

Registered Charity No: 1092469

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

30 April 2023

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

30 April 2023

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**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 30 April 2023**

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Reference and Administrative Information

Living Stones Christian Life and Media Centre was constituted by a Trust Deed on the 4 April 2002 which was amended by a Deed of Variation on 20 May 2002 and by a further Deed of Variation on 29 October 2018.

The Trust is registered with the Charity Commissioners No. 1092469.

Living Stones Christian Life and Media Centre is also known as The Living Stones of Birmingham.

The main address for contacts is:-

Unit 1, Tamebridge Industrial Estate
Aldridge Road
Perry Barr
Birmingham
B42 2TX

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank
Walthamstow Branch
PO Box 1000
BX1 1LT

The Trustees at 30 April 2023 were:-

G Du Plessis	(appointed on 1 October 2022)
J M Lennox	
N Lennox	(appointed on 1 October 2022)
L Bryden	(resigned on 19 May 2023)

Trustees who resigned during the year ended 30 April 2023 were:-

G Bryden	(resigned on 30 April 2023)
J McGill Rousseau	(resigned on 1 October 2022)

G Du Plessis is the Chair of the Charity.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document which also acts as the constitution is the Trust Deed dated 4 April 2002 as amended.

The initial Trustees are entitled to hold office for life and further Trustees are appointed by resolution of the Trustees provided they sign a Declaration of Willingness to act as a Trustee and a statement that he or she will adhere to the faith for the time being promoted by the Charity.

Trustees are recruited from the congregation, other ministries or recommended by an existing Trustee. New Trustees must be practising Christians, of moral fibre and integrity and support strong family values.

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 30 April 2023
(Continued)**

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the Charity are:

- (i) the establishment of Christian fellowship meetings;
- (ii) the establishment of Christian teaching classes and to distribute Christian teaching material;
- (iii) the promotion of Christian evangelistic events and literature;
- (iv) the promotion and support of international Christian ministries and events;
- (v) the production and distribution of creative Christian media.

The Charity continued with its objectives, to gather under one roof for Sunday meetings as well as smaller weekly meetings and so, was able to advance with in person fellowship meetings as well as online social platform meetings to ensure that the objectives of the Charity could best be carried out.

Small group meetings during the week included a safe space for the congregation and the general public, to meet in a relaxed environment where they could receive support for grief, loneliness, anxiety and other emotional challenges.

Various other meetings also continued, in person and via social media, with in-depth training for men, women, youth and families in general.

The Charity continued to partner with other like-minded organisations to assist with the provision and distribution of food and clothes into the local community.

The Charity was still accessible to assist with online awareness of community issues and able to use social media platforms to promote Christian lifestyle and to encourage harmony amongst diverse cultures found in Birmingham.

The Charity continued to support overseas missions as well as local charities.

Whilst undertaking the above-mentioned activities the Trustees had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit issues.

Achievements and Performance

During the year the Charity has continued to achieve its objectives providing significant benefits to the congregation and within the local area.

Financial Review

The Charity receives donations which are then utilised in achieving the objects of the Charity.

During the year ended 30 April 2023, the Charity received donations and tax refunds amounting to £235,844 (2022 - £255,366) of which £258,353 (2022 - £295,268) was spent in pursuit of the Charity's objectives. At 30 April 2023, the Unrestricted Funds were £949 (2022 - £24,130). At 30 April 2023, the Restricted Funds held were £20,302 (2022 - £19,630).

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 30 April 2023
(Continued)**

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that the funds within the Charity should be at a level to cover operational costs for at least 4 months.

At present, the Charity's reserves are equivalent to less than 1 months operational costs. The Trustees are striving to increase the charity's reserve levels and the charity continues to operate during 2024.

The reserves are needed to bridge the funding gap between spending on the Charity's overheads and the receipt of new funds.

The reserves include cash at bank. The Trustees monitor the cash levels on a regular basis.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

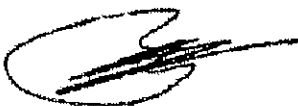
The law applicable to Charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:-

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- 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 financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity Accounts and Reports Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website.

Approved by the Trustees on13 February.....2024 signed by:



Mr G Du Plessis

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Living Stones Christian Life and Media Centre**

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30 April 2023 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's Trustees, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

D I Hotchkiss

Mr D I Hotchkiss
Chartered Accountant

Brook House
Moss Grove
Kingswinford
West Midlands
DY6 9HS

.....19/2/2024

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 30 April 2023**

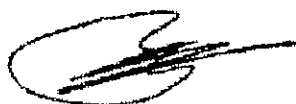
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Incoming Resources					
Voluntary income					
Donations		146,266	17,282	163,548	170,760
Gift Aid		25,472	-	25,472	28,834
HMRC CJRS claims		-	-	-	20,570
Activities for generating funds	2	43,401	3,423	46,824	35,202
Total Incoming Resources		215,139	20,705	235,844	255,366
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating voluntary income					
Activity costs		8,440	2,160	10,600	8,186
Charitable Expenditure					
Charitable donations		7,442	9,003	16,445	26,440
Rent		98,652	-	98,652	94,714
Rates		6,893	-	6,893	6,938
Heat, light and water		14,221	-	14,221	8,881
Printing, postage and stationery		5,198	-	5,198	5,554
Insurance		3,389	-	3,389	2,682
Telephone		750	-	750	1,461
Depreciation		2,213	-	2,213	2,603
Bank charges		15	-	15	-
Repairs and renewals		6,997	85	7,082	6,813
Governance Costs					
Wages	5	82,954	-	82,954	122,925
Pension costs		1,511	-	1,511	1,748
Sundry costs		266	-	266	659
Legal and professional costs		8,164	-	8,164	5,664
Total Resources Expended		247,105	11,248	258,353	295,268
Net (expenditure)/incoming resources before transfers		(31,966)	9,457	(22,509)	(39,902)
Transfers between funds	6	8,785	(8,785)	-	-
Net movements in funds for the year		(23,181)	672	(22,509)	(39,902)
Total funds brought forward		24,130	19,630	43,760	83,662
Total funds carried forward		949	20,302	21,251	43,760

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Balance Sheet - 30 April 2023

	Notes	£	2023	£	£	2022	£
Fixed Assets							
Tangible fixed assets	7			12,539		14,752	
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	8	10,365			12,633		
Cash at bank and in hand		32,296			35,180		
				42,661		47,813	
Liabilities: (amounts falling due within one year)							
	9	(33,949)			(18,805)		
Net current assets							
				8,712		29,008	
Net Assets							
				21,251		43,760	
Funds of the Charity:							
Unrestricted Funds	10			949		24,130	
Restricted Funds	10			20,302		19,630	
Total Funds							
	11			21,251		43,760	

The financial statements on pages 5 to 12 were approved by the Trustees on 13 February..2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr G Du Plessis

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2023

1 Accounting Policies

- (a) The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and follow the recommendations in Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2019 (FRS 102)) and comply with these Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2005 issued under the Charities Act 2011.
- (b) Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts to the Charity is included in full, in the Statement of Financial Activities when received.
- (c) Intangible income is valued and included in income to the extent that it represents goods or services which would otherwise be purchased. Where it is not possible to value the goods or services, such as volunteer time, the accounts do not include this value.
- (d) Investment income is accounted for in the year in which the Charity is entitled to receipt.
- (e) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.
- (f) Unrestricted Funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the objects of the Charity without further specified purposes and are available as General Funds.
- (g) Restricted Funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the Fund.
- (h) As a Registered Charity, no liability to taxation arises.
- (i) Tangible fixed assets are valued at cost.
- (j) Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Leasehold improvements	- 20% straight line
Equipment	- 15% reducing balance
- (k) Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the Charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.
- (l) Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to pay out resources, and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2023

2 Activities for Generating Funds

	2023	2022
	£	£
Book shop sales	21	12
Coffee shop sales	57	111
Events	145	-
Other fund-raising activities	3,422	1,070
Rent received	33,859	33,859
Venue hire	9,320	150
	<u>46,824</u>	<u>35,202</u>
	=====	=====

3 Resources Expended

	2023	2022
	£	£
Resources expended are stated after charging:		
Independent Examiner's fee	4,000	3,000
Depreciation	2,213	2,803
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

4 Trustees

None of the Trustees were reimbursed for expenses throughout the current and previous year.

5 Salaries

	2023	2022
	£	£
This is analysed as follows:		
Salaries and wages	81,348	116,412
Social Security costs	1,606	6,513
Pension costs	1,511	1,748
	<u>84,465</u>	<u>124,673</u>
	=====	=====
Number of employees earning in excess of £60,000	-	-
	=====	=====
Average number of employees	4	5
	=====	=====
Trustees' remuneration for their pastoral work carried out on behalf of the trust, including Employer's NIC	21,357	60,293
	=====	=====

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2023

6 Transfers between Funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Net movements in funds for year	(31,966)	9,457	(22,509)	(39,902)
Resources used for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	8,785	(8,785)	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net movement in funds for the year	(23,181)	672	(22,509)	(39,902)
	=====	=====	=====	=====

7 Fixed Assets

	Leasehold Improvements £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 May 2022	63,449	76,433	139,882
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 30 April 2023	63,449	76,433	139,882
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation			
At 1 May 2022	63,449	61,681	125,130
Charge for the year	-	2,213	2,213
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 30 April 2023	63,449	63,894	127,343
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net Book Value			
At 30 April 2023	-	12,539	12,539
	=====	=====	=====
At 30 April 2022	-	14,752	14,752
	=====	=====	=====

**Living Stones Christian Life
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Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2023

8 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Tax refund	6,369	3,787
Prepayments	3,996	8,846
	10,365	12,633
	=====	=====

9 Liabilities (amounts falling due within one year)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other taxes and social security costs	1,401	1,022
Accruals and deferred income	32,548	17,783
	33,949	18,805
	=====	=====

10 Statement of Funds

	At 1 May 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers Between Funds	At 30 April 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	24,130	215,139	(247,105)	8,785	949
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Restricted Funds					
Faithful Men	70	165	(58)	(177)	-
Building Fund	85	-	(85)	-	-
Common Ground Fund	667	-	-	(667)	-
Youth Fund	-	2,118	(172)	-	1,946
Ladies Fund	1,891	1,140	(1,331)	(1,700)	-
Safe House Fund	10,801	-	-	(5,501)	5,300
Christians Against Poverty	24	-	(24)	-	-
Youth Community Project	-	9,980	-	-	9,980
Ezra & Esther Project	1,291	5,852	(7,143)	-	-
Family Fund	1,530	-	-	(530)	1,000
Hope Alive Fund	160	80	-	-	240
Benevolent Fund	162	20	-	530	712
India Crisis	20	-	(20)	-	-
Wopp online sales	380	-	-	(380)	-
Businesswomen Forum	960	-	(600)	(360)	-
Food Bank	550	1,065	(1,495)	-	120
Widows and Orphans	719	285	-	-	1,004
Ukraine Crisis	320	-	(320)	-	-
	19,630	20,705	(11,248)	(8,785)	20,302
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total Funds	43,760	235,844	(258,353)	-	21,251
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

**Living Stones Christian Life
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Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2023

10 Statement of Funds (Continued)

Unrestricted Funds represents free funds of the Charity which are not designated for particular purposes.

The Youth Fund represents monies donated for youth meetings to teach life skills and for fun events.

Safe House Fund represents monies donated in preparation for the housing of abused women and children.

Christians Against Poverty represents monies donated to aid the teaching and understanding of how to manage money problems, debt and budgeting.

Youth Community Project is a grant awarded to provide creative workshop activities for youth and provide a safe place for the young to share concerns, express aims, ambitions and gain mentoring support in areas of particular interest.

Ezra Project represents monies donated specifically for the use in funding a rural school in Nigeria, the Charity support includes the provision of literacy and teaching aids plus funds donated towards building a perimeter wall around the school.

Esther Projects represents monies donated to educate and practically support young ladies in remote and rural areas of the world. The support covers issues related to feminine hygiene and adolescence, schooling relationships and early marriage. The project also fights against genital mutilation and other customs which are detrimental to the physical and emotional well-being of young ladies.

Family Fund represents monies donated which is to be used by families who require a small, short term loan. The loans will be on an interest free basis. Additional monies have also been donated to families in need and on the discretion of the Trustees, those monies are not due for repayment.

Hope Alive Fund represents monies donated towards the purchase of Christmas hampers which are given to disadvantaged families within the community.

Benevolent Fund represents monies donated towards assisting families financially when they have lost loved ones.

India Crisis Fund relates to monies donated to a Charity to assist people in need in India who have been affected by persecution or natural disasters.

Food Bank Fund represents monies donated towards food vouchers which are distributed as needed. The Charity have found that as there are specific dietary needs of some people, it is best to then provide them with a food voucher so that they can purchase accordingly. Recipients in need of food support are assessed and either provided with food or a food voucher from our food bank.

Widows and Orphans Fund represents monies donated to help support widows and orphans in the Church as well as those who we locate in the local community. This can be by purchasing food or any item that they may need or can be giving them vouchers or cash.

Ukraine Crisis Fund relates to monies donated to a Charity to assist people in need in Ukraine who have been affected by the war.

**Living Stones Christian Life
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Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2023

10 Statement of Funds (Continued)

The Trustees have decided that the following funds no longer form part of the restricted funds and can be released into the unrestricted funds in order to fund other charitable activities.

Faithful Men Fund
Common Ground Fund
Ladies Fund
Wopp online sales fund
Business Women Forum

11 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	12,539	12,539	14,752
Debtors and prepayments	-	10,365	10,365	12,633
Cash at bank and in hand	20,302	11,994	32,296	35,180
Current liabilities	-	(33,949)	(33,949)	(18,805)
Total assets	20,302	949	21,251	43,760
	=====	=====	=====	=====

12 Related Party Transactions

During the year the Charity received donations from the Trustees amounting to £21,103 (2022 - £16,382).

13 Control

The Charity was under the control of the Trustees throughout the current and previous year.