

Love Into Action (LIA)

Making a difference for individuals with profound cognitive disabilities, and their families, in Bethlehem and beyond

Annual Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018

Registered charity in England and Wales number
1148630

Head office address
Penquit House Farm, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 0LU, ENGLAND.

Trustees
Sharon + Laurence Garnett; Dan + Janet Villars; Phil Lawson.



Introduction

Every year since its beginning, the charity has been faced with new and unique challenges. And 2018 proved to be a harder year than most. The financial recovery plan initiated at the end of 2017 had set a good direction for the charity, but nothing could have prepared us for losing visas for entire international staff team based in Bethlehem that occurred during the year. Before Christmas 2017 we had a team of 18 staff based in Bethlehem and by the close of 2018 this had been reduced to just 4 Palestinian team members continuing the work on the ground. This was accompanied by an almost complete loss of short-term volunteers, no visiting tourists and a significant reduction in financial support as the visibility of the charity reduced with the loss of the international team members, who act as ambassadors for the charity.

Despite a painful period, the remaining team members have worked incredibly to support our disabled friends and their families whereby we have continued to support every family even if in a reduced capacity.

Our great achievements for the year include the charity continuing to provide lifesaving and life changing interventions in the most hard to engage with communities where we serve and also a significant redesign of the workshop, as we move from being a supported employment scheme towards a training and support centre for adults with greater disabilities which also happens to produce some olivewood ornaments. These achievements give us hope that the charity will continue to face the challenges head on and that together with our fantastic supporters we will be able to find creative answers to the difficult times we find ourselves in.

As we continue to focus on the work on the ground in Bethlehem, we offer a genuine invitation to engage and talk with us, get to know us in person and not just through the reports that we write – there is so much more to the charity than we can put on paper!

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Projects of Love Into Action

Beit Yusef - Bethlehem

Respite Care Centre and Family Support

When life is hard, it is good to have somewhere to turn for help and support. For families with the most disabled children in the Palestinian Territories there are few places to go, including within your own family. This is the reason that Love Into Action exists, to provide support to families who cannot get by on their own because of the immense challenge of caring for someone with profound cognitive disabilities.

Amongst the wide variety of help and support offered to the families we work with, the greatest impact is through genuine friendships with the families we come alongside of, and lives lived together with our team and those who would ordinarily be considered “clients”, “participants” or some other title. This is important. In situations where there are no good answers, and little hope, we laugh and cry together and lives are changed.

The Olive Wood Project

Training and Support for lads with special needs, and we make olive wood ornaments

Selling Olive Wood is not what we are about. Making Olive Wood ornaments is a tool of supporting lads from our local neighbourhood, who have special needs, to have something meaningful to do while learning independent living and life skills. And in the process we do make some beautiful hand crafted ornaments from Holy Land Olive Wood.

Trustees Report for the year ended 31 December 2018

Aims and objectives

Love Into Action is a UK charity working in the Palestinian Territories to help and support vulnerable individuals and families in need.

LIA prioritises working with individuals and families affected by cognitive disabilities to improve their quality of life and life opportunities.

Love Into Action does this through:

- *Visiting families affected by disability to befriend, encourage, support and train through modelling alternative techniques;*
- *Providing regular short breaks for individuals with profound cognitive disabilities in our respite care centre;*
- *Providing day care services of training and support for adults in the local neighbourhood with moderate cognitive and physical disabilities;*
- *Providing advice and technical assistance to other NGO's including training of staff.*

Risk management

The Trustees consider risks to the charity as part of their regular reviews of the work and have acted to mitigate these risks which include:

- Financial – the trustees are committed to promoting the essential work of the charity to cover the increasing costs associated with the expansion of the work;
- Leadership – the trustees have a long term plan in development to train and equip national staff to manage the projects of LIA and to be able to take over the management from UK staff;
- War / civil disturbance – the projects of LIA are based in a troubled region of the world and trustees are working to provide necessary resources to limit risks to staff and those receiving residential care, in the event of major incidents.

Safeguarding of vulnerable people

The charity has continued to develop its safeguarding policy during the previous year in line with international standards for NGO's.

- No safeguarding concerns have been raised during the year relating to the work or staff of LIA.

Serious Incidents

The trustees regard an incident as serious if it is within the control of the charity, or its workers, and has resulted or could result in a significant loss of funds or a significant risk to a charity's property, work, beneficiaries or reputation.

- No serious incidents have been brought to the attention of the trustees during the year.

Employee Information

- 6 staff were employed through the reporting period;
- No employees of LIA received a salary greater than £12,000;
- No trustee received remuneration for their involvement with Love Into Action.

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The charity's policy on reserves

It is LIA policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, which equates to at least three month's unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations which arise from time to time.

- Available funds, not set aside for other purposes, were minimal and did not meet our reserves' policy. LIA will continue to be working during the coming year to promote its life enhancing work with vulnerable people and seeking sustainable funding to meet these increasing costs.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

During the previous twelve months, LIA has:

- sustained its work with families from the most vulnerable sections of Palestinian society including female headed households, families in extreme poverty, families with multiple disabled members, families with severely and multiple disabled members;
- begun the transformation of the Olivewood Project from a supported employment workshop for adults with mild special needs, to a training and support centre for adults with moderate intellectual and physical disabilities. Although Olivewood ornaments continue to be manufactured, the entire structure and ethos of the project has been redesigned along with a dramatic change in the makeup of the participants to reflect the goal of supporting those who are unable to participate in any mainstream workplace.

Work to be undertaken during 2019

The trustees' plan for the following twelve months is to see the work sustained during this prolonged period of regulatory challenges i.e. the complete ban on international workers being based in Bethlehem, and the financial restrictions that have come from multiple sources and are likely to remain throughout 2019. Specific goals include:

- using this period to strengthen the visibility of the charity amongst its supporters;
- recruiting a Palestinian Country Representative who will be the legal representative of the Trustees with the Palestinian Authority;
- working to find a practical solution to banking restrictions imposed within the Palestinian Territories;
- maintaining the Palestinian regulatory registration which is at risk due to the significant loss of staff;
- restructuring the way work is undertaken in Bethlehem to consider the reduced staff and funding in a way which minimises the impact on our disabled friends and their families.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed 
Laurence Garnett, Chair of Trustees

Date 18 October 2019

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Love Into Action

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2018, which are set out on pages 7 & 8 of the annual report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner:

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature:



Name:

Miss Cathrine Pittas

Date:

Thursday, 17 October 2019

Address:

58 Endeavour Court
Stoke
Aymouth PL15AX

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Receipt & Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2018

	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Grants + Donations	114,106	25,000	139,106	114,167	0	114,167
Sales	24,759	0	24,759	15,244	0	15,244
Interest + Tax Recovered	12	0	12	1,627	0	1,627
Total Receipts	<u>138,865</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>163,865</u>	<u>131,039</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>131,039</u>
	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Payments						
Employees	74,805	2,099	76,904	53,482	0	53,482
Premises	27,838	0	27,838	21,526	0	21,526
Project Operating Costs	30,812	722	31,534	19,839	0	19,839
Transport	13,737	2,105	15,842	11,757	0	11,757
Manufacturing Costs	6,279	0	6,279	5,786	0	5,786
Charity Governance	825	0	825	994	0	994
Raising Awareness	0	0	0	2,461	0	2,461
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>154,296</u>	<u>4,926</u>	<u>159,222</u>	<u>113,387</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>113,387</u>
Exchange Gain / Loss	459	0	459	607	0	607
Capital Purchases	0	40,809	40,809	6,750	3,922	10,672
Total Payments	<u>154,755</u>	<u>45,735</u>	<u>200,490</u>	<u>123,207</u>	<u>3,922</u>	<u>127,129</u>
	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net Receipts / Payments	<u>-15,890</u>	<u>-20,735</u>	<u>-36,625</u>	<u>7,832</u>	<u>-3,922</u>	<u>3,910</u>
Bank and cash at the start of the period	<u>53,211</u>	<u>24,657</u>	<u>77,868</u>	<u>37,321</u>	<u>3,922</u>	<u>41,243</u>
Bank and cash at the end of the period	<u>37,321</u>	<u>3,922</u>	<u>41,243</u>	<u>45,165</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>45,165</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2018

Assets	2017	2018
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>41,243</u>	<u>45,165</u>

Funds	2017	2018
	£	£
Unrestricted	37,321	45,165
Restricted - Vehicle	<u>3,922</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Payments	<u>41,243</u>	<u>45,165</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed 
Dan Villars, Treasurer

Date 18 October 2019

Notes to the accounts

Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context “cash” includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

Audit requirements

In addition to the Independent Examination of the accounts included in this annual report, the accounts of Love Into Action are subject to a separate and full audit in the Palestinian Territories. No fee was paid for the Independent Examination.

Contact Information

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