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Paraline Syndicate 4242

Financial Statements
For the 36 Months ended 31 December 2017
2015 Closing Year Report and Accounts

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Directors and Administration

Managing Agent

Asta Managing Agency Ltd

Directors

T A Riddell (Chairman)*

R P Barke

C V Barley

L Harfitt

A J Hubbard*

D J G Hunt

M D Mohn*

S P A Norton

J W Ramage*

K Shah*

J M Tighe

*Non-Executive Directors

Company Secretary

C Chow

Managing Agent's Registered Office

5th Floor

Camomile Court

23 Camomile Street

London

EC3A 7LL

Managing Agent's Registered Number

1918744

Active Underwriter

M H McConnell

S P A Norton

(Resigned 01 March 2018)

(Appointed 01 March 2018)

Directors and Administration (continued)

Claims Administrator

Boulder Claims LLC

Bankers

Citibank NA
Barclays Bank Plc
Lloyds Bank

Investment Managers

New England Asset Management

Registered Auditors

KPMG LLP

Signing Actuary

P Chappell, KPMG LLP

Managing Agent's report for the 2015 closing year of account

For the 36 months ended 31 December 2017

The Directors of Asta Managing Agency Ltd ("Asta") present their report at 31 December 2017 for the 2015 closed year of account.

This report is prepared in accordance with the Lloyd's Syndicate Bylaw (No 8 of 2005). It accompanies the underwriting year accounts prepared on an underwriting year basis of accounting as required by Statutory Instrument No 1950 of 2008, the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008.

Underwriting year results

The Syndicate generated profits of \$28.0 million after standard personal expenses on gross written premiums of \$163.2 million for the 2015 underwriting year.

Principal activities and review of the business

The Syndicate transacts general insurance and reinsurance business in the United Kingdom (U.K.) within the Lloyd's market. The Syndicate specialises in underwriting property insurance policies covering small and middle market businesses located in areas of the United States (U.S.) that are prone to hurricanes and earthquakes. Hurricane policies include coverage for tropical storms and also provide attritional protection against tornados, hail, and other windstorm risks. The Syndicate also offers incidental general liability and limited flood coverage when purchased alongside hurricane or earthquake coverage and All Other Peril (AOP) coverage. AOP coverage provides protection against fires, theft, vandalism, water damage, and other covered property perils. The Syndicate also provides reinsurance to U.S. insurance companies covering personal lines property risks against named hurricanes in Hawaii and earthquakes in California and Hawaii.

ICAT Managers underwrites most of the Syndicate's insurance business as its primary coverholder. ICAT Managers writes business for the Syndicate through its network of relationships with surplus lines wholesale brokers and licensed retail agents. Although the Syndicate delegates day-to-day underwriting and related operational management responsibility to ICAT Managers, the directors regularly review the results of the coverholder's monitoring procedures and supplement these procedures with Managing Agent and third party audits. Paraline International also provides underwriting oversight for the Syndicate.

Boulder Claims provides claims administration services to the Syndicate. The Managing Agent contracts with a third party to coordinate oversight of Boulder Claims.

Managing Agent's report for the 2015 Closing Year of Account continued

The Syndicate entered into a binding authority with ICAT to underwrite insurance business for the 2015 underwriting year. ICAT wrote this business in the underwriting regions of the U.S. below:

- i. Eastern Seaboard
- ii. Florida
- iii. Gulf Coast
- iv. Hawaii
- v. Earthquake (California, Pacific Northwest, New Madrid, Intermountain West, Alaska, Hawaii, Mississippi, New Jersey, South Carolina, Massachusetts, and Maryland)

ICAT further divided its commercial underwriting operations into two business units: the Platform Business Unit (PBU) and the Middle Market Business Unit (MMBU).

The Syndicate also provided proportional reinsurance to a U.S. insurance company (the Ceding Company) covering Hawaii personal lines risks (homeowners, renters, and condominium unit owners) against named hurricanes for the 2015 underwriting year. ICAT underwrote this coverage under a program manager agreement with the Ceding Company.

The Syndicate also has separate binding authority agreements with a third party coverholders to underwrite a small amount of policies covering homes in the Northeast U.S and earthquake policies in the Western U.S. These policies account for the rest of the Syndicate's total business.

In the opinion of the directors, the key financial performance indicators below best represent the performance and position of the Syndicate for the underwriting year.

	2015 Underwriting Year \$'000
Gross written premiums:	
Easter Seaboard	27,080
Florida	54,321
Gulf Coast	32,810
Hawaii (includes direct and inward reinsurance premiums)	6,204
Earthquake (includes direct and inward reinsurance premiums)	42,795
Total gross written premiums	<u>163,210</u>
Profit for the closed year of account	28,020
Loss ratio	22.5%
Combined ratio (financial basis)	74.2%

Outward reinsurance arrangements

Catastrophe Coverage – The Syndicate has extensive catastrophe reinsurance to protect against the adverse accumulation of losses from multiple policies as a result of large catastrophic event. There have been no recoveries on these programmes for 2015 YoA, with none expected in future, due to the limited losses from catastrophe events for these years.

Statement of Managing Agent's Responsibilities

The directors of the managing agent are responsible for preparing the Syndicate underwriting year accounts in accordance with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyds's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 and the Lloyd's Syndicate Accounting Byelaw. They have elected to prepare the accounts in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyds's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 the directors of the managing agent must not approve the underwriting year accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the result of the underwriting year at closure. In preparing these accounts, the directors of the managing agent are required to:

-) Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently and where there are items which affect more than one year of account, ensure a treatment which is equitable between the members of the syndicate affected is used;
-) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
-) State whether applicable Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
-) Assess the syndicate's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
-) Use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to cease trading, or have no realistic alternative but to do so. As explained in note 1 the directors of the managing agent do not believe that it is appropriate to prepare the underwriting year accounts on a going concern basis.

The directors of the managing agent are responsible for keeping adequate and proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Syndicate's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Syndicate and enable them to ensure that the underwriting year accounts comply with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyds's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008. They are responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Syndicate 4242

2015 Closed Year of Account

We have audited the Syndicate underwriting year accounts for the 2015 year of account of Syndicate 4242 for the three year period ended 31 December 2017, which comprise the Profit and loss account: Technical account – General business, Profit and loss account: Non-technical account, Balance sheet, Statement of members' balances, Statement of cash flows and related notes, including the accounting policies in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, as modified by the Insurance Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts Regulations 2008) and the Lloyd's Syndicate Accounting Byelaw.

This report is made solely to the Syndicate's members, as a body, in accordance with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Syndicate's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Syndicate and the Syndicate's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the directors of the managing agent and auditor

As explained more fully in the statement of the directors of the managing agent's responsibilities set out on page 6, the directors of the Managing Agent are responsible for the preparation of the underwriting year accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit, and express an opinion on, the underwriting year accounts in accordance with the applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the underwriting year of accounts

A description of the scope of an audit of accounts is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate.

Opinion on underwriting year accounts

In our opinion the underwriting year accounts:

-) give a true and fair view of the syndicate's profit for the 2015 closed year; and
-) have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Lloyd's Syndicate Accounting Byelaw.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Syndicate 4242 continued

-) adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept by the directors of the managing agent on behalf of the syndicate; or
-) the underwriting year accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
-) we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

Timothy Butchart (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
15 Canada Square
London E14 5GL

21 March 2018

Profit and loss account: Technical account – General business

For the 36 months ended 31 December 2017

	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance			
Gross premiums written	4	163,210	
Outward reinsurance premiums		<u>(56,797)</u>	
			106,413
Reinsurance to close premiums received, net of reinsurance			
			1,922
Allocated investment return transferred from the non-technical account			
			219
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance			
Claims paid - Gross amount		(27,279)	
- Reinsurers' share		<u>5,530</u>	
Net claims paid		(21,749)	
Reinsurance to close premium payable net of reinsurance	6	<u>(2,678)</u>	
			(24,427)
Net operating expenses			
	7		(55,966)
Balance on the technical account – general business			<u>28,161</u>

The underwriting year closed and therefore all items relate to discontinued operations.

The notes on pages 14 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Profit and loss account: Non-technical account

For the 36 months ended 31 December 2017

	Notes	\$'000
Balance on the technical account – general business	5	28,161
Investment Income	8	296
Realised gains on investments		73
Realised losses on investments		(21)
Unrealised gains on investments		32
Unrealised losses on investments		(33)
Investment expenses and charges	8	<u>(128)</u>
		219
Allocated investment return transferred to general business technical account		(219)
Exchange losses		(141)
Profit for the closed year of account		<u>28,020</u>

The underwriting year closed and therefore all items relate to discontinued operations.

There were no recognised gains or losses relating to the current or preceding year other than those included in the profit and loss. Therefore no statement of other comprehensive income has been presented.

The notes on pages 14 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2017

	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
ASSETS			
Investments	9		4,472
Debtors			
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations	12	-	
Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations	13	3,326	
Other debtors, prepayments and accrued income		<u>122</u>	3,448
Reinsurance recoveries anticipated on gross reinsurance premiums payable to close the account	6		436
Other Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand			7
TOTAL ASSETS			<u>8,363</u>
LIABILITIES			
Amounts due to members			1,808
Reinsurance to close premiums payable to close the Account – gross amount	6		3,114
Creditors			
Creditors arising out of direct business	14	-	
Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations	15	2,923	
Profit commission		389	
Other Creditors		92	
Accruals and deferred income		<u>37</u>	3,441
TOTAL LIABILITIES			<u>8,363</u>

The notes on pages 14 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

The Syndicate underwriting year accounts were approved by the Board of Asta Managing Agency Ltd on 13 March 2018 and were signed on its behalf by

D J G Hunt
 Director
 21 March 2018

Statement of members' balances

For the 36 months ended 31 December 2017

	\$'000
Profit for the closed year of account	28,020
Members' agents' fees	(167)
U.S. federal income tax payments made on account of members	(792)
Other amounts due to members	47
Early payments of profit to members' personal reserve fund	<u>(25,300)</u>
Members' balances carried forward at 31 December 2017	<u>1,808</u>

The notes on pages 14 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows

	Notes	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Profit for the year of account		28,161
Net unrealised losses and foreign exchange		(141)
Increase in debtors		(3,282)
Decrease in creditors		2,889
Non cash consideration received as part of RITC received	10	(4,150)
RITC premium payable, net of reinsurance		2,678
Net cash inflow from operating activities		<u>26,155</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Net sale of portfolio investments		64
Cash flows from financing activities		
Member's agents fees		(167)
U.S. federal income tax and other balances		(745)
Early payment of profit to members' personal reserve fund		(25,300)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		<u>7</u>
Cash and cash equivalent at 1 January 2015		-
Cash and cash equivalent at end of the year of account	11	<u>7</u>

The notes on pages 14 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 36 months ended 31 December 2017

1. Basis of preparation

The Syndicate underwriting year accounts have been prepared under the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 ("the Lloyd's Regulations") and in accordance with the Syndicate Accounting Byelaw (No. 8 of 2005) and applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom, including relevant disclosures of Financial Reporting Standard 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK ("FRS 102") and Financial Reporting Standard 103 Insurance Contracts ("FRS 103").

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention except for certain financial instruments which are measured at fair value.

The financial statements are prepared in USD which is the functional and presentational currency of the Syndicate and rounded to the nearest \$'000.

Members participate on a Syndicate by reference to a year of account and each Syndicate year of account is a separate annual venture. These accounts relate to the 2015 year of account which has been closed by reinsurance to close at 31 December 2017. Consequently the balance sheet represents the assets and liabilities of the 2015 year of account at the date of closure and the profit and loss account reflects the transactions for that year of account during the 36 months period until closure.

The 2015 underwriting year has now closed. The directors of the managing agent have prepared the underwriting year accounts on a non-going concern basis. There was no effect of this on the amounts reported in the accounts.

2. Accounting policies

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

In preparing these financial statements, the directors of the Managing Agent have made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the Syndicate's accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

The measurement of the provision for claims outstanding involves judgements and assumptions about the future that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the annual accounts.

The provision for claims outstanding comprises the estimated cost of settling all claims incurred but unpaid at the balance sheet date, whether reported or not. This is a judgemental and complex area due to the subjectivity inherent in estimating the impact of claims events that have occurred but for which the eventual outcome remains uncertain. In particular, judgement is applied when estimating the value of amounts that should be provided for claims that have been incurred at the reporting date but have not yet been reported (IBNR) to the Syndicate.

Accounting policies continued

The ultimate cost of outstanding claims is estimated using a range of techniques including actuarial and statistical projections, benchmarking, case by case review and judgement. Statistical techniques assume that past claims development experience can be used as a basis to project ultimate claims costs. Judgement is used to assess the extent to which past trends may not apply in the future. Case estimates are generally set by skilled claims technicians applying their experience and knowledge to the circumstances of individual claims.

Whilst the Directors consider that the gross provision for claims and the related reinsurance recoveries are fairly stated based on the information currently available to them, the ultimate liability will vary as a result of subsequent information and events.

Underwriting transactions

The underwriting accounts for each year of account are normally kept open for three years before the result on that year is determined. At the end of that three year period, outstanding liabilities can normally be determined with sufficient accuracy to permit the year of account to be closed by payment of a reinsurance to close premium to the successor year of account.

Gross premiums are allocated to years of account on the basis of the inception date of the policy. Commission and brokerage are charged to the year of account to which the relevant policy is allocated. Policies written under binding authorities, lineslips or consortium arrangements are allocated to the year of account into which the arrangement incepts. Additional and return premiums follow the year of account of the original premium. Premiums are shown gross of brokerage payable and exclude taxes and duties levied on them. Estimates are made for pipeline premiums, representing amounts due, but not yet notified to the Syndicate year of account.

Written premium is earned according to the risk profile of the policy. Unearned premiums represent the balance of premiums written in the period to the balance sheet date that relate to unexpired risks of policies in force at that date, calculated on the basis of established earnings patterns or time apportionment as appropriate.

Outwards reinsurance premiums ceded are attributed to the same year as the original risk.

Gross claims paid are allocated to the same year of account as that to which the corresponding premiums are allocated and include internal and external claims settlement expenses. Reinsurance recoveries are allocated to the year of account to which the claim was charged.

The reinsurance to close premium is determined by reference to the outstanding technical provisions (including those for outstanding claims and unearned premiums, net of deferred acquisition costs and unexpired risks) relating to the closed year and to all previous closed years reinsured therein. Although this estimate of net outstanding liabilities is considered to be fair and reasonable, it is implicit in the estimation procedure that the ultimate liabilities will be at variance from the premium so determined. The reinsurance to close premium transfers the liability in respect of all claims, reinsurance premiums, return premiums and other payments in respect of the closing year (and previous closed years reinsured therein) to the members of the successor year of account and gives them the benefit of refunds, recoveries, premiums due and other income in respect of those years in so far as they have not been credited in these accounts.

Accounting policies continued

The outstanding claims comprise amounts set aside for claims notified and claims incurred but not yet reported (IBNR).

Notified claims are estimated on a case by case basis with regard to the circumstances as reported, any information available from loss adjusters and previous experience of the cost of settling claims with similar characteristics. The amount included in respect of IBNR is based on statistical techniques of estimation applied by the Syndicate's external consulting actuaries. These techniques generally involve projecting from past experience of the development of claims over time to form a view of the likely ultimate claims to be experienced for more recent underwriting, having regard to variations in the business accepted and the underlying terms and conditions. For the most recent years, where a high degree of volatility arises from projections, estimates may be based in part on output from rating and other models of the business accepted and assessments of underwriting conditions.

The provision for claims includes amounts in respect of internal and external claims handling costs.

The reinsurers' share of provisions for claims is based on calculated amounts of outstanding claims and projections for IBNR, net of estimated irrecoverable amounts, having regard to the reinsurance programme in place for the class of business, the claims experience for the year and the current security rating of the reinsurance companies involved.

The Syndicate uses a number of statistical techniques to assist in making the above estimates. The two most critical assumptions as regards claims provisions are that the past is a reasonable predictor of the likely level of claims development and that the rating and other models used for current business are fair reflections of the likely level of ultimate claims to be incurred. The methods used, and the estimates made, are reviewed regularly.

A provision for unexpired risks is created where claims, related expenses and deferred acquisition costs, likely to arise after the balance sheet date in respect of contracts relating to the closing year of account, are expected to exceed the unearned premiums and premiums receivable under these contracts, after the deduction of any acquisition costs deferred.

Acquisition costs, comprising commission and other internal and external costs related to the acquisition of new insurance contracts are deferred to the extent that they are attributable to premiums at the balance sheet date.

Financial assets and liabilities

In applying FRS 102, the Syndicate has chosen to apply the recognition and measurement provisions of IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement (as adopted for use in the EU).

Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss comprise financial assets and financial liabilities held for trading and those designated as such on initial recognition. Investments in shares and other variable yield securities, units in unit trusts, and debt and other fixed income securities are designated as at fair value through profit or loss on initial recognition, as they are managed on a fair value basis in accordance with the Syndicate's investment strategy.

Accounting policies continued

Financial instruments are recognised when the Syndicate becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial assets are derecognised if the Syndicate's contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial assets expire or if the Syndicate transfers the financial asset to another party without retaining control of substantially all risks and rewards of the asset. A financial liability is derecognised when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or expire.

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised and derecognised, as applicable, on the trade date, i.e. the date that the Syndicate commits itself to purchase or sell the asset.

A financial asset or financial liability is measured initially at fair value plus, for a financial asset or financial liability not at fair value through profit and loss, transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value with fair value changes recognised immediately in profit or loss. Net gains or net losses on financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss includes foreign exchange gains/losses arising on their translation to the functional currency, but excludes interest and dividend income.

At each reporting date the Syndicate assesses whether there is objective evidence that financial assets not at fair value through profit or loss are impaired. Financial assets are impaired when objective evidence demonstrates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of an asset, and that the loss event has an impact on the future cash flows on the asset that can be estimated reliably.

Objective evidence that financial assets are impaired includes observable data that comes to the attention of the Syndicate about any significant financial difficulty of the issuer, or significant changes in the technological, market, economic or legal environment in which the issuer operates.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount, and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Individually significant financial assets are tested for impairment on an individual basis. The remaining financial assets are assessed collectively in groups that share similar credit risk characteristics.

An impairment loss recognised reduces directly the carrying amount of the impaired asset. All impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. An impairment loss is reversed if the reversal can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised. For financial assets measured at amortised cost the reversal is recognised in profit or loss.

Accounting policies continued

Investment return

Investment return comprises all investment income, realised investment gains and losses and movements in unrealised gains and losses, net of investment expenses, charges and interest.

Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive income is established. Usually this is the ex-dividend date for equity securities. Interest income on financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised using the effective interest method. For the purpose of separately presenting investment income and unrealised gains and losses for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, interest income is recognised as it accrues on the next coupon payment.

For investments at fair value through profit or loss, realised gains and losses represent the difference between the net proceeds on disposal and the purchase price. For investments measured at amortised cost, realised gains and losses represents the difference between the net proceeds on disposal and the latest carrying value (or if acquired after the last reporting date, the purchase price).

Unrealised gains and losses on investments represent the difference between the fair value at the balance sheet date and their purchase price. Movements in unrealised investment gains and losses comprise the increase/decrease in the reporting period in the value of the investments held at the reporting date and the reversal of unrealised investment gains and losses recognised in earlier reporting periods in respect of investment disposals of the current period, or the valuation at the beginning of the year; as well as the reversal of previously recognised unrealised gains and losses in respect of investment disposed of in the current period.

Investment return is initially recorded in the non-technical account. The return is transferred in full to the general business technical account to reflect the investment return on funds supporting underwriting business.

Syndicate operating expenses & profit commission

Costs incurred by the Managing Agent in respect of the Syndicate are charged to the Syndicate and included within the relevant profit and loss account heading. Where expenses do not relate to any specific year of account they are apportioned between years of account on a basis which reflects the benefit obtained by each year of account from each type of expense.

Where expenses are incurred jointly by the Managing Agent and the Syndicate, they are apportioned as follows:

-) Salaries and Related Costs
According to time of each individual spent on Syndicate matters.
-) Accommodation Costs
According to number of personnel.
-) Other Costs
As appropriate in each case.

Accounting policies continued

) Profit Commission

Profit commission is charged by the Managing Agent at a rate of 12.5% of profit subject to the operation of a deficit clause. Such commission does not become payable until after the appropriate year of account closes, normally at 36 months. Profit commission on naturally open years is accrued on the basis of earned profit to date.

) Pensions

The Managing Agent operates a defined contribution pension scheme and its recharges to the Syndicate in respect of salaries and related costs include an element for pension costs. These pension costs are expensed in full in the period to which the recharge relates.

Amounts recharged by the Managing Agent include costs arising from the use of assets in the period. These rental costs are expensed in full in the period to which the recharge relates.

Offsetting

The Syndicate sets off and presents its financial assets and liabilities net where:

- (i) each it and another party owes the other determinable amounts,
- (ii) it has the right to set off the amount owed with the amount owed by the other party,
- (iii) it intends to set off, and
- (iv) the right of set off is enforceable at law.

Taxation

Under Schedule 19 of the Finance Act 1993 managing agents are not required to deduct basic rate income tax from trading income. In addition, all UK basic income tax deducted from Syndicate investment income is recoverable by managing agents and consequently the distribution made to members or their members' agents is gross of tax. Capital appreciation falls within trading income and is also distributed gross of tax. It is the responsibility of members to agree and settle their individual tax liabilities with HM Revenue & Customs.

Members resident overseas for tax purposes are responsible for agreeing and settling any tax liabilities with the taxation authorities of their country of residence.

Foreign currencies

The Syndicate's functional currency and presentational currency is USD.

Transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency are initially recorded in the functional currency at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities (which include all assets and liabilities arising from insurance contracts including unearned premiums and deferred acquisition costs) denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated into the functional currency at the exchange rate ruling on the reporting date.

Exchange differences are recorded in the non-technical account.

3. Risk management

Effective from 31 December 2016, the RITC process means that Insurance, Financial, Credit, Liquidity, Market and Capital risks are transferred to the accepting 2016 Year of Account of the Syndicate. Accordingly, these Underwriting Year accounts do not have any associated disclosures as required by section 34 of FRS 102 and FRS 103. Full disclosures relating to these risks are provided in the main Annual accounts of the Syndicate.

4. Particulars of business written

An analysis of the underwriting result before investment return is set out below:

	Gross Premiums Written and Earned \$'000	Gross Claims Incurred \$'000	Net Operating Expenses \$'000	Reinsurance Balance \$'000	Total \$'000
Fire and other damage to property	162,771	(27,465)	(56,861)	(49,868)	28,569
Third party liability	439	(570)	(153)	(351)	(627)
RITC accepted	1,922	(1,922)	-	-	-
Total	165,132	(29,957)	(57,014)	(50,219)	27,942

Included in the reinsurance balance are reinsurance commissions and profit participation of \$1,047,559.

5. Analysis of result by year of account

	2014 & prior years of account \$'000	2015 Pure Year \$'000	2015 Total \$'000
Technical account balance before allocated investment return and net operating expenses	944	82,964	83,908
Brokerage and commission on gross premium	10	(46,464)	(46,454)
	954	36,500	37,454
Net other expenses	(36)	(9,476)	(9,512)
Investment income	-	219	219
Balance on technical account	918	27,243	28,161

6. Reinsurance to close premium payable net of reinsurance

	Reported \$'000	IBNR \$'000	Total \$'000
Gross outstanding losses	(1,185)	(1,929)	(3,114)
Reinsurance recoveries anticipated	310	126	436
Net outstanding losses	(875)	(1,803)	(2,678)

7. Net operating expenses

	\$'000
Acquisition costs	(46,454)
Administration expenses	(10,560)
Reinsurance commissions and profit participations	1,048
	<u>(55,966)</u>

\$'000

The closed year profit is stated after charging:

Auditor's remuneration:

Audit of the Financial statements	(88)
Other services pursuant to Regulations and Lloyd's Byelaws	(182)
Other services relating to actuarial review	(33)
	<u>(303)</u>

The auditor did not receive any other remuneration other than that stated above.

8. Investment income

	\$'000
Income from investments	296
Unrealised gains on investments	32
Unrealised losses on investments	(33)
	<u>295</u>

\$'000

Investment management expenses	(128)
Realised gains on investments	73
Realised losses on investments	(21)
	<u>(76)</u>

9. Investments

	Fair Value \$'000's	Cost \$'000's
Holdings in collective investment schemes	3,998	3,998
Debt securities and other fixed income securities	474	474
	<u>4,472</u>	<u>4,472</u>

There was no material change in fair value for financial instruments held at fair value (other than derivatives) attributable to own credit risk in the current or comparative period.

Investments continued

The following table shows financial investments recorded at fair value analysed between the three levels in the fair value hierarchy.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
31 December 2017				
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts	-	3,902	-	3,902
Debt securities and other fixed income securities	285	189	-	474
Overseas deposits	59	37	-	96
Total	344	4,128	-	4,472

Included in the level 1 category are financial assets that are measured by reference to published quotes in an active market. A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry Syndicate, pricing service or regulatory agency and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

Included in the level 2 category are financial assets measured using a valuation technique based on assumptions that are supported by prices from observable current market transactions. For example, assets for which pricing is obtained via pricing services but where prices have not been determined in an active market, financial assets with fair values based on broker quotes, investments in private equity funds with fair values obtained via fund managers and assets that are valued using the Syndicate's own models whereby the significant inputs into the assumptions are market observable.

Included in the level 3 category, are financial assets measured using a valuation technique (model) based on assumptions that are neither supported by prices from observable current market transactions in the same instrument nor are they based on available market data. Therefore, unobservable inputs reflect the Syndicate's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability (including assumptions about risk). These inputs are developed based on the best information available, which might include the Syndicate's own data. The Syndicate does not have any financial investments that meet level 3 criteria.

10. Non cash consideration received as part of RITC received

	\$'000
Portfolio investments	4,537
Debtors	165
Creditors	(552)
Non cash consideration received	<u>(4,150)</u>

11. Movement in cash and portfolio investments net of financing

	At 1 January 2015	Received within RITC Premium	Cash flow	Unrealised losses & foreign exchange	At 31 December 2017
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cash	-	130	(123)	-	7
Portfolio	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	4,537	(65)	-	4,472
	-	4,677	(188)	-	4,479

The cashflow includes a distribution payment of \$25.3 million, as well as other items on a profit of \$28.0 million. Refer to the Cashflow on page 13 for further detail.

12. Debtors Arising out of direct insurance operations

	\$'000
Due within one year	-
	-

13. Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations

	\$'000
Due within one year	3,326
	3,326

14. Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations

	\$'000
Due within one year	-
	-

15. Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations

	\$'000
Due within one year	(2,923)
	(2,923)

16. Disclosure of interests

Managing Agent's interest

During 2017 Asta was the managing agent for ten Syndicates and three Special Purpose Arrangements. Syndicate 1686, 1729, 1897, 1910, 2357, 2525, 2689, 2786, 4242 and 5886 as well as Special Purpose Arrangements 6117, 6123 and 6126 were managed on behalf of third party capital providers.

On 7 February 2017, Syndicate 1910 and Special Purpose Arrangement 6117 migrated to Argo Managing Agency Limited.

On 4 August 2017, Syndicate 1686 migrated to AXIS Managing Agency Ltd.

On 1 January 2018 Asta took on management of Syndicate 1980 and Syndicate 3268. Asta also took on management of Special Purpose Arrangement 6131.

The agency also provides administrative services to Syndicates and undertakes a number of ancillary roles for clients.

The Financial Statements of the Managing Agency can be obtained by application to the Registered Office (see page 1).

17. Related parties

Asta provides services and support to Syndicate 4242 in its capacity as Managing Agent. The 2015 year of account was charged managing agency fees of \$1.1 million Asta also recharged \$2.5 million worth of service charges to the 2015 year of account. As at 31 December 2017, nothing was owed to Asta in respect of this service.

Syndicate 4242 has recorded \$4.0 million for profit commission.

From time to time, Syndicates managed by Asta enter into (re)insurance contracts with one another. All such transactions are subject to Asta's internal controls which ensure that all are compliant with Lloyd's Related Party Bylaw provisions. All transactions are entered into on an arms length basis.

Paraline Group Ltd (Paraline Group), a company registered in Bermuda, provided 33.7% of the Syndicate's insurance capacity for the 2015 underwriting year through its indirectly owned corporate members. Paraline Reinsurance, Ltd. (Paraline Re), an indirectly owned Bermudian reinsurance company of Paraline Group supported the Paraline corporate member's participation on the Syndicate for the 2015 underwriting year, while unrelated foreign reinsurers fully supported the corporate members' participation. An affiliate of Paraline Group, Elliott CCM Limited, provided another 3.0% of capacity. The table below details the percentage of total Syndicate capacity provided by other parties.

	2015 Underwriting Year \$'000
Everest Corporate Member Limited	8.1%
Hampden Agencies Limited (MAPA 7217)	11.6%
IAT CCM Limited	8.5%
Labuan Re Underwriting Limited	14.6%
SCOR Underwriting Limited	12.0%
Taiping Re UK Ltd	8.5%
Total	<u>63.3%</u>

Related parties continued

A reinsurance affiliate of SCOR Underwriting Limited, SCOR Global P&C SE (SCOR Global), together with other reinsurers also provides layered, non-proportional catastrophe reinsurance without prepaid reinstatement to the Syndicate to protect against the occurrence of large catastrophes. SCOR Global's share of the Syndicate's catastrophe reinsurance coverage is 3.4% (4.2% before 1 April 2015), accounting for 2.8% of the Syndicate's overall reinsurance costs.

Paraline International, a wholly owned subsidiary of Paraline Group, owns 31.28% of Asta's ultimate parent, Asta Capital Limited, a company incorporated in the U.K. and registered in England and Wales.

18. Post balance sheet event

The 2015 underwriting year result, less members' agents' fees, of \$2.5m will be distributed to members during 2018.

Summary of Closed Year Results

as at 31 December 2017

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Syndicate allocated capacity (£'000)	83,637	99,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	90,000
Syndicate allocated capacity (\$'000)	129,637	159,390	125,600	124,000	124,272	99,200	121,500
Number of Underwriting members	7	7	10	12	10	10	10
Aggregate net premiums	36,821	39,299	36,900	43,635	50,534	53,565	59,959
Results for an illustrative share of £10,000							
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Gross premiums	14,513	10,500	13,409	14,805	15,628	16,915	18,134
Net premiums	4,402	3,970	4,613	5,454	6,354	6,696	6,662
Reinsurance to close from an earlier account	(147)	(47)	104	94	318	294	214
Net claims	(409)	(1,368)	(1,627)	(2,669)	(1,403)	(1,571)	(2,417)
Reinsurance to close	56	(84)	(94)	(318)	(294)	(240)	(297)
Profit/(Loss) on exchange	(1)	(1)	4	(5)	(6)	(4)	(16)
Syndicate operating expenses	(99)	(270)	(146)	(327)	(38)	(467)	(330)
Balance on technical account	3,802	2,220	2,854	2,230	4,931	4,708	3,816
Investment income less investment expenses and charges and investment gains less losses	39	24	5	1	6	5	24
Profit on ordinary activities	3,841	2,224	2,859	2,231	4,937	4,713	3,840
Illustrative personal expenses							
Profit commission	(308)	(251)	(289)	(242)	(519)	(553)	(445)
Personal expenses	(331)	(219)	(547)	(474)	(785)	(306)	(300)
Profit (Loss) after illustrative profit commission and personal expenses	3,202	1,754	2,023	1,515	3,633	3,854	3,095
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Profit (Loss) after illustrative profit commission and personal expenses	2,065	1,076	1,219	975	2,454	3,108	2,292

Notes

1. The summary of closed year results has been prepared from the audited accounts of the Syndicate.
2. Personal expenses have been stated at the amount which would be incurred pro rata by individual Names writing the illustrative premium income in the Syndicate irrespective of any minimum charge applicable. Corporate members may be charged at different rates. Foreign tax, which may be treated as a credit for personal tax purposes, has been excluded.
3. As regards the 2015 year of account, an illustrative share of £10,000 represents 0.111% of the respective allocated capacity.