

I B Networks Trust

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100323

Details

Known as Irish Baptist Networks

Status Received

Registered 2014-09-24

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address 6 Millturn View
Dromore
Co. Down
Bt25 1hg
BT25 1HG

Phone 02892699079

Email info@ibnetworks.org

Website www.ibnetworks.org

Activities

Purposes: The Trust is established to advance Christian faith and practice for the public benefit through the encouragement of fellowship with, and understanding of, the Baptist family around the world.

What the charity does: The advancement of religion

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Education/training, General charitable purposes, Religious activities

Who the charity helps: Men, Overseas/developing countries, Volunteers, Women

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£31,340	£30,802	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Hadden Wilson B.Sc, Phd		
Dr Paul Fleming B.Ed; M.Sc; Phd Pdhe		
Mr Andrew Browne Obe		
Mr Stephen Adams B.Sc(Econ)		
Mrs Christine Fleming B.Ed, Ma Pdtefl		
Mrs Jennifer Harvey		

I B Networks Trust

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100323

Accounts

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	3	4,769	26,571	31,340	30,829
Total Incoming Resources		4,769	26,571	31,340	30,829
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	3,822	26,980	30,802	32,333
Total Resources Expended		3,822	26,980	30,802	32,333
Net Income/(Expenditure) before transfers		947	(409)	538	(1,504)
Transfers					
Gross Transfers between funds	11	-	-	-	-
Net movements in funds		947	(409)	538	(1,504)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		3,999	1,006	5,005	6,509
Total funds carried forward	12	4,946	597	5,543	5,005

The Notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST AS AT 31 JULY 2025

		2025	2024
	Note	£	£
Current assets			
Debtors	5	832	-
Cash at bank and in hand		4,711	5,005
		5,543	5,005
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	6	-	-
Net Assets		5,543	5,005
The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	11	597	1,006
Unrestricted funds	11	4,946	3,999
Total charity funds		5,543	5,005

For the year ending 31 July 2025, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to preparation of the accounts and accounting records.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on and signed on its behalf by:



Stephen Adams
Trustee

Date: 23rd March 2026

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principle accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

(a) Basis of preparation

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) (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

(b) Going concern

The trustees are of the view that there are no material uncertainties about the charities ability to continue as a going concern.

(c) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds 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.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

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 is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

(d) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

(e) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities 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. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

(f) Interest Receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Appeals and donations	3,945	23,722	27,667	26,941
Gift Aid Tax reclaimed	824	2,849	3,673	3,888
	4,769	26,571	31,340	30,829

The 2024 balance of £30,829 was made up of £2,988 was unrestricted and £27,841 restricted.

4. Total Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Governance 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Printing, postage and stationery	434	-	-	434	761
Subscriptions and project donations	2,064	26,980	-	29,044	29,920
Sundry and other costs	605	-	-	605	860
Travel and subsistence	519	-	-	519	-
Accountancy fees	-	-	200	200	792
	3,622	26,980	200	30,802	32,333

5. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Accrued income	625	-
Prepayments	207	-
	832	-

6. Creditors

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	-	-

7. Trustees

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

8. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from tax.

9. Members Liability

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

10. Related Parties

Controlling Entity

The charity is controlled by the trustees who are all directors of the company.

11. Analysis of Funds

	At 1 August 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	At 31 July 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General Funds					
Unrestricted Income Fund	3,999	4,769	(3,822)	-	4,946
Restricted Funds					
Ukraine M P Project	330	3,684	(3,750)	-	264
Ukraine War Appeal	680	2,925	(3,500)	-	105
Lebanon/LSESD	1,009	19,462	(18,730)	-	1,742
Middle East War Appeal	(1,013)	500	(1,000)	-	(1,513)
	1,006	26,571	(26,980)	-	597
	5,005	31,340	(30,802)	-	5,543

12. Net Assets by Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Net Current Assets	4,946	597	5,543	5,005

I B Networks Trust

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100323

Accounts

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	3	2,988	27,841	30,829	58,563
Total Incoming Resources		2,988	27,841	30,829	58,563
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	3,113	29,220	32,333	56,908
Total Resources Expended		3,113	29,220	32,333	56,908
Net Income/(Expenditure) before transfers		(125)	(1,379)	(1,504)	1,655
Transfers					
Gross Transfers between funds	11	-	-	-	-
Net movements in funds		(125)	(1,379)	(1,504)	1,655
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		4,124	2,385	6,509	4,854
Total funds carried forward		3,999	1,006	5,005	6,509

The Notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST AS AT 31 JULY 2024

		2024	2023
	Note	£	£
Current assets			
Debtors	6	-	1,383
Cash at bank and in hand		5,005	5,126
		<u>5,005</u>	<u>6,509</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	7	-	-
Net Assets		<u>5,005</u>	<u>6,509</u>
 The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	11	731	2,385
Unrestricted funds	11	4,274	4,124
Total charity funds		<u>5,005</u>	<u>6,509</u>

For the year ending 31 July 2024, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to preparation of the accounts and accounting records.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on and signed on its behalf by:



Stephen Adams
Trustee

Date: 13th March 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principle account policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

(a) Basis of preparation

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) (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

(b) Going concern

The trustees are of the view that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(c) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds 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.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

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 is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

(d) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

(e) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities 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. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

(f) Interest Receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Appeals and donations	2,176	24,765	26,941	57,180
Gift Aid Tax reclaimed	812	3,076	3,888	1,383
	2,988	27,841	30,829	58,563

The 2023 balance of £58,563 was made up of £6,021 unrestricted and £52,542 restricted.

4. Total Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Governance 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Printing, postage and stationery	761	-	-	761	558
Subscriptions and project donations	700	29,220	-	29,920	54,078
Sundry and other costs	860	-	-	860	598
Travel and subsistence	-	-	-	-	754
Accountancy fees	-	-	792	792	920
	2,321	29,220	792	32,333	56,908

5. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Accrued income	-	1,383
	-	1,383

6. Creditors

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	-	-
	-	-

7. Trustees

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR IB NETWORKS TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

8. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from tax.

9. Members Liability

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

10. Related Parties

Controlling Entity

The charity is controlled by the trustees who are all directors of the company.

11. Analysis of Funds

	At 1 August 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	At 31 July 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Funds					
Unrestricted Income Fund	4,124	2,988	(3,113)	-	3,999
Restricted Funds					
Ukraine M P Project	455	3,835	(3,960)	-	330
Ukraine War Appeal	190	9,190	(8,700)	-	680
Help Make Hope Lebanon	1,128	-	-	(1,128)	-
Earthquake Appeal Turkey/Syria	612	-	-	(612)	-
Lebanon/LSESD	-	7,829	(8,560)	1,740	1,009
Middle East War Appeal	-	6,987	(8,000)	-	(1,013)
	2,385	27,841	(29,220)	-	1,006
	6,509	30,829	(32,333)	-	5,005

12. Net Assets by Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Net Current Assets	3,999	1,006	5,005	6,509

I B Networks Trust

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100323

Annual report

IB NETWORKS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The trustees present their Annual Directors' Report and independently examined financial statements for the year ending 31st July 2024. This complies with the requirements for a Directors' Report and Accounts under the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Companies Act 2006 and the company's Articles of Association. They comply with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102 applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

OUR STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Irish Baptist Networks (now most often referred to as I B N) operates under the legal structure of a Charitable Company registered with HMRC as I B Networks Trust Ltd (Company Number XT16937). It is also registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (Charity Registration Number NIC100323).

1. The Company was set up by a number of Baptists from Ireland who accept the legal accountability for the Company as Members of the Company. The Members appoint a Board of Directors to manage I B Networks Trust. The Directors' names are as listed.
2. The appointment of Members and Directors of I B Networks Trust Ltd. is covered by the Articles of the Company.
3. The Directors held the Annual Meeting of I B Networks Trust for 2023/24 on 13th March 2025.

I B N Management Arrangements

1. I B N is managed through a Steering Group comprising I B Networks Trust Ltd. Directors and others (see point 3 below).
2. The Steering Group of IBN and new Members/ Directors of I B Networks Trust Ltd are appointed from those persons who have identified their commitment to I B N.
3. Persons serving on the Steering Group who are not Directors of I B Networks Trust Ltd are appointed or reappointed at an annual I B N meeting.
4. The Steering Group may from time to time propose names of new Directors for the Company.
5. The Steering Group met in person 3 times over the budget year 2023/4, with Zoom arrangements facilitating those not able to be present.

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Trust is established to advance Christian faith and practice for the public benefit through the encouragement of fellowship with, and understanding of, the Baptist family around the world. In planning our activities, we keep under ongoing review both our Aims and Objectives and our stated public benefit as approved in our NI Charities Commission registration.

I B N is now the public profile under which the Trust operates. I B N exists to promote the building of meaningful relationships primarily, but not exclusively, with other Baptist believers globally. This is done by encouraging and facilitating wider fellowship and relationships between Baptists across the island of Ireland and the global community.

I B N is a small volunteer organisation which seeks to be a voice to Baptists in Ireland for the kingdom ministries of a wider family of Baptist believers. I B N also shares information and perspectives from

IB NETWORKS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Ireland with the wider Baptist family. In its activities IBN works in partnership with other like-minded groups of believers who share a gospel commitment. Dr Toivo Pilli, an Estonian Baptist leader, has described Baptists as those who should be "...networking under the Lordship of Christ." We are seeking to do this!

Our activities normally include arranging conferences, consultations and other events which promote theological reflection and focus on responding to people in need, primarily internationally. We now have well-established international links as an Affiliated Network of the European Baptist Federation (EBF), www.ebf.org, which expresses Baptist witness across Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and central Asia. I B N sends delegates to the Annual Council meeting of the EBF. In September 2023, the EBF Council meeting was held during the SENT 23 EBF Conference in Stavanger, Norway. The EBF is one of six regions of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA), www.bwa.org, which operates globally and of which I B N is an Associate member. I B N is also a participant organisation of the Fellowship of Baptists in Britain and Ireland (FBBI), which brings together representatives from the Baptist Unions of Wales, Scotland and Great Britain and their mission agency - BMS World Mission. Through these links we engage with, learn about, and contribute to the shared life of the wider Baptist family.

THE TRUST'S ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

We seek to network with local churches by providing them with opportunities to engage with relevant issues. We are always glad to welcome visiting speakers.

We had a limited programme of on-line events, and we enjoyed an in-person Annual meeting. One of the few positives to emerge from the Covid pandemic has been a greater ability to use digital means to enable global friends and partners to participate in events. This is proving to be invaluable. Since March 2024 we have been having quarterly prayer and information times with our friends in Thimar, Lebanon, as things have got progressively worse in their country. Yet God is using the churches as a means of hope in a range of ministries and relief programmes.

The I B N Steering Group has been encouraged by the interest shown in, and support for, the ministries and activities enabled through IBN. We continue to operate as volunteers and were grateful for all the support given to the Directors and Steering Group members.

During the year we benefitted from a more active website, www.ibnetworks.org; this is regularly updated with reports and news and our website has been refreshed using our new corporate logo and colours.

Despite fewer regular events, support for some of our key partners was a major focus of our 2023/24 activities. At our annual meeting, which was held in Finaghy Baptist Church in Belfast, we welcomed Revd. Alan Donaldson, EBF General Secretary. He spoke on the current challenges facing brothers and sisters across Europe and the Middle East, and he thanked IBN for the generous support for a range of emergency relief appeals.

In July 2022 Stephen Adams represented I B N at the European Baptist Federation (EBF) Council meeting which was held during the EBF SENT 23 Conference in Stavanger, Norway. Christine Fleming and Stephen Adams joined on-line meetings of the Fellowship of Baptists in Britain and Ireland (FBBI) in December 2023 and March 2024. Stephen also participated in several on-line meetings of the FBBI Mission Community.

I B N continue to support a new 'church planter' working in Chernihiv, Ukraine. He leads a new Church plant reaching out to their local community and providing humanitarian relief. In May 2024 we arranged a "Virtual Visit" to meet ILYA VYSOTSKIY and hear at first hand of the challenges they face in their ministry. Daniel Trusiewicz, Mission Co-ordinator from EBF and Roman Wecherkowsky, Secretary of Mission in Ukraine Baptist Union both also shared in this virtual visit.

IB NETWORKS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

PRACTICAL SUPPORT in 2023-24

UKRAINE

CHERNIHIV CHURCH PLANTING PROJECT:

Since January 2023 we have supported a Chernihiv church planting project, led by Ilya Vysotskiy, as mentioned above. We are committed to raising £330 a month. This church plant is engaging with younger people. I B N works through EBF Mission Partners (MP) who are overseeing the support of Ilya in co-operation with the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Christian Baptist Churches. We receive 6-monthly reports, and post them on our website; see <https://www.ibnetworks.org/projects>
Our in year MP expenditure was £3960

UKRAINE RELIEF:

Our support for Ukraine has been maintained since the war started in February 2022. We are so grateful for churches and individuals who have supported the I B N appeal during this financial year. We sent £8,700 to support the Winter War Appeal by EBF.

MIDDLE EAST War Relief:

After October attack by Hamas leading to a full-scale war between Israel and Hamas, with devastating consequences on the population in Gaza, IBN launched an Appeal, and gifts of £8,000 (both church gifts and personal gifts) were sent to EBF to support the relief effort.

LEBANON:

We continued our support for THIMAR (formerly LSESD) in Lebanon with £8,560 being sent to THIMAR for support in their holistic ministries, as they continue to face a range of serious challenges. I B N thanks all those who have practically supported the wider Baptist family in Europe and the Middle East, who are going through the most testing of times.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT... HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL

*Alexander Pope coined this phrase some 300 hundred years ago but until very recently I could not have completed the quotation. Could you ?
"Hope springs eternal in the human breast man never is but always will be blessed."*

What was on Alexander Pope's mind when he penned these words? Could he have reasoned that while the curse of the fall prevailed the ultimate blessing is withheld?

While the Lord Jesus Christ has broken the curse through his death and resurrection the full delivery of his victory is still to come. The whole creation still groans awaiting its deliverance out of bondage and we still await the day when every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Scripture clearly anticipates these mind-blowing blessings but many fall into Pope's category of "will be" rather than "not is".

Nevertheless, we can like the ancient patriarch, Job, relish promised blessings with faith building certainty as he did when he wrote: "I know that my redeemer lives and one day will stand upon the earth and though worms destroy this body yet in my flesh shall I see God, I and not another."

Let "Hope spring eternal" in our breasts as we delight in the great blessings already enjoyed and look forward with joyful certainty to those still to come. We trust our humble efforts in practical support and prayer have been a temporal and eternal blessing to those we have supported over this and recent years.

Hadden Wilson

IB NETWORKS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

For more information and reports, visit the Irish Baptist Networks website: www.ibnetworks.org , or contact the Hon. Secretary: stephen.adams@ibnetworks.org

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Mrs Heather Browne joined us as a Steering Group member and has agreed to become an IB Networks Trust Director from December 2024. We thank each Director for their valuable service, and especially David and Dorothy McMillan who step down as Directors in December 2024.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



Mr S Adams

Trustee

Date: 13th March 2025

I B Networks Trust

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100323

Annual return

IB NETWORKS TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

I report on the financial statements of I B Networks Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. that the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. that the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Name:

Wilma Harkness

Address:

92 Sydenham Avenue, Belfast, BT4 2DT

Date:

14 March 2025

I B Networks Trust

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100323

Accounts

I B Networks Trust
Statement of Financial Activities Including Income and Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31 July 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income From:					
Donations and Legacies	3	6,021	52,542	58,563	61,671
Other Income	4	-	-	-	857
Total Incoming Resources		6,021	52,542	58,563	62,528
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities	5	5,228	51,680	56,908	61,879
Total Resources Expended		5,228	51,680	56,908	61,879
Net (expenditure)/ income before transfer:		793	862	1,655	649
Transfers					
Gross Transfers between funds	11	-	-	-	-
Net movements in funds		793	862	1,655	649
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	11	3,331	1,523	4,854	4,205
Total funds carried forward	11	4,124	2,385	6,509	4,854

The Notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these financial statements

I B Networks Trust
Balance Sheet
as at 31 July 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		5,126	3,875
Debtors	6	1,383	979
		<u>6,509</u>	<u>4,854</u>
Current Liabilities:			
Creditors	7	-	-
Net Assets		<u><u>6,509</u></u>	<u><u>4,854</u></u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted Funds	11	2,385	1,523
Unrestricted Funds	11	4,124	3,331
Total Charity Funds		<u><u>6,509</u></u>	<u><u>4,854</u></u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to preparation of the accounts and and accounting records.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for Issue by the board on and signed on its behalf by:

Stephen Adams

Trustee

R. S. Stephen Adams

Date:

20th February 2024.

Registered Company Number: NI073279

The Notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these financial statements

I B Networks Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 July 2023

1) Accounting Policy

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

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) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees are of the view that there are no material uncertainties about the charities ability to continue as a going concern.

c) 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.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where Trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

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 cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

d) Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- 1: The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- 2: Any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- 3: There is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and the amount can be measured reliably

IB Networks Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 July 2022

e) Donated services and facilities

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters recognised.

f) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably.

2) Critical accounting estimates and judgements:

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3) Donations and Legacies:

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations and legacies:				
Appeals and donations	4,639	52,542	57,180	47,707
Christian Fellowship Trust	-	-	-	6,000
Gift Aid Tax reclaimed	1383	-	-	7,964
	6,021	52,542	57,180	61,671

The 2022 balance of £61,671 was made up of £7,731 was unrestricted and £53,940 restricted.

4) Other income resources

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Subscriptions	-	-	-	857
	-	-	-	857

The 2022 balance of £857 was all unrestricted.

IB Networks Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 July 2023

5) Total Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Governance 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Prining, posting & stationary	558	-	-	558	450
Subscriptions and project donations	2,398	51,680	-	54,078	60,221
Sundry and other costs	598	-	-	598	629
Travel and subsistence	754	-	-	754	129
Accountancy fees	-	-	920	920	450
	4,308	51,680	920	56,908	61,879

6) Debtors due within 1 year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accrued income	1,383	979
	1,383	979

7) Creditors due within 1 year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	-	-
	-	-

8) Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

9) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from tax.

I B Networks Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 July 2023

10) Members Liability

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

11) Related Parties

Controlling entity

The charity is controlled by the trustees who are all directors of the company.

11) Analysis of Funds

	At 1st August 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfer	At 31 July 2023 £
General Funds					
Unrestricted Income fund	3,331	6,021	5,228	-	4,124
Restricted Funds					
Ukraine M P Project	905	2,530	2,980	-	455
Help Make Hope Lebanon	-	4,628	3,500	-	1,128
Earthquake Appeal Turkey / Syria	-	25,612	25,000	-	612
Ukraine War Appeal	618	19,772	20,200	-	190
	1,523	52,542	51,680	-	2,385
	4,854	58,563	56,908	-	6,509

12

Net Assets by Fund

	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Net Current Assets	4,124	2,385	6,509	4,854

I B Networks Trust

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100323

Annual report

I B Networks Trust
Report of the Trustees
Year Ended 31 July 2023

The Trustees present their annual Directors' Report and independently examined financial statements for the year ending 31st July 2023. This complies with the requirements for Directors' Report and Accounts under the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements also comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, and the Company's Articles of Association. They further comply with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102 applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

OUR STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Irish Baptist Networks (now most often referred to as I B N) operates under the legal structure of a Charitable Company registered with HMRC as I B Networks Trust Ltd (Company Number XT16937). It is also registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (Charity Registration Number NIC100323).

1. The Company was set up by a number of Baptists from Ireland who accept the legal accountability for the Company as Members of the Company. The Members appoint a Board of Directors to manage I B Networks Trust. The Directors' names are as *listed*.
2. The appointment of Members and Directors of I B Networks Trust Ltd. is covered by the Articles of the Company.
3. The Directors held the Annual Meeting of I B Networks Trust for 2022/23 on the 20th February 2024.

I B N Management Arrangements

1. I B N is managed through a Steering Group comprising I B Networks Trust Ltd. Directors and others (see point 3 below).
2. The Steering Group of IBN and new Members/ Directors of I B Networks Trust Ltd are appointed from those persons who have identified their commitment to I B N.
3. Persons serving on the Steering Group who are not Directors of I B Networks Trust Ltd are appointed or reappointed at an annual I B N meeting.
4. The Steering Group may from time to time propose names of new Directors for the Company.
5. The Steering Group met in person 7 times over the financial year 2022/3, with Zoom arrangements facilitating those not able to be present.

**I B Networks Trust
Report of the Trustees
Year Ended 31 July 2023**

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Trust is established to advance Christian faith and practice for the public benefit through the encouragement of fellowship with, and understanding of, the Baptist family around the world. In planning our activities, we keep under ongoing review both our Aims and Objectives and also our stated public benefit as approved in our NI Charities Commission registration.

I B N is now the public profile under which the Trust operates. I B N exists to promote the building of meaningful relationships primarily, but not exclusively, with other Baptist believers globally. This is done by encouraging and facilitating wider fellowship and relationships between Baptists across the island of Ireland and the global community.

I B N is a small volunteer organisation which seeks to be a voice to Baptists in Ireland for the kingdom ministries of a wider family of Baptist believers. I B N also shares information and perspectives from Ireland with the wider Baptist family. In its activities IBN works in partnership with other like-minded groups of believers who share a gospel commitment. Dr Tuivo Pihli, an Estonian Baptist leader, has described Baptists as those who should be "...networking under the Lordship of Christ". We are seeking to do this!

Our activities normally include arranging conferences, consultations and other events which promote theological reflection, and we also focus on responding to people in need, primarily internationally. We now have well-established international links as an Affiliated Network of the European Baptist Federation (EBF), www.ebf.org, which expresses Baptist witness across Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and central Asia. I B N sends delegates to the Annual Council meeting of the EBF. In September 2022 the EBF Council meeting was held in Riga, Latvia. The EBF is one of six regions of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA), www.bwa.org, which operates globally and of which I B N is an Associate member. I B N is also a participant organisation of the Fellowship of Baptists in Britain and Ireland (FBBi), which brings together representatives from the Baptist Unions of Wales, Scotland and Great Britain and their mission agency - BMS World Mission. Through these links we engage with, learn about and contribute to the shared life of the wider Baptist family.

THE TRUST'S ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

We seek to encourage networking with local churches by providing them with opportunities to engage with relevant issues. We are always glad to welcome visiting speakers. 2022/23 was still not a typical year (being affected by Covid restrictions) and our activities were reduced.

I B Networks Trust
Report of the Trustees
Year Ended 31 July 2023

We had a limited programme of events, but we enjoyed an in-person Annual meeting. One of the few positives to emerge from the Covid pandemic has been a greater ability to use digital means to enable friends and partners globally to participate in events. This is proving to be invaluable.

The I B N Steering Group was encouraged by the interest shown in, and support for, the ministries and activities enabled through IBN. We continue to operate as volunteers and were grateful for all the support given to the Directors and Steering Group members.

During the year, we benefitted from a more active website, www.ibnetworks.org; this is regularly updated with reports and news. We spent some time reviewing our I B N logo and strapline and at the Annual Meeting we presented our new IBN logo and strapline... and our website will be refreshed in our new corporate colours.

Despite fewer regular events, support for some of our key partners became a major focus of our 2022/23 activities. At our Annual meeting, which was held in Hamilton Road Baptist Church in Bangor, we welcomed Lina Toth (Baptist College, Scotland) and Jonathan Rea (New Ireland Arts). "Praise that will Last" was the theme for a wonderful evening of songs and stories of how worship and praise have sustained and shaped God's people in all kinds of situations...an inspiring and profoundly moving event.

In September 2022 Stephen Adams, along with Paul and Christine Fleming, represented I B N at the European Baptist Federation (EBF) Council meeting in Riga. Christine and Stephen joined in an on-line November 2022 meeting of the Fellowship of Baptists in Britain and Ireland (FBBi), and an in-person meeting in March 2023. Stephen also participated in several on-line meetings of the FBBi Mission Community.

Since January 2023 I B N have been supporting a new 'church planter' working in Chernihiv, Ukraine. He leads a new Church plant reaching out to their local community, including providing humanitarian relief. In March 2023 we arranged a "Virtual Visit" to meet ILYA VYSOTSKIY and some of his team of young leaders. Daniel Trusiewicz, Mission Co-ordinator from EBF and Roman Wecherkowsky, Secretary of Mission in Ukraine Baptist Union, also shared in the virtual visit.

PRACTICAL SUPPORT in 2022/23

UKRAINE

KIEV CHURCH PLANTING PROJECT:

Since January 2023 we have supported a Chernihiv church planting project, led by Ilya Vysotskiy, as mentioned above. We are committed to raising £330 a month. This church plant is engaging with younger people. I B N works through EBF Mission Partners (MP) who are overseeing the support of Ilya in co-operation with the All-Ukrainian Union of

I B Networks Trust
Report of the Trustees
Year Ended 31 July 2023

Evangelical Christian Baptist Churches. We receive 6-monthly reports, and post them on our website; see <https://www.ibnetworks.org/projects> Our in-year MP expenditure was £2980.

UKRAINE RELIEF:

Our support for Ukraine started just days after the invasion in February 2022. We are so grateful for churches and individuals who have supported the I B N appeal during this financial year. We sent £20,200 to support the Winter War Appeal by EBF.

TURKEY/SYRIA EARTHQUAKE:

After the earthquake in February 2023, which damaged a wide area of 140,000sq miles and affected about 14 million people, I B N launched an Appeal, and gifts of £25,000 (from 8 churches and personal gifts) were promptly sent to EBF to support the immediate response both in Turkey itself and from Lebanon into Syria.

LEBANON:

We continued our support for LSESD in Lebanon with £3,500 being sent to LSESD (now known as Thimar) for support in their "areas of greatest need", as they continue to face the financial meltdown of the Lebanese pound.

I B N sends its profound thanks to all those who have practically supported the wider Baptist family in Europe and the Middle East, who are going through the most testing of times.

For more information and reports, visit the Irish Baptist Networks website: www.ibnetworks.org, or contact the Hon. Secretary: stephen.adams@ibnetworks.org

A comment from our Chairman Dr. Hadden Wilson:

Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Ukraine, Yemen . . . so many arenas of death and suffering are graphically covered daily on our television screens and yet it all seems at a safe distance. The threat to our standard of living due to rising prices and the long NHS waiting lists, seem more pressing issues. But for how long?

Some of our political and military leaders are saying we must change our mind-set and get the nation into a state of preparation for a looming potential war. How should followers of the Lord Jesus Christ rise to this rapidly worsening situation?

**IB Networks Trust
Report of the Trustees
Year Ended 31 July 2022**

I was eight years old when the second world war ended. And some memories remain vivid. The sounds of the alert and all-clear air-raid sirens, the searchlight beams over Belfast, walking with parents and neighbours to the safety of the Castlereagh hills during the local blitz and looking down on the fires in the city centre. My parents and relatives were just simple, ordinary believers. They believed in a sovereign God who is working out His plan and if they were afraid it didn't show.

The bible says that the hearts of people will fail as a consequence of fear in the last days. The Christian Church can and must radiate a spirit of hope and confidence in the developing storm. We know that the future is JESUS. The whole created order in earth and heaven will acknowledge his Lordship. The kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of our God and His Christ, a Kingdom that cannot be shaken.

*In heavenly love abiding,
No change my heart shall fear;
And safe is such confiding,
For nothing changes here;
The storm may roar without me,
My heart may low be laid;
But God is round about me,
And can I be dismayed?*

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Mrs Jennifer Harvey joined us as an IB Networks Trust Director in February 2023. We thank each Director for their valuable service.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Stephen Adams Trustee

Date

20th February 2024.

R. E. Stephen Adams

I B Networks Trust
Report of Trustees
Year Ended 31 July 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors of I B Networks Trust for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

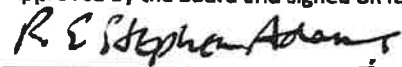
Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- 1: select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 2: observe the methods and principles in the charities SORP;
- 3: make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 4: state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 5: 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 disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



Stephen Adams

Trustee

Date:

I B Networks Trust

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100323

Annual return

I B Networks Trust
Independent Examiners Report
Year Ended 31 July 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of I B Networks Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 July 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act.)

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 charity's financial statements carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2: the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3: the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 390 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 financial statements 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 U 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 financial statements to be reached.

Lowry Grant, FCCA
For, and on behalf of,
FPM Accountants Limited
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
1-3 Arthur Street
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT1 4GA

JL Grant -
22-7-24