

Company Registration Number **CE026901**

Charity Registration Number **1196156**

B-LESS
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

B-LESS

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B-LESS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 October 2022.

Reference and Administration details

Registered charity name	B-Less
Charity registration number	1196156
Company registration number	CE026901
Principal office and registered office	11 Holywell Street Oxford OX1 3SA
Trustees	George Diwakar (appointed 29 September 2021) John-Mark Teeuwen (appointed 29 September 2021) Nicolas Wu (appointed 29 September 2021) Andrew Young (appointed 29 September 2021)
Independent Examiner	Andrew P Crossley FCA Baldwin Cox Limited Chartered Accountants 15 Foster Avenue Beeston Nottingham NG9 1AE

Objectives and Activities

B-Less exists to advance the Christian Faith among students in universities, theological colleges, training colleges, technical colleges and other similar institutions throughout Great Britain.

In pursuit of these objectives, in the year from Nov 2021 to Oct 2022, the charity has continued, and developed, its policy of recruiting, training, and deploying Christian masters and doctoral students to serve as encouragers, mentors, and evangelists in a variety of higher educational contexts. In the 2021-22 academic year, three B-Less scholars pursuing graduate degrees at Oxford University supported:

- Theology Network - A local faculty-based group convened by the Universities and College Christian Fellowship (UCCF)
- The Search - A weekly outreach event organised by Oxford Intercollegiate Christian Union (OICCU)
- Rooted - the weekly student ministry of Oxford Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

Objectives and Activities (continued)

An encouraging response in each of these fields paved the way for significant expansion in the 2022-23 academic year. B-Less now has seven scholars and one part time 'associate' working across three universities in a variety of subject specialisms.

In their oversight of these developments, the trustees of B-Less have been guided by a focus on public benefit as laid out in the charitable objects registered with the Charity Commission.

B-Less scholars are volunteers, recruited through a rigorous process involving public advertisement of the opportunity, submission of application forms and soliciting of references, interviews, DBS checks, and safeguarding training. Scholarships are regulated by a signed, time-limited volunteer contracts. The B-Less associateship is a part-time staff position, subject to the same rigorous recruitment process, but regulated through a contract of employment.

Achievements and Performance

During the 2021-22 academic year, B-Less Scholars – supported and complemented by the charity general manager – made a significant impact in each of the ministry areas in which they were deployed. Scholars supported students as they emerged from the Covid pandemic, identifying and equipping new student leaders for Theology Network, and training and re-envisioning first- and second-year students who had missed out on the experience of normal student outreach. Scholars used their presence within the university system to identify need, and to offer encouragement at the point of need. College Christian Union groups were supported, resourced, and trained, and positive relationships with local churches and ministry organisations were developed and nurtured.

Emboldened by this success and with increasing numbers of applicants and opportunities to serve, B-Less expanded in the 2022-23 academic year to offer similar services more broadly in Oxford and to begin to meet need in other university contexts. Our new intake of scholars has allowed us to roughly double the level of support we offer within our established ministry areas. We have also been able to deploy scholars to help resuscitate struggling college Christian Union groups and to branch out into new subject specialisms, beginning a work among Geography and Environmental Science students in Oxford through our recruitment of a scholar specialising in these fields. Wider contacts within UCCF and with student workers in other cities have led to the establishment of scholarship positions serving Bath and Edinburgh Universities, supporting a church student group and a second local Theology Network group respectively. We also organised and ran a B-Less Summer conference, bringing our new cohort of scholars together with other local and national stakeholders in university ministry to lay out our vision for the charity and set course for the year.

Ongoing contact with B-Less alumni has also been a source of encouragement. Several students who benefitted from B-Less activities and their precursors in previous years are now serving or training to serve in local churches and schools around the country.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

Financial Review

Donations to B-Less exceeded budgeted expenses in the period covered by this report, providing a small surplus with which to enter the new financial year. The charity continues to receive support from US and UK based donors, with the ratio of local contributions gradually increasing as the work becomes more established (in 2021-22, US-based contributions comprised approximately 71% of total income, and UK-based contributions approximately 29%).

As a charity, we would like to get to the point where we can hold a reserve sufficient to cover operating expenses for three full months. In 2021-2022 this remained an aspiration, although balances in US- and UK-based accounts combined rarely fell below the amount required to cover our operations for two months.

The charity remains dependent to an extensive degree on one-off 'year-end' financial donations from the United States (31% of total income in 2021-22) which are much harder to predict than regular monthly commitments. We are continuing to work on developing our base of regular donors, making contacts with new churches and individuals in the US and the UK and seeking to mobilise alumni where possible.

The charity was largely spared consequences of the cost of living crisis in 2021-22 due to a surplus amassed with our utilities providers for our premises at 11 Holywell Street in Oxford. Depending on how long elevated costs for Gas and Electricity persist, our allowances for utility costs may need to be revised midway through 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

B-Less is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom. Eligibility for trusteeship and procedures for appointing trustees are set out in detail in our charity constitution. It is our policy that new trustees can be appointed, and existing trustees reappointed, for a maximum term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees and that no trustee may serve for longer than three consecutive terms.


**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

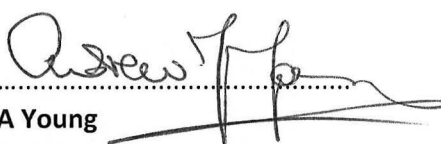
Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

All trustees are expected to complete trustee-specific safeguarding training provided by our partner organisation, ThirtyOne:Eight.

B-Less works closely in partnership with the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF) who convene and supervise many of the groups and events in which B-Less scholars and associates serve. Local and national UCCF staff are represented on B-Less selection panels and placement supervision is undertaken with input from local UCCF leaders.

Prepared by and signed on behalf of the Trustees on29/01/2023....


.....
N Wu
Trustee


.....
A Young
Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF B-LESS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31 October 2022, which are set out on pages 6 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 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.


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**Andrew P Crossley FCA
Baldwin Cox Limited
Chartered Accountants
15 Foster Avenue
Beeston
Nottingham
NG9 1AE**

29/1/23
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B-LESS**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

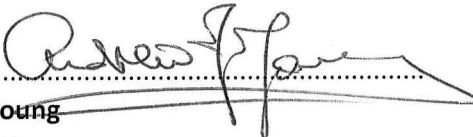
	Notes	2022 £
Incoming resources		
Income and endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	3	126,719
Investments	3	6
		<hr/>
Total		126,725
		<hr/>
Resources expended		
Expenditure on:		
Charitable activities	4	15,209
Other	4	96,673
		<hr/>
Total		111,882
		<hr/>
Net income		14,843
Reconciliation of funds:		
Total funds brought forward		-
		<hr/>
Total funds carried forward	10	14,843
		<hr/>

B-LESS**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2022**

	Notes	2022 £
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	7	2,773
Current Assets		
Debtors	8	6,955
Cash at bank and in hand		6,233
Total current assets		13,188
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	1,118
Net Current Assets		12,070
Total Net Assets		14,843
Funds of the Charity		
Unrestricted funds	10	14,843

The financial statements on pages 6 to 12 were approved by the trustees on29/01/2023..... and signed on their behalf by:


.....
N Wu
Trustee


.....
A Young
Trustee

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, and with the Charities Act 2011.

2 Accounting policies

Recognition of income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources, and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

IT equipment	25% on cost
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Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and accordingly is exempt from taxation on its income and gains where they are applied for charitable purposes.

Accounting period

The accounts cover the period from its inception on 29 September 2021 to 31 October 2022. It was recognised as a charity on 14 October 2021 and commenced its activities on 29 November 2021.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

3 Analysis of income

	2022
	£
Donations and legacies	
Donations and gifts	126,719
	<u> </u>
Investments	
Bank interest	6
	<u> </u>

All income received in the period was unrestricted.

4 Analysis of expenditure

	2022
	£
Charitable activities	
Books	1,678
Payments to scholars	10,817
Training	857
DBS checks	303
Contracts for scholars	1,554
	<u> </u>
	15,209
	<u> </u>
Other	
General manager remuneration	46,958
Rent	27,000
Other property costs	6,662
Computer costs	2,360
Travelling costs	2,796
Subscriptions	587
Legal and professional fees	1,670
Accountancy	4,342
Bank charges	78
Transfer charges	885
Insurance	676
Printing and stationery	1,210
Telephone costs	165
Sundry expenses	360
Depreciation	924
	<u> </u>
	96,673
	<u> </u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

5 Staff costs

	2022
	£
Salaries and wages	51,983
Pension costs	1,125
	<u>53,108</u>

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

The total amount paid to key management personnel (including trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity for the period were £46,958.

The average monthly number of persons employed by the company during the period was:

	2022
	Number
Total	<u>3</u>

6 Defined contribution pension scheme costs

	2022
	£
Amount of contributions recognised in the SoFA as an expense	<u>1,125</u>

B-LESS**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022****7 Tangible fixed assets**

	IT equipment
	£
Cost	
Additions	3,697
	<hr/>
At 31 October 2022	3,697
	<hr/>
Depreciation and impairments	
Depreciation charged in the period	924
	<hr/>
At 31 October 2022	924
	<hr/>
Net book value	
At 31 October 2022	2,773
	<hr/> <hr/>

8 Debtors

	2022
	£
Donations pending transfer to UK	6,795
Prepayments	160
	<hr/>
	6,955
	<hr/> <hr/>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022
	£
Accruals	1,068
Other creditors	50
	<hr/>
	1,118
	<hr/> <hr/>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

10 Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	Brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 October 2022 £
General funds	-	126,725	(111,882)	14,843

