

# **HOPE LEBEDYN**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 17 JANUARY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

Charity Number: 1201618

# **HOPE LEBEDYN**

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**HOPE LEBEDYN**  
**Reference and Administrative Information**

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<b>Trustees</b>	P Martin (chairman) W Grisham J Lyle J Bellett S Taylor A Charter	(appointed 7 September 2022) (appointed 7 September 2022) (appointed 7 September 2022) (appointed 7 September 2022) (appointed 7 September 2022) (appointed 28 November 2023)
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**Charity registered number** 1201618

**Registered office** 14 Horsted Square  
Bellbrook Industrial Estate  
Uckfield  
TN22 1QG

**Independent examiners** Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet  
5 Robin Hood Lane  
Sutton  
Surrey  
SM1 2SW

**Bankers** Lloyds Bank PLC  
Westminster House  
Swansea Osc  
Epona House  
Phoenix Way  
Swansea  
SA7 9HG

WISE Payments Ltd.  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
The Tea Building  
56 Shoreditch High Street  
London  
E1 6JJ

The Trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report for the period ended 30 September 2023. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102).

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **History**

Lebedyn is a small rural town within the region of Sumy, Ukraine. The word 'Lebed' translates as Swan. Local history says that Tchaikovsky wrote Swan Lake inspired by the beauty of the local region at that time. Sadly, much has changed and the town has now been left forgotten. With a pre-war population of around 28,500, unemployment was a staggering 85%. Light came in the form of Sergey Ovcharenko (a local pastor) and his small congregation who, with very little resources, wanted to start a church bringing practical care and the love of Jesus to a town that so desperately needed God. Hope Lebedyn was born in 1999 at a meeting with ICC Missions founder Peter Martin and Pastor Sergey Ovcharenko, at which the great needs of the people were revealed. Around Christmas 1999 aid trucks set off to bring immediate relief and funds were sent to purchase an old kindergarten school as a mission centre - and so ICC Missions was born to bring support to the mission centre that is owned and run as a charity by the independent team in Lebedyn, Sumy. In 2009, when ICC merged with Spring Harvest to become Essential Christian, the name changed to EC missions. In 2021 the Essential Christian Board began to consider the best structure to maintain the work into the future and the following year work began on setting up a new Trust with its own trustees. This incorporated a name change to "Hope Lebedyn".

During recent years the work had grown significantly with 2 buildings in operation and the team reaching people throughout the Sumy region. In February 2022 the full-scale invasion of Russia into Ukraine happened bringing devastation to the area. What was already the poorest region in Ukraine had to cope with deeper poverty and the impact and uncertainty of war. The team was enlarged to help reach people and to share the gospel message even wider. In January 2023, Hope Lebedyn became an independent Charity, with a focus solely on the work in Ukraine. The work supporting the mission centre carried on under the umbrella of Essential Christian while everything was put into place to run efficiently including opening bank accounts. Essential Christian also wanted to ensure that it gave good strong guidance for the set up for excellent charity governance. It started to be fully independently operational from September 9<sup>th</sup> 2023, towards the end of the financial year.

Today the Mission Director is Pastor Bohdan Timchishyn and he has a team of 8 others plus many volunteers to execute the ministry. The war has plunged local families into extreme poverty, increased crime rates and put further strain on the local infrastructure. There is unprecedented demand for aid and support in Lebedyn and the Sumy region. The mission of Hope Lebedyn is to provide support to the local church in delivering not only essential aid, but the life changing Gospel of Jesus. The church and mission centre with all its activities have become a beacon of light and hope for those who live in the area. Many lives have been transformed through the aid and the life-saving power of the Gospel. The light of Christ shines in the darkest of places.

### **Governing Document**

Hope Lebedyn is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which was registered on 17 January 2023 (charity registration number: 1201618).

### **Recruitment and appointment of Trustees (Directors)**

There are currently 6 trustees of Hope Lebedyn. The 5 original trustees were selected upon past involvement, future needs and their experience of both trust governance and the location of operation. Since then, a further trustee, Alan Charter has been appointed. Alan had been known to some of the board and his wide knowledge of children and youth charities working within Ukraine, as well as his professional qualification in business administration would add skills to the board to better and further its work. Alan was invited to attend meetings, had detailed conversations with the Chair of the trust



and then was formally asked at a board meeting to be part of the board. All trustees receive regular updates for information and training purposes and since the end of the financial year some of the trustees have attended a course run by MacLellan Trust for good governance of charities.

For the future all new trustees will go through a process of interview, read the CIO governing document and any financial reports and accounts as well as being directed to the current charity commission publications for new trustees. They will also attend up to 3 trustee meetings to be in attendance with no voting rights so as to establish suitability. Other meetings will be provided if requested to establish suitability.

### **Organisational Structure**

The Trustees carry the legal and financial responsibility for the charity and establish the vision and mission while monitoring its activities and policies. The Board meets 4 times over the year. In addition, there is a Finance Committee which also meets 4 times a year prior to any board meeting. It has 4 members which includes the Executive Director, Treasurer, a board member and an independent person trained in finance to help bring detailed scrutiny to the accounts.

The trustees give delegated authority for the day-to-day running of the trust to the Executive Director under contract. The Executive Director is responsible for all operational matters including fundraising, day-to-day finance, communications both with donors, partners and within the Ukraine. The Charity seeks to give grants to projects that take place within the work of Sumy Revival Mission Centre and through this region of Ukraine as required.

### **Grant making policy**

All grants over \$2,000 need to be approved by 2 or more trustees and any over \$10,000 need full board approval. All payments require dual signature from either the treasurer and one other trustee. Receipt and reports of grants given are kept on file.

### **Risk management**

The Trustees believe they are aware of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that controls are in place to mitigate them. A Risk Register is being created and the Trustees aim for robust management oversight. The Trustees consider the principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity, and the plans and strategies for managing these risks, to be:

- The war between Ukraine and Russia and that the Sumy Revival Mission Centre can continue its activities. Work has been done to look at how the ministry can continue in times of conflict getting closer. This is monitored every month by the Executive Director. The trust can give grants to others operating with the same mission and ministry principles enabling the trust to continue its support of the church in this needy area.
- The Sumy Revival Mission Centre is compliant to any national laws surrounding activities with children and vulnerable adults. Training is given annually to all volunteers and team by the Mission Director in Sumy.

## **OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES**

The focus of the charity is to further such charitable purposes for the public benefit in Lebedyn and elsewhere in Ukraine that comprise:

- the advancement of the Christian faith by supporting the outreach and mission of Sumy Spiritual Revival Mission;
- the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability financial hardship or other social or economic disadvantage.

Hope Lebedyn is a grant making charity to support Christian ministry in mainly the Sumy region of Ukraine. The executive director meets weekly on secure video connection to discuss and assess the

needs that are known and to have reports on how activities have been achieved. Photographs are sent so that a weekly prayer update sheet can be sent to loyal prayer supporters of the work so all donors and prayer partners can see how funds are being used and to motivate them to pray.

**Public benefit**

The Trustees believe they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

All the activities of the Charity were undertaken to further its charitable purposes for public benefit.

**Principal Funding Sources**

The main source of income for the charity is from trust grants and individual donors.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

Previously Hope Lebedyn existed as a mission activity as part of the charity Essential Christian (Charity Number 1126997). During the previous years Peter Martin, the Group CEO, gave oversight to this ministry. Following his departure from Essential Christian due to semi-retirement, it was decided by the trustees that Hope Lebedyn should become a charity due to its significant growth owing to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. The Charity was set up on January 17<sup>th</sup> 2023. The EC board were kept apprised of all decisions in the creation of the new charity. EC helped to manage gifts and grants and supported the work with other management functions until bank accounts were active and the Essential Christian board was satisfied that all appropriate governance was in place. During this period day-to-day decisions were made by the Hope Lebedyn board and then ratified and supported by the chair of Essential Christian. The grants sent were also agreed by both Chairs. This was in place until September 9<sup>th</sup> 2023 when all funds were then transferred to the new charity. Essential Christian would continue to manage under contract some activities to support the work in the future.

During the period October 1<sup>st</sup> until the time of handover the grants received to Hope Lebedyn totaled £151,041 and the amount of grant given £91,601.

The Sumy Revival Centre through this past year has achieved much work especially with the poor, elderly, vulnerable, children, youth and needy because of the war. Every activity is done with the Christian message being explained or a Bible or Christian literature being given. Everything is freely given to ensure that all public are benefitted. They have supported other churches and small ministries, orphanages and schools throughout the region. Other highlights are:

- Weekly church services held in difficult circumstances.
- English classes every Saturday.
- A children's club every Saturday which is open to all, producing fun games and crafts and with interaction around the Bible.
- The bakery has been a particular highlight distributing over 10,000 loaves, with a hope to bake around 20,000 loaves this next year – war permitting. Many have come to faith through this ministry.
- 26 people in the puppet theatre ministry, with 3 teams producing 50 shows last year in camps, schools and orphanages.
- Weekly Youth work and clubs – numbers vary due to sirens or whether families have fled. 20-50 young people attend every week providing one of the only youth clubs in the county.



## HOPE LEBEDYN

### Trustees' Report for the period ended 30 September 2023

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- Purchase of 14 new laptops to give computer workshops for pensioners and teens. These will also be used for the Bible college when it can open.
- Establishment of a Bible college programme but awaiting its start due to the ongoing war.
- Christian teen groups flourished with 2 home groups of young people seeking to study to get to know more about God.
- An estimated 50,000 meals and 20 tons of aid have been distributed.
- A sewing ministry that makes bedding to give to refugees or the local hospital.
- Regular visits to care homes and places for the disabled to give help, taking aid, bedding, incontinence pads and fresh bread from the bakery.
- Regular visits to the hospital to be with the children waiting for operations or who have been abandoned, and donating bedding for those that cannot take their own into hospital.
- The team renovated an underground bomb shelter which is compliant for use when holding gatherings and can take around 100 people comfortably.
- Distributed around 10,000 nappies for children.
- Part-built a new playground creating a safe space for families when sirens not sounding.
- Grants to purchase a 7-seater vehicle and a new minibus which are better suited at this time for the needs in the area.
- A grant to help purchase an apartment to house team members as many of the team have come to join from different regions of Ukraine.
- 7 weeks of camps and many other special events reaching hundreds of families and 600 children at Christmas.
- Support for a Pastor of a church in Samotoivka who lives and works in extreme conditions near to the Russian border.
- 1,000's of Bibles and Christian literature distributed, especially the Jesus Story book Bible which the children really enjoy!
- Grant to supported 9 team members doing the work there.

Much of the work that has been done has been life changing and created a lifeline for many. The work the team at the Sumy Revival Mission Centre and those they partner with is exceptional given the challenging situation they are operating and living under.

Weekly updates of all activities are available to view with pictures on the Hope Lebedyn website [News - Hope Lebedyn](#)

#### **Related parties**

There is a link with Essential Christian through Joe Bellett, who is a trustee of Hope Lebedyn and Chief Operations Officer of Essential Christian. Accordingly, he does not take part in decisions about the service agreement with Essential Christian

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The charity's only source of income is from donations.

The Board are grateful to every trust and individual donor, be they one off gifts, or regular monthly donations, who gave to us directly in the financial year, along with our start off grant of £355,730 from Essential Christian. Donations for the year came to £359,331, making a significant contribution to maintaining Hope Lebedyn for the future.

Expenditure was £30,969. However, this covers only payments made over part of September, after the fund balance was transferred from Essential Christian

The result for the year was funds carried forward of £328,362.

The Board regularly considers the charity's activities in line with its income and explores new avenues for large grant funds each year to bolster up its regular donation base.

### **Reserves**

The charity's practice is to hold in reserve at least sufficient to cover three months of usual outgoings and future planned expenditure.

At 30 September 2023, the charity had reserves of £328,362, of which £22,998 was restricted, £85,000 is currently held back for post war repairs to the roof of the Sumy Revival Centre damaged at the beginning of the conflict, £10,000 for the Bible College to start and £210,364 left unrestricted or unallocated.

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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 then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which 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 Charities Act 2011. 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.



**HOPE LEBEDYN**

**Trustees' Report for the period ended 30 September 2023**

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The Trustees report was approved and was signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Peter Martin  
Chair of Trustees

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hope Lebedyn

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Hope Lebedyn (the Charity) for the period ended 30 September 2023.

### 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 Charity's accounts as 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

Since the Trust's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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.



Paul Newton FCA  
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet  
5 Robin Hood Lane  
Sutton  
Surrey  
SM1 2SW

Date: 12 June 2024

**HOPE LEBEDYN**  
**Statement of Financial Activities for the period ended 30 September 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £
Income from Donations		334,333	24,998	359,331
Total income		334,333	24,998	359,331
Expenditure on Charitable activities	2	28,969	2,000	30,969
Total expenditure		28,969	2,000	30,969
Net incoming resources		305,364	22,998	328,362
Transfers between funds		-	-	-
Net movement in funds		305,364	22,998	328,362
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds carried forward		305,364	22,998	328,362

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the period are included above.

The notes of pages 11 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**HOPE LEBEDYN**  
**Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2023**

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	Notes	£	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		340,607	
<b>Creditors:</b> Amounts falling due within one year	3	(12,245)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			328,362
<b>Net assets</b>	5		328,362
<b>Funds</b>			
Restricted Funds	4		22,998
Unrestricted Funds	4		305,364
<b>Total funds</b>			328,362

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 10 June 2024 and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Peter Martin  
Chair of Trustees



**1 Accounting policies**

Hope Lebedyn is a charitable incorporated organisation. The address of the registered office is: 14 Horsted Square, Bellbrook Industrial Estate, Uckfield TN22 1QG.

**1.1 Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011, and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102).

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, rounded to the nearest pound. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

**1.2 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**1.3 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 income receivable can be measured reliably.

**1.4 Expenditure**

All expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

**1.5 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**1.6 Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation arising 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 are recognised at their settlement amount.

**1.7 Financial instruments**

The Charity 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.

**1 Accounting policies (continued)****1.8 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 Charity 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 Charity 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.

**1.9 Accounting estimates and judgements**

There were no significant estimates and judgements made by the charity.

**2 Expenditure on charitable activities**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total
	£	£	£
Grants	17,860	-	17,860
Management charge	8,103	-	8,103
Consultancy	-	2,000	2,000
Independent Examination	1,200	-	1,200
Accountancy	960	-	960
Bank charges	43	-	43
Foreign exchange loss	803	-	803
	<u>28,969</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>30,969</u>

The grants were all made to Sumy Spiritual Revival Centre, Ukraine.

The Independent Examiner was paid £1,200 for the independent examination and £960 for accounts preparation.

**3 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	10,085
Accruals	2,160
	<u>12,245</u>

**4 Funds**

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Balance at 30 September 2023</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	334,333	(28,969)	305,364
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Consultancy appeal	24,800	(2,000)	22,800
Christmas appeal	198	-	198
	<u>24,998</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>22,998</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>359,331</u>	<u>(30,969)</u>	<u>328,362</u>

**Consultancy:** The chairman has raised personal support for his consultancy charge to the Charity.

**Christmas appeal:** An appeal was made to cover costs of visiting orphanages, schools and hospitals with gifts for children.

**5 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Fund balances at 30 September 2023 are represented by:			
Current assets	317,609	22,998	340,607
Creditors due within one year	(12,245)	-	(12,245)
<b>Total net assets at 30 September 2023</b>	<b>305,364</b>	<b>22,998</b>	<b>328,362</b>

**6 Related party transactions**

During the period, P Martin, the chairman, was paid £2,000 for his consultancy services. This is permitted by the constitution. No other trustees received any remuneration or other benefits.

No trustees were reimbursed expenses in the period.

There were no other related party transactions during the period.