

BIBLE



SOCIETY NI

MINISTRY REPORT
2019





“Reaching everyone with God’s Word
in a language and format they can
access and afford, so that each person
might experience God’s purpose for
their life.”



In 2019 we supported projects in Rwanda, Algeria and Kenya.

MISSION PROJECTS AND ACTIVITY 2019

BIBLE SOCIETY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

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**“HE SAID TO THEM, “GO INTO ALL THE
WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO
ALL CREATION.””**

Mark 16:15 (NIV)

The material in this report is taken from our Trustee's Report for 2019. A full copy, along with the Charity's Financial Statements can be found at

www.biblesocietyni.co.uk/what-we-do/about-us/accounts or from Bible House. Tel 028 9032 6577.

Cover Photo: A lady receives a Bible from the China Partnership.



OUR MISSION

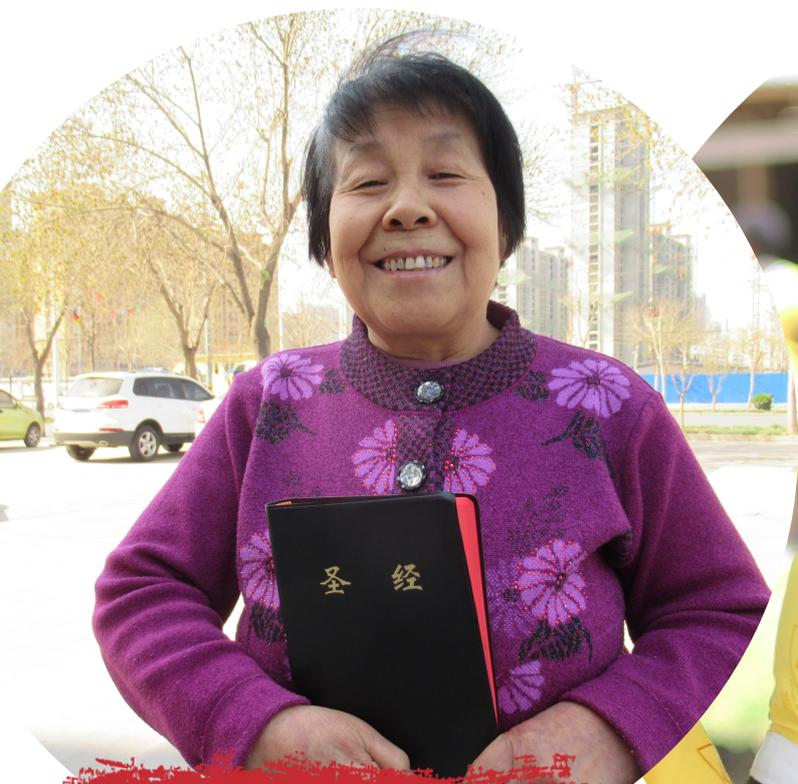
Our mission is **“to reach everyone with God’s word in a language and format they can access and afford, so that each person might experience God’s purpose for their life.”**

We are one of over 150 Bible Societies worldwide who form part of the United Bible Societies global fellowship. We raise both prayer and financial support for other Bible Societies around the world. The projects the

Bible Society NI supports include all aspects of the Bible Lifecycle: **Translation, Publication, Distribution, Literacy work, Engagement and Advocacy.**

We also support Bible projects here in Northern Ireland, helping people here engage more with God’s Word.

In 2019 we supported over 40 projects in 35 countries around the world thanks to the generosity of our supporters.



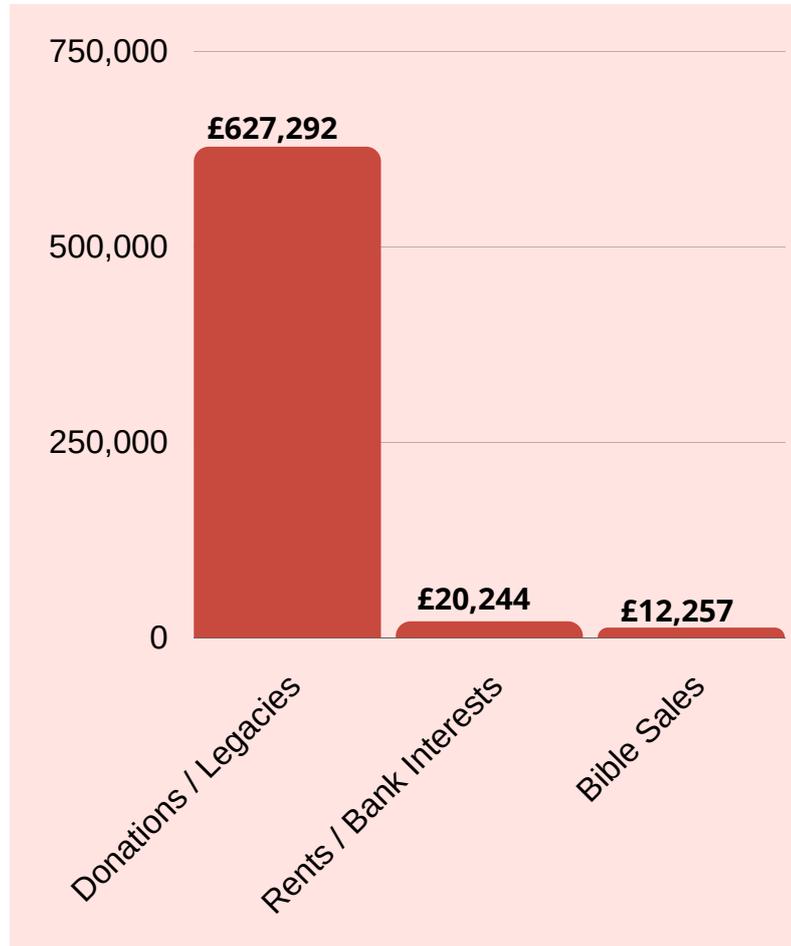
Three people who received Bibles from in China, Ghana and India.

WHERE OUR SUPPORT COMES FROM

During the year a range of projects were presented to supporters through our Word at Work magazine, Direct Mail letters, Greatest Gift alternative Christmas present catalogue, our Bible-a-Month Calendar and Bible Twinning.

We are so grateful for the many individuals, groups and churches that support our work.

Legacy income continued in 2019 with individuals leaving a gift in their will for our work.



Work among the police in Honduras and Children's Scripture book distribution in Syria.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

We work hard to provide information about our work to our supporters, we want to encourage and show our appreciation for the support that we receive. We also hope that our materials will inspire more people to get involved supporting our ministry.

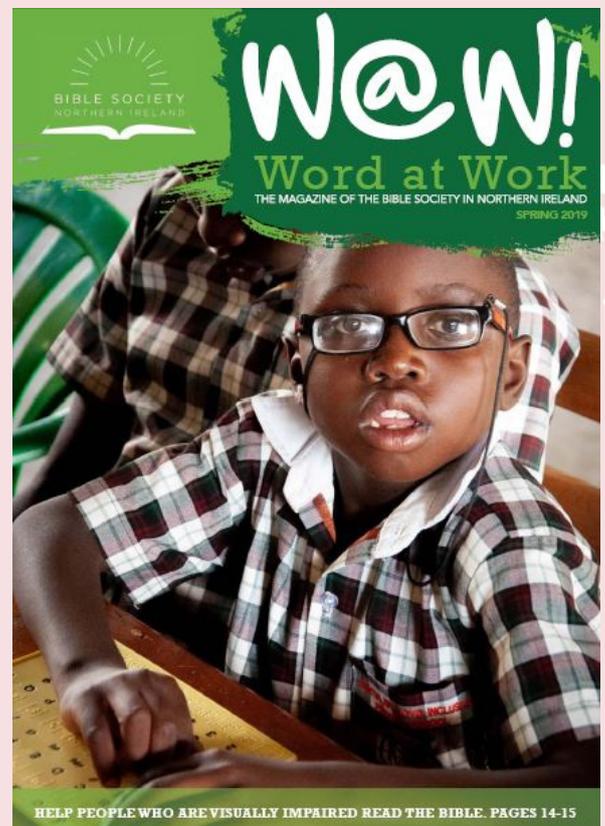
Word at Work was produced three times in 2019 - January, May and September. Word at Work contains the pull-out prayer resource Prayer at Work which has prayer notes for every Bible Society around the world over the course of the year.

We keep our website - www.biblesocietyni.co.uk - up to date with projects, appeals and updates from colleagues around the world. We also share our resources created for Northern Ireland, many of which can be downloaded free of charge through our website.

We have further developed our social media activity by developing clear messaging through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We encourage Bible engagement and prayer support through the sharing of Scripture Pictures and Prayer at Work prayer prompts.

We encourage everyone to pray for our work through regular prayer updates by email about our Bible-a-Month projects as well as general information through "Extra Insight" and "Prayer News".

Equipping and encouraging Bible engagement in Northern Ireland is important. We developed our annual Daily Bible Reading Guide and material for Bible Sunday for use by our supporters and beyond.



LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Throughout 2019 we have been establishing, developing and strengthening new and existing partnerships that will raise awareness and promote the work of our Society at home and overseas, as well as increasing Bible engagement within the Church, Para-Church and wider society in Northern Ireland. Developing such partnerships provides opportunities for greater impact and a wider opportunity to reach everyone with God's Word.

- We continue to play an active part in the Association of Mission Societies and Mission Action Partnership (MAP), where Andrew has involvement with the Student Team.
- A new partnership with the Girls' Brigade Northern Ireland in their Psalms Scripture project. This was a bespoke copy of the Psalms for the Senior and Brigader sections.
- We further developed our partnership with local festivals, conferences and conventions through exhibiting at Summer Madness, Keswick, New Wine, New Horizon, Wondrous Elim Week, CUI Pre-term and Bangor Worldwide.
- Youth leader training session and youth fellowship session both developed and delivered.
- Deputations in churches from a range of denominations.
- Contact and support regularly provided to churches participating in 'Bible 2020' and 'The Bible Course'.
- In November 2019 we hosted our first ever Bible Society NI Gathering in Ballymena.

We have also taken further steps to strengthen relations with our neighbour Bible Societies. We have hosted and attended meetings with senior leaders from the National Bible Society of Ireland, Scottish Bible Society and the British and Foreign Bible Society on both a strategic and operational level.



The bespoke Psalms books created with GBNI.



"The Gathering" supporters event - November 2019.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

We continue to support and partner with our colleagues throughout the United Bible Societies fellowship. We have supported projects in 35 different countries in 2019 and contributed to the life of the Fellowship through various committees and groups.

We place a strong emphasis on building relationships and a sense of community between our supporters and the global fellowship.

In 2019 we held our first supporters event – ‘The Gathering’ in November. This was an evening to share stories and give thanks for work that has been generously supported.

Simon Peter Mukhama, the General Secretary of the Bible Society in Uganda joined us for this event. Simon Peter shared about Bible Society work and ministry in Uganda and particularly about the translation project and the Braille Bible Project that we support.

Catherine represented Bible Society in Northern Ireland at an event in China to celebrate the printing of 200 million Bibles at Amity Printing Company in Nanjing province.

As part of a UBS delegation, Catherine met with senior church leaders in China as well as members of the National Religious Affairs Administration.

It is a privilege to communicate about the work of our colleagues with our supporters, to share what they are doing to reach everyone with God’s Word in their own contexts.



Catherine Little with Simon Peter Mukhama, General Secretary of the Bible Society of Uganda at the 2019 Gathering.

BEST PRACTICE

We are committed to operating in an efficient, effective and streamlined way by following best practice guidelines for charity management.

We have continued to comply with the Charity Commission in Northern Ireland. We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and have continued to comply with data protection regulations following the General Data Protection Regulations implementation in May 2018. We have developed a Risk Register for the Bible Society in Northern Ireland.

During 2019 our Board met six times, our Finance Committee met four times. We have recruited one new Board member, while two members stepped back from their responsibilities.

Bible House remained fully occupied during 2019.



USING BIBLE SOCIETY NI FUNDS

We have continued to support Bible Mission in our own context as well as globally through the United Bible Societies Fellowship in partnership with other Bible Societies.

EXPENDITURE 2019:

• **Costs of Generating Funds -**

Part of salaries, fundraising, printing, packing and postage expenses, advertising, investment management : **£54,418** (8.8%)

• **Governance Costs -**

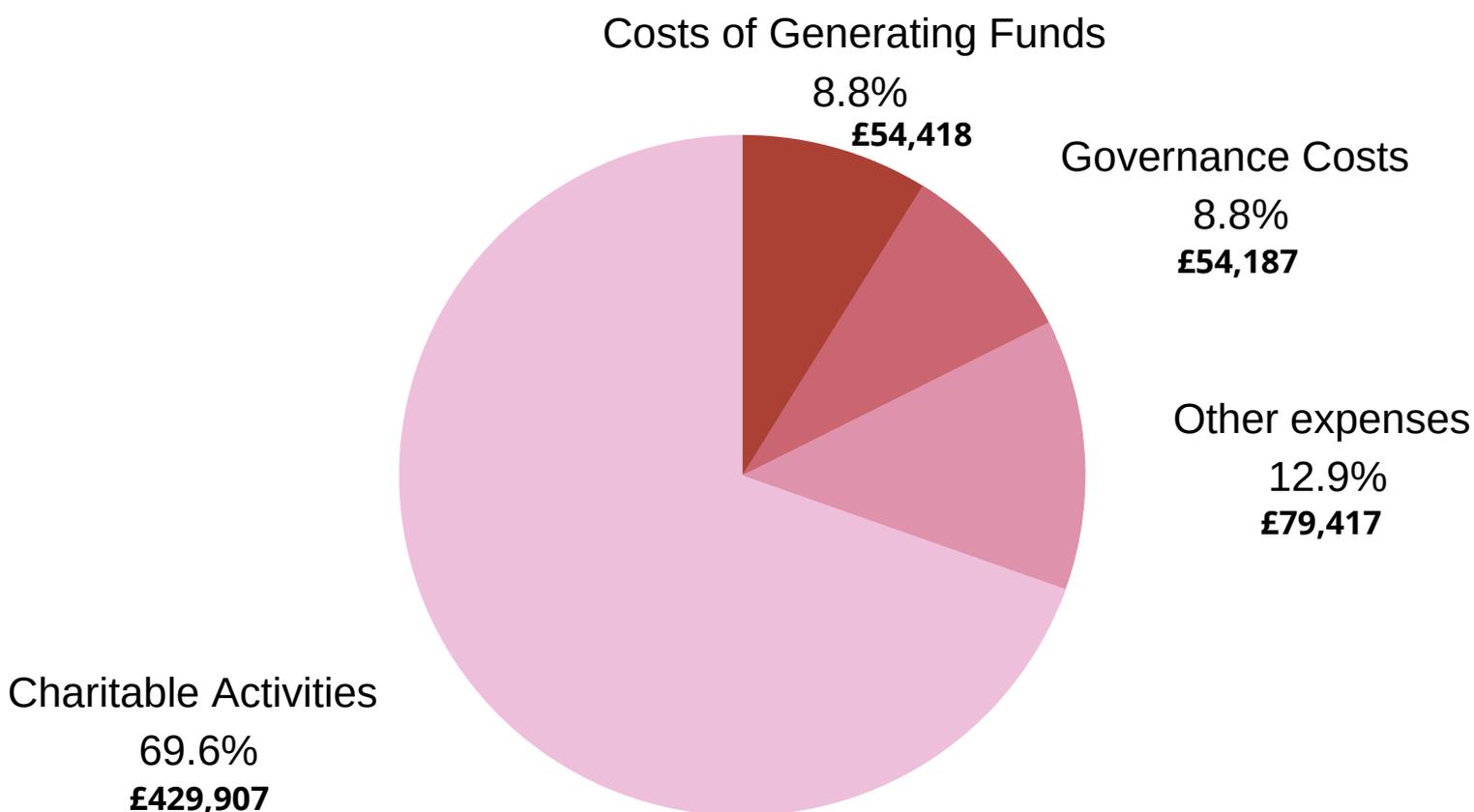
Part of salaries, Bible House costs, Bank and professional fees : **£54,187** (8.8%)

• **Other expenses -**

Part of salaries, postage, travel and accommodation, IT, purchases of Scripture materials : **£79,417** (12.8%)

• **Charitable Activities -**

Grants to Bible mission projects in 35 countries through the United Bible Societies as well as ministry in Northern Ireland : **£429,907** (69.6%)



MANAGING BIBLE SOCIETY NI

During 2019 we had some changes within the Board of Trustees.

BIBLE SOCIETY NI BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev Capt Colin Taylor, Chair *

Rev Richard Kerr, Vice-Chair (Resigned 2nd December 2019)

Mrs Doris Dugan (Resigned 30 September 2019)

Rev Stephen Lowry

Mr Lawson McDonald *

Mr James Diffin

Mr Tommy Stewart

Mrs Nicola Taylor *

Mr Alan Bridle *

Reverend Dario Leal (Appointed 2 December 2019)

** Member of the Finance Committee*

THE BIBLE SOCIETY NI STAFF TEAM:

Left to right:

Office and Finance Manager -

Campbell Moore

**Communications and Fundraising
Manager -**

Keren Roebuck

General Secretary -

Catherine Little

Community Partnerships Manager -

Andrew Dickson



“But how can they call to him for help if they have not believed? And how can they believe if they have not heard the message? And how can they hear if the message is not proclaimed?”

ROMANS 10:14 (GNT)

CONTACT

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Charity Commission Number: NIC102557

