

Charity Registration Number: 1053406

**OPERATION ROMANIA TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

OPERATION ROMANIA TRUST

Charity Registration Number 1052400

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Deed of Trust and those holding office during the year were:

Mr C Beckhurst

Mr D Millidge

Mrs M Millidge

Mr R Purdom (Chairman)

Mr A Terrell – resigned in December 2023

Mr K Varney

Miss M Wilkinson (Treasurer)

Risks

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to those risks.

Reserves policy

The Trustees' policy is to hold in reserves a minimum of 4 months average operational expenditure plus designated amounts for known projects for the reporting year.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity are the relief of poverty, the advancement of health, education and training and the advancement of the Christian religion within the Republic of Romania by the provision and distribution of medical and other aid and supporting and encouraging Christian Churches.

Operation Romania Trust (ORT) is a local charitable trust based in the South of England. The trustees work with and support a team in Oradea, which is in North West Romania near the Hungarian border. This team is known as Alfa & Omega (A&O) and has five members. The team in Romania also work with a team from Holland.

At the Trustees' Meeting in January 2023, the Trustees set a budget for 2023, as follows:

- A & O salary £1,800
- Boga Camp £2,500
- Ladies' week-end retreat £500
- Back to School project £1,800
- Two students £500
- Bank charges £165

- Computer support £85
- Medical support £600
- Legacy projects £5,000

The Trustees met five times in 2023,

Achievements and Performance

In spite of some ongoing restrictions the team in Oradea continued to supply food boxes to 60+ families. Money was given to families for transport to and from school. Medicines were distributed in consultation with the doctors with whom the team have worked for many years.

The team leaders in Oradea have continued to provide a home for a female student who completed her studies at the Christian University in Oradea and has now started a job.

The annual Boga camps for children were also held in the summer and ORT was able to support one of the camps financially. There were three camps. Ani Foit, one of the leaders, wrote after the camps: This year the camp was a really hard one for me to organise, as I had no leaders, no complete helper team for kitchen and so on. But by the end we were very blessed by God in these three weeks in so many ways. The leaders came and went in a way that was orchestrated by God so we never had shortage. The thing that we started the camp with was to give the children a shower to each one. Some have no hope to have a nice warm shower at home. Four children had so many hair lice that we had to cut their hair to make it shorter thus easier to clean. With children we tried to organise many activities including trips in the mountains, games in the camp, painting, handcraft, also group games like volleyball which they loved. We tried to keep all children involved in order to help them avoid loneliness also to involve them in team's activities. A day would start with 9 o'clock bending and stretching, then after breakfast every child had to go to his/her bed and put their bag in order and make the bed nicely. Then they have some worship songs followed by bible study. Learning bible verses was also encouraged by little prizes such as chocolate. Little things to remember from Boga Camp. Each group prepared in that last night, either a little drama or a group song. Then they would sit and see pictures taken in the camp, and often, they were funny.

So, this was the Boga camps in this year with all the worries, good and bad things, leaders, visitors and of course children who were there. The leaders and children as well, cried in last night on each other shoulders hugging each other and saying with sadness in their voices: ***"here is another world, and we have to return in our lives with all the problems there."*** There were about 90 children across the three camps – divided up by age groups unless there were brothers and sisters.

The team were able to host the Ladies' week-end in the Boga campsite and ORT were able to support this week-end financially. This was much appreciated by the 30+ women that came. The ladies arrived on Friday morning. This gave them an extra day to enjoy and we had a team of people to help. It was nice to welcome all the ladies on Friday and see them rejoice as some of them haven't met since last Boga camp years ago. Also to hear their words of gratitude to us as to say thank you for organising this event for them.

The Back-to-School project was able to continue as ORT sent out the money to buy the school bags and the contents of those bags. 60+ packs were purchased. The team linked in with the schools so that relevant equipment was put into each bag. Children and young people in primary and high schools would benefit from their particular bag. Many photographs show happy children and very happy parents. To add to the Back-to-School money, ORT hosted a Coffee morning at a local church. This was another successful coffee morning. This was supplemented by an afternoon tea on a lovely summer afternoon.

At the end of this reporting year ORT had 50 families being sponsored and 10 students. There are three families being sponsored for help with medicines.

Through the year the Board has produced four Updates, keeping our many supporters informed of the various projects the team are supporting. These Updates were focused on the Team in Oradea and the work being done by the team. Both were appreciated by the supporters as they were given an insight into those on the team who are doing the ongoing practical work of the charity.

The Board has continued to be aware of their responsibilities for various policies and a number have been updated during the year.

This annual report of activities demonstrates the public benefit of the various aspects of the work - providing much needed food for families in Oradea and the surrounding villages; enabling children to go to school; supporting students in secondary and higher education.

Financial Review

The Trust is grateful to all those supporters who have regularly given to the work.

The main sources of funding were:

1. Sponsorship money for families, many of which are gift aided
2. Other gifts from supporters
3. Annual coffee mornings
4. Gifts from churches.
5. Legacies received – the Trustees are in discussion with the team in Oradea as to projects to be covered by the legacy money.

Receipts during the year amounted to £48,238 (2022: £52,407) including a legacy of £nil (2022: £7,545). The money expended during the year amounted to £48,344 (2022: £52,499).

2024

During the next financial year the Trustees are looking to update the information sheets about the different aspects of the work in Romania.

ORT was invited to take a service in one of the local churches – we would like to get more openings in our churches to inform the people of the work of ORT.

ORT would like to add new Trustees to the Board of Trustees.

The Trustees are grateful to everyone who has supported the ORT Mission and we look forward to the next year.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Purdom', written in a cursive style.

R Purdom (Chairman)

8 April 2024

OPERATION ROMANIA TRUST
Charity Registration Number: 1053406
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 £
Receipts				
Donations & specific gifts	2,934	16,865	19,799	14,990
Legacy	-	-	-	7,545
Family support	-	24,010	24,010	25,153
Tax refund - Gift Aid	19	4,251	4,270	4,707
Bank interest	159	-	159	12
Total receipts	3,112	45,126	48,238	52,407
Payments				
Direct Charitable Expenditure				
Gifts sent to Romania	6,844	41,085	47,929	50,930
Drugs & medical supplies	-	-	-	1,241
	6,844	41,085	47,929	52,171
Other Expenditure				
Computer programme & support	85	-	85	-
Bank charges	149	181	330	328
	234	181	415	328
Total payments	7,078	41,266	48,344	52,499
Net receipts/(payments)	-3,966	3,860	-106	-92
Transfer between funds	-2,480	2,480	-	-
Cash funds last year end	15,615	16,686	32,301	32,393
Cash funds this year end	9,169	23,026	32,195	32,301

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 £
Cash funds				
Lloyds Bank - Current account	5,588	-	5,588	620
Lloyds Bank - Sponsorship account	-	11,887	11,887	8,981
Lloyds Bank - Deposit account	3,581	11,139	14,720	22,700
	<u>9,169</u>	<u>23,026</u>	<u>32,195</u>	<u>32,301</u>
Other monetary assets				
Gift aid recoverable	-	283	283	297
	<u>-</u>	<u>283</u>	<u>283</u>	<u>297</u>

The accounts on pages 6 and 7 were approved by the Board of Trustees on 8 April 2024

and signed on its behalf by:



R Purdom (Chairman)



Miss M Wilkinson (Treasurer)

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
OPERATION ROMANIA TRUST**

Charity Registration Number: 1053406

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Operation Romania Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

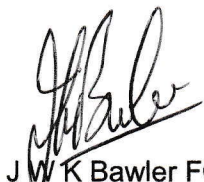
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



J W K Bawler FCA
30 East Drive
Angmering
Littlehampton
West Sussex
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Date: 25 APRIL 2024