

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST



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# CHAIR'S REPORT

#### INTRODUCTORY NOTE

This report was written in early February 2020, when the world was a rather different place. I looked back, as is proper for a Chair's statement in the Annual Report, at 2019, and only 2019. Reading it now, in light of where we all are, it seems like ancient history. I have nevertheless decided to leave the body of the report as it was to reflect what was achieved in that extraordinary 60th anniversary year. I will, however, address the situation with the Covid-19 pandemic here at the start. This is not intended to set any form of precedent, but in my view, it would be remiss of me not to give members at least some feedback on the impact of the pandemic on Durrell.

Team Durrell, at the zoo and in the field, has responded with extraordinary resilience to the challenge that Covid-19 threw down. All are to be congratulated on their professionalism and dedication. Across the Trust they also lent their expertise to others. In India, Parag Deka, Head of our Programme in Assam took it upon himself to run hygiene classes for local forest guards and villages when it became obvious they were not receiving the information they needed to be safe. In Madagascar Richard Lewis, our Head of Programme, was appointed as British Embassy Warden for the capital city to assist British nationals impacted by the pandemic. Closer to home in Jersey Zoe Hotton, from our Fundraising department, made herself available as a paramedic again, her previous career.

As can be seen from the report below, Durrell entered the pandemic in sound financial shape. However, to put this in context, it costs roughly £800,000 month to keep the show on the road at the zoo and around the world. Delivering the ambitious Re-Wild Our World Strategy will cost approximately £35 million over the next five years, and there is so much more that we can do if the resources are available. If not generating income and receiving grants and gifts, that healthy financial position would be eroded at a frightening pace. Some sources of funding on which Durrell relies, such as grants from governments in countries where Durrell operates, are likely be withdrawn next year, and in some cases, this has already happened. Loss of income when the zoo was closed has also had material impact and this will continue well into 2021, until visitor numbers will, we hope, return to normal levels.

A solid financial reserve is fundamental to Durrell's conservation goals and enables the Trust to grow and become even more ambitious in its mission to save species from extinction. To make these commitments, we must have a financial safety net in place, ready to utilize, to cover any shortfall in fundraising to resource what are often decadelong funding commitments. Durrell is involved in a balancing act this year. The more we spend down reserves to tide us through the pandemic, the less will be left to fund the very reason we are here. If we cut staff to save the reserves, then the appropriate specialists, often hard to find, are not in place to deliver the strategy. It was for this reason that the Love Your Zoo campaign was launched, and I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who responded. Your generosity and your fundraising efforts will help Durrell end this awful year in a better position than would otherwise have been the case. We have also been very fortunate to receive some large and timely legacies which have saved us from having to make staff redundant. Our final financial position for 2020 remains uncertain, but that will be for the 2020 Annual Report. Let's hope that when I sit down to write that one, the world will look at least a little more rosy.

#### THE REPORT ON 2019

I am delighted to be delivering my first report as Chair. Whilst most who know me, know me as an Advocate, back in the mists of time I was a zoologist, so being involved with Durrell feels like closing a circle. I would like to thank the outgoing Chair, Phillip Callow, whose term ended at the September 2019 AGM. Phillip served Durrell for nine years and provided wise counsel throughout that time. We also thank Nick Winsor for his six-year service to the board and equally valuable contributions. Of course, as trustees retire, new trustees join, and we are extremely pleased to welcome Robert Kirkby and Gerald Voisin as board members.

What a time to assume the role of Chair. 2019 was the 60th Anniversary of the opening of Jersey Zoo and Durrell is as bold and relevant now as it was when Gerald Durrell founded it. I never cease to be amazed at the scale of the ambition of what is (and this is easy to forget) a relatively small conservation charity. However, lofty ambitions would be but pretty words without the staff of Durrell. They set their goals sky high and then work incredibly hard, with talent, passion and imagination, every single day, to deliver. Hats off to them all. Hats off too to our members, who support Durrell every year and who make our zoo such a vibrant place with their visits. 2019 in fact saw the highest number of visitors at the zoo for many years. Our corporate partners, private donors and those who name Durrell in their Wills provide the vital financial support that enables our staff to save species, habitats and help some of the poorest peoples on earth. All of you are members of a wonderful team, Team Durrell. Thank you.

## SO WHAT WERE TEAM DURRELL UP TO IN THEIR ANNIVERSARY YEAR?

Let's begin with the colourful explosion around the island that was Go Wild Gorillas! The team at the zoo wanted to bring a large-scale art project to Jersey, to inspire both islanders and visitors alike to get out and discover more of our beautiful island by following the trail, think more about our precious nature, and of course raise funds for the planned new house for our beloved gorilla family. What an amazing summer it turned out to be with 40 beautiful lifesize, artist-imagined sculptures strategically placed across the island, as well as 45 mini-gorillas.

#### CHAIR'S REPORT

The team had been confident that they could deliver on the project's aims, ambitious as they were, but what happened surpassed all our expectations. From the excitement of the evening in July when the sculptures first started appearing on the island, to the delighted families, groups, individuals, and schools, who sought out every gorilla using the map or app. It culminated in the emotional farewell weekend and the jaw dropping, record-breaking, auction night. It was an exceptional project from start to finish. To create such a project requires a serious amount of work. This included the Durrell team, the talented artists who brought the gorillas to life, the generous sponsors and logistics partners and everyone who gave their support so generously. Thank you all, and a particular thanks to our headline sponsor Quilter Cheviot, who believed in this project from the start. We also thank our event partners, Wild in Art, who brought their expertise of such projects to Jersey. The more than £1 million pounds raised was a fantastic start to our gorilla fundraising campaign, and as one visitor told us, 'we will remember 2019 as the summer of the gorillas'. To add to the 2019 gorilla excitement it was only 10 days after the auction that we welcomed our beautiful new member of the gorilla family, a little girl named Amari, born to Bahasha after an 8 ½ month pregnancy. The baby is doing well, gaining confidence every day and adorable to watch as she explores the world.

Other notable births at the zoo included a bokiboky, a gentle lemur, a pair of wrinkled hornbill youngsters and three leaf-tailed geckos from Madagascar, the latter two species having never been bred at the zoo before. The zoo continued to provide free access and lessons to the island's schoolchildren, as part of our strategy to 'reconnect' people and nature, and we thank our generous sponsors who help make this happen. We directly taught 3701 schoolchildren in 2019, a 30% increase on the previous year. We also saw a 30% increase in the numbers of conservationists trained, with 430 practitioners and students receiving formal training.

Our scientists continued to work across all our programmes and 24 peer-reviewed papers were published, including a front cover paper in the American Journal of Primatology and an article in Science, one of the most prestigious scientific journals in the world. This demonstrates the high standard of the scientific work produced by the team at the Trust.

We are very fortunate to be in a stronger financial position than other conservation societies and zoos but we are monitoring this position closely. Mindful of the chequered financial history of Durrell, we also know that we must remain watchful and guard against complacency. We were aware that when we launched the Rewild our World strategy we would need to upscale our conservation work, as the assault on the natural world is seemingly unending. As I said above, lofty ambitions can be just pretty words, and conservation always requires more funds. Our current financial position simply means we can achieve our work consistently and into the future, and that is what we intend to do. We ended 2019 in a very healthy position with total income of £23.8m million, which included significant legacy income, however it should be noted that this was largely received by the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust UK and, therefore, not available to Durrell Jersey unless a grant application has been approved. In addition admissions, retail and café income were all up. Outgoings did increase as well, with total expenses of £10 million, but reflects the increased costs in delivering the Go Wild Gorilla campaign, maintenance work on site that had been somewhat overdue, and a pay increase for our hard working teams. We also increased monies spent in our delivery of mission including our field conservation, science and training targets.

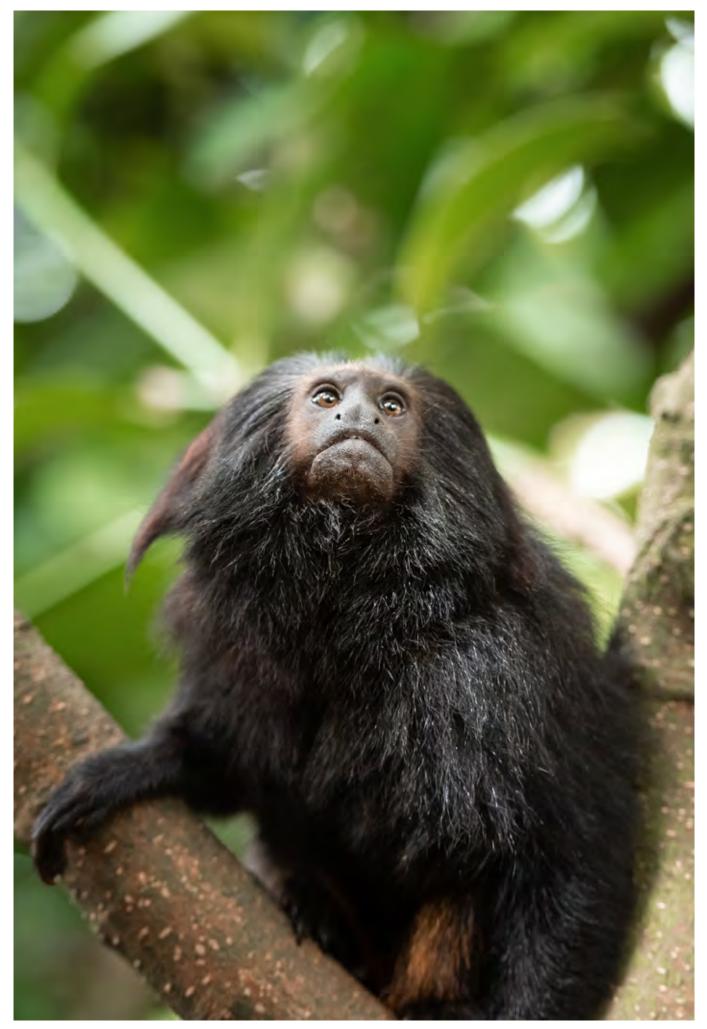
Our field teams were no less busy with our ongoing work at the ten rewilding sites. On Round Island, multiple helicopter trips succeeded in bringing the building materials to create a new field centre, vital to the staff who work on this remote island in, at times, very difficult conditions. The new breeding aviaries were constructed in Floreana on the Galapagos and trials are underway in the care of some of the rare passerine (perching) species found nowhere else that will be under our care as the larger pest eradication programme takes place. Many of you will know that until recently we have not worked in the UK, but in 2019 we began to in earnest. A new PhD student started with us to investigate the feasibility of reintroducing European wildcats to Wales or southwest England. It's early days but if we are to restore functional habitats in the UK then predators have a part to play - and of course, wildcats are rather small predators.

In England we continued our partnership with the Knepp Estate as we monitored the first releases of white stork. A sample of the storks released were fitted with solar GPS tags, which meant we could track their journeys, and some were rather eventful! We would expect to see a migration across to France, down through Spain, across the Straits of Gibraltar and ultimately into Africa. We saw much more of a variety. A small flock decided to go on holiday to the South West, at one point heading off the Cornish coast into the Atlantic before thinking better of it and returning home. Another individual decided to visit the Isle of Wight in the same week that white-tailed sea eagles were released on the island. An interesting conservation dilemma but one resolved by our stork heading back to Knepp. A number of the storks have however made it across to France and down through Spain, our champion being the incredible Marge, who headed across the straits and into Africa in less than a month. We will now wait to see when these youngsters decide to make the return journey and whether they overwinter in Africa for one year only or longer.

Therefore, I would like to end where I began, by thanking all of you, Durrell staff, members, donors, sponsors, gardiens and trustees for all that you do for Durrell. Thank you.

#### ADVOCATE KERRY LAWRENCE

Chair October 2020



## **OUR HIGHLIGHTS**

## 3

BREEDING FIRSTS AT JERSEY ZOO: HENKEL'S LEAF-TAILED GECKO, SILVER-EARED MESIA, WRINKLED HORNBILL 60 YEARS OF D

YEARS OF DURRELL CELEBRATED

# 430

# 3

PINK PIGEONS BRED AT JERSEY ZOO REPATRIATED TO MAURITIUS TO DIVERSIFY GENE POOL CONSERVATIONISTS AND STUDENTS TRAINED AT THE DURRELL CONSERVATION ACADEMY

## 12

WILD-HATCHED MADAGASCAR POCHARD DUCKLINGS SEEN ON LAKE SOFIA

# 5,726

AGILE FROG TADPOLES HEAD-STARTED AND RELEASED

# 31,000

24

JUVENILE WHITE STORKS RELEASED AT THE KNEPP WILDLAND PROJECT

## 27

MOUNTAIN CHICKEN FROGS TRANSPORTED TO MONTSERRAT & RELEASED INTO SEMI-WILD ENCLOSURES VOLUNTEER HOURS DONATED TO SUPPORT DURRELL STAFF

# 240,000

VISITORS TO JERSEY ZOO, MEANING A 28% INCREASE FROM THE AVERAGE OF THE PREVIOUS DECADE



# 85

CHA

PROGRES

GORILLA SCULPTURES FORMED GO WILD GORILLAS, THE CHANNEL ISLANDS' LARGEST EVER PUBLIC ART TRAIL

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

While this is the report for the wonderful year of 2019 I cannot go further without first discussing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Trust. Like many others we first became aware of a new disease in January 2020 but did not, at that time, know what impact it would have upon the world. We had, however, prudently insured the Trust against the risk of zoo closure due to pandemic but unfortunately, to date, our insurers have refused to pay out against our claim, as with so many of their other customers. We await the outcome of a legal case against the insurers in the UK to proceed further. By March the doors of Jersey Zoo were closed, and at our field sites across continents the impact was beginning to be felt. Staff across the world were working from home or furloughed. Whilst some think of Durrell purely as a zoo on Jersey we are of course more accurately described as an international conservation organization, with both field and zoo components.

As animals cannot be furloughed we were left with the costs of the zoo intact but with our commercial income streams in collapse and a very uncertain future as to the development of the pandemic itself. We did not know how long the borders of Jersey would be shut and for how long the zoo would remain closed. Durrell has a monthly run rate of approximately £800,000 and so we quickly found ourselves in a challenging situation. The zoo is not only our headquarters and where we carry out education, research and captive conservation, it also provides the bedrock of our finances. It is the zoo that supports the entire infrastructure of Durrell, which is then leveraged further by fundraising activities through events, grants, donation or legacies.

When we did finally manage to open the zoo, having installed all the necessary precautions and initially having limited numbers of visitors, the next problem we faced was both nervousness about visiting and continued closed borders. Easter, traditionally the first big weekend of the season, had come and gone while we were closed and visitors from the UK and France were unable to visit. When the borders finally opened we did see a pick-up in visitation but to date we are receiving about 25% of normal paid visits, with visitor numbers in total being around 55% of prior year levels. If this was in winter it would be less problematic, but of course in a highly seasonal attraction we rely on high summer numbers to make up for reduced visitation at other times of the year. Events, such as the Durrell Challenge, were postponed and will be put on in reduced form later in the year. We had prudently over the recent past diversified our income streams, including the glamping site and charity shop. But the pandemic meant that this diversification was in the same position of closure and therefore not delivering income whilst still generating overheads.

Across our colleagues in other zoo-based organisations we saw similar struggles. Many have had to make staff redundant, or have had to take large commercial loans, which will burden them for years to come. One such institution with a very large conservation field component will be cutting many of their projects in order to service the scale of the multi-million pound loan, jeopardising the very mission they serve. One of our colleague institutions has not made it and has closed its doors for the last time. At Durrell we were very clear that we could not let the mission, why we exist, be lost. We were also mindful that we wanted to come through 2020 without having to lose any of our skilled and passionate team. We launched a fundraising campaign in March when the zoo first closed and then amplified the campaign when it became clear that even once we reopened there were not enough visitors. We knew that if it continued in the same vein it could lead to a precarious position. With the possibility of repeated closures of the zoo, and vastly changed philanthropic landscape with the onset of a global recession, the reserves we did have would be exhausted within about 18 months before decision to close would be forced and sixty years of history would come to an end. The fundraising appeal has had a good response and we thank all our supporters for getting behind us to help and we have covered nearly two thirds of our lost income. We fully expect to run down reserves this year to cover the additional lost income.

What is not clear is of course what happens next. At the time of writing Covid-19 cases are still rising in some of the jurisdictions in which we work and field work has become very difficult. In Europe we can see what looks like the beginnings of a second wave or the extension of the first wave. We have no idea if our borders on Jersey will be closed again. We may have to close the zoo entirely again. As we work in developing world countries where government conservation budgets are often generated from tourism we fully expect to see budgets cut at national parks and protected areas, jeopardising



the work we have invested in over decades, and in addition receiving an expectation from those governments for Durrell to step in. This is already the case in one country in which we work, where the government component of a vital budget has been slashed. Therefore, we have to continue to be prudent in the management of our funds. Conservation takes many years of dedicated work, and that means it also requires large resources. To achieve our current strategy we will need over £35m and be prepared to be dedicated to projects for decades not just a few short years. At the time of writing, we are also racing to save species in Mauritius impacted by the grounding of a tanker, spilling fuel oil into the previously pristine seas.

In Assam an outbreak of the deadly African swine fever is threatening the pygmy hogs we have worked so long to protect. There is Covid-19 and then there are all the other emergencies that are part of life at Durrell. We, in short, need to protect Durrell for the long-term as our mission becomes ever more important.

So that soujourn into 2020 in a 2019 annual report has necessarily shed light on the very difficult situation we find ourselves in but lets now look back to 2019 in the following reports, which was by anyone's standards a very good year. I thank the entire Durrell Team wherever they are in the world for the remarkable work they do every single day. It is a privilege to lead this amazing team and I could not be prouder of what they achieve.

#### **DR LESLEY DICKIE**

Chief Executive Officer October 2020



## By 2025, our founder Gerald Durrell would have celebrated his 100th birthday.

We have set our sights on delivering significant change to the fortunes of threatened wildlife through a positive and bold vision for conservation.

## IN 2025, WE WANT TO SEE:

ECOSYSTEMS ACROSS THE WORLD'S MAJOR BIOMES BEING REWILDED

500

THREATENED SPECIES ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

ENDANGERED SPECIES PROJECTS WORKING MORE EFFECTIVELY

**1,000,000** PEOPLE BETTER CONNECTED WITH NATURE

# OUR WORLD

WE FOCUS ON LONG-TERM RESTORATION OF ECOSYSTEMS IN TEN OF THE WORLD'S MAJOR TERRESTRIAL BIOMES

These ten rewilding sites form the focus of our conservation efforts around which we also have many partnership projects. For each rewilding site we have developed specific approaches to the recovery of highly threatened species and the restoration of their broader ecosystems.

Sites were chosen for their high conservation need, where we can develop conservation approaches that can be applied to other species or ecosystems in the future.



# OUR MISSION

At Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust we value all the committed individuals who work for us, whether they are based at our wild sites around the world, our offices in the UK, or at our head-quarters in Jersey and we all have the same mission – *saving species from extinction*.

To that end we speak of our team being engaged in only two important, overarching activities. They are either mission enabling or they are mission delivering, but what do we mean by those terms?

Our mission enabling teams are those colleagues working to deliver a sustainable financial future, raising the funds to undertake our conservation strategy. They are serving our customers in our visitor centre, cafés and shops, communicating our vision, and supporting us all via financial and human resources expertise. They are the people who ensure that our maintenance and grounds at the zoo are impeccable, and provide an amazing experience for anyone who visits.

Our mission delivery teams are working directly with the animals in our care to ensure conservation breeding and excellent welfare, and working in the wild with both people and animals at our global rewilding sites, to create a future where wildlife can co-exist with communities. They are developing the ground-breaking science that improves our work and demonstrates our impact, and they are training the global conservationists of the future.

Sometimes our enabling and delivery teams overlap and they always work together, because ultimately we are all Team Durrell, working towards our mission of saving species from extinction and our vision of a wilder, healthier, more colourful world.





# AT THE ZOO

2019 proved to be an incredibly successful year for the zoo in myriad ways. We were delighted that our annual admissions topped 240,000 – our highest in many, many years.

There were numerous births and hatchings including bokiboky, Livingstone's fruit bats, hooded pitta, Sumatran laughingthrush and black lion tamarins. We were delighted to achieve three breeding firsts for the zoo – Henkel's leaf-tailed geckos, silver-eared mesia and two wrinkled hornbill chicks. However, the biggest highlight for visitors was undoubtedly the birth of Amari the western lowland gorilla, born to mum Bahasha in November. We imported 24 Chilean flamingos to boost our current flock, now an impressive sight in the central valley. We bid adieu to a few individuals too. Indigo, our young male gorilla, departed to join a bachelor group in Belgium, and Raymi, a young male Andean bear, was transferred to a Danish zoo where he has breeding potential.

The butterfly house continued to be a big draw. This was the first year we operated the building throughout all four seasons and we continued to learn and tweak management. During late summer several species began breeding unchecked, the entire house dense with swathes of postman and owl butterflies, a dazzling sight for visitors. Visitor experience was further enhanced by the pontoon, opened at the end of 2018, onto which ring-tailed lemurs venture and share space with our guests. The lemurs enjoy basking there in the sun and the close encounters enchant visitors. Our volunteers provided outstanding support supervising both of these areas as part of a new ranger role, and continuing to assist across our site operations, from clerical work to food preparation and gardening. Our skilled animal staff applied their expertise widely. In the zoo, our team developed best practice guidelines for three species including the ploughshare tortoise, researched infection causes in blue-crowned laughingthrush, and studied stress in pied tamarins. Out in the field, our staff supported numerous projects, from the tortoise and pochard centres and release sites in Madagascar, to assessing progress on the mountain marmoset and whitehanded tamarin programmes in Brazil and Colombia.

Members of the herpetology team travelled out to the Caribbean to assist with the reception and release of mountain chicken frogs. The frogs, reared at Jersey Zoo and ZSL London Zoo, were transported to Montserrat and released into trial enclosures designed to test optimum survival conditions. Interestingly, back at the zoo, after no reproduction for almost three years, two fertile nests produced several dozen juvenile mountain chickens, all on exhibit to visitors.

Three male pink pigeons bred at the zoo were repatriated to Mauritius, genetically enhancing the country's captive population. The move attracted considerable fanfare within Mauritius and all three males were paired with 'local' females, and subsequently sired offspring. One of our bird keepers undertook fieldwork searching for the critically endangered manumea, or "little dodo", in Samoa. Although not sighted, an audible call indicated that this elusive species is still clinging on to existence.

Inevitably, we have faced some challenges. At the beginning of the year, we imported a male Visayan warty pig to mix with our females. Unfortunately, he arrived with medical complications and despite the valiant efforts of our veterinary and keeping staff over several weeks, we were unable to improve his outlook and he was euthanased. Once again, we head-started agile frogs to bolster wild populations in Jersey, but numbers for reintroduction were low due to low-fertility spawn, which was indicative of the dry weather throughout spring. In addition, losses in our freeliving red-billed chough population on Jersey were higher than expected, although overall the population remained stable and more birds are now breeding in the wilds of the north coast.

As a zoo, and as an organisation, we are relatively small compared to some of our partner and associate organisations. However, we continue to punch well above our weight. Nowhere was this clearer than at the 2019 British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquaria annual meeting where we were delighted to win seven awards, across a multitude of categories. In April, we hosted the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria Directors' Days conference, where 130 zoo directors from across Europe visited the zoo and island. Feedback from this discerning cohort of colleagues was consistently complimentary. The overarching theme of the meeting was Conservation and Operational Leadership – no coincidence that it was held here where we continue to lead and inspire others in the zoo world.

#### AT THE ZOO



# IN THE WILD

In 2019, our field teams in the UK, Jersey and overseas achieved many successes while also overcoming a number of challenges thanks to their dedication and tireless efforts. To help us achieve this, the Field Programmes team submitted 51 grants for restricted funding, of which 31 successfully raised over  $\pounds$ 1,270,000.

Durrell's largest Field Programme region, Madagascar, is a country where conservation can have long-term and lasting impacts but also faces significant challenges. 2019 began with a new government coming into power and subsequent changes within the ministries and personnel we work with. This requires new relationships to be established, but we were pleased to sign contracts with the Madagascar Government for Durrell to be the official managers of two protected areas – Alaotra and Ambondrobe – for the next five years.

Jersey Overseas Aid funded our Enabling Change project, which works with 20 communities across three regions in Madagascar – Alaotra, Baly Bay and Sofia. Key results of these interventions include training provided to 54 farmer field schools, resulting in the cultivation of over 230 hectares of climate-resilient crops and the establishment of an additional 14 village saving and loans schemes groups, of which there are 32 in total so far. 446 women across all regions also received long-term family planning services through our partnership with Marie Stopes International.

The threats to Madagascar's biodiversity remain present with ongoing deforestation as well as the poaching and trafficking of species like the ploughshare tortoise. Durrell has continued delivering actions to reduce and limit these threats, including the coordination of village patrols across five of our sites and the implementation of a new twoyear Illegal Wildlife Trade Fund project to develop national counter-wildlife trafficking capacity.

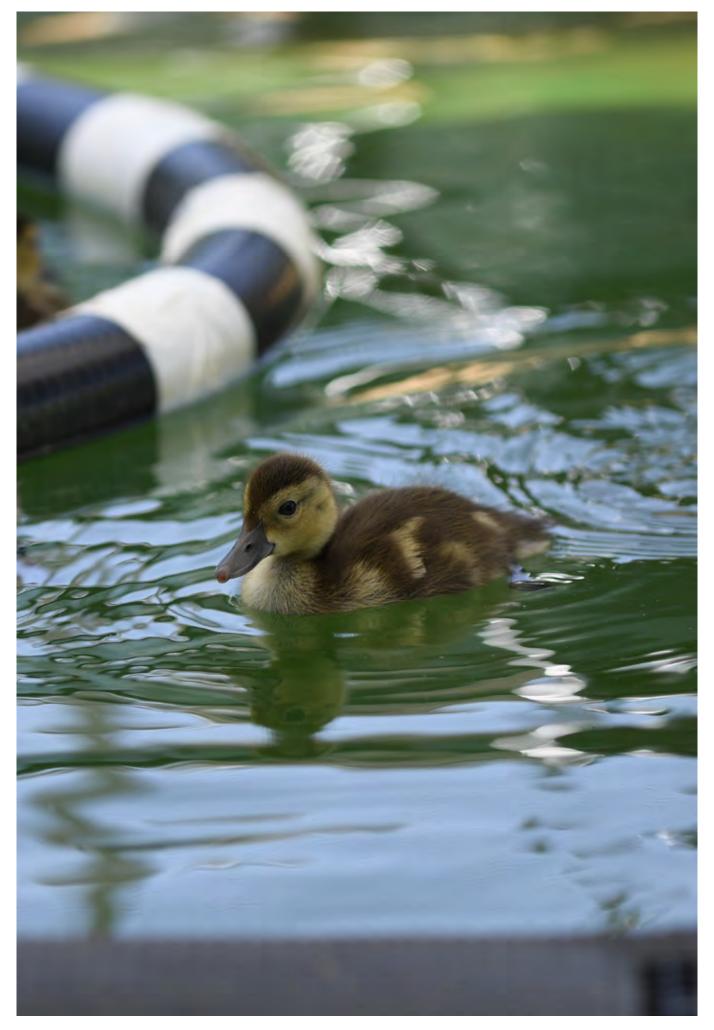
Extreme weather events can also have significant impacts on conservation efforts. In December, a devastating cyclone struck Baly Bay in Madagascar, severely damaging infrastructure and leaving many people without basic supplies. Thanks to emergency funding through Jersey Overseas Aid and the assistance of local authorities, Durrell was able to provide some much-needed aid relief to the communities we work with.

Although the challenges are great, 2019 provided conservation hope. A year previously, captive-bred Madagascar pochards were released onto Lake Sofia. One year later, to everyone's delight, 12 pochard ducklings were spotted during the weekly surveys. For a species declared extinct in 1993, this is a remarkable turnaround in fortunes and shows what years of dedication and hard work can achieve. In Mauritius, our programme is delivered in partnership with Mauritian Wildlife Foundation and National Parks and Conservation Service. The restoration of Round Island is one of Durrell's flagship projects and remained the focus of our work in the country throughout 2019. Key to this was the upgrade of the field station on Round Island. Given the remoteness of the location, this was a huge logistical undertaking. The movement of 20 tonnes of equipment in September, which involved 68 people and 35 helicopter trips, was just one piece of the efforts. Despite some setbacks and altering timelines, the construction of the field station is due for completion by mid-2020. Our future restoration activities will be guided by the completion of a major piece of work assessing the vegetation and plant restoration work on Round Island.

In Assam, work focused on developing the knowledge base and capacity for further pygmy hog releases in 2020. This involved carrying out pygmy hog sign and camera trap surveys across Manas National Park and the Rupahi 2020 release site, as well as renovating the breeding centres. Additionally, efforts to build our grassland ecology and management programme increased. We established a series of plots investigating different grassland management regimes and launched an initiative assessing the effectiveness of different community interventions carried out by NGOs in Manas. This latter activity will guide the development of our community conservation activities in the region.

In Saint Lucia, a rewilding plan workshop, involving Durrell, Saint Lucian Forestry Department, Saint Lucia National Trust, and Fauna and Flora International, was carried out in December. Unfortunately, construction of the breeding centre for the Saint Lucia racer has been delayed until 2020, but plans are in place and funding is secured for when it is up and running. Research into white-breasted thrasher nest predation by invasive mammals will begin with trialling nest protection methods in 2020 as a conservation measure. Trials of five Darwin's finch species and subsequent mitigation plans for the species were completed on Floreana in partnership with Island Conservation and Galápagos National Park. This will ensure the species survives during the eradication of invasive rodents from Floreana Island, initially scheduled for 2020 but now postponed until 2021.

Finally, 2019 saw two significant departures from the Field Programmes team. Dr. Andrew Terry departed as Head of Field Programmes after 12 years with Durrell to take on the Director of Conservation role at the Zoological Society of London. In Madagascar, Herizo Andrianandrasana was selected as one of the new Regional Directors for the Ministry of Environment by the Minister himself, a great honour for Herizo and a testament to his achievements with Durrell for over 20 years. We wish them both well and look forward to working with them in their respective roles.



# CONSERVATION KNOWLEDGE

Bringing together the Training, Learning, Science and Effectiveness teams, Durrell's new Conservation Knowledge department had a busy and productive year. Notable highlights were the completion of a new Conservation Training strategy, including significant investments in new staff, training courses and an online learning management system. We published a high number of papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals on a wide variety of aspects of our conservation mission and established four new university partnerships. We also all but completed the ambitious process of rolling out the industry best practice approach for the adaptive management of all our conservation programmes.





## LEARNING

In 2019, the Conservation Learning team continued to integrate nature connection, alongside a more traditional knowledge-based approach to communications, into our schools programmes, public engagement events and interpretation of the zoo visit. Nature connection describes the emotional relationship people have with nature and is associated with better mental wellbeing and an increased tendency of pro-conservation behaviours. We have adopted the University of Derby's "five pathways to nature connection" framework in the design of this work. An example of this is the framing and interpretation of the recently built Butterfly Kaleidoscope exhibit. Drawing on the pathway of beauty in nature, the experience plunges visitors into the myriad of colours found in nature through interaction with the butterflies, plants, artwork and signage.

To guide the design and evaluation of nature connectionthemed interventions, the Science and Learning teams have been working closely together to survey nature connection levels in secondary and primary schools in Jersey as well as our zoo visitors. This work is nearing conclusion and in 2020 we will report on the results. Our behind-the-scenes Animal Experiences went from strength to strength, acting as the main income generation for the team and giving over 700 people closer contact with our animals than is usually possible. As part of the Go Wild Gorillas trail, the Learning team headed up the appeal to schools and community groups, resulting in over 40 small gorilla sculptures being produced by 20 Jersey schools and 16 local community groups.

We held the Poo at the Zoo event, which proved to be one of our most successful public events to date and was designed to promote enjoyment of nature as well as increasing people's knowledge of wildlife. The emphasis was on fun, including a poo bingo game, which encouraged observation of the zoo animals' toilet habits and created a huge amount of laughter!



#### TRAINING

We trained 430 different conservationists and students on a wide range of courses, workshops and professional internships during 2019. In Jersey, the three-month Durrell Endangered Species Management Graduate Certificate (DESMAN) course remains our flagship course, and 15 conservationists from 11 countries attended in the first part of the year. We also ran courses in facilitation and communication skills, GIS, leadership and management, and endangered species recovery. In partnership with CCNet Europe, we ran a five-day course in conservation project planning and adaptive management using the Open Standards methodology. This initial course trained 18 people from nine countries. Also in Jersey, we provided 54 days of training to 249 university and college students, including 60 MSc-level students.

In Mauritius, we neared completion of a three-year programme of training funded by the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund to build conservation skills among Indian Ocean conservationists. We have now trained 39 people from Madagascar, Mauritius, the Seychelles and Comoros Islands in partnership with Association Vahatra and Mauritian Wildlife Foundation. In Madagascar, we trained 35 protected area practitioners on two short courses on threatened species management, as part of a longer-term WCS-run initiative called Forum Lafa aimed at building effectiveness in Madagascar's protected area network.

In Brazil, Conservation Training and Mammal Department staff ran a callitrichid conservation workshop for 35 participants within the Atlantic Forest region. Two of the participants later came to Jersey for professional development internships, learning more about callitrichid conservation and husbandry, in addition to a Colombian herpetologist who came to Jersey for specialist amphibian training. Closer to home, in the UK, we ran a successful course on conservation management and leadership, in partnership with Fauna and Flora International.

Training and Conservation Science staff designed online training material for a major National Geographic project to create an online course for protected area practitioners globally. This has provided us with valuable skills in creating online training material – something we plan to do for ourselves from next year. A major achievement of 2019 was the completion of our 2019-2025 Training Strategy, which will be launched in 2020, creating a clear pathway towards our vision to build "a global community of conservation professionals rewilding the world".



## CONSERVATION SCIENCE

Some significant scientific achievements and results during the year guided the design and implementation of many of our rewilding programmes. In the UK, the trial release of 24 juvenile white storks at the Knepp Wildland Project was a huge milestone for the White Stork Project, which Durrell recently joined. These birds were captive-bred in the UK and represented the first youngsters ever to be released in the UK. Eight of the birds were fitted with specially designed GPS trackers, which has enabled us to follow their movements and understand migration routes. Encouragingly, the majority migrated south across the English Channel, with several storks reported in Spain. One even made it to Africa, where she spent the winter in Morocco.

As part of efforts to save the mountain chicken frog from extinction, 27 captive-bred frogs were successfully transported back to Montserrat and released into a semiwild enclosure. This is the world's first experimental setup designed to test the effectiveness of an approach to reduce the risk of the frogs being infected by the amphibian disease chytridiomycosis, which has wiped them out from this island. Results so far are very promising. In India, we trialled new techniques for monitoring pygmy hogs in the wild, using a combination of camera traps and robust sign surveys. Trials are to continue in 2020 alongside the building of experimental plots in their grassland habitat to help us understand the dynamics of grassland invasion and succession as a result of burning and grazing. In Madagascar, drone-based surveys of Alaotran gentle lemurs were successfully trialled for the first time in the wild using thermal-infrared cameras, which detect the lemurs in their

impenetrable marsh habitat. We have formed an exciting partnership with the drone survey experts at Liverpool John Moores University, whom have secured a large grant to continue this work in 2020.

At Jersey Zoo, many staff and student-led projects were completed, providing important results to help improve the captive husbandry of many of our species as well as giving us a better understanding of their biology. A notable result was our article on "Individual, social, and environmental factors affecting salivary and fecal cortisol levels in captive pied tamarins (*Saguinus bicolor*)", reporting on a major collaborative project with the University of Chester, which was chosen as a featured article in the American Journal of Primatology.

Led by our Chief Scientist, Professor Carl Jones, Durrell's teams continue to develop and share best practice techniques for managing populations of endangered species in the wild. Carl serves as Scientific Director of the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation to support their delivery of the globally important species recovery programmes in Mauritius. He also visits other projects around the world to share this practice. During 2019, Carl visited Guam in the North Pacific to advise on the reintroduction of the Guam kingfisher, which is extinct in the wild. In Australia he advised on the restoration of the orange-bellied parrot and also travelled to Brazil to guide local organisations on saving two threatened birds found only in the Atlantic Forest; the blueeyed ground dove and the Alagoas ant-wren.



## CONSERVATION EFFECTIVENESS

Our Conservation Effectiveness team works across Durrell to help deliver effective conservation through improved programme design and planning, monitoring and evaluation of results, programme review and adaptation, and long-term impact measurement. A key priority for 2019 was the continued rollout of the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation. By adopting this globally recognised framework, we ensure that our conservation work is delivered to the highest standards of adaptive and results-based management and we can better respond to changing environmental, social, and political conditions. The team has also worked to implement the technical changes to ensure these new conservation management systems are linked to our financial systems. This will improve our ability to link highly detailed financial information to conservation delivery, resulting in enhanced clarity of financial tracking for conservation programmes.

As we continue to gain expertise in the Open Standards, we are integrating our learning into Durrell's Training programme to ensure that our trainees develop a sound foundation in designing and managing effective conservation programmes. In addition, Durrell is now a formal member of the leading professional network in the area, the Conservation Measures Partnership. This means we are supporting and contributing to the growing community of practitioners striving to improve the delivery of conservation globally.



# SAVING AMPHIBIANS FROM EXTINCTION

Our global programme Saving Amphibians From Extinction (SAFE) enabled us to develop actions to conserve amphibians. In Madagascar, PhD student Kat Mullin from Cardiff University undertook her first fieldwork season at Ambohitantely. There, she investigated the impacts of forest fragmentation on the population genetics of two site-endemic species and the wider amphibian community. This builds on previous population survey work carried out in Ambohitantely to build our conservation-relevant knowledge base for these species. Our CEPF funded project, which was supporting two national amphibian coordinator positions in Madagascar, came to an end in June 2019.

We are continuing to work with the new association created as part of this project to secure further funding for these roles. 2019 saw us finalise and sign an memorandum of understanding with Dilmah Conservation and Global Wildlife Conservation for an amphibian conservation initiative in SAFE's fourth priority region – Sri Lanka. Beginning in 2020, this will update the Red List assessments and Key Biodiversity Area's for the country before establishing an amphibian monitoring and training programme for local biologists.

# COMMUNICATIONS & FUNDRAISING

Looking back 2019 was certainly a memorable year in the history of the Trust as we reflected on the incredible achievements over the past six decades and celebrated with special events to mark this 60th anniversary milestone.

For our members and supporters that were in Jersey over the summer, you won't have missed our life-sized gorilla art trail. Go Wild Gorillas was organized in partnership with Wild in Art, to commemorate Jersey Zoo's 60th anniversary. It was the Channel Islands' largest public art trail, which saw 40 brightly coloured, artist imagined, life-size gorilla sculptures, placed across the island.

Go Wild Gorillas led both islanders and visitors on a trail of discovery, not only to see the gorillas themselves, but the nature in which they were placed. This large-scale community project combined art and conservation to raise funds to build a larger and more modern gorilla house at Jersey Zoo. The gorilla trail also played an important role in Durrell's Rewild our World strategy by encouraging more people to get outdoors and reconnect with nature. The whole island embraced the trail, with extensive media coverage, new corporate supporters, schools, and community groups engaged via the creative learning programme, bolstered visitor numbers at the zoo, and all sectors of the community 'going wild' for gorillas.

The trail ended with a 'Goodbye Gorillas' event at the zoo, which allowed visitors to see the whole troop together, This was then followed by the spectacular Grand Gorilla Auction, which raised £1,146,500 towards building a new gorilla house. The total cost for this build is expected to be more than £5 million. Popular silverback 'The Space Between Us' by local artist Andy Coutanche, aka Jersey Sandman, raised the roof when it was sold for a recordbreaking £72,000, the highest figure a sculpture from a Wild in Art trail has ever sold for. We are so grateful to the many companies that sponsored our Go Wild Gorillas, with special thanks to our Presenting Partner, Quilter Cheviot, and Community Partner, Citi.

In April, we hosted the Directors' Days conference with the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA). The annual event welcomed over 130 zoo directors to Jersey from across Europe and was themed around Conservation and Operational Leadership. We were delighted to host this event during our 60th anniversary year and particularly with the very apt theme of conservation leadership, that Jersey Zoo and Durrell have demonstrated since our inception. In September, we held our biannual fundraising ball at Jersey showground, which was hosted by Durrell ambassador, explorer, and TV presenter Monty Hall. The Investec Wilderness Ball took guests on a journey of discovery, showing them the power each one of us has to heal the planet and protect both people and wildlife. Sister Sledge gave an outstanding live performance, successfully getting the guests 'Lost in Music', and we raised nearly £225,000 to support Durrell's work saving species both in Jersey around the world.

Our popular annual fundraising road races, the Durrell Challenge in May, and the Durrell Dash in November were more popular than ever! We were delighted to welcome our ambassador, Henry Cavill to Jersey to take part for the fourth year and join over 700 runners from more than 20 different countries. Following the race, The Really Wild Day took place at the zoo with lots of wild activities to connect with nature. The Durrell Challenge and Really Wild Day was kindly sponsored by Butterfield Bank (Jersey) Limited. As part of The Really Wild Day, a new activity dubbed 'Mission Possible' was sponsored by Appleby, aimed at our younger visitors.

The Durrell Dash this year raised funds towards building a new house for our gorillas and race finishers were greeted by all 40 Go Wild Gorilla sculptures who were on display for the Goodbye Gorillas weekend. We also relaunched our annual golf day, which took place in June at La Moye Golf Club to raise funds for our work with threatened songbirds in Sumatra. Both the golf day and the Durrell Dash were kindly sponsored by Rathbones.

The annual Durrell Lecture took place in November at the Royal Institution in London and our members and supporters joined us for an evening of insightful talks about the world's forests and the significance this diverse, precious ecosystem holds for people and wildlife globally. The Durrell Lecture 2019 was kindly sponsored by Rathbones and Rathbone Greenbank Investments for the second year.

There are so many companies and individuals who so generously support our work and we are truly grateful to each one of them for the part they play in helping create a wilder, healthier, more colourful world for us all to enjoy.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS & FUNDRAISING**









# DRIVING COMMERCIAL INCOME

2019 was certainly a successful year for zoo admissions and associated commercial ventures. On 6th October 2019 we welcomed our 200,000th visitor to the zoo and we ended the year with just over 240,000 visitors, the highest we've seen for many years, and a 23% growth from 2018. The increase in visitation translated to a 16% increase in the associated income to £1.4m. The indoor play area at the Dodo and the butterfly enclosure, both newly opened towards the end of 2018, as well as the wonderful Go Wild Gorillas Art trail, were no doubt significant contributing factors.

Our other retail and catering ventures based at the zoo also benefited from the increase in admissions and the Go Wild Gorilla mania that seemed to sweep the island. Our Gorilla merchandise that we started selling following the launch of the Gorilla trail was, and continues to be, a best seller! We also began our revamp of the shop fittings and merchandise at the zoo, part of our retail strategy, which will be completed in 2020. As a result we ended the year 28% ahead of 2018. Unfortunately, at our charity shop, we saw a slight reduction in income, partly due to a reduction in donations, as well as competition from other similar ventures on the island. Despite this, our combined retail income was still ahead of prior year by 13%, reaching £952,000. We had hoped that building would commence on our new onsite charity shop during 2019, but unfortunately, this had to be delayed. Having a charity shop onsite, is still very much part of our retail strategy and this is now scheduled to start in late 2020.

2019 was the first full year of the indoor play area at Café Dodo and, consequently, also the first year the Dodo was open in January. This had a significant impact on our income generation, which grew by 28%. The new canopy on the terrace at the Firefly Café was also completed in 2019, enhancing our all-weather catering and event options available. Overall turnover increased by 18% at our catering ventures. The Hostel continues to provide an important source of accommodation for students attending our academy training courses run in Jersey, but this does reduce income generating opportunities from other groups or the public. As a result, we saw income marginally reduce in 2019 and we expect this trend to continue with the launch of our new training strategy and an increased focus on professional development courses. This is an important part of Durrell's overall strategy and the Hostel will continue to provide this valuable service to the conservation training undertaken at the academy.

The Wildlife Camp continued its award winning success being awarded the Trip Advisor Hall of Fame as well as the Five Pennant Platinum Award by the AA. Lux Life also awarded it Best Eco Glamping Experience – UK. Income remained consistent with 2018 and we continue to focus on how we can maximise occupancy rates in the available months. It continues to receive excellent reviews from all that come to stay.

Cheeky Monkeys Nursery had another successful year and provides excellent childcare and nature connection alike. Our share of profits of this joint venture was £166,000 for 2019 and a dividend of £185,000 was paid during the year.

Whilst there has been much to celebrate in respect of 2019, it would be remiss not to briefly mention the impact of the ongoing pandemic. Unsurprisingly, the commercial ventures at Durrell have been hit hard, with a zoo closure in March and then visitor numbers suppressed when we did reopen. There is uncertainty as to how Covid-19 will evolve, and what the full impact will be, but we will continue to adapt to ensure we can offer our visitors a safe and enjoyable visit. We want to thank all of those that continue to support Durrell and Jersey Zoo.





# OUR PEOPLE

2019 was another successful year contributing to the health and wellbeing of our employees at Durrell, enhancing our commitment to our values and organisational wellbeing initiatives.

In October during the Durrell Annual Meeting celebrations, we held the second 'Values Recognition Award', voted for by the global team at Durrell. We asked employees to think about who best represented our organisation and led the way in terms of Purposeful, Accountable and Supportive behaviours. It was encouraging to see 2019's winner from our Mission Enabling team – Claudia Cardoso, the Dodo Café Manager. The Durrell Annual Meeting welcomes our global team to Jersey for a week of presentations, workshops and celebrations. This week remains one of the highlights of the working year for our teams; a perfect opportunity for staff, volunteers and students – some who may not have met before – to share their experiences, successes and challenges in enabling and delivering on our strategy and overall mission.

We also take this opportunity to celebrate length of service awards and acknowledge recognition for exceptional contribution to Durrell; for those who regularly go above and beyond, stepping outside of what is expected of them in their day-to-day roles.



The 2019 awards acknowledged the following contributions:

**Will Highfield** CUSTOMER LIAISON OFFICER Contribution to Fundraising

Mark Beresford SENIOR MAMMAL KEEPER Contribution to Fundraising We also celebrated some incredible length of service awards:

**Glyn Young** HEAD OF BIRDS 36 years' service

**Dom Wormell** HEAD OF MAMMALS 30 years' service



## DEVELOPING OUR PEOPLE

2019 was another promising year for employee personal and professional development, with 3,500 logged hours of formal training spanning across our Mission Enabling and Mission Delivery teams.

As per 2018, and due to the ongoing importance of the subject, a particular focus was placed on mental health and wellbeing training, with all staff at Durrell invited to attend workshops in:

- Confidence building
- Sleep and stress
- Nutrition and lifestyle
- Developing personal resilience
- Helping young people cope with life

Areas of employee personal and professional development also remain diverse with training and continued learning in:

- Safeguarding
- Emotional intelligence
- Conflict management
- Problem-solving
- Developing your potential
- Supervisory skills
- Managing behaviours to promote wellbeing
- Learning mentoring and coaching skills focused on promoting wellbeing
- Getting the best from your team
- Coaching and mentoring for high performance

Encouragingly, we continue to see a surge in employees recognising the need to develop their potential in terms of management effectiveness and people skills as much as technical competence.

#### WELLBEING SUPPORT

Ongoing support is available for our employees globally via our Employee Assistance Programme. This enables us to focus on building a healthier work-life balance for our Mission Enabling and Mission Delivery teams.

We are also pleased to offer several in-house support programmes and exciting new employment benefits for staff, in turn ensuring our ongoing commitment to health and wellbeing in the workplace.

### EXPANDING OUR TEAM

In 2019, the number of employment applications received and reviewed by the HR team was 610.

A number of internal promotions were made in both Mission Enabling and Mission Delivery teams, highlighting our dedication to supporting employee personal and professional development.

We are very proud of our Durrell team and how we all work together towards the same mission of saving species from extinction.





#### OUR VOLUNTEERS

We are delighted to confirm that an additional 60 volunteers joined the organisation in 2019, taking our volunteer support network to 365!

Over the year, more than 150 different volunteers attended coffee mornings and social events, helping to create a team-building journey.

In our 2018 Annual Report, we launched the Volunteer Ranger position and are happy to announce that we inducted 120 individuals onto the training programme throughout 2019, ensuring the longevity of such a vital role in connecting the public with nature.

Our Cans for Corridors team have continued recycling cans and raising money for our project in Brazil. In 2019, the team raised just over £1330, resulting in the planting of over 2000 trees. Our Ambassador Milo Parker came to Jersey in the summer and volunteered his time supporting many of our departments within the zoo. Milo was a welcome addition to the team.

We continue to be amazed by the generosity of the individuals who give up their time and work tirelessly to help us reach our mission aims. Our volunteers logged an incredible 31,000 hours this year – we are extremely grateful to all those who contributed to that number.





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# LOOKING AHEAD

We will develop a new three-year business plan which will be reviewed as we go into 2021. By then, we hope to have clarity as to whether the UK has struck a deal for future trading relations with the EU or not, and what ramifications this might have for tourism, veterinary legislation around animal movements, animal movements themselves, and multiple areas pertinent to operating Durrell.

We had hoped to start building the new charity shop in 2019 but postponed that until 2020. We also hope to go to planning for our new gorilla house and, if full funds can be raised, look forward to a build beginning in 2022.

We are planning a number of events throughout the year, but these will need to be modified to be covid secure. We will launch our new carbon offsetting initiative, Rewilding Carbon, a way to sequester carbon whilst additionally enhancing and restoring natural habitats and bolstering biodiversity. Our dedicated work in the zoo and in the wild will continue and we will further progress our ambitions of rewilding our world for the benefit of us all.





## REPORT OF THE HONORARY TREASURER

Although this is the report for 2019, given the ongoing presence of Covid-19, I feel it is only appropriate to also comment on the impact of the pandemic on our financial position and our reserves. As can be seen from the financial statements, Durrell was fortunate to enter the pandemic in a sound financial position. However, with the doors of the zoo shut from March 2020, borders closed and visitor numbers subdued when we did open two months later, our income from admissions, retail, catering and accommodation ventures has been significantly impacted. On top of this, It costs approximately £800,000 a month to keep the Trust operating globally. Previously the Trustees desired to achieve a level of free reserves that enable continued operation during a business interruption of up to 6 months, which had been calculated at £2.5m. As we have experienced, free reserves of this level would quickly be utilised during such scenarios of complete closure and no income to the zoo, higher costs in the field due to government reductions in conservation spend, and a potentially much changed charity landscape in the foreseeable future due to global recession. We no longer consider £2.5m an adequate level to maintain given our experience.

The Trustees are currently undergoing a review of the reserves policy in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. Within this, we also must more closely detail the costs of a potential complete closure of the zoo and liquidation of assets. This would be under two scenarios, one in which maintaining a zoo under a pandemic became unfeasible and Durrell were to move to a non-zoo based conservation charity, or two, the complete closure of the Trust due to financial failure. Although we expect this scenario to be unlikely, it would be prudent to plan for such an eventuality in a volatile and unpredictable globe. We also have lofty ambitions for, what is, a relatively small conservation organisation. What Durrell manages to achieve relative to its turnover is extraordinary and it is clear that the world needs organisations like Durrell now, more than ever. We anticipate that our Rewild our World strategy will cost approximately £35million to deliver over 5 years. In order to achieve this, and more, we need to have a sustainable reserves base and significant long term unrestricted reserves.

With that in mind, we turn our focus back to 2019. We ended 2019 in a strong position with an operating surplus of £14.5m, substantially up on 2018. Total voluntary income was considerable, reaching £16.6m, significantly up on last year's £6.1m. Legacies were a substantial element of our voluntary income and are a crucial element of our funding, reaching £14.4m in 2019 compared to £3.3m in 2018. We owe a debt of thanks to all those who so generously remember us in their last gifts. It should be noted that this increased sum was due to one significant legacy that had been in train for several years received by the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust UK. This had previously been noted in our 2018 accounts. The Go Wild Gorilla sculpture trail, culminating in an incredibly successful auction night, will be remembered for many years to come. The profit made from the campaign totalling just over £1m has been restricted for the purpose of building a new gorilla enclosure at Jersey Zoo. We had a strong performance in our commercial operations with income from admissions totalling £1.4m and from other commercial operations of retail, catering and accommodation reaching £2.5m. Cheeky Monkeys Nursery, a joint venture, continued to build on its success, providing excellent childcare in a wonderful setting, resulting in a dividend of £185,000 being paid to the Trust, an increase from £145,000 in the prior year.

At a non-operational level, the Trust's obligations in respect of the defined benefit pension scheme decreased following the latest FRS102 review by £64,000. The Trustees have taken the decision that pensioners will receive a 2% increase in 2020. The Trustees have also made the decision to fund the deficit and the level of funding required is currently under review.

Overall, the Group financial position as at 31 December 2019 is healthy, with net assets of just over £29.2m at the year-end of which £24.1m were unrestricted net assets, including our substantial freehold headquarters in Jersey, and including all monies held in the UK Trust and not directly available to the Trust in Jersey. Restricted assets and endowed assets are held in independently managed investment portfolios or in restricted bank accounts depending on what is most appropriate.

The Trust's goal is to have sufficient reserves to meet:

- Planned commitments that cannot be met through regular income.
- Unforeseen emergencies, operational cost or business interruption impacts.

At 31 December 2019, the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust had unrestricted liquid assets of £18.1m (2018: £4.7m), at the Group level, and free reserves of £5.1m (2018: £2m). For the purpose of calculating free reserves, the unrestricted reserves of Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust - UK have been excluded as this funding is not freely available to be used by the Trust, until such time that a grant application has been approved.

There is uncertainty about how Covid-19 will evolve and the Trustees will continue to closely monitor the ongoing impact of Covid-19 on the Trust's operations. The Trust has sufficient reserves to continue to operate into the foreseeable future and the physical assets of the Trust will provide additional finances in the unlikely event of closure. This enables the Trustees to continue to adopt the "going concern" basis of accounting.

#### Gary Clark

Honorary Treasurer October 2020





### THE RISKS TO WHICH THE TRUST IS EXPOSED

Durrell's global mission 'saving species from extinction' necessitates working in challenging areas, often under difficult political and economic conditions. We also cannot ignore the impact of Covid-19 on the Trust and the variety of risks arising from this. Therefore, the Trust recognises that some risks cannot be fully mitigated and the Trustees can give a reasonable but not absolute assurance that the Trust is protected.

Strengthening our financial performance and reserves position is fundamental if we are to achieve our ambitious Rewild our World strategy, which we anticipate will cost approximately £35m over a 5 year period. The desired level of free reserves, previously set at £2.5m, was exceeded in 2019. However, it has become clear during the pandemic in 2020 that the reserves policy should be reviewed and a much greater level of reserves is needed to sustain the Trust through this period of uncertainty. We have already experienced a period of complete closure and no income to the Zoo and we are starting to see government reductions in conservation spend at some of our field sites overseas. The Trustees are currently reviewing the policy and plan to issue a revised desired level of reserves for 2020 and beyond. Work has been completed on our ten rewilding site plans as well as on our other strategic plans that underpin our overarching strategy. We have seen in 2020 that Covid-19 has a significant impact on our ability to implement our strategy, whether it is due to reduction in income generation to support our mission, or the ability to carry out our conservation work whilst countries experience lockdown and governments implement new regulations to try and slow the spread of the virus. Delivery of our mission is of paramount importance and therefore this continues to be under review.

An area that the Audit and Risk Committee continues to focus on is safety, both at Jersey Zoo and in the field. A new Field Security Health and Safety Policy has been completed with input from specialist consultants in this area and has been rolled out to staff and volunteers.

Although there is continuing uncertainty about the impact of Covid-19, both at an operational and financial level, the Trust has shown resilience during the pandemic and continues to adapt to the changing circumstances. Robert Kirkby

#### **Robert Kirkby**

Chair, Audit and Risk Committee October 2020

### SUMMARY GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME	<b>2019</b> £'000	<b>2018</b> £'000
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Animal collection		
Visitor Admissions	1,431	1,243
Membership of Durrell		
- Individual	850	772
- Corporate	17	11
Animal adoptions	88	82
Behind the scenes tours and animal encounters	49	37
Keeper and vet for a day	4	4
ANIMAL COLLECTION TOTAL	2,439	2,149
EDUCATION	11	11
TRAINING	106	150
FUNDRAISING EVENTS	1,981	256
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES TOTAL	4,537	2,566
DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	16,612	6,140
COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS	2,588	2,298
INVESTMENTS	77	103
OTHERS	21	524
TOTAL INCOME	23,835	11,631

EXPENDITURE	<b>2019</b> €'000	<b>2018</b> £'000
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	0000	1000
Animal collection	3,702	3,308
Training	365	302
Education	117	152
Conservation in the field and science	2,021	1,858
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	6,205	5,620
RAISING FUNDS		
Cost of generating voluntary income	1,229	439
Cost of commercial operations	2,295	2,056
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS	3,524	2,495
OTHER EXPENDITURE	223	175
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	9,952	8,290
NET GAINS/(LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS	422	(175)
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)		
Share in gains of joint venture	166	158
Movement in deferred rental income	39	39
Other (losses)/gains	(32)	24
Net actuarial gain/(loss) on net Defined benefit pension liability	64	(14)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	14,542	3,373

### SUMMARY GROUP **BALANCE SHEET**

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets	4,736	4,748
Investments	4,054	3,717
Investment in joint venture	391	410
Net current assets	20,552	6,419
Creditors-due after one year	(146)	(185)
Pension liability	(335)	(399)
NET ASSETS	29,252	14,710
Permanent endowment funds	1,343	1,225
Restricted funds	3,787	3,142
Designated funds	1,201	893
General funds	22,921	9,450
TOTAL	29,252	14,710
REPRESENTED BY		
Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust - UK	13,084	3,027
Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	16,168	11,683
TOTAL	29,252	14,710

### SUMMARY GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

These summary financial statements which comprise the Summary Group Statement of Financial Activities and Summary Group Balance Sheet are a summary of the information in the full annual group financial statements of Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust.

They do not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the results of the Trust for the year and its state of affairs at the year end.

For further information, the full financial statements and the report of the auditors on those financial statements should be consulted. Copies of the full financial statements for the year end 31 December 2019, which were approved by the Trustees on 18 September 2020, are available upon request from the Trust's office or from the Trust's website at www.durrell.org.

The auditors have reported on the full financial statements and their report was unmodified.

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' STATEMENT

We have examined the Summary Group Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 which comprise the Summary Group Statement of Financial Activities and the Summary Group Balance Sheet. The Summary Group Financial Statements are derived from the audited annual Group Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019. We expressed an unqualified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated 21 September 2020.

#### OPINION

In our opinion, the accompanying Summary Group Financial Statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited annual Group Financial Statements and Trustees' Annual Report of Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust for the year ended 31 December 2019.

#### SUMMARY GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Summary Group Financial Statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP FRS102). Reading the Summary Group Financial Statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND THE AUDITORS**

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Summary Group Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and the recommendations of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the Summary Group Financial Statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited annual Group Financial Statements and the Trustees' Annual Report.

We also read the other information contained in the Trustees' Annual Report and considered the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the Summary Group Financial Statements. Our report on the Trust's audited annual Group Financial Statements describes the basis of our opinion on those Group Financial Statements and Trustees' Annual Report.

#### GRANT THORNTON LIMITED

Chartered Accountants St Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands 14 October 2020

### STRUCTURE OF THE TRUST

#### PATRON

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal

#### MANAGEMENT TEAM

#### Mark Brayshaw

Rebecca Brewer APPOINTED MARCH 2019 Amy Davies Jeff Dawson Dr Lesley Dickie (CEO) Alexandra Shears Dr Andrew Terry LEFT MARCH 2019 Dr Richard Young

#### CHAIR

Phillip Callow RETIRED SEPTEMBER 2019 Advocate Kerry Lawrence APPOINTED SEPTEMBER 2019

#### HONORARY TREASURER Gary Clark

#### **HONORARY DIRECTOR**

Dr Lee Durrell MBE

#### HONORARY SECRETARY

Advocate Kerry Lawrence UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2019 Advocate Gerald Voisin APPOINTED SEPTEMBER 2019

#### FOUNDER

Dr Gerald Durrell OBE, LHD, DSC, CBIOL, FRSB (Honorary Director 1963 - 1995)

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Mary Curtis Dr Simon Dickson Robert kirkby APPOINTED SEPTEMBER 2019 Sarah Lee Dr Simon Tonge Dr Rosie Trevelyan Gerald Voisin APPOINTED SEPTEMBER 2019 Nicholas Winsor RETIRED SEPTEMBER 2019

#### DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST - UK

Registered UK Charity Number 1121989

#### **UK BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Dr Simon Dickson (Chair) Katie Gordon RETIRED NOVEMBER 2019 Nicole Langlois CO-OPTED MARCH 2019 John Miskelly James Persad RETIRED NOVEMBER 2019 Dr Simon Tonge APPOINTED NOVEMBER 2019

#### DURRELL CONSERVATION TRAINING LTD (MAURITIUS)

Rebecca Brewer APPOINTED JUNE 2019 Deborah de Chazal Dr Lesley Dickie Dr Richard Young APPOINTED JUNE 2019

In addition to preparing for and attending Board meetings, Trustees also serve on a range of committees, which cover Audit, Conservation, Governance, Investment, Remuneration, and Risk. They also make their experience and expertise available to staff as required, and pro-actively promote the success of the Trust

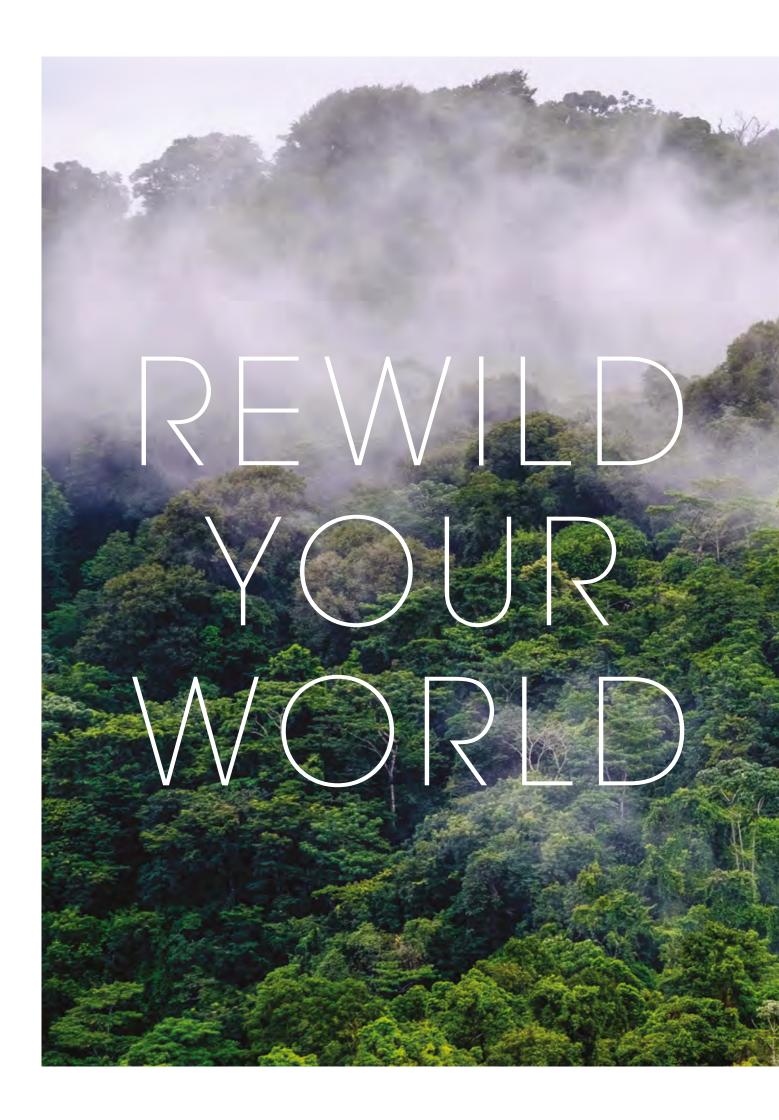
#### HONORARY FELLOWS

Sir David Attenborough, ом. сн. сvo, све, FRS, FZS, FSA Anne Binney, MBE Martin Bralsford, MSC, FCA, FCT John Cleese Murray S Danforth, Jr Professor John Fa Tricia Kreitman Dr Thomas E Lovejoy Dr Jeremy JC Mallinson, oBE, DSC, CBIOL, FRSB Professor Robert D Martin, DPHIL, DSC, CBIOL, FRSB David Richards Robin Rumboll, FCA Advocate Jonathan White Edward J Whitley, MA

### OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

It is a great pleasure to thank the many organisations and individuals who supported Durrell with their donations, time and advice during 2019. This financial assistance and the work of our dedicated volunteers play an invaluable role in sustaining the Trust's work to recover threatened wildlife, revive ecosystems and reconnect people to nature.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to the numerous trusts, foundations, organisations, schools, and individuals who all share our mission and provide us with invaluable funding through donations and grants. Without your help our vision to create a wilder, healthier, more colourful world would be impossible!



### WE ARE GENERATION REWILD

WE WANT TO REWILD SPECIES AND ECOSYSTEMS AS WELL AS PEOPLE AND PLACES BY...

**RECOVERING THREATENED OR MISSING WILDLIFE** 

**REVIVING AND REBUILDING ECOSYSTEMS** AND NATURAL PROCESSES

**RECONNECTING PEOPLE TO THE NATURAL WORLD** 

TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE NATURAL WORLD



#### DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST

is a registered charity with the Jersey Charity Commissioner, registered charity number: 1. **PATRON** HRH The Princess Royal **FOUNDER** Gerald Durrell, OBE, LHD **HONORARY DIRECTOR** Lee Durrell, MBE, PhD

DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST - UK is registered in England and Wales. A charitable company limited by guarantee. REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1121989 REGISTERED

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1121989 REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 6448493 REGISTERED OFFICE c/o Intertrust Corporate Services

(UK) Limited, 35 Great St. Helen's, London EC3A 6AP

