

Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee

Charity no. 105534  
Company no. NI639762

# Servant Trust

## A Company Limited by Guarantee

Directors Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

# **Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee**

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## **Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Reference and administrative details of the charity, its directors and advisors For the year ended 31 August 2023**

#### **Trustees/Directors**

Desmond Dick  
Gary McFadden  
Douglas Gilroy

#### **Company registered number**

639762

#### **Charity registered number**

105534

#### **Principal office**

33 Greystown Avenue  
Belfast  
BT9 6UG

#### **Bankers**

Danske Bank  
Business Banking  
P.O. Box 183  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast BT1 6JS

#### **Administrators**

Company Secretary – Mark Jordan  
Administrator – Doug Smith



**Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Reference and administrative details of the charity, its directors and advisors  
For the year ended 31 August 2023**

**Trustees/Directors**

Desmond Dick  
Gerard Robinson  
Gary McFadden  
Douglas Gilroy

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# **Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee**

## **Directors Report**

The Directors present their annual report together with the financial statements for Servant Trust for the period of 1/09/2022 – 31/08/23.

The Charity also operates under the name Charis Community.

### **Objectives and Activities**

#### **Primary objective**

To advance the Christian Religion on the Island of Ireland, and elsewhere, by:

- i. Conducting public meetings for prayer, biblical teaching, and services of praise and worship.
- ii. Offering spiritual guidance, based on biblical teaching and Christian tradition, applied to marriage, family, business and social relationships.
- iii. Assisting established Christian Churches of different traditions by training members of Christian groups whose purpose are the advancement of the Christian Religion whether within or beyond such churches.
- iv. Any other charitable purpose according to the law of Northern Ireland, decided by the Directors.

#### **Activities for achieving objectives**

In planning the activities of the charity, the Directors have given due regard to the Charities Act (NI) 2008 on public benefit, including the guidance on advancement of religion. The Charity works principally as the Charis Community, equipping and supporting its members to reach out beyond their community to the broader public and share with them the Christian gospel and way of life, and equipping community members to be good neighbours and good citizens, doing good works as an expression of their Christian faith.

#### **Relationship with other charities and grants policy**

The charity works closely with the Servants of the Word Trust (a registered charity in England and Wales) and the European Outreach Trust (a registered charity in England and Wales). With both of these it shares similar objects and to/from both it makes and receives grants in furtherance of those objects. The three charities cooperate on a number of joint projects together, and the Directors consider that this cooperation greatly enhances the ability of this charity to further its charitable objects.

### **Structure, governance and management**

#### **Constitution**

The charity was established by Memorandum and articles of association on 23 August 2016 and commenced operating on that date.

The Company was registered with Companies House on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016.

#### **Method of appointment or election of Directors**

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Directors who are elected and co-opted under the Memorandum and articles.

### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Review of activities**

Servant Trust has continued to pursue its charitable objective of the furtherance of religion through

- the holding of public meetings,
- theological presentations,
- youth work



## **Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee**

- attendance at international conferences.

Financial resources were used to enable the activities outlined below.

Charis is part of an International network of communities called Sword of the Spirit (SOS). Charis contributes financial and human resource to SOS and sends representatives to European regional and International meetings.

These have included:

- Attendance at European Senior Coordinators meeting, October 2022
- Attendance at European meetings for the SOS

Constituent groups of Charis include Pips (3-5), Core (6-11), and Charis Youth (11-18). These groups continue to operate within the established child protection policy. All volunteers in this area are police checked. Gary McFadden and Heather Semple are designated Child Protection officers.

Charis continues to work with University age young people through University Christian Outreach (UCO). This work is important both in terms of our Evangelistic activity and in terms of being an ecumenical witness in Northern Ireland. It includes training courses in leadership for volunteers from across Europe which receives grants from the EU Erasmus program.

Charis has close ties with the joint Church of Ireland/Methodist Chaplaincy in Queens which provides the main venue for Charis meetings. We continue to have close relationships with the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian Chaplaincy.

Adults connect to Charis as associate or underway members. The core of Charis are the publicly committed (permanent) members.

Regular Meeting Pattern –

- Fortnightly open meetings in Church of the Resurrection, Elmwood Ave, Belfast.
- Monthly Sunday gatherings at Church of the Resurrection, Elmwood Ave, Belfast.
- Monthly Lord's Day meetings, Church of the Resurrection.
- Quarterly Members meetings also at the Church of the Resurrection
- Weekly UCO meetings in Fitzroy Presbyterian Church, University Avenue, Belfast.
- Fortnightly small group discipleship meetings.

Weekends and Residentials

- 3 took place this year at different retreat/conference centres across Northern Ireland.

Servant Trust plans to continue to fulfil the objectives of the trust through maintenance of these and similar activities.

### **Workers**

Charis remunerates a part time administrator.



## **Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Financial review**

The accounts for 2022/2023 have been reviewed and found to be satisfactory. Servant Trust (Ltd) had an income of £143,518 in 2022-2023 and expenditure of £181,355 creating a deficit of £73,837 for the year. Fund balances and adjustments carried forward bring the total surplus to £34,692

### **Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### **Reserves Policy**

The 'free' reserves are held for the following purposes:

- to fund working capital requirements, which the Directors consider to be £10,000;
- to provide a buffer in case of any unexpected deterioration in income, for which the Directors use £10,000

### **Principal Funding**

The income of the charity comes from regular donations from its members and bank deposit interest. The charity does not own property or fixed assets, nor does it have investments.

### **Organisational structure and decisions making**

The charity is governed by its Directors. The Charis Community is governed by a Coordinators Council made up of some Directors and Senior Management. Day to day responsibility for the charity's financial affairs is vested in the administrators who meet regularly with the Directors and are accountable to them.

### **Plans for future periods**

#### **Future development**

The charity plans to continue its existing work. There have been no significant events since the year end that need to be reported upon.

#### **Directors responsibilities statement**

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the Directors 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 of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

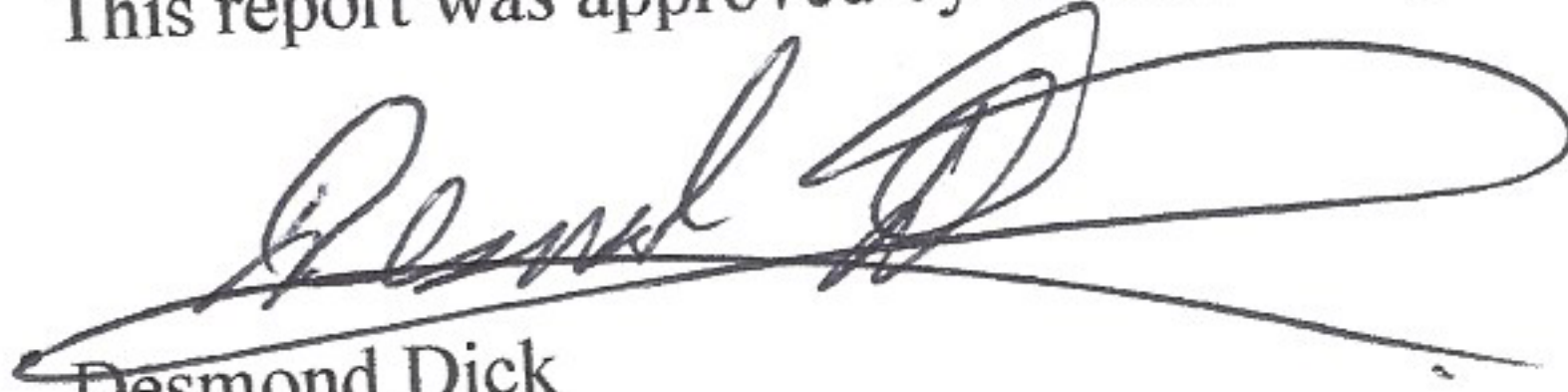
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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 Charities Act 2008, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2015 and the provisions of the trust's Memorandum and articles of association. 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.



**Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee**

This report was approved by the Directors, on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Desmond Dick

30/6/2023



# Servant Trust – A Company Limited by Guarantee

## Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account

### Statement of financial activities

	Sep-21 Aug-22	Sep-22 Aug-23
<b><u>Incoming Resources</u></b>		
Tithe	82,968	77,578
SOS Mission	3,344	3,500
UCO Belfast Income		26,179
Alms	5,100	1,795
Misc. Income	13,053	4,657
Event Income	3,090	8,756
Grant Income		646
Gift Aid	63,554	20,407
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>171,109</b>	<b>143,518</b>
<b><u>Resources Expended</u></b>		
<i>Charitable Activity</i>		
Charis Expenditure	89,585	89,503
Charis Overheads	10,598	9,653
University Christian Outreach	39,115	44,220
Mission	0	452
Derry Missional Community	890	4,000
Alms	5,995	1,853
British Council Grant	12,803	31,674
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>158,986</b>	<b>181,355</b>
		<b>-37,837</b>
<b>Net Incoming Resources for the Year:</b>	<b>12,123</b>	
Adjustment	1,142	
Funds Balance Brought Forward	22,165	72,529
Adjustment Dankse UCO	6,050	
Adjustment Danske SWOT	31,048	
<b>Fund Balances Carried Forward</b>	<b>72,528</b>	<b>34,692</b>