

BCM INTERNATIONAL NI

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)".

Objectives and activities

The principle objectives of the charity are to advance and promote in Northern Ireland and elsewhere the Christian Faith in accordance with the statement of doctrine set out in the Second Schedule of the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association and include;

- To proclaim the Gospel in order that children, teenagers and adults might come to faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.
- To establish believers in the Christian life, service and local church involvement through constructive, consistent teaching of the Word of God.
- To serve the local Bible believing Church.
- To maintain fellowship with all sections of BCM International and the advancement of fellowship with any group of believers having a similar purpose and activity in any part of the United Kingdom and overseas.

The charity carries out residential events which enable it to teach the Word of God to children, young people and adults throughout the year. It provides opportunities for believers who ascribe to the values and principles of BCM International NI to volunteer with us. It provides training for its volunteers and for local bible believing churches who work with children and young people. It also provides residential facilities for local bible believing churches and other groups of believers in order that they may be taught the Word of God.

BCM International NI relies heavily on the commitment and support of its vast number of volunteers across Northern Ireland who faithfully pray, serve on camps, run and maintain Mullartown House and for the general running of the charity. The time given by volunteers, without which we simply could not achieve what we do, is to be celebrated. The Directors are very grateful to the hundreds of volunteers who have helped over the last year. We give thanks to God for each volunteer and their service.

The directors have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The directors believe they have been successful in achieving the objectives of the charity throughout the year by the operation of the following core activities. Through these activities children, young people and adults were reached with the Gospel and Christians established in their faith.

Summer Camps

During July & August eight 6-day residential camps were hosted by Mullartown House, Annalong. There were 4 children's camps, 1 pre-teen camp, 1 junior teens camp, 1 senior teens camp and 1 family week with a total of 567 campers attending and 223 volunteers. One of the children's camps is targeted towards disadvantaged young people from the Belfast area, a number of whom are referred by Social Services.

We ran an additional 4-day residential summer camp at Kilbroney Residential Centre for teens; 14 campers and 10 volunteers were involved.

Each camp is run by a Programme Director who with their team of leaders work hard to ensure that the young people have an enjoyable physical, mental and spiritual experience while at camp.

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BCM Residential Weekends

In 2022 Mullartown House hosted 2 weekend reunions for teens from the summer camps – Seniors and Juniors. There were also 2 City Kids' residential weekends and 2 City Teens' residential weekends, primarily attracting children and young people from inner city areas of Belfast. In addition, we had a Summer Camp Volunteer Training Weekend, a Couples' Enrichment Retreat, and a Ladies' weekend, all run by BCM NI at Mullartown House.

Supporting local churches

Residential weekends: Our property in Annalong hosts weekends for church-based groups and school and university Christian Unions, enabling us to serve the local Bible believing Church. In 2022, 27 different residential groups used our facilities, meaning we welcomed over 1,400 visitors to Mullartown House over the course of the year.

The BCM Centre in Lisburn hosts 4 parachurch groups for Bible studies and prayer meetings and has been able to continue to do this throughout 2022.

Bible Clubs

These clubs are held during term time and enable us to reach children and encourage them to pursue a deeper relationship with God.

Bible Clubs ran weekly during term-time in Stoneyford, Ballygowan and two locations in Lisburn, attracting 10-15 children each week.

We also ran shorter spells of Bible Clubs in various areas during term-time: 11 clubs in the Markets area, 11 clubs in Culcavey, 11 clubs in West Belfast, 8 clubs in Ballymacash, 8 clubs in Downpatrick.

Two discipleship groups for teenagers ran weekly at Mullartown House with an average attendance of 75 teens per week, a third group ran monthly in Lisburn. An additional bible study group for senior teens met weekly in the BCM Centre during term-time. A club for disadvantaged teens ran in the BCM Centre weekly during the first half of 2022.

Summer Outreach

Hello Life seeks to reach into the local communities through different forms of outreach including Bible Clubs, visitation, practical help and family fun days. There were 5 teams in July and August, each made up of an average of 12 volunteers; in Lurgan, Lisburn, Downpatrick, Belfast and Carryduff. Three of the teams were residential. We also partnered with Exodus, hosting one of their teams to carry out a week of outreach in Newry. For several of the volunteers this was the first time they had participated in this type of outreach.

During the Hello Life weeks 84 individual bible clubs took place, mostly as part of 3-day, 4-day or 5-day series in various housing estates, with attendance ranging from half a dozen to 50 children.

Other activities: A number of other activities were held throughout the year to reach children, young people and adults with the gospel and to encourage them in their faith. These included the missionaries and interns speaking at school assemblies, Scripture Union groups, and church meetings. We also ran a 4-week mentoring programme for some of our summer volunteers.

Training

Volunteers are at the core of BCM NI's ministry and training sessions are offered to equip them in serving effectively with us. All of our volunteers receive Child Protection, Health and Safety and Data Protection training.

Camp volunteers attended a training weekend in April 2022, receiving relevant training on various aspects of camp ministry. Hello Life volunteers attended a training day in May 2022 looking at how to reach out most effectively into various communities.

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Ministry Development

The residential intern programme at Mullartown House recommenced again in September 2021. Kate Maginnis, from Northern Ireland, contributed significantly to the work of BCM during her time as an intern, which ran until August 2022. Esteban Pineda, from the US, joined us in September 2022 as an intern for a year.

Adam Hanna completed his Bible College placement with us during 2022, and Hannah Moxen also completed a 4-week placement with BCM NI as part of her Bible College course.

Full time missionaries

Jason & Gemma Hill continue to manage the facility at Mullartown House and the annual programme. They also specifically direct the BCM programme of camps and weekends. Joanna Widman oversees the kitchen at Mullartown and Scott Widman oversees the wider Ministry Development. Nate Heater returned in June 2021 on a 2-year short-term worker visa. Nate is overseeing the development of Hello Life, and supporting existing ministries. In December 2021 we welcomed Miriam Griffith to the team, also for a 2-year term to serve in administration and maintenance, both at Mullartown and at the BCM Centre.

Judith Rogers continues in her role as CEO with the aim of supporting the BCM International NI Board in their governance responsibilities, and the missionaries in their ministry.

Administrative Volunteers

Julie Larmour, along with Elizabeth Spence, Emma Nesbitt, and Avril McGrath, help to keep the administration up-to-date, especially during the summer months.

Property

Mullartown House and BCM Centre: Most of our activities are centred in these two properties. Both had ongoing maintenance carried out during 2022. At Mullartown flooring was replaced in a number of areas, painting carried out, and a new play park installed.

The garden at BCM Centre has been made usable. Planning permission is being sought to extend an existing outhouse, and for the ground floor toilet and kitchen in the main building to be renovated to make them wheelchair accessible.

Links with BCM International

We maintained links with the wider BCM International body through membership of the UK Anchor Trust and attendance at the European Conference in October. Scott and Joanna maintain close links with Castledaly in the Republic of Ireland and help with maintenance and cooking as required.

Financial review

The results for the period are as set out on pages 7 to 19. The charity returned net incoming resources of £143,804 (2021 - £331) of which there were unrestricted net incoming resources of £56,818 (2021 - net outgoing resources £6,039) and restricted net incoming resources of £86,986 (2021 - £6,370). At 31 December 2022, the level of unrestricted reserves held was £1,035,112 (2021 - £978,294).

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The directors consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The directors have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

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Structure, governance and management

BCM International NI is a company limited by guarantee, the liability of the members is limited to £1, and it is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

BCM International NI is part of the wider BCM International network. Bible Centered Ministries is a global nondenominational ministry dedicated to Reaching Children and Developing Churches worldwide. BCM has more than 700 missionaries serving in 50 countries across five continents as well as Pacific and Caribbean islands.

BCM International NI is registered as a Charity with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (NIC 105856).

The directors who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr G Connor

Miss J Reid

Mr K Parker

Mrs M Dundas

Mrs A McGrath

Mrs J Larmour

Mr A Shanks

(Appointed 28 March 2022)

New directors are appointed by the members of the charity at the annual general meeting.

All directors are required to participate in training e.g. Good Governance course organised by NICVA. Directors are regularly updated on legislation that impacts upon the running of a charitable organisation e.g. recent changes in legislation introduced by the Charities Commission.

BCM International NI is managed by a voluntary board of directors who are responsible for the management of the charity. The board of directors comprises at least 10 directors who meet bi-monthly to oversee the management of the charity. The board of directors conduct regular reviews of the charity's strategic plan, with policies and procedures reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis.

The day to day management of Mullartown House is delegated to Mr Jason and Mrs Gemma Hill.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provision applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The directors' report was approved by the Board of Directors.

Mrs J Larmour

Director

Dated: 18 September 2023