



Burning Heart

CIO in England and Wales
Registered Charity 1198771

Trustees' Annual Report 2023

(for the period 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023)

Section 1. Objectives and Activities

Objectives

The objects of Burning Heart, as laid out in its constitution are:

the advancement of the Christian faith, particularly but not exclusively by, producing or distributing Christian literature including video or audio recording and other related media.

Burning Heart does also have a vision strapline, in line with these objects, which is:
exploring God's word through film

Activities

The Charity's primary activity is the production of high-quality documentary-style film series exploring Biblical books or themes. These film series are available to all for free on our website, burningheart.org, and on various other platforms and channels.

In addition, we also produce audio versions of our film series, run social media accounts on the main social media platforms, and produce sundry other resources. More details of our activities this year is given in the *Review of the Year* below in *Section 2: Achievements*.

Regard to Charity Commission Guidance

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and believe all Burning Heart's activities are in line with that guidance.

Section 2. Achievements and Performance

Review of the Year

2023 was an exciting year for Burning Heart, with two new film series launching and a growing reach and viewership.

Film Series

Our film series are our primary ministry, and we were excited to launch two series over the course of 2023: *Prayer: Learning from Jesus* launching on Ash Wednesday (22 February); and *Pursuing Peace: Philippians 4v4-9* launching on 1st November.

Both series continued to engage deeply with the scriptures, seeking to teach and bring them to life in clear, memorable and visually engaging ways. We also used new film making techniques and elements in each series, which we feel has strengthened and improved the quality of our film-making.¹

Work was also almost finished on a stand-alone film *The Bible: A Message from God*, due to launch in March 2024. This film will be the last made with our film-makers, *Dioppo*, as they look to grow and expand in new directions and areas. We are so grateful to *Dioppo* for their excellent work with us over two years, and have been thrilled to work with them. We are very excited to be working with a new production company, *Fruit Media*, going forward though, who we feel both share our values and have the capacity and size to help us continue to improve our films. Our first series with them, exploring the book of *Daniel*, is due to film in Spring 2024 with launch pencilled in for September 2024.

Viewing figures for our films across 2023 have continued to be very encouraging. Our series have aired on both GOD TV (globally) and TBN (UK only), reaching a large worldwide audience, and at the very end of 2023 we became a launch partner for GLU ('God Loves You') a new Connected TV app. We have also continued to partner with the *YouVersion* Bible App, with all our films prominently featured on their platform, and David Ingall also doing three of the "Verse of the Day" films. In large part due to that partnership, our films were viewed online more than 400,000 times in 2023, including more than 100,000 views of the first episode of our *Prayer: Learning from Jesus* series, and over 35,000 views of the entire series.

Alongside viewing statistics, we have also had very encouraging feedback from partners and individuals about the quality and impact of our film series. Some examples of feedback received are: "it is brilliant!", "thank you for this beautiful and meaningful series," and "WOW...I really feel like my heavenly Father led me there."

One area with less encouraging results though has been the numbers doing one of our series as a small group, with only around 100 groups having registered on our website to run a series. We hope that actual numbers will be higher than that, but do not think vastly so. This is an area we are looking to grow in in 2024.

¹ We used interviews for the first time in the *Prayer* series, and animations for the first time in the *Peace* series, both alongside our existing film-making style.

Podcasts

Alongside our film series, we also partnered with one of our Trustees, Chris Lee, to launch a new podcast *Come Read with me*, featuring him and David Ingall in conversation about the Bible. By the end of 2023 the podcast was midway through its 3rd season, and had had over 50,000 downloads, putting it in the top 10% of podcasts.

Social Media

2023 was transformative for Burning Heart on social media, largely due to Claire Christian-Farman taking on management of all our social media accounts. By the end of the year our following on social media had grown 10x, and engagement with us through social media grown even more. Our main channels are YouTube (which does also have our main film series on it) and Instagram, but we also have a presence on TikTok, X and Facebook.

Section 3. Financial Review

Financial Review and position at year end

Burning Heart ended the year in a healthy financial position with £32,800 in the bank accounts at year end and a growing base of both one-off and regular givers. This is sufficient to fund all our on-going costs in Q1 2024, and with pledges of on-going giving to cover all our costs in H1 2024.

While the cash in the bank at the year-end was unusually high, that reflects our policy of looking to raise funds (or pledges) to cover the cost of each series before the Trustees authorise production to start. At the year-end a final payment of £1818 on the stand-alone film *A Message from God* was due to be paid in January, and Trustees had set aside £30,000 for our next film series on the Biblical book of *Daniel*.

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

Accounts

A copy of the accounts, as approved unanimously by the Trustees at a meeting on 1st March 2024, with amendments approved unanimously on 19th July following the final report of our Independent Examiner, are appended to this report.

Reserves

Policy

The Trustees have a reserves policy, to ensure that sufficient reserves are held to meet anticipated future operating costs and financial commitments.

Reserves

The Trustees have determined that the charity should hold sufficient unrestricted cash to cover all financial commitments due in the following quarter, which for Q1 2024 came to £2,600.

At the year-end *Burning Heart* had £32,800 in reserves, of which £30,000 had been set aside for the costs of the forthcoming series on *Daniel*, so the trustees are complying with the reserves policy.

Funds Materially in Deficit

There were no funds materially in deficit at 31st December 2023

Uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern

The Trustees are not aware of any uncertainties or concerns about *Burning Heart*'s ability to continue to function as a going concern.

Source of funds

All of *Burning Heart*'s funds in 2023 have come through donations from individuals. We are extremely grateful to the charity *Stewardship*, with whom we have a partner account, facilitating and enabling such donations. Through *Stewardship* we have also been connected to an international giving partner, *TrustBridge Global*, who we hope to partner with in 2024 to facilitate giving from international donors. We also use *PayPal* for all donors wishing to give through a different platform, including international donors.

Principal Risks facing the Charity

The principal financial risk facing the charity lies in our income from donations not being sufficient to cover the costs of future film series. This risk is minimised though by our policy of fundraising for the cost of a series before starting production – meaning that any shortfall in funds to make a series will simply lead to a delay in production starting and does not carry any financial risk.

Section 4. Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

Burning Heart is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), governed by a Constitution.

Trustee Selection

New Trustees are appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In appointing new Trustees, existing Trustees are required by the Charity Constitution to have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Structure

The Trustees have delegated certain responsibilities to Rev'd David Ingall, who has been formally appointed as 'Ministry Director and Secretary to the Trustees' by the Trustees. In particular, he is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Charity and for overseeing the production of the currently authorised film-series.

Safeguarding

We believe that safeguarding is a vital part of any charity's organisation. Therefore, while we do minimal work with children or vulnerable adults, we have nevertheless sought to make safeguarding a priority. The Trustees have adopted a Safeguarding Policy, which is available to view on our website, and appointed Elizabeth Gallagher as our Safeguarding Officer. The Safeguarding Officer reports back to the Trustees at every meeting.

Trustees

The following were Trustees of Burning Heart through the whole of 2023:

Elizabeth Gallagher (Chair and Safeguarding Officer)

Esther Beckley

Jared Neusch

Alan Riley

Rev'd. Christopher Lee (re-appointed for a three-year term at a meeting of the Trustees on 3rd March 2023)

In addition, Paul Nicholas was appointed as both a Trustee (for a three-year term) and as Treasurer at a meeting of the Trustees on 3rd March 2023.

There are no corporate Trustees, and no Trustees hold title to property belonging to the charity.

Secretary to the Trustees: Rev'd. David Ingall

Section 4. Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name

Burning Heart. The Charity is not known by any other names.

Charity Number

1198771 (CIO, England and Wales)

Charity's Address

Burning Heart,
International House,
64 Nile Street,
London,
N1 7SR

Other Contact Details

Email – hello@burningheart.org

Website – burningheart.org

Section 5. Approval and Signatures

This annual report was presented and unanimously adopted by the Trustees at a meeting on 1st March 2024, with amendments approved unanimously on 19th July following the final report of our Independent Examiner.

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Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

ELIZABETH GALLAGHER

Elizabeth Gallagher (Chair of the Trustees)

PAUL NICHOLAS

Paul Nicholas (Trustee and Treasurer)



Burning Heart

CIO in England and Wales
Registered Charity 1198771

Annual Accounts 2023

(for the period 1st January to 31st December 2023)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Burning Heart

1198771

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

1st January 2023

To

31st December

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations*	44,479	80	-	44,559	25,986
Bank Interest Payments	448	-	-	448	15
Other	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	44,927	80	-	45,007	26,001
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	44,927	80	-	45,007	26,001
A3 Payments					
Film-making	24,449	-	-	24,449	4,529
Podcasting	760	-	-	760	-
Website and Hosting	361	-	-	361	-
TV Distribution	3,540	-	-	3,540	-
Marketing	496	-	-	496	2,278
Office Costs	394	-	-	394	-
Fundraising	354	-	-	354	-
Banking and Insurance	171	-	-	171	5
Accounts Examination	390	-	-	390	-
Trustees' Expenses	324	-	-	324	-
Membership of Safeguarding Organisation*	-	-	-	-	145
Sub total (Gross Spending for AR)	31,240	-	-	31,240	6,957
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	31,240	-	-	31,240	6,957
Net of receipts/(payments)	13,687	80	-	13,767	19,044
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	19,045	-	-	19,045	-
Cash funds this year end*	32,732	80	-	32,812	19,044

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	32,732	80	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	32,732	80	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Fee for Independent Examination	General	625	on completion
	Final installment to Dioppo for standalone film "The Bible: A Message from God"	General	1,818	on completion
	Membership fee for Safeguarding Organisation	General	145	due
			-	
			-	

Notes

*Note to Donations Line

*Note to Safeguarding line

*Note to Cash Funds at Year End

The £80 of restricted funds was given through a Stewardship giving page for the Daniel series

The annual membership fee for Safeguarding Organisation was paid in January 2024, hence not appearing in the 2023 accounts

We often have relatively large cash balances, as we have a policy of raising the funds needed for a film series (including pledges) prior to starting production. In November 2023 the Trustees signed off on starting production for a new film series on the Biblical book of Daniel, authorising a cost of up to £30,000. Work had begun with the production company on the series, but a final quote was not received until January 2024, which is why the series is not listed as a liability.

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Elizabeth Gallagher	Elizabeth Gallagher	19 Jul 24
Paul Nicholas	Paul Nicholas	19 Jul 24

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BURNING HEART

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Burning Heart ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J. Young

Jaimée Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 17 September 2024