BIAZA 60 BRITISH & IRISH ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS & AQUARIUMS

RZSS THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CHARITY | RZSS EDINBURGH ZOO | RZSS HIGHLAND WILDLIFE PARK

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BIAZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026

9–11 June | RZSS Edinburgh Zoo

9 June – 19:00 Welcome Reception

Trip to Highland Wildlife Park (optional, booked separately):
8:00am - coaches leave from Edinburgh Zoo (return by 19:00)

19:00 – 21:00 Welcome Drinks at Mansion House, Edinburgh Zoo (Entry via Members' Gate)

10 June – Day 1

9:15 - 10:00 - Registration in the Gannet Restaurant. Entry is via Members' Gate.

10:00 Session 1

10:00 - Conference welcome | Beccy Angus & Ben Supple, RZSS

10:10 - Message from politician| TBC

10:20 - WAZA 2026 | David Field, WAZA President and CEO RZSS

10.30 - The after life of zoo animals | Professor Andrew Kitchener, National Museums Scotland

11:00 – 11:30 Tea & Coffee break

11:30 Session 2

11:30 - BIAZA update | Dr Jo Judge, BIAZA

12:10 - AGM | Jamie Christon & Tom Owen, BIAZA Board Chair and Treasurer

12:30 - Speed talks & new member videos

13:15 - UK Zoo & Wildlife Attraction Benchmark Survey | Bryan Hoare, Founder/CEO of n-gage.io

13:30 – 14:25 Lunch in the Gannet Restaurant

14:25 Session 3

14:25 - Panel: Excellence in conservation education | Charlotte Smith, Chester Zoo. Beccy Angus, RZSS. Cat Hickey, ZSL. Aileen Tennant, Fota Wildlife Park. Fin Hamill, St Andrews Aquarium

15:15 - BIAZA CEC Scottish Educators Network | Adam Welsh, Five Sisters Zoo

15.25 - Dublin Zoo's Animal Welfare Master Plan | Lucy Stratford & Miguel Bueno, Dublin Zoo

15:40– 16:10 Tea & Coffee break

16:10 Session 4

16:10 - Firearms training under the new zoo licensing landscape | Neil Mumby, Lincoln Zoo

16:25 - Creating optimism in less-than-optimistic times & places | Jack Williams, Dudley Zoo and Castle

16.35 - Zoo and aquarium leadership and management course| Clare Rugg, University of Plymouth

16:45 – 19:00 Zoo tours. Edinburgh Zoo will be open to explore until 18:00.

19:00 – 21:00 BIAZA 60th birthday party, buffet and quiz

Phil Mumby | RZSS

BIAZA 60 — British & Irish Association of Zoos & Aquariums

RZSS — The Wildlife Conservation Charity | RZSS Edinburgh Zoo | RZSS Highland Wildlife Park

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9–11 June | RZSS Edinburgh Zoo

11 June – Day 2

9:15 - 10:00 - Registration in the Gannet Restaurant. Entry is via Members' Gate.

10:00 Session 5

10:00 - 11 Million Postcards campaign | Mags Rivett & Rob Parkinson

10:20 - Wildlife in the Digital Age | Ant Rawlins, Navigate

10:40 - Income Diversification for Zoos | Laura Reed, Marwell Wildlife

10:55 - Global forces shaping visitor experience |David Rosenberg, SSA Group

11:15 – 11:45 Tea & Coffee break

11:45 Session 6

11:45 - Wildcat recovery in Scotland: A model for UK carnivore reintroductions | David Barclay, RZSS

12.00 - Creating change for conservation – aligning and monitoring our zoo strategies alongside existing frameworks to increase collective impact | Dr Rebecca Biddle, Twycross Zoo

12.15 - The Zoo Sphere of Influence | Dr Andy Moss, Chester Zoo

12:25 - Invertebrate conservation: low budget, high impact | Tyrone Capel, Wildwood Trust

12:45 - Biodiversity impact from long-term, core funding commitment | Olivia Walter, Wildlife Vets International. Andrea Dempsey, Hertfordshire Zoo

13:05 – 14.05 Lunch in the Gannet Restaurant

14:05 Session 7

14.05 - Rhinos as indicators for landscape conservation | Dr Jo Shaw, Save the Rhino

14:25 - Proactive Partnerships in Local River Restoration | Tayanne Corbani, St Andrews Aquarium

14.40 - Lions in our living rooms: Domestic cats and conservation | Jeff Knott, Cats Protection

14:55 – 15.15 Tea & Coffee break

15:15 – Early Learning from RZSS | Beccy Angus, RZSS

15.35 - Ocean for All | Freyja Thomson-Alberts, Ocean Conservation Trust

15.55 - Sum up | Dr Jo Judge, BIAZA

16:00 – Conference End

18:00 – 00:00 Gala Dinner and BIAZA Awards

Alistair Cryer - Edinburgh Zoo

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