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# Torchbearers Trust

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Registered Charity No. 1000113

64 Dunval Road  
BRIDGNORTH  
Shropshire  
WV16 4NB

## Annual Report for year to 31st March 2021

### Legal and Administrative Information

The Trust was established by its Trust Deed dated 2nd April 1990.  
The objects of the Trust are the advancement of the Christian faith.

The Trust's bankers are:       Lloyds TSB  
  High Street  
  BRIDGNORTH

The current trustees are:       Mr Keith Bowley  
  Mrs Linda Bowley  
  Mr Paul Saunders

### Appointment of Trustees

Appointment of trustees is governed by the Trust Deed. The trustees are authorised to appoint new trustees by resolution at a meeting of the trustees. In selecting individuals to act as trustees the existing trustees will always have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Trust.

### Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees are given an introduction to the role of trustee and the workings of the Trust through discussion with existing trustees and by reference to relevant documents, as follows:

1. The role and responsibilities of a trustee – by reference to the relevant Charity Commission publications.
2. The Trust Deed – a copy is provided to each new trustee
3. Current Financial Position – through availability of a copy of the latest published accounts and subsequent management accounts.
4. Future plans and objectives are discussed before appointment and at each trustee meeting.

### Trust Income

Income is received from individuals, companies and charities who wish to support particular projects or organisations supported by the Trust. During the year the Trust also received funds from the government's Job Retention Scheme when some staff were furloughed. Where funds are received for a designated project these are normally held in separate bank accounts for the purpose. Separate accounts are:

## **Torchbearers Trust Annual Report for year to 31st March 2021 (cont'd)**

Hope Foster Home, Beijing  
Base Camp Ministries  
Horses for Orphans

### **Main Activities**

The objective of the Trust is the advancement of the Christian faith. In considering current and future activities of the Trust the trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The Trust's activities fall broadly into 2 main parts:

#### **1. Local Ministry in the Bridgnorth area**

The Trust aims to support and complement the ministry of the existing local churches for the benefit of both Christians and the community at large. This is done in various ways, although opportunities for ministry have been limited by the COVID pandemic during the year:

- The Trust employs staff to minister in the local area - co-ordinating prayer groups who pray for the local community and providing pastoral and discipleship support and training by various means, in cooperation with local churches.
- The Trust employs two part-time staff for the Catalyst Youth Trust project which works across the region to encourage and support the development of youth and schools work.
- No Filling Station meetings were possible during the year.
- The Trust provides gifts to local churches to assist them in pursuing their own ministry.
- The Trust provides grants to assist people in attending training and conferences to equip them better for their Christian ministry.
- The Trust provides financial support to the Bridgnorth Dry Bar Trust, which is a local charity providing an alcohol-free youth centre for young people from age 10 upwards.
- The Trust provides financial support to the Bridgnorth Youth & Schools Project, which employs a team of youth workers to work with young people aged 10-18 in local schools and in the community.

#### **2. Financial Grants to Christian ministries and Individuals in the UK and overseas.**

These grants are made to ministries and individuals with aims and objectives consistent with those of the Trust and are normally made as a result of relationships developed over a number of years. Recipients include:

- Hope Foster Home, Beijing, China which provides orphanages in China to house orphans, especially very young children who have been abandoned because they have serious illnesses. This organisation arranges life-saving surgery for these children then accommodates them until they can be adopted permanently by local families. All needy children are considered for acceptance by the orphanage without conditions and without charge.
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## **Torchbearers Trust Annual Report for year to 31st March 2021 (cont'd)**

- International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) which is a worldwide body based in the UK which provides Christian ministry and education to students around the world.
- St Mary's Church, Bridgnorth to assist in the employment of their Children's and Families Worker.
- Christian Blind Mission, which works around the world bringing sight to the blind
- Christians Against Poverty – a UK charity which provides free debt counselling to people who lack the funds to buy such services. This ministry has seen considerable success in assisting individuals and families who are under extreme financial pressure to restructure their debts and eventually get out of debt through careful budgeting.
- TR Slater's ministry with young men in Corby
- STARFISH Malawi, a project working with young children in Malawi.
- Gideon and Funmi Para-Mallam for Gideon's research studies and for the work of their Peace Foundation in Jos, Nigeria
- Nigerian Fellowship of Evangelical Students which is the national representation of IFES in Nigeria.
- Bala Usman for his ministry establishing training centres in disadvantaged villages in Plateau State, Nigeria
- Redeemed People's Mission, a network of churches in Northern Nigeria
- Horses for Orphans, Brazil - a project which endeavours to build the foundations of life for orphans and the underprivileged, to equip them to succeed in their personal and professional lives and come into a deeper knowledge of the love of God.

### **Achievements during the Year**

- Much of the work of the trust continues to involve providing quiet support and much needed funds to various Christian ministries both in the UK and overseas.
- The trust has provided substantial financial support to the Bridgnorth Youth & Schools Project to enable it to continue its valuable work and to further expand its activities.
- The Catalyst Youth Trust project launched in Sept 2017 has grown in scope and is now providing help to others in establishing projects similar to the Bridgnorth Youth & Schools Project.

### **Financial Review**

During the year income totalled £75,908 (previous year £106,820). Expenditure totalled £76,807 (previous year £103,709). Overall there was a deficit of £899.

In the General Fund income and expenditure were both substantially affected by the pandemic. Some staff were furloughed for part of the year so income of £11,751 was received from the Government's Job Retention Scheme

### **Policies**

#### **Reserves Policy**

The nature of the Trust's work is such that the trustees do not consider it appropriate to build up any significant reserves. Income is received on the understanding that it is for the support of the Trust's current activities and is consequently spent as it is received.

## **Torchbearers Trust Annual Report for year to 31st March 2021 (cont'd)**

### Grant-Making Policy

The Trust will consider an application from anyone who is training for some form of Christian ministry. Preference will be given to Christians from within the Bridgnorth area. In practice the funds available for such grants are at present fairly limited.

### Investments Selection Policy

Because the trust does not hold significant reserves any such reserves are held in an interest bearing deposit account.

### Review of Major Risks

The most significant risk to the work of the Trust is that the majority of the individual donations income comes from two of the trustees. Should their circumstances change the income of the trust could be reduced substantially. The trustees are fully aware of this risk and ensure that the trust's expenditure could be reduced to accommodate any such reduction in income, should it become necessary.

### Approval

This report was approved by the trustees on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and signed on their behalf



Keith H G Bowley  
(Chairman of the trustees)

Charity Commission Number  
**1000113**

Charity Name  
**Torchbearers Trust**

Financial year ending  
**31/03/2021**

### General Funds

#### A1 Receipts

	This year	Last year
A1a Donations and other similar receipts		
Corporate Donations	1360	1360
Government JRS Grants	11751	0
Donations from other Christian charities	18201	9916
Individual Donations	33406	79732
Offerings	0	293
A1b Operating Activities		
to further charity's objectives	24	799
to generate funds		
A1c Investment Income Receipts		
Bank Interest	5	7
Sub-Total (A1a + A1b + A1c)	64747	92107
A1d Other Receipts		
Transfer from Deposit Accounts	0	0
Transfer from Restricted Funds	0	0
Loans Received	21	0
Loan Repayments Received	12	2915
Total Receipts for Section A1	64780	95022

#### A2 Payments

	This year	Last year
A2a Payments for Generating Funds	0	0
A2b Charitable Payments		
Ministry Staff salaries, and Ministry Gifts	36984	43141
Ministry Staff expenses	1490	8185
Scholarships, Grants etc	0	5308
Gifts to other Charitable organisations	18438	32263
Conference, Meeting & Event Expenses	625	5093
Purchase of Teaching Materials	1800	800
General Administration costs	2193	3492
Sub-Total (A2a + A2b)	61530	98282
A2c Other Payments		
Transfer to Deposit Accounts	0	0
Transfer to Restricted Funds	0	0
Loans Made	146	0
Loan Repayments Made	0	0
Total Payments for Section A2	61676	98282
Net Receipts/(Payments)	3104	-3260
Cash funds last year end	3429	6689
Cash funds this year end	6533	3429

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### Restricted Funds

#### B1 Receipts

	This year	Last year
B1a Donations and other similar receipts		
Corporate Donations	0	0
Donations from other Christian charities	375	100
Individual Donations	10786	14613
Offerings	0	0
B1b Operating Activities		
to further charity's objectives	0	0
to generate funds	0	0
B1c Investment Income Receipts		
Bank Interest	0	0
Sub-Total (B1a + B1b + B1c)	11161	14713
B1d Other Receipts		
Transfer from Unrestricted Funds	0	0
Transfer from Deposit Accounts	0	0
Loans Received	0	0
Loan Repayments Received	0	0
Total Receipts for Section B1	11161	14713

#### B2 Payments

B2a Payments for Generating Funds	0	0
B2b Charitable Payments		
Ministry Staff salaries, and Ministry Gifts	0	0
Ministry & Staff expenses	0	0
Scholarships, Grants etc	0	0
Gifts to other Charitable organisations	15250	5400
Conference and Meeting Expenses	0	0
Purchase of Teaching Materials	0	0
General Administration costs	27	27
Sub-Total (B2a + B2b)	15277	5427
B2c Other Payments		
Transfer to Unrestricted Funds	0	0
Transfer to Deposit Accounts	0	0
Loans Made	0	0
Loan Repayments Made	0	0
Total Payments for Section B2	15277	5427

Net Receipts/(Payments)	-4116	9286
Cash funds last year end	12226	2940
Cash funds this year end	8110	12226

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Financial year ending  
**31/03/2021**

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	This year	Last year
<b>D1 Monetary Assets</b>		
D1a Cash Balances on Receipts & Payments a/c		
General Account	6193	2927
J Prockter Expense Account	319	424
Petty Cash	21	78
Hope Foster Home Beijing Account (Restricted)	6557	11806
Base Camp Ministries (Restricted)	480	360
Horses for Orphans (Restricted)	1073	60
D1b Other Monetary Assets		
Epworth Affirmative Deposit Fund (Restricted)	115	115
Loans Due to the Charity	146	0
D3a Investment Assets	0	0
D3b Assets retained for the Charity's Own Use	0	0
<b>D2 Liabilities</b>		
Loans owed by the Charity	21	0

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Torchbearers Trust**

We report to the charity trustees on our examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 which are set out on pages one to seven

### **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').

We report in respect of our examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out our examination we have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

We have completed my examination. We confirm that no material matters have come to our 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 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records

We 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.



Stanton Ralph & Co Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
The Old Police Station  
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Shropshire  
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