funding requirements and non-discretionary liabilities. Its annual administrative costs are approximately £1,000k. It is the policy of the Foundation to predominantly pursue an investment strategy aimed at maximising long-term capital returns to preserve its reserves.

It is difficult to forecast with any degree of certainty what future funding streams will look like. Nevertheless, the Trustees have adopted a policy to ensure that the resources of the Foundation are used in the most effective way to support its objects and also to ensure that the Foundation remains financially resilient. Our reserves policy is therefore to maintain sufficient reserves to enable the Foundation to continue its activities should there be a drop in income. As such reserves are required to provide an adequate level of working capital to ensure the ongoing viability of our core work, cover for risks of unforeseen expenditure and/or unanticipated loss of income.

The Trustees are also mindful of the fact that should the Foundation need to wind down its activities, there are commitments that would need to be met, including staff liabilities, operating costs commitments and the repayment of restricted fund donations.

In light of the above, the Trustees aim to maintain a level of reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of annual administrative costs. As such the objects of the reserves policy have been successfully achieved.

The reserves policy is reviewed at least annually by the Aspinall Foundation Investment Committee which reports to the Foundation's Trustee Board.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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### Principal risks and uncertainties and risk management

The Trustees are very aware of the types of major risks to which the Foundation is exposed, and they have prepared an appropriate Risk Management Register, which both identifies those risks and indicates what provision has been made for dealing with them. This was conducted in line with Charity Commission guidance CC26.

The principal risks to which the Foundation is exposed include:

- Reputational and financial risks arising from the Foundation's close association with The Howletts Wild Animal Trust
- Risks connected to overseas operations, such as fraud, theft, injury to staff member, death of animals
- Fraud or data breach in the Foundation
- Adverse media

The Trustees continue to keep under review the systems in place, which they believe are appropriate to the size of the Charity and the nature of its operations, in order to mitigate these risks.

These matters are considered at the quarterly board meetings (or more frequently if required).

### Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable 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 presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. 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 Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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The Trustees commissioned a full and detailed Governance Review during 2020. This has been carried out in accordance with the Charity Governance Code for Larger Charities (2020). Substantial progress has been made with most of the recommendations having been implemented.

### Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### Auditors

Goldwins Limited were re-appointed as the auditors of the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 31st October 2024 and signed on their behalf by



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**J D A Aspinall**  
Trustee

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Aspinall Foundation for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the consolidated and parent charity Balance Sheet, consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the group financial statements is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of the group's income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and the parent charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and the parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

## **Responsibilities of the trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

## **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the group's and parent charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group and the parent charity operate in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group and the parent charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities]. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Goldwins*

Date: 31 October 2024

.....  
**Goldwins Limited**  
**Statutory Auditor**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**75 Maygrove Road**  
**West Hampstead**  
**London NW6 2EG**

Goldwins Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds 2023 £'000	Total Funds 2022 £'000
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	1,146	78	1,224	1,747
Other trading activities	4	86	-	86	37
Investment income	5	219	-	219	137
<b>Total income</b>		<u>1,451</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>1,529</u>	<u>1,921</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	6	801	-	801	904
Charitable activities		2,352	5	2,357	2,191
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>3,153</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3,158</u>	<u>3,095</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	(141)	-	(141)	(2,210)
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>		<u>(1,843)</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>(1,770)</u>	<u>(3,384)</u>
Other gains/(losses)		(23)	-	(23)	27
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(1,866)</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>(1,793)</u>	<u>(3,357)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	28	34,762	612	35,374	38,731
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>32,896</u>	<u>685</u>	<u>33,581</u>	<u>35,374</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10		24,292		24,416
Investments	12		8,700		9,805
			<u>32,992</u>		<u>34,221</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	16	9		15	
Debtors	14	1,114		1,528	
Cash at bank and in hand		613		1,008	
		<u>1,736</u>		<u>2,551</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(897)</u>		<u>(648)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>839</u>		<u>1,903</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			33,831		36,124
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	20		(250)		(750)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>33,581</u></u>		<u><u>35,374</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	28		685		612
Unrestricted funds:	28				
General reserves		19,700		21,566	
Revaluation reserve		<u>13,196</u>		<u>13,196</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			32,896		34,762
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>33,581</u></u>		<u><u>35,374</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees on 31st October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
**J D A Aspinall**  
Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Charity Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	11		24,292		24,416
Investments	13		8,700		9,805
			<u>32,992</u>		<u>34,221</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	17	9		15	
Debtors	15	1,114		1,528	
Cash at bank and in hand		368		864	
		<u>1,491</u>		<u>2,407</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	19	<u>(897)</u>		<u>(648)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>594</u>		<u>1,759</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>33,586</u>		<u>35,980</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	21		(250)		(750)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>33,336</u></u>		<u><u>35,230</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	29		531		508
Unrestricted funds:	29				
General reserves		19,609		21,526	
Revaluation reserve		<u>13,196</u>		<u>13,196</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			32,805		34,722
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>33,336</u></u>		<u><u>35,230</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees on 31st October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
**J D A Aspinall**  
Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	2023 £'000	2022 £'000	2022 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>					
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	22		(1,511)		(1,895)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Interest/ rent/ dividends from investments		219		137	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets investments		964		(2,030)	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		(44)		(4)	
<b>Cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			<b>1,139</b>		<b>(1,897)</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			<b>(372)</b>		<b>(3,792)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			1,008		4,773
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			(23)		27
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	23		<b>613</b>		<b>1,008</b>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

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### 1 Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements 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 charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### **Basis of Consolidation**

The consolidated Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet include the financial statements of the Foundation and its Subsidiary made up to 31 December 2023.

#### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

#### **Income**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Donations of gifts, services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable that economic benefit can be measured reliably, and is material to the accounts. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the Trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Unrestricted funds include a revaluation reserve representing restatement of investment assets at market values.

Restricted funds are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the trust arising from the express or implied wishes of the donors, in so far as these are intended to be binding on the trustees.

#### **Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity and its activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. Expenditure is allocated to categories in accordance with the main activity of the staff concerned or the substance of the costs incurred.

#### **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Freehold land and works of art are not depreciated, as these assets are, in the opinion of the trustees, worth in excess of their book values. The freehold mansion is depreciated at the rate of 2% per annum on cost.

Software & IT Equipment, Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment are stated at cost less depreciation at a rate of 25% reducing balance. Motor vehicles are stated at cost less depreciation at a rate of 25% straight line.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### **Operating leases**

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

#### **Fixed Asset 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. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities. Unlisted investments are stated at trustees' valuation.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued) Debtors

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

#### Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### 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. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

#### Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the Balance Sheet date. Gains or losses on translation are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### Pensions

The Foundation makes contributions to a defined contribution scheme for certain staff members. The cost of these contributions is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds £'000
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	1,500	247	1,747
Other trading activities	37	-	37
Investment income	137	-	137
<b>Total income</b>	<u>1,674</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>1,921</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	904	-	904
Charitable activities	2,087	104	2,191
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>2,991</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>3,095</u>
Net gains / (losses) on investments	(2,210)	-	(2,210)
<b>Net income for the year</b>	<u>(3,527)</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>(3,384)</u>
Other gains/losses	27	-	27
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<u>(3,500)</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>(3,357)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	38,262	469	38,731
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>34,762</u>	<u>612</u>	<u>35,374</u>

### 3 Income from donations

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Legacies	16	158
Donations	937	1,365
Animal sponsorships	271	224
	<u>1,224</u>	<u>1,747</u>

### 4 Income from other trading activities

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Other	86	37
	<u>86</u>	<u>37</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

<b>5 Income from investments</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Income from listed investments	81	30
Rental income	66	54
Interest on loans	72	53
	<u>219</u>	<u>137</u>

## 6 Expenditure

	Basis of Allocation	Raising Funds		Charitable Activities			Governance Costs	2023	2022	Total
		Costs of Generating Funds	Costs of Investment	TAF Overseas Projects	Other Charitable Projects	Support Costs				
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000				
<b>Costs directly allocated to activities</b>										
Staff costs	Direct	261	-	388	-	196	-	845	819	
Fundraising costs	Direct	275	-	-	-	-	-	275	305	
Donations	Direct	-	-	1,182	-	-	-	1,182	1,012	
Maintenance	Direct	-	-	-	-	128	-	128	65	
Depreciation	Direct	-	-	-	-	168	-	168	164	
Legal and professional fees	Direct	-	-	-	-	124	146	270	399	
<b>Support costs allocated to activities</b>										
Other overheads	Income/ Direct	25	-	72	11	182	-	290	331	
		<u>561</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,642</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>798</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>3,158</u>	<u>3,095</u>	
Support costs		203	-	-	595	(798)	-	-	-	
Governance costs		37	-	-	109	-	(146)	-	-	
<b>Total expenditure 2023</b>		<u><b>801</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>1,642</b></u>	<u><b>715</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>3,158</b></u>		
<b>Total expenditure 2022</b>		<u><b>904</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>1,480</b></u>	<u><b>711</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>		<u><b>3,095</b></u>	

Of the total expenditure £5,000 was restricted (2022: £104,000) and £3,153,000 was unrestricted (2022: £2,991,000).

## 7 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

<b>This is stated after charging / (crediting):</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Auditors' remuneration	10	10
Depreciation	168	164
	<u>178</u>	<u>174</u>

## 8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from income tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

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### 9 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Salaries and wages	745	721
Social security costs	45	64
Pension costs	35	21
Other staff costs	20	13
	<u>845</u>	<u>819</u>

The number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer's national insurance and pension costs) for the reporting period amounting to over £60,000 were as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	No.	No.
£70,000 - £79,999	1	1
£80,000 - £89,999	-	1
£90,000 - £99,999	1	-

The average number of employees during the period was:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	No.	No.
	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>

The total employee gross salary and benefits, including employer's national insurance and pension contributions of the key management personnel were £107,484 (2022: £100,788).

The charity trustees were not paid for employment by, nor did they receive any other employment benefits from the Trust in the year (2022: £nil). JDA Aspinall was reimbursed during the year a total of £1,168 (2022: £2,612) for travel expenses incurred on behalf of the Foundation. C Filmer was reimbursed £30.(2022: £47) for travel expenses. No other trustee received any reimbursement of expenses during the year (2022: £nil).

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 10 Tangible Fixed Assets - Group

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Motor Vehicles £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2023	22,966	3,108	36	124	26,234
Additions	-	-	-	44	44
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	22,966	3,108	36	168	26,278
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2023	1,709	-	18	91	1,818
Charge for the year	145	-	9	14	168
At 31 December 2023	1,854	-	27	105	1,986
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 31 December 2023	21,112	3,108	9	63	24,292
At 31 December 2022	21,257	3,108	18	33	24,416

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

### 11 Tangible Fixed Assets - Charity

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Motor Vehicles £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2023	22,966	3,108	36	124	26,234
Additions	-	-	-	44	44
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	22,966	3,108	36	168	26,278
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2023	1,709	-	18	91	1,818
Charge for the year	145	-	9	14	168
At 31 December 2023	1,854	-	27	105	1,986
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 31 December 2023	21,112	3,108	9	63	24,292
At 31 December 2022	21,257	3,108	18	33	24,416

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 12 Fixed Asset Investments - Group

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	8,593	9,691
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	107	114
	<u>8,700</u>	<u>9,805</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2023	9,805	9,985
Additions	-	2,030
Disposals	(964)	-
Net investment gains/(losses)	(141)	(2,210)
Market value at 31 December 2023	<u>8,700</u>	<u>9,805</u>

### 13 Fixed Asset Investments - Charity

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	8,593	9,691
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	107	114
	<u>8,700</u>	<u>9,805</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2023	9,805	9,985
Additions	-	2,030
Disposals	(964)	-
Net investment gains/(losses)	(141)	(2,210)
Market value at 31 December 2023	<u>8,700</u>	<u>9,805</u>

### 14 Debtors - Group

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	6	6
Long term debtors	875	1,250
Other debtors	233	272
	<u>1,114</u>	<u>1,528</u>

### 15 Debtors - Charity

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	6	6
Long term debtors	875	1,250
Other debtors	233	272
	<u>1,114</u>	<u>1,528</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

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### 16 Stock - Group

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Stock	9	15

### 17 Stock - Charity

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Stock	9	15

### 18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - Group

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdraft	630	508
Trade creditors	105	51
Other creditors	7	3
Other taxes and social security	26	15
Accruals	129	71
	<u>897</u>	<u>648</u>

### 19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - Charity

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdraft	630	508
Trade creditors	105	51
Other creditors	7	3
Other taxes and social security	26	15
Accruals	129	71
	<u>897</u>	<u>648</u>

### 20 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - Group

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans	250	750
	<u>250</u>	<u>750</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 21 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - Charity

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans	250	750
	<u>250</u>	<u>750</u>

### 22 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	(1,770)	(3,384)
Interest, rent and dividends from investments	(219)	(137)
Depreciation charges	168	164
(Gains)/ losses on investments	141	2,210
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	414	343
(Increase) / decrease in stock	6	(15)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(251)	(1,076)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>(1,511)</u>	<u>(1,895)</u>

### 23 Analysis of changes in cash during the year

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank and in hand	613	1,008
	<u>613</u>	<u>1,008</u>

### 24 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Group

	<b>General</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,292	-	24,292
Investments	8,700	-	8,700
Current assets	1,051	685	1,736
Current liabilities	(897)	-	(897)
Non-current liabilities	(250)	-	(250)
At 31 December 2023	<u>32,896</u>	<u>685</u>	<u>33,581</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 25 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Group 2022

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,416	-	24,416
Investments	9,805	-	9,805
Current assets	1,939	612	2,551
Current liabilities	(648)	-	(648)
Non-current liabilities	(750)	-	(750)
At 31 December 2022	<u>34,762</u>	<u>612</u>	<u>35,374</u>

### 26 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Charity

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,292	-	24,292
Investments	8,700	-	8,700
Current assets	960	531	1,491
Current liabilities	(897)	-	(897)
Non-current liabilities	(250)	-	(250)
At 31 December 2023	<u>32,805</u>	<u>531</u>	<u>33,336</u>

### 27 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Charity 2022

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,416	-	24,416
Investments	9,805	-	9,805
Current assets	1,899	508	2,407
Current liabilities	(648)	-	(648)
Non-current liabilities	(750)	-	(750)
At 31 December 2022	<u>34,722</u>	<u>508</u>	<u>35,230</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 28 Movement in Funds - Group

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	612	78	(5)	-	685
Total restricted funds	612	78	(5)	-	685
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	34,762	1,451	(3,317)	-	32,896
Total unrestricted funds	34,762	1,451	(3,317)	-	32,896
Total funds	35,374	1,529	(3,322)	-	33,581

### 29 Movement in Funds - Charity

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	508	28	(5)	-	531
Total restricted funds	508	28	(5)	-	531
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	34,722	1,272	(3,189)	-	32,805
Total unrestricted funds	34,722	1,272	(3,189)	-	32,805
Total funds	35,230	1,300	(3,194)	-	33,336

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

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### 30 WeWild Africa NPC

WeWild Africa NPC (previously named The Aspinall Foundation South Africa until February 2023 ) is a South African registered non-profit company (number 2021/481489/08), which was established during 2021. The sole member was the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation. The accounting period for WeWild Africa NPC ends on 28 February 2023: for the purposes of the consolidated accounts, management accounts for the period ending 31 December 2023 have been prepared.

It was always envisaged that WeWild Africa would be operated independently from TAF and, following the year end, TAF resigned as a member of WeWild Africa NPC.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000
Assets at 31 December 2023	245	144
Liabilities at 31 December 2023	-	-
Reserves at 31 December 2023	<u>245</u>	<u>144</u>
Gross income for the period ending 31 December 2023	508	259
Expenditure for the period ending 31 December 2023	<u>(407)</u>	<u>(258)</u>
Surplus for the period ending 31 December 2023	101	1

### 31 Related Party Transactions

Up to 29 September 2023 the Foundation benefitted from gifts in kind, from a company connected to JDA Aspinall, valued at £27,750 (2022: £35,100), for the provision of office space and PA services. Due to changes in the arrangements regarding the head lease, the Foundation no longer receives a benefit for office rental or PA services.

The independent trustees agreed that the Foundation would pay Memina Capital Limited, for the provision of office space. During the year, the Foundation was charged £19,472 by Memina Capital Limited for the provision of office space. JDA Aspinall is the sole director and shareholder of Memina Capital Limited.

During the year, the Foundation received income of £59,589 (2022 - £48,980) from JDA Aspinall for the rent of Howletts Mansion and other recharges. The rent has been calculated by reference to the lease and two independent, professional rental valuations of Howletts Mansion.

During the year the Foundation received invoices from THWAT and its subsidiary of £257,178 (2022: £398,219) being recharges of costs incurred on its behalf, and The Aspinall Foundation raised invoices amounting to £2,594 (2022: £7,725) to THWAT and its subsidiary. The Foundation also has a short term loan account with THWAT. At the year end The Aspinall Foundation owed £54,655 to THWAT and its subsidiary (2022: £2,718).

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

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### 31 Related Party Transactions (continued)

During the year, the Foundation was charged by Zedra Private Office (UK) Limited (formerly Alvarium PO Limited) £97,753 (2022 - £105,489) at arm's length for accounting, administrative, advisory and project services. CPN Filmer, one of the trustees, was a director of Alti/Alvarium PO Limited during 2023 but resigned his directorship on 7 May 2024.. As this is a charitable foundation, fees are charged at a substantially discounted rate and comprise a fixed element for day to day accounting and administrative work, and a time-based element for additional advisory and project-based work. All invoices are approved by the Chairman and by one of the independent trustees.

The Foundation leases land and buildings to THWAT and its subsidiary for an annual rent of £1 (2022: £1).

Updated leases have been signed during 2024 with THWAT in relation to the TAF properties and is in line with how both charities have operated for many years.

Payments to related parties are all authorised by the Foundation's governing documents.

In May 2020, JDA Aspinall, CPN Filmer, B Goldsmith and RM Birley, in their capacity of Trustees of the Foundation, entered into a Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan 'CBIL' of £2,000,000. No interest or capital repayments were due during the Business Interruption Payment ('BIP') period (12 months from the date of the first drawdown). Thereafter, interest is charged at 2.09% above base rate, and 16 quarterly capital payments of £125,000 are due. The loan is guaranteed by Howletts & Port Lympe Estates Ltd ('HPLE') and The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT').

The CBIL was subsequently loaned from the Foundation to THWAT on the same terms as those of the original loan. JDA Aspinall is Chairman and trustee of THWAT and T Aspinall is a trustee of THWAT. The loan is authorised by the Foundation's governing documents. At the year end the balance due was £875,000. Interest payments of £70,231 (2022: £52,412) were made by THWAT to the Foundation.

During 2018, JDA Aspinall, CPN Filmer and RM Birley, in their capacity as Trustees of the Foundation entered into a Limited Guarantee and Indemnity agreement with Barclays Bank PLC for the liabilities of THWAT (amount £5,000,000).

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 326567

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# Accounts

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Charity No. 326567

**Annual report and financial statements**

**For the year ended**

**31 December 2022**

# **The Aspinall Foundation**

**Report and financial statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2022**

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# The Aspinall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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Trustees: Damian Aspinall (Chair)  
Robin Birley (resigned 1 May 2023)  
Charles Filmer  
Ben Goldsmith (resigned 1 May 2023)  
Tansy Aspinall  
Maarten Petermann

Charity number: 326567

Registered office: Port Lympne Reserve  
Lympne  
Nr. Ashford  
Kent  
CT 21 4PD

Auditors: Goldwins Limited  
75 Maygrove Road  
West Hampstead  
London  
NW6 2EG

Bankers Barclays Bank plc  
93 Baker Street  
London  
W1A 4SD

Solicitors Girlings Solicitors LLP  
Stourside Place  
Station Road  
Ashford  
Kent  
TN23 1PP

Investment advisors Slater Investment Limited  
Nicholas House  
3 Laurence Pountney Hill  
London  
EC4R 0EU

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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### *Committed to Conservation*

The Aspinall Foundation ("Foundation" or "TAF") was established as a charitable trust by a Trust Deed on 30 March 1984 and registered as a charity under number 326567 on 27 April 1984. The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

## **Introduction**

Following the creation of Howletts and Port Lympne zoological parks in 1959 and 1975 respectively, The Aspinall Foundation was founded in 1984 as a UK registered charity (under the name of The Howletts and Port Lympne Foundation, and eventually The Aspinall Foundation), the vision of which has always been to contribute to global species conservation through integrating ex situ and in situ activities.

Our global wildlife conservation work, again spanning over thirty years, covers diverse issues including tackling the illegal wildlife trade, the "re-wilding" and eventual release of wild-born animals confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade and of captive-born animals, the reintroduction of species to sites where they have become locally extirpated, the reinforcement of small isolated populations of threatened species, the co-management of protected areas with national governments, the scientific evaluation of wild, reintroduced and captive wildlife populations, and the recovery of threatened species through community-based conservation.

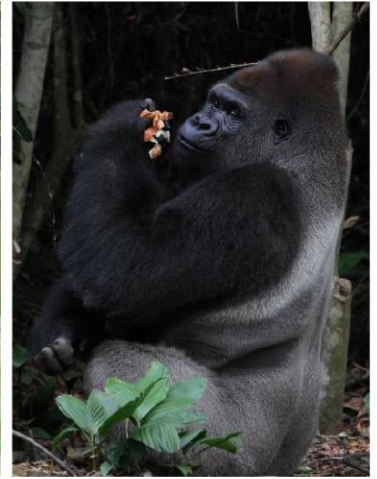
# The Aspinall Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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## Overseas Conservation Projects



**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**  
**CRY OF THE WILD**  
**INDONESIA**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**  
**MADAGASCAR LEMUR PROJECT**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**  
**GABON GORILLA PROJECT**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**  
**CONGO GORILLA PROJECT**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**  
**SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROJECTS**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

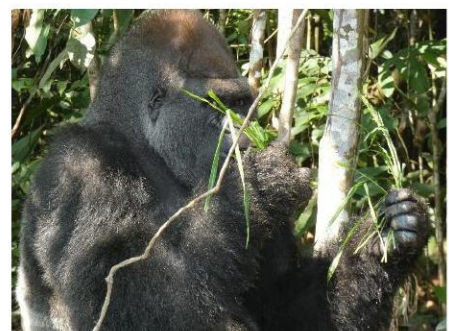
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### Congo



In Congo we transferred the 19-year-old silverback Fubu from the Abio II island to a newly constructed soft-release enclosure located between Abio I and Abio II on the 30 November. This enclosure is located on the west bank of the Louna River, within the gorilla reintroduction area. It consists of a small, isolated patch of forest in a sharp meander of the Louna, which has been enclosed using a double electric-fence between the two “sides” of the meander. A cage tunnel has been constructed to allow access through the double fence, this can therefore be opened in future to allow Fubu free access between the enclosure and the release site. This will provide a much softer release option for Fubu than we have used previously in this site. Fubu’s 22.5-year-old half-brother Kebu remains on the Abio II pre-release island, the plan is to transfer him to a soft-release enclosure similar to that of Fubu’s at some stage during 2023. The 15-year-old silverback Joshi and the two young orphans Loukolela (7) and Bomassa (6) remain in good health on the Abio I pre-release island, and the silverbacks Kelle (26.5) and Yambo (35.5) remain in the big cage at Iboubikro, where they all have been since

June 2021. The released gorillas in Congo continue to be remotely monitored using camera traps. However, the transfer of Fubu to his soft-release enclosure was quickly followed by the arrival at the enclosure of three



# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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of the released gorillas, comprising the 30-year-old adult female Lengui who is only rarely observed, accompanied by two younger gorillas identified by the monitoring team as likely to be the 15- to 16-year-old males Epena and Loketo. These two males have previously been associated with the older silverback Djeke who remains very elusive along with a small number of other released gorillas. Makoua's group remains the largest in the Reserve, comprising approximately 25 to 30 individuals. Some of the young males born in this group appear to be emigrating, one was found in an area to the south of the Reserve in July and was sedated and returned to the Reserve on 10 August.



The increased camera-trapping efforts in Congo have continued to lead to further images of the wildlife of the Reserve. A particular highlight of 2022 was some video footage in July of a mother leopard with a young cub playing in a small savanna tree.



Hippos continue to be regularly observed during boat trips along the Louna River, and on the camera trap footage, one of the most obvious indicators signalling the ongoing restoration of the large mammals of the area due to the protection afforded by the project.

# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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### Gabon



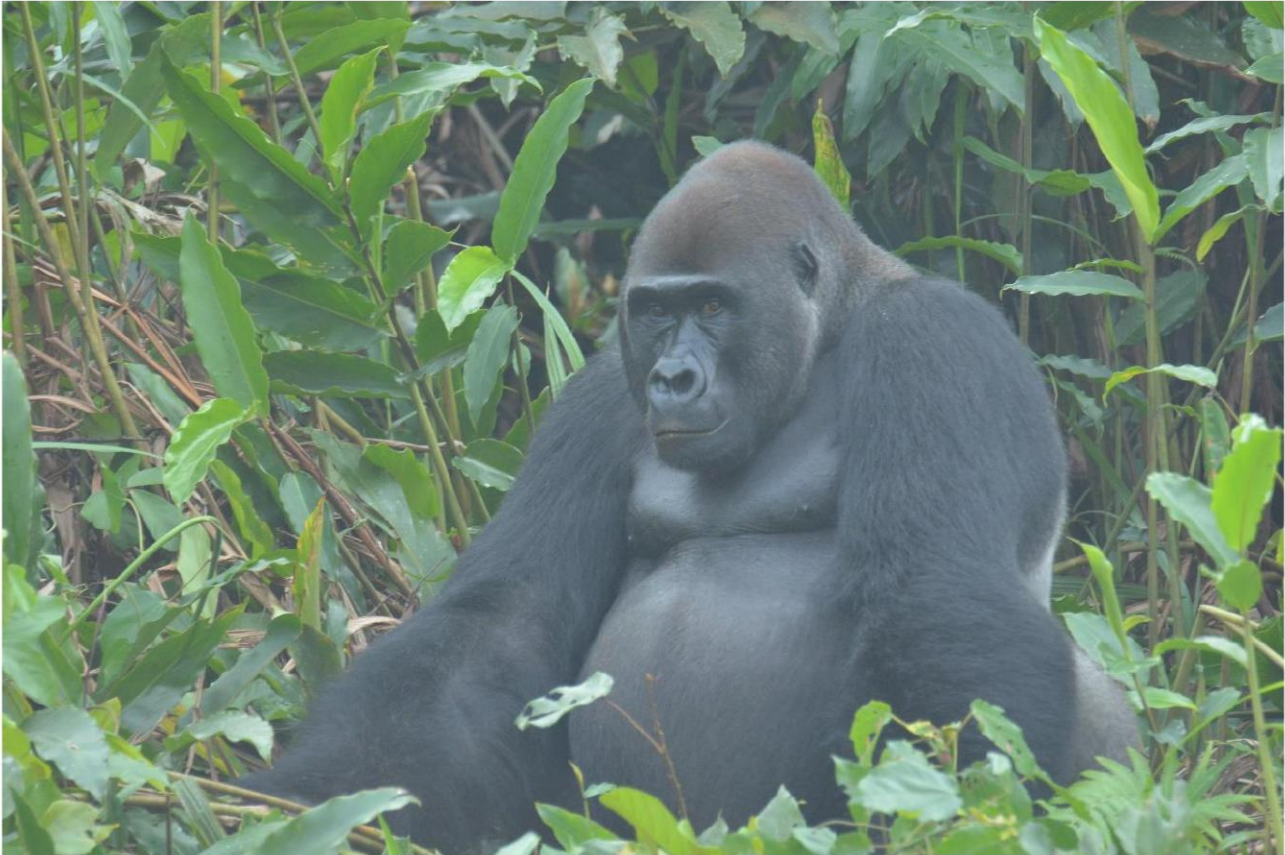
In Gabon the family group of Djongo, Mayombe and Taali continues to progress on their 3-ha pre-release island. Taali, now 18-months-old, is a determined character and is starting to test boundaries with Mayombe, who has been an impeccable and patient first-time mother. Mayombe's confidence has certainly increased following the birth of Taali in June 2021, although during the latter months of 2022 Mayombe has been exhibiting some behavioural signs of probable increased stress, which may be associated with the increasing independence of Taali. All three gorillas in the pre-release phase have been encouraged to sample wild foods and their nutritional transition is underway. By the end of 2022 they are regularly feeding on seven species of wild plants offered by the project team and have been observed to collect four other plants growing wild on the island, in addition to collecting and feeding on ants' nests.

# The Aspinnall Foundation

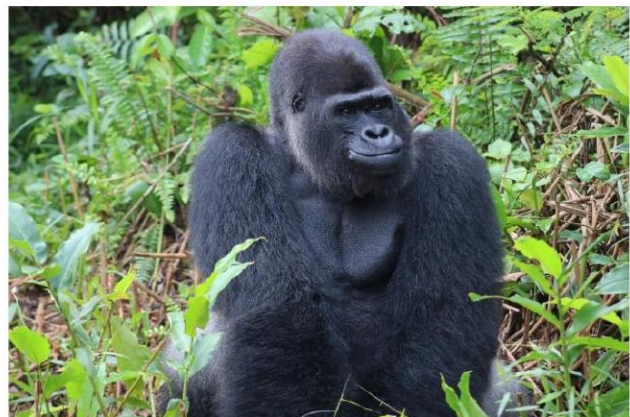
## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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The released gorillas in Gabon are also doing well. The most significant news of the year is the transfer of two female gorillas to Ima, a 20.5-year-old silverback born in the UK and released in August 2004. This is the first record of female transfer to a zoo-born male, with the first observation of the three gorillas together made on 15 May. Both females (Okéli and Amvemande) are wild born in the National Park to released gorillas. Okéli was the first infant ever born to released gorillas in Gabon, to Lekedi in October 2007, she transferred from Tonga's group to Boumango's in November 2016, then very briefly to Rafa's in 2020 before returning to Boumango's. She was observed in Rafa's group again in January 2022, before her transfer to Ima at some point prior to 15 May 2022 (it is not clear if she transferred directly from Rafa or if she had returned to Boumango prior to transfer to Ima). Amvemande was born to Mboundou in Tonga's group in June 2011 and transferred to Boumango's group in early 2019. The future of this newly formed group will be monitored with great interest. Following the arrival and subsequent departure of Okéli, Rafa's group consists of just Rafa and Mbwanbe. The last sightings of this group were in January 2022, they are believed to be living in the far south of the reintroduction area and some additional camera traps have been installed to try to gather more regular observations. Boumango's group lost the two adult females that transferred to Ima, but at least one and possibly two infants have been born in the group during 2022, leaving the group size thought to be 16 or 17. Tonga's group have been observed directly on one occasion during 2022, and through camera trap images in January, July and September, and is thought to comprise 11 individuals, excluding a young male, Antsia, who was born in the group in 2009 but appears to be solitary now, following the group from a distance. Djala remains solitary towards the south of the release area, considered to have celebrated his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday this year he is provided with supplementary feeding almost daily and remains in great condition. The 24-year-old solitary silverback Djalta has not been observed during 2022. The camera-traps throughout the Park continue to record the other wildlife of the Park, including forest elephants, chimpanzees, golden



# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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cats, and many other species. The project team continue to support ANPN for their management of the Park and Panthera for their monitoring activities.

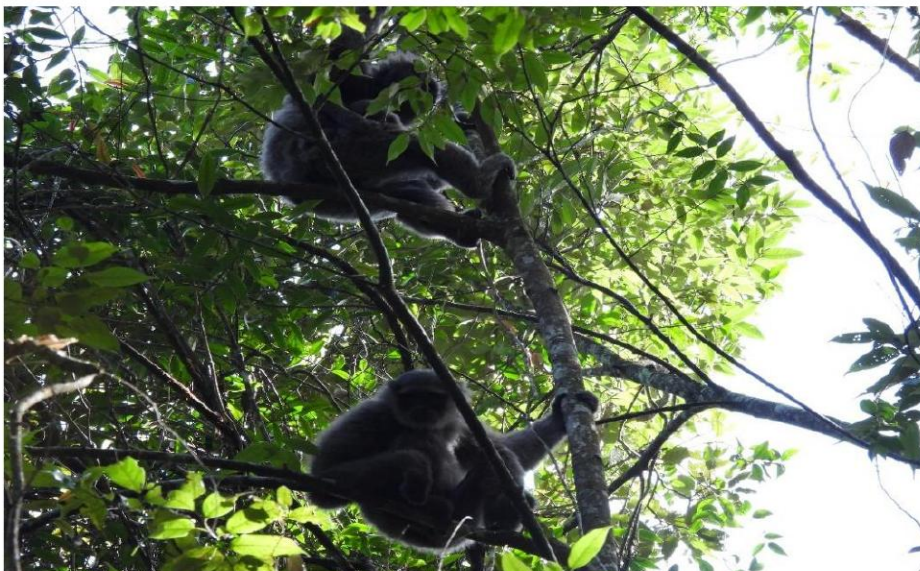
## Indonesia

### West Java

The West Javan Gibbon Reintroduction project started in 2012 along with our Javan Langur Reintroduction project. Since the start of the project we have routinely accepted Javan Gibbons confiscated by local authorities, as well as individuals illegally kept as pets in the country. We have rehabilitated 76 individuals and successfully released 54 individuals from 2012 - 2022. The unreleased individuals have disease related issues, or disabilities such as missing limbs preventing their rewilding. In 2022 we had 7 Javan Gibbons arrive at the centre, 3 males and 4 females, ranging in age from 3 months to 14 years. As of the end of 2022 we have 4 individuals still progressing through the quarantine period, with the other 3 already progressing through their socialisation rehabilitation. 1 of the individuals has been successfully paired with



a late 2021 arrival and we hope that their release will be actioned in the first 6 months of 2023. We have had a visit from IUCN SOS throughout 2022, following funding being granted for a 2 year period, feedback from the visit was positive. Our outreach campaign throughout the year has reached over 2150 people, ranging from pre-school age, to university graduates. Our highly sought after volunteer program has begun again post covid and we have welcomed 5 volunteers throughout the year, and hope to increase this number next year.



# The Aspinall Foundation

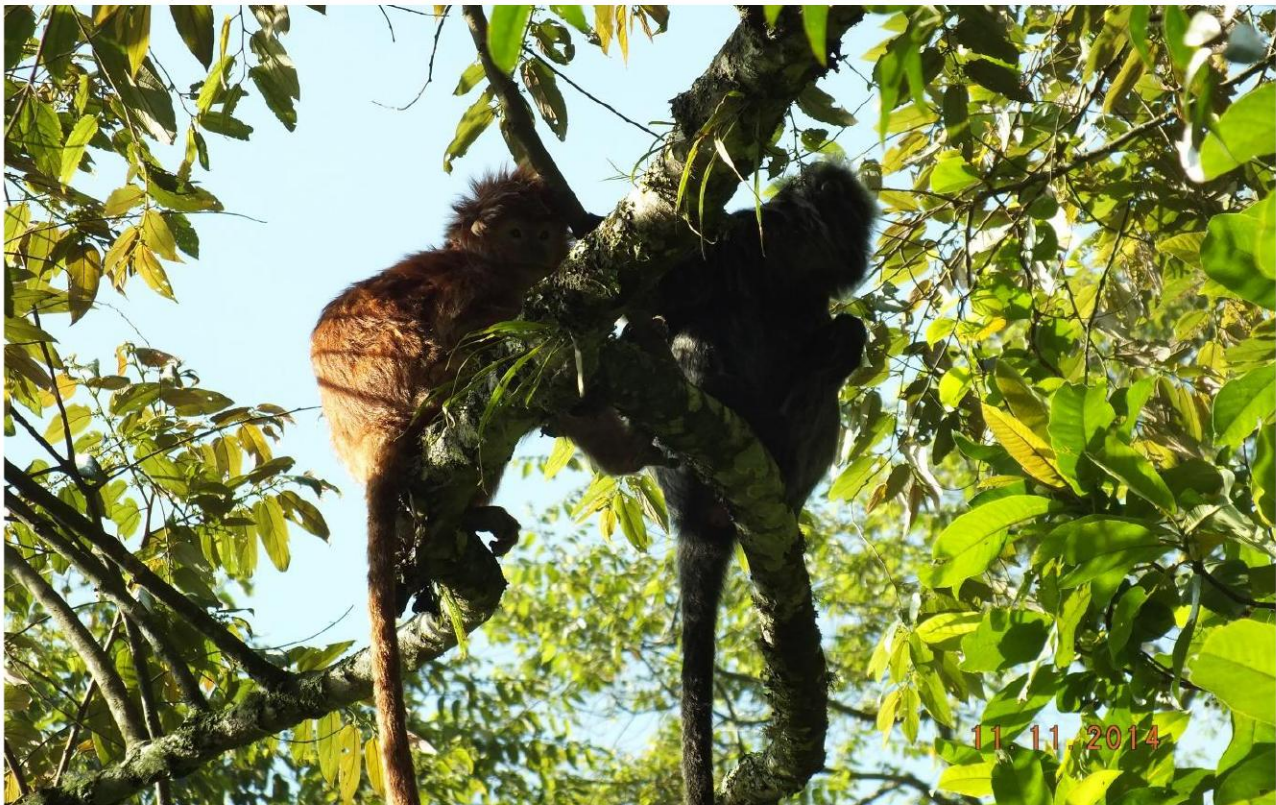
## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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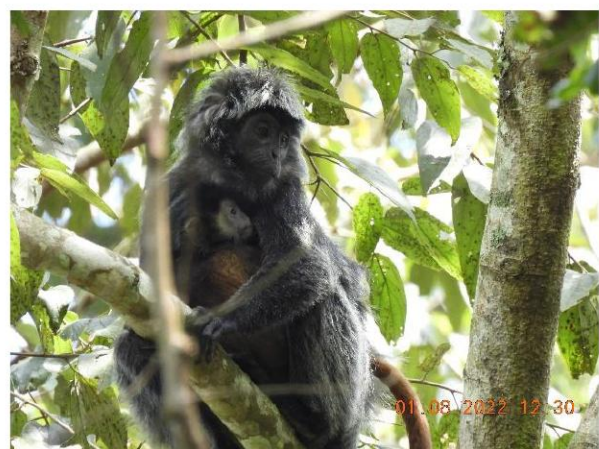
### East Java

The East Java Langur Reintroduction project was started in 2012 when the first 13 rehabilitated langurs were reintroduced back into the wild. Since that time, we have continued to accept confiscated and donated pet langurs illegally held in Indonesia and also repatriated captive-bred langurs from Europe. From 2012 to 2022 a total of 183 East Javan Ebony langurs have been rehabilitated in the Aspinall Foundation East Java Langur Rehabilitation centre. Of these, 141 langurs have been released back into the wild in two different release areas e.g; Coban Talun Highland Protection Forest (73 individuals) and Kondang Merak lowland Protection forest, South Malang (68 individuals).



Since the first releases, we have observed 52 babies born to released langurs (including 10 during 2022), whilst the number of post-release deaths reported is just six individuals. Post-release monitoring has recorded 44 plant species consumed by the released langurs in Coban Talun highland PF and 126 plant species consumed in Kondang Merak (South Malang) lowland PF.

In 2022, we received a total of 17 langurs at the rehabilitation centre, most of them were transferred from other rescue centres (53%), whilst 35% were voluntarily donated and 12% were confiscated. Two langurs died at the rehabilitation centre during 2022, both were confiscated langurs who arrived in bad condition. Twenty-one langurs currently remain at the rehabilitation centre (mid December 2022).



Three groups have been released so far in 2022, with one more group planned before the end of December. The first two release groups consisted of three langurs each, and were released in the Coban Talun PF, the first group on 31 March in the Petungamplok Block and the second on 28 July in the Pusung alang-alang

# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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Block. The third release group consisted of seven langurs and was released to the Babadan Block of the Kondang Merak PF (South Malang) on 17 September. The fourth group will consist of three langurs and will be released in Coban Talun PF in late December. All 13 langurs released so far in 2022 have survived.



In addition to our main project activities we also support university students to conduct internship programmes and research on the langurs with various subjects both in the rehabilitation centre and at the release sites. During 2022 we supported 15 students from several universities. Our education and awareness programme remains limited due to the Covid-19 pandemic but we managed to carry out three activities during 2022, to an audience of 120 people, and we participated in joint forest patrols with forestry rangers on three occasions.

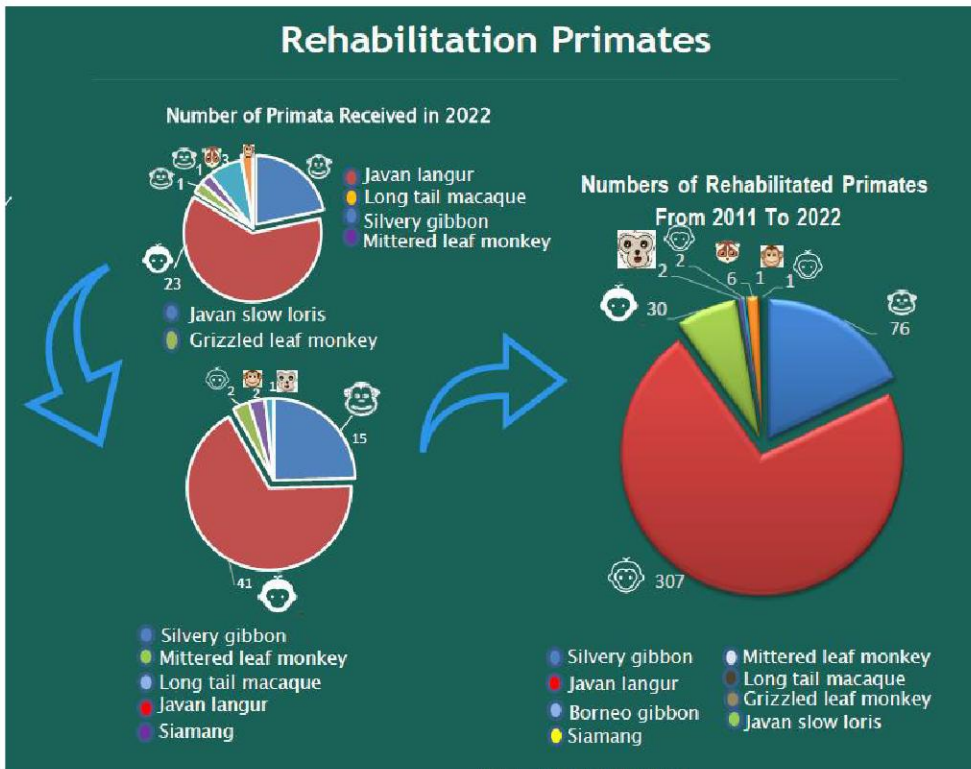
# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

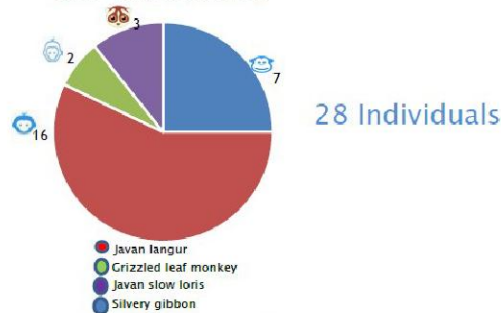
For the year ended 31 December 2022

### Annual figures:

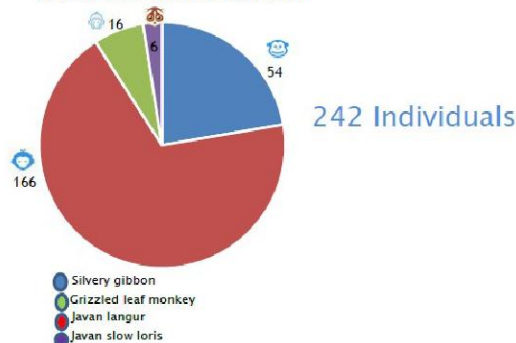
A total of 37 primates were received across the two sites in 2022 (8 Javan (silvery) gibbon, 23 Javan langur, 1 grizzled leaf monkey, 1 mittered leaf monkey, 3 Javan slow loris, 1 long tail macaque)



2022 - Primate's released



2012 to 2022 Primate's Released



# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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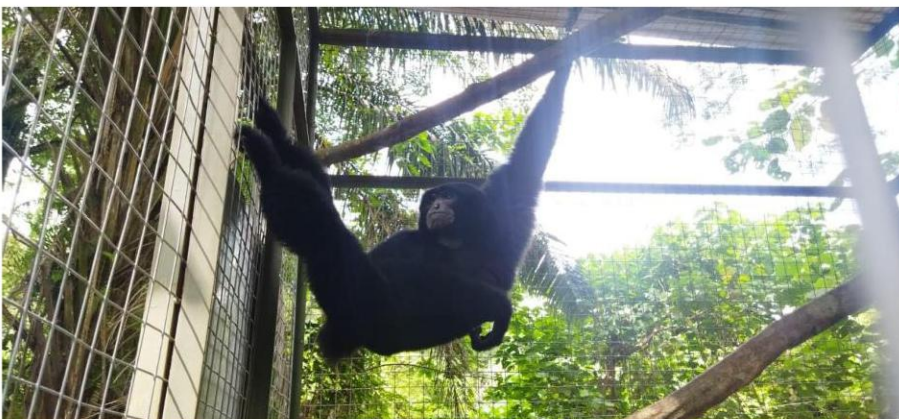
### Sumatra

Upon receiving approval for our Sumatran Siamang Rehabilitation and Reintroduction Project in May of 2022, along with multiple sources of grant funding, construction works have progressed, and our team have completed works on 8 quarantine enclosures, 4 socialisation enclosures, 1 education centre and 1 veterinary clinic. Construction will continue in the first quarter of 2023, with estimated completion expected in late March. Our in-country director Mr. Made Wedana has already received multiple reports of Siamang in the area in need of rescue and rehabilitation. Currently there are a pair of Siamang at our West Java Centre awaiting translocation to our newly established centre.



During Q1 2023, the main focus will be providing intense husbandry and welfare training to our newly appointed staff members, implementing administrative paperwork and processes, and completing the construction of the final infrastructure.

An opening ceremony with the authorities will be organised for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of the year for which our UK team hope to be present. Further events will be held at the centre to introduce local communities, as well as university and education partners to the project site and objectives. Research modules are being developed



and we are hopeful to implement a research project developing more detailed knowledge on the species.

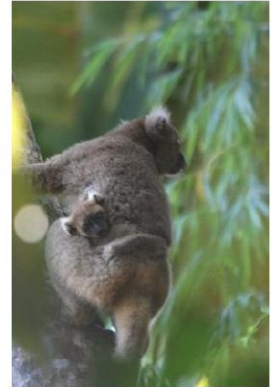
# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### Madagascar

The 4,000 ha Andriantantely forest is one of the largest remaining lowland tropical forests in Madagascar and is part of the CAZ protected area (Corridor Ankeniheny-Zahamena). Andriantantely is very rich in biodiversity and is the only lowland forest known to support four of the most Critically Endangered large-bodied lemurs, Indri, Black-and-White Ruffed Lemur, Greater Bamboo Lemur and Diademed Sifaka, which are also listed in the top 100 most evolutionarily distinct and globally endangered mammals by the ZSL EDGE programme. With the support of different partners, The Aspinnall Foundation – Madagascar Programme has run monitoring and community-based conservation activities in collaboration with local communities in the area since 2010.



Through our ongoing projects, we have helped to build the capacity of eight local community associations (VOIs) in terms of association and natural resources management. To date, we have supported the transfer of management of natural resources by the Ministry responsible for the Environment to five local communities. During 2022 the Soafaniry VOI has benefited from the official transfer of management of natural resources, meaning that 3,200 hectares of Andriantantely forest is now under local community management.



The black-and-white ruffed lemur (*Varecia variegata*) is one of four species of Critically Endangered lemurs protected by these community-based conservation agreements, but it is the one most highly sensitive to forest disturbance and changes to forest structure, as it requires the highest and strongest trees to build its nests and raise its babies. Our field teams of local community rangers, under the supervision of our field coordinator Hery Randriahaingo, have been monitoring ruffed lemurs here since 2010. After a boom in the number of individuals thanks to our permanent conservation and monitoring efforts, Andriantantely is now home to 103 groups of ruffed lemurs, totaling 447 individuals. This year our team recorded 20 births across these groups. Home range is estimated to be 11.2 hectares per group. The area also now supports over 700 greater bamboo lemurs, over 1,300 indris, and approximately 120 diademed sifakas.

# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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However, like all natural resources, especially forest in Madagascar, Andriantantely is suffering from several human pressures, including illegal logging, Teviala (cutting down the whole forest), Tavy (slash-and-burn agriculture), and hunting. During 2022, there were reports of 50 events of illegal precious tree logging with 141 trees cut, 9 cases of Teviala and 11 cases of Tavy causing the loss of 16 hectares of forest, and 7 reports of lemur traps. These infractions were reported to the regional representation of the Ministry of Environment, the Gendarmes, and the local authorities. Three law enforcement sessions were conducted, leading to the arrest of 7 people and a fine to 3 other people.

We are promoting local reforestation with native or/and endemic species that are known to be beneficial for both the local human and lemur populations. Annually, each member of each community is planting an average of 70 trees per person, utilising nearly 100 different species. To date, we have facilitated reforestation activities with 109,160 native trees from different categories, covering an area of approximately 55 hectares. This year, we successfully planted 39,950 trees.

Due to the persisting threats and pressures in the area, every year, we are running at least two sessions of awareness-raising: one during the World Environment Day during when we have reached about 1,700 people and the other one during the celebration of the World Lemur Festival attended by around 2,300 people. With our distribution of conservation-themed calendars, we have reached 7,350 families around the Andriantantely forest. We are also collaborating with 17 schools and have reached 2,300 children in total during our awareness-raising sessions and distribution of calendars.



# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

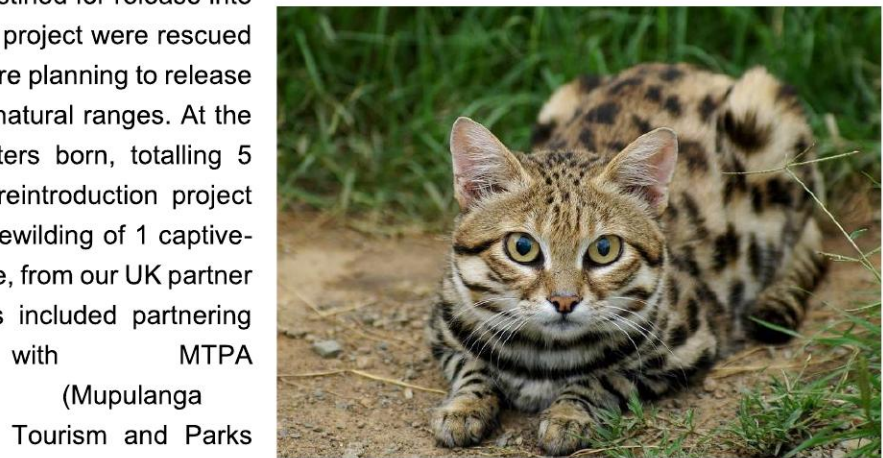
For the year ended 31 December 2022

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### South Africa



Another year of fast paced activities in South Africa has seen the implementation of many innovative projects. Most excitingly our lion rewilding project, focusing on the rewilding process of 2 captive born lion brothers Azi & Zazu, from our UK partner park Howletts. The initiative began in 2021 and in May of 2022 the pair arrived on African soil, since their arrival the young males have adjusted well to the climate and nutritional transition. Onward plans for the pair include selecting a larger area of land to fence to allow for the hunting phase of their rehabilitation process to begin. Some areas have already been visited, with another 3 properties to visit throughout the first quarter of 2023. Our team on the ground have also initiated an in-situ Black-footed cat breeding project, with offspring destined for release into the wild, founders of the breeding project were rescued individuals from the area that we are planning to release into, keeping the species in their natural ranges. At the end of 2022 we have had 2 litters born, totalling 5 individuals. The next innovative reintroduction project we have been working on is the rewilding of 1 captive-born female Honey Badger, Tembe, from our UK partner park, Howletts. The process has included partnering with MTPA



(Mupulanga Tourism and Parks Agency) who are regularly involved in the reintroduction of smaller species to their native ranges, throughout this process we have designed and are in the process of implementing a specially designed soft release enclosure, allowing Tembe to transition smoothly to her wild settings and eventual release into

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an area of over 10,000ha – we hope to implement her translocation in the first few months of 2023 once paperwork applications and issuances have been completed.

Updates on the current active projects include the Cheetah reintroduction project that began in early 2020 with the rewilding of captive-born cheetah brothers, Saba and Nairo, from our UK partner parks. Following on with the rewilding of captive-born brothers Kumbe and Jabari from Parc Safari in Canada. Nairo sired his first litter of cubs with captive-born Ava at Mount Camdeboo in November of 2021, and we have watched admiringly Ava raise her cubs throughout 2022. The litter of 4 individuals remain healthy and well and growing rapidly. During 2023 we will relocate the cubs to other reserves within SA to ensure the genetic diversification of the metapopulation. Plans to introduce female cheetah to Kumbe and Jabari are ongoing, and we hope to see this plan come to fruition in 2023.



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Throughout 2022, we have been actively looking for ways to establish new populations of animals in the region, in an effort to rewild habitats and stock species which historically occurred in areas. One such significant achievement was the establishment of a cape buffalo population in Barberton Nature Reserve. The reserve has not been home to buffalo for over 100 years and the Aspinall Foundation moved 20 buffalo from Nootgedacht Nature Reserve to Barberton Nature Reserve. The buffalo populations in South Africa have been extensively impacted on by corridor disease and foot and mouth disease. The 20 buffalo which were translocated were first held in quarantine and were tested for diseases. After testing negative, they were moved to Barberton where the herd will grow and contribute to the disease-free buffalo population in South Africa.



Amazingly, the first rescue operation we ever carried out, of the relocation of Harry the bull elephant from the dilapidated reserve Blauwbosch to Mount Camdeboo, has resulted in the subsequent pregnancy and birth of a male calf, a calf that would never have existed if it was not for our intervention in late 2019.

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Many more rescues have been carried out throughout 2022 including emergency elephant interventions, multiple rhino dehorning operations across the entirety of the South African region and various other species, including leopards, caracal, serval, genets, bushbabies, cheetah, pangolins, tigers, crocodiles and more. Overall, as 2022 draws to an end, our South African initiatives have positively impacted in excess of 400 individual animals, and we shall continue to add to this total in 2023.

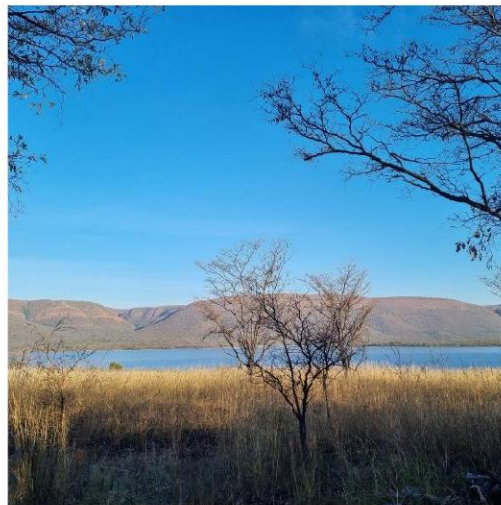
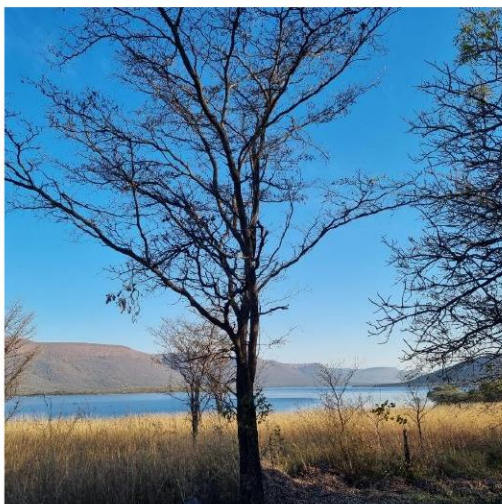
In addition to all of



the ground works completed in 2022, the Loskop Dam Project is

progressing well. The term sheet was first presented to the CEO and executive council of the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency who provided very good input and subsequently approved that the document be taken to the Board for their approval. We presented the Term Sheet to the Board who approved it and confirmed that they would be happy to see the project proceeding accordingly. We are now waiting for a meeting with the provincial cabinet and the premier's office to obtain provincial approval. This is mainly due to the duration of the agreement being 25 years. This needs to be approved by the Provincial Executive.

Additionally, we are making good progress with the King Family to secure their 10 000 ha in a long-term agreement (for approximately 50 years). They are happy with the terms so far and we will be meeting on site in January to start working on the logistics of the project. Considering we have only been working on this project for the last four months, we have made significant progress and we are looking forward to concluding the deals next year.



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### Kenya

Our UK keepers have focussed on trunk wash and crate training of the 13 elephants destined for Kenya during the past 6 months, allowing for essential disease testing prior to export. The elephants continue to react positively to all forms of training with 9 of 13 elephants secured in their transport crates by gates for periods of up to 20 minutes at a time – this progress will assist our expert transport team in keeping the elephants calm throughout the loading and transport process. We are continuing to liaise extensively with airfreight partners to develop and perfect the loading plan, equipment requirements and technical teams at sending and receiving airports, a trail load of our largest crate was conducted at Heathrow airport and overall load time including all necessary turns is approx. 35 minutes, smaller crates will take far less time. Discussions surrounding paperwork signatures remain ongoing following the change of ministry in August and we are hopeful that agreement will be reached during 2023/2024.



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### Romania

Hyphen, the European Bison, transported from Port Lympne to the Fagaras Mountains in the Southern Carpathians in December 2020, continues to manage his herd of females well. Having been free roaming for 18 months now, direct observations are becoming less frequent but the entire herd are in great condition and look incredible in the recent snowfall.



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### Pakistan

We have been working closely with the Pakistan Environment Trust to develop a programme to reintroduce rhinos to Pakistan. The Greater one-horned rhino is one of the iconic megafauna of the Indian sub-continent, and the proposed programme will see the return of rhinos to Pakistan for the first time in 400 years. Work has been ongoing to identify at least one reintroduction site in Pakistan to spearhead this programme, involving careful consideration of various ecological and socioeconomic factors to ascertain its suitability. Preliminary analyses have led to a short-list of sites which will be subject to a detailed feasibility study, planned for 2024 in collaboration with various international stakeholders. Once the site has been identified and agreed upon, the programme will need investment in habitat restoration as necessary, in community involvement, and in development of appropriate infrastructure and security measures. In the initial stages of the programme a small number of rhinos will be sourced from the global captive population for transfer to Pakistan, where they will undergo a carefully monitored rewilding programme prior to full release into the reintroduction site. Additional transfers of rhinos to Pakistan are likely to be necessary over a number of years to build up appropriate levels of genetic diversity within the reintroduced population. Once breeding is successful in Pakistan, it may also be appropriate to return some of the offspring into regional or global populations, to reduce the potential for inbreeding within the Pakistan population and to help ensure optimum levels of genetic diversity across all populations of the species.



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### Ghana

A potential opportunity to collaborate on a rewilding project in Ghana was identified during a prospection visit to Shai Hills Reserve in the Greater Accra Region. This is primarily a savannah ecosystem, although has forested hills in the centre of the reserve. The 51 km<sup>2</sup> Reserve is fenced (although the fence needs repairing or replacing in places), and has high potential for release of savannah wildlife, such as Patas monkeys (Near Threatened on the IUCN Red List - apparently the Forestry Commission has been keen to do this in the past, as many are confiscated in country) and cheetah.



The whole site is beautiful and has some important cultural sites. Inside the fence there are no villages, but a couple of tourist camps. There are some small-fenced areas near the entrance with zebras and ostriches (sourced from South Africa) which appear to be one of the perceived highlights of the reserve. Around the fairly extensive welcome facilities, offices etc, there are numerous baboons, and once out in the savannah there are significant numbers of Kob which are easily observed. Otherwise not many other ungulates it would



appear.

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Regarding the potential to bring in cheetahs, the original subspecies present in Ghana would have been the Northwest African Cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus heckii*. It is highly unlikely that this subspecies could be sourced for rewilding, and an alternative subspecies could be considered. As a fenced and isolated Reserve, Shai Hills would be a relatively low-risk site for pioneering cheetah reintroduction in Ghana. Given the fairly limited size of the Reserve and the associated limited capacity for maintaining the ungulate prey population, it is likely that an appropriate start for cheetahs would be to import two adult females and a coalition of two males. The cheetahs would need to be managed as part of an international metapopulation, so that offspring can be translocated to other sites as necessary, and additional individuals imported as appropriate to ensure long-term genetic health. As a guide to the numbers of prey that would be required, single adult cheetahs would be expected to take 120 small to medium-sized antelopes per year, whilst a coalition of two adult males would be expected to take 120 small to large-sized antelopes per year.

Another opportunity in Ghana would be to work on the White-naped mangabey (*Cercocebus lunulatus*). An isolated population of this Endangered monkey was discovered in Atewa forest by A Rocha Ghana in 2017, from camera-trap images. This is the most eastern known population of the species, which is otherwise restricted to western Ghana and eastern Cote d'Ivoire, and possibly southern Burkina Faso. The population in Atewa is isolated and is likely to be very small.

Atewa forest is threatened by potential bauxite mining which would destroy much of it. However it may never be mined officially, and in the meantime the lack of conservation commitment due to the risk of the possible major mining is allowing small-scale illegal destruction (logging, habitat loss, artisanal mining, hunting etc) to gradually destroy the forest. The Forestry Commission team responsible for protecting Atewa Range Forest Reserve struggles with a lack of sufficient rangers and supporting equipment. Sacred groves around the edges of the Forest Reserve are protected traditionally, although as everywhere some traditional protection attitudes are gradually eroding. Never-the-less, the sacred groves could be used as mini-sanctuaries around the Forest Reserve to support the protection of the forest and its wildlife.

A two-pronged approach to conservation might be the best way to utilise any available funds. One would be to support the FC by providing funds for additional rangers for the Forest Reserve (the Reserve manager suggested they were about six rangers short of having an effective team). The other would be to work with local communities to help protect one or more Sacred Groves, to include reintroduction of small numbers of primates that could be intensively monitored and protected within the Sacred Groves. If successful, including breeding, these would in future be able to bolster the main populations within the Forest Reserve as appropriate. These community-based projects would provide eco-tourism opportunities which are generally lacking in this Region of Ghana (Eastern Region) despite similar opportunities being well-established elsewhere in the country.



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### Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable 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 presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. 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 Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Trustees commissioned a full and detailed Governance Review during 2020. This has been carried out in accordance with the Charity Governance Code for Larger Charities (2020). Substantial progress has been made with most of the recommendations having been implemented.

### Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Foundation are:

1. The advancement and promotion (whether in England or elsewhere in the world) for the public benefit of education and useful knowledge in relation to the science of zoology, the preservation and exhibition of living animals and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) all wild animals in danger of extinction and the conservation of natural wildlife inhabitants.
2. Such other charitable purposes as the Trustees may by Deed appoint.

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Our commitment is to conservation, through captive breeding, education, and reintroduction. We are working in some of the world's most fragile environments to save endangered animals and return them to the wild. We seek to meet our charitable objectives in three ways:

1. To halt the extinction of endangered species in the wild by reintroducing animals and developing sustainable conservation activities; providing economic benefits to local communities and helping manage wilderness areas.
2. Provide the most natural environment possible for animals in both animal parks and be world leaders in our animal husbandry and breeding programmes.
3. Increase public understanding of animal welfare and how we can all act to protect animals in their natural environments.

### **Public benefit**

Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 requires that charitable activities provide a public benefit. The Trustees confirm that, when planning its activities, they have complied with the duty to 'have regard' to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

The Foundation's work on the reintroduction of species, including scientific evaluations and co-management of protected areas, helps preserve the natural environment and natural resources for the public benefit, for both current and future generations.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### **Organisational structure**

The Board of Trustees comprises the key governance personnel of the Foundation. The Board of Trustees holds regular meetings, at least four each year, and is responsible for the strategic direction and policies of the Foundation. Trustees are available at short notice between meetings, if required, to deal with any matters which may need attention.

The Trust has created an Investment Committee and are considering whether establishing further committees would be beneficial.

The day-to-day management is delegated, subject to a delegation matrix approved by the Board of Trustees, to relevant individuals from within the senior management team who are responsible for various operational matters including finance and employment. All delegated actions are monitored by the Trustees.

#### **Appointment and removal of Trustees**

The Charity is run by a board of four Trustees. New Trustees may be appointed, up to a maximum of seven, by the existing Trustees. The statutory power to appoint a Trustee vest in the Chairman and is exercised by deed. If at any time, owing to retirement, death or removal, the number of Trustees is reduced to less than three, the Chairman shall immediately appoint one or more Trustees to replace the Trustees who have retired, died or been removed. A Trustee may be removed by being given written notice from the Chairman.

The Foundation Trust Deed requires that, where possible, only lineal descendants of the founder can be the board chair.

#### **Trustee induction and training**

New Trustees are provided with an induction pack outlining their legal obligations under charity law, a copy of the charity's Trust Deed and recent financial performance of the charity. They are briefed on our work on breeding and caring for rare and endangered species.

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All Trustees receive ongoing training. Recently, courses have been run in areas such as Trustee Roles and Responsibilities, Safeguarding and other relevant legal updates,

### Policies

The Board of Trustees has established a suite of policy statements. These cover recruitment, conflicts of interest, expenses, financial reserves, and investments. Policies are regularly updated and there is an ongoing process to add new policies as the need arises.

### **Related parties and relationships with other organisations**

The Foundation works closely with an associated charity, The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT'). The Aspinall Foundation and THWAT have two Trustees in common, Damian Aspinall and Tansy Aspinall. THWAT has established world-class animal welfare and captive breeding programmes in its two parks in Kent: Howletts Park and Port Lympne Reserve, which recently received an extremely positive conservation assessment report from DEFRA. The Foundation re-introduces animals from the parks' captive breeding programs back into the wild. The success of these programs can be measured by the number of captive births and animal reintroductions set out elsewhere in this report.

This work takes place alongside the other programmes the Foundation runs overseas, where it is protecting animals from human development and poaching.

The Foundation shares resources with THWAT helping to minimise costs.

### **Remuneration policy for key management personnel**

Key management personnel pay rates are set in line with other charities or companies of a similar size and with regard to our location and the necessary skills and experience for the role

### **Fundraising activity**

The Foundation's approach to fundraising focuses on building relationships with individuals and companies that are committed to protecting rare and endangered species.

The Foundation aims to ensure that our supporters and the wider public are treated fairly and with respect. The Foundation remains fully committed to its core fundraising principles and is continually looking for ways to improve and to address new challenges.

### **Fundraising approach:**

The Foundation uses a variety of fundraising approaches to engage with members of the public including working with face-to-face fundraisers, local events, community activities and utilising multiple channels, including direct mail, email, telephone, social media, online communications as well as our own in-house publications such as our supporters' magazine, Wildcry. These are vital ways to both raise awareness and engage people with the work of the Foundation.

Our own internal fundraising team carries out much of this activity, but we also work with carefully selected and trained professional partners with specific expertise to support our team.

The Foundation has a Personal Data Governance Framework in place which is regularly reviewed and updated to maintain and demonstrate compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Privacy and Electronic Communication Regulations.

### **Fundraising Standards:**

The Foundation voluntarily subscribes to the Fundraising Regulator and its Code of Fundraising Practice. The Foundation is also a member of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising. No failures to comply with fundraising standards have been notified to the Foundation.

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The Foundation is also signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service which enables individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications. The Foundation received and actioned requests where necessary from this service last year.

#### **Protection of vulnerable people:**

The Foundation is especially careful and sensitive when engaging with vulnerable people. This is reflected in our fundraising practices, through the guidance and training of our staff, and by choosing not to undertake door to door fundraising.

#### **Feedback and complaints:**

The Foundation had over 600,000 interactions with its supporters last year through a wide range of channels, including events, face-to-face, telephone, email, in the press, through social media and on the website. Supporter surveys have regularly been undertaken in order to get direct feedback from donors.

Where shortcomings have been identified, guidance and training for staff has been reviewed and enhanced, with new processes put in place, both to prevent recurrence of the issues and to improve supporter experience. The Foundation provides contact details for its complaints process and includes these details on its website.

The Foundation recorded no complaints in 2022.

#### **Financial review**

During 2022 the total income for the Foundation was £1.9m (2021: £2.3m). This was from three main sources: donations from more than 9,000 regular supporters to the charity, corporate donations, and Gift Aid refunds. Income is directed towards the charitable work of the Foundation in both the UK and overseas in line with the Foundation's commitments to its supporters. The operating deficit for 2022 was £3,357,000 (2021: surplus of £1,056,000) and the new balance sheet position at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 was £35,374,000 (2021: £38,731,000)

#### **Investment policy**

The objective of the Trust's investment policy is to maximise long-term capital returns with a reasonable tolerance to market volatility and a paramount focus on liquidity and diversification.

All investments held by the Foundation have been acquired in accordance with powers vested in the Trustees. Slater Investments Limited advises on the Foundation's investment portfolio. The Foundation had a net loss of £2,210,000 (2021: gain of £2,025,000) on investments.

#### **Reserves policy**

At the year end the Foundation had total reserves of £35,374,000. Of this amount, £612,000 are restricted and not available for the general purposes of the charity.

Additionally, £24,416,000 was invested in long-term fixed assets which consisted of Freehold and Long leasehold properties, Fine Art, and other items, and £114,000 in non-liquid investments. The free reserves available to the Foundation were therefore £10,232,000. There were no material amounts committed at the end of the reporting period.

The free reserves held are in line with the Investment and Reserves Policy which notes that the Foundation has limited fixed funding requirements and non-discretionary liabilities. It is the policy of the Foundation to predominantly pursue an investment strategy aimed at maximising long-term capital returns to preserve its reserves.

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It is difficult to forecast with any degree of certainty what future funding streams will look like. Nevertheless, the Trustees have adopted a policy to ensure that the resources of the Foundation are used in the most effective way to support its objects and also to ensure that the Foundation remains financially resilient. Our reserves policy is therefore to maintain sufficient reserves to enable the Foundation to continue its activities should there be a drop in income. As such reserves are required to provide an adequate level of working capital to ensure the ongoing viability of our core work, cover for risks of unforeseen expenditure and/or unanticipated loss of income.

The Trustees are also mindful of the fact that should the Foundation need to wind down its activities, there are commitments that would need to be met, including staff liabilities, operating costs commitments and the repayment of restricted fund donations.

In light of the above, the Trustees aim to maintain a level of reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of annual administrative costs. As such the objects of the reserves policy have been successfully achieved.

The reserves policy is reviewed at least annually by the Aspinall Foundation Investment Committee which reports to the Foundation's Trustee Board.

### **Principal risks and uncertainties and risk management**

The Trustees are very aware of the types of major risks to which the Foundation is exposed, and they have prepared an appropriate Risk Management Register, which both identifies those risks and indicates what provision has been made for dealing with them. This was conducted in line with Charity Commission guidance CC26.

The principal risks to which the Foundation is exposed include:

- Reputational and financial risks arising from the Foundation's close association with The Howletts Wild Animal Trust
- Risks connected to overseas operations, such as fraud, theft, injury to staff member, death of animals
- Fraud or data breach in the Foundation
- Adverse media

The Trustees continue to keep under review the systems in place, which they believe are appropriate to the size of the Charity and the nature of its operations, in order to mitigate these risks.

These matters are considered at the quarterly board meetings (or more frequently if required).

### **Plans for the future**

The key component of the Aspinall Foundation's philosophy has been the reintroduction of species to the wild. The Aspinall Foundation has rewilded over 300 formerly captive / rescued animals into areas of protected wilderness, including 70 western lowland gorillas, 8 black rhinos (which now have over 60 descendants roaming the wild), 4 cheetahs, 11 Przewalski horses, 3 zebras, a brown hyena, 20 mandrills, 12 European bison, 7 painted dogs and 215 Javan langurs and gibbons. In the next three years we plan to double our efforts towards this goal and below are the projects that we are working on during this time.

In 2022/ 2023 we plan to carry out the biggest intercontinental animal translocation that has ever been attempted, the transfer of a herd of 13 African elephants from Howletts wild animal park to a protected area in Kenya. We have explored two sites, each with its own challenges and benefits. The larger of the two has been selected and has the potential for our herd to eventually mix with tens of thousands of other elephants.

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Although we made the difficult decision not to send the Howletts elephants to the Kiang West National Park in Gambia after a year of surveys, meetings and planning; we are still actively working on this project with one change to the plan; we hope to bring a herd of elephants from South Africa. There are however major challenges to realise this incredible conservation story which could unlock so much for Gambian wildlife and tourism.

The elephant translocation has already received unprecedented public attention and we intend to use this opportunity to promote the foundation's vision and highlight the awful logic of keeping elephants in captivity and capturing wild elephants for zoos. This transfer sends a powerful message to zoos around the world that elephants belong in the wild and should not be used as so-called conservation 'ambassadors' in captivity.

Our intention is to build on the momentum and publicity of this translocation to leverage other ground-breaking projects in the next 3 years; we have already been working with the government of Pakistan to plan the reintroduction of one-horned rhino and cheetah back into the country. There are challenges to overcome for both species but our first-hand experience reintroducing rhinos and cheetahs in Africa will help enormously.

We are also looking at a potential cheetah rewilding project in UAE which we hope will highlight and put a stop to the illegal trade in wild caught cheetah that we witnessed during our extensive work in Somaliland. The recent trend of people posting images of themselves with habituated cheetahs is quite common in the UAE; this project will raise awareness within the country of the issues surrounding cheetah conservation and consequently reduce demand for importing cheetahs whilst facilitating law enforcement when necessary. The plan is to rewild cheetahs currently held captive in the UAE for release into restored and protected sites.

Another collaborative project we are working on is the reintroduction of cheetahs to India, an idea that has been discussed for decades but continually thwarted by overzealous interpretation of the precautionary principle. Happily, our partners at the Endangered Wildlife Trust have had a bureaucratic breakthrough in showing the India government how the reintroduction could be implemented (more than half the battle). Although we will not have direct involvement in this project, we are hoping to be able to source the close relatives of the critically endangered Asiatic cheetah (possibly from UAE) for the release project.

In South Africa we will continue to monitor Howletts-born cheetah Nairo, whose progress to date has been nothing short of spectacular and has provided us with priceless insights into rewilding this species. We will also be building on the equally successful transfer we organised of two male cheetahs from Canada to a reserve in Zimbabwe. This type of partnership with like-minded zoos and sanctuaries around the world is something we are keen to foster. We will provide the contacts and experience, facilitating a much smoother reintroduction programme that avoids multiple translocations and quarantines. We have plans to reintroduce at least six cheetahs into southern Africa in the next 18 months. I would like to pause and remember the countless zoo apparatchiks who insisted that this could never be done.

Similarly, we are currently working with a reserve in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) to reintroduce 3 roan antelope, 4 sable and up to 4 kudu antelope from Howletts and Port Lympne. We are working with several private reserves in South Africa to rewild many of the smaller predators that we keep (honey badgers (1), caracal (3), serval (6), mongoose (6)). Painted dogs are another southern African species that we are planning to rewild at different sites in Angola and Zimbabwe, presently we have two separate groups of 4 females and 1 male and 3 females available for immediate rewilding, with younger specimens in the running for rewilding within the next 18 months. We are also supporting an organisation in South Africa that are successfully breeding 2 pairs of vulnerable black-footed cats, with 3 kittens born to date, destined for release. We are working with the The Howletts Wild Animal Trust managed parks in the UK to create a herd of 7 disease free Cape buffalo for breeding, aiming to transfer their offspring to Southern Africa within the next 3-4 years as TB has become endemic in the region and this herd could play a valuable conservation role for the species. All

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these species have been depleted throughout southern Africa and we believe that the captive population should be put to good use reinforcing these areas.

The foundation is collaborating with organisations in Kenya that are looking to bolster the dwindling number of critically endangered mountain bongo antelope by sending three females to a protected area near Mount Kenya.

Other projects that we will be researching include a protected area management partnership with a kingdom in Ghana and possible black rhino reintroductions in Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda. Not all these projects will come to fruition, and they may take significant time to research but we believe that such partnerships are always worth exploring, the successful ones have been the cornerstones of our work. We have three female rhinos crate trained and ready to be released in their former range and will be able to reintroduce an estimated three rhinos every other year from the UK.

We plan to build on the recent successes that our emergency response team in Southern Africa has had, rescuing and translocating elephants and rhinos at risk from human conflict, poaching and bad management practises across the region. We have built a reputation for rapid and dependable interventions with local and regional governments and communities so much so that they are coming to us with projects to help them with. So far, we have rescued over 40 elephants and 10 rhinos and dehorned a further 311 rhinos, and we have also recently been involved in the rescue and relocation of two captive Siberian tigers, and 4 lions in desperate conditions. These interventions routinely raise difficult moral dilemmas such as whether rhino dehorning deters poaching? And is it ethical to send elephants threatened with starvation to well-run reserves that practise sustainable hunting of plains game (antelope). We won't avoid confronting these dilemmas despite unfair mischaracterisation from the press.

Our gorilla project in Congo-Brazzaville is now over thirty years old and its success speaks for itself. We have achieved remarkable results not only with the still unique gorilla reintroduction programme but also the rehabilitation of a reserve that was once almost completely depleted of wildlife. Today there are hippos in the rivers, leopards in the forest and herds of buffalo in the savannah. The reintroduced gorillas act as a cornerstone for this ecosystem-level restoration (as the elephants in Kenya will one day do). We have had challenges with poaching during the pandemic (as there has been everywhere we work in Africa) but we have appointed a new experienced team leader to coordinate efforts to stamp this out.

In Congo we benefit from a collaborative government partnership and we will be increasing our translocations from the UK of Congolese species including several De Brazza monkeys, red river hogs (4) and waterbuck (5). We will also continue our captive-born gorilla reintroductions with more plans for captive gorillas to be reintroduced in the next three years

At our sister gorilla project in neighbouring Gabon the milestone birth of the first wild-born infant to captive born parents, continues to be a huge success. Our other reintroduced gorilla groups keep growing and our presence at our base camp in the heart of the national park has provided continued protection from incursions by poachers since 1998 (for a lot of this time providing the only protection). The park has thrived because of this, with increased numbers of elephants and other large mammals that were not there in nearly such quantities when we first arrived.

In Sumatra we begun building a new rescue and rehabilitation centre based on the same model that has proved so successful in Java. Like Javan gibbons, siamang gibbons are kept as pets and there is an urgent need to provide the authorities with suitable facilities for homing and rewilding confiscated individuals. As such we are in the process of constructing a complex that will allow us to rehabilitate often traumatised siamangs before releasing them in protected areas in Sumatra. We hope that the resulting law enforcement and

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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education will help reduce the trade in siamangs as well as provide another chance of life in the wild for the confiscated individuals. We estimate that we will be able to release up to 20 formerly captive siamangs every year.

We are continuing to finesse our Javan gibbon and langur reintroduction projects in Java and they now rehabilitate and release a continuous stream of primates back into the wild (over 210 so far). We are planning more transfers of captive primates, including 9 gibbons and 6 langurs, from the UK but are dealing with a backlog because of covid restrictions and sanitary health certificate updates.

We have had great success with our European bison reintroduction project in Romania where we successfully released a herd of 6 females into Vanatori Neamt Nature Park. We transferred an adult male in late 2020 to a new project further south in the Romanian Carpathians, in the Fagaras mountains. He was released in 2021 with females from various sources in Europe, and we will continue to monitor the progress of both projects. We continue to look for other opportunities for releasing our remaining European bison.

The foundation's community-based conservation programme for lemurs and other highly threatened endemic wildlife in Madagascar focuses on three main geographical areas, dry forests and wetlands of western central Madagascar, high elevation rainforest in eastern Madagascar, and lowland rainforest and surrounding habitat fragments also in eastern Madagascar. We help conserve six critically endangered lemur species as well as critically endangered Madagascar fish eagles and big-headed turtles, plus many other endangered and endemic species of mammals, fish and birds. We have been able to leverage our core funding to successfully apply for several conservation grants from various organisations which fund our remarkably effective work in Madagascar.

### Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

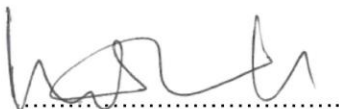
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### Auditors

Goldwins Limited were re-appointed as the auditors of the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on ..26th October 2023..... and signed on their behalf by



**J D A Aspinall**  
Trustee

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Aspinall Foundation for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the consolidated and parent charity Balance Sheet, consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the group financial statements is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charity's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of the group's income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and the parent charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and the parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

## **Responsibilities of the trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

## **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the group's and parent charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group and the parent charity operate in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group and the parent charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [[www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities)]. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Goldwins*

Date: 27 October 2023

.....  
**Goldwins Limited**  
**Statutory Auditor**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**75 Maygrove Road**  
**West Hampstead**  
**London NW6 2EG**

Goldwins Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds 2022 £'000	Total Funds 2021 £'000
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	1,500	247	1,747	1,917
Other trading activities	4	37	-	37	51
Investment income	5	137	-	137	357
<b>Total income</b>		<u>1,674</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>1,921</u>	<u>2,325</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	6	904	-	904	843
Charitable activities		2,087	104	2,191	2,436
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>2,991</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>3,095</u>	<u>3,279</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	(2,210)	-	(2,210)	2,025
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>		<u>(3,527)</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>(3,384)</u>	<u>1,071</u>
Other gains/(losses)		27	-	27	(15)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(3,500)</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>(3,357)</u>	<u>1,056</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	28	38,262	469	38,731	37,675
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u><u>34,762</u></u>	<u><u>612</u></u>	<u><u>35,374</u></u>	<u><u>38,731</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.


The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10		24,416		24,576
Investments	12		9,805		9,985
			<u>34,221</u>		<u>34,561</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	16	15		-	
Debtors	14	1,528		1,871	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,008		4,773	
		<u>2,551</u>		<u>6,644</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(648)</u>		<u>(1,224)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>1,903</u>		<u>5,420</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			36,124		39,981
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	20		(750)		(1,250)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u>35,374</u>		<u>38,731</u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	28		612		469
Unrestricted funds:	28				
General reserves		21,566		25,066	
Revaluation reserve		<u>13,196</u>		<u>13,196</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			34,762		38,262
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>35,374</u>		<u>38,731</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 26th October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



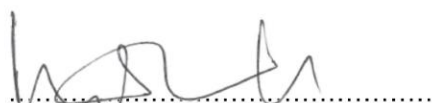
J D A Aspinall  
Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Charity Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	11		24,416		24,576
Investments	13		9,805		9,985
			<u>34,221</u>		<u>34,561</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	17	15		-	
Debtors	15	1,528		1,871	
Cash at bank and in hand		864		4,629	
		<u>2,407</u>		<u>6,500</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	19	<u>(648)</u>		<u>(1,224)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>1,759</u>		<u>5,276</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			35,980		39,837
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	21		(750)		(1,250)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u>35,230</u>		<u>38,587</u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	29		508		365
Unrestricted funds:	29				
General reserves		21,526		25,026	
Revaluation reserve		13,196		13,196	
Total unrestricted funds		<u>34,722</u>		<u>38,222</u>	
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>35,230</u>		<u>38,587</u>

Approved by the Trustees on ~~26th October 2023~~ and signed on their behalf by:



**J D A Aspinall**  
Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 £'000	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2021 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>					
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	22		(1,895)		(749)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Interest/ rent/ dividends from investments		137		357	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets investments		(2,030)		2,453	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		(4)		(36)	
<b>Cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			<b>(1,897)</b>		<b>2,774</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			<b>(3,792)</b>		<b>2,025</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			4,773		2,763
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			27		(15)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	23		<b>1,008</b>		<b>4,773</b>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

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### 1 Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements 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 charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### **Basis of Consolidation**

The consolidated Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet include the financial statements of the Foundation and its Subsidiary made up to 31 December 2022.

#### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

#### **Income**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Donations of gifts, services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable that economic benefit can be measured reliably, and is material to the accounts. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the Trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Unrestricted funds include a revaluation reserve representing restatement of investment assets at market values.

Restricted funds are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the trust arising from the express or implied wishes of the donors, in so far as these are intended to be binding on the trustees.

#### Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity and its activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. Expenditure is allocated to categories in accordance with the main activity of the staff concerned or the substance of the costs incurred.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Freehold land and works of art are not depreciated, as these assets are, in the opinion of the trustees, worth in excess of their book values. The freehold mansion is depreciated at the rate of 2% per annum on cost.

Software & IT Equipment, Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment are stated at cost less depreciation at a rate of 25% reducing balance. Motor vehicles are stated at cost less depreciation at a rate of 25% straight line.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

#### Fixed Asset 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. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities. Unlisted investments are stated at trustees' valuation.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued) Debtors

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

#### Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### 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. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

#### Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the Balance Sheet date. Gains or losses on translation are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### Pensions

The Foundation makes contributions to a defined contribution scheme for certain staff members. The cost of these contributions is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds £'000
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	1,544	373	1,917
Other trading activities	51	-	51
Investment income	357	-	357
<b>Total income</b>	<u>1,952</u>	<u>373</u>	<u>2,325</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	843	-	843
Charitable activities	2,179	257	2,436
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>3,022</u>	<u>257</u>	<u>3,279</u>
Net gains / (losses) on investments	2,025	-	2,025
<b>Net income for the year</b>	<u>955</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>1,071</u>
Other gains/losses	(15)	-	(15)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<u>940</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>1,056</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	37,322	353	37,675
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u><u>38,262</u></u>	<u><u>469</u></u>	<u><u>38,731</u></u>

### 3 Income from donations

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Legacies	158	300
Donations	1,365	1,477
Animal sponsorships	224	129
Grants	-	11
	<u>1,747</u>	<u>1,917</u>

### 4 Income from other trading activities

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Other	37	51
	<u>37</u>	<u>51</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

<b>5 Income from investments</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£'000	£'000
Income from listed investments	30	257
Rental income	54	56
Interest on loans	53	44
	<u>137</u>	<u>357</u>

## 6 Expenditure

	Basis of Allocation	Raising Funds		Charitable Activities			Governance Costs	2022	2021 Total
		Costs of Generating Funds	Costs of Investment	TAF Overseas Projects	Other Charitable Projects	Support Costs			
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b>Costs directly allocated to activities</b>									
Staff costs	Direct	326	-	377	-	116	-	819	778
Fundraising costs	Direct	305	-	-	-	-	-	305	281
Donations	Direct	-	-	1,012	-	-	-	1,012	957
Maintenance	Direct	-	-	-	-	65	-	65	52
Depreciation	Direct	-	-	-	-	164	-	164	167
Legal and professional fees	Direct	-	-	-	-	156	243	399	640
<b>Support costs allocated to activities</b>									
Other overheads	Income/ Direct	30	-	91	124	86	-	331	404
		<u>661</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,480</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>587</u>	<u>243</u>	<u>3,095</u>	<u>3,279</u>
Support costs		172	-	-	415	(587)	-	-	-
Governance costs		71	-	-	172	-	(243)	-	-
<b>Total expenditure 2022</b>		<u>904</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,480</u>	<u>711</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,095</u>	
<b>Total expenditure 2021</b>		<u>840</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1,386</u>	<u>1,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>3,279</u>

Of the total expenditure £104,000 was restricted (2021: £257,000) and £2,956,000 was unrestricted (2021: £3,022,000).

## 7 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£'000	£'000
This is stated after charging / (crediting):		
Auditors' remuneration	10	10
Depreciation	164	167
	<u>174</u>	<u>177</u>

## 8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from income tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 9 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£'000	£'000
Salaries and wages	721	697
Social security costs	64	55
Pension costs	21	19
Other staff costs	13	7
	<u>819</u>	<u>778</u>

The number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer's national insurance and pension costs) for the reporting period amounting to over £60,000 were as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	No.	No.
£70,000 - £79,999	1	1
£80,000 - £89,999	1	1

The average number of employees during the period was:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	No.	No.
	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>

The total employee gross salary and benefits, including employer's national insurance and pension contributions of the key management personnel were £100,788 (2021: £101,069).

The charity trustees were not paid for employment by, nor did they receive any other employment benefits from the Trust in the year (2021: £nil). JDA Aspinall was reimbursed during the year a total of £2,612 (2021: £1,644) for travel expenses incurred on behalf of the Foundation. CPN Filmer was reimbursed £77 (2021: £36) during the year for travel expenses. No other trustee received any reimbursement of expenses during the year (2021: £nil).

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 10 Tangible Fixed Assets - Group

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Motor Vehicles £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2022	22,966	3,108	36	120	26,230
Additions	-	-	-	4	4
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	22,966	3,108	36	124	26,234
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2022	1,564	-	9	81	1,654
Charge for the year	145	-	9	10	164
At 31 December 2022	1,709	-	18	91	1,818
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 31 December 2022	21,257	3,108	18	33	24,416
At 31 December 2021	21,402	3,108	27	39	24,576

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

### 11 Tangible Fixed Assets - Charity

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Motor Vehicles £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2022	22,966	3,108	36	120	26,230
Additions	-	-	-	4	4
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	22,966	3,108	36	124	26,234
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2022	1,564	-	9	81	1,654
Charge for the year	145	-	9	10	164
At 31 December 2022	1,709	-	18	91	1,818
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 31 December 2022	21,257	3,108	18	33	24,416
At 31 December 2021	21,402	3,108	27	39	24,576

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 12 Fixed Asset Investments - Group

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	9,691	9,871
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	114	114
	<u>9,805</u>	<u>9,985</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2022	9,985	10,413
Additions	2,030	264
Disposals	-	(2,717)
Net investment gains/(losses)	(2,210)	2,025
Market value at 31 December 2022	<u>9,805</u>	<u>9,985</u>

### 13 Fixed Asset Investments - Charity

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	9,691	9,871
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	114	114
	<u>9,805</u>	<u>9,985</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2022	9,985	10,413
Additions	2,030	264
Disposals	-	(2,717)
Net investment gains/(losses)	(2,210)	2,025
Market value at 31 December 2022	<u>9,805</u>	<u>9,985</u>

### 14 Debtors - Group

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Trade debtors	6	109
Long term debtors	1,250	1,750
Other debtors	272	12
	<u>1,528</u>	<u>1,871</u>

### 15 Debtors - Charity

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Trade debtors	6	109
Long term debtors	1,250	1,750
Other debtors	272	12
	<u>1,528</u>	<u>1,871</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 16 Stock - Group

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Stock	15	-

### 17 Stock - Charity

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Stock	15	-

### 18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - Group

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Bank loans and overdraft	508	501
Trade creditors	51	443
Other creditors	3	3
Other taxes and social security	15	20
Accruals	71	257
	<u>648</u>	<u>1,224</u>

### 19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - Charity

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Bank loans and overdraft	508	501
Trade creditors	51	443
Other creditors	3	3
Other taxes and social security	15	20
Accruals	71	257
	<u>648</u>	<u>1,224</u>

### 20 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - Group

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Bank loans	750	1,250
	<u>750</u>	<u>1,250</u>

### 21 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - Charity

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Bank loans	750	1,250
	<u>750</u>	<u>1,250</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 22 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£'000	£'000
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	(3,384)	1,071
Interest, rent and dividends from investments	(137)	(357)
Depreciation charges	164	167
(Gains)/ losses on investments	2,210	(2,025)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	343	333
(Increase) / decrease in stock	(15)	-
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(1,076)	62
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>(1,895)</u>	<u>(749)</u>

### 23 Analysis of changes in cash during the year

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank and in hand	1,008	4,773
	<u>1,008</u>	<u>4,773</u>

### 24 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Group

	<b>General</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,416	-	24,416
Investments	9,805	-	9,805
Current assets	1,939	612	2,551
Current liabilities	(648)	-	(648)
Non-current liabilities	(750)	-	(750)
At 31 December 2022	<u>34,762</u>	<u>612</u>	<u>35,374</u>

### 25 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Group 2021

	<b>General</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,576	-	24,576
Investments	9,985	-	9,985
Current assets	6,175	469	6,644
Current liabilities	(1,224)	-	(1,224)
Non-current liabilities	(1,250)	-	(1,250)
At 31 December 2021	<u>38,262</u>	<u>469</u>	<u>38,731</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 26 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Charity

	General Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,416	-	24,416
Investments	9,805	-	9,805
Current assets	1,899	508	2,407
Current liabilities	(648)	-	(648)
Non-current liabilities	(750)	-	(750)
At 31 December 2021	34,722	508	35,230

### 27 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Charity 2021

	General Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,576	-	24,576
Investments	9,985	-	9,985
Current assets	6,135	365	6,500
Current liabilities	(1,224)	-	(1,224)
Non-current liabilities	(1,250)	-	(1,250)
At 31 December 2021	38,222	365	38,587

### 28 Movement in Funds - Group

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	469	247	(104)	-	612
Total restricted funds	469	247	(104)	-	612
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	38,262	1,701	(5,201)	-	34,762
Total unrestricted funds	38,262	1,701	(5,201)	-	34,762
Total funds	38,731	1,948	(5,305)	-	35,374

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 29 Movement in Funds - Charity

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	365	247	(104)	-	508
Total restricted funds	365	247	(104)	-	508
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	38,222	1,701	(5,201)	-	34,722
Total unrestricted funds	38,222	1,701	(5,201)	-	34,722
Total funds	38,587	1,948	(5,305)	-	35,230

### 30 The Aspinall Foundation South Africa NPL

The Aspinall Foundation South Africa (TAF SA) is a South African registered non-profit company (number 2021/481489/08), which was established during 2021. The sole member is the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation. The accounting period for TAF SA ends on 28 February 2022: for the purposes of the consolidated accounts, management accounts for the period ending 31 December 2022 have been prepared.

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Assets at 31 December 2022	144	144
Liabilities at 31 December 2022	-	-
Reserves at 31 December 2022	144	144
Gross income for the period ending 31 December 2022	259	330
Expenditure for the period ending 31 December 2022	(258)	(186)
Surplus for the period ending 31 December 2022	1	144

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

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### 31 Related Party Transactions

During the year the Foundation benefitted from gifts in kind valued at £35,100 (2021: £34,000), for the provision of office space and PA services.

During the year, the Foundation received income of £48,980 (2021 - £48,715) from JDA Aspinall for the rent of Howletts Mansion and other recharges. The rent has been calculated by reference to an independent professional valuation of Howletts Mansion.

During the year the Foundation received invoices from THWAT and its subsidiary of £398,219 (2021: £293,898) being recharges of costs incurred on its behalf, and The Aspinall Foundation raised invoices amounting to £7,725 (2021: £16,198) to THWAT and its subsidiary. The Foundation also has a short term loan account with THWAT. At the year end The Aspinall Foundation owed £2,718 to THWAT and its subsidiary (2021: £331,273).

During the year, the Foundation was charged by Alvarium PO Limited £105,488.73 (2021 - £154,148) at arm's length for accounting, administrative, advisory and project services. CPN Filmer, one of the trustees, is a director of Alvarium PO Limited. As this is a charitable foundation, fees are charged at a substantially discounted rate and comprise a fixed element for day to day accounting and administrative work, and a time-based element for additional advisory and project-based work. All invoices are approved by the Chairman and by one of the independent trustees.

The Foundation leases land and buildings to THWAT and its subsidiary for an annual rent of £1 (2021: £1).

Payments to related parties are all authorised by the Foundation's governing documents.

In May 2020, the Foundation entered into a Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan 'CBIL' of £2,000,000. No interest or capital repayments were due during the Business Interruption Payment ('BIP') period (12 months from the date of the first drawdown). Thereafter, interest is charged at 2.09% above base rate, and 16 quarterly capital payments of £125,000 are due. The loan is guaranteed by Howletts & Port Lympne Estates Ltd ('HPLE') and The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT').

The CBIL was subsequently loaned to THWAT on the same terms as those of the original loan. JDA Aspinall is Chairman and trustee of THWAT and T Aspinall is a trustee of THWAT. The loan is authorised by the Foundation's governing documents. At the year end the balance due was £1,250,000. Interest payments of £52,412 (2021: £21,548) were made by THWAT to the Foundation.

During 2018, the Foundation entered into a Limited Guarantee and Indemnity agreement with Barclays Bank PLC for the liabilities of THWAT (amount £5,000,000).

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 326567

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# Accounts

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Charity No. 326567

**Annual report and financial statements**

**For the year ended**

**31 December 2021**

# **The Aspinall Foundation**

**Report and financial statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2021**

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# The Aspinall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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Trustees: Damian Aspinall (Chair)  
Robin Birley  
Charles Filmer  
Ben Goldsmith  
Tansy Aspinall  
Maarten Petermann

Charity number: 326567

Registered office: Port Lympne Reserve  
Lympne  
Nr. Ashford  
Kent  
CT 21 4PD

Auditors: Goldwins Limited  
75 Maygrove Road  
West Hampstead  
London  
NW6 2EG

Bankers Barclays Bank plc  
93 Baker Street  
London  
W1A 4SD

Solicitors Girlings Solicitors LLP  
Stourside Place  
Station Road  
Ashford  
Kent  
TN23 1PP

Investment advisors Slater Investment Limited  
Nicholas House  
3 Laurence Pountney Hill  
London  
EC4R 0EU

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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### *Committed to Conservation*

The Aspinall Foundation ("Foundation" or "TAF") was established as a charitable trust by a Trust Deed on 30 March 1984 and registered as a charity under number 326567 on 27 April 1984. The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

### **Introduction**

Following the creation of Howletts and Port Lympne zoological parks in 1959 and 1975 respectively, The Aspinall Foundation was founded in 1984 as a UK registered charity (under the name of The Howletts and Port Lympne Foundation, and eventually The Aspinall Foundation), the vision of which has always been to contribute to global species conservation through integrating ex situ and in situ activities.

Our global wildlife conservation work, again spanning over thirty years, covers diverse issues including tackling the illegal wildlife trade, the "re-wilding" and eventual release of wild-born animals confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade and of captive-born animals, the reintroduction of species to sites where they have become locally extirpated, the reinforcement of small isolated populations of threatened species, the co-management of protected areas with national governments, the scientific evaluation of wild, reintroduced and captive wildlife populations, and the recovery of threatened species through community-based conservation.

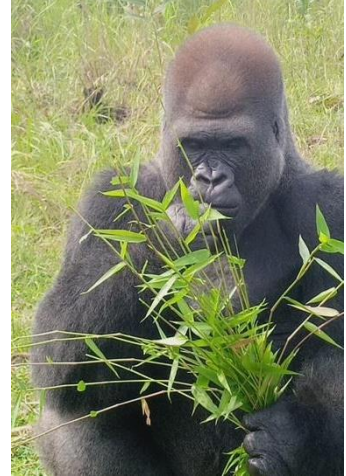
# The Aspinall Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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## OVERSEAS CONSERVATION PROJECTS



# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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### Congo

2021 has proved to be a successful year in the Congo, beginning with the arrival of captive - born silverback Joshi from Howletts in March 2021. Joshi quickly adapted to the climate and was soon introduced to the two wild born orphans Loukelela and Bomassa. This process has been wonderful to witness, with Joshi initially attempting to share food with the young males and interact through the bars of his enclosure with gentle vocalisations and playful displays. With things going so well we decided to initiate phase 2 of the habituation process, moving the trio to the large 25-acre habituation island where they have spent their days exploring and foraging together. Joshi was able to watch these wild born orphans forage for wild plants and fruits, a vital skill that he will need to survive after his release into the reserve.



Monitoring of the released gorillas has continued remotely using camera traps. Makoua's group remains the largest, consisting of the silverback Makoua, several adult females, and some of their offspring. However, some of the older male offspring appear to have emigrated from the group, including Bonsomi, born in November 2006 to Mpoumbou, who was reported at the southern limits of the reserve in the middle of the year. Project staff monitored his movements closely until he returned towards the main part of the reserve. One birth was reported during 2021, to Lengui who was at least temporarily with Makoua's group; however, a camera-trap image towards the end of the year showed Lengui without her infant and travelling alone. The 26-year-old silverback Djeke has been observed alone towards the end of the year. The solitary male Kelle was recaptured on 12 June 2021 and transferred to the cage at Iboubikro, to facilitate the construction of some additional pre-release enclosures within the Abio area of the release site. Once construction is complete Kelle should be returned to the release site. The non-released gorillas are doing well. The 34-year-old silverback Yambo was transferred on 5 June 2021 from the Abio 2 island to the cage at Iboubikro to facilitate treatment of his ongoing health issues. Kebu and Fubu were transferred from Abio 1 island to Abio 2 island on 6 and 11 June respectively, where they continue to make progress in switching

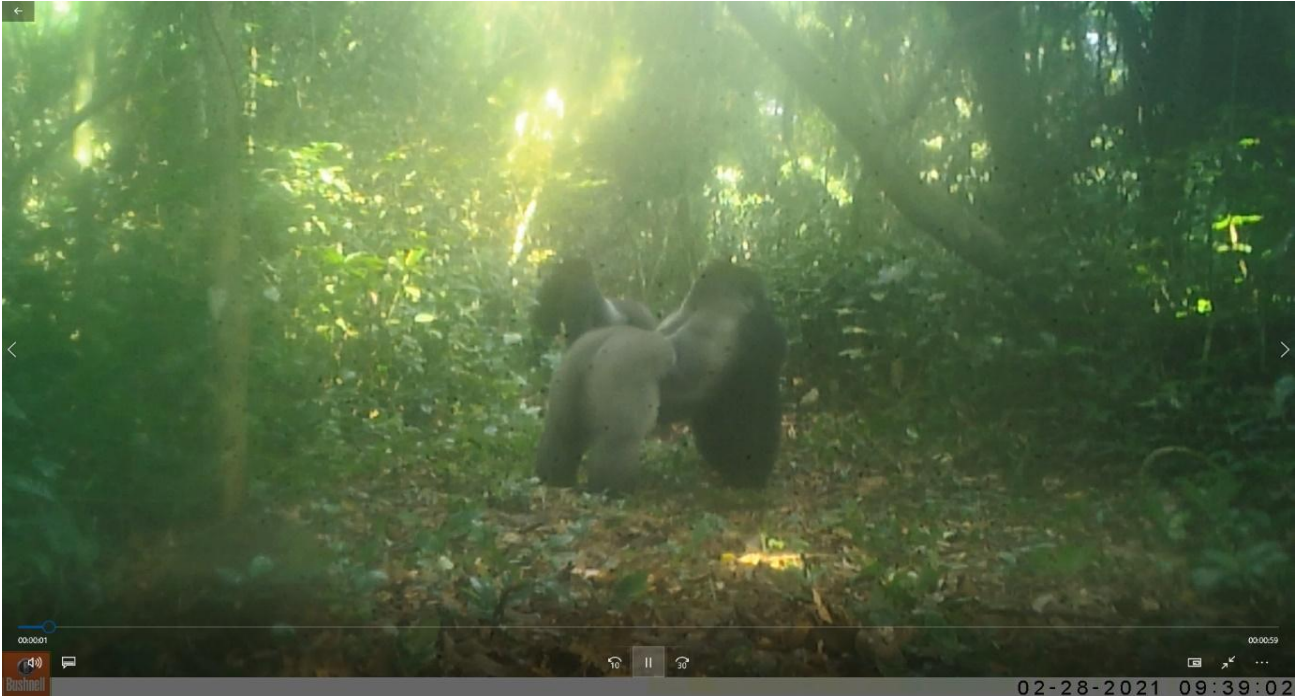
# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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to a wild diet. The team's confidence in Fubu and his ability to self-sustain has grown considerably and they feel within the next 6 – 12 months he will be ready for full release into the main reserve.



The increased camera-trapping efforts in Congo have led to further images of leopards and other wildlife, with the highlight being the first images of a chimpanzee in the reserve - another sign of the ongoing restoration of the large mammals of the area due to the protection afforded by the project. Hippos continue to be regularly observed during boat trips and on the camera trap footage.



# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

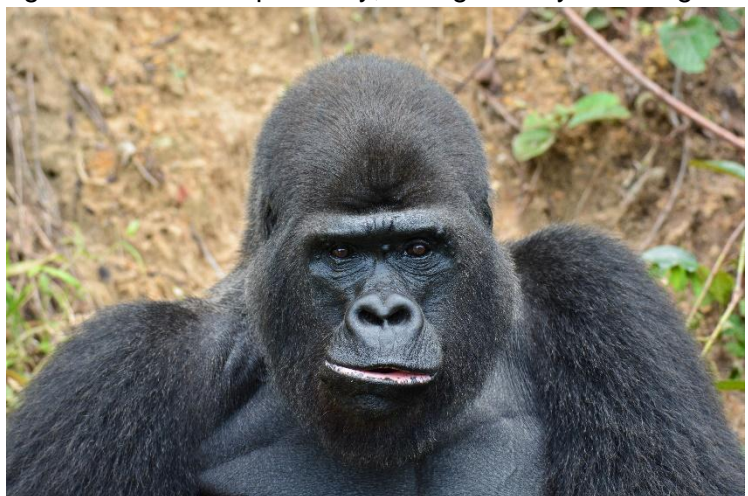
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### Gabon



The biggest news of the year was the wild birth on 14 June 2021 of a baby to captive-born Mayombe and Djongo on their 3-ha island in Gabon – a first in history for captive gorillas reintroduced to the wild! Named Taali, (meaning 'hope' in Bateke) the baby has become a social media hit in Gabon and across the world. Mayombe has proved to be a very protective first-time mother, holding Taali tight to her belly in the first few months. Project staff have noted that since the birth Mayombe has become more confident with Djongo, eating in much closer proximity, and generally standing her

ground during his displays of frustration. Djongo has shown interest in Taali, touching her gently with his finger when she was still very young. Taali is very interested in Djongo, often watching him, and occasionally attempting to touch him whilst on Mayombe's back. Djongo sometimes tries to wait close to Mayombe to encourage this contact from Taali; the interactions between the two are always gentle and heart-warming to watch. Towards the end of year Taali has started walking a few metres away from Mayombe to collect food; Mayombe always keeps a close eye on her and will pull her back to stop her going too far. Taali is a confident and inquisitive young gorilla and we are very excited to see what her first year brings.



# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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The released gorillas in Gabon are also doing well. All released groups (the Tongas, the Boumangos, the Rafas, Ima, Djalta, Djala) were observed in 2021 on camera-trap and/or directly. One new birth was reported within the released groups (Tonga's) during 2021. Tonga's group ranges around the Lewou river in the north of the park and comprises 12 individuals (11 were recorded in a single camera-trap event in 2021, all twelve were last recorded simultaneously in 2020). Tonga is the silverback, only one adult female remains in the group (Zora), and the rest of the group are offspring of various released females, aged between 2.5 and almost 13 years. One adolescent has been recorded alone on camera traps twice during 2021, suggesting that a young male may be gradually emigrating from the group. Nine released females have transferred in recent years from Tonga to Boumango, as has one other female from Rafa (Dikele). Boumango's group currently totals 17 gorillas, including Boumango, ten released females, and six offspring aged between 1.5 and 14 years. Boumango's group tends to range across the northern half of the release site. Rafa and



Mbwambe remain together, mostly in the south of the release site. Ima, Djalta and Djala have all remained solitary during 2021. Djala is seen almost daily and is provided with supplementary feeding every morning. He will be forty in June 2021. His son Djalta is rarely seen, the last observation being in early 2021. Ima is often observed chest beating and has grown impressively during 2021 - Ima may now be the largest gorilla in the project.

The wild dog pack have had a great year; the dynamics of the group remain strong, and the individuals are generally healthy with only some minor age-related concerns. All members of the pack have healthy appetites and feeding time is a spectacular sight and a particular favourite for the team. In other news our camera traps have captured numerous species over the course of the year, including forest elephants, sitatunga, yellow-back duiker, golden cats, leopards, chimpanzees, and many more.



# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

### Indonesia

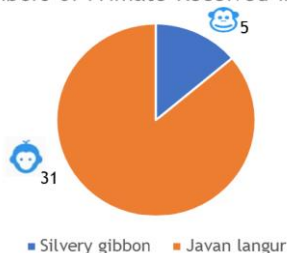


*Released Javan langur cradles her wild-born infant*

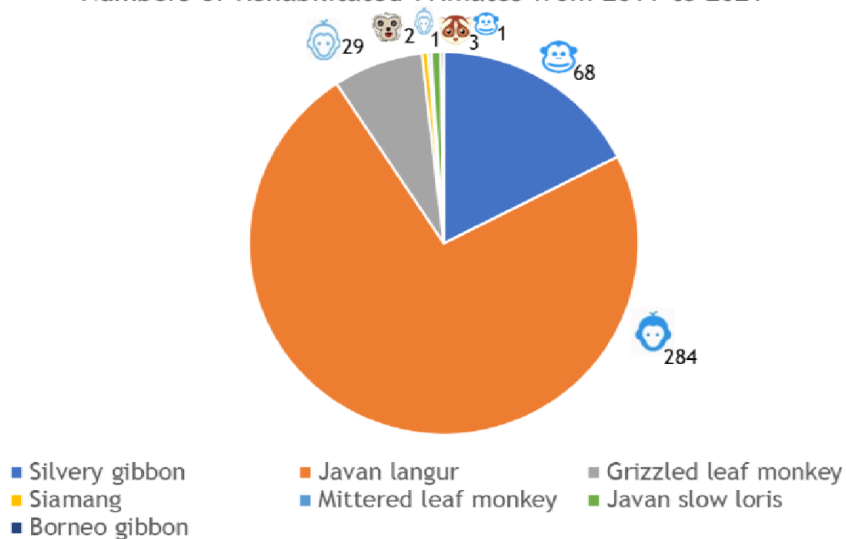
**Java -** During 2021 the TAF IP team have continued to rescue or confiscate primates from the illegal pet trade, working together with forestry rangers from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia. Rescued animals are cared for at our primate rehabilitation centres in west and east Java where they enter our rehabilitation programme to prepare them for re-release subject to their general condition and health status. Summary of figures:

### 2021 -Rehabilitated Primates:

Numbers of Primate Received in 2021



Numbers of Rehabilitated Primates from 2011 to 2021



# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

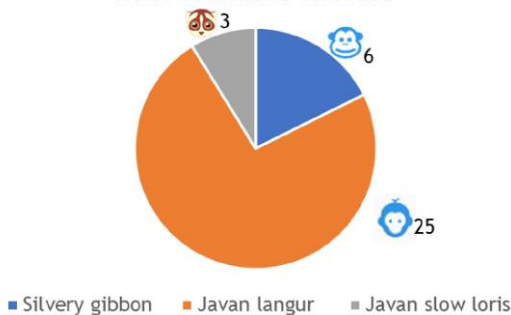
Numbers of Rehabilitated Primate in 2021



Despite the ongoing impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, our primate reintroduction plans were less affected than during the previous year. Additional safety measures remained in place, including pre-release Covid-19 tests in addition to the standard medical check-up. No primates scheduled for release tested positive for the virus and we have released 25 Javan langurs, 6 Javan gibbons and 3 Javan slow lorises

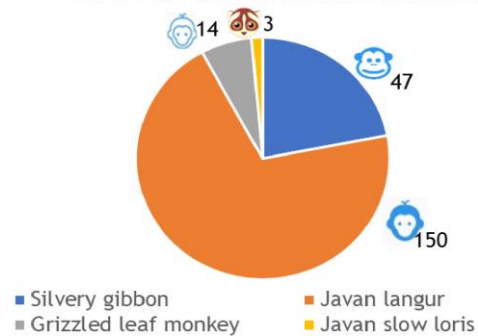
### 2021 –Reintroduced Primates

2021 Primate's Release



**34 individuals**

2012 to 2021 Primate's Released



**214 individuals**

Regular monitoring of released primates remains an important aspect of the reintroduction programme. In general observations have been positive, with new births recorded.

Daily monitoring also provides us with valuable information. One example is the data we are collecting on population reinforcement. A few of the pairs, or bonded, gibbons that we have released are splitting in the wild. The cause is most often that the males are being attracted by wild females, but in cases where lone females have been released, we are seeing wild males make contact. After ten years of releasing primates back to the wild in Java it is data such as this which allows us to continue to refine and improve our programme, and to share our increased knowledge of the complex processes surrounding wildlife reintroduction.



*Wild born, rehabilitated Javan gibbon pair released at Mt Tilu Nature Reserve February 2021*

# The Aspinnall Foundation

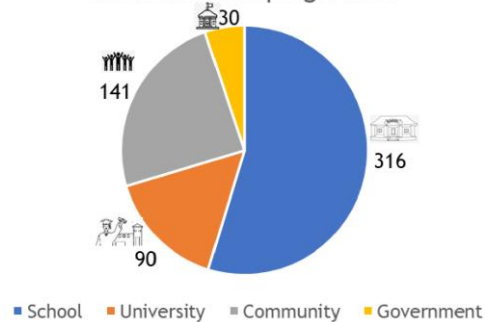
## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

### Education and Awareness -

Due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, school visits were still not possible throughout 2021. Given the ongoing restrictions, virtual learning sessions, which had been instigated by the TAF IP team in 2020, continued to be held instead. In addition, some face to face education of younger children took place where possible when making visits to villages near to key release sites. Support was continued for university students, again where possible, and subject to strict Covid-19 protocols.

Outreach Campaign 2021



**Sumatra -** In December 2021 The Aspinnall Foundation and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia, completed a new Memorandum of Understanding. This is an important step in a process that has involved several years of planning enabling us to extend our work into Sumatra.



*Meeting to sign the new Memorandum of Understanding December 2021*

It is our intention that a new rehabilitation centre will be built in 2022 in south Sumatra, dedicated to the care, rehabilitation, and release of siamang gibbons.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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### Madagascar

The Aspinall Foundation's community-based conservation of lemurs and other highly threatened endemic wildlife in Madagascar during 2021 focused on three main geographical areas, the Maevatanana-Ambato-Boeny (MAB) dry forests and wetlands of western central Madagascar, the western, high elevation, part of the Ankeniheny-Zahamena rainforest corridor (CAZ West) in eastern Madagascar, and the Andriantantely lowland rainforest and other lowland habitat fragments also in eastern Madagascar.

Our eastern projects conserve over half the total wild population of critically endangered greater bamboo lemurs, significant populations of black-and-white ruffed lemurs, indri, diademed sifaka, and another eight lemur species that occur in the same forests. Our western sites protect critically endangered mongoose lemurs and crowned sifaka, plus rufous brown lemurs and at least two species of nocturnal lemurs, in addition to critically endangered Madagascar fish eagles, Madagascar big-headed turtles, and other threatened species such as Madagascar flying foxes, Madagascar heron, and various endemic freshwater cichlid fish.



We work with 19 local community associations across the 3 regions (5 in CAZ West, 7 in Andriantantely, 7 in MAB), providing capacity building, technical supervision and financial support, to ensure they are able to effectively manage their associations and the local natural resources, including the designated local conservation areas and associated wildlife. Our conservation education and awareness-raising programme is undertaken across the project sites, including within 42 primary schools (9 in CAZ West, 19 in Andriantantely, 14 in MAB), with annual events organised to celebrate international environment days such as the World Environment Day, the International Day for Biological Diversity, the World Wetlands Day, and the World Lemur Festival.

The Foundation works with each local community to provide conservation incentives and livelihood improvement projects. During 2021 a total of 1,121 families (from 19 community associations and one private protected area) benefited from training in improved agricultural techniques, including market gardening, composting, and ginger production. Nine of the community associations also benefited from training and support in beekeeping. We also promote and support reforestation projects with each of the community associations. During 2021, 24,234 plants were raised in six tree nurseries of the CAZ West project, and 9,000 within the Andriantantely tree nurseries. A total of just over 42,000 saplings were planted in the designated reforestation areas across the three project regions during 2021, including 14,536 saplings in CAZ West, 14,485 in Andriantantely, and 13,292 in the MAB project.

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We support part-time rangers from the various community associations with patrolling their designated conservation areas, monitoring lemurs and other biodiversity, and also reporting on any illegal activities or other threats. At the end of 2021 a total of 49 community rangers were being supported across the three project regions: 10 in CAZ West, 25 in Andriantantely, and 14 in MAB.

Our MAB project, facilitating community-based conservation of dry forests and wetlands in western central Madagascar, continued to progress during 2021, despite the long-term CEPF-funded project coming to an end. The seven community associations supported by the MAB project are responsible for managing 37,363 hectares of land and wetlands between them, remarkably almost exactly equal to 10% of the total area of Kent (which covers 373,600 hectares). These community-managed areas have been zoned during lengthy participatory processes and incorporate over 12,000 ha of dry deciduous forest, over 1,200 ha of river and gallery forest designated for community-based protection, almost 4,000 ha of freshwater lakes designated for improved community-based management, and over 1,800 ha designated for community-based reforestation. These seven community-conservation areas support the long-term conservation of several of the most unique and threatened species of vertebrates in the world. Madagascar big-headed turtles, a species with the highest EDGE score of any terrestrial vertebrate anywhere in the world, occur in at least four of the sites. Madagascar fish eagles, another critically endangered species endemic to western Madagascar, nest at three of the sites and feed in the wetland areas of at least five. Madagascar herons have been reported at four of the sites and Madagascar flying fox roosts are present in four of the forested sites. The critically endangered endemic cichlid fish *Paretroplus maculatus* has been found in four of the lakes, and at least two other highly threatened endemic fish species are also

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protected by the new agreements. Critically endangered crowned sifakas and mongoose lemurs occur at all seven of the sites, and vulnerable rufous brown lemurs at all but one. These community-based management agreements empower local people to protect these species, and the forest and wetland habitats they depend upon, and to improve the management and use of their local natural resources.



Our Andriantantely project is of major global conservation importance. Andriantantely is one of the few remaining patches of lowland rainforest still in good condition in Madagascar. It is the only lowland forest known to support four of the most critically endangered large-bodied lemurs, indri, black-and-white ruffed lemur, greater bamboo lemur and diademed sifaka, which are also listed in the top 100 most evolutionarily distinct and globally endangered mammals by the ZSL EDGE programme. With the support of different partners, including significant funding from IUCN SOS, we run the monitoring and conservation activities in collaboration with local communities in the area. During 2021 we continued to employ two national primatologists to coordinate the field activities of this project, including supervising the 25 local community rangers monitoring the sites. These community patrollers monitor the various local lemur species and ensure threats such as hunting and habitat loss are identified quickly and dealt with efficiently.



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### South Africa

It has been a fast paced and interesting year throughout 2021 in South Africa. A two-prong approach to our activities was implemented - the rewilding of captive animals, and emergency interventions to rescue wildlife at risk - throughout 2019 and 2020. This has continued into 2021. The first mission of the year was an African Wild Dog collaring operation, which involved the sedation, health check and collaring of one male wild dog in the Waterberg as part of a project to secure the last two free roaming wild dog packs in South Africa and allow us to monitor their movements. A second collar was deployed and fitted to the other pack later in the year.



The TAF team collaring one of the dogs

Following the translocation of Saba and Nairo in February 2020, we actioned another ground-breaking translocation of a second captive-born cheetah brother coalition, Kumbe and Jabari, to Zimbabwe. They arrived from snowy Canada to sunny Zimbabwe in January and spent 60 days in quarantine before their release into the main reserve, where Kumbe and Jabari each made their first live kills within a mere 12 hours! Both cheetahs have continued to progress well throughout the year, without needing any supplementary feed, and they will continue to be monitored.



Kumbe and Jabari in their enclosure in Canada vs.their new home at Imire in Zimbabwe.

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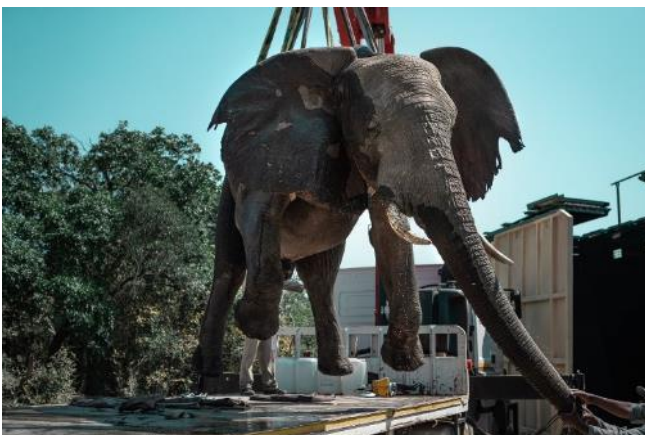
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At the cheetah release site, 2021 has been a year to remember, Saba and Nairo have been monitored daily throughout the year and the introduction of captive born female cheetah Ava, brought a new dynamic to the brothers, with them both competing for her attention. Following introduction to female Ava during Summer 2021, throughout August to October 2021 both Saba and Nairo were successfully hunting together in coalition. Our monitors told us that Ava had given birth to 4 healthy cubs, sired by Nairo. The cubs have been closely monitored ever since and Ava proves to be a fantastic mother, hunting and taking care of her litter.

The TAF team has also been extremely busy with emergency interventions and translocations in South Africa, now bringing the total number of animals rescued and rehabilitated or relocated to over 200. This is a huge achievement and fantastic milestone to have reached, with no plans to slow down. In fact, we are finding that post-pandemic there are even more animals requiring our intervention and support, due to a lack of in country tourism, creating a huge shortfall in usually available funds.

A few noticeable emergency interventions include the rescue and translocation of 13 elephants in Mozambique who were at risk of being shot by the government. These elephants were captured in one of the most gruelling operations our team has ever conducted. They are now in the safety of the Zinave National Park. We have also rescued countless elephants from snares and moving them back into reserves after they have broken out. We have rescued 3 pangolins after they were rescued from the illegal trade and we have successfully worked with local partners to release them back into the wild. The Foundation has in fact become known as the leading emergency intervention organisation in many of the Provinces of South Africa and we are well known for our dynamic ability to respond immediately and achieve results. We are also well known for our ability to implement technical interventions like translocating elephants from Tembe Elephant Park with unique genetics to ensure that we infuse these genetics into other reserves in the country. This has extended to critically endangered leopards in the eastern cape province which are constantly being caught in cage traps by farmers who are threatening to shoot them. We have translocated over 7 of these leopards now.



Tembe Elephant Capture and Eastern Cape Leopard Rescue

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The war against rhino poaching continues in the region and we have actively played a significant role in implementing emergency interventions to secure the lives of rhinos. The life of every single rhino counts. We have removed bullets from rhinos which had been shot, rescued rhino orphans when their mothers were shot and we have actively dehorned rhinos in critical risk areas to stabilise the situation whilst a longer term solution is put in place. A key rescue intervention was implemented in February when our team rescued three white rhinos from Mthethomusha Nature Reserve in the Mpumalanga Province. The reserve was being burned down by communities and our team implemented a risky rescue which resulted in the successful rescue of all three rhino who are now secure in a place of safety. We are also supporting the rhino population at Imire Rhino and Wildlife Conservation in Zimbabwe.



Black rhino orphan being rescued.

Another significant mission which kept the team busy was the closure of the Seaview predator park in Port Elizabeth, in the eastern Cape Province. The Park was being shockingly managed and our team managed to convince the owners of the property to close the park down as they were unable to look after the animals in their care properly. This however meant that we need to find homes for all of the animals. We partnered with local partners and we successfully rehomed over 32 animals from Seaview. We rewilded all of the animals which could have been rewilded including three caracals and two black backed jackals. The rest of the animals were taken to better homes which were verified by our team in South Africa. We moved lions, black leopards, tigers, serval, etc. The park is almost completely empty now and will be finalising the translocations in 2022 to ensure we shut this park down forever.



Tiger and Lions rescued at Seaview Predator Park

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Partnerships are ever growing, with more relationships being forged and the scope of species broadening. We have implemented, in partnership, a black-footed cat breeding programme, which is a very rare small cat species in South Africa with desperately low numbers, and our aim is to increase the population's numbers and genetic diversity by introducing captive born individuals into the wild in the coming months and years. Tembe, our UK captive-born honey badger, the only honey badger in the UK, is lucky enough to be part of one of these newly formed agreements with plans to rewild her in Africa in 2022. In addition plans are currently underway to translocate Howletts born lions Azi and Zazu to South Africa. We have partnered with a lion sanctuary that is home to 14 lions and tigers. The aim is for the brothers to travel by May of 2022 to start their acclimatisation process. Most paperwork is in place with specialist transport crates on order for delivery.

Overall, 2021 has been full of successes that we are extremely proud of. Our plans for 2022 include the potential expansion of our activities and footprint into more areas in South Africa as well as West Africa. We also have several different animals lined up for rewilding in 2022, including roan, badger, wild dogs, and serval.

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### Kenya

Throughout the past year, progress has been made in several aspects of our elephant project. A site in Kenya has been selected and we are awaiting the results of various ecological surveys so that we are able to make informed decisions regarding the translocation planning and logistics. We have had 13 flat-pack style crates delivered from South Africa which have been constructed and put into place to allow the crate training process to begin. We have selected an elephant specialist to provide a training schedule and expertise to our team, and the elephants have reacted very positively to the training, receiving high value treats as reward for their positive participation, and building strong bonds with their keepers to allow for a smooth loading process once a transport date has been confirmed. We are liaising with airfreight partners to develop a loading plan and technical teams at sending and receiving airports, and site visits are being organised. Agreements with our partners in Kenya are being developed and will be submitted to the relevant ministries within the coming months.



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### Romania

Hyphen, the European bison transported from Port Lympne in December 2020, spent his first few months acclimatising and being introduced to a group of 11 females. After a slight delay in release into the wider reserve, Hyphen and his group were released in late June and have since been monitored via camera trap and regular site visits. There have been multiple matings noted and we hope for some wild-born offspring in mid-late 2022.



### Charity Commission Enquiry

The Charity Commission has opened an enquiry into The Aspinall Foundation, and the Trustees are working positively with them to assure them that all points raised are being addressed.

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### Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable 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 presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. 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 Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Trustees commissioned a full and detailed Governance Review during 2020. This has been carried out in accordance with the Charity Governance Code for Larger Charities (2020). Substantial progress has been made with most of the recommendations having been implemented.

### Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Foundation are:

1. The advancement and promotion (whether in England or elsewhere in the world) for the public benefit of education and useful knowledge in relation to the science of zoology, the preservation and exhibition of living animals and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) all wild animals in danger of extinction and the conservation of natural wildlife inhabitants.
2. Such other charitable purposes as the Trustees may by Deed appoint.

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Our commitment is to conservation, through captive breeding, education, and reintroduction. We are working in some of the world's most fragile environments to save endangered animals and return them to the wild. We seek to meet our charitable objectives in three ways:

1. To halt the extinction of endangered species in the wild by reintroducing animals and developing sustainable conservation activities; providing economic benefits to local communities and helping manage wilderness areas.
2. Provide the most natural environment possible for animals in both animal parks and be world leaders in our animal husbandry and breeding programmes.
3. Increase public understanding of animal welfare and how we can all act to protect animals in their natural environments.

### Public benefit

Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 requires that charitable activities provide a public benefit. The Trustees confirm that, when planning its activities, they have complied with the duty to 'have regard' to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

The Foundation's work on the reintroduction of species, including scientific evaluations and co-management of protected areas, helps preserve the natural environment and natural resources for the public benefit, for both current and future generations.

### Structure, Governance and Management

#### Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees comprises the key governance personnel of the Foundation. The Board of Trustees holds regular meetings, at least four each year, and is responsible for the strategic direction and policies of the Foundation. Trustees are available at short notice between meetings, if required, to deal with any matters which may need attention.

The Trust has created an Investment Committee and are considering whether establishing further committees would be beneficial.

The day to day management is delegated, subject to a delegation matrix approved by the Board of Trustees, to relevant individuals from within the senior management team who are responsible for various operational matters including finance and employment. All delegated actions are monitored by the Trustees.

#### Appointment and removal of Trustees

The Charity is run by a board of six Trustees. New Trustees may be appointed, up to a maximum of seven, by the existing Trustees. The statutory power to appoint a Trustee vest in the Chairman and is exercised by deed. If at any time, owing to retirement, death or removal, the number of Trustees is reduced to less than three, the Chairman shall immediately appoint one or more Trustees to replace the Trustees who have retired, died or been removed. A Trustee may be removed by being given written notice from the Chairman.

The Foundation Trust Deed requires that, where possible, only lineal descendants of the founder can be the board chair.

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### Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are provided with an induction pack outlining their legal obligations under charity law, a copy of the charity's Trust Deed and recent financial performance of the charity. They are also given the opportunity to visit the Parks for a briefing on our work on breeding and caring for rare and endangered species.

All Trustees receive ongoing training. Recently, courses have been run in areas such as Trustee Roles and Responsibilities, Safeguarding and other relevant legal updates,

### Policies

The Board of Trustees has established a suite of policy statements. These cover recruitment, conflicts of interest, expenses, financial reserves, and investments. Policies are regularly updated and there is an ongoing process to add new policies as the need arises.

### **Related parties and relationships with other organisations**

The Foundation works closely with an associated charity, The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT'). The Aspinall Foundation and THWAT have two Trustees in common, Damian Aspinall and Tansy Aspinall. THWAT has established world-class animal welfare and captive breeding programmes in its two parks in Kent: Howletts Park and Port Lympne Reserve, which recently received an extremely positive conservation assessment report from DEFRA. The Foundation re-introduces animals from the parks' captive breeding programs back into the wild. The success of these programs can be measured by the number of captive births and animal reintroductions set out elsewhere in this report.

This work takes place alongside the other programmes the Foundation runs overseas, where it is protecting animals from human development and poaching.

The Foundation shares resources with THWAT helping to minimise costs

### **Remuneration policy for key management personnel**

Key management personnel pay rates are set in line with other charities or companies of a similar size and with regard to our location and the necessary skills and experience for the role.

### **Fundraising activity**

The Foundation's approach to fundraising focuses on building relationships with individuals and businesses that are committed to protecting rare and endangered species.

The Foundation aims to ensure that our supporters and the wider public are treated fairly and with respect. It is continually looking for ways to improve and to address new challenges and adopt new regulations effectively. Despite turbulent political and economic times, the Foundation remains fully committed to its core fundraising principles.

### Fundraising approach:

The Foundation's fundraising approach is to talk to members of the public in person and on the telephone. These are vital ways to engage people with the work of the Foundation and raise funds. The Foundation employs skilled face-to-face in-house fundraisers to carry out these activities. The Foundation also works with external organisations who have specific expertise in face-to-face and telephone fundraising which allows the Foundation to contact as many people as possible in the most cost-effective way. Third-party fundraising is supported by robust contracts specifying that the individuals who carry out these activities are trained to adhere to applicable laws and codes, such as the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice and data

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protection laws. These organisations are expected to voluntarily subscribe to the Fundraising Regulator, and to reflect the Foundation's values when speaking to supporters.

The Foundation has chosen not to use third-party organisations to fundraise door-to-door.

The Foundation has a Personal Data Governance Framework in order to maintain and demonstrate compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation, and is transparent about how personal data is used.

#### Fundraising Standards:

The Foundation voluntarily subscribes to the Fundraising Regulator and its Code of Fundraising Practice. The Fundraising Regulator investigates and takes appropriate action on cases of public concern. No failures to comply with fundraising standards have been notified to the Foundation.

The Foundation has signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service which enables individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications from us. The Foundation received and actioned requests where necessary from this service last year.

#### Feedback and complaints:

The Foundation had over 300,000 interactions with its supporters last year through a wide range of channels, including events, face-to-face, telephone, email, in the press, through social media and on the website. Complaints raised have started to be captured systematically in the current year. No complaints were recorded in 2021. Supporter surveys have regularly been undertaken in order to get direct feedback from donors.

Where shortcomings have been identified, guidance and training for staff and fundraisers have been expanded, and new processes put in place, both to prevent recurrence of the issues and to improve supporter experience. The Foundation provides contact details for its complaints process and will include these details on its website.

#### Protection of vulnerable people:

The Foundation is especially careful and sensitive when engaging with vulnerable people. This is reflected in our fundraising practices through our guidance and training, and by choosing not to fund raise door to door.

## **Financial review**

During 2021 the total income for the Foundation was £2.3m (2020: £1.95m). This was from three main sources: donations from more than 9,000 regular supporters to the charity, corporate donations, and Gift Aid refunds. Income is directed towards the charitable work of the Foundation in both the UK and overseas in line with the foundation's commitments to its supporters. The operating surplus for 2021 was £1,056,000 (2020: deficit of £244,000) and the new balance sheet position at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 was £38,731,000 (2020: £37,675,000)

## **Investment policy**

The objective of the Trust's investment policy is to maximise long-term capital returns with a reasonable tolerance to market volatility and a paramount focus on liquidity and diversification.

All investments held by the Foundation have been acquired in accordance with powers vested in the Trustees. Slater Investments Limited advises on the Foundation's investment portfolio. The Foundation had a net gain of £2,025k (2020: gain of £700k) on investments.

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### Reserves policy

At the year end the Foundation had total reserves of £38,731k. Of this amount, £469k are restricted and not available for the general purposes of the charity.

Additionally, £24,576k was invested in long-term fixed assets which consisted of Freehold and Long leasehold properties, Fine Art, and other items, and £114k in non-liquid investments. The free reserves available to the Foundation were therefore £13,572k. There were no material amounts committed at the end of the reporting period.

The free reserves held are in line with the Investment and Reserves Policy which notes that the Foundation has limited fixed funding requirements and non-discretionary liabilities. Its annual administrative costs are approximately £1,200k. It is the policy of the Foundation to predominantly pursue an investment strategy aimed at maximising long-term capital returns to preserve its reserves.

It is difficult to forecast with any degree of certainty what future funding streams will look like, as illustrated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, the Trustees have adopted a policy to ensure that the resources of the Foundation are used in the most effective way to support its objects and also to ensure that the Foundation remains financially resilient. Our reserves policy is therefore to maintain sufficient reserves to enable the Foundation to continue its activities should there be a drop in income. As such reserves are required to provide an adequate level of working capital to ensure the ongoing viability of our core work, cover for risks of unforeseen expenditure and/or unanticipated loss of income.

The Trustees are also mindful of the fact that should the Foundation need to wind down its activities, there are commitments that would need to be met, including staff liabilities, operating costs commitments and the repayment of restricted fund donations.

In light of the above, the Trustees aim to maintain a level of reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of annual administrative costs. As such the objects of the reserves policy have been successfully achieved.

The reserves policy is reviewed at least annually by the Aspinall Foundation Investment Committee which reports to the Foundation's Trustee Board.

### Principal risks and uncertainties and risk management

The Trustees are very aware of the types of major risks to which the Foundation is exposed, and they have prepared an appropriate Risk Management Register, which both identifies those risks and indicates what provision has been made for dealing with them. This was conducted in line with Charity Commission guidance CC26.

The principal risks to which the Foundation is exposed include:

- Reputational and financial risks arising from the Foundation's close association with The Howletts Wild Animal Trust
- Risks connected to overseas operations, such as fraud, theft, injury to staff member, death of animals
- Fraud or data breach in the Foundation
- Adverse media

The Trustees continue to keep under review the systems in place, which they believe are appropriate to the size of the Charity and the nature of its operations, in order to mitigate these risks.

These matters are considered at the quarterly board meetings (or more frequently if required).

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### Plans for the future

The key component of the Aspinall Foundation's ('The Foundation') philosophy has been the reintroduction of species to the wild. As an organisation we are incredibly proud of our successes as breeders of rare and endangered animals and as trailblazers in the world of rewilding. The Aspinall Foundation has rescued and rewilded over 600 formerly captive animals into areas of protected wilderness, including 70 western lowland gorillas, 8 black rhinos (which now have over 60 descendants roaming the wild), 4 cheetahs, 11 Przewalski horses, 3 zebras, 1 brown hyena, 20 mandrills, 12 European bison, 7 painted dogs and 180 Javan langurs and gibbons. In the next three years we plan to redouble our efforts towards this goal and below are the projects that we are working on during this time.

In 2023 the Foundation will be carrying out the biggest intercontinental animal translocation that has ever been attempted, the transfer of a herd of 13 African elephants from Howletts Wild Animal Park to a protected area in Kenya. The primary goal of the programme will be to rewild a herd of captive-born African savanna elephants for the reinforcement of the wild population of Golini-Mwaluganje and the wider Shimba Hills ecosystem. The elephant rewilding and reinforcement project will be the flagship element of a larger programme to facilitate improved community-based conservation in the area. The project also aims to improve the welfare of the elephants through rewilding and will provide opportunities to highlight at a global level the conservation and welfare issues related to holding elephants in captivity, and other global elephant conservation issues related to international trade, habitat fragmentation, wildlife corridors, human-wildlife conflict and community-based conservation.

We are working in collaboration with Pakistan to reintroduce greater one horned rhino, cheetah, and other species into the country. Rhino have been extinct in Pakistan for centuries so this will be a long-term project with many variables but there is growing momentum to restore habitat and bring back this iconic species to the country. We will continue to survey potential rehabilitation/release sites and build partnerships with stakeholders to bring this project to fruition.

In South Africa we will continue to monitor Howletts-born cheetah Nairo. His progress to date has been nothing short of spectacular and he has provided us with priceless insights into rewilding this species. We are planning to transfer a second male to join Nairo in order to build a stable coalition within the reserve.

The Foundation continues to help bolster the southern African cheetah metapopulation by facilitating the transfer of 2 male and 3 female cheetah to South Africa from the US. We estimate that these individuals will arrive in South Africa sometime in 2023. We are also working to rewild 2 female cheetah and 1 male cheetah. We are actively working with partners to establish more rewilding enclosures to ensure that we can release more cheetahs moving forward.

Similarly, the Foundation is currently working with a reserve in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) to reintroduce 3 roan and 10 sable antelopes. We are working with several private reserves in Southern Africa to rewild many of the smaller predators that we keep, such as honey badgers (1), caracal (3), serval (6), and mongoose (12). Painted dogs are another southern African species that we are planning to rewild at different sites in South Africa and Zimbabwe. Presently we have two separate groups of 4 females and 1 male and 3 females available for immediate rewilding. We are also supporting an organisation in South Africa that is currently breeding 2 pairs of vulnerable black-footed cats with up to 4 offspring destined for release. We are working with Howletts

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Wild Animal Park in the UK to create a herd of 5 disease-free Cape buffalo for transfer to southern Africa within the next 3 years as TB has become endemic in the region and this herd could play a valuable conservation role for the species. All these species have been depleted throughout southern Africa and we believe that the captive population should be put to good use reinforcing these areas. In addition to the release of the captive buffalo, we are in the process of establishing a disease-free buffalo population there.

The Foundation is collaborating with organisations in Kenya that are looking to bolster the dwindling number of critically endangered mountain bongo antelope by sending 4 males to a protected area near Mount Kenya.

We are still planning to reintroduce 3 black rhino cows in 2023, most likely to a national park in Rwanda (if not there then to the original reintroduction site in Tanzania where we sent our first pair). We continue to cooperate with international wildlife charities to add to the growing population that has already been reintroduced. If Rwanda is the final destination, then this will be the first time we have reintroduced rhinos outside of Tanzania.

The Foundation plans to build on the recent successes that our emergency response team in southern Africa has had, rescuing and translocating elephants and rhinos at risk from human conflict, poaching, and bad management practises across the region. We have built a reputation for rapid and dependable interventions with local and regional governments and communities; so much so that they are coming to us with projects to help them with. So far, we have rescued or rewilded over 250 animals in the region, including 45 elephants, 30 rhinos and have dehorned hundreds of rhinos, and we have also recently been involved in the release of over 30 animals from a predator park which had closed down. We have expanded our focus to include specialist species such as Nile crocodile and leopard.

In the Congo the Foundation is looking into the possibility of reinforcing the reintroduced gorilla population with more captive-born gorillas from the parks, and possibly the European population. We are testing using electric fences to create small enclosures within the reintroduction site so that we can habituate captive born or hand raised gorillas in place. This 'soft' release will allow us to provide supplementary care or medical attention if individual gorillas need it post release. It will also mean that gorillas will not have to be sedated and transferred in crates prior to a 'hard' release straight into the reintroduction area.

Also in the Congo we are looking at sending some of our De Brazza monkeys from the parks to a 25 acre forested island in the reserve. If they do well, we could release more in the future. The De Brazza monkey population has increased in the reserve since the project started in the 1980s but there is still capacity to reinforce their number. Likewise, we are working with the Congolese government to bring back Defassa waterbuck, forest buffalo and red river hog (we are on the cusp of finishing the permitting process for these).

With the captive- and wild-born gorillas increasing in numbers and confidence in the neighbouring state of Gabon, we are thinking about plans to release the last group of gorillas under our care, a male and female and their infant daughter who are currently on the habitation island in the centre of the reserve.

In Sumatra the Foundation has started to build a new rescue and rehabilitation centre based on the same model that has proved so successful in Java. This should be finished by October 2022. We estimate that we will be able to release up to 20 formerly captive siamangs every year.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

**For the year ended 31 December 2021**

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We are continuing to finesse our Javan gibbon and langur reintroduction projects in Java, and they now rehabilitate and release a continuous stream of primates back into the wild (over 180 so far). We are planning more transfers of captive primates, including 9 gibbons and 6 langurs, from the UK but are dealing with a backlog because of covid restrictions and sanitary health certificate updates.

We released a herd of 6 female bison and an adult male in Romania and have been asked to reintroduce more males (probably in 2023).

The Foundation's community-based conservation programme for lemurs and other highly threatened endemic wildlife in Madagascar continues to focus on three main geographical areas; dry forests and wetlands of western central Madagascar, high elevation rainforest in eastern Madagascar, and lowland rainforest and surrounding habitat fragments also in eastern Madagascar. We help conserve six critically endangered lemur species as well as critically endangered Madagascar fish eagles and big-headed turtles, plus many other threatened and endemic species of mammals, fish, and birds. We have been able to leverage our core funding to successfully apply for several conservation grants from various organisations which fund our remarkably effective work in Madagascar.

### Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

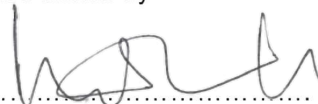
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### Auditors

Goldwins Limited were re-appointed as the auditors of the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 28/10/2022 and signed on their behalf by



.....  
**Damian Aspinall**



.....  
**Charles Filmer**



.....  
**Maarten Petermann**

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Aspinall Foundation (the 'charity') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the consolidated and parent charity Balance Sheet, consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the group financial statements is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group and the parent charity's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and the parent charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and the parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

## **Responsibilities of the trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

## **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the group's and parent charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group and the parent charity operate in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group and the parent charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [[www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities)]. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Goldwins limited*

Date: 28 October 2022

.....  
**Goldwins Limited**  
**Statutory Auditor**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**75 Maygrove Road**  
**West Hampstead**  
**London NW6 2EG**

Goldwins Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds 2021 £'000	Total Funds 2020 £'000
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	1,544	373	1,917	1,552
Other trading activities	4	51	-	51	63
Investment income	5	357	-	357	333
<b>Total income</b>		<u>1,952</u>	<u>373</u>	<u>2,325</u>	<u>1,948</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	6	843	-	843	588
Charitable activities		2,179	257	2,436	2,304
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>3,022</u>	<u>257</u>	<u>3,279</u>	<u>2,892</u>
Net gains on investments	12	2,025	-	2,025	700
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>		<u>955</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>(244)</u>
Other gains/(losses)		(15)	-	(15)	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>940</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>1,056</u>	<u>(244)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	25	37,322	353	37,675	37,919
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u><u>38,262</u></u>	<u><u>469</u></u>	<u><u>38,731</u></u>	<u><u>37,675</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

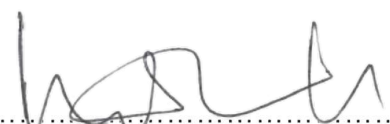
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10		24,576		24,707
Investments	12		9,985		10,413
			<u>34,561</u>		<u>35,120</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	1,871		2,204	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>4,773</u>		<u>2,763</u>	
		6,644		4,967	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	<u>(1,224)</u>		<u>(412)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>5,420</u>		<u>4,555</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			39,981		39,675
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	18		(1,250)		(2,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>38,731</u></u>		<u><u>37,675</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	25		469		353
Unrestricted funds:	25				
General reserves		25,066		24,126	
Revaluation reserve		<u>13,196</u>		<u>13,196</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			38,262		37,322
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>38,731</u></u>		<u><u>37,675</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees on 28/10/22 and signed on their behalf by:

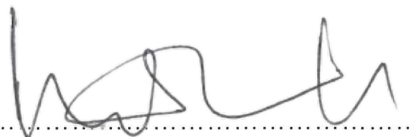
  
.....  
J D A Aspinall  
Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Charity Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	11		24,576		24,707
Investments	13		9,985		10,413
			<u>34,561</u>		<u>35,120</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	1,871		2,204	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>4,629</u>		<u>2,763</u>	
		6,500		4,967	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	<u>(1,224)</u>		<u>(412)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>5,276</u>		<u>4,555</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			39,837		39,675
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	19		(1,250)		(2,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>38,587</u></u>		<u><u>37,675</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	26		365		353
Unrestricted funds:	26				
General reserves		25,026		24,126	
Revaluation reserve		<u>13,196</u>		<u>13,196</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			38,222		37,322
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>38,587</u></u>		<u><u>37,675</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees on ~~28.10.22~~ and signed on their behalf by:



J D A Aspinall  
Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 £'000	2021 £'000	2020 £'000	2020 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>					
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	20		(749)		617
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Interest/ rent/ dividends from investments		357		333	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets investments		2,453		(1,115)	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		(36)		748	
<b>Cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			<b>2,774</b>		<b>(34)</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			<b>2,025</b>		<b>583</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			2,763		2,180
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			(15)		-
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	21		<b>4,773</b>		<b>2,763</b>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

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### 1 Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements 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 charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### **Basis of Consolidation**

The consolidated Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet include the financial statements of the Foundation and its Subsidiary made up to 31 December 2021.

#### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

#### **Income**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Donations of gifts, services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable that economic benefit can be measured reliably, and is material to the accounts. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the Trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Unrestricted funds include a revaluation reserve representing restatement of investment assets at market values.

Restricted funds are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the trust arising from the express or implied wishes of the donors, in so far as these are intended to be binding on the trustees.

#### Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity and its activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. Expenditure is allocated to categories in accordance with the main activity of the staff concerned or the substance of the costs incurred.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Freehold land and works of art are not depreciated, as these assets are, in the opinion of the trustees, worth in excess of their book values. The freehold mansion is depreciated at the rate of 2% per annum on cost.

Software & IT Equipment, Motor vehicles, and Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment are stated at cost less depreciation at a rate of 25% reducing balance.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

#### Fixed Asset 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. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities. Unlisted investments are stated at trustees' valuation.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued) Debtors

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

#### Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### 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. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

#### Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the Balance Sheet date. Gains or losses on translation are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### Pensions

The Foundation makes contributions to a defined contribution scheme for certain staff members. The cost of these contributions is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

### 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds £'000
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	1,473	79	1,552
Other trading activities	63	-	63
Investment income	333	-	333
<b>Total income</b>	<u>1,869</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>1,948</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	588	-	588
Charitable activities	2,265	39	2,304
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>2,853</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>2,892</u>
Net gains / (losses) on investments	700	-	700
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	<u>(284)</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>(244)</u>
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<u>(284)</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>(244)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	37,606	313	37,919
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u><u>37,322</u></u>	<u><u>353</u></u>	<u><u>37,675</u></u>

### 3 Income from donations

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Legacies	300	10
Donations	1,477	1,318
Animal sponsorships	129	148
Grants	11	76
	<u>1,917</u>	<u>1,552</u>

### 4 Income from other trading activities

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Dinner	-	1
Other	51	62
	<u>51</u>	<u>63</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

<b>5 Income from investments</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£'000	£'000
Income from listed investments	257	151
Rental income	56	107
Interest on loans	44	75
	<u>357</u>	<u>333</u>

## 6 Expenditure

	Basis of Allocation	Raising Funds		Charitable Activities			Support Costs £'000	Governance Costs £'000	2021 £'000	2020 Total £'000
		Costs of Generating Funds £'000	Costs of Investment £'000	TAF Overseas Projects £'000	Other Charitable Projects £'000					
<b>Costs directly allocated to activities</b>										
Staff costs	Direct	278	-	376	-	124	-	778	641	
Fundraising costs	Direct	281	-	-	-	-	-	281	217	
Donations	Direct	-	-	956	1	-	-	957	968	
Maintenance	Direct	-	-	-	-	52	-	52	26	
Depreciation	Direct	-	-	-	-	167	-	167	162	
Legal and professional fees	Direct	-	-	-	-	187	453	640	373	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	Direct	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	180	
<b>Support costs allocated to activities</b>										
Other overheads	Income/ Direct	14	3	54	278	55	-	404	325	
		<u>573</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1,386</u>	<u>279</u>	<u>585</u>	<u>453</u>	<u>3,279</u>	<u>2,892</u>	
Support costs		151	-	-	434	(585)	-	-	-	
Governance costs		116	-	-	337	-	(453)	-	-	
<b>Total expenditure 2021</b>		<u>840</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1,386</u>	<u>1,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,279</u>		
<b>Total expenditure 2020</b>		<u>588</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,557</u>	<u>747</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>2,892</u>	

Of the total expenditure £257,000 was restricted (2020: £38,835) and £3,022,000 was unrestricted (2020: £2,852,598).

## 7 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£'000	£'000
This is stated after charging / (crediting):		
Auditors' remuneration	10	10
Depreciation	167	162
	<u>177</u>	<u>172</u>

## 8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from income tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

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### 9 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£'000	£'000
Salaries and wages	697	569
Social security costs	55	46
Pension costs	19	14
Other staff costs	7	12
	<u>778</u>	<u>641</u>

The number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer's national insurance and pension costs) for the reporting period amounting to over £60,000 were as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	No.	No.
£70,000 - £79,999	1	1
£80,000 - £89,999	1	-

The average number of employees during the period was:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	No.	No.
	<u>22</u>	<u>19</u>

The total employee gross salary and benefits, including employer's national insurance and pension contributions of the key management personnel were £101,069 (2020: £131,395).

The charity trustees were not paid for employment by, nor did they receive any other employment benefits from the Trust in the year (2020: £nil). JDA Aspinall was reimbursed during the year a total of £1,644 (2020: £4,257) for travel expenses incurred on behalf of the Foundation. No other trustee received any reimbursement of expenses during the year (2020: £nil).

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

### 10 Tangible Fixed Assets - Group

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Motor Vehicles £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2021	22,966	3,108	-	120	26,194
Additions	-	-	36	-	36
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	22,966	3,108	36	120	26,230
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2021	1,418	-	-	69	1,487
Charge for the year	146	-	9	12	167
At 31 December 2021	1,564	-	9	81	1,654
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 31 December 2021	21,402	3,108	27	39	24,576
At 31 December 2020	21,548	3,108	-	51	24,707

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

### 11 Tangible Fixed Assets - Charity

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Motor Vehicles £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2021	22,966	3,108	-	120	26,194
Additions	-	-	36	-	36
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	22,966	3,108	36	120	26,230
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2021	1,418	-	-	69	1,487
Charge for the year	146	-	9	12	167
At 31 December 2021	1,564	-	9	81	1,654
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
At 31 December 2021	21,402	3,108	27	39	24,576
At 31 December 2020	21,548	3,108	-	51	24,707

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

### 12 Fixed Asset Investments - Group

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	9,871	10,306
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	114	107
	<u>9,985</u>	<u>10,413</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2021	10,413	8,599
Additions	264	1,152
Disposals	(2,717)	(38)
Net investment gains/(losses)	2,025	700
Market value at 31 December 2021	<u>9,985</u>	<u>10,413</u>

### 13 Fixed Asset Investments - Charity

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	9,871	10,306
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	114	107
	<u>9,985</u>	<u>10,413</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2021	10,413	8,599
Additions	264	1,152
Disposals	(2,717)	(38)
Net investment gains/(losses)	2,025	700
Market value at 31 December 2021	<u>9,985</u>	<u>10,413</u>

### 14 Debtors - Group

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade debtors	109	80
Long term debtors	1,750	2,000
Other debtors	12	124
	<u>1,871</u>	<u>2,204</u>

### 15 Debtors - Charity

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade debtors	109	80
Long term debtors	1,750	2,000
Other debtors	12	124
	<u>1,871</u>	<u>2,204</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - Group

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdraft	501	13
Trade creditors	443	132
Other creditors	3	7
Other taxes and social security	20	11
Accruals	257	249
	<u>1,224</u>	<u>412</u>

### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - Charity

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdraft	501	13
Trade creditors	443	132
Other creditors	3	7
Other taxes and social security	20	11
Accruals	257	249
	<u>1,224</u>	<u>412</u>

### 18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - Group

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans	1,250	2,000
	<u>1,250</u>	<u>2,000</u>

### 19 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - Charity

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans	1,250	2,000
	<u>1,250</u>	<u>2,000</u>

### 20 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	1,071	(244)
Interest, rent and dividends from investments	(357)	(333)
Depreciation charges	167	162
(Gains)/ losses on investments	(2,025)	(700)
(Loss)/ profit on the sale of fixed assets	-	180
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	333	5
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	62	1,547
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>(749)</u>	<u>617</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

### 21 Analysis of changes in cash during the year

	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank and in hand	4,773	2,763
	<u>4,773</u>	<u>2,763</u>

### 22 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Group

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,576	-	24,576
Investments	9,985	-	9,985
Current assets	6,175	469	6,644
Current liabilities	(1,224)	-	(1,224)
Non-current liabilities	(1,250)	-	(1,250)
At 31 December 2021	<u>38,262</u>	<u>469</u>	<u>38,731</u>

### 23 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Charity

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,576	-	24,576
Investments	9,985	-	9,985
Current assets	6,135	365	6,500
Current liabilities	(1,224)	-	(1,224)
Non-current liabilities	(1,250)	-	(1,250)
At 31 December 2021	<u>38,222</u>	<u>365</u>	<u>38,587</u>

### 24 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds - Charity 2020

	<b>General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2019</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,707	-	24,707
Investments	10,413	-	10,413
Current assets	4,614	353	4,967
Current liabilities	(412)	-	(412)
Non-current liabilities	(2,000)	-	(2,000)
At 31 December 2020	<u>37,322</u>	<u>353</u>	<u>37,675</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

### 25 Movement in Funds - Group

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	353	373	(257)	-	469
Total restricted funds	353	373	(257)	-	469
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	37,322	3,977	(3,037)	-	38,262
Total unrestricted funds	37,322	3,977	(3,037)	-	38,262
Total funds	37,675	4,350	(3,294)	-	38,731

### 26 Movement in Funds - Charity

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	353	99	(87)	-	365
Total restricted funds	353	99	(87)	-	365
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	37,322	3,977	(3,077)	-	38,222
Total unrestricted funds	37,322	3,977	(3,077)	-	38,222
Total funds	37,675	4,076	(3,164)	-	38,587

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

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### 27 The Aspinall Foundation South Africa NPL

The Aspinall Foundation South Africa (TAF SA) is a South African registered non-profit company (number 2021/481489/08), which was established during 2021. The sole member is the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation. The accounting period for TAF SA ends on 28 February 2022: for the purposes of the consolidated accounts, management accounts for the period ending 31 December 2021 have been prepared.

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Assets at 31 December 2021	144	-
Liabilities at 31 December 2021	-	-
Reserves at 31 December 2021	144	-
Gross income for the period ending 31 December 2021	330	-
Expenditure for the period ending 31 December 2021	(186)	-
Surplus for the period ending 31 December 2021	144	-

### 28 Related Party Transactions

During the year the Foundation benefitted from gifts in kind from JDA Aspinall, valued at £34,000 (2020: £31,000), for the provision of office space and PA services.

During the year, the Foundation received income of £48,715 (2020 - £121,211 including rent arrears and interest) from JDA Aspinall for the rent of Howletts Mansion and other recharges. At 31 December 2021 £0 was owed to the Foundation by JDA Aspinall (2020: £8,089). The rent has been calculated by reference to an independent professional valuation of Howletts Mansion.

During the year the Foundation received invoices from THWAT and its subsidiary of £293,898, being recharges of costs incurred on its behalf, and The Aspinall Foundation raised invoices amounting to £16,198 to THWAT and its subsidiary. The Foundation also has a short term loan account with THWAT. At the year end The Aspinall Foundation owed £331,273 to THWAT and its subsidiary.

During 2021, interior design services were provided by Victoria Aspinall Limited, a company of which Mrs V Aspinall is a director. The cost of these services during the year, including irrecoverable VAT, was £90,000 (2020: £150,158).

During the year, the Foundation was invoiced by Alvarium £154,148 (2020 - £124,231) at arm's length for accounting, administrative, advisory and project services. CPN Filmer is a director of Alvarium. Fees are charged at a substantially discounted rate and comprise a fixed element for day to day accounting and administrative work, and a time-based element for additional advisory and project-based work. All invoices are approved by the Chairman and by one of the independent trustees.

The foundation leases land and buildings to THWAT and its subsidiary for an annual rent of £1 (2020: £1).

Payments to related parties are all authorised by the Foundation's governing documents.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

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### 28 Related Party Transactions continued

In May 2020, JDA Aspinall, CPN Filmer, B Goldsmith and RM Birley, in their capacity of Trustees of the Foundation, entered into a Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan 'CBIL' of £2,000,000. No interest or capital repayments were due during the Business Interruption Payment ('BIP') period (12 months from the date of the first drawdown). Thereafter, interest is charged at 2.09% above base rate, and 16 quarterly capital payments of £125,000 are due. The loan is guaranteed by Howletts & Port Lympne Estates Ltd ('HPLE') and The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT').

The CBIL was subsequently loaned to THWAT on the same terms as those of the original loan. JDA Aspinall is Chairman and trustee of THWAT and T Aspinall is a trustee of THWAT. The loan is authorised by the Foundation's governing documents. At the year end the balance due was £1,750,000. Interest payments of £21,548 (2020: £45,829) were made by THWAT to the Foundation.

During 2018, JDA Aspinall, CPN Filmer and RM Birley, in their capacity as Trustees of the Foundation entered into a Limited Guarantee and Indemnity agreement with Barclays Bank PLC for the liabilities of THWAT (amount £5,000,000).

**THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 326567

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# Accounts

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THE  
ASPINALL  
FOUNDATION

Charity No. 326567

**Annual report and financial statements**

**For the year ended**

**31 December 2020**

# **The Aspinall Foundation**

**Report and financial statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

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# The Aspinall Foundation

## Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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Trustees:	Damian Aspinall (Chair) Robin Birley Charles Filmer Ben Goldsmith Tansy Aspinall Maarten Petermann (appointed 29/01/2020)
Charity number:	326567
Registered office:	Port Lympne Reserve Lympne Nr. Ashford Kent CT 21 4PD
Auditors:	Goldwins Limited 75 Maygrove Road West Hampstead London NW6 2EG
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 93 Baker Street London W1A 4SD
Solicitors	John Byrne & Co Sheraton House Castle Park Cambridge CB3 0AX
Investment advisors	Slater Investment Limited Nicholas House 3 Laurence Pountney Hill London EC4R 0EU

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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### *Committed to Conservation*

The Aspinall Foundation ("Foundation" or "TAF") was established as a charitable trust by a Trust Deed on 30 March 1984 and registered as a charity under number 326567 on 27 April 1984. The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

## Introduction

Following the creation of Howletts and Port Lympne zoological parks in 1959 and 1975 respectively, The Aspinall Foundation was founded in 1984 as a UK registered charity (under the name of The Howletts and Port Lympne Foundation, and eventually The Aspinall Foundation), the vision of which has always been to contribute to global species conservation through integrating ex situ and in situ activities.

Our global wildlife conservation work, again spanning over thirty years, covers diverse issues including tackling the illegal wildlife trade, the "re-wilding" and eventual release of wild-born animals confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade and of captive-born animals, the reintroduction of species to sites where they have become locally extirpated, the reinforcement of small isolated populations of threatened species, the co-management of protected areas with national governments, the scientific evaluation of wild, reintroduced and captive wildlife populations, and the recovery of threatened species through community-based conservation. Some examples of this long-term work, with links to further information, include:

- the [virtual elimination of the illegal trade in live western gorillas](#) in Congo-Brazzaville
- the creation and co-management, with [the government of Congo and the Wildlife Conservation Society \(WCS\)](#), of a long-term project focussing on [tackling the illegal wildlife trade in Congo-Brazzaville](#)
- the [reintroduction of western lowland gorillas](#) to the Batéké Plateau region of Central Africa, in Congo-Brazzaville and Gabon, using both wild-born ([confiscated orphans of the illegal wildlife trade](#)) and captive-born release stock
- the co-management with national governments of protected areas in [Congo-Brazzaville](#) and [Gabon](#) resulting in the recovery of depleted wildlife populations
- the reinforcement of small isolated [gibbon](#), [grizzled langur](#) and [ebony langur](#) populations in Java, Indonesia, again using wild-born (confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade) and captive-born animals
- the [transfer of captive-born Critically Endangered eastern black rhinoceros](#) from UK to protected reserves in South Africa, which bred and contributed substantially to a population that was subsequently used to provide rhinos for reintroduction to Rwanda and elsewhere
- the transfer of captive-born eastern black rhino from UK to protected reserves in [Tanzania](#), who have subsequently bred and contributed to a growing rhino population
- the [translocation of captive-born European bison](#) for successful reintroduction projects in the Carpathian Mountains in Romania
- the rewilding of zoo-born [southern cheetah](#) and [brown hyaena](#) for release into protected reserves in South Africa and Zimbabwe
- the development of [genetic studies to assess the potential conservation role of mammal species currently in captivity](#) in European zoos
- the use of [population viability analysis to assess the conservation needs of wild populations](#) of threatened species, and of [reintroduced populations](#)

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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- the implementation of a community-based species survival programme for the Critically Endangered [greater bamboo lemur in Madagascar](#), resulting in the species recovering from only 100 wild individuals to over a thousand in a decade of community-based conservation, and being [removed from the list of the 25 most endangered primates](#) in the world
- the [implementation of community-based projects](#) to conserve other highly threatened lemur species in Madagascar including [black-and-white ruffed lemur](#), [indri](#), [diademed sifaka](#), [crowned sifaka](#) and [mongoose lemur](#)

2020 was a particularly challenging year for all our teams in the field for obvious reasons but we are extremely proud of our efforts. We hope that you enjoy reading about them.

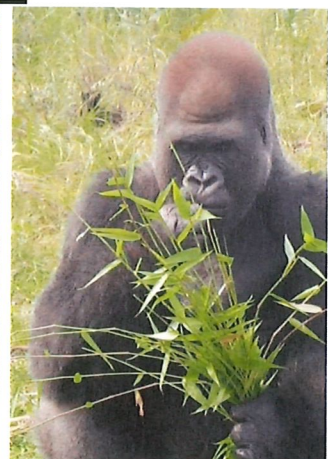
# The Aspinall Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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## OVERSEAS CONSERVATION PROJECTS



  
THE  
**ASPINALL**  
FOUNDATION  
**CRY OF  
THE WILD**  
INDONESIA  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

  
THE  
**ASPINALL**  
FOUNDATION  
MADAGASCAR  
**LEMUR  
PROJECT**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

  
THE  
**ASPINALL**  
FOUNDATION  
**GABON  
GORILLA  
PROJECT**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

  
THE  
**ASPINALL**  
FOUNDATION  
**CONGO  
GORILLA  
PROJECT**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 326567

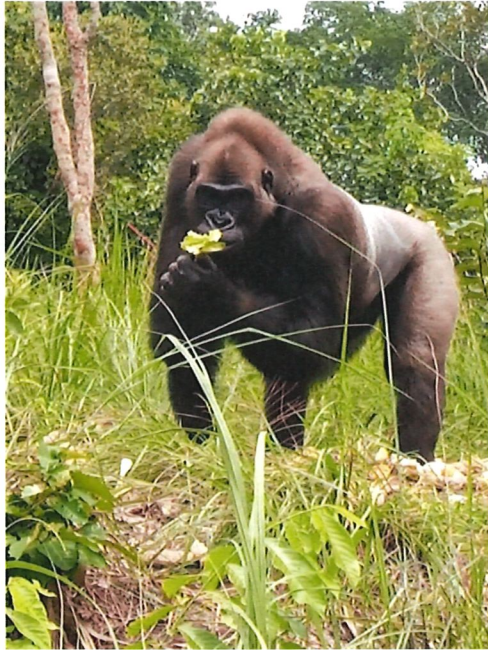
# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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### Congo



In Congo, 2020 has seen substantial progress in both Kebu and Fubu. Having spent over 2 years acclimatizing to their new surroundings, being closely monitored by their dedicated team of rangers, both males have been directly observed consuming more and more wild foods, with Fubu learning how to open up banana plant stems to enjoy for himself, extremely encouraging behavior and a positive step towards full independence.

The dynamics between the two has remained stable throughout 2020, although Fubu's confidence has grown tremendously and he is spending much more time independently. Kebu still tends to spend the majority of his time in the forest, coming to the savannah regularly for supplementary feeding. Following on from a brief loss of body condition in 2019 both are now of optimum weight and we estimate them to be ready for release in the very near future.

Loukelela and Bomassa, the young male orphans currently under our care, have only strengthened the bond between them during 2020. The two are inseparable and spend their days trekking through the lush forests of Congo with their care givers, exploring and learning, which fruits, vegetables, plants and grasses to eat, which areas to cover during which seasons for the best food returns and generally how to live wildly. Bomassa particularly, has grown in confidence throughout 2020, having spent most of 2019 recovering from his early life trauma, he now depends on Loukelela for emotional support and will actively display his jealousy when Loukelela initiates interactions with rangers during their daily treks.



Yambo the 35-year-old silverback continues to live solitary on his retirement island. Throughout 2020 we have noticed, as is expected with age, that Yambo has been more prone to nasal infections, as has been a continuous issue throughout his life due to contracting polio in his much younger years, only exacerbated by age. He has undergone antibiotic treatment on 3 occasions and this is being very closely monitored moving forward. Kelle, the silverback has spent all of 2020 solitary, displaying spectacularly at passersby and chasing boats along the river's edge at an incredible pace. Djeke has also spent the majority of 2020 solitary, with one

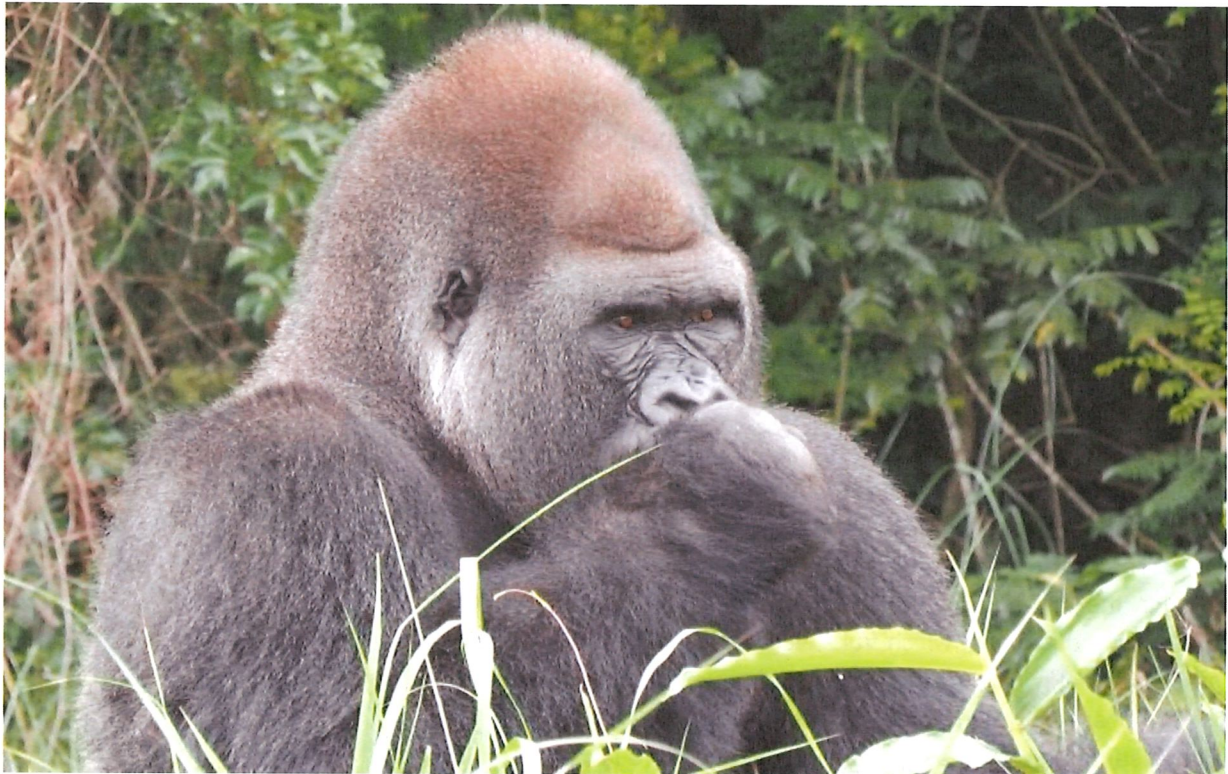
# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

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notable indirect observation, potentially with up to 2 females, which could be the females he lost to Kelle during 2018, whether or not he maintains his new found group will be closely followed by the team. Makoua still presides over the largest group in the reserve, numbering over 30 individuals with at least 2 births confirmed with direct observations during the course of the year. One male, Teke, who emigrated from Makoua's group in March of 2017, having been born into the group in 2004, and was also the first wild born gorilla to released gorillas in the reserve, has been seen on camera trap on 2 occasions throughout 2020 stalking Makoua's group in the hope of acquiring some females from the group.



# The Aspinall Foundation

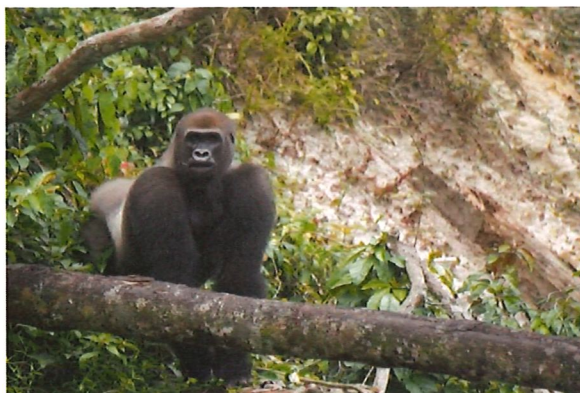
## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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### Gabon

At the Batéké Plateaux National Park, 2020 was an interesting year. Djongo and Mayombe have continued to progress together as a pair, with numerous more matings sighted by camera trap. Mayombe's confidence grows slowly but surely, with any form of change from the monitoring staff to the weather making her nervous, never-the-less she is certainly making small, positive steps in the right direction. Djongo manipulates the items of supplementary food provided, always taking the best pickings for himself, however, Mayombe has quickly learnt how to adapt to Djongo's behaviour during feeding times, avoiding any form of conflict.



Rafa and Mbwambe were spotted as a pair in early 2020, without Okeli. Both in great condition and continuing to cover large distances, often crossing paths with the other Gorilla groups within the reserve, although has not yet been successful in acquiring additional females, having lost Okeli back to Boumango's group in late 2019.

# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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Djala has spent all of 2020 solitary, enjoying time in the southern side of the reserve travelling shorter distances than has been previously recorded but maintaining fantastic physical condition. Djala is approaching 40 in the next year and still continues to thrive in the wild, an impressive age for a silverback, with previous studies suggesting a silverback's lifespan to be 35 years. Djala continues to feed on aframomum and other native foods, which are readily available to him in the forest.



Boumango's group has grown throughout 2020 with the birth of a male noted in May 2020, bringing the group up to 15 individuals. Boumango remains a relaxed leader of 7 females, with Okeli returning to the group in late 2019.



The Tongas have spent the vast majority of 2020 trailing deep in the forest, with irregular sightings by the team. Despite this, we are confident that the group has grown in size due to indirect camera trap footage, with at least 3 of 8 females carrying small infants. Following on from last year, Belinga, the only female to still actively approach the river's edge during direct observation encounters has now stopped doing this at all.



# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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Djalta and Ima have almost completely separated from one another throughout the first 3 months of 2020 but remain in tremendous condition, with Ima showing more maturity and gaining impressive size and muscle throughout the year. Djalta has been directly observed making remarkable displays at the team although still has some stature to gain to become a fully grown silverback.

Our camera traps have captured a number of other threatened species throughout 2020 including, civets, side striped jackal, forest elephants, leopards, pangolins, mandrills and golden cats. As well as, over the last 4 years 1 male lion and one hyena —the remarkable return of these headline-making species is not only an indicator of the success of over 25 years of hard work, but has inspired TAF and its partners to keep pushing the restoration of the national park forward to the next level.

# The Aspinal Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

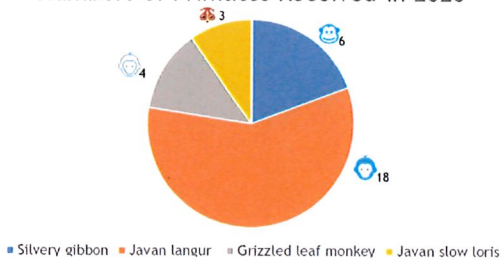
## Indonesia



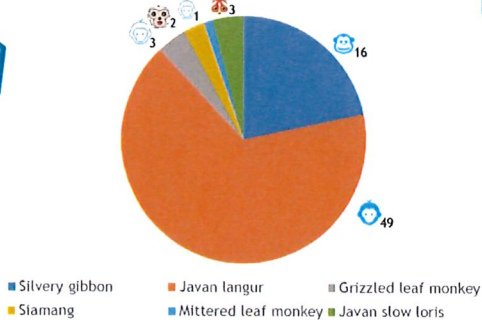
In 2020, alongside the team of forestry rangers of west and east java, TAF IP team have rescued or confiscated primates from the illegal pet trade in java. All rescued victims have been transferred to the primate rehabilitation centres in west and east java to spend time rehabilitating and undergoing a series of tests to ascertain their health status prior to re-release. Summary of figures:

### 2020 -Rehabilitated Primates:

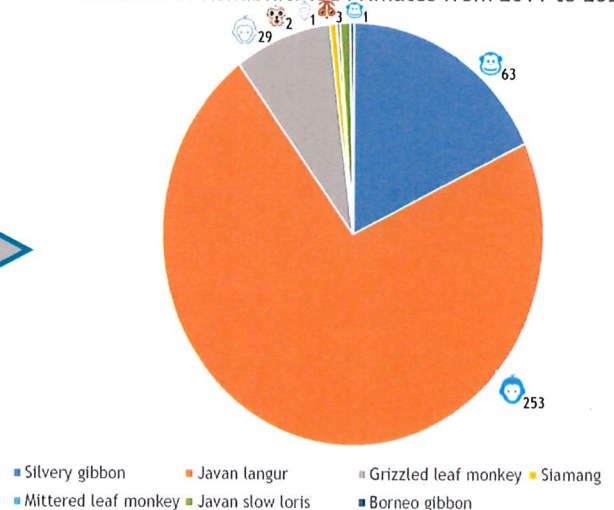
Numbers of Primates Received in 2020



Numbers of Rehabilitated Primate in 2020



Numbers of Rehabilitated Primates from 2011 to 2020



# The Aspinal Foundation

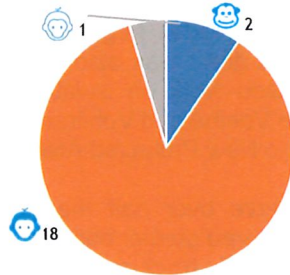
## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Our primate reintroduction plans have had to be re-scheduled on a number of occasions throughout 2020 due to the global pandemic, Covid-19. However, in the latter part of 2020 we were finally given specialist permissions to continue our conservation work, under additional safety measures, allowing us to release a total number of 21 primates June – December consisting of 18 Javan langurs, 2 Javan gibbons and 1 grizzled langur.

### 2020 –Reintroduced Primates

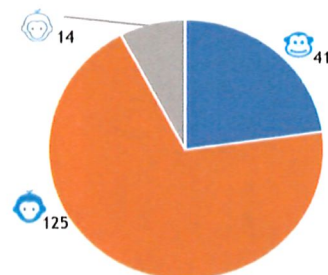
2020 Primate's Released



■ Silvery gibbon ■ Javan langur ■ Grizzled leaf monkey

**21 individuals**

2012 to 2020 Primate's Released



■ Silvery gibbon ■ Javan langur ■ Grizzled leaf monkey

**180 individuals**

Behavioural observations of primates in the rehabilitation phase of rewilding during this 12 month period have been mainly positive with healthy appetites, normal levels of physical activity and vocal/ visual interaction with neighbouring primates.

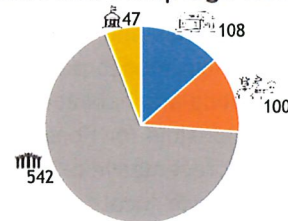
Observations of released primates has continued but to a lesser level during January – July due to local lockdown restrictions. However, in the latter part of the year this has increased again and despite the break in sightings all released primates appear to be well and in great condition with 2 births noted.



### Education and Awareness:

The emerging of Covid-19 in early 2020 consequently affected our awareness campaign plans for the year. All school visits and community campaigns and meetings had to be rescheduled or in some cases even cancelled. There were a few activities that could still be executed by following a strict Covid-19 protocol, with some events and meetings being replaced by online platforms. The total number of participating audiences at the awareness activities this year decreased, primarily due to lockdown.

Outreach Campaign 2020



■ School ■ University ■ Community ■ Government

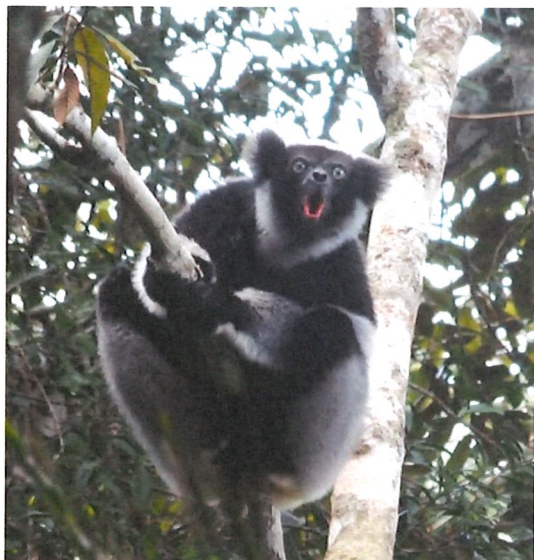
# The Aspinal Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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### Madagascar



The Aspinal Foundation's community-based conservation of lemurs and other highly threatened endemic wildlife in Madagascar during 2020 focussed on three main geographical areas, the Maevatanana-Ambato-Boeny (MAB) dry forests and wetlands of western central Madagascar, the western, high elevation, part of the Ankeniheny-Zahamena rainforest corridor (CAZ West) in eastern Madagascar, and the Andriantantely lowland rainforest and other lowland habitat fragments also in eastern Madagascar. A small grant was also obtained to increase our community-based work on isolated greater bamboo lemur groups in the Vohibe and Vohitrambo forest fragments within the Nosivolo New Protected Area.

Our eastern projects conserve over half the total wild population of Critically Endangered greater bamboo lemurs, plus significant populations of black-and-white ruffed lemurs, indri and diademed sifaka, all Critically Endangered, and another eight lemur species that occur in the same forests. Our western sites protect Critically Endangered

mongoose lemurs and crowned sifaka, plus rufous brown lemurs and at least two species of nocturnal lemurs, in addition to Critically Endangered Madagascar fish eagles and Madagascar big-headed turtles, and other threatened species such as Madagascar flying foxes, Madagascar heron, and various endemic freshwater cichlid fish.

Our Andriantantely project is of major global conservation importance. Andriantantely is one of the few remaining patches of lowland rainforest still in good condition in Madagascar. It is the only lowland forest known to support four of the most Critically Endangered large-bodied lemurs, Indri, Black-and-White Ruffed Lemur, Greater Bamboo Lemur and Diademed Sifaka, which are also listed in the top 100 most evolutionarily-distinct and globally-endangered mammals by the ZSL EDGE programme. With the support of different partners, including significant



funding from IUCN SOS, we run monitoring and conservation activities in collaboration with local communities in the area. During 2020 we continued to employ two national primatologists to coordinate the field activities of this project. They supervised 25 local community rangers monitoring 12 sites within which are living over 500 greater bamboo lemurs (plus over 50 infants born in October and November; data for December not yet available), over 200 black-and-white lemurs, over 500 indri, and approximately 75 diademed sifaka. Seven botanical plots are also monitored for monthly phenology studies. These community patrollers also ensure threats such as hunting and habitat loss are identified quickly and dealt with efficiently. Infractions are reported to the Ministry responsible for Forest and the Environment. Law enforcement interventions in collaboration with the Regional representative of the Ministry were supported to deal with major infractions, resulting in some arrests. We worked with local communities and schools to continue our long-term awareness-raising and education programme. Numerous awareness-raising sessions were organized, including during the World Lemur Day celebrations at the end of November. Posters and calendars were distributed, as were school writing books featuring local lemurs and information on forest conservation laws. We support 8 local community associations (VOIs) based around Andriantantely to implement simplified forest management plans developed in previous years. We are currently supporting the running of 8 seedling nurseries within 8 villages where our

# The Aspinnall Foundation

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VOI are based (Lanonana, Mangabe, Amboditavolo, Ambodimanga, Sahamanantsy, Ambodiatafana, Vohiposa, Manakana). Over 15,000 saplings were planted in the community reforestation zones during 2020. From 2020 to 2025 we aim to reforest 183 ha of degraded land around Andriantantely. Projects aiming to increase/improve members' income (which is part of the forest management plan and aiming the reduction to the need to harvest forest products) like ginger farming and market gardening were supported.



Our MAB project, facilitating community-based conservation of dry forests and wetlands in western central Madagascar, progressed very well during 2020. Indeed 2020 has seen the culmination of the community-based work undertaken during the four years of the CEPF-funded project to date. Towards the end of 2020, six new community-management agreements were finalised, validated, and signed, covering over 30,000 hectares within the project area, and including over 11,000 ha of dry deciduous forest and over 1,200 ha of river and gallery forest designated for community-based protection, almost 4,000 ha of freshwater lakes designated for improved community-based management, and over 1,800 ha designated for community-based reforestation. This is a remarkable achievement by all involved, especially considering the issues related to insecurity that have impacted the project since the beginning, in addition to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic over the past year. These six new community-conservation areas support the long-term conservation of several of the most unique and threatened species of vertebrates in the world. Madagascar big-headed turtles, a species with the highest EDGE score of any terrestrial vertebrate anywhere in the world, occurs in at least four of the new sites. Madagascar fish eagles, another Critically Endangered species endemic to western Madagascar, nest at three of the sites and feed in the wetland areas of at least five. Madagascar herons have been reported at four of the new sites and Madagascar flying fox roosts are present at three of the sites. The Critically Endangered endemic cichlid fish *Paretroplus maculatus* has been found at four of the sites, and at least two other highly threatened endemic fish species are also protected by the new agreements. Critically Endangered crowned sifakas and mongoose lemurs occur at all six of the sites, and Vulnerable rufous brown lemurs at five. One other community-managed site is also part of the project, created back in 2012, which also supports the three diurnal lemurs, and a flying fox roost. Between them all, these seven community-managed sites created since 2012 cover 37,363 hectares, remarkably almost exactly equal to 10% of the total area of Kent (which covers 373,600 hectares). The new community-based management agreements will empower local people to protect these



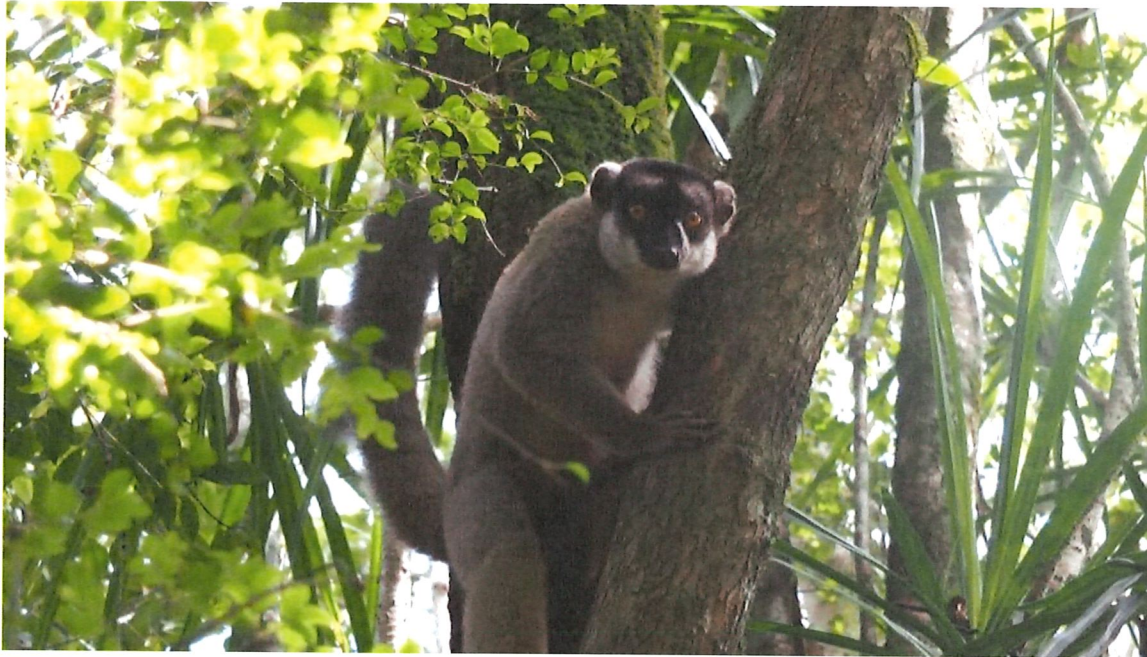
# The Aspinall Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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species and the forest and wetland habitats they depend upon, and to improve their management and use of their local natural resources.



# The Aspinnall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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### South Africa

The Aspinnall Foundation's newly established team in South Africa is making significant progress in establishing the organisation as a conservation leader in the Region, despite the impact of Covid 19. We have implemented a two-prong approach to our activities which includes rewilding of captive animals and implementing emergency interventions to rescue wildlife at risk.

We achieved another ground-breaking step in our rewilding interventions by translocating Saba and Nairo, two captive born cheetah brothers, from Howletts to South Africa. The project was implemented in two phases. The first phase was flying the cheetahs from the United Kingdom to Cape Town in February 2020, where they were quarantined at Ashia Cheetah Conservation Centre. This enabled them to acclimatise and be closely monitored by an expert team for approximately three months. The second phase included transporting the cheetahs 500km to Mount Camdeboo Private Game Reserve, a 19 700 acre reserve in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The brothers were fitted with a satellite tracking unit so that our TAF monitoring team can monitor them on daily basis and they also provide very important data on the movement of the cheetahs and how they utilise the reserve. They were initially released into a custom built hunting enclosure of 1000 acres, which was stocked with prey animals. The purpose of this enclosure was to provide the brothers with adequate hunting opportunities to teach them how to hunt. Astonishingly, Nairo made his first kill within 24 hours of being released into the hunting enclosure. Saba and Nairo took approximately three months to



develop their hunting skills and were released into the greater reserve in November 2020, where they have been self-sufficient ever since. They have successfully killed kudu bulls, kudu cows, eland cows, blesbok, etc. They have been interacting with other cheetahs and they will be introduced to a female cheetah for breeding purposes in 2021. This has been an extremely successful project and has proved that cheetah can successfully be released into the wild.



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Due to the success of Saba and Nairo, we initiated another rewilding intervention where we partnered with Imire Rhino and Wildlife Conservation, in Zimbabwe in the proposed rewilding of two cheetah brothers from Canada. We have developed the release boma and initiated the CITES/translocation permitting process to translocate the cheetahs from Canada to Zimbabwe. Imire is a magnificent reserve in close proximity to Harare in Zimbabwe, which will be the perfect habitat for the two brothers named Kumbe and Jabari. We anticipate that this translocation and rewilding will be done in February 2021.

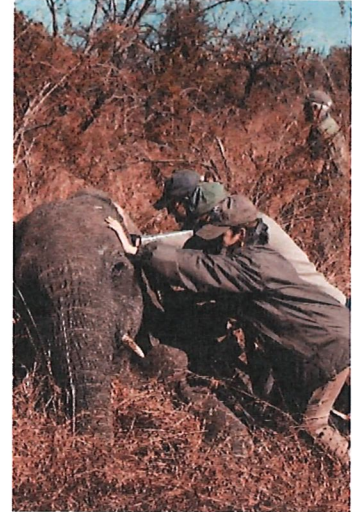
# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

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The TAF team has also been extremely busy with emergency interventions and translocations in South Africa. The first of these operations was the rescue and translocation of five elephants from an area to the South of the Kruger National Park. These elephants broke out of a reserve and were causing problems on a main road in the area. The Aspinall Foundation team mobilised external funding and a response team within 48 hours. The elephants were successfully translocated to a new reserve.



We then implemented a ground-breaking elephant translocation where we moved three elephant tuskers from Tembe Elephant Park to two different reserves in the Kwa-Zulu Natal Province and the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. Tembe Elephant Park has the last remaining tusker genetics in South Africa and TAF believes it is critical to distribute the genetics to other reserves to ensure these genetics are secured for future generations.

Although the three elephant bulls are young animals, they already have large tusks and are representative of the very important Tembe genetics. The tuskers are doing very well in their new homes and are adding value to tourism products and therefore boosting the local economies of the area.



The Aspinall Foundation proudly partnered with Somkhanda Community Game Reserve in the Kwa-Zulu Natal Province of South Africa in the translocation of two rhino orphans. Mphilo and Makhosi (Bull and cow) were translocated from Zululand Rhino orphanage to the reserve, which is well protected by the Emvokweni Trust. Mphilo was orphaned at Somkhanda about 4 years ago and has now been brought home again, to a better protected home. This was an important project which shows that community reserves can in fact protect rhinos.



The operation was filmed by an American Production company and the documentary has won numerous awards.

The Waterberg Wild Dog Initiative contacted The Aspinall Foundation as they required urgent assistance in the collaring of wild dog packs in the Waterberg region. These are the last free-roaming wild dog packs, outside of Protected Areas in South Africa. The Aspinall Foundation provided three collars for the packs and funded

# The Aspinall Foundation

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helicopter time, veterinary costs and assisted in fitting the collars. These collars will allow the Waterberg Wild Dog Initiative to actively monitor the dogs and ensure they are protected when they roam onto farmers lands which don't want the dogs there. These farmers sometimes shoot wild dogs and therefore these animals are at risk. These dogs are now monitored by satellite technology.



As part of our continued partnership with Mount Camdeboo Private Game Reserve in the Eastern Cape, we partnered with the reserve in the dehorning and collaring the reserve's white rhino. The dehorning of the rhino reduces the reward for poachers to poach on the reserve and the collars allows the anti-poaching team to effectively monitor the rhinos. We also took the opportunity to adjust the satellite tracking collar on Harry, the elephant bull which we rescued in October 2019. His condition improved so much that his collar did not fit him anymore.

Due to the travel limitations of the covid pandemic, we have been planning for many projects to take place in 2021. These projects include the potential expansion of our activities and footprint into West Africa (specifically The Gambia). We also have a number of different animals lined up for rewilding in 2021, including roan, badger, etc.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

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### Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. 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 trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Trustees have commissioned a full and detailed Governance Review process which has been carried out against the Charity Governance Code for Larger Charities (2020). The Report highlighted and identified overarching themes requiring addressing and listed recommendations to enable the Foundation to achieve a robust governance structure. The Foundation and the Trustees are currently working to address the issues and meet these objectives.

### Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Foundation are:

1. The advancement and promotion (whether in England or elsewhere in the world) for the public benefit of education and useful knowledge in relation to the science of zoology, the preservation and exhibition of living animals and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) all wild animals in danger of extinction and the conservation of natural wildlife inhabitants.
2. Such other charitable purposes as the Trustees may by Deed appoint.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

### For the year ended 31 December 2020

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Our commitment is to conservation, through captive breeding, education and reintroduction. We are working in some of the world's most fragile environments to save endangered animals and return them to the wild. We seek to meet our charitable objectives in three ways:

1. To halt the extinction of endangered species in the wild by reintroducing animals and developing sustainable conservation activities; providing economic benefits to local communities and helping manage wilderness areas;
2. Provide the most natural environment possible for animals in both animal parks, and be world leaders in our animal husbandry and breeding programmes;
3. Increase public understanding of animal welfare and how we can all act to protect animals in their natural environments.

#### **Public benefit**

The Charities Act 2011 requires that charitable activities provide a public benefit. The trustees confirm that, when planning its activities, they have complied with the duty to 'have regard' to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

The Foundation's work on the reintroduction of species, including scientific evaluations and co-management of protected areas, helps preserve the natural environment and natural resources for the public benefit, for both current and future generations.

#### **Appointment and removal of Trustees**

The Charity is run by a board of six Trustees. New Trustees may be appointed, up to a maximum of seven, by the existing Trustees. The statutory power to appoint a Trustee vests in the Chairman and shall be exercised by deed. If at any time, owing to retirement, death or removal, the number of Trustees shall be reduced to less than three, then the Chairman shall immediately appoint one or more Trustees to replace the Trustees who have retired, died or been removed. A Trustee may be removed by being given written notice from the Chairman.

The Foundation Trust Deed requires that, where possible, only lineal descendants of the founder can be the board chair.

#### **Trustee induction and training**

New trustees are provided with an induction pack outlining their legal obligations under charity law, a copy of the charity's Trust Deed and recent financial performance of the charity. They are also given the opportunity to visit the Parks for a briefing on our work on breeding and caring for rare and endangered species.

#### **Related parties and relationships with other organisations**

The Foundation works closely with an associated charity, The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT') which has established world-class animal welfare and captive breeding programmes in its two Parks in Kent: Howletts Park and Port Lympne Reserve. The Foundation re-introduces animals from the parks' captive breeding programs back into the wild. The success of these programs can be measured by the number of captive births and animal reintroductions set out elsewhere in this report.

This work takes place alongside the other programmes the Foundation runs overseas, where it is protecting animals from human development and poaching.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

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### **Organisational structure**

The Board of Trustees consider that they comprise the key governance personnel of the Foundation. The day to day management is delegated to relevant individuals from within the senior management team, who are responsible for various operational matters including finance and employment. All delegated actions are monitored by various Trustees on behalf of the Board.

The Board of Trustees hold regular meetings and are responsible for the strategic direction and policies of the Foundation.

### **Remuneration policy for key management personnel**

Key management personnel pay rates are set in line with other charities or companies of a similar size and with regard to our location and the necessary skills and experience for the role.

### **Fundraising activity**

The Foundation's approach to fundraising focuses on building relationships with individuals and businesses that are committed to protecting rare and endangered species.

The Foundation aims to ensure that our supporters and the wider public are treated fairly and with respect. It is continually looking for ways to improve and to address new challenges and adopt new regulations effectively. Despite turbulent political and economic times, the Foundation remains fully committed to its core fundraising principles.

#### Fundraising approach:

The Foundation's fundraising approach is to talk to members of the public in person and on the telephone. These are vital ways to engage people with the work of the Foundation and raise funds. The Foundation employs skilled face-to-face in-house fundraisers to carry out these activities. The Foundation also works with external organisations who have specific expertise in face-to-face and telephone fundraising which allows the Foundation to contact as many people as possible in the most cost-effective way. Third-party fundraising is supported by robust contracts specifying that the individuals who carry out these activities are trained to adhere to applicable laws and codes, such as the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice and data protection laws. These organisations are expected to voluntarily subscribe to the Fundraising Regulator, and to reflect the Foundation's values when speaking to supporters.

The Foundation has chosen not to use third-party organisations to fundraise door-to-door.

The Foundation has a Personal Data Governance Framework in order to maintain and demonstrate compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation, and is transparent about how personal data is used

#### Fundraising Standards:

The Foundation voluntarily subscribes to the Fundraising Regulator and its Code of Fundraising Practice. The Fundraising Regulator investigates and takes appropriate action on cases of public concern. No failures to comply with fundraising standards have been notified to the Foundation.

The Foundation has signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service which enables individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications from us. The Foundation received and actioned requests where necessary from this service last year.

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#### Feedback and complaints:

The Foundation had over 300,000 interactions with its supporters last year through a wide range of channels, including events, face-to-face, telephone, email, in the press, through social media and on the website. Complaints raised have started to be captured systematically in the current year. Supporter surveys have regularly been undertaken in order to get direct feedback from donors.

Where shortcomings have been identified, guidance and training for staff and fundraisers have been expanded, and new processes put in place, both to prevent recurrence of the issues and to improve supporter experience. The Foundation provides contact details for its complaints process, and will include these details on its website.

#### Protection of vulnerable people:

The Foundation is especially careful and sensitive when engaging with vulnerable people. This is reflected in our fundraising practices through our guidance and training, and by choosing not to fund raise door to door.

#### **Financial review**

During 2020 the total income for the Foundation was £1.95m (2019: £2.86m). This was from three main sources: donations from more than 9,000 regular supporters to the charity, corporate donations, and Gift Aid refunds. Income is directed towards the charitable work of the Foundation in both the UK and overseas in line with the foundation's commitments to its supporters. The operating deficit for 2020 was £244,000 (2019: surplus of £1,818,000) and the new balance sheet position at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 was £37,675,000.

#### **Investment policy**

All investments held by the Foundation have been acquired in accordance with powers vested in the Trustees. Slater Investments Limited advises on the Foundation's investment portfolio. The Foundation had a net gain of £700k (2019: gain of £1,923k) on investments.

#### **Reserves policy**

At the year end the Foundation had total reserves of £37,675k. Of this amount, £353k are restricted and not available for the general purposes of the charity.

Additionally, £35,120k was invested in long-term fixed assets which consisted of Freehold and Long leasehold properties, Fine Art and other items. The free reserves available to the Foundation were therefore £2,202k. There were no material amounts committed at the end of the reporting period.

The free reserves held are in line with the Investment and Reserves Policy which notes that the Foundation has limited fixed funding requirements and non-discretionary liabilities. Its annual administrative costs are approximately £1,200k. It is the policy of the Foundation to predominantly pursue an investment strategy aimed at maximising long-term capital returns to preserve its reserves.

It is difficult to forecast with any degree of certainty what future funding streams will look like, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, the trustees have adopted a policy to ensure that the resources of the Foundation are used in the most effective way to support its objects and also to ensure that the Foundation remains financially resilient. Our reserves policy is therefore to maintain sufficient reserves to enable the Foundation to continue its activities should there be a drop in income. As such reserves are required to provide an adequate level of working capital to ensure the ongoing viability of our core work, cover for risks of unforeseen expenditure and/or unanticipated loss of income.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

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The Trustees are also mindful of the fact that should the Foundation need to wind down its activities, there are commitments that would need to be met, including staff liabilities, operating costs commitments and the repayment of restricted fund donations.

In light of the above, the Trustees aim to maintain a level of reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of annual administrative costs. As such the objects of the reserves policy have been successfully achieved.

The reserves policy is reviewed at least annually by the Aspinall Foundation Investment Committee which reports to the Foundation's Trustee Board.

### **Principal risks and uncertainties and risk management**

The Trustees are very aware of the types of major risks to which the Foundation is exposed, and they have prepared an appropriate Risk Management Register, which both identifies those risks and indicates what provision has been made for dealing with them.

The principal risks to which the Foundation is exposed include:

- Reputational and financial risks arising from the Foundation's close association with The Howletts Wild Animal Trust
- Risks connected to overseas operations, such as fraud, theft, injury to staff member, death of animals
- Fraud or data breach in the Foundation
- Adverse media

The Trustees continue to keep under review the systems in place, which they believe are appropriate to the size of the Charity and the nature of its operations, in order to mitigate these risks.

These matters are considered annually (or more frequently if required) when we also determine which major risks requiring regular monitoring, which are then reviewed quarterly.

### **Plans for the future**

The key component of the Aspinall Foundation's philosophy has been the reintroduction of species to the wild. The Foundation is incredibly proud of its successes as a breeder of rare and endangered animals, and as trailblazers in the world of rewilding. The Foundation has rewilded over 300 formerly captive animals into areas of protected wilderness

In 2022 the Foundation will be carrying out the biggest intercontinental animal translocation that has ever been attempted, the transfer of a herd of 13 African elephants from Howletts Wild Animal Park to a protected area in Kenya. The Foundation is exploring two sites, each with its own challenges and benefits. The larger of the two has the potential for the herd to eventually mix with tens of thousands of other elephants; the smaller site needs rehabilitation, and our herd would help this process.

The Foundation is working with the government of Pakistan to plan the reintroduction of one-horned rhino and cheetah back into the country. There are challenges to overcome for both species but the Foundation's first-hand experience of reintroducing rhinos and cheetahs in Africa will help enormously.

The Foundation is looking at a potential cheetah rewilding project in UAE which, it is hoped, will highlight and put a stop to the illegal trade in wild caught cheetah that was witnessed during its extensive work in Somaliland. The recent trend of people posting images of themselves with habituated cheetahs is quite common in the UAE. This project will raise awareness within the country of the issues surrounding cheetah conservation and

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Trustees' Annual Report

### For the year ended 31 December 2020

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consequently reduce demand for importing cheetahs, whilst facilitating law enforcement when necessary. The plan is to rewild cheetahs currently held captive in the UAE for release into restored and protected sites.

In South Africa the progress of the Howletts-born cheetahs Saba and Nairo, will continue to be monitored. Their progress to date has been nothing short of spectacular and they have provided priceless insights into the rewilding of this species. The Foundation will also be building on the equally successful transfer it organised of two male cheetahs from Canada to a reserve in Zimbabwe. The Foundation is keen to foster such partnerships with like-minded zoos and sanctuaries around the world. The Foundation will provide the contacts and experience, facilitating a much smoother reintroduction programme that avoids multiple translocations and quarantines. The Foundation has plans to reintroduce at least six cheetahs into southern Africa in the next 3 years. All this has been achieved despite the countless zoo apparatuses who insisted that this could never be done.

The Foundation is working with a reserve in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) to reintroduce 6 roan antelope, 10 sable and up to 4 kudu antelope from Howletts and Port Lympne, and is working with several private reserves in South Africa to rewild many of the smaller predators kept at the parks (honey badgers (1), caracal (3), serval (6), mongoose (6)). Painted dogs are another southern African species that we are planning to rewild at different sites in South Africa and Zimbabwe. The Foundation is also supporting an organisation in South Africa that is currently breeding 2 pairs of vulnerable black-footed cats with up to 4 offspring destined for release. The Foundation is working with the park in the UK to create a herd of 5 disease free Cape buffalo for transfer to Southern Africa within the next 3 years. TB has become endemic in the region and this herd could play a valuable conservation role for the species. All these species have been depleted throughout southern Africa and captive populations should be put to good use reinforcing these areas.

The Foundation will continue to collaborate with organisations in Kenya that are looking to bolster the dwindling number of critically endangered mountain bongo antelope by sending four males to a protected area near Mount Kenya.

Other projects that the Foundation is researching include a protected area management partnership with a kingdom in Ghana and possible black rhino reintroductions in Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda. Not all these projects will come to fruition, and they may take significant time to research but we believe that such partnerships are always worth exploring. The successful ones have been the cornerstones of the Foundation's work. We have three female rhinos crate trained and ready to be released in their former range and will be able to reintroduce an estimated three rhinos every other year from the UK.

The Foundation plans to build on the recent successes that our emergency response team in Southern Africa has had, rescuing and translocating elephants and rhinos at risk from human conflict, poaching and bad management practises across the region. The Foundation has built a reputation for rapid and dependable interventions with local and regional governments and communities, so much so that they are coming to the Foundation with projects they need help with. So far, 34 elephants have been rescued, and 5 rhinos and dehorned a further 311 rhinos, and has also recently been involved in the rescue and relocation of two captive Siberian tigers.

In Congo the Foundation benefits from a collaborative government partnership and we will be increasing our translocations from the UK of Congolese species including several De Brazza monkeys, red river hogs (4) and waterbuck (5). The Foundation will also continue its captive-born gorilla reintroductions, with up to 5 captive gorillas being reintroduced in the next three years.

In Gabon the reintroduced gorilla groups keep growing and the presence of the Foundation at its base camp in the heart of the national park continues to provide protection from incursions by poachers (often providing

# The Aspinall Foundation

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the only protection). The park has thrived because of this, with increased numbers of elephants and other large mammals.

In Sumatra the Foundation is proposing to build a new rescue and rehabilitation centre based on the same model that has proved so successful in Java. Like Javan gibbons, siamang gibbons are kept as pets and there is an urgent need to provide the authorities with suitable facilities for homing and rewilding confiscated individuals.

The Foundation is continuing to finesse its Javan gibbon and langur reintroduction projects in Java, and a continuous stream of primates is now rehabilitated and released back into the wild (over 180 so far). More transfers of captive primates are planned, including 9 gibbons and 6 langurs from the UK but a backlog has developed due to Covid restrictions and sanitary health certificate updates.

The Foundation has had great success with its European bison reintroduction project in Romania where we successfully released a herd of 6 females into Vanatori Neamt Nature Park. The Foundation continues to look for other opportunities for releasing its remaining European bison.

The Foundation's community-based conservation programme for lemurs and other highly threatened endemic wildlife in Madagascar focuses on three main geographical areas, dry forests and wetlands of western central Madagascar, high elevation rainforest in eastern Madagascar, and lowland rainforest and surrounding habitat fragments also in eastern Madagascar. The Foundation will continue to help conserve six critically endangered lemur species as well as critically endangered Madagascar fish eagles and big-headed turtles, plus many other endangered and endemic species of mammals, fish and birds. The Foundation has been able to leverage its core funding to successfully apply for several conservation grants from various organisations which fund our remarkably effective work in Madagascar.

### Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

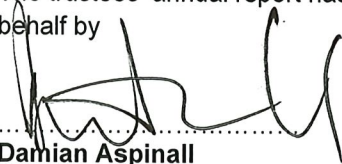
In so far as the trustees are aware:


- There is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### Auditors

Goldwins Limited were re-appointed as the auditors of the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 19 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by

  
.....  
**Damian Aspinall**

  
.....  
**Charles Filmer**

  
.....  
**Maarten Petermann**

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Aspinall Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity and of the parent charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

## **Responsibilities of the trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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## **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

## **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

# Independent Auditor's report to the Trustees of The Aspinall Foundation

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A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [[www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities)]. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Goldwins Limited*

Date: 21 October 2021

.....  
**Goldwins Limited**  
**Statutory Auditor**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**75 Maygrove Road**  
**West Hampstead**  
**London NW6 2EG**

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds 2020 £'000	Total Funds 2019 £'000
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	1,473	79	1,552	1,395
Other trading activities	4	63	-	63	1,247
Investment income	5	333	-	333	219
<b>Total income</b>		<u>1,869</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>1,948</u>	<u>2,861</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	6	588	-	588	1,602
Charitable activities		2,265	39	2,304	1,447
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>2,853</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>2,892</u>	<u>3,049</u>
Net gains on investments	11	700	-	700	1,923
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>		<u>(284)</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>(244)</u>	<u>1,735</u>
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	83
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(284)</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>(244)</u>	<u>1,818</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	18	37,606	313	37,919	36,101
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>37,322</u>	<u>353</u>	<u>37,675</u>	<u>37,919</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. Incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

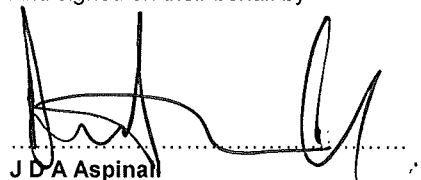
# The Aspinall Foundation

## Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020		2019	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10		24,707		25,796
Investments	11		<u>10,413</u>		<u>8,599</u>
			35,120		34,395
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	12	2,204		2,209	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>2,763</u>		<u>2,180</u>	
		4,967		4,389	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	<u>(412)</u>		<u>(664)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>4,555</u>		<u>3,725</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			39,675		38,120
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	14		(2,000)		(201)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>37,675</u></u>		<u><u>37,919</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted funds	18		353		313
Unrestricted funds:	18				
General reserves		24,126		24,064	
Revaluation reserve		<u>13,196</u>		<u>13,542</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			37,322		37,606
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>37,675</u></u>		<u><u>37,919</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees on 19 October 2021

And signed on their behalf by

  
 J D A Aspinall  
 Trustee

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £'000	2020 £'000	2019 £'000	2019 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>					
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	15		617		82
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Interest/ rent/ dividends from investments		333		219	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets investments		(1,115)		102	
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		<u>748</u>		<u>1,607</u>	
<b>Cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			<b><u>(34)</u></b>		<b><u>1,928</u></b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			<b>583</b>		<b>2,010</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			2,180		170
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	16		<b><u>2,763</u></b>		<b><u>2,180</u></b>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

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### 1 Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements 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 charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

#### **Income**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Donations of gifts, services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable that economic benefit can be measured reliably, and is material to the accounts. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the Trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

#### **Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Unrestricted funds include a revaluation reserve representing restatement of investment assets at market values.

Restricted funds are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the trust arising from the express or implied wishes of the donors, in so far as these are intended to be binding on the trustees.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity and its activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. Expenditure is allocated to categories in accordance with the main activity of the staff concerned or the substance of the costs incurred.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Freehold land and works of art are not depreciated, as these assets are, in the opinion of the trustees, worth in excess of their book values. The freehold mansion is depreciated at the rate of 2% per annum on cost.

Software & IT Equipment, Motor vehicles, and Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment are stated at cost less depreciation at a rate of 25% reducing balance.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

#### Fixed Asset 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. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities. Unlisted investments are stated at trustees' valuation.

#### Debtors

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

#### Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

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### 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **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. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

#### **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Foreign Currencies**

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the Balance Sheet date. Gains or losses on translation are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### **Pensions**

The Foundation makes contributions to a defined contribution scheme for certain staff members. The cost of these contributions is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

### 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total Funds £'000
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	1,344	51	1,395
Other trading activities	1,247	-	1,247
Investment income	219	-	219
<b>Total income</b>	<u>2,810</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>2,861</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	1,602		1,602
Charitable activities	1,445	2	1,447
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>3,047</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3,049</u>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) before net gains / (losses) on investments</b>	(237)	49	(188)
Net gains / (losses) on investments	1,923	-	1,923
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>1,686</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>1,735</u>
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets	83		83
<b>Net Movement in funds</b>	<u>1,769</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>1,818</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	35,837	264	36,101
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>37,606</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>37,919</u>

### 3 Income from donations

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Legacies	10	150
Donations	1,318	1,131
Animal sponsorships	148	114
Grants	76	-
	<u>1,552</u>	<u>1,395</u>

### 4 Income from other trading activities

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Dinner	1	1,123
Other	62	124
	<u>63</u>	<u>1,247</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

5 Income from investments	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Income from listed investments	151	92
Rental income	107	30
Interest on loans	75	97
	<u>333</u>	<u>219</u>

## 6 Expenditure

	Basis of Allocation	Raising Funds		Charitable Activities				2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000	
		Costs of Generating Funds £'000	Costs of Investment £'000	TAF Projects £'000	Overseas Projects £'000	Other Charitable Projects £'000	Support Costs £'000			Governance Costs £'000
<b>Costs directly allocated to activities</b>										
Staff costs	Direct	189	-	274	-	-	178	-	641	762
Fundraising costs	Direct	217	-	-	-	-	-	-	217	707
Donations	Direct	-	-	968	-	-	-	-	968	597
Maintenance	Direct	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	26	44
Depreciation	Direct	-	-	-	-	-	162	-	162	162
Legal and professional fees	Direct	-	-	-	-	-	161	212	373	258
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	Direct	-	-	180	-	-	-	-	180	195
<b>Support costs allocated to activities</b>										
Other overheads	Income/ Direct	5	-	135	53	-	132	-	325	324
		<u>411</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,557</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>659</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>2,892</u>	<u>3,049</u>
Support costs		134	-	-	525	-	(659)	-	-	-
Governance costs		43	-	-	169	-	-	(212)	-	-
<b>Total expenditure 2020</b>		<u>588</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,557</u>	<u>747</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,892</u>	
<b>Total expenditure 2019</b>		<u>1,338</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>1,189</u>	<u>258</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,049</u>

Of the total expenditure £38,835 was restricted (2019: £1,652) and £2,852,598 was unrestricted (2019: £3,046,423).

## 7 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
This is stated after charging / (crediting):		
Auditors' remuneration	12	20
Depreciation	162	162
	<u>162</u>	<u>162</u>

## 8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from income tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

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### 9 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Salaries and wages	569	640
Social security costs	46	70
Pension costs	14	31
Other staff costs	12	21
	<u>641</u>	<u>762</u>

The number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer's national insurance and pension costs) for the reporting period amounting to over £60,000 were as follows:

	2020	2019
	No.	No.
£70,000 - £79,999	-	1
£80,000 - £89,999	1	1

The average number of employees during the period was:

2020	2019
No.	No.
<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>

The total employee gross salary and benefits, including employer's national insurance and pension contributions of the key management personnel were £131,395 (2019: £229,923).

The charity trustees were not paid for employment by, nor did they receive any other employment benefits from the Trust in the year (2019: £nil). JDA Aspinall was reimbursed during the year a total of £4,257 (2019: £18,003) for expenses incurred on behalf of the Foundation. No other trustee received any reimbursement of expenses during the year (2019: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2019: £nil).

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

### 10 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold and Long Leasehold Property £'000	Fine Art £'000	Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 January 2020	23,909	3,106	106	27,121
Additions	14	2	14	30
Disposals	(957)	-	-	(957)
At 31 December 2020	<u>22,966</u>	<u>3,108</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>26,194</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 January 2020	1,272	-	53	1,325
Charge for the year	146	-	16	162
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,418</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>1,487</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>				
At 31 December 2020	<u>21,548</u>	<u>3,108</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>24,707</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>22,637</u>	<u>3,106</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>25,796</u>

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

### 11 Fixed Asset Investments

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
<b>Investments at fair value</b>		
Listed investments - UK	10,306	8,492
Unlisted investments at Trustees' valuation	107	107
	<u>10,413</u>	<u>8,599</u>
<b>Movements</b>		
Market value at 1 January 2020	8,599	7,779
Additions	1,000	-
Disposals	(38)	(1,195)
Income	152	92
Net investment gains/(losses)	700	1,923
Market value at 31 December 2020	<u>10,413</u>	<u>8,599</u>

### 12 Debtors

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	80	45
Long term debtors	2,000	1,422
Other debtors	124	683
Sundry debtors	-	21
Accrued income	-	23
Prepayments	-	15
	<u>2,204</u>	<u>2,209</u>

### 13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Bank overdraft	13	6
Trade creditors	132	472
Other creditors	7	118
Other taxes and social security	11	15
Accruals	249	53
	<u>412</u>	<u>664</u>

### 14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans	2,000	201
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>201</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

### 15 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	£'000	£'000
Net (outgoing) /incoming resources before other recognised gains	(244)	1,735
Interest, rent and dividends from investments	(333)	(219)
Depreciation	162	162
(Gains)/ losses on investments	(700)	(1,923)
(Loss)/ profit on the sale of fixed assets	180	195
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	5	(77)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	1,547	209
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>617</u>	<u>82</u>

### 16 Analysis of changes in cash during the year

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>2,763</u>	<u>2,180</u>
	<u>2,763</u>	<u>2,180</u>

### 17a Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	<b>General</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	24,707	-	24,707
Investments	10,413	-	10,413
Current assets	4,614	353	4,967
Current liabilities	(412)	-	(412)
Non-current liabilities	(2,000)	-	(2,000)
At 31 December 2020	<u>37,322</u>	<u>353</u>	<u>37,675</u>

### 17b Analysis of Net Assets between Funds 2019

	<b>General</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2019</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	25,796	-	25,796
Investments	8,599	-	8,599
Current assets	4,076	313	4,389
Current liabilities	(664)	-	(664)
Non-current liabilities	(201)	-	(201)
At 31 December 2019	<u>37,606</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>37,919</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

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### 18 Movement in Funds

	At the start of the year £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenses & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:	313	79	(39)	-	353
Total restricted funds	<u>313</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>(39)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>353</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	37,606	2,569	(2,853)	-	37,322
Total unrestricted funds	<u>37,606</u>	<u>2,569</u>	<u>(2,853)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,322</u>
Total funds	<u>37,919</u>	<u>2,648</u>	<u>(2,892)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,675</u>

# The Aspinall Foundation

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

### 19 Related Party Transactions

In May 2020, JDA Aspinall, CPN Filmer, B Goldsmith and RM Birley, in their capacity of Trustees of the Foundation, entered into a Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan 'CBIL' of £2,000,000. No interest or capital repayments are due during the Business Interruption Payment ('BIP') period (12 months from the date of the first drawdown). Thereafter, interest is charged at 2.09% above base rate, and 16 quarterly capital payments of £125,000 are due. The loan is guaranteed by Howletts & Port Lympne Estates Ltd ('HPLE') and The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT').

The CBIL was subsequently loaned to THWAT on the same terms as those of the original loan. JDA Aspinall is Chairman and trustee of THWAT and T Aspinall is a trustee in THWAT. The loan is authorised by the Foundation's governing documents.

At 31 December 2020, after taking into account the balances owed by the Foundation of £134,803, THWAT and its subsidiary owed the Foundation £1,865,197 (2019 - £1,735,243). JDA Aspinall is Chairman and trustee of THWAT and T Aspinall is a trustee of THWAT.

During the year, the Foundation was repaid the following loans from HPLE, which were made for the purpose of capital expenditure:

	At 1 January 2020 £	Interest charged £	Additions/ (Repayment s) £	At 31 December 2020
Capital Expenditure 2018	380,060	17,204	(397,264)	-
Restaurant Capital Expenditure 2017 8% interest	271,924	13,583	(285,507)	-
Other Capital Expenditure 2017 8% interest	569,147	14,770	(583,917)	-
Capital Expenditure 2016	201,250	3,461	(204,711)	-
	<u>1,422,381</u>	<u>49,018</u>	<u>(1,471,399)</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year, the Foundation received income of £121,211 (2019 - £30,000) from JDA Aspinall for the rent of Howletts Mansion and other recharges. At 31 December 2020, £8,089 was owed to the Foundation by JDA Aspinall and this has since been repaid (2019 - £113,122 owed by the Foundation to JDA Aspinall). The rent has been calculated by reference to an independent professional valuation of Howletts Mansion.

During the year, the Foundation was invoiced by Alvarium £124,231 (2019 - £64,304) at arm's length for accounting services. CPN Filmer is a director of Alvarium. Fees are charged at a discounted rate and comprise a fixed element for day to day accounting and administrative work, and a time-based element for additional project-based work. All invoices are approved by the Chairman and by one of the independent trustees.

During 2020, the Foundation paid Mrs V Aspinall, the wife of JDA Aspinall, £150,158 at arm's length for interior design services (2019 - £12,500). The fees charged were subject to a rigorous benchmarking exercise to ensure that the Foundation received value for money.

These payments to related parties are all authorised by the Foundation's governing documents.

During 2018, JDA Aspinall, CPN Filmer and RM Birley, in their capacity as Trustees of the Foundation entered into a Limited Guarantee and Indemnity agreement with Barclays Bank PLC for the liabilities of THWAT (amount £5,000,000).