



Reaching the Indigenous Minority Language Groups of Europe

**Annual Report
Narrative Portion
1 January 2022 - 31 December 2022**

Submitted by

**Rev. John Robinson, Chairman
Board of Trustees
and
General Director**

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT¹:

The Charitable Aims of Linguæ Christi (hereafter, LC) are "The advancement of Christian faith in such ways as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide."

LC believe that the Christian Faith is inherently of public benefit, both to the individual in spiritual and emotional development and to the community at large, when the teachings of Jesus related to loving and serving one's neighbours and the world are applied in earnest, through the process of personal discipleship and corporate worship, service, and missions.

Toward the fulfilment both of our charitable aims and public benefit, LC has a distinctly missionary character, exhibited in the propagation of the Christian Gospel message to those who have not accessed or received it, the nurturing of new believers in Christ through discipleship and community, and the encouragement and strengthening of existing believers through cooperation and mutual assistance.

LC seek to manifest this missionary mandate through focus on ethnolinguistic people groups within the greater European context, namely those communities who speak one of the minority, indigenous (autochthonous) languages. This focus affects the work of LC within the UK in two ways: (1) a direct approach to evangelism among such people groups within the UK itself, which would include but not be limited to Welsh speakers, Scottish Gaelic speakers, Cornish speakers, Scots speakers, Irish Gaelic speakers, Ulster Scots speakers, and Manx Gaelic speakers; and (2) mobilise believers from the UK, particularly those from the language groups mentioned above, to participate in LC's mission efforts, coordinated from our headquarters in North Wales, among similar autochthonous language groups in other parts of Europe/Eurasia. A more thorough understanding of the vision and missiology of LC in this regard is available in our introductory paper, which is available upon request.

The details of LC's activities to these ends are included in the following information, regarding the charity's activities during this specific reporting period, namely 1 January - 31 December 2022.

PREFACE: EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

As with the reports for the past two years, LC has continued to feel the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic in terms of opportunities related to ministry and activities, albeit to a lesser extent than the previous year. Consequently, while more opportunities for activities and travel were possible than the previous year, this report will also be somewhat shorter than previous, pre-Pandemic reports, and the COVID-19 Pandemic will hereafter be referred to simply as "the Pandemic."

¹ This introductory segment is static, remaining the same from year to year.

ACTIVITIES DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD:

The following is a bullet-point description of some of the most important activities of LC during this reporting period. These items will be organised into three primary categories: (1) Trustee Matters; (2) Networking, Partnership, and Training; (3) Specific Projects and Direct Involvement, and (4) Future Plans and Initiatives.

(1) Trustee Matters.

* During this reporting period, the Trustees met a total of six times on the following dates:

- 31 January
- 21 March
- 23 May
- 15 September
- 22 October
- 12 December

All meetings were conducted via video conferencing due to the physical distance between Trustees.

(2) Networking, Partnership, and Training.

* We continue to develop our social media and on-line presence².

* Regarding the work of developing relationships and ministry partnerships with national believers from these language groups, though some travel restrictions remained as an effect of the Pandemic the General Director (GD) was able to take a few more site visits than during the previous year to various areas in Europe for ongoing discussions, related to the possibility of mobilisation and partnership on-field with various missions initiatives, even though several such projects were planned prior to the Pandemic. The following are some of the locations visited and the languages or language groups specifically covered in those discussions:

* The GD was in the United States for the first quarter of 2022 (1 January - for both mobilisation possibilities as well as personal family concerns. During this time, there were several opportunities to speak with individual Churches as well as other missions agencies about the possibility of partnership initiatives.

* The GD was able to attend an abbreviated Llanw Conference in Aberystwyth, which was cancelled during the previous two years, due to Pandemic restrictions.

* The GD was able to return to Estonia to visit the Baltic Methodist Seminary for further development of our existing partnership as well as to discuss specific collaborative projects within the parameters of our partnership. There was also the opportunity to establish connections with other entities, sharing LC's interests in developing missionary involvement with speakers of Uralic languages in the Nordic areas and Ural Mountains regions.

* The GD was able to represent LC in the REVIVE Conference in Karlsruhe, Germany (27 December 2022 - 02 January 2023). REVIVE is a conference for European

² This item is the same as in the 2021 report, as this activity is long-term and ongoing.

Evangelical Students with an interest in mission activities. Several good contacts were established with students having an interest in serving in some of LC's various projects as well as with other missionary organisations based in Europe for the possibility of developing partnerships for collaborative mission projects.

(3) Specific Projects and Direct Involvement.

* During the year, LC representatives serve numerous local, Welsh-speaking Chapels with pulpit supply in scheduled and emergency situations³. These opportunities were a mix of in-person interaction and ZOOM, due to the frequently changing nature of restrictions due to the Pandemic, which changed according to spikes in COVID cases at various times, though significantly more in-person than in during the previous two years.

* The children's club in the Dyffryn Nantlle, which LC personnel had run previously was unable to meet regularly during the Spring school terms due to Pandemic restrictions. However, this ministry was possible to resume in the Autumn, beginning in September, coinciding with the resumption of the school term.

* We were able to resume some of our summer intern opportunities in partnership with GEM⁴ and the BSM⁵ from Baylor University in Waco, Texas, USA.

* LC was able to organise and lead a short-term project in the Ladin-speaking area of the Dolomites in Italy in partnership with True North Community Church from West Haven, Utah, USA.

(4) Personnel Issues and Disruptions.

* As mentioned in the 2021 Report, the GD finished his time in the USA (which began in October 2021) in early April 2022 with his return to Wales.

* One of our medium-term interns completed her term of service in Wales.

(5) Future Plans and Initiatives. For 2023 and beyond, LC would like to move forward with plans and initiatives in the following broad categories⁶.

(A) Local Ministry⁷. The Associates with LC are committed to ongoing efforts and activities related to local ministries, particularly in Northwest Wales, which would include but not be confined to the areas of evangelism, encouraging local believers, discipleship, ministry, and Church planting.

(B) Recruitment⁸. LC remain committed to numerical growth of serving Associates in local missions service as well as contributing expertise to broader organisational needs. In terms of Affinity groups, this would of course include the Celtic

³ This item is the same as in the 2021 report, as this activity is long-term and ongoing.

⁴ Greater Europe Mission - an organisation with whom LC has a long relationship and ongoing partnership.

⁵ Baptist Student Ministries

⁶ This entire final section (Section 5) is the same as that for 2021, as all items are long-term projects and initiatives with ongoing engagement and development.

⁷ Due to the long-term nature of this goal and the disruptions caused by the Pandemic during 2022, though less severe than in the previous year, this goal will be carried over into 2023.

⁸ Due to the long-term nature of this goal and the disruptions caused by the Pandemic during 2022, though less severe than in the previous year, this goal will be carried over into 2023.

Languages Affinity Group, where LC currently have personnel, serving with Welsh speakers in North Wales. However, it is LC's intention to enlist and place personnel in more Linguistic Affinity Groups.

(i) Students⁹. One area of emphasis for short-term and medium-term projects is in utilising University students, who are Christians, in specific projects. These short-term and medium-term projects often produce longer-term personnel (see below). To this end, we are moving forward with three specific initiatives:

(1) Attending Conferences, Events, and Missions Emphases to recruit actively for new students.

(2) Doing more recruiting in new areas, particularly in the UK and Europe and more specifically with Christian students already from one of these minority linguistic communities.

(3) Diversifying project opportunities into more Linguistic Affinity Group Areas.

(C) Partnership/Networking¹⁰. LC have made some good initial contacts in expanding our presence in Linguistic Affinity Groups outside of the Celtic languages. The following are possibilities for ongoing conversation and networking toward the goal of partnership and cooperation.

(i) Ibero-Romance Languages¹¹. LC have had some good initial conversations with believers in the Basque and Galician languages communities in Spain and to a lesser extent, Catalan speakers. LC would like to continue and augment these discussions and make more active and new connections in the Catalan-speaking community.

(ii) Uralic Languages¹². Some good initial connections were made with believers involved with Uralic minority languages, particularly in Russia. LC would like to move these conversations forward to more formal partnership relationships and joint-projects.

(iii) Other Languages¹³. LC would like to move forward with new inroads to at least 2 or 3 other Linguistic Affinity Groups. Some initial contacts have already been made with speakers within the Italo-Romance Languages Affinity Group, which have good promise to be advanced. LC would like to make some initial contacts in other Affinity Groups.

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(D) Research and Training¹⁴. LC remain committed to careful research on these languages and communities, assimilating this information and knowledge into our missions and ministry plans and objectives. This would include taking advantage of both Christian and secular conferences and training events with a focus on these languages and communities, and innovative methods for propagation of the Christian Gospel among them.

SPECIAL ADDENDUM RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS 2022

Although this report covers the period of 1 January - 31 December 2022, it is prepared and submitted in 2023 with hindsight afforded by the reality of the Coronavirus Pandemic, which continued to some extent into 2022 in many areas and domains, though generally and progressively through the year with less severity, seeing a significant lifting of many if not most restrictions, particularly related to travel.

The realities of the Pandemic in 2020-2022 have, in fact, altered profoundly the proposals, plans, and initiatives which we formulated and articulated in 2022 for the following, namely this year (2023). Though the immediate and direct dangers of the disease have diminished significantly during 2022 and accordingly many if not most of the restrictions of the crisis have been lifted, the effects of the two years of significant disruption have produced a context, where it seems to be taking some time and effort for LC to “bounce back” as quickly as we would have hoped, putting LC back at a starting point in many of the areas, where we had made some significant forward movement in the pre-Pandemic years.

Consequently, the Report for 2022, which will be prepared and submitted in 2023, will outline in more detail the ongoing effects of the Pandemic on implementation of strategy, initiatives and the Charity’s activities, which greatly differed and diverged from the plans the Charity made in either 2020 for 2021 or 2021 for 2022 or even 2022 for 2023. Furthermore, the 2022 Report will be prepared with benefit of the full perspective from the completed period of time between 1 January and 31 December 2022.

¹⁴ Due to the long-term nature of this goal and the disruptions caused by the Pandemic during 2021, this goal will be carried over into 2022.

Balance Sheet

Linguae Christi

As at 31 December 2022

31 DEC 2022

Current Assets

Cash at bank and in hand

Linguae Christi	46,834.65
Petty Cash - Euro	67.38
Petty Cash - Pounds	1,032.84
Transferwise US Dollar Account	10,347.60
Total Cash at bank and in hand	58,282.47

Accounts Receivable	484.84
Multi-currency payments	(0.60)
Reversed Payments	(22.38)
Total Current Assets	58,744.33

Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Accounts Payable	1,269.16
Historical Adjustment	(0.02)
Rounding	(0.11)
Unpaid Expense Claims	4,639.96
VAT	(202.56)
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5,706.43

Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	53,037.90
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Total Assets less Current Liabilities	53,037.90
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Net Assets	53,037.90
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Capital and Reserves

Current Year Earnings	6,151.30
Restricted Assets	494.95
Retained Earnings	45,625.49
Unrestricted Assets	766.16
Total Capital and Reserves	53,037.90

Profit and Loss

Linguae Christi

For the year ended 31 December 2022

2022

Turnover

Donation Income - Restricted	26,747.52
Donation Income - Unrestricted	11,363.44
Other Revenue	31.60
Total Turnover	38,142.56

Cost of Sales

Direct Expenses	321.90
Total Cost of Sales	321.90

Gross Profit	37,820.66
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Administrative Costs

Advertising & Marketing	495.64
Audit & Accountancy fees	367.20
Bank Fees	358.80
Bank Revaluations	(986.54)
Conferences	1,094.00
Consulting	60.00
Entertainment-100% business	51.52
Gifts/Honorariums	71.83
Housing	7,453.47
IT Software and Consumables	801.16
Meals/Food	9,466.26
Missional Activities	963.62
Postage, Freight & Courier	1,814.40
Printing & Stationery	2,956.66
Realised Currency Gains	(102.54)
Rent	20.00
Subscriptions	245.00
Supplies	242.99
Training/Research	371.82
Travel	5,944.28
Unrealised Currency Gains	(20.21)
Total Administrative Costs	31,669.36

Operating Profit	6,151.30
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Profit on Ordinary Activities Before Taxation	6,151.30
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Profit after Taxation	6,151.30
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