

EPIC - Chairman's Report: 2020-2021

Mission Statement:

European Partners in Christ (EPIC) exists to promote links between churches in Britain and Eastern Europe, providing spiritual and material support through prayer, fellowship, teaching and financial aid, enabling church buildings to be available as centres of Christian worship and witness.

Trustees: Rodney Sexton (Chair) Bryan Hilton (Treasurer), Maureen Morris, and Heather Sexton

EPIC employee: Chris Fox.

Review of the 12 months: August 2020-July 2021

The principle aim of EPIC is as outlined in previous annual reports: to link churches in the UK with churches in Eastern Europe on a one-to-one basis, and to support the English churches, once they are linked, by helping to arrange exchange visits and to provide information and updates on what is happening with the churches in Europe. In similar fashion the churches in Eastern Europe are given support materially, spiritually and by the mutual visits. New links are no longer established but EPIC continues to fulfil a vital role in servicing the current links and in identifying various needs within the churches as they arise.

Funds come from English churches supporting their partner churches, and from individual donors. There has been an increase in support for various projects undertaken by Eastern European churches; for example, in the construction of buildings and work amongst young people and refugees.

As stated above, one of the functions of EPIC is to organise visits to and from partner churches. However, it has not been possible for any visits to be made to Eastern Europe nor have any friends linked with EPIC been able to visit the UK. This has been due to pandemic restrictions on travel. Nevertheless, contact has been maintained throughout the year and financial help was sent to friends who contracted covid-19 and were hospitalised. Likewise, there were no opportunities for meetings or church visits during the year.

Income this year has been sufficient to maintain the same level of support as in previous years. The amount of money distributed to churches and individuals in Romania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Poland, and Bosnia was £86,796.00. The need in many areas remains great. A summary of financial activities for the year to July 31st, 2021, and a financial statement for the same period accompany this report.

Ways of promoting EPIC include speaking engagements, regular reports and letters to churches, magazine articles and newsletters.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Sexton', with a long, sweeping underline.

Rodney Sexton
Chair, EPIC Trustees

EPIC - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1057592

Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31st July 2021

	31/07/2021			31/07/2020		
Income	Undesignated Funds	Restricted or Designated funds	Total	Undesignated Funds	Restricted or Designated funds	Total
Receipts	17895	76659	94554	31192	75310	106502
Interest			0		5	5
Total Income	17895	76659	94554	31192	75315	106507
Expenditure						
Administration	1055		1055	1326		1326
Travel & Motor Expenses	543	224	767	1863		1863
Rent	1440		1440	1440		1440
Wages & PAYE	156	2410	2566	156	2108	2264
Trip Expenses			0	1394		1394
Total	3194	2634	5828	6179	2108	8287
Fund Expenditure						
Gifts via transfer	21446	36989	58434	32580	41076	73656
Gifts via Trips			0	2461	3999	6460
Church Fund Gifts		28361	28361		27168	27168
Totals	21446	65350	86795	35041	72243	107284
Net Income	-6745	8675	1930	-10027	964	-9063
Fund Balances Forward	13601	7080	20681	23628	6116	29744
Interfund Transfers			0			0
Fund balances carried forward	6856	15755	22611	13601	7080	20681

EPIC - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1057592**Balance sheet for year to 31 July 2021**

	Notes	31/07/2021	31/07/2020
Assets			
Current Account		11008	15208
Deposit Account		11603	5473
		<u>22611</u>	<u>20681</u>
		<u>22611</u>	<u>20681</u>
Assets		<u>22611</u>	<u>20681</u>
Represented By :			
Undesignated Funds	1a	6856	13601
Restricted Funds	1b	4152	1607
Churches Funds (Restricted)	1c	11603	5473
		<u>22611</u>	<u>20681</u>

Notes :

1a Funds held which are unrestricted .

1b Funds held for restricted use

1c Funds held which are restricted for Churches abroad .

MRS. WSBAYLISS

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Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of EPIC – registered charity no: 1057592

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st July 2021 as set out on the attached two pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

As the Charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2)) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent audit is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Direction given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)b of the 2011 Act and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report:

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records
- Have not been met; or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Wendy Bayliss

Mrs. W S Bayliss

9th December 2021