
THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT

(A company limited by guarantee)

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Charity Registered Number 1110648

Company Registered Number 05471349

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees: Iain McKay
 Richard George
 Stephen Moore

Company registered number: 05471349

Charity registered number: 1110648

Registered Office: Laundry Corner
 The Street
 Framingham Pigot
 Norwich
 NR14 7QJ

Accountant: G Schulz & Company Ltd
 Chartered Management Accountants
 G Schulz FCMA
 3 Lane Close
 Broadbridge Heath
 Horsham
 RH12 3UF

Bankers: Barclays Bank
 School Road
 Drayton
 Norwich
 NR8 6DN

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee (registered charity number 1110648) and was set up under a Memorandum of Association on 3 June 2005.

Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

Organisational structure

The management of the company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are appointed in accordance with the Articles of Association. The day to day operation is managed by Richard George, one of the Trustees.

Risk management

The Trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The object is the advancement of the Christian faith by means of:

1. Providing inspirational teaching through study groups and conferences
2. Advancing education and providing training in the study of the Bible
3. Providing Christian resources by way of printed and digital media
4. Promoting the outworking of the Christian ministry through worship, prayer and fellowship.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Financial review

Reserves policy

The Trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of financial commitments. The Trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The Trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

Achievements and performance

Review of activities

During the period the ministry flourished in the UK and abroad, especially in East Africa. The Senior Leadership Team and Pioneering Team were active in helping to lead development of the ministry, alongside the central Norfolk team. Finances were sufficient to cover all planned activities and projects.

Training and equipping of supporters over recent years has led to a greater participation in the national effort. Many are now maturing into leadership positions and this will lead to increased recruitment of new teachers and supporters. This long term strategy will form the basis of the next season of growth in the ministry.

In the UK, national conferences, teaching schools and training centre days were held on-line and in person, alongside on-line teaching podcasts.

The work in East Africa continued, with on-line teaching schools being run for delegates in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other French speaking African countries.

Development of the Bible College continued in Uganda, funded from donations. The five acre site north of Kampala is legally held in trust by local partners for The Way of The Spirit Bible College Ltd. (the NGO's local operating company) pending transfer to that company once local formalities have been completed. The planned first phase of development continued during the year, with further development of the teaching hall, dining and kitchen block, dormitory, and office block.

In parallel, the Ugandan NGO application continued to progress slowly.

The long-term aim is to develop the Ugandan Bible College with mostly African Bible teachers, to train local Bible teachers, provide teaching support to local and regional churches, and to send African teaching teams on mission throughout East Africa.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees (who are directors of The Way Of The Spirit for the purposes of company law) 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) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 17 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Richard George
Trustee

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The Way of the Spirit

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year 31 August 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the Trustees of the company (and 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 the company's accounts 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 can 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.

.....
G W Schulz FCMA

G Schulz & Company Ltd
Chartered Management Accountants
G W Schulz FCMA
3 Lane Close
Broadbridge Heath
Horsham
RH12 3UF

17 May 2024

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Donations and legacies	2	142,638	29,434	172,072	154,472
Charitable activities	3	43,916	-	43,916	22,023
Other trading activities	4	10,083	-	10,083	6,997
Investments	5	62	-	62	24
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		196,699	29,434	226,133	183,516
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Raising funds	4	5,815	-	5,815	2,488
Charitable activities	6	164,645	73,630	238,275	217,537
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		170,460	73,630	244,090	220,025
NET INCOMING RESOURCES/(RESOURCES EXPENDED) BEFORE TRANSFERS		26,239	(44,196)	(17,957)	(36,509)
Transfers between funds		(44,196)	44,196	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		(17,957)	-	(17,957)	(36,509)
<i>Total funds at 1 September 2022</i>		27,327	-	27,327	63,836
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 AUGUST 2023	12	9,370	-	9,370	27,327

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements

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Registered number: 05471349

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

			2023	2022
	Note	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets	9		1,063	1,417
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stock		14,035	14,732	
Debtors	10	2,987	2,645	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,924	14,334	
		18,946	31,711	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	11	10,639	5,801	
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)			8,307	25,910
NET ASSETS			9,370	27,327
CHARITY FUNDS				
Restricted funds		-	-	
Unrestricted funds		9,370	27,327	
TOTAL FUNDS	12		9,370	27,327

The company's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The Trustees consider that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 17 May 2024 and signed on their behalf, by:

.....
Richard George
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 2. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

The Way Of The Spirit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

Income

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

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Gift aid

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Plant & Equipment, Furniture & Fittings 20% on cost

Stock

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the company has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Financial instruments

The company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Offerings and Other gifts	120,224	29,434	149,658	139,818
Gift aid	22,414	-	22,414	14,654
Legacies	-	-	-	-
	142,638	29,434	172,072	154,472

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Part-time school	330	-	330	25
Conferences	43,351	-	43,351	20,133
Other income	235	-	235	1,865
	43,916	-	43,916	22,023

4. TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Charity trading income				
Sales of books and CDs	10,083	-	10,083	6,997
Charity trading expenses				
Cost of sales	5,815	-	5,815	2,488
Net income from trading activities	4,268	-	4,268	4,509

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Bank interest	62	-	62	24
	62	-	62	24

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

6. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Teaching Days		7,875	-	7,875	6,246
Conference Expenses		51,013	-	51,013	16,703
Grants to individuals		-	12,275	12,275	4,455
Grants to organisations		-	61,355	61,355	93,012
Ministry Staff	7	82,726	-	82,726	70,430
Property Rent		12,214	-	12,214	11,963
Licences & insurance		2,271	-	2,271	2,034
Legal & Professional Fees		333	-	333	435
Other Administration		5,270	-	5,270	9,586
Bank Charges		2,139	-	2,139	1,919
Depreciation		354	-	354	354
Independent examination		450	-	450	400
		164,645	73,630	238,275	217,537

7. STAFF COSTS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	79,886	-	79,886	68,062
Social security costs	256	-	256	188
Pension	2,584	-	2,584	2,180
	82,726	-	82,726	70,430

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Ministry	5	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

8. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

During the year, one Trustee received remuneration amounting to £20,004 (2022 - £21,575).

During the year, one Trustee received pension contributions amounting to £880 (2022 - £827).

The only other payments made to the Trustees, or any person connected with them, consisted of reimbursements of expenditure incurred on behalf of the charity in furthering the charity's objects.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

9. FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment	Furniture & Fittings	Sound Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 September 2022	4,475	2,842	1,601	8,918
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2023	4,475	2,842	1,601	8,918
Accumulated Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	3,058	2,842	1,601	7,501
Charged in the period	354	-	-	354
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2023	3,412	2,842	1,601	7,855
Net Book Value:				
At 31st August 2023	1,063	-	-	1,063
At 1 September 2022	1,417	-	-	1,417

10. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	2,084	2,297
Gift aid receivable	903	348
	2,987	2,645

11. CREDITORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	3,450	4,055
Other taxation and social security	1,016	902
Other creditors	6,173	844
	10,639	5,801

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

12. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Current year	Brought forward 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Resources expended 2023 £	Transfers in/out 2023 £	Carried forward 2023 £
General funds	27,327	196,699	(170,460)	(44,196)	9,370
Restricted funds:					
Mission Fund	-	29,434	(73,630)	44,196	-
	-	29,434	(73,630)	44,196	-
	27,327	226,133	(244,090)	-	9,370

The Mission fund supports The Way of the Spirit work in Kampala, Uganda and other mission work.

Prior year	Brought forward 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Resources expended 2022 £	Transfers in/out 2022 £	Carried forward 2022 £
General funds	63,836	154,082	(122,558)	(68,033)	27,327
Restricted funds:					
Mission Fund	-	29,434	(97,467)	68,033	-
	-	29,434	(97,467)	68,033	-
	63,836	183,516	(220,025)	-	27,327

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

13. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Current year	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Fixed assets	1,063	-	1,063
Current assets	18,946	-	18,946
Creditors due within one year	(10,639)	-	(10,639)
	9,370	-	9,370

Prior year	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Fixed assets	1,417	-	1,417
Current assets	31,711	-	31,711
Creditors due within one year	(5,801)	-	(5,801)
	27,327	-	27,327

14. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2023 the charity had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Expiry date:		
Within 1 year	7,167	10,750
Between 2 to 5 years	-	7,167

15. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £2,584 (2022 - £2,180). Contributions totalling £901 were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors (2022 - £689).