

## Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

### Report of the Trustees

**Charity Name** OSCAR UK Information Service for World Mission

**Registered Charity Number** 1093265

**Address** City Works  
Alfred Street  
Gloucester  
GL1 4DF

**Trustees** Mr Philip Metcalf (Chairman) (Resigned 08/12/20)  
Mrs Susan O'Dell  
Mr. Michael J. Frith  
Mrs. Tracey Ryland

**Director** Mr. Michael J. Frith

### Structure

OSCAR is governed according to a trust deed and managed by a board of trustees. Trustees are appointed by a resolution of the trustees passed by a majority of the trustees.

### Objectives and Activities

As stated in the trust deed: 'The objects of OSCAR are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Schedule hereto in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit by the management of an information website on the world-wide internet to:

1. provide a comprehensive resource for United Kingdom missionaries and overseas Christian workers
2. research new ways of providing more effective transport and propagation of the Trust's services
3. provide a network for mission organisations, associations and services in order to pool resources and
4. to develop teaching, training and consultation services for missionaries, mission organisations and their supporters to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of Christian mission work throughout the world

and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust.'

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This report is part of that process that helps us remain focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when conducting this process. In particular, we consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objects of the charity and provide public benefit.

We have had four people providing regular, paid-for services to OSCAR throughout the year – one acting as Director, the other three in roles including Administration and Website Development. Each of these have been self-employed and contracted to provide these services. In addition to these, four volunteers helped with database checking, content creation and at exhibitions.

The trust continues to maintain and develop the OSCAR website as its main activity in achieving the trust's objectives. In addition, in support of the website and to further these objectives, a significant amount of email, online, telephone and face-to-face support (particularly at exhibitions, conferences and training events) is conducted. Access to our website and other information services is provided free and without restriction to all who wish to access them.

### *OSCAR's Unique Selling Point*

There are few organisations in the UK which offer independent advice and help to anyone with questions about Christian mission. Most are either linked to an individual mission organisation or have other agendas or restrictive criteria when giving out advice. OSCAR remains the only completely independent service offering free advice and help across the board. Our users/beneficiaries may be Christian mission workers in active ministry, those enquiring about opportunities, or those who support mission in one way or another. We help them free of charge, regardless of their associations or particular Christian beliefs.

### **Review of the Year, Achievements and Performance**

With the COVID-19 crisis affecting every aspect of our work all through the year, this year has been like no other. Cancelled exhibitions and limited face-to-face activities have meant that some normal activities, and associated budgets, have been affected. However, being mainly an online service has meant that most things adapted and continued with the new status quo.

#### *Website*

Website visits continued to fluctuate between 23,000 and 32,000 per month. Page views also fluctuated between 123,000 and 163,000 per month. Every month was a different scenario due to lockdowns and working or travel restrictions.

Our incremental development plan continued through the year, with several new developments being rolled out at different times, including a new server based email system and the launch of individual user accounts on the website.

We continue to monitor the optimisation of many of OSCAR's key web pages to improve ranking with Internet search engines. This means that as well as the homepage, many other specific web pages on the OSCAR website appear high up in search returns when an individual uses a relevant search term to that page or section.

### *Social Media*

OSCARactive, our separate online mission-focused community website, continues to have over 730 registered members (and many other visitors who browse the community).

We also maintain a strong presence in various social networks, particularly Facebook (1428 likes/1570 follows), Twitter (2066 followers) and LinkedIn (200 members) in order to provide OSCAR's advice and services beyond our regular user base.

### *Mission Participation*

Our open content management system, where mission organisations, support organisations and churches can have their own account and update their own information, opportunities, events and resources, has seen a further increase in participation. The number of organisations managing their own account grew from 630 to 730 during the year. We advertised 2464 opportunities during the year averaging over 200 each month despite the slowdown.

*'You'll be pleased to know that I spent last year scrutinising whether or not Oscar is giving us the return on investment in terms of people mobilised to the field, and we've got 4 people in-process right now who initially found us on Oscar. So, thank you very much!'*

**Amanda, Pioneers**

Our directories include 661 agencies, 588 service providers, 999 mission-minded churches, 1167 resources and 48 events.

All UK based mission agencies, support organisations and mission-minded churches on our database (around 2000 in total) were sent an annual email during the year informing them of their entry on our site and highlighting how OSCAR can benefit them in their mission interest and involvement.

### *OSCAR Email Newsletters*

During the year we moved all of our regular email lists to a new server driven email system. Subscription to our main monthly OSCAR Update email remains roughly the same at just under 2000. Our three other mailing lists all increased significantly with the new system, including our email news to organisations who utilise our services (716), to churches who have requested it (513), and to individuals looking for opportunities (1246). These are tailored with advice, information and news relevant to them.

### *Conference Exhibitions*

This year, due to the ongoing pandemic, we participated in just two major conference exhibitions: Bangor Worldwide (Northern Ireland) and David's Tent (West Sussex), both in August 2021.

### *Training & Consultancy services*

All of our training courses/sessions were online during the year. We conducted 21 in total. Two consultancy sessions were also provided by OSCAR's director.

*'OSCAR's passion for missionaries at home and abroad is evident from the moment you interact with them. They have been actively involved in supporting Mercy Ships crew pre-serving onboard by providing comprehensive and excellent training on transition, culture adjustments and how to manage stress while serving abroad. If you need someone professional, with passion for those in your care, then engage with OSCAR because you will not be let down. A huge thank you from Mercy Ships and we look forward to continuing working with you in the future.'*

**Hannah Mulvihill, Crew Support Coordinator, Mercy Ships UK**

### ***Reserves Policy***

In normal times, we aim to maintain, as an ongoing reserve, a cash balance of between three and six months expenditure. Further reserves may be carried over from year to year where a significant grant or donation has been made and the planned spending of the donation is spread over more than one year.

This year's final balance of £45,370 (2020 - £34,177) equates to 114% of the total annual expenditure figure, mostly due to the fact that income continued but activity was limited during a year effected hugely by the pandemic. Our overall income for the year was 28% greater than our expenditure. The charity ended the year in a healthy position financially.

Signed by



Date

10/01/2022

Michael Frith, Trustee (on behalf of all trustees)

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

**Receipts and Payments Accounts**

			2020/21	2019/20
		<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	
	<i>Note</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Total</i>
				<i>Total</i>
				<i>£</i>
				<i>£</i>
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations	1)	965	80	1,045
Sponsorship		4,178		4,178
Fees	2)	23,772		23,772
Grants	3)	9,680		9,680
Training services		4,489		4,489
Exhibitions		3,190		3,190
Office		4,436		4,436
Other income	4)	78		78
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>50,788</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>50,868</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Fundraising and Publicity		0		0
<i>Charitable payments:</i>				
Office		6,759		6,759
General admin		321		321
Website direct costs		498		498
Website development		1,854		1,854
Worker development		60		60
Travel	5)	0		0
Equipment purchase		1,861		1,861
Workers		22,059		22,059
Insurances	6)	576		576
Training services		703		703
Exhibitions		1,961		1,961
Job sponsorship		1,252		1,252
Grants given	7)		1,551	1,551
Other payments	8)	220		220
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>38,124</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>39,675</b>
<b>Net Receipts (Payments)</b>		<b>12,664</b>	<b>-1,471</b>	<b>11,193</b>
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>		<b>32,499</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>34,177</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	9)	<b>45,163</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>45,370</b>

The above Receipts and Payments Account was approved by the trustees on 10/01/2022 and is signed on their behalf by trustee Michael Frith



## Assets & Liabilities

Cash Funds (*see note 11*)

**31/08/21**  
£  
45,370

**31/08/20**  
£  
34,177

Debtors

Amounts owing to the charity (*see note 12*)

**31/08/21**  
£  
3,204

**31/08/20**  
£  
2,470

Creditors

Amounts owed by the charity (*see note 13*)

**31/08/21**  
£  
1,037

**31/08/20**  
£  
750

### ***Assets retained for the charity's own use (see note 14)***

Dell XPS13 9300 laptop (NEW)	Purchased 27/10/20	£1861 (100%)
Apple iPad Air 2019 (>2 year old)	Purchased 29/04/19	£292 (50%)
General equipment (>3 year old)	Purchased 17/18	£34 (25%)
Dell Inspiron 5000 i7 laptop (>3 year old)	Purchased 24/10/17	£213 (25%)
Apple iPad Air 1 (>3 year old)	Purchased 03/09/17	£72 (25%)

**TOTAL VALUE**

**£2,215**

## Notes to the Accounts

### Receipts

- 1) Donations include cash donations from individuals and organisations, including Gift Aid where appropriate, as well as income from affiliate schemes. Restricted amounts £80 (2019/20 - £1037.88) all restricted to grant payments for TCK related activities.
- 2) Fees include the income from OSCAR's 'extra services': the annual package (profile page & vacancies) and the posting of individual vacancies on the website.
- 3) Includes grants from six charitable trusts.
- 4) Includes bank interest.

### Payments

- 5) Amounts paid to the trustees for travel to trustee meetings amounted to £0 (2019/2020 - £0). No remuneration was paid to trustees in the year (2019/2020 - £0) except as detailed in Note 10.
- 6) Insurances include charity liability, trustee indemnity insurance, contents and cyber insurance, which all come under one policy.
- 7) Grants given relate exclusively this year to payments made from the TCK/Xenos restricted donation
- 8) Other payments refers to the fee for the independent examination (£220).
- 9) The Restricted total is all from the TCK/Xenos fund.

### 10) Related Party Disclosures

Mr Michael J Frith, trustee, received fees for his services as the charity director totalling £20,428 (2019/2020 - £24,355) in the year ended 31 August 2021 together with £0 (2019/2020 - £773) for claimed travel, meals and accommodation expenses or where items were paid for with cash and subsequently reimbursed from the charity. The charity received specific permission from the Charity Commission on 26/11/16 to appoint a member of staff as a trustee, providing authority for these payments for services.

Miss Joanna S Frith, daughter of trustee Mr Michael J Frith, received fees for her services as admin and events assistant totalling £721 (2019/2020 - £2,190) in the year ended 31 August 2021.

The charity's insurance provides trustee indemnity cover.

### Cash Funds

- 11) Cash Funds constitutes the following:

HSBC community acc.	£4397.75
HSBC deposit acc.	£40071.64
PayPal acc.	£900.97
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£45370.36</b>

### Debtors

- 12) Includes outstanding invoices, due gift aid refund, office rent advance payment and paid exhibitor fees deferred to 2022.

### Creditors

- 13) Includes office rent portion, worker fees and expenses due, and Independent Examination fee.

### Assets & Liabilities

- 14) Items are grouped together under the year of purchase. Single items over £100 in value are listed separately. The cost of tangible fixed assets is written-off by equal annual instalments over their expected useful lives (4 years).

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF OSCAR UK

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 August 2021

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to 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 Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### 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 respect 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 and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.
- 2) have not been met; or  
to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Mrs Mary Adlard**  
**Pippins Accountancy Services**  
**The Pippins**  
**Gambles Lane**  
**Woodmancote**  
**Cheltenham**  
**GL52 9PU**

**Date: 10/01/2022**