



CAYMAN ISLANDS

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

“

“The most important thing to remember is that the [National] Trust belongs to the people of the Cayman Islands and everything that the Trust owns belongs to all of us forever.”

Kirkland Nixon, 2nd Chairman of the National Trust.

"Saving Cayman" National Trust for the Cayman Islands video.

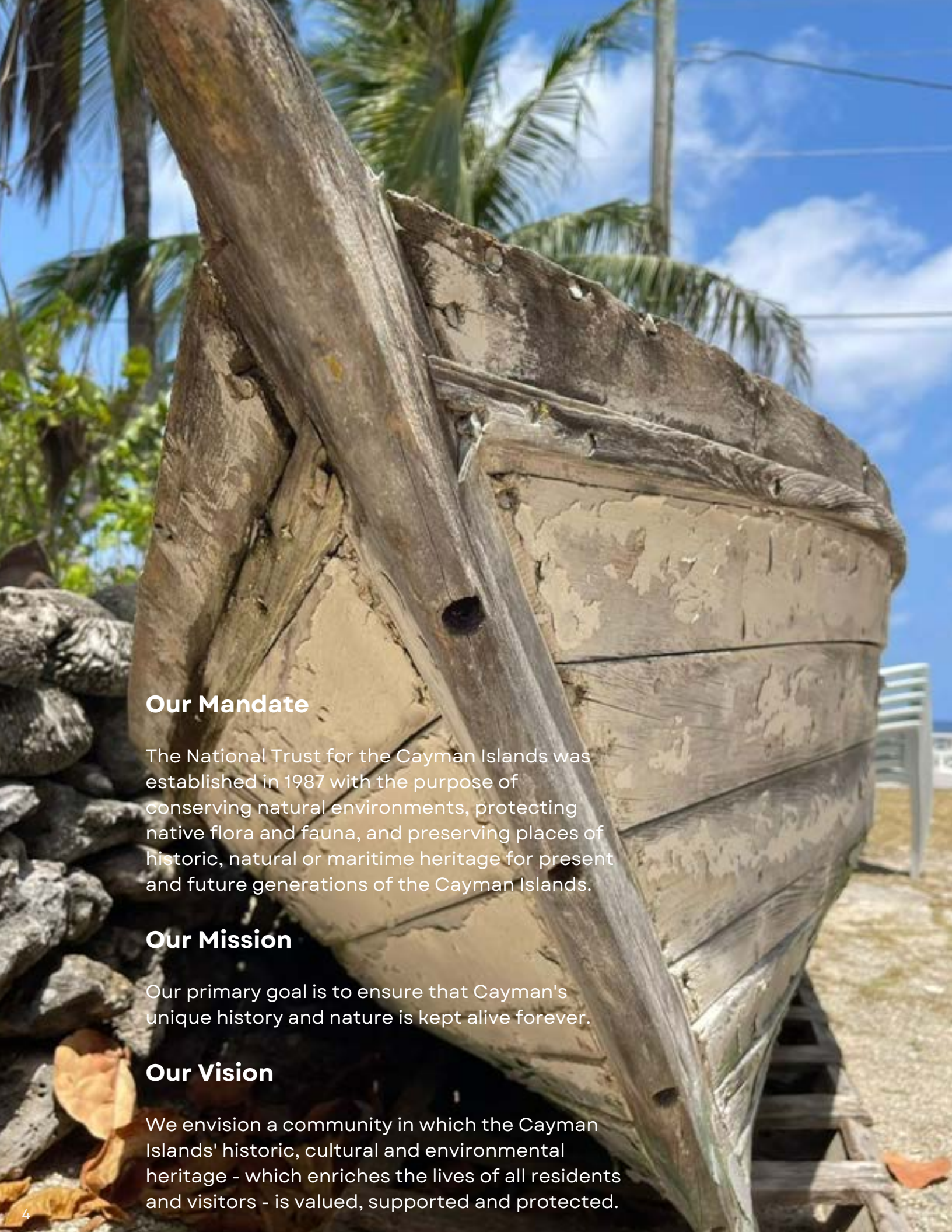
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Our Mandate

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands was established in 1987 with the purpose of conserving natural environments, protecting native flora and fauna, and preserving places of historic, natural or maritime heritage for present and future generations of the Cayman Islands.

Our Mission

Our primary goal is to ensure that Cayman's unique history and nature is kept alive forever.

Our Vision

We envision a community in which the Cayman Islands' historic, cultural and environmental heritage - which enriches the lives of all residents and visitors - is valued, supported and protected.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON H.E. GOVERNOR JANE OWEN

It has been a pleasure throughout my first year on Cayman Islands, to serve as Patron for the National Trust for the Cayman Islands.

I have seen first-hand the hard work and dedication of the National Trust team and members to preserve our valuable ecosystems and treasured historical sites, alongside an active diary of events and outreach.

During this busy year we had the chance to honour the purchase of a vital habitat alongside the existing protected area of Governor Gore's Bird Sanctuary, in Spotts-Newlands. This freshwater marsh is home to over 60 birds – a quarter of all here in Cayman Islands – alongside turtles and butterflies.

I also gathered with the National Trust team to celebrate International Blue Iguana Day, with a screening of the documentary "Saving the Blues" and hear about the journey to bring back our native blue iguana. Many thanks to Fred Burton, Council Member and Ian Redmond, wildlife biologist and conservationist, for sharing your inspirational story.

Many of my special memories during the past year have been while exploring the unique natural environment and heritage of our Islands. These include the opportunity to see the incubated new blue iguana hatchlings at the National Trust office, joining Peter Davey, Secretary and Council Member, for a daybreak birding tour spotting beautiful Western Spindalis alongside Cayman bullfinches, and hiking the tranquil Mastic trail.



When I am asked about what is special about the Cayman Islands, these are the moments that I often reflect on. The unique beauty of these Islands is something to treasure and enjoy and share with others.

As Patron I am reminded of the privilege we all share in having easy access to experience special places in nature, and to visit historical buildings to remember the past, and keep our island's unique heritage alive. Thank you to the National Trust for the Cayman Islands for making this possible.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR, MELANIE CARMICHAEL

As another year closes, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and optimism. Serving as the Chairman of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands has given me a unique perspective on the remarkable efforts, we are making to preserve our precious natural and cultural heritage. This year, our journey has been marked by inspiring stories, significant achievements, and important lessons that will help guide our future.

One standout moment this year was the Spectrum financial services conference, where we screened “Save Our Wild Isles: Banking on a Wilder Tomorrow.” Watching this powerful film with leaders from the financial sector, I was reminded of the incredible potential we have when we unite diverse sectors for a common cause. The Hon. André Ebanks, Deputy Premier and Minister for Financial Services & Commerce, Investment, Innovation & Social Development, highlighted the crucial role the financial industry can play in supporting local conservation efforts. This moment underscored the power of strategic partnerships to drive substantial change.

Our fundraising efforts reached new heights with an unforgettable event hosted by Karen and Chris Luijten. Their generous hospitality and the overwhelming community support raised US\$250,000 for the Land Reserve Fund, bringing us closer to our goal of expanding vital primary habitat in the Salina Reserve. This event was not just about raising funds; it was about reinforcing our collective commitment to preserving the natural beauty of our islands for future generations.

The generosity displayed that evening was a testament to the spirit of our community. It was a pleasure to host our Patron H.E. Governor Jane Owen and Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, MP for the Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency, along with distinguished guests from the community, for an evening of custom Amalfi cuisine crafted from locally grown organic produce from the host’s garden by Chef Vincenzo and Chef Carmine from Italy.

The visit of renowned conservationist Ian Redmond OBE for International Blue Iguana Day was another highlight. His interactions with students across our islands were nothing short of inspiring. Ian’s stories about his work with gorillas and elephants, his work with Dian Fossey and Sir David Attenborough, resonated deeply with our young minds, drawing parallels with our conservation efforts for the blue iguana. A private reception to honor Ian and his dedication provided a unique opportunity for our guests to engage with a global conservation leader while enjoying Blue Iguana gin cocktails. This intimate gathering underscored the importance of community involvement in our conservation initiatives and has led to our partnership with the documentary streaming platform Ecoflix.



Celebrating National Maritime Day with the “A Night at the Museum: Dive Into Cayman’s Maritime Heritage” event was a nostalgic journey through our rich maritime history with guest speaker Sabrina Douglas speaking enthusiastically about becoming the first Caymanian to explore the depths of the Cayman Trench in a submarine. The stories shared by members of the Catboat Club, the National Museum, and The Seafarers Association brought our maritime heritage to life, reminding us of the deep connections we have with the sea. The funds raised will go towards preserving our natural and built heritage, ensuring our history continues to be a source of pride and inspiration.



At this juncture, it is important to highlight the National Trust’s role in supporting the Cayman Islands Government in achieving the objectives set out in our Constitution. The Cayman Islands Constitution serves as the fundamental law of our country, establishing the principles and rules upon which our government is founded. Our efforts in conservation and heritage preservation are aligned with these constitutional objectives, ensuring we protect and sustain our environment and cultural heritage for present and future generations. Through its work, the National Trust contributes to the government’s constitutional mandate of fostering a sustainable and balanced approach to development, preserving the unique character and biodiversity of our islands, and looks forward to continued collaboration and alignment of these outcomes.

Looking ahead, our focus remains on expanding our protected areas and achieving the global 30 by 30 objectives. By acquiring more land and demanding best practices from government officials, we can ensure the protection of our environment. We currently protect 6% of the Cayman Islands’ natural environment and aim to increase this to 11%. Achieving this will require and depend on the continued support from all sectors of our community.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to our staff, volunteers, members, and donors. Your unwavering dedication and passion are the cornerstones of the successes of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands. Special thanks to our partners and sponsors whose support has been invaluable. Together, we are building a legacy of conservation that will benefit future generations.

As we move forward, let us embrace the challenges with optimism and determination. Our journey is not just about protecting the environment; it is about nurturing a sense of stewardship and responsibility within the wider community. With your continued support, we can create a sustainable future for the Cayman Islands, one where our natural and cultural heritage is cherished and preserved for the benefit of future generations.



While we celebrate these successes, we are acutely aware of the challenges that lie ahead. Proposed changes to the National Conservation Act (NCA) are disheartening and pose a significant threat to our natural resources. While no legislation is perfect, the NCA is crucial for protecting our environment, and any amendments that weaken its provisions risk undoing the progress we have made and hastening irreparable damage to the environment. Our conservation efforts depend on strong legal frameworks that balance economic, social, and environmental interests.

The East-West Arterial Extension project is another area of concern. We strongly advocate for a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to make informed decisions before any construction begins. This project has the potential to cause irreversible damage to our ecosystems, and it is essential that we proceed with caution and thorough planning to select the most sustainable route. We must ensure our development projects do not come at the expense of our natural heritage.

SAFEGUARDING
OUR NATIONAL TREASURES



FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL



MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FRANK ROULSTONE

Our little islands today face another wave of threats to our way of life and the basic ecosystems we have grown with and depended on for generations. Grandiose projects to develop all manner of infrastructure, massive development projects, a myriad of subdivisions and apartments at every turn. Almost all are designed without an ounce of Caymanian anything, all landscaped with a few imported plants and endless acres of concrete and asphalt, after the land has been indiscriminately cleared removing all evidence of the incredible biodiversity that once existed. Wanton destruction of our remaining built heritage with no effort to make even a feeble attempt at retaining our architectural look that has been destroyed. We have well-paid experts telling us what they want us to hear and singing to the tune of the persons and entities paying them. Again with no respect for anything except “progress” and the mighty dollar. One would be forgiven for thinking that all hope is gone.

And yet in the shadow of adversity, with wonderful support from the community, business and government, the National Trust for the Cayman Islands soldiers on. With a small staff, volunteers and supporters we have managed to produce a year of wins, many contained within this report and some which may not be apparent for years to come.

I truly believe the strength of the Trust is in its people and I am honoured to work with so many fine members of this community who really care about our islands’ future. It is not easy to be responsible for the enormous task of preserving our heritage with very limited funding. It is a real David & Goliath scenario. Without the help of our community we would be nothing. We would do nothing. It is people who can make the difference.

My father taught me to respect the ocean and I eventually discovered that the land too was unique and also deserved respect. My mother’s insistence that I go to church also made me aware that as humans we have a responsibility to care for not just each other but also all of creation. This upbringing is probably the reason I care so much about our islands and the living creatures we share it with. Those who do not have a voice. I want my grandchildren (should I ever be blessed with them) to enjoy the incredible miracle of nature that exists on these tiny outcrops and the built symbols of our identity. Whether here by chance or by creation, our responsibility to preserve and care for them is unchanged. Money will never buy back what has been lost. Thank you for supporting us in many ways in our efforts.



OUR PATH TO SUCCESS 2023-24

CLIMATE EDUCATION



The RESEMBID grant got underway with the hiring of Bella Rooney to fulfill the role of Climate Education Officer and act as project manager to create a standardised climate science programme for Cayman schools.

SUMMER CAMP



The National Trust Summer Camp in Cayman Brac ran from Jul 24th to Aug 4th, 2023. Kids aged 7 to 12 years learned about Cayman flora, fauna, heritage & culture from local experts, artisans and storytellers.

CAYMAN BULL FINCH



The American Ornithological Society announced that the species Cuban Bullfinch *Melopyrrha nigra*, two endemic subspecies of Cuba and Grand Cayman was split to award the local bird full endemic species status - *Melopyrrha taylori*. Having another endemic bird is important to promote Cayman's biodiversity status.

FILM SCREENING AT SPECTRUM



The Hon. André Ebanks opened the financial services annual Spectrum Conference 2023 with screening of the film *Save our Wild Isles: Banking on a Wilder Tomorrow* on behalf of the National Trust.

AGM



The Annual General Meeting was held Sept 28th to present the Annual Report for 2022/23 as well as elect a new council for 2024/24. The event was well attended with approx. 60 members present.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



The NTCI team hosted a membership drive at the Government Admin. Building on August 4th. This event provided an opportunity to reach a new audience and reengage with existing members and partners.

CLIMATE INITIATIVE TRAINING



In August, Climate Education Officer, Bella Rooney attended the Climate Initiative's teacher training in Maine to support her role in developing a new climate curriculum for local schools.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE EVENT



H.E. Governor Jane Owen hosted a reception on behalf of the National Trust to recognize and thank their generous donors to their Land Reserve Fund for mangroves and to highlight their role in expanding the Governor Gore Bird Sanctuary.

BAT MONTH



In October the Trust featured a series of social media posts to educate the public on Cayman bats with population facts and information on the Trust's conservation efforts.

SESUVIUM MARSH PARCEL



The NT Little Cayman District Committee announced the purchase of a unique 14.4 acre parcel of land in the Snipe Point area interior. Part of the parcel includes Sesuvium Marsh habitat, one of 10 distinct habitats found in Little Cayman.

COP 28, DUBAI



NTCI Youth Delegates attended the COP 28 Climate Conference in Dubai. Thanks to the support of our sponsors these four ambassadors represented Cayman in a global forum to directly affect the future.

MISSION HOUSE BREAKFAST



With the support of the NTCI staff, volunteers and corporate sponsors, the Bodden Town District Committee hosted another successful traditional breakfast fundraiser event at Mission House on Dec 2nd.

TRADITIONS AT NURSE LEILA'S



In December, the West Bay District Committee hosted a community event at Nurse Leilas House which showcased a Cayman traditional festive activity 'backing sand'.

PRETTY IN PINK



Over the holiday season, a pink flamingo was spotted at Malportas Pond. This rare visit captivated the community, with hundreds of spectators flocking to catch a glimpse of this stunning bird. This was a very popular story on our social media channels and ranked in the top 3 for the year with a reach of over 20k.

JUL

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

CLIMATE FAIR



A grant from RESEMBID helped support The Trust in hosting Cayman's first Climate Fair on June 15th to promote education and empower young people about the critical climate change issue.

HERITAGE LUNCH & LEARN



A Lunch & Learn was held at Grand Old House where the attendees listened to guest speakers archaeologists Elysia Petras and Cara Teresak as they discussed their fascinating discoveries at National Trust site Jackson Wall and the stories they revealed.

BLUE IGUANA WEEK



The National Trust was excited to host conservationist Ian Redmond May 5th-12th, to celebrate Blue Iguana Week. Mr. Redmond filled his week with visits to schools and two evening events screening the documentary "Saving The Blues" to highlight the importance of UKOT and global biodiversity.

WILDLIFE WEEK



To celebrate Wildlife Week the Trust facilitated four public speaker series events led by local experts which featured talks on bats, climate change, native flora and sharks.

BRAC 'AG' SHOW



The Cayman Brac District Committee booth at the Agriculture Show was well attended and provided an outreach opportunity for volunteers to register memberships and promote upcoming Trust events in Cayman Brac.

ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION



On December 18, we were proud to present our 2022-23 Annual Report to H.E. Governor Jane Owen. In our visit we discussed last year's achievements & future strategy.

EVENT AT THE NAT. GALLERY



The Art, Science & Nature of Mangroves 3 x 15 featured an engaging conversation with guest speakers and a stunning exhibition at the National Gallery uniquely highlighting the important aspects of mangroves.

JACKSON'S WALL DIG PART II



Archeologist Elysia Petras returned to continue where she left off last year and led a group of volunteers during a week in June to follow up at the Jackson's Wall site. The artefacts unearthed a theory of two separate occupations - one during the 1700's and the other in the late 18th to 20th century.

MARITIME HERITAGE FUNDRAISER



"A Night at the Museum: Dive into Cayman's Maritime Heritage" Event was held May 22nd at the newly opened Cayman Collections Centre in West Bay. The event doubled last year's efforts by raising over KYD\$30K to support the conservation of Cayman natural and built heritage.

PARADISE FOUND



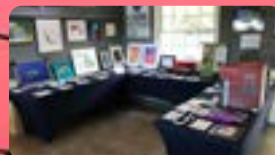
A sold out event was held on May 11th at Camana Bay Cinema for a screening of Briggitta Kassa's autobiographical film to honour her extraordinary contributions to the National Trust..

INTERNATIONAL BLUE IGUANA DAY



The 4th Annual International Blue Iguana Day was celebrated on May 5th. This family event featured "Be an Iguana Scientist Experience", free guided BIC tours and guest speakers. Thanks to volunteers, donors and event sponsor Ritz-Carlton.

EASTER AUCTION LITTLE CAYMAN



The 31st Annual Easter Auction was held by the LC District Committee on March 30th which raised an astounding USD\$70K for the LCDC Land Reserve Fund and to cover Operating and Maintenance Expenses for the NTCI LC District.

ELDEMIRE HOUSE CEREMONY



A handover ceremony was held on April 18th to commemorate the conclusion of the first step in the restoration of Eldemire House in Cayman Brac. Thanks to our sponsors and project contractor, Pastor French, this historic home is now ready to be reoccupied and a place for the community to visit.

PLAQUE AT MR ARTHURS



A plaque dedication at Mr. Arthur's waterfront store in George Town took place in January to commemorate the building's historic significance and pioneering spirit of the Bodden family's legacy.

LAND RESERVE FUND EVENT



A record USD\$250,000 was raised at a private event hosted by Chris & Karen Luijten which will help fund the purchase of a targeted area of Cayman's primary forest.



INVESTING IN
CONSERVATION



INVESTING IN
HERITAGE



INVESTING IN
WILDLIFE

THANK YOU

DIAMOND



Royal Bank



GOLD



SILVER

CAREY OLSEN



mourant

BRONZE



TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS



THANK YOU TO OUR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Our International Partners

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands is proud of continuing relationships with our International Partners. Their vital support provides us with grants, capacity building, networking and workshop opportunities to assist us in natural and heritage conservation efforts.

Darwin Plus: Darwin Plus is a UK government grants scheme that funds projects that aim to protect the unique biodiversity and improve resilience to climate change within the UK Overseas Territories.

RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds): The National Trust for the Cayman Islands is the RSPB's partner organization in the Cayman Islands. The RSPB's esteemed conservation work includes protecting habitats, saving species, and helping to end the nature and climate emergency. They do this through five main work areas: science, species, places, people and policy.

INTO (International National Trusts Organisations):

INTO is a diverse network of heritage organisations from across the globe. We are united by a common approach to the conservation of global heritage – built and natural, tangible and intangible.

Resembid

The overall objectives of the Resilience, Sustainable Energy and Marine Biodiversity Programme (RESEMBID) is to support the sustainable human development efforts of participating countries and territories, with the Priority Focus Areas being:

1. Resilience;
2. Sustainable Energy; and
3. Marine Biodiversity.

John Ellerman Foundation

An independent grantmaking foundation supporting charities that make a difference to people, society and the natural world.



INTO GROWING WITH OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

With the backing of our International partners, The National Trust team actively participated in a variety of impactful learning and development opportunities this year. The National Trust is an organisation that employs science to drive decisions and shape strategies. The training provided equips our team with the latest best practices in managing our historical, environmental, and conservation programs, empowering them to readily educate the community and share their skills and knowledge with other like-minded entities.

Climate Initiative Educator Retreat

Catherine Childs, Environmental Programmes Manager, and Bella Rooney, Climate Education Officer, attended a Climate Initiative educator retreat in Maine in support of a RESEMBID grant to create a climate education resource for our local schools.



Climate Educators Retreats are designed to assist teachers in educating, empowering, and inspiring students and community members to take action to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Cathy and Bella returned with additional resources and a greater understanding of the needs of teachers to enable the creation of a better localised climate toolkit for Cayman's classrooms.

INTO Heritage Leaders Course

As a member of the International National Trust Organisation (INTO) The National Trust for the Cayman Islands joins over 100 other heritage trust organisations to exchange expertise, promote best practices and share resources to increase global heritage protection.

National Trust Membership Manager, Nicole Best was accepted into the first ever INTO Heritage Leaders programme developed by the Cultural Associates of Oxford and generously funded by The Helen Hamlyn Trust.



The programme was designed to study all aspects of leadership for organisations that preserve nature, history and culture.

The course was structured to cover six comprehensive modules over three months – Understanding the Global Context, Purpose and Impact, Audiences and Engagement, Creating Strong Organisations, External Relationships and The Business of Heritage. Preliminary live workshops were held to introduce students to the weekly online module topics in preparation for the online self-study course material. Weekly peer learning Zoom sessions provided participants a chance to dive deeper into specific questions in smaller groups.

INTO's leadership training course has set a new standard of professional development and Nicole looks forward to the opportunity to apply her learning to strengthen all aspects of the National Trust's future strategic planning.



The First Iguana Education Exchange

Three years ago, during a visit to Cayman by international Blue Iguana Conservation (BIC) partners to assist with annual surveys, a discussion took place about creating a workshop for regional iguana programmes to collaborate. As a result, the first Iguana Education Exchange was held in June 2024, hosted by Jacksonville Zoo in Florida.

BIC Assistant Manager, Joseph Jamieson, participated in the Exchange to shadow the Zoo's herpetology team for a week and to present on BIC's methods, techniques, protocols, and procedures. Joe fielded questions about some of the challenges that the other organisations are facing. Blue Iguana Conservation was one of the highlights of the event due to the facility's captive breeding success. Thank you to The Jacksonville Zoo for funding the opportunity to learn and share with others.



YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS SPECIAL PLACES IN NATURE & HERITAGE

In 1987, the National Trust for the Cayman Islands was established in law to help protect and prevent further loss of critical habitats, local wildlife, and places of historical significance across our three islands. The founders' passion and fortitude began an admirable legacy of preserving our natural and historical heritage. The very first protected site, which was also of historical significance, was Fort George in 1987. Later, in 1988, the Salina Reserve was protected, as a valuable natural habitat. For the last 37 years, the National Trust for the Cayman Islands saved an additional 11 historical sites and 17 environmental sites. Together, with the support of our membership, and our community we continue to actively safeguard our national treasures.

Now, more than ever, there is an urgency to protect the remaining natural beauty, local flora and fauna, and our historical heritage, before it disappears. Our members both inspire us and support us in actively protecting what is special to the Cayman Islands for present and future generations. Special places in nature are for the benefit of our community, visitors and local wildlife. Treasured historical sites connect us to our past and keep our heritage alive.

As a member of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands, you are part of a global family passionate and actively protecting nature, preserving biodiversity, conserving historical buildings, uncovering history through archaeological digs, celebrating our heritage, and passing down our traditions.

Our members contribute to making a positive impact in our community through supporting their chosen District Committee. The NTCI District Committees (DC) organize various activities and events across all three islands.

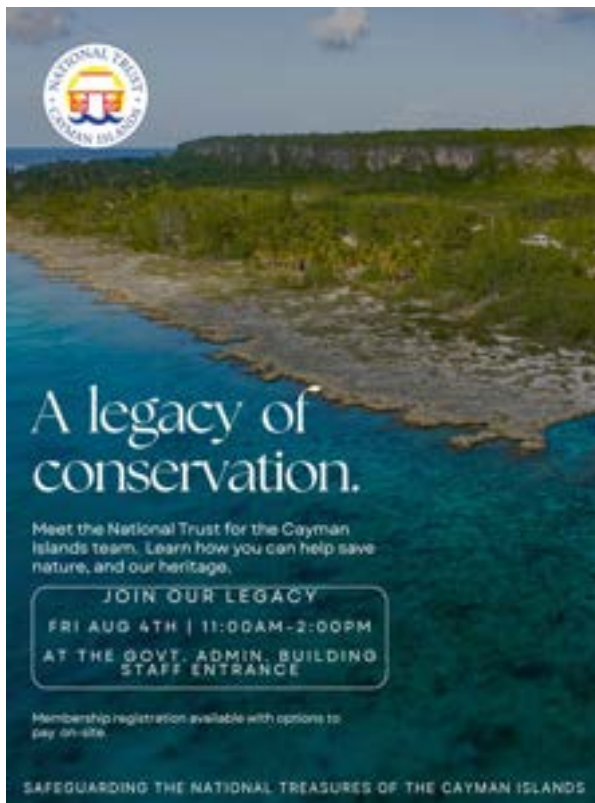
One of the wonderful benefits of being a NTCI member is being part of a global network of likeminded individuals which share a passion for the preservation of natural and built heritage. The NTCI is a proud member of International National Trust Organizations (INTO). Thanks to our partnership with INTO, members of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands receive free or discounted admission to other national parks and heritage sites around the world. There are 100 heritage member organizations of INTO located in over 80 nations and territories in this reciprocal programme. Some exciting places include other Caribbean islands, Canada, United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and Zimbabwe.

DRIVING OUR MEMBERSHIP



A membership drive was held at the Government Admin Building on 4th August. Highlights of the day included numerous interactions rekindling with both “friends of the Trust” as well as creating connections with new contacts. At the three hour event, 15 new membership sign ups were secured, 5 renewals made, and new Blue Iguana Guardian enrolment was signed which equated to \$550 in revenue. Hon. Mr. Franz Manderson, Deputy Governor made a point to acknowledge the work we do and speak with the staff as he visited our booth.

The event exposed members of the Civil Service that were not previously aware of the National Trust and our mission and made us realize that continued outreach to the public is needed. Thank-you to West Bay District member Ms. Eziethamae Bodden who assisted on the day.



MEET OUR SUMMER INTERN SOLEIL PARKINSON



My summer internship with The National Trust brought me so much fulfilment and experience. Working under the Historic Committee really helped me do a deep dive into our culture and heritage as I researched and visited historic sites I wasn't familiar with, learned how to navigate the archives and historic register, and helped organise, film, and participate in the second Jackson's Wall Excavation and Lunch and Learn. I also got the opportunity to meet many new people doing amazing work, and people in the community with beautiful stories. I loved that the National Trust gave me the flexibility to work on what I was passionate about, and supported me in designing an internship experience that best suited me.

Everyone at the National Trust was so welcoming and really gave me the opportunity to dip my toes into the experience of working at a non profit. I will forever be grateful for the connections I have made!



DIVING INTO OUR MARITIME HERITAGE

Since 1987, The National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) has been dedicated to safeguarding our national treasures for the people of the Cayman Islands. For the past 37 years we have had the privilege of being custodians to a vast collection of treasured historical buildings and sites, and ecologically valuable habitats across all three islands. Our mandate is pivotal to the preservation of what makes the Cayman Islands special, our historical, natural and maritime heritage in perpetuity for all three islands.

The NTCI celebrated National Maritime Day, on 22 May, with the fundraiser “A Night at the Museum: Dive Into Cayman’s Maritime Heritage”. The event was held at the Cayman Collections Centre which is brimming with incredible curated maritime heritage artefacts and historical items on display, a fitting venue for highlighting the importance of Cayman’s historic past. Our fundraiser was filled with community spirit, generations coming together, nostalgia, memories, sharing of seafaring traditions and the celebration of how inextricably maritime heritage is a woven tapestry into our lives and community. There is an element of maritime heritage in all of us, creating a shared connection within our community. Our maritime heritage, encompasses so much, from discovery, to the Caymanian sailors on vessels around the globe, shipbuilding, shipping registry, diving, exploring the Cayman Trench, to our watersports pioneers and those making a living on (and under) the water today.



The Honourable Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, the Minister of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency was in attendance, as well as NTCI Council members, and members from the Catboat Club, National Museum, and The Seafarers Association who showed their support and shared with guests their memories of our seafaring traditions. The National Trust are deeply grateful for the generosity of the attendees supporting the event and helping raise just over CI\$30,000; these funds will go towards the conservation of natural and built heritage. Attendees enjoyed music by Caryn Caffarelli and a collection of stunning images provided by Courtney Platt. Our guest speakers, Denniston Tibbetts shared his memories of life at sea, and Sabrina Douglas discussed her journey and exploration of the Cayman Trench on the Alvin deep-sea submersible. James Bebarfald was a fabulous emcee and auctioneer for the evening and engaged with the guests and encouraged them to show their support in the auctions and raffle.



A heartfelt thank you to all of the local businesses, organizations, individuals, and artists who donated these items to our auction and raffle. The night would not have been possible without the amazing volunteers, and the National Trust cannot thank them enough for all their hard work and dedication.

The event was made possible through the generous event sponsorship of Cayman National Bank, Dart, Cayman Islands Shipping Registry, the Ministry of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency, Celebrations, Cayman Collections Centre, and the Cayman Islands Museum.





THE NATIONAL TRUST'S ROLE TO PROVIDE EXPERT ADVICE & INFORMATION

The National Trust Law tasks the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) with protecting our native flora and fauna, preserving our islands' important sites of natural, historic, maritime heritage, and the conservation of National Trust property. While at one point, purchasing land to stop it from being developed was seen as enough, it is now clear that impacts of development are cumulative, cross property boundaries, and that simply holding lands in trust are not enough to protect our heritage. In order to further the purposes of the Trust the law gives it powers to provide information, advice, and assistance to the Government and other appropriate persons or bodies, as well as the fostering of public interest through public information and education. These purposes and powers are even more relevant in 2024 than they were when the NTCI was created in 1987, giving a voice to the growing concerns of our members.

Given the rapid rate of population growth and construction on all three islands, the long-term goals of the Trust are only achievable with a nationwide effort towards the sustainable development of the Cayman's Islands. There are many ways which the NTCI can use these powers via the opportunities afforded by Cayman's laws to comment and critique developments and policies; putting to use the local and technical knowledge of the staff, leaders, and membership to be a force for sustainable development that works for our natural environment as well as the people of Cayman.

Cayman's law allows for the comments of nearby landowners regarding development. The NTCI, by virtue of its widespread property holdings often has the chance to comment on developments.

The NTCI staff monitors the planning notices on all three islands and comments (with input from the local district committees) on developments which will negatively impact our protected areas. A recent example is a planned playing field and track on Little Cayman, adjacent to Booby Pond. With input from the community, the NTCI gave several critiques of the plans and the government responded by changing the design, removing planned lights, and moving the development as far as possible from property line.

When a developer is open to more collaborative efforts, the NTCI staff and local district committee members can work with them to try to find a mutually beneficial solution. This is the current situation with the NHDT affordable housing development next to Uncle Sammys Pond, where the NTCI staff and members of the West Bay District Committee have been meeting with government officials to find a balance between what they have to deliver for those needing housing and providing the community with an important green space with flood mitigation benefits.

Major government policies and plans also have a public consultation period, something that most recently occurred for the Plan Cayman national development plan and the Airport development plan before this. The NTCI staff pore over these policies to review their impacts on Cayman's natural and historic heritage and attend public meetings to ask questions of those designing the policies, all before compiling and submitting official comments to try to improve them before they are implemented.

As a key stakeholder on environmental and historic issues, the NTCI is often able to work with agencies and consultants to provide feedback on projects and policies in a deeper way than the public.

Allowing the NTCI staff and leadership to impart local knowledge that project designers and consultants might not have otherwise. The new cargo port project is an example of this, where the Port Authority, Public Works, and consultants have met with NTCI representatives to discuss our thoughts and concerns about the project; allowing the expert consultants to better understand the local context and agencies to hear the natural and cultural heritage concerns that the NTCI specializes in.



The passage of the National Conservation Law (now Act) was an important milestone in the protection of Cayman's environment. Those who passed this law understood that our local environment is not just important to protect because it is our heritage but also because our lives depend on a healthy environment; the food we eat, the water we drink, the air we breathe, the impacts it has on our weather and how our climate affects us. The law created a council of experts and representatives of the districts of Cayman to ensure the protection of our environment; a council that the NTCI was given a permanent seat on, allowing us to influence the development and policies in Cayman.

The law also gave rise to the use of Environmental Impact Assessments in Cayman, an important tool used worldwide since the 1960s to publicly examine the potential impacts of projects or policies before they are started. This creates greater transparency for communities and better information for decision makers. It shows the tradeoffs (environmentally, socially, and economically) that are likely to come with a project, allowing for a project to proceed in the best way possible (or not at all). An important part of the process is the public consultation before the study is undertaken in order to ensure that the correct issues are being studied and again at the end so the public can understand what the potential impacts will be.

Reviewing and critiquing these technical documents is a critical role that the NTCI must play to ensure that what is important to Cayman is included in these studies. When given the opportunity to comment on the East West Arterial project the NTCI submitted critiques of the draft terms of reference which were incorporated into the final study, like the inclusion of marine impacts to the North Sound caused by changes to the Central Mangrove hydrology. A proper study can help to ensure that if it is built it is done in a way that least impacts our vital central mangrove wetlands, as well as those communities in historic Bodden Town.

The NTCI staff is also a resource for our membership to be educated on the environmental or historic issues surrounding developments or policies. By reviewing these technical documents and summarizing key points and areas of concern and sharing with membership before public consultation so they can ask the right questions of their leaders and officials. Just recently we shared our analysis of the Port Zeus Draft Terms of Reference with the Brac District Committee Leadership and concerned members. Not everyone has the time or knowledge to go through these long technical documents, so it is beneficial to have a NTCI team which can devote time to reviewing them for the benefit of the public.

It can be hard to stay on top of all of the upcoming developments, policies, and changes on our islands, but it is the passion of the NTCI's leadership and staff. Growing and maintaining our membership is also crucial, the larger our membership the more weight our comments on developments and policies holds. The National Trust Law gives the NTCI the ability to speak up for the protection of our heritage, and using that voice is only growing more important.





YOUR WILDLIFE



YOUR HERITAGE



YOUR SPECIAL PLACES



PROTECTING WILD SPACES TOGETHER

The National Trust stands boldly with community members in protecting our remaining untouched natural areas as a legacy for future generations. Our islands are home to unique native flora and fauna that rely on key areas for their survival. Protecting these ecosystems is critical for maintaining the biodiversity and natural heritage of our islands for the wellbeing of the communities that call these islands home. The National Trust plays a pivotal role in safeguarding these areas on all three islands, but we couldn't do it without the active support of local people. Working together, this year we were successful in further protecting the Salina Reserve on Grand Cayman and the Sesuvium Marsh on Little Cayman.

The Salina Reserve, one of the largest protected areas in the Cayman Islands, is home to a diverse array of species, including the endangered Cayman Parrot and Blue Iguana. This reserve represents a vital sanctuary for wildlife, offering a safe haven from the pressures of human activity on Grand Cayman. A local family with property adjoining our Reserve contacted us interested in selling their land to the National Trust to see it protected forever as a beautiful untouched natural area and their legacy for the future. We made this parcel the subject of our annual Land Reserve Fundraiser and succeeded in breaking fundraising records thanks to the generosity of Chris and Karen Luijten who hosted the event and personally donated to the cause. This is a great example of how the National Trust works with local landowners to protect their land, either through purchase at fair-market value or through a conservation agreement. With the help of donations from the community, the National Trust will now be able to work with this local landowner to preserve their family's legacy for future generations.

We are grateful for the continued support over the years from donors and corporations such as Refuel and Greenlight that donate annually to support the purchase of mangroves. Everyone plays an important role in protecting critical natural ecosystems to support our local flora and fauna.

Thanks to community support in Little Cayman, we were also able to protect a 14.4-acre parcel of land in the Snipe Point area on the eastern end of the island. This land includes part of the Sesuvium Marsh, a unique and delicate ecosystem that is one of ten distinct habitats identified on Little Cayman, notable for being the smallest and least disturbed by human activity. The marsh is dotted with small freshwater ponds that are essential for the survival of resident and migratory birds, as well as the endemic Sister Islands Rock Iguana. The purchase was made possible through a large donation by Brigitte Kassa, a longtime resident of Little Cayman, with the additional generosity of annual Easter Auction donors and bidders. Without this strong support from the community, this unique area would have been lost forever due to pressures from unsustainable development.



These success stories highlight our enduring commitment to preserving Cayman's unique ecosystems, ensuring they continue to flourish in their natural state for generations to come. Through our partnership with the community to acquire and protect these vital wilderness areas, the NTCI has secured their future as refuges for wildlife and lasting legacies of unspoiled natural beauty—wild spaces that will endure long after we are gone, for our children and future generations to enjoy and explore.



LAND RESERVE FUND FUNDRAISER

A private event raised US\$250,000 for the National Trust for the Cayman Islands Land Reserve Fund, its largest contribution to date. The event raised more than half the amount needed to purchase a piece of primary forest identified by the Trust so that it will be protected in perpetuity for future generations.

The fundraising dinner, organised and hosted by Karen and Chris Luijten on Friday 2 February in their South Sound home, was an elegant, Amalfi Coast inspired evening with a four-course dinner creating a memorable evening for the 110 guests. Chef Vincenzo and Chef Carmine flew in from Positano to prepare the food using produce from the Luijten's farm. Special thanks go to the Luijten family for not only hosting the event but also for covering all event expenses so that 100% of the proceeds raised will go directly towards the land purchase.

The event was supported by Platinum Sponsors Wheaton Precious Metals and Kirk Freeport, Gold Sponsors Mercedes-Benz Cayman, Dart, and KPMG along with other donors including Maples, Campbells, and the Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency. Thanks go also to Patrick Bourque for his invaluable help in making this event a success.

The National Trust performs an important role in protecting critically endangered ecosystems, plants, and animals in the Cayman Islands by purchasing carefully selected parcels of land from private landowners to preserve the biodiversity of the three islands.

The Land Reserve Fund was set up in 2010 to acquire and protect environmentally sensitive land. Land, which can be donated or purchased, is protected under the National Trust for the Cayman Islands Law and preserves critical natural habitats in perpetuity.

"There is a global initiative called "30 by 30" that aims to designate 30% of the Earth's land and sea as protected areas by 2030" said Catherine Childs, Environmental Programme Manager, "We would like to see Cayman in the vanguard of countries meeting this target with the National Trust playing a key role in preserving our natural treasures for future generations."

"The Trust recognizes the need to appeal for philanthropic donations to ensure the correct balance of preserving our natural biodiversity. We currently protect 6% of Cayman's natural environment and we'd like to increase that amount to 11% across all three islands" said Melanie Carmichael, Chairman of the National Trust. "Together with the health and wellness benefits they provide to the community, these goals are vitally important as we strive to protect and sustain our environment for future generations. The success of this event is a clear indication that we are a community that cares and we are grateful to the Luijtens and to all our sponsors and supporters who have given so generously."

Scan the QR Code to make a donation to the Land Reserve Fund.







THE KEY TO ELDEMIRE HOUSE

ELDEMIRE HANDOVER CEREMONY

In celebration of World Heritage Day, 18th April, the National Trust for the Cayman Islands celebrated with the Cayman Brac community a handover ceremony of the Eldemire House.

The handover was the conclusion of the first step in restoring the building to structural integrity. The next steps will be interpretation, fit-out, and furnishing the building. Pastor Thomas French, the contractor for the project, shared with guests the unique challenges of repairing this historic home and his quest to find authentic materials for those which had to be replaced.



Attendees had the opportunity to go inside the historic home and see the restoration work. Members of the Cayman Brac District Committee were able to share with members of the community the importance of this historical home and share memories of the Eldemire family and their important role in the community.

ELDEMIRE HOUSE A PLACE FOR COMMUNITY

The restoration of the Eldemire House welcomes the community of Cayman Brac to utilize this historical home as a place for the community to come together. Caring for places of historical interest and conserving historical buildings is a vital part of our mandate.



Staying connected to our past and sharing our traditions, culture, and memories is for the benefit of all. The Eldemire House will showcase vintage photos of the Eldemire family. The Eldemire's catboat is displayed on the property, reminding us of our strong link to our maritime heritage.

LITTLE CAYMAN EASTER AUCTION



The Little Cayman District Committee of the National Trust's 31st annual Easter Auction was held on Saturday, 30 March at the Gladys Howard Visitors' Centre in Blossom Village. Over 225 auction items were donated by our wonderful donors and we sincerely thank them for their generosity. It is estimated that over 120 persons attended both the silent and live auctions. 73 registered bidders were equally beneficent and while the final numbers are still pending as pledges are still being received, approximately US \$70,000 was raised. US \$60,000 goes to the Special Project which was once again the Land Fund and US \$10,000 to general operations and maintenance expenses for the LCDNT.

We welcomed many repeat attendees who have supported the LCDNT over many years in addition to Trust members and first time Islands guests. And we were very pleased that both the Chair of Trust Council, Melanie Carmichael and the Executive Director of the National Trust, Mr. Frank Roulstone III were in attendance to lend their support.

Once again, we thank our donors, sponsors, bidders, attendees, Trust members, supporters and friends of Little Cayman for another spectacularly successful Easter Auction. And finally, to our volunteers without whom the Easter Auction could not happen and who give selflessly of their time and efforts throughout the year to advance the Trust's mission on Little Cayman, God Bless.



OUR HERITAGE NEEDS YOU!

Our community outreach, events, and fundraisers bring together generations. It is an opportunity for us to come together as a community to celebrate our precious natural and historical heritage and share in the experience of our culture and traditions. United, we protect what we love and make a positive impact on the preservation of what is special to the Cayman Islands for all to enjoy and experience.

The NTCI is grateful for the support of our community, members, donors, Government, and corporate sponsors. We all play an integral role in contributing to safeguarding our national treasures. Donations, sponsorship, and fundraising are fundamental to our work. As caretakers of vast ecosystems, local flora and fauna, areas of scenic beauty, places of historical significance, as well as, our natural, historical, and maritime heritage this is a vital undertaking of our mandate and National Trust Law that we cannot do without your support. We are proud of our responsibility for managing and caring for the protected areas in nature and historical sites that are a valuable part of our islands' heritage. Donations from passionate people like you and local businesses is the reason why today we are custodians of 11 heritage sites and 17 environmental sites across all three islands, protected in honour of past generations and for the benefit of present and future generations.

KEEPING OUR TRADITIONS ALIVE



SHARING OUR HERITAGE



UNCOVERING OUR HIDDEN HISTORY

This year saw the return of Temple University PHD candidate and archaeologist Elysia Petra, who came to the Grand Cayman for the second time to do a follow-up excavation of the Jackson's Wall Manor in Newlands. Ms. Petras, who served as the principal investigator was joined by project archaeologist Cara Tercsak for the exercise, which lasted 10 days.

Avid volunteers and community members shared their expertise as artefacts were uncovered, cleaned and cataloged. They participated in conducting systematic shovel testing (30 x 30 cm) across the site in 7-meter intervals and processing artifacts to aggregate data for the implementation of larger test units (1 x 1 meter). Detailed oral histories from visitors and volunteers with familial oral histories and descendant connections across the island provided a supplement to the vague historical documentation of the site and its activities and created a social atmosphere of camaraderie during excavations.

Residents and neighbours in the area shared photos and physical artefacts found on adjacent parcels, and invitations were also extended to hold excavations in their yards for the next field session.



Preliminary results of the 2024 field session are indicative of two separate occupations throughout the site. The first is characterised by the presence of various undecorated tin glazed earthenware sherds, agateware, various dipped wares and North Devon gravel tempered ware sherds, pointing to an occupation preceding the arrival of the Jackson's, dating back to the early to late eighteenth century, whilst the second is suggestive of the Jackson occupation and beyond; spanning from the late 18th to early 20th century.

Artefacts of special interest include numerous Afro-Caribbean Ware sherds and a section of a monkey jar handle. These were recovered primarily throughout the yard area of the site. Monkey Jars were used for water storage and could be transported by enslaved peoples to sites of labour. The monkey jar handle, coil constructed, shared morphological characteristics of other monkey jars recovered on Island and housed in the National Museum. Community member Betty Ebanks presented in the previous year a monkey jar gifted to her family in the early 20th century from Jamaica.



SAFEGUARDING THE SISTER ISLANDS' WILDLIFE

A little over a year ago the National Trust for the Cayman Islands was invited to join an existing Darwin Plus project by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the Cayman Islands Department of Environment (DoE). The project was focused on reducing the impacts of invasive species on the wildlife of the Sister Islands, and had lost its community outreach and engagement staffer. The RSPB and DoE wanted the decades of outreach experience and community understanding that the National Trust brought to the table.

Not only was the issue something that the NTCI was concerned with and working on independently, but this grant was an amazing opportunity for the Trust. It has allowed the Trust to have an employee based in the Sister Islands for the first time ever. This is crucial when considering the significant lands and historic properties the Trust owns in the Sister Islands. It gives support to our dedicated district committees on the Sister Islands.



The NTCI was also heavily involved in the writing of the grant that will continue the work in the Sister Islands. This grant will continue to partially fund our full-time employee on Cayman Brac, and will also help to fund an employee on Little Cayman for the first time in history. It is also allowing the Trust to network with others working on similar issues in other nations, training of Trust staff, and a chance to access new technology, all of which are necessary to tackle the invasive species issue in our Protected Areas on all three islands.



The project partners are committed to working with the communities of the Sister Islands, the long-term success of protecting the local wildlife depends on community support. This is especially true when dealing with the issue of invasive species, which by definition are introduced to the environment by people. This is why we are surveying the community to better understand the current attitudes on the issues, meeting with key stakeholders, using grant funds to support community members to trial solutions, and more.



While invasive species are one of many threats to our native species, they are one that we have the ability to control. The successes of the project can already be seen, with a massive increase in the success of Brown Booby nesting on the Brac and a sharp rise in Sister Island Rock Iguana survival on Little Cayman. Each community is different and will want different approaches to conservation, if we listen to the community, adapt, educate, and support them through behavioral changes, we can have long-term success reducing conflict between people and wildlife.

HELLO DOLLY!



The LCDNT formalised its wildlife rescue programme this year aimed at orphaned Red Footed Booby bird chicks. The Committee agreed to commit funds from its general operating budget for the care and feeding of orphaned chicks found and reached out for volunteers to help.

In the past 8 to 10 years, booby birds have begun nesting in the trees along the main road between the Trust House and the church in Blossom Village. This is a relatively recent phenomenon as in the past the colony nested exclusively on the north side of the Booby Pond where it is wild, isolated and undisturbed. Now that the birds have chosen to nest in the trees on the roadside, chicks that end up out of their nest on the ground are being found by visitors and island residents. If a chick cannot be returned to its nest, the choices are to leave it to die, euthanise it, or make an attempt to raise it and release it back into the wild.

The LCDNT has chosen to rescue these orphaned chicks and give them a chance. The greatest portion of the resources necessary to do this is the time and effort to care for the bird. This is done completely by volunteers and involves up to a 6 month commitment for boobies and over a year for frigates.

Providing food is a different matter and is not immaterial with the cost of food for a booby chick for 6 months approximately CI \$650 and for a frigate, double that for one year, \$1300.

Three chicks were found this year, two boobies and to our surprise a Magnificent Frigate bird or Man 'O War.

The first booby chick was found in early March. It had a broken right wing but was otherwise very healthy and strong. After consultation with DoE and veterinary experts it was decided to have the chick examined by a vet for their opinion on the best course. This was done and the vet decided that setting the wing was a viable option with a good chance of success. This was done, the wing did heal, and the bird is now at the stage where it is learning to fly. The bird was named Dolly.



The second chick found was Magnificent Frigate bird (Man O' War). It was found on Spot Bay Road also in March but not in the area where Booby chicks are found. It had walked an incredible distance from the main colony on the north side of the pond. It was healthy and had no injuries. It was impossible to find the nest from where it came so it was taken in. It has grown into an incredibly large juvenile and is now taking its first tentative flights. It was named Magpie.

The third chick found was a very tiny booby chick. When found its head was twisted around and it was feared its neck may be broken. Nonetheless it was taken in for observation and improved after hydration and feeding. It was determined that the neck issue may have been caused by a condition called wry neck, which is treatable in some circumstances. So the bird was kept and cared for for some weeks. Unfortunately it did not survive.

We have found that more likely than not healthy chicks simply do not fall from their nest. There is likely an reason why and their parents abandon them. They may be injured, sick, or otherwise not a perfect chick and has the law of the wild dictates are not worth the enormous expenditure of energy and resources by the parents to take a chance on. But we do have the ability and resources to treat, care for and raise marginal chicks with a reasonable chance of success. So we will do so.



PARADISE FOUND

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) hosted a special screening of *Paradise Found*, a documentary film, on 11th May 2024 at Camana Bay Cinema. The film is based on the autobiography of Brigitte Kassa *From Coffee To Champagne To Coconuts*. The film was directed by JV Hart, Produced by Stacy Frank, and Cinematography by Frans De Backer. *Paradise Found* tells the inspiring story of Brigitte Kassa, the oldest living resident in Little Cayman, who fled Germany during WWII, founded a popular disco in Monte Carlo, and found her paradise where she built her dream house in Little Cayman. Against all odds,” says JV Hart, Director of Paradise Found.

“Brigitte Kassa, a longtime resident of Little Cayman, is an avid supporter of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands. In particular, Mrs. Kassa has made generous contributions over the years that have helped with the purchase of ecologically significant habitats in Little Cayman. These special places in nature, rich in biodiversity, are protected for the benefit of all. Forever.” said Frank Roulstone, Executive Director of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands. “Brigitte found paradise in Little Cayman and has spent her life trying to keep it the paradise that it is,” said Mr. Roulstone, “Her pursuit of her dream should be an inspiration to us all.” said Mr. Roulstone.

Attendees had a marvelous time, at this one night only event in celebration of Brigitte Kassa and her extraordinary life story. Guests were welcomed with complimentary cocktails and canapes provided at Abacus restaurant. Followed by the private screening of the documentary with an engaging Q&A with the guest panel including Brigitte Kassa, Stacy Frank, JV Hart, Frans De Backer and Frank Roulstone. This event was sold out with 120 guests. Special thanks to event sponsors Southern Cross Club and Lionfish University.

The screening of *Paradise Found*, beautifully told the inspiring story of Brigitte Kassa and her deep love for Little Cayman. Mrs. Kassa, a long-time resident and founding member of the Little Cayman District Committee, has been an active and dedicated supporter of the National Trust. Her contributions include both monetary donations and hands-on involvement in various projects, such as the construction of the Gladys Howard Visitors Center. Her passion for conservation and the preservation of Little Cayman's unique environment is evident through her continuous efforts and generosity.

Over the years the National Trust for the Cayman Islands and Little Cayman District Committee have received incredible valuable support from Mrs. Kassa including a generous donation of USD \$200,000 in 2020. This donation funded the purchase of 17 acres of environmentally significant land in Little Cayman, which is crucial for the habitat of the Sister Islands Rock Iguana and may contain historic artifacts from the island's phosphate mining era in the late 1800s. The land acquisition expanded the contiguous protected area.

In 2021, The Little Cayman District Committee of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands also purchased a small piece of land in the Mahogany Bay/Phosphate Park area on Little Cayman, thanks to a USD \$39,000 donation from Mrs. Kassa. This land contains three ancient mahogany trees, significant landmarks believed to be hundreds of years old, and part of the National Trust's Explorer Passport for the Sister Islands. Despite extensive historical logging and phosphate mining on the island, these trees have survived.

Scan the QR Code to donate to the Land Reserve Fund.







INTO THE WILD

The Little Cayman District Committee is committed to preserving the natural beauty, special places, and creatures of Little Cayman, the smallest and least developed of the three Cayman Islands. There are many examples of flora and fauna found on Little Cayman that are unique to the island and some critically endangered.

SESUVIUM MARSH PURCHASE

In September 2023, the Little Cayman District Committee purchased a 14.4 acre parcel of land on Little Cayman in the Snipe Point area interior at the east end of the island. The parcel contains part of the Sesuvium marsh habitat, one of ten distinct habitats found on Little Cayman that were first listed by D.R. Stoddart following a joint Royal Society and C.I. Government scientific expedition to Little Cayman in 1975. Sesuvium marsh is the smallest of these habitats found on Little Cayman and only in this area.

As many will know, much of the Cayman Islands natural interior is covered in dense vegetation whether low scrub, mangrove forest, or dry woodland. Sesuvium marsh is one of the few naturally occurring open environments, other than water features, in the interior of these islands.

As part of the evaluation process the Executive Director of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands, Frank Roulstone, surveyed the parcel. No easy feat given the almost impenetrable cliff rock and thick bush filled with copious numbers of manchineel and poisonwood trees surrounding the area.

He commented of the open marsh, “I have never seen a place like this on Little Cayman or even in the Cayman Islands for that matter. I have heard about this area my whole life but only after talking with Patricia Bradley, who visited the area back in 1984, did I risk life and limb to see it for myself. It is most definitely a national treasure.”



The land was found to be in its pristine, natural state never disturbed by human activity. Indeed, very few people have ever ventured into the area given the extreme difficulty of hiking the surrounding terrain. It is dotted with small freshwater ponds which are important to resident and migratory birds as well as providing fresh water sources year-round for endemic Sister Islands Rock Iguanas. The commonly called Cayman Brac Cactus, *Harrisia caymanensis*, and Prickly Pear Tree, *Consoulea macracantha*, the former endemic and rare and the latter infrequent, were found on the parcel.

Little Cayman District Committee Chairperson, Gregory S. McTaggart said, "While direct access to the area is frightfully difficult, it is located relatively close to several roads and an elevated observation platform off of one of these roads could be considered in the future to provide National Trust members and the general public the opportunity to see this unique Little Cayman environment."



The purchase was made possible through a donation of US \$200,000 by National Trust member and longtime resident of Little Cayman Mrs. Brigitte Kassa and with the support and generosity of our annual Easter Auction donors and bidders. The 2021 and 2023 Easter Auctions were dedicated to raising money for the Little Cayman District Committee Land Fund.

The Little Cayman District Committee of the NTCI and The National Trust For The Cayman Islands sincerely thank Brigitte and our Easter Auction donors and bidders for their support and generosity in helping make this acquisition possible in order to preserve and protect this special natural environment of Little Cayman for present and future generations of Caymanians to experience and enjoy.



RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR GLADYS HOWARD VISITORS' CENTRE

The LCDNT took a big step this year in reducing its carbon footprint with the installation of a direct to solar powered mini split air conditioning unit and solar panels at the Gladys Howard Visitors' Centre. The unit replaces an old unit that had failed.



Big thanks to Solaris Construction Ltd and Robin Fite for making this technology available on Little Cayman at a competitive price. Currently there are no provisions by Brac Power, the island's electricity provider, for grid tie customer produced renewable power generation. So it was an all or nothing proposition for transitioning from fossil fuel produced electricity from the grid to renewable energy, requiring the building be taken off grid. This system is however completely independent of the building electrical with the solar panels directly connected to the AC unit. Of course this means the unit does not run at night or in cloudy conditions, but given the utilisation profile of the Trust House, this should not pose any significant problems.

It is expected that the unit will save between 40 and 45% on monthly utility bills and provide just over a 4 year payback on the cost of the unit and installation over simply replacing the old unit in kind. More importantly however it is calculated that the unit will reduce the carbon footprint of the Trust House by an estimated 2 to 3 tons of CO2 per annum.

Little Cayman District Committee officers for 2023/24; Chairman - Gregory S. McTaggart, Vice Chair - Richard Addlestone, Treasurer - Susan Howard, Co-Secretaries - Peter Hillenbrand and Faye Harrington



THE SUMMER OF HERITAGE



CAYMAN BRAC SUMMER CAMP

The National Trust held a summer camp in Cayman Brac in July 2023. Over 15 kids attended the summer camp which was held over a two-week period where campers experienced the adventure of conservation and cultural heritage discovery!

The aim of the summer camp was to ignite the camper's passion for nature and heritage while fostering a sense of stewardship for our planet. The camp offered daily themes, field trips to local sites, outdoor explorations, visits and interactive presentations by experts, live demonstrations of the arts, local traditions, and cooking.



Highlights of some of the activities: mangrove education, traditional Caymanian homes tour, thatch plaiting, rope making, tours of local farms, traditional games, storytelling, Rock iguana presentation, eco-art 'from trash to treasure', and turtle history.

A special thank you to Moses Kirkconnell for his kind sponsorship which provided snacks for the campers.

Due to the success of the Cayman Brac Summer Camp, another camp will be held for the youth of Cayman Brac in the summer of 2024.



NATIONAL TRUST YOUTH AMBASSADORS

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) is dedicated to safeguarding the nation's natural and historic heritage for future generations. Aside from unsustainable development, there is no greater threat to our heritage than climate change. The increasing frequency of stronger storms, rising sea levels, more frequent flooding, bleached coral reefs, heightened wildfire risks, and extreme heat threaten both the Cayman Islands' delicate ecosystems and its built heritage. The National Trust "protects the future of our heritage" and the future lies with the next generation. It is crucial that Cayman's youth understand the challenges they will face and are prepared to confront them.



In 2019, the NTCI took a proactive step by collaborating with the International National Trust Organization (INTO) to secure opportunities for young Caymanians to engage in global climate discussions at the annual Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings. Since then, INTO has generously donated passes, allowing the youth delegates to participate in these critical global forums. These young representatives have not only attended but have also led discussions, sitting alongside world leaders and addressing global audiences on issues that directly affect their future.

The impact of these opportunities has been profound. The youth delegates, affectionately known as our "COP kids," have impressed international audiences and have been recognized with prestigious awards and invitations to contribute to global dialogues. Following their participation in COPs, some have been nominated for international accolades, while others have taken on roles as presenters or moderators in webinars, further extending their influence and reach. This exposure has opened doors for these young leaders, enabling them to represent the Cayman Islands on the international stage, write for global publications, and even pursue careers within the government.

The successes of the COP kids are numerous and inspiring. Dejea Lyons received the



prestigious Princess Diana Legacy Award, and Bela Watler participated in an educational initiative in the Galapagos. Bella Rooney developed a climate education resource for local schools, while Steff McDermot led the Caribbean and Latin American contingent of "Sail for Climate Action." Dinara Pinera managed the Cayman Mangrove Rangers, Aleigha General became an author for the Climate Tracker newsletter, while Connor Childs joined the Sea Shepherds in Italy and participated in the Regional Conference of Youth for Caribbean young people.

This year, thanks to generous sponsorship by the Water Authority, CUC, Cayman National Bank, and Block.One, we were able to send four young Caymanians to COP28 in Dubai - Danielle Seales, Rickeem Lashley, Joshua McField, and Glory Nicholson. Dani, pursuing a master's in Marine Environmental Management, is working toward a career in sea turtle conservation. Rickeem, a lab technologist at the Water Authority with an MSc in Marine Systems and Policies, is focused on sustainable aquatic resource governance. Josh is studying Global Environmental Studies specializing in climate mitigation, particularly in relation to the Global South. Glory, earning a postgraduate degree in Conservation Biology, is interested in invasive species management. They were all incredible ambassadors for the Cayman Islands, prompting one person to ask what we put in our water to produce so many brilliant young minds!

Educating and empowering youth to understand the importance of preserving Cayman's natural and historic heritage is crucial for ensuring its protection. This initiative not only benefits the students but also positions the NTCI as a significant voice in the climate conversation. Through Nature-based Solutions (NbS), such as the preservation and restoration of ecosystems, the NTCI is at the forefront of climate action, playing a critical role in safeguarding the heritage of the Cayman Islands for future generations.

CAYMAN CLIMATE CURRICULUM

Climate change is exerting profound and far-reaching impacts on our environment affecting ecosystems, economies, and communities worldwide. One of the most visible consequences is the increase in extreme weather events. Locally, we are experiencing stronger hurricanes, flooding, hotter temperatures and this will intensify over time, causing more widespread destruction.

Climate Change education plays an essential role in empowering our youth to take meaningful action. As students become informed about sustainable practices and the importance of reducing carbon footprints, they are more likely to adopt eco-friendly habits and advocate for policies that promote environmental sustainability. Education can inspire innovation and solutions that address climate challenges. By fostering a culture of environmental stewardship, education can drive collective action towards a more sustainable and resilient future.



The National Trust observed significant disparities in climate science education across local schools. To address this, we sought funding to develop an easily accessible climate science curriculum for all local schools. We are incredibly grateful to have our Cayman Climate Curriculum project supported by RESEMBID and funded by the EU. The project aimed to enhance the Cayman Islands' capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change by improving understanding and protecting intact natural areas like coral reefs and mangroves, along with promoting increased usage of renewable energy.

The NTCI collaborated with public and private schools in Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac, incorporating classroom visits and an e-learning platform to provide engaging, locally-focused material. This initiative will better equip teachers and students to tackle future climate challenges. Initially, the pilot project was implemented in seven schools but will be available for use in all local schools and serve as a model for the region.

Bella Rooney was the lead on this project and has developed an online portal with engaging lesson plans, educational videos and resources accessible to all schools in the Cayman Islands.

Scan the QR Code to access the educational portal.



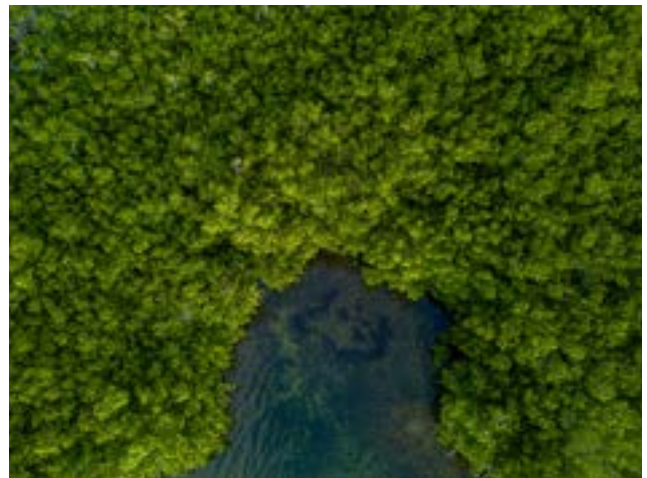
Climate Change Curriculum

Mission

To strengthen the resilience of the Cayman Islands and the Caribbean through a standardised educational climate science programme for primary and secondary schools. We aim to achieve this through our Climate Curriculum lessons and contextual case studies, along with advocating for further environmental protection, sustainable development and renewable energy.

Vision

Our hope through this pilot program is to provide contextual and climate-based resources to anyone and everyone interested in teaching or learning about the impacts of climate change on the Cayman Islands and beyond.



CAYMAN'S FIRST CLIMATE FAIR

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands hosted the inaugural Cayman Climate Fair on Saturday, June 15th, at the Prospect Playhouse. This event aimed to educate and empower the nation's youth about climate change, featuring explorations of climate science and its impact on the Cayman Islands.

Students from various schools across the islands participated enthusiastically, with 57 students competing in categories such as poster presentations, artwork, written word, and drama. The projects showcased the students' creativity and understanding of the effects of climate change on our islands. Over 110 people attended the fair, engaging with the exhibits and activities.



Winners from several schools, including Red Bay Primary School, St. Ignatius, Cayman International School, Clever Fish, East End Primary School, and Homeschool Cayman, were recognized. Other schools, like Cayman Prep and High School and Theoline McCoy Primary School, also attended, showing unity in the fight against climate change. Prizes for the top three students in both primary and high school divisions were donated by the Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency (MSCR).



Additionally, prizes for independent categories were provided by supportive local businesses and organizations, including EcoCay, Cayman Turtle Centre, Next Chapter, Plastic Free Cayman, Camana Bay, Bre Carle Studio, Mariner Surf Co., Sunset House Divers, Funky Monkey, 3 Girls and a Kiln, Art Nest, Ryde, Every Blooming Thing, Red Sail Sports, Cayman Kayaks, The Market Street Group, Parasailing Professionals, Happy Days Paddle & Coffee, Ambassadors of the Environment at The Ritz-Carlton Cayman, The Farm That Is, and The National Trust for the Cayman Islands. The judges for the competition included members of the MSCR, Senior Policy Advisor for Climate Resiliency Lisa Hurlston-McKenzie, Policy Advisor for Resiliency Morgan Golden-Ebanks, and Bella Rooney, Climate Education Officer at the National Trust for the Cayman Islands. Several governmental groups and NPOs also attended the event, including Sustainable Cayman, Plastic Free Cayman, Don't Pave Paradise, Protect Our Future, Hazard Management Cayman, the Department of the Environment, and the Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency.

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands extends its gratitude to our grant funders, RESEMBID, for their generous support in making this event possible.

GUARDIANS OF OUR WILDLIFE



CUSTODIANS OF NATURE RESERVES

CELEBRATING OUR BLUE IGUANAS



To celebrate International Blue Iguana Day (8th May), to raise awareness about the Grand Cayman Blue Iguanas, and highlight conservation successes, the National Trust for the Cayman Islands hosted renowned conservationist Ian Redmond for a week-long series of events and educational visits to local schools. His talks emphasized biodiversity, wildlife challenges, and the role of young people in conservation. With over 45 years of experience, Mr. Redmond is known for his work with great apes and elephants.

Throughout the week, Mr. Redmond visited several schools, sharing stories from his fieldwork and emphasizing the interconnectedness of all species. He praised the students' insightful questions and linked his adventures to the importance of the Blue Iguana in ecosystem health.

"It was a pleasure to speak to such a diverse range of audiences in a packed schedule - schools, government officials, local companies and the International Blue Iguana Day events. The more I learned about blue iguanas, the more parallels became apparent between their story and that of the mountain gorillas - passionate people averting imminent extinction through collaborative conservation action. And then to learn that ecologically, Blue Iguanas play a similar role to gorillas in the forest through seed dispersal and the nutrient cycle, was fascinating. Such different species acting as #GardenersoftheForest in their respective habitats with so many ecological links to other species! Save the keystone species and you save the whole ecosystem."- Ian Redmond, sharing on his experience in Grand Cayman.

Members of the National Trust hosted an intimate screening this week of 'Saving the Blues' a film produced by the Cayman Islands Government Office in the UK, and which first aired during London Climate Action Week 2023. A small group of 50 invited guests, who were also able to sample Blue Iguana gin cocktails during the evening, which included Her Excellency Governor Jane Owen, Deputy Premier Andre Ebanks and Minister of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency Katherine Ebanks-Wilks.



"Saving the Blues" chronicles the inspiring journey of Fred Burton, a young British scientist, who dedicated himself to the monumental task of saving the Blue Iguana, a virtually prehistoric creature endemic to Grand Cayman. The documentary highlights the critical conservation efforts led by Fred Burton, the Department of Environment, and the National Trust for the Cayman Islands, which resulted in the recovery of the Blue Iguana species from critically endangered to endangered status. Presented by Dr Tasha Ebanks Garcia, Representative to the UK for the Cayman Islands and featuring interviews with Fred Burton, team members from the Blue Iguana Conservation Facility, and global thought leaders, the film underscores the importance of preserving planetary species from a biodiversity perspective.

The Intimate Screening of "Saving the Blues" was a members-sponsored event with special thanks to Peter and Pat Cunningham, Ralph and Jennifer Woodford, David Carmichael, and Suzan Merren.

Over 300 attendees joined the "Blue Iguana Family Fun Day" at the Blue Iguana Conservation Facility and QEII Botanic Park, featuring tours, interactive booths, and a keynote by Ian Redmond. The event was supported by volunteers and sponsors, including The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman and Ambassadors of the Environment.

To end the week-long celebrations, a free public screening of the documentary was held at Andiamo at the Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman, with over 110 guests attending. The event included a lively Q&A session with Ian Redmond, Fred Burton, and Sangeeta Laudus, moderated by AJ McGovern.



PROTECTING WILDLIFE & NATURE



Collaboration

BIC collaborated with Cayman International School (CIS) to design and manufacture 3-D printed food trays for the Blue Iguanas. Over the past three years, through this partnership, CIS has designed trays which prevent the iguana's cut food plants from drying out quickly, thereby maintaining the freshness of the food. The project is going very well, and CIS students have delivered over fifty food trays each year to the Blue Iguana Conservation facility. The first two years involved developing and testing prototypes and the current design is ideal for the island's climate. We thank CIS for their continued support of BIC.

St. Matthew's University School of Veterinary Medicine

St. Matthew's University School of Veterinary Medicine continues their partnership with the Blue Iguana Conservation programme in volunteering their veterinary services and professional expertise by conducting a range of health checks on the iguanas, as well as advising on medical issues as they arise.

DARWIN Grant Work- Camera Trapping

The management and conservation of Cayman's protected areas, and our iconic Blue Iguana, continue with the assistance of the Cayman Islands Regiment and the Department of Environment. Each agency volunteered and helped in the laying out of the camera grid and retrieving all the cameras in the field, with St. Matthew's University School of Veterinary Medicine helping in data analysis. To date, the data highlights the threats of invasive species within the study areas, and we continue field monitoring and management of the protected areas.

The Herbarium

The Herbarium is both a plant library and museum, showcasing identified and preserved plants from the Cayman Islands. Currently, 415 native plant species are represented, including 21 endemic species and 8 endemic varieties. Our collection of over 1,100 plant specimens in 97 families was started by the late Dr. George Proctor, a specialist in West Indian plants and author of *Flora of the Cayman Islands*. Today, 75 percent of Cayman's wild plants are represented in the Herbarium, with new specimens added annually.

The herbarium and the botanical knowledge that it holds are useful to the local community while also acting as a resource for visiting scientists who use the collection to further scientific knowledge of our native plant species. In previous years, a team of British scientists working on the project "From Blue Iguanas to Blue Vervain" toured the herbarium as part of their research on safe-keeping endemic biodiversity while addressing invasive species. Gibraltar scientist Andrew Gdaniec also used the herbarium for his PhD research on our native and endemic species and donated a set of pressed cactus specimens to the collection. It's possible that we may have a new species of cactus identified from this study.

This year, new invasive agricultural pests were encountered. The *Genista* Giant-scale (*Crypticerya genistae*) insect feeds on the sap of plants, causing stunted growth, yellowing leaves, and eventually death of the plant. This insect is native to South America and was probably introduced to the Cayman Islands before 2006. Additionally, *Agrobacterium*, a genus of bacteria that causes tumors in plants, was found infecting our local Buttonwood. There is no known cure. Volunteer Herbarium Manager, Joanne Mercille, and volunteer Insect Collection Manager, Lonny Coote, raised the alarm with the Department of Agriculture who immediately began a public outreach and awareness campaign on these harmful species. We are indebted to these expert volunteers for sharing their knowledge!



Agrobacterium



Giant Scale

INSIDE THE WORLD OF INSECTS



Endemic Longhorn Beetle" © R. Tourle.

INSECT COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

Resident entomologists and National Trust volunteers, Lonny Coote and Robyn Tourle, continue to enhance the Trust's insect collection. Lonny added over 2,700 specimens, which tripled the size of the collection, including 78 families not previously represented. Several specimens were collected by other residents and donated to the Trust. Robyn has a wet collection mainly of ant specimens.

Collecting techniques included by hand, terrestrial and aquatic nets, leaf litter samples, and a variety of traps: Malaise, pan, pitfall, bait, incandescent light, and black light. A cooperative agreement with the Mosquito Research and Control Unit allows access to their New Jersey mosquito light trap samples. These samples have revealed many interesting species and new geographical distribution records.

THE CAYMAN ISLANDS NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTION

The Trust recently designated their animal and plant collections as the Cayman Islands Natural History Collection (CINHC). The CINHC is composed of insects, arachnids (including at least 50 new species of spiders), other invertebrates, the herbarium, bones, and fossils. The collection name is registered with the Insect and Spider Collections of the World Website at the Bishop Museum, Hawaii.

INSECT BIODIVERSITY

There are at least 260 families of insects in 20 orders known to be in the Cayman Islands. This includes at least 54 endemic species and 9 endemic subspecies not found anywhere else in the world. A little over half of the endemic species are beetles, and the rest are flies, bugs, bees, a moth, an antlion, and a walking stick. The endemic subspecies are two beetles, a fly, and four butterflies and two bugs.

The CINHC holds specimens from 191 of the 260 families known to be here, which equals 73% of the known fauna.

Robyn collected the first known records for the Cayman Islands of webspinners (Order Embioptera) and jumping bristletails (Order Archaeognatha). Lonny has done the same for angel insects (Order Zoraptera). These new geographical distribution records were confirmed by overseas experts. They may represent new species!

The Oxford University Expedition of 1938 to the Cayman Islands is well documented. Flora and fauna from all three islands were recorded. New endemic species of insects continue to be described from the 1938 material. For example: a leafcutter bee in 2003, a digger bee in 2014, and a cossid moth in 2020.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Robyn collected ant samples from several habitats on Grand Cayman over two winters and summers. She has identified approximately 43 ant species, of which 30% are non-native, including a few invasive species. She aims to devise an early detection system to avoid establishment of other non-native ant species. To this end, she is supported by Mr. Noel Tawatao (FERA, UK) and Ms. Jodey Peyton (UKOTCF). She presented her data at an online, UK Overseas Territory invasive ant workshop in November 2023, and will publish her data.

Lonny recently published an article in *The Fly Times* (Issue #72, pp. 41-49, 2024) entitled: "Flying in the Cayman Islands". This paper provided a list of the fly families known to be in the Cayman Islands, and a selected reference list of published papers that include Cayman Islands species of flies. He is also working on a paper about new records in Grand Cayman for hawkmoths, and one on a species of tiger moth currently recorded to be endemic only to Cuba.



"Leaf-footed Bug" © L. Coote.

OUR TREASURED TRADITIONS



OUR MEMORIES KEPT ALIVE



SHARING OUR TRADITIONS & HERITAGE

The West Marches On!

Year after year, the West Bay District Committee of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (WBDC/NT) marches on with renewed determination as its members continue to devote time and energy to progressing a number of its goals and projects.

Even though Celebrating Nurse Leila's Legacy on International Nurses Day on 12 May 2023, with the holding of an outdoor concert in the garden of Nurse Leila's House, was considered a roaring success because it had been enjoyed by young and old who had the opportunity to attend this free event, the WBDC/NT members did not rest on their laurels for very long. In fact, shortly after completing the formalities for its mandated AGM on 24 August 2023, they began planning activities reminiscent of those in which traditional Caymanians would have been engaged during the period leading up to Christmas. Foremost on that list of activities was the tradition of "backing sand". From the oldest to the youngest and many ages in between proudly hoisted their Silver Thatch ground baskets of varying sizes containing "clean white sand" which had been carefully gathered from the nearby beach and then walked through Henning Lane with its beautiful old traditional homes until the group arrived at Nurse Leila's House at 60 W. Church Street. There the real fun began - (not just for the youngsters but the young-at-heart) - with the emptying of baskets and placing of the sand in piles, after which it was "spread" in the little gardens neatly edged with conch shells in front of the House and then the finishing touch of gently sweeping the sand with a Rosemary broom, completed the task of getting the yard ready for Christmas.



With Christmas just around the corner, the WBDC/NT's in-house artists and decorators, Jacqui and Deirdre, put their creative talents to work and transformed the exterior of Nurse Leila's House into a lovely and inviting Christmas scene, worthy of appearing on a Christmas card!





The restoration of Nurse Leila's House has been carried out phase by phase over a period of years and after much dedicated effort and the support of many, this WBDC/NT's flagship project has reached the stage where we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. Hopefully, in the near future (aiming for Christmas or early in the New Year) the WBDC/NT will have put the finishing touches on the interior, including restroom facilities - and then, hurrah, we will be able to flip the switch to welcome the return of electrical power as well as once again being able to turn on the tap and hear the refreshing sound of water. Since thanks is given to the many who have over the years been contributing financially, physically and otherwise to this restoration process, the WBDC/NT looks forward to being able to welcome the public in due course to the official opening of Nurse Leila's House, 60 W. Church Street. Amongst those who have assisted with this project has been the Doctors Hospital, which is a fine healthcare institution, that gave a generous donation to the WBDC/NT for use towards the return of electrical service to the property and/or other necessary purposes to assist with ultimate completion of the restoration of Nurse Leila's House. This exciting partnership was initiated and arranged through the Marketing and Business Development Specialist (Chasya Dove) along with the Marketing Coordinator (Samantha Green) and the donation delivered on behalf of the Nursing and Midwifery Team (Chief Nurse and Director of Operations, Jennifer Williams) of Doctors Hospital to the WBDC/NT Chair and members of its Executive during Nurses' Week in May 2024.

In the first quarter of 2024 the WBDC/NT was reminded of the impact which its pre-Christmas "sand-backing" had on the wider community and general public when the WBDC/NT was approached by Ms. Taura Ebanks (Red Sky At Night - Caymanian Village Coordinator) on behalf of the Cayman National Cultural Foundation and invited to participate in the Red Sky At Night celebrations on 2 March 2024 by re-enacting at that event in the Caymanian Village on the Harquail Theatre grounds what the group had done at Nurse Leila's House shortly before Christmas 2023. The WBDC/NT core group therefore once again reached out to its faithful troops, and in collaboration with CNCF arranged for sand to be acquired and delivered to the Harquail grounds and on Saturday afternoon 2 March 2024 young and old dressed in their traditional garb, hoisted their Silver Thatch baskets filled with sand and with Rosemary broom in hand pantomimed the sand-backing, spreading of sand, setting out of conch shells bordering the yard which was swept with the Rosemary broom to the intriguing narration of Mrs. Arthulyn Pedley. As far as could be ascertained, everyone who witnessed this activity thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated it and suggested that there should be more such events to keep Cayman's traditions, culture, heritage and history alive.



With a new National Trust year upon us, the WBDC/NT will be putting significant focus on another of their District projects, namely, Uncle Sammy's Pond which, in collaboration with the Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resilience, it is proposed to carry out a concerted effort to develop this special and naturally blessed environment into a safe and peaceful place where not only the local flora and fauna will thrive (as well as those stopping at the Pond for a bit of rest on their flights to and from other climes) but members of the neighbourhood and wider community will be able to appreciate Uncle Sammy's Pond as a quiet, calm and refreshing sanctuary tucked away at the junction of the Mt. Pleasant Road and Meadow Avenue, West Bay. With God-given strength, courage and resources and everyone putting their shoulder to the wheel, we look forward to in the not-too-distant future being able to announce the opening of Uncle Sammy's Pond and Garden Sanctuary, Deo Volenti!



EXPLORING NORTH SIDE

North Side is proud to be home to many ongoing National Trust projects and creations. Of all the districts, North Side has the most land owned by the Trust; it has the island's only nature hike, the Mastic Trail; Grand Cayman's unique blue iguanas were brought back from the brink of extinction at the breeding and research centre at the Botanic Park; the Trust owns 5 acres on the edge of Malportas Pond, a vital refuge for a wide variety of migratory as well as resident birds. Not to forget the Botanic Park itself, partly owned by the Trust, a wonderful place to enjoy both native woodlands and the hundreds of colourful imported exotics which flourish in The Flower Gardens and around The Visitors Centre.

Work to expand these district offerings continues: construction of two large wooden bird hides on Malportas Pond should begin in late 2024. As these hides will be elevated, they should give bird-watchers unparalleled views of the pond's flocks of herons and egrets, plus dozens of other waterbirds and waders which frequent this largely unspoilt area. In addition, an update of the directory of the district's historic houses (pre 1950) will take place shortly. (Please see the Trust website for photographs and details of the old homes currently on the heritage list.)

In a bid to make native woodlands more interesting and accessible, two-hour native-tree identification courses started in the district in February 2024. These are held at the weekends, and so far have attracted over 35 residents, a mixture of expats (some teachers) and locals. Eliza Harford, who leads the tours in her North Side woodland garden, says: "The idea is to show people that it's not hard to identify a tree, if you have just one of two of its distinguishing features pointed out. I'm hoping these courses will, in a small way, help locals to love and appreciate the island's native trees. And with that love should come an awareness of how valuable and how beautiful our woodlands are, and a desire to protect them from the developer's bulldozer." She added: "I have had nothing but positive feedback on the courses so far, so I think we're heading in a good direction."

For more details on tree ID courses, email NorthSideDistrict@nationaltrust.org.ky

COOKING UP GOOD TIMES

Caymanian-Style Breakfast on the Caboose

Early in December, the National Trust Bodden Town District Committee hosted a Caymanian-Style breakfast cooked on the caboose.



This family-friendly event was a lively time of enjoying live music featured by Swanky Kitchen Band. Guests had a wonderful time mingling and having great conversations. Guests enjoyed complimentary tours of the historic Mission House, with Mr. Saunders.

The Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture, and Heritage had a booth encouraging guests to learn more about Cayman's culture, heritage and traditions.

Special thank you to Gold Sponsor Cayman National Bank and event sponsor AL Thompson. A heartfelt thank you to the dedicated volunteers and members of the NTCI Bodden Town District Committee for their hard work and dedication.



MR ARTHUR'S 7-11

Members of National Trust, along with the Bodden Family, including Truman Bodden, the National Trust George Town District Committee, and the Minister of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage dedicated a plaque to Mr. Arthur's store in George Town to commemorate the building's historic significance and the pioneering entrepreneurial spirit of the Bodden family's legacy.

The plaque observes the building as being of a particularly important historical distinction and designation, whilst the signage beneath the history of the store and the Bodden family.

The NTCI Historic Programme is tasked with protecting, promoting, and maintaining Cayman's built heritage and our plaque recognition initiative helps us to achieve this goal.

The NTCI also has an extensive database of traditional Caymanian homes in our Heritage Register, which keeps an inventory of these structures and assists us in determining their significance on a case-by-case basis, based on anecdotal evidence, prominence of persons who may have lived at a particular site and other important factors such as location, materials used in the building of the structure and its age.

There are over 300 traditional Cayman-style homes on the Heritage Register, spanning from Grand Cayman to the Sister Islands.

Scan the QR code to view our Heritage Registry





TOGETHER WE SAFEGUARD OUR NATIONAL TREASURES

INVESTING IN OUR ISLANDS

300+

HOUSES
ON THE HISTORIC
REGISTER



22

NATIONAL TRUST
SITES OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC



1,000+

BLUE IGUANAS
RELEASED INTO THE
WILD



3,500+

ACES OF LAND
PROTECTED FOREVER

THE VALUE OF OUR HERITAGE

Cayman's wild spaces and places of historical significance have intrinsic value for our islands' heritage. As you explore your National Trust sites across our three islands, you will have the privilege of experiencing the specialness of our homeland. These precious places are an integral part of our heritage and are protected in perpetuity for everyone. The preservation of our heritage honours our ancestors, as well as present and future generations.

Walk along the historic Mastic Trail and be surrounded by ancient forest and stunning flora and fauna as you traverse the Mastic Reserve protected area. This is a special place in nature, as the Mastic Reserve is the largest contiguous area of untouched, old-growth forest in Grand Cayman. Located in the rugged interior of central Grand Cayman, the Mastic Reserve still contains trees that were spared from the saws of the early settlers, allowing visitors to see how Caribbean forests once looked.

In addition, the Mastic Trail has an underlying historical element that is significant to our heritage. Over 100 years ago, William Steven Watler and his contemporaries completed the "Mastic Bridge," a causeway of mahogany logs and beach rocks across mangrove wetland at the southern end of the trail. The footpath became a major thoroughfare to reach farmland in North Side. As you hike the richly biodiverse trail today, keep in mind you are walking down a pathway that was used by our early settlers and therefore has great historical importance. After walking the trail, you will have a newfound respect for Cayman's early inhabitants!



The Booby Nature Reserve in Little Cayman is a sanctuary for the Red-footed Booby and other native wildlife. It covers 340 acres and was designated a Wetland of International Importance under the terms of the Ramsar Convention, an international treaty that designates wetlands of global significance.

The Brac Parrot Reserve encompasses 282 acres of contiguous protected land that is dominated by pristine, ancient dry forest on rough and rocky terrain. A great diversity of native trees support breeding pairs of the Cayman Brac Parrot (*Amazona leucocephala hesternae*) as well as other forest birds such as the Red-legged Thrush and White-crowned Pigeon ("Bald Pate"). In the winter months, the reserve can be filled with neotropical migrant songbirds, escaping cold northern climates. It also boasts a historic pathway that people used to travel across the top of the bluff which you can still walk today.



Places of historical interest allow us to maintain our connection to the past, reminisce over memories, share our traditions, and celebrate our heritage.

The Old Savannah Schoolhouse first opened its doors on September 12, 1940. Local craftsmen rallied together under the direction of Head Carpenter Will Wallace Bodden to build the airy one-room schoolhouse. Ironwood posts were used to support the building, which is constructed with walls of cement poured between the posts. The Old Savannah Schoolhouse served the community for 41 years.

Fort George was the first site protected by the National Trust in 1987 and is now 284 years old. This was made possible by a dedicated group of individuals who diligently worked hard to preserve what remains of Fort George today. The legacy of the National Trust is to continue to preserve places that are significant to our natural and historic heritage for current and future generations.





THE VALUE OF
NATIVE FAUNA



THE VALUE OF
NATIVE FLORA



THE VALUE OF
HERITAGE SITES



THE POWER OF THE DIGITAL ERA

The Digital Era allows us to connect easily with our members, both locally and internationally. Our social media platforms including Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn for both NTCI and BIC are vital portals to share content with our supporters. Our social media platforms continue to experience steady growth.

Below are four of our top-performing social media posts which celebrated our wildlife and historic heritage. Collectively, these posts had a reach of over 42,000 with more than 45,700 impressions which were profoundly liked, shared, and sparked positive engagement with our audience.

Great Southern White Butterfly

Have you noticed the beautiful clouds of white butterflies? They're called Great Southern White butterflies (*Ascia monuste*) and can be seen flying along roadsides, gardens, park areas, and even on beaches. Some years this species can be found in very large numbers, flitting across the roadways in clouds, almost like a snowstorm in the sunshine. Even though this is a migratory species found throughout the tropical Americas, the individuals that are part of these population explosions are probably residents. Take time to notice nature's beauty and appreciate the amazing natural heritage of our islands.

Mr. Arthur's 7-11 Shop Recognised as a Site of Historic Significance

Members of National Trust, along with the Bodden Family, including former Statesman Truman Bodden, the George Town District Committee, and the Minister for Heritage dedicated a plaque to the Bodden family at Mr Arthur's store in George Town to commemorate the building's historic significance and the pioneering entrepreneurial spirit of the Bodden family's legacy. The plaque observes the building as being of a particularly important historical distinction and designation, whilst the signage beneath tells the history of the store and the Bodden family.

A Flamingo Visits Malportas Pond

During the holiday season, December 2023, a flamingo stopped at Malportas Pond. It was a special moment for the bird-watching community and wildlife enthusiasts across our islands. This rare visit captivated the local community, with hundreds of spectators flocking to Malportas Pond to see the stunning flamingo and to capture a photo to remember this special wildlife moment. The flamingo even sparked a young student to sell "Flamingo-Aid" to help raise funds for the National Trust Land Reserve Fund to protect critical habitats such as Malportas Pond which provide sanctuaries for local and migratory wildlife.

Remembering The Fight To Save Fort George

On This Day In History: Thursday, January 11, 1972 (exactly 51 years ago), Fort George was rescued from certain demolition when a small number of caring citizens rallied bravely, standing their ground, in front of heavy equipment to prevent the certain loss of the almost 200-year-old fort, one of Cayman's few built heritage sites. Built in approximately 1790, three walls stand today, (approximately 223 years old) as one of the Cayman Islands' most significant historic landmarks.

Deeded to the National Trust in 1987, this was the first historic property that the newly formed National Trust for the Cayman Islands undertook to preserve and interpret.

Social Media Followers

Facebook (NTCI) 7.7K
Instagram (NTCI) 6.8K
LinkedIn (NTCI) 1.6K
Youtube (NTCI) 143

Facebook (BIC) 11K
Instagram (BIC) 2.8K

BAT STATS

A small brown bat is hanging upside down from a piece of light-colored, textured driftwood. The bat's wings are folded against its body, and its head is turned slightly towards the camera. The background is a soft-focus view of more driftwood.

40+

2023/24
INQUIRES

25

2022/23 BAT
EXCLUSIONS
COMPLETED

5

2023/24
BAT HOUSE
INSTALLS

1

EDUCATIONAL
BAT VIDEO
RELEASED

BAT COUNT IN LITTLE CAYMAN



There are nine species of bats in the Cayman Islands, each specialising in a different type of food and unique role in the ecosystem. Bats are extremely vulnerable to extinction because they bear only one pup (baby) each year and because they often live in large colonies that can easily be wiped out by one misguided or uninformed act. Pups are slow to mature and demand much maternal care and attention. As our only native mammal, bats are of vital importance to a balanced ecology in the Cayman Islands. They are considered a “keystone species” because plants that are dependent upon bats are vital to the survival of birds and other animals. Bats are a protected species in the Cayman Islands.

There are nine National Trust issued bat houses on Little Cayman. A population count had never been done for these houses so the LCDNT undertook to do just that in October 2023. Using the Department of the Environment’s instructions for counting, a group of intrepid Trust members and volunteers took their valuable time and braved heat, humidity, and blood thirsty mozzies at dusk to do the counts. Big ups to Joy, Enno, Peter, Maggi, Debbi, Bob, Ian, Meg, Tom, and Greg.

The final total was 2,496 bats. Each house was counted three times on three different evenings. The counts varied considerably from evening to evening and house to house with the highest number recorded of 710 bats at the Jackson’s Point beach house. The highest count for each house was considered representative of that house’s number of inhabitants. The average was 277 bats per house. We provided the data to the DoE and inputted it to their Epicollect online app.

We are not sure of the species of bat that live in the houses. We believe they are Velvety Free-tailed Bats. We have at least three species of bats on Little Cayman - Velvety Free-tailed, Big eared Bat, and Jamaican Fruit Bat.

The numbers seem healthy but we’ll let the experts confirm that. According to the internet insect eating bats can consume up to 1000 insects per hour. Velvety Free-tailed Bats and Big eared Bats are insectivores. So 2,496 bats eating 1000 insects per hour for say 3-1/2 hours per night is 8.7 million insects per night, every night. Bats are the only native mammal left on the Cayman Islands and are an incredibly important part of the Little Cayman ecosystem. We wonder what life would be like here with almost 9 million more flying insects around every night? Thank you little bats. Eat all you want!

BAT EXCLUSIONS AND HOUSES

Every autumn, the National Trust Team begins to prepare for “bat exclusion season”, which runs from November to June. As a licensed organization under the National Conservation Law, we begin coordinating a schedule to humanely relocate bats from our customers’ properties across the island. Last year we fielded over 40 inquiries from the public regarding bat exclusion work and carried out 25 jobs which is double the amount of jobs done in 2019/20!

In addition to bat exclusion services, the National Trust also sells bat houses for property owners to have installed. The Trust builds the bat houses using plans which utilize eco-friendly materials, weather proof fittings and maximize the space for large colonies of bats to take up residence. This year, two new bat houses were installed on behalf of a West Bay Strata and three others at individual home owners.

The Trust remains dedicated to promoting Cayman bat conservation through our education and outreach programmes and is thankful for the assistance of our supporters and partners.

For more information regarding bat exclusions or bat houses email: info@nationaltrust.org.ky





“BANKING ON A WILDER TOMORROW”

On Thursday, 14th September, the financial services Spectrum conference opened with the screening of the film “Save Our Wild Isles: Banking on a Wilder Tomorrow,” presented by the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI). This short film – created by Emmy® award-winning Silverback Films for WWF-UK, RSPB and the National Trust UK explores the relationship between our economic systems and biodiversity loss, while explaining the actions the financial services industry needs to take to reduce their impact. The film was introduced by the Hon. André Ebanks, Minister of Financial Services and Commerce, who stated that the financial services industry should support local conservation efforts in meeting their corporate ESG or NetZero commitments. National Trust representatives at the event included Melanie Carmichael (Council Chairperson), Frank Roulstone (Executive Director), Catherine Childs (Environmental Programmes Manager) and Bella Rooney (Climate Education Officer). The screening was followed by a panel discussion with experts in the financial services industry and environmental sector.

Melanie Carmichael stated, “The NTCI are very grateful to the organisers for providing us with the opportunity to be a part of the Spectrum conference. The Cayman Islands private sector provides thousands of jobs and its resources can make a huge difference both globally and locally. The film helped to highlight that through social impact, environmental sustainability efforts, corporate volunteerism, philanthropy, and more, positive businesses can be a force for good. NTCI are experienced in this space, and we hope that even greater partnerships can be forged for the benefit of current and future society whilst meeting good practice standards in creating new green finance careers and assets.”

This short film – created by Emmy® award-winning Silverback Films for WWF-UK, RSPB and the National Trust UK

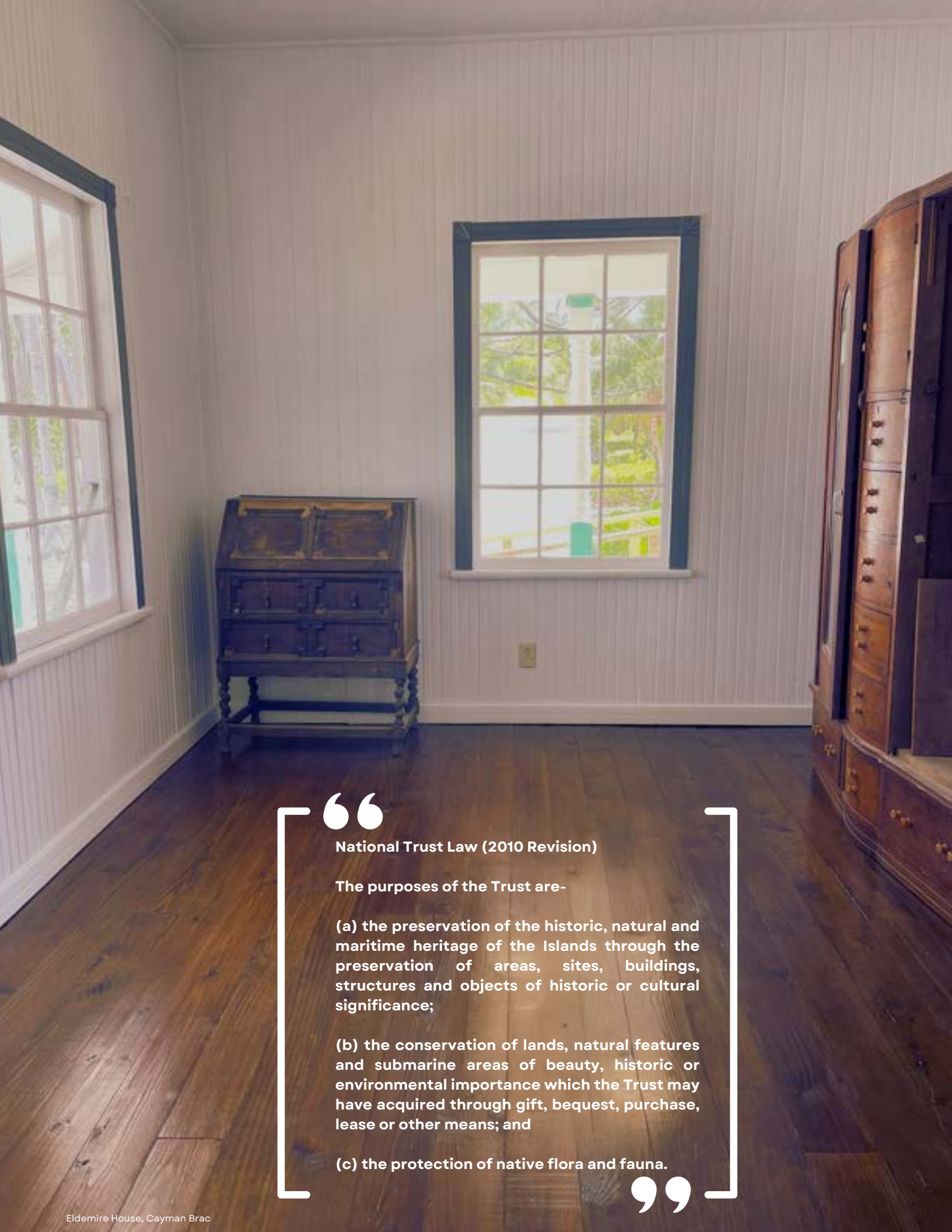
The financial services industry has an important role to play in addressing the nature crisis. There is a clear risk to investments and supply chains if nature is negatively impacted and its services are lost. We are already seeing that farmers in the US must now pay to have bees trucked in to pollinate their crops. Countries around the world are beginning to regulate markets to incentivize positive change. Cayman’s financial services industry has the opportunity to lead the world in managing green investments to create a new economic system which works for people and the planet.

There are simple actions that companies can take to help create a more sustainable future including greening their investments, pledging to support the conservation of ecologically significant habitats, offsetting their carbon footprint through local mangrove protection, and more. Contact the National Trust for the Cayman Islands to discuss ways you can help to support conservation.



Scan QR Code to watch the film on YouTube.





“

National Trust Law (2010 Revision)

The purposes of the Trust are-

(a) the preservation of the historic, natural and maritime heritage of the Islands through the preservation of areas, sites, buildings, structures and objects of historic or cultural significance;

(b) the conservation of lands, natural features and submarine areas of beauty, historic or environmental importance which the Trust may have acquired through gift, bequest, purchase, lease or other means; and

(c) the protection of native flora and fauna.

”

THANK YOU TO OUR COUNCIL 2023-2024

Melanie Carmichael
Alice Mae Coe
Peter Davey
Dan Peterson
Nigel Smith

Chairperson
Vice-Chair
Secretary
Treasurer
Legal

District Committee Chairs

Shane Edwards
Alice Mae Coe
Greg McTaggart
Suzan Merren
Eliza Strachan
Jenna Grant
Robert Wood

East End
West Bay
Little Cayman
George Town
North Side
Cayman Brac
Bodden Town

Fred Burton
Tabitha Crowley
Emily DeCou
Mike Gibbs
Chris Luijten
Arthurlyn Pedley
Laura Powery Egglshaw
Jordan Rivers
Candy Wicker

General Elected Council
General Elected Council
General Elected Council
General Elected Council
General Elected Council
General Elected Council
General Elected Council
General Elected Council
General Elected Council

Clive Baker
Hannah Reid-Ford
Ashley Amador-Rankine

Govt. Rep for Education
Govt. Rep for Environment
Govt. Rep for Tourism

NTCI STAFF 2023-2024

Frank Roulstone
Andrew Galbraith
Nicole Best
Laura Butz
Stuart Wilson
Catherine Childs
Bella Rooney
AJ McGovern
Mario Whorms
Alex Flores
Annette Gunn
Joesph Jamieson
Peri Smalldon
Dillen Douglas
Kyvon Robinson
Daury Martinez

Executive Director
Finance Manager
Membership & Tours Manager
Marketing Manager
Historic Programme Manager
Environmental Programme Manager
Climate Education Officer
Environmental Policy & Development Officer
Front Desk
Community Engagement Officer, Sister Islands
BIC Operations Manager
BIC Assistant Manager
BIC Warden
BIC Warden
BIC Warden
BIC Warden





NTCI STAFF WITH H.E. GOVERNOR JANE OWEN



RSPB VISIT



CAYMAN BRAC AGRICULTURE FAIR



BLUE IGUANA CONSERVATION TEAM WITH YOUTH VOLUNTEERS



CAYMAN BRAC SUMMER CAMP



INVENTORY TRIP TO LITTLE CAYMAN



WWW.NATIONALTRUST.ORG.KY

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members and Council of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands

We have audited the financial statements of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (the "Trust"), which comprise the balance sheets as at June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the *Bases for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust as at June 30, 2024 and 2023, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("US GAAP").

This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for the Trust's members and council as a body and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come, save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Bases for Qualified Opinion

Donations and fund-raising income include transactions which are settled in cash being collected. It is common for charitable organizations to receive income in cash, however inherent limitations can be imposed on the audit trail where transactions are settled in cash, including absence of documented records about the source and purpose of the transaction, and whether the transaction is complete or accurate. These restrictions impose a limitation of scope, and we are unable to determine whether cash-based income received directly by the Trust are complete, accurate or appropriately accounted for. Our audit report is qualified in respect of this matter.

The Trust holds certain non-cash donated assets, including assets received in prior years, for which fair value determinations at the time of donation were either not performed or not supported by sufficient documentation. These assets amount to CI\$3,020,339 (2023: KYD3,020,339) out of US\$13,575,533 (2023: 13,149,149). US GAAP require that such assets be initially recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Furthermore, the Trust has not performed impairment assessments on these assets as required by US GAAP, and no evaluation was made to determine whether events or changes in circumstances indicate that the assets may not be recoverable. Consequently, we were unable to determine whether adjustments might be necessary to the carrying amounts of these assets or related disclosures.

The Trust does not maintain an adequate audit trail or sufficient appropriate evidence to support the classification of transactions and balances between unrestricted, temporarily restricted, and permanently restricted in the financial statements. As a result, we were unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to determine whether the classification of net assets and related activities is appropriate.

Consequently, we were unable to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary in respect of the net assets, revenue, and expenses presented by restriction classification for the year ended June 30, 2024.

We conducted our audits in accordance with International Standards on Auditing ("ISA"). 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 Company in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)*, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.



Bases for Qualified Opinion (continued)

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with US GAAP, and for such internal control as management determines 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, management is responsible for assessing the Trust'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 management either intends to liquidate the Trust or cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Trust's financial reporting process.

Auditor's 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 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audits.

Grant Thornton (Cayman) LLP

George Town
Grand Cayman
May 7, 2025

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
BALANCE SHEETS
AS AT JUNE 30, 2024

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

	Note	Unrestricted 2024 CIS	Temporarily Restricted 2024 CIS	Permanently Restricted 2024 CIS	Total 2024 CIS
ASSETS					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	3	905,966	1,097,840	-	2,003,806
Accounts receivable		55,720	-	-	55,720
Inventory		37,499	-	-	37,499
Prepaid expenses and other assets		37,605	-	-	37,605
		<u>1,036,790</u>	<u>1,097,840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,134,630</u>
Non-current assets					
Fixed assets	4	240,370	-	-	240,370
Heritage properties	5	3,781,916	-	9,793,617	13,575,533
		<u>4,022,286</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,793,617</u>	<u>13,815,903</u>
Total Assets		CIS 5,059,076	CIS 1,097,840	CIS 9,793,617	CIS 15,950,533
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable and accrued expense		(110,829)	-	-	(110,829)
Total Liabilities		(110,830)	-	-	(110,830)
NET ASSETS		CIS 4,948,247	CIS 1,097,840	CIS 9,793,617	CIS 15,839,704

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Authorized and approved for issue on behalf of the Board:

Ashvin Murugesu
Chairman

May 7, 2025
Date

Frank Roulstone
Executive Member

May 7, 2025
Date

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
BALANCE SHEETS (continued)
AS AT JUNE 30, 2023

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

		Unrestricted	Temporarily	Permanently	Total
	Note	2023	Restricted	Restricted	2023
		CIS	2023	2023	CIS
			CIS	CIS	
ASSETS					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	3	835,251	1,159,661	-	1,994,912
Accounts receivable		23,291	-	-	23,291
Inventory		25,757	-	-	25,757
Prepaid expenses and other assets		42,210	-	-	42,210
		<u>926,509</u>	<u>1,159,661</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,086,170</u>
Non-current assets					
Fixed assets	4	275,257	-	-	275,257
Heritage properties	5	3,781,866	-	9,367,283	13,149,149
Capital work-in-progress	5	-	-	34,800	34,800
		<u>4,057,123</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,402,083</u>	<u>13,459,206</u>
Total Assets		CIS 4,983,632	CIS 1,159,661	CIS 9,402,083	CIS 15,545,376
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable and accrued expense					
		<u>(73,840)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(73,840)</u>
Total Liabilities		(73,840)	-	-	(73,840)
NET ASSETS		CIS 4,909,792	CIS 1,159,661	CIS 9,402,083	CIS 15,471,536

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

		Unrestricted	Temporarily	Permanently	Total
		2024	Restricted	Restricted	2024
Note		CIS	2024	2024	CIS
		CIS	CIS	CIS	CIS
Revenue and support					
		570,000	-	-	570,000
		-	265,714	-	265,714
		200,662	298,881	-	499,543
		48,667	53,150	-	101,817
		44,360	-	-	44,360
		21,780	-	-	21,780
		156,244	-	-	156,244
		59,622	-	-	59,622
		5,976	-	-	5,976
		27,652	-	-	27,652
	Total revenue and support	1,134,963	617,745	-	1,752,708
Expenses					
Programme service expenses					
		302,208	-	-	302,208
		117,195	-	-	117,195
		204	-	-	204
		419,607	-	-	419,607
Support service expenses					
		631,796	219,193	-	850,989
		11,307	-	-	11,307
		52,812	-	-	52,812
		16,575	-	-	16,575
		33,250	-	-	33,250
		745,740	219,193	-	964,933
	Total expenses	1,165,347	219,193	-	1,384,540
	(Decrease) Increase in net assets	(30,384)	398,552	-	368,168
	Net assets, beginning of year	4,909,792	1,159,661	9,402,083	15,471,536
	Net transfer between funds	68,839	(460,373)	391,534	-
	Net assets, end of year	CIS 4,948,247	CIS 1,097,840	CIS 9,793,617	CIS 15,839,704

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

		Unrestricted	Temporarily	Permanently	
		2023	Restricted	Restricted	Total
Note		CIS	2023	2023	2023
		CIS	CIS	CIS	CIS
Revenue and support					
Government grants		570,000	-	-	570,000
Independent grants		-	317,069	-	317,069
Donations, donated goods and services		173,135	49,734	-	222,869
Fundraising events		121,145	64,187	-	185,332
Product sales to the public		20,129	-	-	20,129
Membership dues - individuals		22,947	-	-	22,947
Tours		84,481	-	-	84,481
Membership dues - corporate		17,000	-	-	17,000
Interest income		3,780	83	-	3,863
Total revenue and support		1,012,617	431,073	-	1,443,690
Expenses					
Programme service expenses					
Environmental preservation		369,410	37,230	-	406,640
Historic preservation		109,883	-	-	109,883
Educational programmes		25,117	-	-	25,117
		504,410	37,230	-	541,640
Support service expenses					
Operating and administration		428,697	23,925	-	452,622
Cost of sales to the public		13,720	-	-	13,720
Depreciation of fixed assets		47,374	-	-	47,374
Cost of fundraising events		91,613	-	-	91,613
Pension	7	23,724	-	-	23,724
		605,128	23,925	-	629,053
Total expenses		1,109,538	61,155	-	1,170,693
(Decrease) Increase in net assets		(96,921)	369,918	-	272,997
Net assets, beginning of year		4,405,741	1,425,515	9,367,283	15,198,539
Net transfer between funds		600,972	(635,772)	34,800	-
Net assets, end of year	5, 6	CIS 4,909,792	CIS 1,159,661	CIS 9,402,083	CIS 15,471,536

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

	2024 CIS	2023 CIS
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Increase in net assets	368,168	272,997
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation of fixed assets	52,812	47,374
Bad debt	16,875	(125)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(32,429)	38,699
Inventory	(11,742)	(1,159)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	4,605	2,120
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	36,989	(79,068)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>435,278</u>	<u>280,838</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of heritage properties	(426,384)	(370,008)
Purchase of Furniture, computers	-	(96,531)
Payment made for capital work-in-progress	-	(34,800)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(426,384)</u>	<u>(501,339)</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	8,894	(220,501)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, beginning of year	<u>1,994,912</u>	<u>2,215,413</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, end of year	<u>CIS 2,003,806</u>	<u>CIS 1,994,912</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

1. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands (the "Trust") was formed on September 14, 1987 by the enactment of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands Act, 1987 (the "Trust Act").

The purpose of the Trust is the preservation of the historic, natural and maritime heritage of the Cayman Islands, the conservation of lands, natural features and submarine areas of beauty with historic or environmental importance and the protection of native flora and fauna.

The Trust plays a vital role in assisting the Cayman Islands Government in meeting its international and domestic obligations under various treaties and conventions designed to conserve the environment. These treaties and conventions require the establishment and maintenance of a system of protected areas in order to safeguard the country's biodiversity. The Trust has been responsible for the majority of the progress in the area of terrestrial conservation over the last decade. The substantial contribution that the Trust makes would otherwise fall on Government at considerably greater cost.

These treaties and conventions encompass the September 2001 Environment Charter signed by the Cayman Islands Government and the United Kingdom; the Convention on Biological Diversity ("Rio Convention"); the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance ("Ramsar Convention"); the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife protocol to the Cartagena Convention ("SPAW Protocol"); and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals ("Bonn Convention").

The registered office of the Trust is P.O. Box 31116, George Town, Grand Cayman KY1-1205, Cayman Islands. The Trust has 16 employees at June 30, 2024 (2023: 17).

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and specifically follow the recommendations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board Codification Topic 958, Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations ("ASC 958"). Under ASC 958, the Trust is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. The significant accounting policies followed by the Trust are summarized below.

Net assets, revenues, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, the net assets of the Trust and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Unrestricted net assets

Net assets that are not subject to any donor-imposed stipulations.

Temporarily restricted net assets

Net assets subject to donor-imposed restrictions on their use may be met either by actions of the Trust or the passage of time.

Permanently restricted net assets

Net assets subject to donor-imposed or other legal restrictions requires that the principal be maintained permanently by the Trust. Generally, the donors permit the Trust to use all or part of the income earned for either: general or donor-specified purposes. Any property acquired by the Trust by any means, which is eligible for placement on the Heritage Register under the by-laws of the Trust, may be declared inalienable by the Council.

Movement in net assets

It is possible to have transfers from unrestricted net assets to ensure sufficient monies available for temporarily restricted projects or permanently restricted net assets and movements to the unrestricted net assets from surplus of temporarily restricted net assets for specific projects. As per note 6 any transfers from temporarily restricted to permanently restricted are made through the unrestricted net assets.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. While management believes that the amounts included in the financial statements reflect the Trust's best estimates and assumptions, actual results could differ from these estimates.

Revenue and expenses

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting whereby revenue is recognized when earned (for fundraising events, product sales to the public, tours and interest income) and expenses are recognized when incurred with the exception of membership dues, donations, independent and government grants, which are recorded in the period in which they are received.

Government and Independent grants

Government grants are received from the Cayman Islands Government for financial support on a quarterly basis and are recorded when received. Independent grants are ones from the public and are recognized when received and related to conditions met. Grants may also be received for special projects, and these are matched with project expenditure over the term of the project and recorded in the unrestricted fund balance of the statement of activities when the expenditure is incurred.

Donated materials and services

A number of unpaid volunteers make significant contributions of their time and resources to manage and carry out the Trust's activities. The value of these contributions is not reflected in these financial statements when they are not susceptible to objective measurement or valuation. In addition, the Trust has received certain goods and services as donations. The value of these donated goods and services are reflected in the financial statements at their estimated value at the date of receipt, with the exception of audit fees for which services are donated. The estimated cost of the donated audit services for the year ended June 30, 2024 is CI\$ nil (2023: CI\$ nil).

Programme services

Amounts related to specific programmes of the Trust represent the related revenue and expenditure to the specific programmes so that the activity of each individual programme can be more closely monitored by the council. Such revenues and expenses are recorded on an accrual basis and recognized when incurred.

Pension and other post-retirement benefits

Pension and other post-retirement benefits are recorded on an accrual basis based on the contribution rate.

Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value under the first-in first-out method. Goods purchased for resale are recorded at cost. Contributed inventories are recorded at their estimated value at the date of receipt.

Fixed assets

Fixed assets are recorded at cost, or if donated, the approximate cost value at the date of the donation, and depreciated by the straight line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Assets	Estimated Useful Lives
Mission house, trust house and visitor's Centre, BIC Cabana facility	20 Years
Iguana captive breeding facility, BIC Nursery Facility	10 Years
Fixtures	5 Years
Vehicles	5 Years
Office equipment, Software	3 Years

NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Heritage properties

The Trust owns certain properties, which have been acquired by gift or purchase, and are important to the Trust in carrying out its historic and environmental preservation programmes. The Trust includes in its assets the cost or appraised value at the date of the acquisition of those heritage properties and does not review these properties for possible impairment. Therefore, no annual subsequent annual impairment review is completed. The Trust is precluded from selling or pledging these properties as securities for borrowings.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of current accounts, a money market fund account, a term deposit and petty cash, which are held with reputable financial institutions in the Cayman Islands. The Trust considers all highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, when acquired, to be cash and cash equivalents.

Foreign exchange

Revenue and expense transactions involving currencies other than Cayman Islands dollars ("CIS") are translated at the exchange rates ruling at the time of those transactions. Assets and liabilities included in these financial statements are translated to Cayman Islands dollars at the rates of exchange prevailing at the balance sheet date. Gains and losses on exchange, if any, are taken to the statement of activities.

Taxation

There is no tax on income, profits or capital gains in the Cayman Islands, accordingly no provision for such taxes is made in these financial statements.

3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2024 CIS	2023 CIS
Current accounts	1,816,706	1,813,394
Money market fund	107,522	102,469
Term deposit	77,765	76,912
Petty cash	1,813	2,137
	CIS 2,003,806	CIS 1,994,912

The effective interest rate on the term deposit is 1.10% (2023: 1.10%) per annum.

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4. FIXED ASSETS

Particulars	Tangible Assets								Intangible Asset	Total CIS
	Mission House Trust house & Visitors centre CIS	Fixtures & Fittings CIS	Vehicles CIS	Iguana captive breeding facility CIS	BIC Nursery Facility CIS	BIC Cabana Facility CIS	Governor Gores Boardwalk CIS	Computer Equipment CIS	Software CIS	
Cost										
Balance at beginning of year	618,469	259,060	85,633	184,283	72,837	71,362	11,000	7,164	30,000	1,339,808
Additions	-	8,483	-	-	-	-	-	575	14,600	23,658
Transfer from Capital WIP from prior year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjustment**	-	-	(5,733)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	618,469	267,543	79,900	184,283	72,837	71,362	11,000	7,739	44,600	1,363,466
Accumulated depreciation										
Billed	545,116	250,776	57,007	184,283	10,149	3,942	2,996	3,531	6,751	1,064,551
Depreciation for the year	17,822	5,033	4,630	-	7,284	3,568	1,100	2,428	10,947	52,812
Dep on Disposed Asset	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	562,938	255,809	61,637	184,283	17,433	7,510	4,096	5,959	17,698	1,117,363
Net book value - 2024	55,531	11,734	18,263	-	55,404	63,852	6,904	1,780	26,902	240,370
Net book value - 2023	73,353	8,284	28,626	-	62,688	67,420	8,004	3,633	23,249	275,257

**During the year ended June 30, 2024, the Trust received a refund of previously paid stamp duty amounting to CI\$5,733 relating to a vehicle acquired in the prior year. The refund arose after the Trust was determined to be exempt from the stamp duty. As the stamp duty had originally been capitalized as part of the asset's cost, the refund has been accounted for as a reduction in the carrying amount of the related fixed asset.

This adjustment has been presented in the fixed assets movement schedule as a cost adjustment.

The Trust has been at its present location at 558A South Church Street located on Crown Land in George Town since July 2006. The major expenses for the upkeep of this building are met by the Government. The estimated fair value of the original donated house and expenses incurred in bringing the house to operational use were capitalized as a fixed asset during the year ended August 31, 1990. Currently the Trust is not charged a monthly rent for use of the property.

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5. HERITAGE PROPERTIES

	2024 CIS	2023 CIS
Cost:		
Balance at beginning of year	13,149,149	12,779,141
Purchased additions	426,384	370,008
	<u>CIS 13,575,533</u>	<u>CIS 13,149,149</u>

During the year ended June 30, 2024, the Trust purchased one property (2023: two properties) of land in Little Cayman for a total of C\$370,784. In 2023, land located north of the Mastic Reserve was purchased for C\$70,000 and at the Governor Gore Bird Sanctuary for C\$300,008.

The Trust holds permanently restricted heritage property, Eldemire House at Cayman Brac. During the year ended June 2024, the Trust completed its undertaken renovation project at Eldemire House, which started in 2023 and whose incurred cost was C\$34,800. An additional cost of C\$ 20,800 was incurred as of 2024 totaling a total cost of C\$ 55,600. The trust has now disclosed these under permanently restricted net assets in the Balance sheets.

As of June 30, 2012, the Trust classifies its Land and Heritage properties as permanently restricted based on whether the land is inalienable. Based on this definition, certain heritage properties along with the respective land may be reclassified from unrestricted to permanently restricted, resulting in a transfer through the statement of activities. During the year ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 there were no transfers.

Unrestricted heritage properties comprise:	2024 CIS	2023 CIS
The Mastic Reserve – Grand Cayman	870,000	870,000
The Central Mangrove Wetland – Grand Cayman	650,884	650,884
Uncle Sammy's Pond – Grand Cayman	315,000	315,000
Salt Rocks Trail – Little Cayman	309,960	309,960
The Governor Gore Bird Sanctuary – Grand Cayman	223,862	223,862
Dr. Roy's Ironshore – Grand Cayman	178,252	178,252
LWC (Little Cayman West) 77A16	164,000	164,000
Nurse Leila's House – Grand Cayman	142,000	142,000
The Marshes – Cayman Brac	125,000	125,000
Malportas Pond – Grand Cayman	100,000	100,000
Mahogany Bay – Little Cayman	79,980	79,980
Midland Purchase (Botanic Park parcel area)	75,000	75,000
Land Mastic Forest 54A 69 – Grand Cayman	70,000	70,000
The Mass Grave Site – Cayman Brac	66,000	66,000
Woodlands – Little Cayman	45,974	45,974
Little Cayman Land Block 77A 154	32,058	32,058
Jackson's Wall – Grand Cayman	20,248	20,248
Bluff Land – Cayman Brac	8,640	8,640
Miss Izzy's Schoolhouse – Grand Cayman	5,050	5,000
Land Block 28B Parcel 68	300,008	300,008
	<u>CIS 3,781,916</u>	<u>CIS 3,781,866</u>

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5. HERITAGE PROPERTIES (continued)

Restricted heritage properties and the permanently restricted net assets comprise of the following:

	2024 CIS	2023 CIS
The Mastic Reserve – Grand Cayman	2,337,215	2,337,215
The Salina Reserve – Grand Cayman	1,315,440	1,315,440
The Booby Pond Nature Reserve – Little Cayman	1,232,424	1,232,424
The Brac Parrot Reserve – Cayman Brac	1,177,931	1,177,931
The Central Mangrove Wetland – Grand Cayman	847,116	847,116
Preston Bay – Little Cayman	800,000	800,000
Central Forest Land – Little Cayman	676,500	676,500
Brac Splits – Cayman Brac	200,710	200,710
Duck Pond – Grand Cayman	200,000	200,000
Booby Pond Nature Reserve – Little Cayman	180,400	180,400
Eldemire House – Cayman Brac	215,500	159,900
Heritage Beach – Grand Cayman	84,647	84,647
The Mission House – Grand Cayman	70,000	70,000
The Queen Elizabeth II Park – Grand Cayman	45,000	45,000
Fort George – Grand Cayman	30,000	30,000
The Bodden Town Guard House – Grand Cayman	10,000	10,000
Little Cayman Raw Land	370,734	-
	CIS 9,793,617	CIS 9,367,283

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6. TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

The Trust designates certain donations or financed assets as temporarily restricted, which are those earmarked for specific Trust projects or ventures as stipulated by the donor. If a fundraising event or donation is earmarked for a project or purpose (i.e. land acquisition) then the income received is allocated to the respective temporary restricted account. This allows the Trust to track amounts that have a designated purpose. Any money disbursed for the related purpose is expensed under the respective programme or support service cost.

However, if a fixed asset is purchased using temporarily restricted funds, the amount transfers to unrestricted. Furthermore, land that has not been declared inalienable is considered unrestricted therefore, any acquisition of land using temporarily restricted funds is recorded as a transfer to unrestricted until the Council passes a resolution to declare the land inalienable where a subsequent transfer from unrestricted to permanently restricted would occur.

The Trust's temporarily restricted funds comprise:

	2024 CIS	2023 CIS
Little Cayman	206,595	374,951
Land Reserves Fund	541,850	259,979
Independent Grants	1,088	168,143
EPF	153,827	153,827
Cayman Brac	79,998	72,993
Nurse Leila's House	38,155	33,155
Magic reef recovery funds	20,040	20,040
Historic Properties	7,469	19,949
Education center funds	12,611	12,611
West Bay	12,788	10,728
George Town DC	9,166	9,166
Miss Izzie's Schoolhouse	5,821	5,821
Bodden Town DC	2,140	5,140
Eldemire House	-	4,920
Heritage beach	2,336	2,650
Wes Emmanuel fund	358	1,990
North side DC	1,800	1,800
East end DC	1,798	1,798
	CIS 1,097,840	CIS 1,159,661

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7. PENSION SCHEME

The Trust participates in the Colonial Master Deed Cayman Islands Pension Plan, previously known as the Colonial Private Trust Pension Plan, a defined contribution pension fund. Cayman Islands law requires all employees to participate in a pension scheme. The Trust is required to match each employee's contributions on a one to one basis up to 5% of the employee's annual salary. During the year ended June 30, 2024, the Trust contributed CI\$33,250 (2023: CI\$23,724) for all employees.

8. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Trust leases certain properties under operating leases. In 1991 the Trust entered into a lease on land used for the Old Savannah School House. The annual commitment is CI\$1 and the duration of the lease is 99 years.

9. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Fair Value

At June 30, 2024 and 2023, the following methods and assumptions were used by management to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instruments:

(a) Cash and cash equivalents

The carrying amount approximates fair value.

(b) Accounts receivable and accounts payable

The above items are substantially short term, and do not bear interest. As such, their carrying amount approximates their fair value.

Credit risk

The Trust is party to financial instruments with concentration of credit risk in the normal course of business. Credit risk arises from the failure of the counterparties to perform according to the terms of a contract. To minimize this risk, the Trust's cash and cash equivalents are on deposit with reputable financial institutions located in the Cayman Islands. Management frequently monitors its accounts receivable and does not anticipate any material losses as a result of this concentration of credit risk.

The Trust's exposure to credit risk is limited to the amounts shown in the balance sheets. The Trust does not require collateral or other security to support financial instruments with credit risk.

10. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The nature of the Trust's operations is such that there can be considerable fluctuations in its cash flows. The Trust's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on receiving sufficient government funding and donations in order to meet ongoing expenses. Accordingly, the Trust is economically dependent on the Cayman Islands Government.

As of the period ended June 30, 2024, the Trust has an existing purchase agreement with the Cayman Islands Government that provides for grant funding of CI\$570,000 for the financial year ending December 31, 2025. This agreement supports the Trust's ongoing operations and delivery of its core services.

11. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events to May 7, 2025, which is the date that the financial statements were available to be issued and there is nothing to disclose.