



HOPE LEBEDYN ANNUAL REPORT: OCTOBER 2020-2021



CONTENTS

- Welcome message from Founding Director Peter Martin
- Our heart and mission
- News on the development of our new Ministry Activity Centre
- Camp 2020 and 2021 - Updates and testimonies:
 - Children's Summer camps
 - Youth Summer camps
- Financial year overview
- Future vision and projects
- Prayer points
- Thank you message from Founding Director Peter Martin
- Information to support the ministry and how you can find out more

Welcome

Dear Friends

Welcome to our first official annual report for Hope Lebedyn. The world has seen so much change and impact through a global pandemic and we were concerned about how this might affect the work of the Mission Centre in Lebedyn. Well, we didn't need to be!

In reading this report, I hope that you will see that we have witnessed much favour in all that we have been doing in this past year. We were able to introduce an Autumn camp programme for the first-time, courtesy of Spring Harvest, and as part of the tithe we received through their online event offering.

The biggest impact has been the development of the new additional Activity Centre. When the old wooden pavilion we used for the Summer camp programme was condemned, several of us had a vision for an all-year-round purpose-built Centre that could help the team deliver so much more. At the same time, 2 UK businessmen had a similar vision and they generously helped to provide a major part of the capital to fulfil the vision. Within this report you will see how this progressed to now being used for the first time.

The stories shared within this report are just a sample of those we have witnessed through the year. There is so much need and many who will read this report will have generously given money, time and prayer into this year's amazing success. We thank the trusts that have supported faithfully through this difficult year and given even more that we could ever have imagined, for the faithful donors who have carried on with their monthly giving, despite the pandemic – we are so grateful!

Thank you for being on the journey with us. We believe that the best is yet to come as there is much work to be done to help alleviate poverty and to see lives changed. We give thanks to God for all His provision for this past year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Martin', with a horizontal line underneath.

Peter Martin – Founding Director

**Peter Martin, Founding
Director**



Our Heart and Mission



The team care for the physical, social and spiritual needs of the community and key groups through a variety of evangelistic projects and programmes, including our camps.

Our all-year round camp programme provides a vital space for disadvantaged children and youth to find fresh hope by creating a space of fellowship through interactive games, creative Bible sessions and a fantastic sports programme, all woven together to create an atmosphere of love, care and hope. This is a growing ministry working with the youth who are effectively “street children” and seeing them come to faith.

Other main activities include local visits to schools and orphanages where we deliver creative puppet show performances filled with stories and music inspired by the Gospel, afterschool clubs, Christmas gift programme and a new evangelistic sports programme. We now run a Bible College to train new leaders for the future.

Our heart is to continue caring for the poor, needy and hopeless in Ukraine and to see them come to faith. This report aims to share some of the teams missionary activities throughout the year and also share some insight into our future and other key projects. Thank you for all your support and joining us on this journey!

Our new Ministry Activity Centre

The new Centre was largely made possible by two generous donors who had a real vision to see how the Centre and all its resources could be used for greater ministry purposes. The new building now serves as a catalyst for evangelistic mission within the area, providing us with a superb facility to enable the gospel to be spread and for us to show care and compassion within the community.

The next two pages show some of the journey of the building process, with the builders dealing with extremely cold weather, where temperatures drop to -30°C.

PLANS FOR THE NEW CENTRE:

We have a number of missional activities planned to take place in our new Centre. We are excited to have some ex-professional football players who are Christians, and have played for Dynamo Kiev, to run a football competition and sports ministry in Spring. In January, we are also hosting an evangelistic youth conference as well as running our existing, and increasingly new, camp activities throughout the year. We are also in discussions with the local schools and orphanages to make this facility more widely available so we can share the good news of Jesus through new and innovative ways.

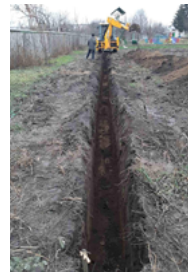
We very kindly had a sponsor who provided us with a brand new PA system which will enable us to carry out lots of evangelistic projects within this large, spacious Centre!

The Journey... Completion of our new Ministry Activity Centre!

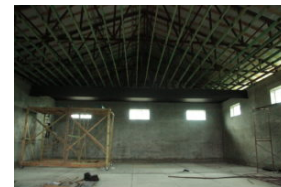
- 1 November - The early beginnings:**
The dream to start the Centre started to become something tangible... The team were hard at work preparing the ground for the new Centre.



- 2 December - Frosty temperatures and winter storms:**
the building continued through, as the team battled through the wintry weather and icy conditions.



- 3 Summer period:**
The new Ministry Activity Centre was really starting to come to life! The building was now painted in vibrant colours and lots of work started taking place inside, including getting the roof ready for insulation!



The New Ministry Centre Today!

Since the summer, the Centre has made significant progress and the new building is being widely used. Whilst the interior decorations have yet to be completed as we publish this report, we have still been able to utilise this cavernous new space to carry out many activities including our Autumn camp programme.



Our new Centre will provide vital new space to enable us to carry out children, youth and family-related evangelistic projects throughout the year. The building has been fully insulated and therefore will be well-equipped to cope with the cold wintry weather in the future.

Impact Stories - Children's Summer camps 2021

We loved getting to host our children's camps and hear how God has powerfully touched each child's life when they join us and after they leave the camp too! Many of the children who join us, are aged between 6 and 10, and here are some quotes about how God touched their lives this year!

“

This year, God's Word had been touching Fedir's heart like never before. Everyday his mother would tell us how he was retelling all the Bible stories and was so serious about everything that he had heard in the camp.

Sophia and Oleksii joined our children camp this year. Unfortunately they and their other siblings have been regularly taken away by social service representatives due to unstable family conditions at home. They were very engaged in the Bible lessons and you could start to see the hope in their eyes knowing that someone cares about them. They now regularly pray with their older sister at home.

”

Summer Youth Camp 2021

This year's Summer Youth Camp took place between 18th and 24th of July, where we had the opportunity to welcome children aged from 12 up to 15 years old. Some teenagers were at the camp for the first time and 34 of them came from families who were non-believers and who lived in extremely poor conditions.

2021 CAMP THEME:

We had 36 teenagers, divided into 3 teams of 12 people in each. The topic of the camp was 'Life Line', where the team discussed with the youth about how our individual decisions can not only change our own personal lives but change the trajectory of others' lives and human history.

**EXPERIENCING
FRESH
HOPE, LOVE
AND
SUPPORT**

Summer Youth Camp 2021: Testimonies

Here are some stories from young people who gave their lives to Jesus at this year's youth camp!



Aleskii's Story: Giving his life to Jesus:

During our camp Pastor Sergey had an idea early in the morning at 6:30am to gather with teens around the fire and study the Bible. Around 10 teens would join each morning. Wow! Each early morning meeting bore lots of fruit.

Aleksii is from our teen club and by day four of camp, he was near the fire listening to God's Word with us each morning. One morning, Aleksii looked really worried. It seemed like he wanted to ask something, but felt shy. So when the morning Bible study was over, Pastor Sergey decided to talk to Aleksii. He said that he wanted to pray to God and become a Christian. He prayed with tears in his eyes and told him how much Jesus loves Him.

Zlata's Story : A new future in Christ

During the Bible lessons, Zlata was introduced to stories about God faithfulness and love. She then decided to follow Jesus and give Him her life. She has said in the near future she would love to come back to Lebedyn to study in the College and also join our church, where she wants to be baptised! Please pray for this girl and her dream to come true!



Summer Youth Camp 2021: Testimonies



Anastasia's Story:

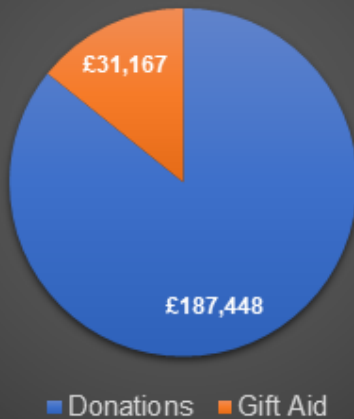
Whilst Anastasia's mother is not a believer, she always insists that her daughter must join every Christian camp. On the last day of camp, our speaker had mentioned that God has a special plan for everybody and that you can always pray to Jesus at any place and any time. Anastasia approached her leader and asked her if she could pray with her. It was great to watch a young girl standing and praying to God among her fellow teens.



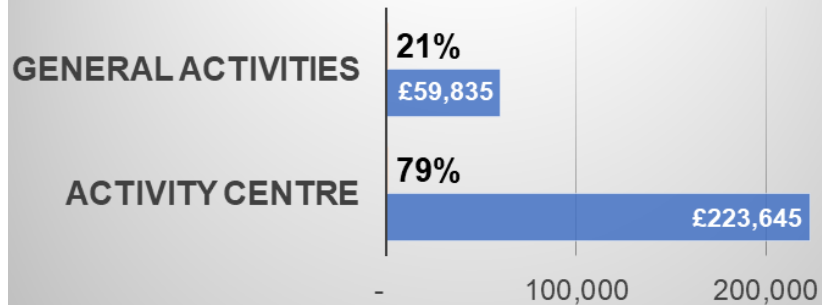
Financial Year Overview

Total income for this financial year was **£218,615** of which 86% came through donations and 14% through Gift aid. As you can see from below, total expenditure of £283,480 exceeded total income by £64,865, approximately 30%, due to additional costs needed for the completion of the new activity Centre. This was met by funds already donated in the previous financial year.

Total income for year to 30 September 2021



Total expenditure for year to 30 September 2021



**Our annual turnover was
£218,615
due to the investment in
the new Ministry Activity
Centre... This was how the
money was spent...**

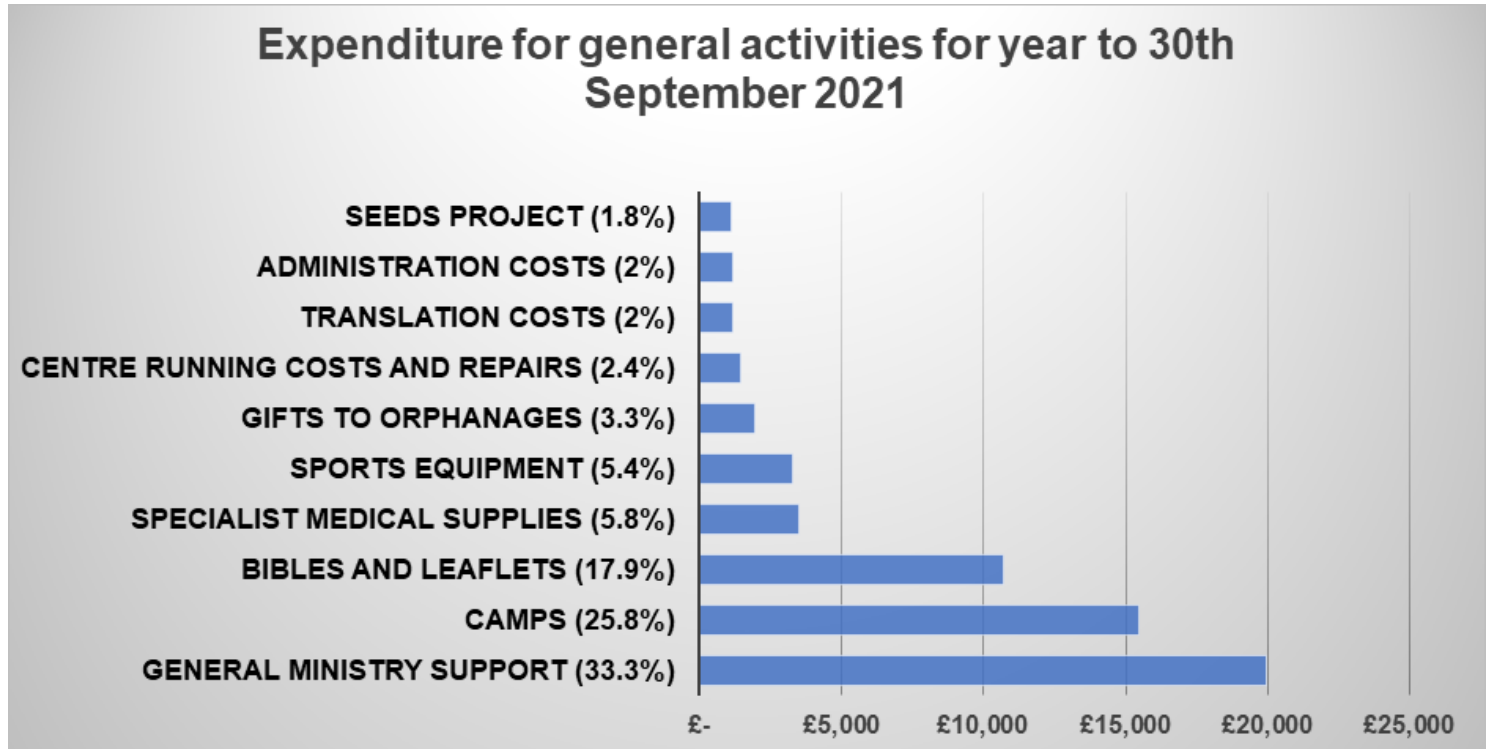


**Other activities, including general expenditures
costs for monthly support, translation costs,
costs to run the camps and Centre running costs
and repairs.**

During a tough year when the world was coping with a pandemic, we have been able to not only sustain the ministry, but expand its reach. We are so grateful to all those who have donated and faithfully supported us financially through this past year. Without their vision and faithfulness in this way, we could not have achieved all we have.

Financial Year Overview

Expenditure for general activities:



Future Vision



We are looking at ways to grow work of the ministry and enable it to develop in a more self-sustained way. This is a massive challenge as there is still 85% unemployment in the town of Lebedyn and poverty is prevalent. Our hope is to expand what we do in the community, including a focus on other ways we can continue working with the children and disadvantaged. We also want to increase the Christian witness in the Sumy region as we have experienced that when people make a Christian faith commitment, it brings a hope that cannot be explained.

Our plans are to:

- Expand our children's activities using sport and music as part of this within our new Centre.
- To do more within the local schools and orphanages and allow them use of the new Centre whilst we also share about the Christian faith as part of their educational curriculum.
- To expand the accredited Bible college so as to train new leaders for local churches.
- To plant 8 more churches in the next 8 years.
- To ensure that everyone in the county of Sumy receives a newly translated gospel of John for them to see for themselves the good news message of the Christian faith. We can access up to 1 million copies free for this purpose.
- To ensure that every child in the orphanages in the area, housing approximately 2,000 children, receive love and care and "The Jesus Story Book Bible."
- To raise funds for a new vehicle to help enable teams to travel to different areas to carry out their various work.
- To look at a new project that would bring in financial support. Currently we are exploring acquiring a farm which could create a business trading model, work for the unemployed and food for the starving.

Prayer Points:

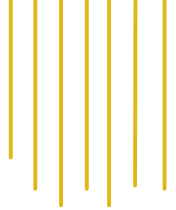
- Please continue to pray for Sasha. He has unfortunately been suffering with Covid since November last year. While he is back home with family, he's still struggling with his immune system which has been severely weakened. Please pray for Sasha's healing, and for strength and peace for the family and the team looking after him.
- For the safety of the team as Covid is still prevalent and there are few reliable vaccinations available in the region.
- For Inna's mother as she recovers from cancer surgery and that Inna will be able to be part of the team once again.
- For continuing favour with the local authorities in all that we do.
- For the well-being of all the team, their families and volunteers and that they will be effective in the work and ministry.
- For support to come in to help fund all that is planned through this next year.
- For peace at this time as there is nervousness around the growing number of Russian troops along the Ukraine border.

Future funding opportunities:

As we look ahead to 2022 and beyond, we are expectant for all God will do! Please pray for further funding to align with our vision of reaching more people.

- Our annual camp programme has expanded to be not only in the Summer but at Easter, Autumn and Christmas. We need to raise £20,000 annually for this activity.
- £3,000 to buy Christmas gifts for every child in an orphanage.
- £7,500 to purchase a new second-hand vehicle for the team to use for mission purposes.
- £5,000 for more Bibles and literature
- £20,000 to develop the expanding Bible college with new desks and furniture
- £30,000 to help support the 7 team members, plus the running of the campus; keeping it fit for purpose.

Any additional funding will help to provide updates to all the activities we run through the Centre including computer classes, the puppet theatre, sewing classes and many more things.



Thank you...

We want to thank you again for all your support. On behalf of all the team, **we are so grateful for every penny raised in the UK and beyond to affect so many lives both young and old.**

If this report has encouraged and inspired and you wish to find out more then please check out the next page where you can find out how to contact us or to donate.

Please continue to support this amazing work that has been so effective over the years. All 15 workers at this year's summer camp programme became Christians at previously held camps. What is being done impacts lives, changes communities and enables people living in poverty to hope for greater things!

This has been an amazing year so **THANK YOU!**

How you can support us:

If you still wish to donate, there are multiple ways you can send a financial gift to support the ministry:

- 1. Visit our website hopelebedyn.org and click on the “Support Us” page**
- 2. You can also make a payment directly into our Bank Account using the details below and then email us to let us know when you've made a gift.**

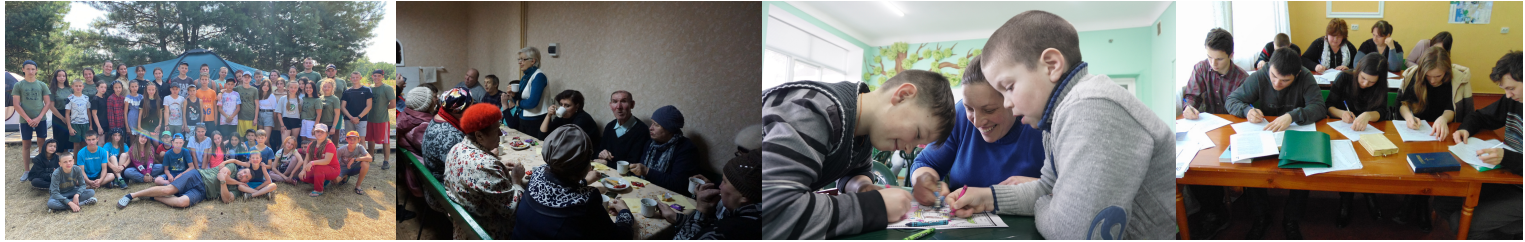
Our Banking Details:

Account Name: LLOYDS A/C

Account Number: 39728968

Sort Code: 30-65-37

- 3. Email us at info@hopelebedyn.org telling us you would like to donate and we will arrange to speak with you to discuss this further.**
- 4. If you are UK taxpayer, please do not forget to use gift aid so we can claim a further 25% on your gift.**



Find out more...

News Updates

**To hear about our recent work
and updates visit:**

hopelebedyn.org

Questions?

**For any enquiries or questions,
please email:**

info@hopelebedyn.org

Hope Lebedyn is part of the Essential Christian family. Essential Christian, registered charity number 1126997, a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, number 06667924.