

**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05156475 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1105173**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024**  
**FOR**  
**THE BLESS NETWORK**

D E Ball & Co Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
15 Bridge Road  
Wellington  
Telford  
Shropshire  
TF1 1EB

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

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**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

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**THE BLESS NETWORK**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30th September 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and activities**

The objective of The Bless Network ('Bless'), is the advancement of the Christian faith throughout Europe in accordance with the articles of faith set out in the Company's articles of association. Bless uses a range of programmes to mobilise Christian individuals and groups to engage in relevant and missional strategies in contemporary European culture. Recognising the place of the local church at the heart of Christian mission, members of Bless based in France are supporting the planting of new churches.

**Charity's Mission Statement**

The Bless Network exists to explore and express the way of Jesus by activating the values of his Kingdom in the cultures of Europe.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

Our local work in France continued strongly through the year. We are seeing growth in the local church community, with regular gatherings now established in Caen and Villedômer. The group meeting in Livarot requested, as from September 2024, to be released from engagement with our organisation so as to grow as an independent congregation. This was agreed and the group has been handed over fully to the leadership of Thierry and Melissa Eudeline. Our regular support of the refugee community in the city of Caen was placed on pause in July 2024, due to issues around both funding and strategy. We continue to search for ways to engage with individuals living and working on the Presqu'île de Caen, including the trafficked women based there.

We have continued to develop our "Seven Stories" training programme, offering both residential courses at Bethanie and off-site input into local churches, including a significant visit to Pasadena, USA.

The Blesstival event was again well-attended and well-received.

The summer programs at Bethanie were led and managed by Ryan and Karen Hall with Jon and Anna White, and were both busy and fruitful. The Atelier weeks were particularly impactful, both on outside participants and on the local church, as was the now regular visit of Frontier Church from Pasadena, California. The trustees have invested significant time in 2023 in further developing the relationship with Ryan and Karen Hall in-line with Bless' stated aim of their taking-on the management of Bethanie.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

Core running costs are continually kept under review and were 4% lower in 2023-24 compared to 2022-23 against 1% higher income; it is acknowledged that the trustees and volunteer team cover expenses incurred on behalf of Bless. None of the trustees or volunteers receive any remuneration.

The outstanding loan from Gerard & Chrissie Kelly of £73,039 was renegotiated to 1 October 2029. Part repayments may be made when cash is available. Another loan of £5,000 was also extended to March 2029.

As of 1 May 2025, The Bless Network took over the operational income, expenses, assets and liabilities of its French partner, Association Vivre pour les Autres (VPLA). This resulted in a small inter-charity balance of £852 in favour of the Bless Network, which it covered by making an equivalent grant to VPLA. Of the net loss for the year of £6,658, VPLA operations accounted for £2,242 (May to September 2024).

The charity's activities of providing food, clothes, French lessons and other support to refugees and migrants were suspended at the end of June 2024. This will not significantly change the financial results of The Bless Network (net income in the current year was a loss of £213).

## **THE BLESS NETWORK**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Reserves policy**

The policy on reserves is to maintain funds equivalent to keeping the charity (including VPLA in France) operational for 3 months before additional income is required from grants, donations or contributions from Bless programmes, i.e. approximately £7,500. Action is in hand to improve the reserves position by increasing the level of unrestricted income via donations and fund-raising, and by reducing the net operating costs of the charity.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

##### **Organisational structure**

Bless, established as a charitable company in June 2004, is overseen by a board of trustees, who delegate operational tasks to a core team of volunteers. The core team, living mainly in community in France, include trustees Gerard and Chrissie Kelly, who lead this team and operate as the link between it and the trustees. Additionally there continues to be volunteer 'reps' operating in the UK and the Netherlands, as well as France, assisting in the development, in both working practices and values, of a Europe wide Bless network.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

05156475 (England and Wales)

##### **Registered Charity number**

1105173

##### **Registered office**

c/o Rising Brook Baptist Church  
Burton Square  
Stafford  
Staffordshire  
ST17 9LT

##### **Trustees**

Mrs C E Kelly  
G J Kelly  
T D Gwilliam  
M J Young - Board Chairman  
Prof J M Saker  
Mrs C L Gwilliam  
Mrs S C Harrington

##### **Company Secretary**

T M Herriott

##### **Independent Examiner**

D E Ball & Co Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
15 Bridge Road  
Wellington  
Telford  
Shropshire  
TF1 1EB

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Bankers**

The Co-operative Bank Plc  
PO Box 250  
Delf House  
Southway  
Skelmersdale  
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25th June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M J Young', written over a horizontal line.

M J Young - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE BLESS NETWORK**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Bless Network ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30th September 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

Russell Ball

D E Ball & Co Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
15 Bridge Road  
Wellington  
Telford  
Shropshire  
TF1 1EB

25th June 2025

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	30.9.24 Total funds £	30.9.23 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies		20,810	-	20,810	10,146
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Go2Bless		4,215	-	4,215	9,461
Year2Bless		644	-	644	1,226
Bethanie		13,648	-	13,648	18,412
Management & administration		6,530	-	6,530	6,573
Bless Church (FR)		266	-	266	-
<b>Total</b>		<u>46,113</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,113</u>	<u>45,818</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds		342	-	342	216
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Go2Bless		1,891	-	1,891	6,583
Year2Bless		160	-	160	649
Bethanie		13,181	-	13,181	20,230
Management & administration		24,458	-	24,458	25,251
SOS Caen		6,678	-	6,678	1,840
Bless Church (FR)		6,061	-	6,061	-
<b>Total</b>		<u>52,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,771</u>	<u>54,769</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<u>(6,658)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,658)</u>	<u>(8,951)</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		75,659	177,438	253,097	262,048
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>69,001</u></u>	<u><u>177,438</u></u>	<u><u>246,439</u></u>	<u><u>253,097</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**30th September 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	30.9.24 Total funds £	30.9.23 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	5	195,535	177,438	372,973	373,700
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	5,383	-	5,383	122
Cash at bank		23,357	-	23,357	47,434
		<u>28,740</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,740</u>	<u>47,556</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(2,373)	-	(2,373)	(11,258)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>26,367</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,367</u>	<u>36,298</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		221,902	177,438	399,340	409,998
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	8	(152,901)	-	(152,901)	(156,901)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>69,001</u>	<u>177,438</u>	<u>246,439</u>	<u>253,097</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	10				
Unrestricted funds				69,001	75,659
Restricted funds				<u>177,438</u>	<u>177,438</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>246,439</u>	<u>253,097</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30th September 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

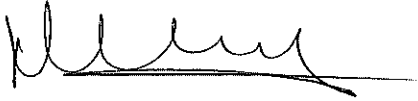


**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued**  
**30th September 2024**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25th June 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M J Young', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

M J Young - Trustee

## **THE BLESS NETWORK**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

##### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

##### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **2. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	30.9.24	30.9.23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	727	969
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

**3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30th September 2024 nor for the year ended 30th September 2023.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30th September 2024 nor for the year ended 30th September 2023.

**4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	10,146	-	10,146
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Go2Bless	9,461	-	9,461
Year2Bless	1,226	-	1,226
Bethanie	18,412	-	18,412
Management & administration	6,573	-	6,573
<b>Total</b>	<u>45,818</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>45,818</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	216	-	216
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Go2Bless	6,583	-	6,583
Year2Bless	649	-	649
Bethanie	20,230	-	20,230
Management & administration	25,251	-	25,251
SOS Caen	1,840	-	1,840
<b>Total</b>	<u>54,769</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,769</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(8,951)	-	(8,951)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	84,610	177,438	262,048
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u><u>75,659</u></u>	<u><u>177,438</u></u>	<u><u>253,097</u></u>

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

**5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1st October 2023 and 30th September 2024	370,792	9,118	904	380,814
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1st October 2023	-	6,210	904	7,114
Charge for year	-	727	-	727
At 30th September 2024	-	6,937	904	7,841
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 30th September 2024	370,792	2,181	-	372,973
At 30th September 2023	370,792	2,908	-	373,700

**6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	30.9.24 £	30.9.23 £
Other debtor	5,383	122

**7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	30.9.24 £	30.9.23 £
Other loans (see note 9)	-	5,000
Accrued expenses	2,373	6,258
	2,373	11,258

**8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR**

	30.9.24 £	30.9.23 £
Other loans (see note 9)	152,901	156,901

**9. LOANS**

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	30.9.24 £	30.9.23 £
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Other loans	-	5,000
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Other loans - 2-5 years	152,901	156,901

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.10.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	75,659	(6,658)	69,001
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	177,438	-	177,438
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>253,097</u>	<u>(6,658)</u>	<u>246,439</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	46,113	(52,771)	(6,658)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>46,113</u>	<u>(52,771)</u>	<u>(6,658)</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.10.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	84,610	(8,951)	75,659
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	177,438	-	177,438
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>262,048</u>	<u>(8,951)</u>	<u>253,097</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	45,818	(54,769)	(8,951)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>45,818</u>	<u>(54,769)</u>	<u>(8,951)</u>

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.10.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	84,610	(15,609)	69,001
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	177,438	-	177,438
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>262,048</u>	<u>(15,609)</u>	<u>246,439</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	91,931	(107,540)	(15,609)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>91,931</u>	<u>(107,540)</u>	<u>(15,609)</u>

**Unrestricted funds**

These represent funds held to meet the reserves policy. Any surplus funds will be used to fulfil the charitable objectives. Details of both are provided in the Report of the Trustees.

**Restricted funds**

These relate to the funds donated towards the purchase of the property "Bethanie" at Heurtevent, France.

**11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30th September 2024.

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

	30.9.24	30.9.23
	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Gifts	3,671	1,571
Donations - general	5,649	7,716
Donations - Bethanie	410	426
Church (France)	4,615	-
SOS Caen	6,465	433
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	20,810	10,146
 <b>Charitable activities</b>		
Go2Bless	4,215	9,461
Year/Time2Bless	644	1,226
Bethanie facilities	13,648	18,412
Management fees	6,530	6,573
Church (France)	266	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	25,303	35,672
 <b>Total incoming resources</b>	 46,113	 45,818
 <b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Publicity and promotion	69	-
Platform fees	273	216
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	342	216
 <b>Charitable activities</b>		
Rent, rates and water	836	-
Insurance	3,545	2,916
Repairs and maintenance	86	326
Motor and travel expenses	8,857	6,462
Gifts passed to third parties	3,671	1,571
Mission costs - Bethanie	13,181	20,233
Mission costs - Go2Bless	1,891	6,583
Mission costs - Year/Time2Bless	160	530
Mission costs - SOS Caen	6,678	1,840
Mission costs - Church France	5,041	-
Church manager	1,020	8,079
Grants to VPLA France	1,538	-
Sundry expenses	4,441	2,654
Accountancy and legal costs	703	2,390
Carried forward	51,648	53,584

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**THE BLESS NETWORK**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**for the Year Ended 30th September 2024**

	30.9.24 £	30.9.23 £
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Brought forward	51,648	53,584
Bank charges	54	-
Depreciation of vehicle	727	969
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	52,429	54,553
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Total resources expended	52,771	54,769
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net expenditure	(6,658)	(8,951)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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