

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 00136726 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 216647
OSCR NUMBER: SC046866

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st August 2019
for
International Bible Students Association**



International Bible Students Association

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

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International Bible Students Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2019. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The object of the Association is to promote the Christian religion as practiced by the body of Christians known as Jehovah's Witnesses, by supporting congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses and others in connection with their spiritual and material welfare in Britain and abroad within the charitable purposes of the Association. This has been achieved by:

1. Providing serviced facilities to support religious activity.
2. Arranging for venues to host conventions for Bible education.
3. Financially assisting legal entities of Jehovah's Witnesses with similar aims and objectives, both foreign and domestic.
4. Paying expenses for and taking care of living arrangements for members of the Worldwide Order of Special Full-Time Servants of Jehovah's Witnesses (the Order).

Ongoing support of the activity of Jehovah's Witnesses without interruption, is a more significant criterion for the Association than a statistical assessment of performance. In the area of conventions, however, attendance figures can be considered to assess the impact of the Association's work.

Significant activities

The Association's aim, to facilitate the ongoing activities of Jehovah's Witnesses, remains the same each year. Therefore the short and long term objectives are synonymous with each other. Specific current activities are described in the following paragraphs.

Until March 2018, the Association paid for literature which was to be provided free of charge to individuals. Charities with similar aims and objectives in other countries now meet the great need for literature that the Association formerly helped to fulfil. With the end of this activity, the trustees have revisited the description of the Association's activities. It is now appropriate to classify separately the costs of providing buildings and equipment which are used for charitable activity. These can be grouped further into facilities for Bible translation and buildings for other religious activity. Significant building projects in line with these activities have been carried out during the year. These include a new facility for British Sign Language translation, and the new headquarters of Jehovah's Witnesses. More information is included in the achievements and performance section of this report.

The Association continued to provide support for Members of the Order in various forms, such as food, accommodation, and modest allowances. This support allowed them to continue in their full-time religious service.

Public benefit

In addition to being a religious entity, the Trustees confirm that they have taken into consideration Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. This is amply demonstrated in this report and in particular the following:

1. The translated Bible based material and videos are made available to the public free of charge. Although the Association does not produce or distribute this material, it facilitates its production. It is also noteworthy that the literature is provided in the mother tongue of individuals, even if their language is not widely used. These languages include British Sign Language, Welsh and Scottish Gaelic.
2. Conventions for Bible education, are widely advertised by personal invitations delivered by individual Jehovah's Witnesses to the public nationwide. Admission is free.
3. Through facilitating the work of Jehovah's Witnesses in general, through property purchase and ownership as well as taking care of members of the Order. All such work allows for charitable, religious activity to continue, bringing benefits to those who are involved.

International Bible Students Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Grant making

Our grant making policy is as follows:

From time to time we are asked to consider helping entities of Jehovah's Witnesses, with similar aims and objectives in countries where a need exists. We first consider whether the budget permits. If this is the case we then send the money to the organisation caring for Jehovah's Witnesses in that country. We thereafter obtain reports to confirm the money was properly used.

In 2013 the Association entered into a formal arrangement with a charity in Germany, Jehovas Zeugen in Deutschland. This charity has similar aims and objectives to the Association. The agreement allows us to send excess funds for them to use and distribute in accordance with our aims and objectives.

All grants made support the Christian ministry of Jehovah's Witnesses in many countries, assisting with literature needs, disaster relief, the building of places of worship and other requirements of associations of Jehovah's Witnesses which pursue the same aims and objectives. Charity donors are made aware of the worldwide nature of our work and activities. The Association was able to increase its donations to further these aims, during the year.

Members of the Order

The Association is often assisted by religious ministers who are members of the Worldwide Order of Special-full-time Servants of Jehovah's Witnesses (the Order). These individuals are not employed and do not receive a remuneration or any benefit in kind for the activities or services they perform. Their basic needs are cared for, so that they are able to carry out any task which they are assigned by the Order as part of their religious service. Although such ones do at times help the Association, for instance by assisting with building maintenance, their service involves many other assignments as well, not connected to the Association. Members perform whatever the Order assigns them to do in support of the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses

International Bible Students Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

Provision of serviced facilities.

Throughout the year, the Association has allowed members of the Order and religious volunteers free use of its buildings, equipment, computers and internet service. The buildings include offices, maintenance spaces, kitchen / dining and recreation areas located in London. All of this has allowed ministers to carry out their religious service and to assist in the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses. Members of the public had the opportunity to visit the premises and many tours were conducted. The Association aims to make the same provision available in the new facilities next year.

Significant progress has been made in the construction of the new facilities, which will be the new headquarters for Jehovah's Witnesses in Britain, located near Chelmsford. It is expected that all operations will be moved to the new site by the spring of 2020. At 31 August 2019 the remaining contractual obligation on this project stood at £7 million. The relocation will greatly increase the Association's ability to fulfil its aims and in a more efficient manner. At the time of writing this report, activity has begun at the new site.

Provision of new facilities to support the production of Bible based literature.

The purchase of and work on properties in Burton, Derbyshire was completed providing a new facility for British Sign Language translation and residences for members of the Order serving there. These facilities allow for more material to be produced, and in a more efficient manner.

In other locations, material was translated into more languages of the British Isles, including Welsh and Scottish Gaelic. Work on Bible based audio and video programs was also carried out throughout the year in the Association's properties.

Conventions for Bible education

These summer conventions were again well attended; the total of 164,432 was gratifying. All sessions were open to the public, and there were no charges for admission. Those attending were educated through talks that applied Bible principles to modern day living, video presentations of Bible accounts and the relating of personal experiences.

Financially assisting legal entities of Jehovah's Witnesses

We had adequate funds to be able to respond to all of the requests received for charitable aid, supporting entities with similar aims and objectives. Assistance has also been provided by allowing some of these entities to occupy and operate free of charge in properties owned by IBSA overseas.

The Association also made a social investment in a project which focuses on assisting Jehovah's Witnesses around the world by finding and purchasing places to worship. This is shown in note 10 to the financial statements. The trustees believe this allows the Association to assist their wider network in a new way, in addition to its usual method of donating funds.

Caring for Members of the Order

During the year, the modest living expenses of 932 members of the Order were cared for, in harmony with the aims and purposes of the Association, throughout the United Kingdom. This enabled them to concentrate fully on their religious service, and carry out assignments during the year. These ones are not employed by the Association. They do however at times assist with the Association's activities, and any other service they carry out is in line with the Association's aims and objectives.

Fundraising activities

We do not engage in fundraising activities.

Investment performance

The trustees are satisfied with the results for the year, taking into account interest rates generally. Money is held in first class banks.

International Bible Students Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Internal controls

These controls ensure that the monthly financial reports accurately represent all transactions, provide reasonable assurance that finances are being used for their intended purpose and verify that proper controls and procedures are in place and adhered to, so that the figures are recorded accurately and accounts are in balance. The internal audit programme has been achieved. The internal auditor and his assistant have a set agenda to pursue through the year and reported again in writing to the Trustees in November 2019. All was found to be in order.

Financial review

Financial position

The Association showed a £16 million surplus on the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) at 31 August 2019. This must be considered along with the fact that approximately £33 million was invested in capital expenditure in the period.

Net Assets at the end of the year stood at approximately £161 million. The vast majority of this is made up of tangible assets (with a NBV at historic cost of £192 million). This demonstrates that the Association is continuing to utilise its resources effectively.

Principal funding sources

The Association is funded by voluntary donations and legacies. This income supported the Association in achieving all of its key objectives during the year.

Other

Major capital expenditure was incurred during the year on the project to build new headquarters for Jehovah's Witnesses in Britain, in Chelmsford. Cash reserves had been built up to a suitable level in order to finance this acquisition. A loan was also received, as shown by note 15 to the financial statements.

Reserves policy

The Association has a reliable donation base, being primarily the resources of Jehovah's Witnesses in the 1,626 congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses in the UK. The Association also works closely with Jehovas Zeugen in Germany, a charity with similar aims and objectives. The trustees see these two factors as providing for an appropriate level of reserves at any given time, and due to the varying nature and timing of charitable expenditure there is no set amount targeted. This is especially the case given current changes to property as already mentioned in this report. This will result in sales of properties, many of which have already been agreed. The Association will reconsider its reserves policy on completion of the move to a new site.

At the year-end current, unrestricted revenue reserves, excluding creditors due after one year, stood at £243,743. Due to the aforementioned property sales, the low level of free reserves was not a concern, as the Association was soon to receive funds from these. Some have been received at the time of writing this report. Also, the Association responds to the needs for funds overseas only after satisfying its domestic requirements. As the major capital project is now in its closing stages, the trustees are confident that the necessary resources are and will be available, reserves are not held to cover planned expenditure on this project.

Going concern

There are no uncertainties about the Charity continuing as a going concern.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The major risks to which the Association is exposed have been formally reviewed, with particular focus on events that would seriously impede the operations of the Association. Strategic safeguards are in place to reduce, as far as possible, the impact of those risks. The risk register was updated most recently in June 2019.

The principal risks and uncertainties are in the following areas: Health and safety, IT disaster recovery and planning, lack of building fabric maintenance.

Health and Safety

Caring for sizeable facilities and a large group of workers brings with it the risks of accidents either at work or in accommodation.

This risk is mitigated by a rigorous health and safety routine. Experts in this area give constant advice and direction as to how working and living practices can be made safer. The workers are continuously trained in the procedures they should undertake, and how they should carry out their tasks in the safest manner. Documentation is provided as part of their training.

International Bible Students Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

STRATEGIC REPORT

Principal risks and uncertainties

IT disaster recovery and planning

The systems used to achieve aims of the Charity, are completely reliant on IT services. The potential for such services to be damaged or impeded in some way is a serious risk to the operations of the Association. This risk is mitigated by extremely detailed IT backup procedures. Offsite backups are regularly done, with sensitive data being backed up more frequently. Should a physical server be lost, remote servers are kept offsite that can take over and ensure the continued running of operations. In the unlikely event that the network goes down, a strong, robust infrastructure allows for operations to continue uninterrupted.

Lack of building fabric maintenance

Regular repair and maintenance programmes are carried out to a high standard. Experts in relevant areas give training and monitor these areas carefully. Ongoing training and documentation is provided based on appropriate standards and followed by those who have the responsibility for caring for the buildings.

Environmental performance

The Association also monitors its effect on the environment. Utility usage was monitored during the year. High efficiency boilers implemented in 2016 continue to bring cost and environmental savings. Our in house Energy Team consistently monitors our energy management throughout all of our properties, resulting in ongoing efficiency improvement that reduces our carbon footprint.

The ongoing project in Chelmsford also involves extensive environmental considerations. The current operations of the Association are spread across multiple sites. The environmental costs of this will be greatly reduced by consolidating onto one site of operations.

The project is being undertaken by the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Britain. The design and construction methods for the project were rated as outstanding by BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method). The trustees are pleased with this example of extremely positive environmental performance.

Future plans

Continuing to enable individuals to carry out their religious service full time as members of the Order, means these can continue to make a meaningful contribution to the religious organisation of Jehovah's Witnesses. They will also have a beneficial impact in the wider communities where they worship and conduct their public ministry.

We look forward to continuing to source and provide venues for conventions in the following year, as well as assisting other entities with similar aims and objectives overseas.

The project to plan and build new headquarters is proceeding well and will increase the effectiveness by which the Association can carry out its activities. The Association will also continue to support the needs for the translation and audio/video production of Bible based material.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity was incorporated on 30th June 1914 and is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of that date as amended by special resolutions on 20th April 1951, 10th January 1958, 28th November 2005, 4th January 2006, 20th February 2014 and 13th April 2016.

Organisational structure

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee.

The Trustees organise the running of the charity through a number of departments. Each department is headed up by a trained and experienced overseer who will make regular reports to the Trustees. Policy decisions are made by the Trustees. In some cases, a separate committee is given a budget, and can make decisions within the approved budget.

Members Liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amounts as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

International Bible Students Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment, appointment, induction and training of new trustees

The Trustees of the Association who held office during the year, and at the date of this report, are set out below. These trustees have key roles at the charity's headquarters. They meet together each month and are in regular contact from day to day. The Trustees have the power to appoint or remove Trustees by a simple majority vote.

The recruitment and induction of new Trustees is arranged as follows. When necessary, the Trustees review potential candidates, on the basis set out in the Articles of Association. Their abilities and qualifications are evaluated by the Trustees. New Trustees are given training in both operational and financial matters with the aid of the existing trustees and relevant documentation and guidance provided by the Charity Commission.

Wider Network

Charities with similar objects exist in many countries around the world. Cooperation with these charities facilitates an efficient and economic use of resources, and helps the Association to meet its stated objectives.

The Association also cooperates with such charities in Britain. This cooperation could be in the form of shared facilities, or donations depending on the circumstances.

The Association reviews policies, procedures and guidelines used by entities of Jehovah's Witnesses globally with similar aims and objectives and, where applicable, seeks to implement them.

Close ties have also been maintained with Jehovas Zeugen in Deutschland (Jehovah's Witnesses in Germany).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

00136726 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

216647

Registered office

1 Kingdom Way
West Hanningfield
Chelmsford
CM2 8FW

Trustees

S Papps
K Snaith
I Darby
J Manley
S C H Symonds - appointed 28.9.18

Auditors

Calcutt Matthews Ltd
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
19 North Street
Ashford
TN24 8LF

Bankers

Barclays Corporate North London Team
1-2 Trinity Way
Chingford
London
E4 8TD

International Bible Students Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of International Bible Students Association for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

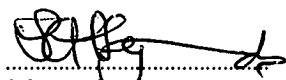
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on February 25, 2020, and signed on the board's behalf by:



S Symonds Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of International Bible Students Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the International Bible Students Association (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st August 2019 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and Section 44 (1) (c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st August 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, and Section 44 (1) (c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of International Bible Students Association

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

to you if, in our opinion:

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Nicholas Hume FCA

Nicholas Hume FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Calcutt Matthews WZB Ltd
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
19 North Street
Ashford
TN24 8LF

Date: 26.02.20

International Bible Students Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	25,744,751	1,671,292	27,416,043	44,707,651
Investment income	3	10,256	-	10,256	31,181
Other income		<u>68,958</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,958</u>	<u>1,218,209</u>
Total		25,823,965	1,671,292	27,495,257	45,957,041
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Provision of literature for Bible education		-	-	-	4,114,912
Provision of conventions for Bible education		1,736,937	-	1,736,937	1,484,296
Donations and aid		1,411,193	-	1,411,193	10,912,813
Provision of serviced facilities		2,449,112	-	2,449,112	-
Caring for members of the Order		5,205,326	-	5,205,326	6,321,335
Provision of facilities to produce Bible based literature		<u>381,515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>381,515</u>	<u>-</u>
Total		11,184,083	-	11,184,083	22,833,356
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,323</u>
NET INCOME		14,639,882	1,671,292	16,311,174	23,126,008
Transfers between funds	16	<u>5,984,403</u>	<u>(5,984,403)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		20,624,285	(4,313,111)	16,311,174	23,126,008
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		140,584,025	4,313,111	144,897,136	121,771,128
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>161,208,310</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>161,208,310</u>	<u>144,897,136</u>

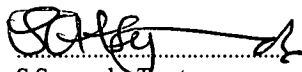
The notes form part of these financial statements

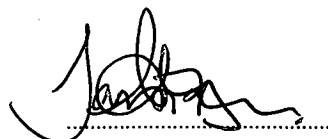
International Bible Students Association

**Balance Sheet
At 31st August 2019**

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	191,048,976	-	191,048,976	159,728,555
Social investments	10	<u>460,215</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>460,215</u>	<u>-</u>
		191,509,191	-	191,509,191	159,728,555
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	11	170,387	-	170,387	196,862
Debtors	12	1,389,283	-	1,389,283	2,509,246
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>2,179,858</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,179,858</u>	<u>3,942,005</u>
		3,739,528	-	3,739,528	6,648,113
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(3,495,784)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,495,784)</u>	<u>(4,984,907)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>243,744</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>243,744</u>	<u>1,663,206</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		191,752,935	-	191,752,935	161,391,761
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	<u>(30,544,625)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(30,544,625)</u>	<u>(16,494,625)</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>161,208,310</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>161,208,310</u></u>	<u><u>144,897,136</u></u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	16			161,208,310	140,584,025
Restricted funds				<u>-</u>	<u>4,313,111</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>161,208,310</u></u>	<u><u>144,897,136</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on February 25, 2020, and were signed on its behalf by:


S Symonds - Trustee


J Manley - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

International Bible Students Association

**Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash generated from operations	19	<u>17,732,372</u>	<u>24,860,487</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		<u>17,732,372</u>	<u>24,860,487</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(33,514,774)	(36,260,138)
Purchase of social investments		(460,215)	-
Sale of tangible fixed assets		470,214	1,363,304
Sale of fixed asset investments		-	57,199
Interest received		<u>10,256</u>	<u>31,181</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>(33,494,519)</u>	<u>(34,808,454)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:			
New loans in year		<u>14,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		<u>14,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
		(1,762,147)	(4,947,967)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>3,942,005</u>	<u>8,889,972</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>2,179,858</u>	<u>3,942,005</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

International Bible Students Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, a company limited by guarantee, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) '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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention or transaction value, unless stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires judgements, estimations and assumptions to be made that affect the reported value of assets, liabilities, income and expenditure. The nature of estimation and judgement means that actual outcomes could differ from expectation. A significant area of estimation and judgement is when support costs have been allocated to activity on a basis consistent with their use of resources.

Income

All income, whether in the form of donations, or legacies is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the Association has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations in the form of assets are generally included at fair value. Where obtaining a fair value is not practical or beneficial, the value provided by the donor may be used.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Association is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Association has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Association to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated as described in the following paragraphs.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Where a cost is incurred for the purpose of directly achieving one of the Charitable aims it is allocated to that particular aim.

Some costs do not relate to one particular aim, but support all of the aims of the Association. When this is the case the support cost is apportioned to the activity based on the proportion of direct costs it incurs. This does not include the donations activity as minimal support costs are incurred in this activity.

International Bible Students Association

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are valued at cost less depreciation. Assets costing less than £3,000 are not capitalised.

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates, less estimated residual value, in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Freehold land	-	Not depreciated
Buildings	-	2% to 2.5% on cost
Plant and machinery	-	10% on cost
Motor vehicles	-	14% to 20% on cost
Assets in the course of construction	-	Not depreciated
Fixtures and fittings	-	20% on cost
Computer Equipment	-	14% to 33% on cost

Impairment reviews are carried out on individual assets when there is some indication that the recoverable amount of a fixed asset is below its net book value.

Social investments

The Association classifies its social investments as programme related. The investment is to further charitable aims, and any financial return is incidental. The investment is held at cost less impairment as fair value cannot be measured reliably.

Stocks

Stocks comprise electrical, maintenance and home supplies, and are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Foreign currencies

Foreign currency balances have been translated at the prevailing rate on the balance sheet date. Income and expenditures during the year have been translated at the prevailing rate on the day of the transaction.

Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Donated goods

Donated goods are recognised as income when the Association has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the Association of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably.

International Bible Students Association

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Investments

Investments are included in the balance sheet at market value.

Other recognised gains and losses

These comprise unrealised and realised gains and losses on investments. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value brought forward (or cost, for assets bought within this financial year) and the market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between sales proceeds and market value brought forward (or cost, for assets bought within this financial year.)

Grants payable

Grants payable to other institutions are recognised at the point when their payment has been approved by the trustees.

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is included in the relevant cost headings on the face of the Statement of Financial Activities and is not shown as a separate item.

Interest Receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the total amount due to the Association. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes current and deposit accounts as well as trivial amounts of petty cash.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Association has a present obligation resulting 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 normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Concessionary loans are initially measured at the amount received. The carrying amount is subsequently adjusted to reflect any impairment or accrued interest payable if applicable.

Financial instruments

The Association has only basic financial assets and liabilities. These are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value if there is any variance. If any are for a period longer than twelve months these are amortised when appropriate.

Going Concern

The Trustees consider the Association a going concern and have no material uncertainties in this regard. A strong balance sheet position and consistent income base contribute to this conclusion.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2019	2018
	£	£
Legacies	2,493,658	4,694,192
Non-cash donations	645,717	472,882
Cash donations	24,276,668	39,514,150
Other Income	-	26,427
	<u>27,416,043</u>	<u>44,707,651</u>

International Bible Students Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2019	2018
	£	£
Deposit account interest	10,248	26,918
Current asset investment income	<u>8</u>	<u>4,263</u>
	<u>10,256</u>	<u>31,181</u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 5)	Support costs (See note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Provision of conventions for Bible education	1,614,151	-	122,786	1,736,937
Donations and aid	1,040,535	370,658	-	1,411,193
Provision of serviced facilities	2,274,743	-	174,369	2,449,112
Caring for members of the Order	4,837,481	-	367,845	5,205,326
Provision of facilities to produce Bible based literature	<u>354,555</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,960</u>	<u>381,515</u>
	<u>10,121,465</u>	<u>370,658</u>	<u>691,960</u>	<u>11,184,083</u>

5. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2019	2018
	£	£
Donations and aid	<u>370,658</u>	<u>9,874,344</u>

During the year, grants paid by the Charity to assist institutions with congruous objectives can be analysed as follows:

By continent:

	Cash
	£
Europe	365,000
North America	4,977
Africa	<u>681</u>
	<u>370,658</u>

Material grants (in the context of grant-making) were made to the following institutions:

The Kingdom Hall Trust - £320,000

International Bible Students Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

5. GRANTS PAYABLE - continued

The equivalent figures for the 2018 year end were as follows:

By continent:

	Cash
	£
Europe	9,522,032
Oceania	1,165
North America	30,701
South America	5,964
Asia	306,008
Africa	8,474
	<u>9,874,344</u>

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Information	Other	Governance	Totals
	£	technology	£	costs	£
		£		£	
Provision of conventions for Bible education	12,934	99,245	7,126	3,481	122,786
Provision of serviced facilities	18,368	140,938	10,121	4,942	174,369
Caring for members of the Order	38,749	297,322	21,349	10,425	367,845
Provision of facilities to produce Bible based literature	<u>2,840</u>	<u>21,792</u>	<u>1,564</u>	<u>764</u>	<u>26,960</u>
	<u>72,891</u>	<u>559,297</u>	<u>40,160</u>	<u>19,612</u>	<u>691,960</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2019	2018
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	19,612	22,917
Depreciation - owned assets	1,732,020	1,798,276
Other operating leases	1,162,803	1,041,847
Surplus on disposal of fixed asset	<u>(7,881)</u>	<u>(1,024,304)</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The Trustees do not receive any remuneration or benefits for their role as trustees of the charity. However, all Trustees are members of a worldwide religious order. By virtue of their membership of the religious order, they (and if married to a member of the order, their spouse) receive from the Association accommodation, meals, a modest allowance and certain other personal services depending on age.

The total allowance paid to each trustee, by virtue of their membership of the religious order, in the year ending 31 August 2019 was £2,077 (2018: £2,050).

Trustees' expenses

No expenses were reimbursed to trustees in their role as trustees during this year or the previous year.

International Bible Students Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Assets in the course of construction £	Plant and machinery £
COST			
At 1st September 2018	110,357,834	67,725,543	1,877,386
Additions	3,236,098	30,153,498	7,509
Disposals	(385,000)	-	(220,903)
Reclassification	-	-	2,901
At 31st August 2019	<u>113,208,932</u>	<u>97,879,041</u>	<u>1,666,893</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st September 2018	19,267,665	-	1,294,955
Charge for year	1,568,423	-	74,881
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	(154,018)
Reclassification/transfer	-	-	3,911
At 31st August 2019	<u>20,836,088</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,219,729</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st August 2019	<u>92,372,844</u>	<u>97,879,041</u>	<u>447,164</u>
At 31st August 2018	<u>91,090,169</u>	<u>67,725,543</u>	<u>582,431</u>

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1st September 2018	29,628	686,667	282,909	180,959,967
Additions	10,800	64,389	42,480	33,514,774
Disposals	-	(9,600)	(35,261)	(650,764)
Reclassification	-	(2,901)	-	-
At 31st August 2019	<u>40,428</u>	<u>738,555</u>	<u>290,128</u>	<u>213,823,977</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1st September 2018	23,497	511,303	133,992	21,231,412
Charge for year	2,659	31,321	54,736	1,732,020
Eliminated on disposal	-	(8,640)	(25,773)	(188,431)
Reclassification/transfer	-	(3,911)	-	-
At 31st August 2019	<u>26,156</u>	<u>530,073</u>	<u>162,955</u>	<u>22,775,001</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st August 2019	<u>14,272</u>	<u>208,482</u>	<u>127,173</u>	<u>191,048,976</u>
At 31st August 2018	<u>6,131</u>	<u>175,364</u>	<u>148,917</u>	<u>159,728,555</u>

At the reporting date, an entity has a binding sale agreement on land and buildings which are held in the fixed asset group 'freehold property', being the offices and land of the registered office. The Association will have relocated to new premises by 2020 therefore contracts have been exchanged on its current offices. The net carrying value of this is £9,216,482

International Bible Students Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

10. SOCIAL INVESTMENTS

	Programme related investments Equity £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE		
Additions	<u>460,215</u>	<u>460,215</u>
 NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31st August 2019	<u>460,215</u>	<u>460,215</u>
At 31st August 2018	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

This represents an investment in a project which helps Jehovah's Witnesses around the world find places to meet and carry out their worship. Although it is in its early stages, the trustees are very confident in its expected performance, and that it will continue to advance the charitable aims of the Association.

11. STOCKS

	2019 £	2018 £
Stocks - electrical, maintenance and home supplies	<u>170,387</u>	<u>196,862</u>

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2019 £	2018 £
Other debtors	377,348	1,659,406
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,011,935</u>	<u>849,840</u>
	<u>1,389,283</u>	<u>2,509,246</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2019 £	2018 £
Trade creditors	332,906	178,264
Other creditors	1,472,175	1,437,465
Due to associated charity	1,432,048	3,174,338
Accrued expenses	<u>258,655</u>	<u>194,840</u>
	<u>3,495,784</u>	<u>4,984,907</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2019 £	2018 £
Other loans (see note 15)	21,927,881	7,927,881
Accruals and deferred income	<u>8,616,744</u>	<u>8,566,744</u>
	<u>30,544,625</u>	<u>16,494,625</u>

International Bible Students Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR - continued

Deferred income relates to a deposit received for a property sale.

15. LOANS

Loans represent two concessionary loans, with no interest charged, from other charitable entities with similar aims and objectives. Neither loan is secured against any assets of the Association.

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.18 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.19 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	140,584,025	14,639,882	5,984,403	161,208,310
Restricted funds				
Relocation Project	4,313,111	1,671,292	(5,984,403)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>144,897,136</u>	<u>16,311,174</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>161,208,310</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	25,823,965	(11,184,083)	14,639,882
Restricted funds			
Relocation Project	1,671,292	-	1,671,292
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>27,495,257</u>	<u>(11,184,083)</u>	<u>16,311,174</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.17 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.18 £
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	120,505,955	20,078,070	140,584,025
Restricted Funds			
Relocation Project	1,265,173	3,047,938	4,313,111
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>121,771,128</u>	<u>23,126,008</u>	<u>144,897,136</u>

International Bible Students Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2019**

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	42,909,103	(22,833,356)	2,323	20,078,070
Restricted funds				
Relocation Project	3,047,938	-	-	3,047,938
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>45,957,041</u>	<u>(22,833,356)</u>	<u>2,323</u>	<u>23,126,008</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.9.17 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.19 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	120,505,955	34,717,952	5,984,403	161,208,310
Restricted funds				
Relocation Project	<u>1,265,173</u>	<u>4,719,230</u>	<u>(5,984,403)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>121,771,128</u>	<u>39,437,182</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>161,208,310</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	68,733,068	(34,017,439)	2,323	34,717,952
Restricted funds				
Relocation Project	4,719,230	-	-	<u>4,719,230</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>73,452,298</u>	<u>(34,017,439)</u>	<u>39,437,182</u>

The restricted funds are amounts donated specifically for the relocation project, these are being spent immediately on the contract to build the Association's new facilities near Chelmsford. As the restricted fund was for the construction of the new facilities, and these facilities are now practically completed it is appropriate to transfer this amount to the unrestricted fund.

17. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2019 £	2018 £
Contracted but not provided for in the financial statements	<u>6,877,000</u>	<u>45,304,000</u>

This represents the remaining amount on the contract to build the Association's new facilities near Chelmsford. We expect to move all of the Association's operations to the new site by the spring of 2020. This project will be funded by reserves and ongoing income.

International Bible Students Association

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2019

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The charity works closely with Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Britain (charity number 1077961) and The Kingdom Hall Trust (charity number 275946).

During the year the Association was charged £32,400,211 by Watch Tower for the ongoing building of new facilities at Chelmsford (2018: £33,470,247). The Association made donations of £320,000 to The Kingdom Hall Trust (2018: £1,466,000)

19. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2019	2018
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	16,311,174	23,126,008
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,732,020	1,798,276
Gain on investments	-	(2,575)
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(7,881)	(1,024,304)
Interest received	(10,256)	(31,181)
Investments received	-	(54,358)
Unrealised (gains)/losses on investments	-	102
Decrease in stocks	26,475	25,240
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	1,119,963	(598,745)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(1,439,123)</u>	<u>1,622,024</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u><u>17,732,372</u></u>	<u><u>24,860,487</u></u>