

Scottish
Churches
China Group

苏格兰教会中国会



also known as the **SCCG**

Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2022

Charity number SC033740

SCOTTISH CHURCHES' CHINA GROUP

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SCOTTISH CHURCHES' CHINA GROUP

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Scottish Charity No. SCIO 50033760



Charity Information

Trustees

The list of names of the Trustees during the year is provided in the Trustees' Report on Page 2.

Address

28 Glamis Gardens
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SCCG China Advisor

Rev Patricia Johnston

Bankers

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Independent Examiner

Gavin Graham Robert McEwan
16 Broughton Place Lane
Edinburgh
EH1 3RS

SCOTTISH CHURCHES' CHINA GROUP

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year to 31 December 2022.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Scottish Churches' China Group (SCCG) is an SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) governed by its Constitution. This SCIO was incorporated on 19 September 2012 as a result of a 'Change to SCIO' application by SC033740 Scottish Churches' China Group, which was an unincorporated association registered as a charity since 2 October 2002.

The SCCG is an ecumenical group incorporating representatives of Christian churches and fellowships in Scotland. We work closely with others including the Amity Foundation in China and the China Forum of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI).

The denominational members of the Scottish Churches' China Group are:

- Chinese Fellowship
- Church of Scotland
- Roman Catholic Church
- Scottish Episcopal Church
- Society of Friends (Quakers)
- United Free Church of Scotland
- United Reform Church

Trustees direct the work of the SCCG and are known as the Management Committee. Members of the SCCG have voting rights and meet in Plenary sessions twice a year. Plenary meetings are open to anyone who is interested in our work or would like to learn more about China.

Charitable Purposes

The purposes of the charity are the advancement of education, to promote good health and promote the benefit in the interest of social welfare of those living in China; to advance the education of the general public, membership of SCCG, churches and secular institutions about the cultural, social, political and religious aspects of China; and to promote, advance, encourage and support the Christian witness in China.

Trustees

The Trustees who served throughout the year and to the date of this report were as follows:-

Rev Alan F Miller (Convener)
Lyn Mitchell (Vice Convener)
Rev Val Nellist
Simon MacAulay
Tom Nisbet
Rev Dr John McNeil Scott
Rev Canon Terence Taggart
Rev Paul Graham (resigned 20 January 2022)

Appointment of Trustees

New Trustees are nominated for appointment by the existing Trustees. There is no fixed term for Trusteeship. As part of their induction programme, new Trustees are required to understand their statutory responsibilities. Trustees met regularly throughout the year.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

The continued imposition of strict Covid regulations, and a ban on inward travel to the People's Republic of China (PRC) throughout 2022 curtailed some of the SCCG's usual activities, in particular making it impossible to make visits in person to our partners in the PRC.

Even so, the Trustees met regularly throughout the year as a Management Committee, and monitored developments within China and in Scotland in relation to on-going engagement and support of those with whom we have established long-term projects. The use of the internet enabled continued effective communication and exchange of information.

A well-attended AGM and plenary meeting of the group was held in March at the Quaker Meeting House in Edinburgh, which was enlivened by recorded video messages from partners in Shenyang and Nanjing. An autumn plenary in October at St Augustine's URC, with invited speakers from among others, the Eric Liddell Centre and the East Asian Studies Department of Leeds University, was again well supported and informative.

With the lifting of Covid restrictions in the PRC, we are very hopeful that a visit by our China Adviser and Publicity Officer will be possible to organise in 2023, and we look forward to renewing and sustaining our continued work with our partners in China.

Palliative Care

Although there has been no visit since before the pandemic, Dr Wang Yumei, Director of the Palliative Care Ward, Shengjing Hospital, Shenyang, has continued to reach out to the SCCG for specific areas of support. In spring 2022, Dr Wang outlined the ward's priorities:

1. We recently reviewed the Palliative Care Toolkit when we review the Global Atlas of Palliative Care, which has been translated into several national languages but has not yet been translated into Chinese. This toolkit provides a detailed introduction to professional training at the Palliative Care. With the help of SCCG, our team hope to obtain the copyright license and the support of the appropriate professional translation team to translate it into Chinese version to help more palliative care professionals learn and practice.
2. In Scientific Research, we are interested in comparing the International concept of "Good death" with the Chinese concept of indigenization, as well as the implementation path, the development and evaluation of bereavement indicators, the development and evaluation of environmental quality standards.

After reaching out to a number of organisations involved in the production of the Palliative Care Toolkit, we confirmed that a translation in Mandarin was completed some years ago. If an original copy cannot be found, the publishers have indicated they would be willing to have another translation made as long as its accuracy can be guaranteed. There are translation departments in both Shengjing Hospital and China Medical University (CMU) to whom the hospital is affiliated. Further work will be done in early 2023 to try and determine whether a copy of the original translation can be found.

With regard to the joint research project, Prof Liz Forbat of Stirling University, has been very helpful in signposting us to potential research partners. There will be a Zoom conversation between Prof Forbat and Dr Wang to ensure each party understands what is being looked for.

Masters in Dementia Studies

We were pleased when a candidate, from the Amity Foundation, was identified for this Scholarship. The candidate then enrolled in English language classes to upgrade their skills in preparation for sitting a TOEFL or IELTS test (to be accepted onto a British university course a pass mark of around about 7.0/7.5 is required). For reasons that were not made clear to us, the candidate then withdrew from the process. We suspect that it had become clear that the work involved in raising their English language skills to the required level was just going to be too much alongside their regular work remit. Although we were disappointed we were not entirely surprised at this turn of events. We have seen a decrease in English language skills, among our Chinese partners, as a result of there being no exchange visits or overseas travel during the pandemic.

The Management Committee were disappointed at this outcome while still understanding the pressures and demands upon Amity staff who, generally, carry quite heavy remits. We remain hopeful of the Scholarship being taken up as consideration is being given to it by the Caritas Service Centre in Shenyang.

Masters in Inclusion and Special Educational Needs

Ms Ma Xiaobo, a senior member of staff from the Amity Children's Development Centre has been working to improve her English language skills in preparation for taking the TOEFL or IELTS test. The initial timeframe had been to take the exam in Spring 2022 and begin her studies in the Autumn however, Ms Ma asked for an extension on the language study period. After receiving assurances from Ms Ma it was agreed to extend the agreement to enable her to take the exam in Spring of 2023 and begin the Masters a few months later.

'Nanjing Rainbow' Palliative Care Charity

Imagine having no family to love and support you, no money, living in a country with a private health care system, dealing with a health care system that only invests if there is a cure and being told you are dying. Any one of these would floor the most resilient adult but that is the reality for many orphaned children in China.

As we have seen many times before, palliative and end of life care is not seen as a priority in China, the focus is on cure, so a terminal diagnosis does not direct the patient towards a specialist who will advise on symptom control, pain management and offer spiritual and emotional support.

Even in the very few places in China where this is an option the services would have to be paid for and most orphanages would not have that kind of funding available. Nanjing Rainbow Palliative Care Charity does not want any child to face this dreadful situation on their own and so offers palliative and end of life care to orphans. *'Rainbow works with local orphanages to help such abandoned children. Doctors and nurses provide professional treatment, while caregivers give them warm love, care and opportunities to experience a bit of real life; celebrating birthdays, taking a little trip, drawing, singing, etc. That which other children of the same age get to do, Rainbow tries to help them experience too.'*

The Amity Foundation has a liaison officer who works with Nanjing Rainbow and is helping to build good governance structures, transparency in all actions and a firmer funding base. The SCCG is in discussion with Amity regarding support for this truly compassionate and vital project.

Amity Children's Development Centre Integrated Kindergarten

The SCCG is currently supporting work in Nanjing regarding the integration of students with autism, and other additional needs, into mainstream primary schools. This very important pilot project is being led by Ma Xiaobo of the Amity's Children's Development Centre. Ms Ma expressed an interest in reading academic articles on Inclusive Education practices. To address this, the SCCG arranged for Jasmine Miller, former Principal Teacher at New Struan School, Alloa to work, online, with Ma Xiaobo as she develops this programme. Jasmine has previously run training for Amity Children's Development Centre staff, both here in Scotland and in China. She has also spoken, on two occasions, at an international conference on autism, organised by The Amity Foundation. In December 2022 Jasmine shared with us *"We had our first conversation a couple of weeks ago [November] and focused on the four children that are going across to*

the mainstream setting. Ma Xiaobo gave a detailed overview of each of the learners and where they were in their development across a number of different areas. This was really helpful and gave me a good understanding of how her and the team assess the children. This week we are having a conversation around each of their learning plans including their targets." In a further update, Jasmine said "Ma Xiaobo and I have met for a couple more hours. Our conversations continue to be productive. In our second conversation we focused on the four pupils and their learning plans. This led nicely into looking at where each child was with their communication and this week I have shared a framework with Ma Xiaobo that enables us to think about where the pupils are and then plan for the next steps in their development."

If this initial consultative period continues to prove to be useful to Ma Xiaobo the SCCG will look at extending the funding for this piece of work.

Amity Village Revitalisation Project

In 2021 37.49% of China's population lived in the countryside. That equates to a little under 500,000,000 people. Of this population, many are the very young and the elderly as those of working age seek employment in the bigger cities. To build a sustainable environment, in the countryside, the needs of both these age groups need to be addressed. The Amity Foundation has introduced programmes which will upgrade the standard of education in some rural areas while also supporting the needs of the elderly. According to their 2021 Annual Report, The Amity Foundation 'Amity cooperates with 46 elderly care institutions across the country to carry out Amity Papa and Mama's Canteen Program in 28 of China's 31 mainland provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, in an aim to build a rural elderly care service system.' Given the expertise the SCCG has already offered partners in the care of the elderly it is this particular area of the Village Revitalisation Project that we have focused on. Conversations are ongoing with The Amity Foundation.

Funding Sub-group

As demand continues to increase on limited resources, the SCCG decided to form a sub-group that would focus on identifying Trusts and Foundations who support the kind of work undertaken by SCCG partners. Having identified possible funders the sub-group will be responsible for writing the funding applications. However, writing funding applications is not only time consuming but also benefits from experience and a particular expertise. We would therefore welcome anyone with a background in fund raising to assist us with this vital piece of work.

Spring and Autumn Plenaries

Over recent years a new format for the Plenaries has been used. This involves shortening the business part of the meeting and focusing on an information sharing session, with Guest Speakers. The Spring Plenary brought together Sharon Cheng, China British Business Council Board Member, Dr Calida Chu, Teaching Fellow, Centre for the Study of World Christianity and Dr Mark McLeister, Lecturer in Chinese Studies, both from the University of Edinburgh.

In the Autumn we welcomed Dr Caroline Fielder, Lecturer in Chinese Studies, Leeds University; Simon MacAulay, Chair of SCEN (Scottish China Education Network), John MacMillan, CEO of the Eric Liddell Community.

In addition to having presentations and Q&As with distinguished Guest Speakers, we have also had video messages from our Chinese partners.

The Plenaries are public meetings and we welcome visitors to come and join us and learn more about the work of the SCCG.

Friends of the Church in China (FCC)

The SCCG has continued to share information and insights with the FCC and we look forward to conversations about further joint projects when Covid restrictions allow new work to begin.

Financial Review

The Trustees received grants, donations and gift aid and other income amounting to £14,090 (2021: £18,331) during the year, including modest bank interest. Expenditure of £19,509 (2021: £18,915) was incurred leaving a deficit for the year of £(5,419) (2021: £(584)).

Unrestricted Funds received during the year were £2,090 (2021: £2,581) and expenditure £6,022 (2021: £5,752). The unrestricted deficit for the year of £(3,932) (2021: £(3,171)) decreased unrestricted funds to £8,330 (2021: £12,262).

Restricted Funds received during the year amounted to £12,000 (2021: £15,750) and £13,487 (2021: £13,163) was spent, leaving a deficit for the year of £(1,487) (2021: surplus £2,587) and restricted funds balance at the year-end of £20,556 (2021: £22,043).

Reserves

The continuing difficulties in travel to and from China have made forward planning problematic and so the Trustees have not set a policy on Reserves for the coming year. This past year, the Trustees continued to employ a part time project worker to develop the work of the charity. We also have the services of a self employed publicity officer who has greatly raised the profile of our work and that of our partners in China. Some of the employment costs are funded by a grant restricted for that purpose and the remainder is paid from unrestricted funds. The Trustees continue to seek regular support to extend the unrestricted funds and aim to maintain a minimum £5,000 at any time.

Unrestricted funds at 31 December 2022 of £8,330 (2021: £12,262) are in excess of this. The SCCG has new programmes in prospect which help develop the work of our partners in China.

Plans for future periods

We will continue to support existing projects for which we have funding, continue good communication with partners in China listening to their advice on needs that we might assist with and we will continue to seek funding for the new programmes that we are in the process of identifying and researching their viability.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Marilyn J Mitchell

~~Revd Alan Miller~~

Trustee

Dated: 9.3.23

MARILYN J. MITCHELL

VICE CHAIRMAN

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of Scottish Churches' China Group (SC033740) for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 8 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of 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 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

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.



Gavin Graham Robert McEwan
LLB(Hons), DipLP, TEP
Solicitor, Head of Charities
16 Broughton Place Lane
Edinburgh
EH1 3RS

Apr 5, 2023

Date

Statement of Receipts and PaymentsFor the year to 31st December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
		£	£	2022 £	£	£	2021 £
Receipts							
Grants	4	-	12,000	12,000	-	15,700	15,700
Donations & Gift Aid	5	1,345	-	1,345	2,575	50	2,625
Income from investments other than land and buildings		45	-	45	6	-	6
Gross receipts from other charitable activities		700	-	700	-	-	-
Total receipts		2,090	12,000	14,090	2,581	15,750	18,331
Payments							
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	6	6,022	12,587	18,609	5,752	12,263	18,015
Governance costs – preparation of annual accounts		-	900	900	-	900	900
Total payments		6,022	13,487	19,509	5,752	13,163	18,915
Net (payments) / receipts		(3,932)	(1,487)	(5,419)	(3,171)	2,587	(584)
(Deficit) / surplus for year		(3,932)	(1,487)	(5,419)	(3,171)	2,587	(584)

Statement of BalancesAs at 31st December 2022**Cash funds**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Cash and bank balances at start of year	12,262	22,043	34,305	34,889
(Deficit) / surplus shown on receipts and payments account	(3,932)	(1,487)	(5,419)	(584)
Cash and bank balances at end of year	8,330	20,556	28,886	34,305

Other assets

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Prepayments	443	-	443	414
Other debtors	-	-	-	700
	443	-	443	1,114

Liabilities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	272	-	272	272
Accruals	1,335	-	1,335	1,260
	1,607	-	1,607	1,532

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Marilyn J. Mitchell

~~Revd Alan Miller~~
TrusteeDate 9.3.2023

MARILYN J. MITCHELL

Vice Convener

SCOTTISH CHURCHES' CHINA GROUP

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting Policies

Accounting Convention and Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments account as shown on page 8, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds – this comprises grants and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds – are received for specific purposes.

2. Tangible fixed assets The Charity does not hold any fixed assets

3. Transactions with Trustees

There were no transactions with Trustees other than reimbursement of out of pocket expenses.

4. Grants Received

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Grant from Barbour Trust	-	12,000	12,000	14,000
Pollock Memorial Missionary Trust	-	-	-	1,700
	-	12,000	12,000	15,700

5. Donations Received

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations from individual supporters	1,345	-	1,345	2,625
	1,345	-	1,345	2,625

SCOTTISH CHURCHES' CHINA GROUP

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (con't)

6. Payments relating directly to charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Salary	1,887	6,750	8,637	8,637
Meeting and conference costs	820	-	820	362
Design and web costs	248	4,457	4,705	4,925
Insurance	591	-	591	552
Postage and stationery	38	-	38	-
Professional fees	2,170	1,380	3,550	3,443
Bank charges	81	-	81	96
Advertising and PR	187	-	187	-
	6,022	12,587	18,609	18,015

7. Restricted Funds

	Balance 1/1/22	Income	Expenditure	Balance 31/12/22
	£	£	£	£
Barbour Trust				
Sister Mary Pan: for people with learning difficulties	80	-	-	80
SCCG Advisor employment	-	6,750	6,750	-
Eric Liddell Centre visit to China/Spiritual Care lead training	2,000	-	-	2,000
Raising public awareness of SCCG	707	3,750	4,457	-
Upgrading libraries at Seminaries and Bible Schools in China	500	-	-	500
Amity Foundation Dementia Friends training	283	-	-	283
A Partner Visit to China for Gillian McKinnon - SCCG Website and Publicity Officer	2,250	-	-	2,250
Mairi Houldsworth visit to Amity Foundation, China - Dementia Friends Training	2,000	-	-	2,000
Air fares re joint project with Leeds University	1,800	-	-	1,800
Little Sunflower Project room rental	2,000	-	-	2,000
Accountancy costs	-	1,500	1,500	-
The Masters in Inclusion and Special Educational Needs	7,333	-	-	7,333
Barbour Trust totals	18,953	12,000	12,707	18,246
Donations for Inclusion and Special Educational Needs	160	-	-	160
Little Sunflower Project - Fundraising and donations	1,910	-	-	1,910
Pollock Memorial Missionary Trust – Joint Coaching Project SCCG, Leeds University, Amity	1,020	-	780	240
Total Restricted Funds	22,043	12,000	13,487	20,556