

YEAR BOOK OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH: 2011-2012

**INCLUDING THE MINUTES
OF THE 204th ANNUAL MEETING**

**Held at the Hayes Conference Centre,
Swanwick, Derbyshire
from Monday 25th July to Thursday 28th July 2011**

The Deeds of Conference were enrolled,
in the High Court of Chancery, on 14th February 1822

The General Conference was incorporated,
under the Companies Acts 1862 and 1867, on 16th February 1872

It was entered in the General Register of Charities,
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OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Vice Chairman:	Mr M CLUBB
Spiritual Leaders:	Revd DE GAFFNEY, BSc Revd GL GORDON
Council Secretary:	Mr MJ HINDLEY, BA
Company Secretary:	Ms JZ BROOKS, BA
Treasurer:	Mr NK SUTTON
Assistant Treasurers:	Mr CV SKINNER, BSc Mr DRA FRIEND
Editor	Mr AC MISSON, BSc
Auxiliary Ministry Co-ordinator	Mrs J MILLAR
Web site Manager	Mr AC MISSON, BSc
Information Communication Technology Manager	Mr D GLOVER
Family Co-ordinator	Mrs J JONES
Council Recorder	Mrs M CURRY

COUNCIL

[Linked responsibilities are listed after the names of the Council]

Mr M CLUBB	[until 2013]	Vice Chairman
Mrs K BROOKS	[until 2012]	[Web Development, Communication, Youth, CAM and Churches]
Ms JZ BROOKS, BA	[until 2014]	
Mr MD HASELER, BSc	[until 2013]	[Purley Chase]
Mr MJ HINDLEY, BA	[until 2014]	
Mrs JM WILSON, BA	[until 2013]	[Human Resources, Youth, Training and Development]

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Mr GEOFFREY TURNER
Miss DOROTHY TURNER
Mr MICHAEL CLUBB
Mr PATRICK LEONARD JOHNSON
Mr ERIC YATES
Miss BARBARA NICHOLLS, MBE
Mr DAVID RICHARD ALFRED FRIEND
Mr GORDON ROLAND SMITH
Mrs FRANCES MARY BURNLEY
Mr GORDON STANFORD KUPHAL
Mrs ELSIE JEAN CHAMBERS
Mrs PAULINE ANN GRIMSHAW

AUDITORS: BW SERVICES LTD

INVESTMENT MANAGERS: RATHBONE INVESTMENT
MANAGEMENT LTD
NEWTON INVESTMENT
MANAGEMENT LTD

SOLICITORS: GREGORY ROWCLIFFE MILNERS
CRIPPS HARRIES HALL

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to express, share and experience with others in life an inclusive, non-judgmental vision of God's kingdom.

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is of a network of individuals and groups interacting together to share spiritual insight and understanding in an open and non-judgmental way, in order to promote spiritual growth through the application to life of the Word, and the Writings of Emanuel Swedenborg.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
BY THE SPIRITUAL LEADERS
Presented by Revd G Gordon and Revd D Gaffney

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

David and I cannot stand before you as the new Spiritual Leaders of this church organisation and pretend that we know what those plans of the Lord are – He hasn’t told us directly – but He has shown us signs. Old pathways of traditional worship and study remaining; valued and wanted – new pathways opening up to us – new Ministers, new groups, new attitudes of humility and loving kindness, more willingness to share with other Christians and indeed people of many faiths or none.

We are treading old pathways and new pathways. There are many different pathways to the same destination which is a loving relationship with the Lord.

In the Old Testament after the story of the great journey through the Wilderness of Moses and the children of Israel, we read these words,

“Remember how the Lord your God led you ...”

Remember first that the Lord led you. Let’s look back and remember now. Your experiences these past years have not been mere chance and happenstance. The Lord was watching over you and is watching over you right now with plans to prosper and not to harm you, plans to give you hope *and a future*. He was overseeing the journey every step of the way. “The steps of a good man are ordered of the Lord.” said Jeremiah. God was doing something important for you during those years and is doing something important for you now. There was and is a divine purpose behind it all. Jeremiah acknowledged it when he prayed, **“O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.” (Jeremiah 10:23 NKJV)**

“Remember how the Lord your God led you ...”

Just like Moses and the people in the wilderness God does not remove difficulties, He permits them. And we face many difficulties in the church organisation today – lack of money – lack of human resources – some congregations shrinking and not having enough officers to continue and so on.

Why doesn’t God just remove all the difficulties we encounter in life? Why

doesn't He just kill evil and be done with it? Why does He lead us in this particular way? Because God has some objectives in mind for you and me – He has plans to prosper and not to harm us – plans to give us hope and a future.

There is nothing new in combinations of difficulties.

This same combination of difficulties leading us along different pathways is all through the Bible. God provides Abraham with his much wanted heir—but it took so much longer than Abraham was expecting. Joseph's dreams come to pass but only after years of slavery and prison. Moses does become the great deliverer he was destined to be. But it happens after some humbling experiences and 40 years in the wilderness as a nobody and facing rebellion from the very people he was struggling to help. We could talk about David's journey to the throne and even his struggles as king. We could talk about Jeremiah. We could talk about all the apostles. But in this instance we are talking about us – our tiny organisation although the Lord's new church itself, not our organisation, is having a growing influence in the world. You only had to listen to the sermon at the recent Royal wedding to hear how even the highest in the Church of England are acknowledging God came in human form, and if that isn't a New Church teaching I don't know what is!

Haven't you found the same kind of patterns in your own life? On the one hand, problems arise that seem insurmountable, you are painfully aware of your own insufficiency. But on the other hand, there are often wonderful answers to prayer - answers that leave no doubt about God's loving care and goodness. Do we pray enough? Do we trust enough? Have you wondered at times why God didn't make your journey easier? But haven't you also found the Lord faithful when you called upon Him in times of need? Ask yourself – “Why am I afraid?” Do we really trust in God or not? Do we really believe in what the Bible and doctrines teach us or are we too immersed in our own business to take steps along the pathways the Lord opens up to us? So often the angel's opening gambit is “Do not be afraid” because they are messengers of the Lord telling people of a new pathway they are to follow. The Lord Himself tells us “Do not be afraid little flock”.

At the end of the 40 years in the wilderness the children of Israel were told:

“Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, **to humble you and test you in order to know what was in your heart**, whether or not you would keep His commandments.” We, as a church organisation, could be facing that same test right now.

Are we humble enough, are our hearts in the right place, as individuals and as an organisation? Was there too much of the attitude in the past of “We have the answers, we are right - you are wrong, come over to us to learn”? Was there too much of the attitude that the church organization consisted of the learned ones and the others. Was there too much ordering and not enough following in discipleship? These are unhealthy attitudes – Swedenborg tells us that it is **humility** and **innocence** that are the pathways to the Lord. Those old attitudes are neither humble nor innocent. God leads us through experiences so that we can realize how dependent upon Him we really are.

On the one hand, God allows us to face difficulties but on the other hand, He uses these situations to help us along a different pathway of His making. I believe He is leading us to a situation where we need to go back to basics and watch and listen, like the story Jesus told in Luke 12 of the watchful servants waiting for their master to come back from a wedding feast. “When he comes and knocks they will open the door for him at once. How happy are those servants whose master finds them awake and ready when he returns! I tell you, he will take off his coat ask them to sit down and will wait on them!”

Our job as a church is to watch and listen for God’s path for us and to follow it. Our job is not to try to push our own plans and ideas on others. It is like the old joke “How do you make God laugh? Tell Him your plans.” The way forward for our church is to listen to God, obey Him and watch for the pathways to open up. We need to follow the spiritual path. Of course we have to follow worldly rules and regulations - that is orderly and lawful. But when it comes to church and spirituality we need more discipleship – which involves watching, listening and following. Identifying needs and paths then following God’s path which is opened up for each church, group, individual.

We need to let go and let God.

Some people may think this is an excuse for us to do nothing. It isn’t. It is actually much harder than it sounds. We are brought up to be responsible for ourselves and our surroundings, to be planners, constructors, leaders, governors and not to be followers of someone else’s plan that might not fit in with our own vision. Nevertheless that is what the Lord asks of us and he reassures us “do not be afraid”. Let’s ask ourselves right now, “what are we afraid of?” – loss of control, status, of power and influence – let the Lord be our control, power and influence – let go and let god. No - we may not see immediate results or even in our life times but we will have set the ball rolling for those to follow us. And David and I cannot promise you anything concrete except that if you seek the Lord with all your heart and all your mind

and all your soul he will knock on the door to your heart and all you have to do is open it.

We know this because the Lord Himself told us so. It's hard to let go and let God but this is the spiritual message we feel the need to pass on to you. For He knows the plans He has for you, plans to prosper and not to harm you plans to give you hope and a future.

Another of the difficulties we face as an ageing group is finding ways of communicating with 'younger' generations and the creating relationships with them. There are so many different ways this can be done but we first have to acknowledge that life is very different than it was 50, 40, 30, 20 or even 10 years ago. One-off gatherings seem popular but weekly attendance is just not on the agenda for most families. Yet look at the success of the family schools at Purley Chase and all age days and one off events at churches!

Also most churches eventually, sooner or later, will have to tackle the thorny issue that once congregations fall below a certain level a sizeable amount of 'energy' is diverted away from exploring and living what is spiritual and instead that energy is channelled into managing buildings. But many of us love our buildings, myself included and we need to find each church's pathway for its use in the future.

As Spiritual Leaders we cannot give you immediate solutions to church organisational problems. What we do have is spiritual encouragement to pass on to you. We have the Lord's words to give us complete confidence "For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Yesterday you heard just some of the new ventures that have attracted new people to our delightful insights that lead to The Lord. But the important message is that all that will be worthless if the people themselves – our own New Church Christians – do not show the loving kindness that their faith promotes. Swedenborg tells us that it is not learning that is essential. It is putting that learning into practise - into a life of loving kindness to help and be of use to the neighbour that matters.

Swedenborg talks of the desirability – no the *necessity* - for variety and diversity because that makes up heaven. That is God's plan. 'A heaven of angels from the human race'. We are all individual, unique and have different skills and talents to offer. I have been assured by congregations that they enjoy the variety in services and sermons they receive from the various

worship leaders, not just one Minister! We are a church organisation blessed with a very large and growing number of lay worship leaders adding to the richness of our church services in their variety. That same richness can and should follow through into church life. Look for opportunities which come your way to serve the Lord and the neighbour. If you are sincere in desiring to fulfil the doctrine of uses, then look for the opportunities God sends. If you pray I can assure you sooner or later He will send them! Grasp them – have a go- what have you got to lose? **Remember** - the Lord has plans to prosper and not to harm you. Follow the path Our Lord opens up for **you**. It may be different from everyone else’s path but it still leads to the same goal. After all, our lives are different from everyone else’s lives and we are different from everyone else. That is good. That is wanted. That is needed. **You** are needed.

At the end of the journey through the wilderness the children of Israel were warned “then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.” There’s nothing like things looking unsuccessful to bring us to the necessary humility we need to find the right pathway to The Lord. From humility we develop innocence. These are the tools to finding the pathways to the Lord.

This life is a training ground for eternity.

The Lord is preparing us for heaven. The experiences He brings us through today are preparation for the blessing He has for us tomorrow, for *He* knows the plans He has for us. We do not. But do not forget He is preparing us for good things in this life as well.

Be humble, be innocent, and in that state look for every opportunity the Lord sends you to find the path to Him because He *will* show you, if you seek for Him with all your heart. Seek the Lord and He will be found, knock and the door will be opened – Seek the Lord with all your heart, and with all your mind and with all your soul.....

For He knows the plans He has for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

**MINUTES OF THE TWO HUNDRED AND FOURTH ANNUAL
MEETING OF
THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH**

Monday 25th July 2011

1 In accordance with Minute 50 of the last Annual Meeting, the Conference assembled, as arranged by the Council, at 3.00 p.m. at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, on Monday, 25th July 2011.

2 The Revd Clifford Curry led a family service of worship, during which the Pledge of Commitment was repeated as follows:

“I promise to honour the Lord Jesus Christ as the One God of heaven and earth, who is love itself and in whom is the Divine Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I will endeavour to follow the teaching of His Holy Word, contained in the Bible and revealed anew in the theological books of Emanuel Swedenborg.

I will seek to overcome all evils in thought, word and action, and strive to do what is good as if of myself, whilst acknowledging that the saving power to do so comes from the Lord alone.”

3 The Chairman of the Council, Mr David Sharrock, took the chair and welcomed Members to the 204th Annual Meeting of The General Conference of the New Church.

4 The Chairman announced that he had invited Mrs Brenda Slack and Mrs Pauline Grimshaw to check the credentials of Voting Members and to supervise the signing of the Conference Roll.

5 The roll, when completed, contained the following names:

GOVERNING COUNCIL

Chairman	David Sharrock
Vice-Chairman	M Clubb
Members	K M Brooks Zoë Brooks David Haseler Judith M Wilson
Officers	Michael Hindley Nigel K Sutton

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Geoffrey Turner
David R A Friend
Mary Burnley
G S Kuphal
Jean Chambers
Pauline A Grimshaw

MINISTERS

M E Duckworth
Robert A Gill
Ian Russell
Leslie Chambers
C Jackson
C Curry
Bruce R Jarvis
D A Lomax
G L Gordon
R M Russell
D Gaffney
C Bank
H T Brown
J Dunion
Catherine Lauber

REPRESENTATIVES

Blackpool	G W Hunt
Bournemouth	L M Pierpoint, Stephen Thomas
Bradford	J E Millar
Brightlingsea	Frances Fisher, I Hindley
Burnley	S Wilson
Dalton	Jean Mrozek, W Richardson
Derby	G C Bentley, B Clubb, Barbara J Bentley
Keighley	Phillip Brooks
Kensington	L F Wells
West Wickham	E A Brooks, Lara Nicholls
Paisley	J Alan Bowie
Seaburn Dene	H Nicholls, E K Schofield
Southend	B W Fordham

AREA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

London and Southern	D Margison
North-West (Manchester)	Jeff Lomax
Yorkshire and North-East	Ian Johnson, Madeleine M J Taylor

ADDITIONAL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

Accrington	N Thomas
Bournemouth	Marion P Curry
Bradford	Gwendolen Rowe
Brightlingsea	Sue Chesworth
Chester	H Newton, Rebecca M Jarratt
Derby	Enid B Nicholls, S A Jones, Jenny Jones
Kearsley	B Slack, S Kennion
Kensington	Howard W Turner, Barry D Friend, Susan Friend
Seaburn Dene	T M Jarvis
West Wickham	Alan Misson, D H Conway, C V Skinner, D E Brooks, Ann Skinner

CENTRAL REGISTER MEMBERS

Maeve Hawkins
C T Wilson
B Brown
P M Wilson
J Chadwick
Clive Goalen
P M Russell
Margaret Presland
Sally Ross

6 *Resolved:* That Mrs Barbara Fordham be appointed to superintend the order of business in co-operation with the Chairman and the Chief Executive.

7 *Resolved:* That Mr Gordon Kuphal, Mr David Friend and Ms Zoë Brooks be a Committee to co-operate with the Chairman and the Chief Executive in revision of the Minutes; Secretary, Mr Kuphal.

8 *Resolved:* That Rule C3, requiring the appointment of a Nominations Secretary, be suspended.

9 The Conference, having been informed that the Revd David Allsopp, Mrs Patricia Grange, Mr Don Marshall, Miss Doreen Metcalfe, Mrs Dora Preston and Mr Peter Schofield had passed into the spiritual world,

Resolved: that the Conference expresses its high regard for these friends and their various services to the Lord's Church, and requests that a copy of the Memorial Notice be forwarded to the families, with the sympathy and goodwill of the members of Conference.

10 The Chief Executive presented apologies from Mr & Mrs Roland Smith and drew attention to the messages displayed for the information of the Annual Meeting received from:

The Revd Ian and Mrs Margaret Arnold, the Revd Julian and Mrs Ruth Duckworth, the Revd Christopher and Mrs Joy Hasler, the Revd Trevor and Mrs Joy Moffat, the Revd Michael and Mrs Barbara Stanley, the Revd John and Mrs Jenny Sutton and Mr Pat Johnson.

The Revd Clifford Curry presented apologies from the Revd Christopher Skinner.

Resolved: That the Conference, through the Chairman, sends greetings and best wishes at his discretion to those named above.

11 The Revd Catherine Lauber, Mrs Kathie Brooks, the Revd Jack Dunion and the Revd David Gaffney, gave a presentation on behalf of the Vision Team.

12 *Resolved:* that the rules in Section G, regarding the Senior Minister, be suspended.

13 The Revd David Gaffney made a presentation about Purley Chase and discussion followed.

14 The Revd Helen Brown made a presentation on the workshops developed in recent years.

15 At 8.00 p.m. the Revd Gillian Gordon and the Revd David Lomax introduced a topic, "Helpful Hints for reaching out", and eight members of the Conference spoke of their Society involvement in this activity.

16 Following the inability to find an appointee for the position of Senior Minister, the Revd Mary Duckworth introduced the concept of spiritual leadership. The Revd David Gaffney and the Revd Gillian Gordon, as nominees for the post, then explained their joint vision of the role.

17 At 9.15 p.m. evening worship was conducted by the Revd Mary Duckworth during which the Revd Gillian Gordon and the Revd David Gaffney were affirmed in the role of spiritual leader by the congregation and inducted accordingly.

Tuesday 26th July 2011

18 The morning session was opened at 9.30 a.m. with family worship led by the Revd Christine Bank.

19 The Revd Gillian Gordon delivered an address based on the Conference theme contained in Jeremiah 29: 11 – “For I know the plans I have for you”, declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”. This was followed by discussion.

20 The Revd Helen Brown and the Revd David Lomax introduced discussions exploring various ways of understanding the term ‘church’.

21 At 2.15 p.m. a Family Holy Supper service was conducted by the Revd Rita Russell, assisted by the Revd Helen Brown, Jack Dunion, Robert Gill and Bruce Jarvis. There were 87 communicants.

Mrs Russell presented the story from Matthew about Jesus feeding the 5,000 to a group of 15 children, after which they took bread and grape juice.

The Revd David Gaffney, assisted by the Revd Clifford Curry and Mrs Patricia Russell, led a session of all-age singing.

23 A Bible Study session was preceded by a dramatic presentation based on John 21, Jesus’ third appearance after his resurrection, by members of the West Wickham Society. Under the guidance of the Revd Helen Brown, 11 groups discussed the content of the passage.

24 *Resolved:* That Mrs Pauline Ann Grimshaw, of the Kearsley Society, be appointed an Honorary Life Member of the Conference.

25 At 8.15 p.m. the following special interest groups were held in parallel:

‘Connecting to God: Exploring Spiritual Practices’, led by Helen Newton,
‘Going out into a changing world’, led by the Revd David Lomax, and
The Annual Meeting of the New Church Historical Society.

Wednesday 27th July 2011

26 The morning session was opened at 9.30 a.m. with family worship led by Mrs Helen Newton.

27 The Revd Robert Gill presented the Report of the Ministers’ Committee.

28 *Resolved:* That the following are hereby declared to be the Ministers recognized by the Conference:

*Retired or not in active service

#Overseas

Ordaining Ministers

	ORDAINED	INDUCTED
* Christopher Vincence Alexander Hasler	June 20, 1951	July 19, 1980
* Norman Ryder	June 24, 1964	July 30, 1985
* Robert Arthur Gill	June 30, 1970	July 25, 1990
* Ian Russell	July 22, 1983	July 23, 2001
* Mary Elizabeth Duckworth, B.A	July 10, 1996	July 27, 2006

Ministers

	ORDAINED
* John Edward Elliott, B.A., B.D.	June 23, 1954
*# John Emanuel Teed	June 23, 1954
*# Edward Bruce Williams	June 8, 1955
* Leslie Chambers, B.A., Ph.D.	June 27, 1956
*# Ian Allan Arnold	June 30, 1965
*# John Maitland Sutton, B.Ag.Sc. (served as an Ordaining Minister 1996 to 2001)	June 30, 1970
* Michael William Stanley, M.Sc., Ph.D.	June 27, 1971
* Owen Christopher Emmerson Jackson	Feb. 1, 1978
*# Trevor Alexander Moffat, B.A.	July 15, 1978
# Julian Clayton Duckworth	July 19, 1980
# Richard John Keyworth	June 23, 1982
Clifford Curry, B.Sc	July 22, 1983

Recognized Worship Leaders

Geoffrey Charlton Bentley	1958
Bryan Richard Smith	1962
Patrick Leonard Johnson	1962
Gordon Stanford Kuphal	1968
Geoffrey Cunningham	1979
Stephen Russell-Lacy	1979
Norman James Brown	1979
Jeffrey David Lomax	1982
Anne Elizabeth Clarkson	1991
Eric Yates	1991
Michael Clubb	1991
Robert Joseph Kirk	1991
Alfred Maer	1991
David Richard Alfred Friend	1992
Geoffrey Turner	1992
Willie Huggins	1992
Kathryn Mary Brooks	1993
Phillip Nicholas Brooks	1993
Frances Mary Burnley	1993
Maurice Garnett	1993
Alan Christopher Misson	1994
Pamela Joy Moffat	1995
Clive Goalen	1995
James Alan Bowie	2001
Constance Thelma Wilson	2001
Peter Michael Wilson	2001
Judith Margaret Wilson	2003
Pauline Ann Grimshaw	2004
Jan Millar	2004
Trevor Millar	2004
Recognised as a Lay Pastor	2008
Madeleine Mary Josephine Taylor	2004
Stephen Thomas	2005
Recognised as a Lay Pastor	2009
Kittie Methuen-Jones	2006
Jean Mrozek	2006
Nigel Sutton	2006
Richard Lines	2007
Helen Newton	2007
David Haseler	2007
Rebecca Jarratt	2008

Accredited Worship Leaders

Derrick Pearce	1999
Bev Johnson	1999
Mary Brigg	2000
Enid Nicholls	2000
Diane Lewin	2002
Jonathan Armitage	2003
George Hunt	2003
Janet Benson	2003
Dorothy Margison	2004
Gwendolen Rowe	2004
Howard Turner	2004
Linda Wells	2006
Grant Brackley	2006
David Brooks	2006
Michael Hindley	2006
Kathie Freyhan	2007
Janet Jessop	2007
David Sharrock	2008

Lay Preachers recognized for service in Mauritius

	Authorized
Jacques Danjoux	1991
Clifford Phanjoo	1991
Evelyne Eynaud	2005
Yves Radhanauth	2005

30 *Resolved:* That the following be declared to be the Authorised Celebrants for the Sacraments and Ceremonies recognised by the Conference:

- Mr Alf Maer - Baptism, Holy Supper, Marriages and Funerals.
- Mr Geoff Cunningham - Baptism, Holy Supper, Marriages and Funerals.
- Mr Pat Johnson - Holy Supper and Funerals.
- Mr Alan Misson - Baptism, Holy Supper and Funerals.
- Mrs Mary Burnley - Holy Supper and Funerals.
- Mrs Anne Clarkson - Holy Supper.
- Mr Maurice Garnett - Holy Supper.
- Mr Phillip Brooks - Holy Supper and Funerals.
- Mr Stephen Russell-Lacy - Holy Supper and Funerals.
- Mr David Sharrock - Holy Supper and Funerals.

Mr David Friend - Holy Supper.
Mr Trevor Millar - Baptism, Holy Supper and Funerals.
Dr Geoffrey Bentley - Baptism, Holy Supper and Funerals.
Mr Michael Clubb - Baptism, Holy Supper and Funerals.
Mr Peter Wilson - Holy Supper and Funerals.
Mrs Thelma Wilson - Baptism, Holy Supper and Funerals.
Mrs Madeleine Taylor - Baptism, Holy Supper and Funerals.
Miss Gwendolen Rowe - Holy Supper.
Mrs Kathryn Brooks - Funerals.
Mrs Pauline Grimshaw - Baptism, Holy Supper and Funerals.
Mrs Jean Mrozek - Funerals.
Mrs Marion Curry - Holy Supper and Funerals.
Mr Stephen Thomas - Holy Supper and Funerals.
Mr David Brooks - Funerals.
Mr Alan Bowie - Holy Supper.
Mr Nigel Sutton - Baptism and Holy Supper.
Mr Gordon Kuphal - Holy Supper.

31 *Resolved:* That the Conference records its appreciation of the services of the Revd Mary Duckworth as Senior Minister for the past five years.

32 *Resolved:* That the Report of the Ministers' Committee be adopted.

33 *Resolved:* That the Conference records its appreciation of the services of the Revd Robert Gill as Secretary of the Ministers' Committee for the past fifteen years.

34 Mr Nigel Sutton presented the Report of the Treasurer.

35 *Resolved:* That the Treasurer's Report, the Balance Sheet and the Accounts be adopted.

36 Mr David Sharrock presented the Report of the Council.

37 *Resolved:* That the Conference urges the Governing Council to consider the sponsorship of ordination students and the employment of ministers as a priority.

38 *Resolved:* That:

- (i) Existing Rule C8b be deleted,
- (ii) Existing Rule C8c be renumbered as C8b,

Existing Rule C12 be renumbered as C13, and

A new Rule C12 be adopted as follows:

A public service of worship shall be held at every annual meeting. Arrangements for this service shall be the responsibility of the Ministers' Committee. At the service an offertory shall be taken in aid of the funds of the Conference.

39 *Resolved:* That BW Business Services Ltd of The Mills, Canal Street, Derby, be appointed auditors to the Conference.

40 *Resolved:* That the Report of the Council and the statistical table be adopted.

41 The Chairman presented gifts to both the Chief Executive and the Treasurer on their respective retirements. The Vice Chairman expressed the thanks of the Conference to the retiring Chairman and announced that a presentation had been made to him.

42 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be accorded to Mr Michael Hindley for carrying out his role as Chief Executive so effectively and efficiently during the last eight years.

43 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be accorded to Mr Nigel Sutton for his dedicated and detailed work as Treasurer during the past ten years while serving as a Conference employee.

44 Presentations were made by Mrs Jan Millar and the Revd David Lomax on behalf of the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry and the Swedenborg Open Learning Centre respectively.

45 Mr Michael Clubb updated the Conference on the arrangements for the voluntary structure for the main administrative tasks of the organisation following the retirement of the Chief Executive, and responded to questions arising.

46 In accordance with Article 33 [c] Mr Michael Hindley was declared to be a member of the Governing Council until 2014. Following a ballot, Ms J Zoë Brooks was declared to be a member of the Governing Council until 2014 and Mr David Haseler was declared to be a member of the Governing Council until 2013.

47 At 5.30 p.m. the following special interest groups were held in parallel:

Meditation, led by the Revd Helen Brown,
Sacred Dance, led by the Revd Rita Russell, and
The Annual Meeting of the New Church Children's Society.

48 At 8 p.m. a social was held which included children's games, participative dancing and a celebration of the recent marriage of the Revd Bruce and Mrs Tonia Jarvis.

49 At 10 p.m. evening worship was conducted by Mr David Brooks.

Thursday 28th July 2011

50 At 9.30 a.m. the Conference Service was conducted by the Revd Gillian Gordon and David Gaffney in the Main Hall of the Hayes Conference Centre. The Revd David Gaffney delivered an address on "Pathways" based on Matthew 7:13, 14 & 21.

The offertory for Conference funds amounted to £1,459.63 (net of Gift Aid).

51 Miss Gwendolen Rowe presented a review of the work of the New Church Youth Association during the past year and Mr Steve Jones spoke about the programme of All Age Days. The children, under the guidance of their leaders, presented the work they had done over the period of the Conference.

52 A number of speakers contributed to a review of the Annual Meeting.

53 *Resolved:* That, in accordance with the Council's proposal, the 205th Annual Meeting be held at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, starting on Monday, 23rd July 2012.

54 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be conveyed to all those responsible for making arrangements for the Meeting, in particular Mrs Isabel Hindley and Mrs Margaret Presland (the bookings secretaries); Mrs Jan Millar (the secretary of the Conference Planning Committee); Mr David Glover and Mr Samuel Kennion, for Information Communication Technology arrangements; Mrs Jenny Jones, and all those involved in enabling and planning for families to be present at the Meeting; Mrs Enid Nicholls, Mrs

Edith Schofield and Mr David Friend for arrangements for the Holy Supper service; Mrs Marion Curry (Music Director); and Mrs Barbara Bentley for the beautiful floral arrangements.

55 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be accorded to the Minutes Committee for their conscientious work in producing the minutes of the meeting.

56 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be accorded to the Chairman of the Council, Mr David Sharrock, and to the chairmen and vice-chairmen appointed by him, for their conduct of the Annual Meeting. Those who acted in this capacity were Mrs Kathie Brooks, Mr Michael Clubb, Mr David Haseler and Mrs Judith Wilson.

57 The session concluded with the Chairman's closing remarks.

58 The Minutes of this Annual Meeting were verified.

59 The Annual Meeting closed at 3:27 p.m.

Signed

Acting Chairman

Council Secretary

Minutes Committee Secretary

Michael Clubb

Michael Hindley

Gordon Kuphal

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL 2010-2011

SECTION 1 – CENTRAL TOPICS

1 MEMBERSHIP

1.1 The Council held six meetings during the year, including two short meetings during the Annual Meeting, with the following attendances:

Chairman:	Mr DH Sharrock	5	
Vice-Chairman:	Mr M Clubb	6	
Trustees	Mrs K Brooks	6	
	Ms Z Brooks	6	
	Mr MD Haseler	6	
	Mr PG Schofield	4	[5 possible]
	Mrs JM Wilson	6	
In attendance were:			
Chief Executive:	Mr MJ Hindley	6	
Treasurer:	Mr NK Sutton	6	
Senior Minister:	Revd ME Duckworth	2	[2 possible]
Ministry	Revd C Bank	6	
Representatives	Revd C Lauber	4	[5 possible]
	Revd DE Gaffney	1	[1 possible]

Miss SG Ross attended parts of some meetings in her role as Company Accountant.

The Council records its appreciation for service on the Council of Mr Peter Schofield who passed away in February. Peter was first elected to the Conference Council in 1992 and was Vice-Chairman from 1994 until 2003. As Vice Chairman he was a member of the transitional Executive until the new Governing Council was appointed by the Conference. He was elected by the Conference Annual Meeting as the first Vice Chairman of the Governing Council for 2003-2005. Last year he was re-elected to the Council to serve until 2013.

The Council is also appreciative of the service of its Chairman, Mr David Sharrock, who is not seeking re-election. A new Chairman is therefore sought to succeed him. Mr Clubb noted that as Vice-Chairman he would need to assume the duties as Chairman if no nominations for Chairman were forthcoming but would do so only for a year. The Council is also appreciative of the service of Ms Zoe Brooks and Mr David Haseler, both of whom seek re-election.

1.2 The period of office of the remaining members of the Council are: Mr Michael Clubb [Vice-Chairman] until 2013; Mrs Kathie Brooks until 2012; and Mrs Judith Wilson until 2013. The Council also appreciated the contributions of the Revd Catherine Lauber who was succeeded by Revd David Gaffney.

1.3 At the Conference last year only two of the three possible Governing Councillors were appointed and subsequently the Council has been one member short. Additionally, because of the sad passing of Peter Schofield earlier this year, the Council's membership has again been reduced. This year therefore, in addition to the Chairman, it is possible to appoint four Governing Councillors; one for a period of one year until 2012, one for the remaining portion of two years until 2013, and two for the usual period of three years until 2014. Consequently, depending on the number of nominations, a ballot may be needed to determine periods of appointment.

1.4 The Council accepted the Executive's recommendation that it cease to function and recorded its sincere appreciation to the members for seven years of conscientious and useful work.

2 GENERAL REVIEW

As reported last year the Ministers' Committee was unable to identify candidates for appointment as Senior Minister. However the Revd Gillian Gordon and the Revd David Gaffney offered to work in a dual leadership role as Spiritual Leaders and the Council accepted this offer for a two year period from the 2011 Conference. The Council wish them well in this new and evolving joint role. The Council again records its appreciation of the leadership of the Revd Mary Duckworth in the reduced role as Senior Minister from July 2010.

The Council has invested considerable effort in planning for the many discrete volunteer roles to replace the overall role of Chief Executive when Mr Michael Hindley retires in July 2011 and will be reviewing this as it evolves. The Council records its appreciation of Mr Hindley's dedicated work as Chief Executive since 2003 and his continuing work as Council Secretary.

The preparatory work in planning for a new voluntary Treasurer was unsuccessful and the role is being re-advertised. Mr Nigel Sutton has offered to continue voluntarily for one further year and the Council has gratefully accepted this offer. The Council records its appreciation of Mr Sutton's dedicated work as Treasurer. He was initially appointed as Joint-Treasurer from 1 April 2001 and as sole Treasurer from November 2001. The Council is appreciative of his continuing voluntary work as Treasurer.

A vision for the future organisation has been evolving during the year and the Council is grateful for the work and contribution of the vision team. A paper will be circulated with the Proof Reports and there will be a presentation at Conference.

3 LINK MEMBERS

The link member principle has been strengthened and the links are Mrs Kathie Brooks, CAM, Local Churches and Youth; Ms Zoe Brooks, Finance; Mr David Haseler, Purley Chase; and Mrs Judith Wilson, Communication, Development, Youth & Human Resources. Useful exchanges of information also take place with ministerial links which are: Training & Development, Revd David Lomax; Finance, Revd Clifford Curry; Human Resources, Revd Gill Gordon; CAM & local churches, Revd Christine Bank; Purley Chase, Revd David Gaffney; Youth, Web & Communications, Revd Jack Dunion.

4 COMMUNICATIONS & WEBSITES

www.generalconference.org.uk	News, information [intra-net]
www.new-church-lifeline.org.uk	Lifeline
www.purleychasecentre.org.uk	Purley Chase
www.swedenborg-openlearning.org.uk	SOLCe/The New Church College
www.spiritualwisdom.org.uk	Outreach site
www.swedenborg.org.uk	The Swedenborg Society
www.apocalypse-of-john.org.uk	Apocalypse of John
www.spiritualquestions.org.uk	Light on human happiness

Spiritual Wisdom continues to receive visitors at a rate now of over 150 each day. By contrast the Lifeline website has around 120 visitors each month. But the newest of the websites, The Apocalypse of John, is less visited. Since launching on the 5th November 2010 it has received about 70 visitors a month. Work is also continuing on the God is Love website and it is hoped that this will be launched with an initial set of pages by the end of 2011.

5 PURLEY CHASE CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PURLEY CHASE MANAGEMENT TEAM 2010-2011

5.1 THE TEAM

Michael Clubb	Chairman	Nigel Sutton	Treasurer
Anne Gaffney	Manager	Sally Ross	Accountant
David Gaffney	Programme Director	David Haseler	Secretary

The Team is supported by the competent housekeeping and catering team of Sue Earp, Stella Stephenson and Chris Ross.

5.2 EVENTS

This has been a year of consolidation at Purley. The normal Conference events have continued and we have been encouraged by the high proportion of outside events that return from year-to-year. This ongoing custom reflects the quality of our facilities, the welcoming approach of the staff and our competitive charges.

As a result of the Manager's initiative, more local people are dropping in for tea and cakes, or to allow children to use the playground, so Purley is becoming well known in the community. Several of these visitors have shown interest in our beliefs and have attended the annual carol service. One result of this local involvement has been that 340 people came along to 14 Christmas Parties, bringing in an income of £4300.

As a result of the high utilisation of the building, the Team has reduced the amount of advertising, while continuing to recognise the importance of a regular, well-presented brochure.

David Gaffney, Programme Director, comments:

Purley continues to attract newcomers and grows in popularity in the local area and nationally; we even have substantial numbers coming from North America and the Continent. We have good relationships with our local churches including Anglican, Methodist and Baptist, who use the centre on a regular basis. Many of the people who come here are aware that we are 'Swedenborgian' and many read internal literature as well as taking away Swedenborg's and other books. There has been an interest shown in some of our events by local people and those who have attended have found common ground and new insights. We also work with many other types of groups from Hindu-based groups to those interested in transpersonal or spiritual psychology, all of whom have an interest in God and the Neighbour.

We continue to work with the teachings of the New Church as the foundation of our own beliefs and these will always be at the core of what happens here at Purley Chase. With the Lord's help, we will continue to prosper and be of use to all who come.

For those who are interested, I enclose an insert below from Arcana Caelestia section 6628, which explains how those of the Ancient Church dealt with 'multi-faith' issues and these are similar to those which we face today in this country, and especially at Purley Chase. I have replaced 'church' by 'believers' which in the context of Purley Chase means all groups who try to live good lives and believe in God.

AC 6628. ‘ Teachings about Charity were the teachings of the Ancient Believers, and these teachings joined all the believers, and so effectively made one body out of many; for they acknowledged as members of those groups all who lived in the good of charity, and called them brothers, however greatly they might be at variance in their beliefs which at this day are called matters of faith. People discussed these with one another, and this was among their works of charity; nor were they indignant if one did not agree with the opinion of another; for they knew that everyone receives truth in proportion to how they are governed by goodness.’

5.3 FINANCE

Income from accommodation increased by 9.9% to £106.5K, including an encouraging 9.4% increase in income from Conference groups. However a decrease of 26% in donations to £18.4K, a higher than anticipated maintenance charge, and an overall increase in costs of 3.9% to £137.5K, resulted in a deficit for the year of £29.9K compared with £27.0K for the previous year.

5.4 BUILDING AND GROUNDS

(a) General

The Council has agreed that the repair of the chimney stacks and the repair and painting of the gables in the old building should be carried out at a cost of about £20,000. This work will be done in the spring.

A programme of ongoing internal redecoration has begun to maintain the building in good condition. This is being carried out by volunteers.

(b) Grounds

Steve Jones and friends have been visiting Purley biannually to continue carrying out the work previously identified by the arboriculturist. All the trees in the public areas have now been dealt with.

The Team have been seeking advice from local naturalists about how the meadow can be improved.

5.5 HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Team recognises our responsibility for the health and safety of our guests, and carries out biannual audits to identify and correct any hazards, and also ensures that all equipment is regularly maintained.

5.6 THANKS

The Team wishes to thank the dedicated, hard-working and cheerful staff who ensure that the Centre runs smoothly and makes it such a welcoming place for visitors. Our thanks are also due to the many volunteers who

maintain the grounds and help in many other ways with the work of Purley.

The Team particularly wish to thank Anne and David Gaffney, who have to deal with all the daily pressures and problems that arise as a result of living on the premises.

Michael Clubb	David Haseler
Chairman	Secretary

6 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Treasurer, Mr Nigel Sutton, reports on the Income & Expenditure accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 and the Balance Sheet as at that date, subject to audit:

Overall Summary

Operational results are satisfactory in spite of a further deficit of £57,408 which was within £4,000 of that anticipated at the beginning of the year. We are now within sight of achieving a 'break even' point within, say two years which would represent a realistic platform from which to develop.

Income

Contributions from Societies fell by £7130, partially compensated for by an increase in Donations, and in spite of the pitifully low base rate interest of 0.05% all year, Investment and Trust Income remained similar to the previous year.

Expenditure

Not surprisingly, each year the cost of Human Resources, dominates our expenditure, representing both this year and last about 70% of total costs. This year has seen an overall reduction in such costs of 7% mainly due to changes from employment to volunteer status together with a retirement.

Most other costs have remained similar to the previous year, and where more significant differences have occurred these are covered by 'Notes to the Accounts' including a summary Purley Chase Profit and Loss Statement.

Balance Sheet

The Council continues to be satisfied with the performance over the year of the two investment portfolios; managed by Newton and Rathbones and with interest yields only marginally lower than the previous year's performance in 2009/10.

Financial Future Forecast

The Finance Advisory Committee is continuing to closely monitor the investment situation which remains unclear in the short term, where the

national economic situation could be affected by so many factors. Last year we were very concerned about personal debt and reduced disposable income and we remain concerned on the likely fall in Total Church Income over the next few years, which is especially affected by the increase we are seeing in the number of Societies sadly having to close.

However, since ‘every cloud has a silver lining’ the eventual sale of a number of properties will enable our Investment income to increase, which together with the continuing trend of reducing Human Resource costs will enable our Operational Deficits to reduce by £36,000 to £20,000 in 2011/12, and to virtually break-even by early 2013.

7 STAFF & REMUNERATION

In 2010/2011 the total of stipends, telephone and broadband, paid to six ministers was £157,892 and in addition two worked as non-stipendiary ministers. In 2010/2011 the total of salaries, telephone and broadband paid to eleven lay employees was £173,311 including four staff at Purley Chase paid on hourly rates. These figures include people employed for part of the year.

The Council approved a 2% increase from 1 April 2011 to be in line with the Average Weekly Earnings index.

8 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SERVICE

Following the consideration from last year’s Annual Meeting about the public service of worship at the Annual Meeting, the Council will present a revised Rule C8(b) for adoption at the Annual Meeting. Details will be circulated with the Proof Reports.

9 VISION TEAM

A team comprising Revds Catherine Lauber, David Gaffney, Jack Dunion and Mrs Kathie Brooks and Mr David Haseler was established and it has worked hard and consulted with the Ministers’ Committee and the Council. The team organised an open meeting at Purley Chase in February for consideration of its proposals and was pleased with the attendance and other responses. The Council approved expenditure of up to £10,000 for a new web presence when sufficient volunteers have been identified to plan its design, content and management. A paper from the team will be circulated with the Proof Reports outlining the proposals and there will be a presentation at Conference when views will be sought.

10 OFFICER SUCCESSION PLANNING & VOLUNTEERS

Arising from the discussions at the Conference last year the Council has developed working arrangements for several volunteers to replace the overall role of the Chief Executive and to maintain the range of essential

administrative tasks of the Conference. The Chief Executive will continue voluntarily as Council Secretary and so will still be around to check practice if necessary and in the short term to forward post and to coordinate anything which may not have been foreseen. Mr Hindley was originally appointed both as Chief Executive and also as Company Secretary and a separate Company Secretary is now required with the voluntary structure. A volunteer structure diagram has been produced which exemplifies the inter-relationship of the volunteers and copies have been sent to each volunteer. The Council is grateful to all of the volunteers:

Council Secretary	Michael Hindley
Council Recorder	Marion Curry
Conference Organiser	John Ford
Conference Bookings Secretaries	Isabel Hindley
	Margaret Presland
Conference Programme Secretary	Jan Millar
Company Secretary	Zoe Brooks
Treasurer	Nigel Sutton
Assistant Treasurer, Pensions	David Friend
Assistant Treasurer, Payroll	Colin Skinner
Property Manager, North	John Ford
Property Manager, South	Mike Wilson
Church Support, North	Pauline Grimshaw
	Anne Clarkson
Church Support, South	Revd Gillian Gordon
Family Coordinator	Jenny Jones
Health & Safety Coordinator	Wilf Woodhouse

As part of the revised organisational arrangements the range and type of documents required for the statistical returns and for general meetings is being reviewed in an attempt to reduce the workload on volunteers. Wherever possible, beginning from next year, documents for annual and other meetings will be sent electronically by email although paper copies will still be sent by post where email addresses are not available. Legal advice is being sought. The importance of ensuring that changes of email address are passed on expeditiously is all the more relevant.

11 MINISTRY

ATTENDANCE AT GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Revd Christine Bank, as incoming Secretary of the Ministers' Committee, has continued to attend Council meetings. Revd Catherine Lauber also attended for part of the year as an additional representative and was succeeded by Revd David Gaffney.

NON-STIPENDIARY MINISTRY

The Council again records its appreciation of the generosity of the Revds Mary Duckworth and Clifford Curry in electing to become non-stipendiary and thereby improving the Conference financial position.

REVD CATHERINE LAUBER

The Council records its appreciation of the service of the Revd Catherine Lauber who returns to Canada in September 2011 and wishes her well in the future.

12 TRAINING NEEDS

The Council discussed at length the training needs for the organisation and was supportive of the need for young families to receive more doctrine and teaching; and for consideration and support for former societies who became groups. It reaffirmed its confidence in the planning of the training by the College Principal and the Auxiliary Ministry Coordinator.

13 MILEAGE RATE

At its December meeting the Council approved the payment of 40 pence per mile for retired ministers and all Conference volunteers as well as employees. It was disappointed to learn that some worship leaders were still not being offered the correct mileage rate and has asked the Auxiliary Ministry Co-ordinator to review this. In the Budget the mileage rate was increased to 45 pence per mile for the first 10,000 miles and the Council approved this increase rate for everyone in view of the continuing increase in the cost of fuel.

14 FAMILIES

Mrs Jenny Jones, Family Co-ordinator, reports:

The two weekends held at Purley Chase for families have continued to be very popular over the last year. Purley has been full up on both occasions and rooms are often booked months in advance by families wishing to ensure their place. Families of all shapes and sizes attend and the children's ages range from babies to teenagers. We are also pleased that we are sometimes joined by families who are new to Purley Chase. We have been lucky to have a wonderful group of volunteers who return year after year to care for and teach the children and young people. During the last year the group has made the decision to choose a book of the Bible for all the age groups to study so that we are truly learning together. This year we are pleased to welcome one of our teenagers as a children's leader.

Our weekends together are a time of fun and fellowship in many different ways for the younger participants and the adults in the group. While

it is wonderful to have these ever increasing numbers, it requires a lot of effort and organising for those involved. The willing volunteers who look after the children and guide the adults are wonderful but others are always very welcome to alleviate the pressure from the faithful few, so if anyone feels able to help please don't hesitate to get in touch. We also continue to have a number of families who return each year to attend Conference.

The welcome decision made last year to continue with the subsidies offered to families has continued to allow families to join in, meet and integrate with the wider church family and have a say in the future of the Church.

Again, we are pleased that one of our teenagers has asked to attend Conference this year as a children's leader.

Due to the success of the family weekends at Purley and a growing desire for families across the North of England to meet on a more regular basis, an "All Age Worship Day" was trialled at Keighley New Church last September. The day was led by Chris Chambers and Jenny Jones and attracted around 60 people of all ages. The day was on the theme of "touch" and it was hoped that more volunteers would come forward to lead further worship days so that a five part series on the "five senses" could take place. Thankfully this happened and three more worship days have taken place. The second was held at SOLCe in December on "hearing", the third was back at Keighley in March on the theme of "smell" and the fourth was held by the NCYA at Derby New Church in May on "sight". The last day in the series will be held at Accrington New Church in September on "taste". So far, these days have been very successful and we hope that they will continue to run at different venues in the North and perhaps throughout the rest of the country. The days follow a similar format and allow the adults the chance to both take part in a bible study and work creatively with the children and young people. By splitting the group in half and repeating the bible study twice we have managed to avoid the need for asking people to come and lead the children. The day also contains an opening and closing service, a shared lunch and games, quizzes or drama.

In April, an international event for teenagers called Easter Rally took place at Purley Chase. The four day event was attended by 23 teenagers from the UK, America and Canada and was led by a team consisting of Kurt Fekete (youth director from the States), Andrew Leather, Revd Catherine Lauber, Revd Jack Dunion and Jenny and Steve Jones. The Rally was extremely successful and was enjoyed by everyone. Many friendships were made and the young people have been in touch with each other ever since using a Facebook

page that they set up called International Swedenborgian League of Youth (ISLY). The theme of the week was “Heavenly Communities” and it was wonderful to watch the young people from around the world grow into a community themselves. During the week we enjoyed interesting presentations and activities based on the theme of Heavenly Communities, a trip to Warwick Castle, a sacramental service held by a campfire, a disco, a social and games night, orienteering, a local walk to Atherstone and much more!

Many thanks go to the NCYA and others who helped us to raise the funds that we needed to make the week a success. As well as the great fun we all had we are thankful that the teenagers (and maybe leaders) are more aware of the Swedenborgian faith in other areas of the world and are therefore likely to feel less isolated as members of a small denomination. Conversations are already taking place about future retreats, teen camp exchanges and other visits and we hope to help make these visions a reality again in the future.

15 CHILD PROTECTION

In October 2010 the Council circulated copies of the DVD “Safe and Secure” outlining two disclosures of abuse and presenting the ten Churches Child Protection Advisory Service [CCPAS] principles of safeguarding in clear, logical steps. Revised procedures for accessing the CCPAS Child Protection manual were necessary because this is now only available on-line. Societies were therefore asked to nominate someone with internet access for this task.

The Revd Rita Russell continues to co-ordinate requests for enhanced certificates and these are now made electronically. As part of the change-over process enhanced certificates for ministers, employees and volunteers will gradually be re-checked. The Council is appreciative of her work.

16 SOCIETIES

Auckland

The Auckland society has, for a number of years, been considering affiliation to the New Church in Australia. Organisational and legal obstacles have finally been overcome and Auckland is now affiliated to the New Church in Australia. Accordingly they no longer felt it was necessary to remain affiliated to the Conference. They feel that they still have strong ties with the Conference and that it will be a change in the nature of the link rather than an end to it. The Council congratulated Auckland on this new formal link with Australia and sent best wishes for its future.

Birmingham

The Birmingham society has been considering its future, and its premises as well as the need to appoint new officers. A detailed feasibility

study was produced by a steering group including letting rooms for several days each week to non New Church organisations. Sadly this was no longer feasible after one such group withdrew and the steering group sadly concluded that the proposed project was no longer viable. Birmingham has now decided to sell the premises and convert to a group.

Blackpool

The Blackpool society is presently considering converting to a group.

Properties

The former Rhodes and Besses churches had not been sold and the Council has therefore decided to sell these by auction with appropriate reserve prices. The former Heywood church was badly vandalised and an offer has been accepted from the tenant.

17 ARTICLES & RULES

The structure of the Conference including its Articles and Rules are considered to be too complicated for its current size. The Council has begun to look at suggestions to simplify and provide greater flexibility in the Articles and Rules, and the need to change these frequently and the Rules Committee is to consider these suggestions. However this is a complicated task and legal advice will eventually be necessary before any proposals for change can be brought to the Conference for consideration.

18 LIFELINE EDITOR'S REPORT

The Editor, Mr Alan Misson, reports:

Two things make the monthly production of Lifeline a relatively easy task. Firstly there is the certainty that PRINTDOMAIN, our printer, will produce the right number of copies at the right quality in a matter of days (sometimes hours!) after receiving the copy by email. Secondly there is the equal certainty that Howard Turner will deal assiduously and quickly with the task of mailing out the copies once he has received them. All this ensures that the task of Editor only revolves around putting each copy together in the timescales required.

Of course pulling an issue together depends on copy being available and generally over the past year I have received sufficient articles and reports to ensure this was straightforward. But I do miss being sent pictures! In this modern digital age I am still surprised at how few reports of events have pictures attached – don't forget, the front and back of Lifeline is there for your full colour pictures.

Finally, by the time most people read this report Lifeline will have reached its 400th issue!

19 MARKETING & RESOURCES GROUP

The Chairman, Mr Stephen Russell-Lacy, reports:

The Group meet twice yearly and conduct business via e-mail. Its objectives are to:

[i] assess the needs for resources of spiritual seekers including those for whom church and Bible are not a barrier.

[ii] produce, commission, sponsor or encourage the production of materials that:

- communicate our teachings in a way that match the needs of an identified audience
- facilitate interpersonal engagement in the process of spiritual learning and growth
- use a contemporary non-discriminating style of language

[iii] promote these resources in appropriate markets with no thought of return for what we offer other than a hope for an exchange in energy and ideas, being open to feedback and learning from others including those outside our framework of teachings.

New Resources

Funded by this group and produced by Helen Brown with the support of the workshop team:

- angel cards
- angel voices video – a new initiative using a professional film company
- rainbow booklet for group work

Website

The group have welcomed the launch of a new internet magazine (spiritualquestions.org.uk edited by Stephen Russell-Lacy) which is attracting a steady increase in readers.

Leaflets

One new introductory leaflet to Swedenborgian ideas is being prepared for printing and it is hoped to update current leaflets in line with modern requirements. Books, articles etc need promotion through face to face contact, guiding people to what is appropriate for them according to their individual needs / interests.

Old book & leaflet stock

We are continuing with the process of removing stock from New Church House. At least one copy of all books and booklets will be kept. In addition we will be keeping boxes of each currently useful title. Some space has been cleared at SOLCe for some of the stock.

Outlook

The Outlook producing team have managed to reduce the cost of the production and distribution of each issue now to less than half the previous cost, mainly through the use of digital technology. We will be giving a grant of £1,500 for the continued publication of two issues of Outlook per year. It is understandable that unused copies of Outlook have triggered concern about value for money however we are told that the cost of production would diminish only a little if the print run were reduced. We are encouraging churches who receive copies to leave spare copies in public places such as waiting rooms.

Writers' Workshop & Websites

Writers using contemporary language are needed to write new material for promoting our teachings. The Group have sponsored a successful Writers' Workshop run by SOLCe to encourage authors to create materials suitable for current markets and innovations in publishing such as using the internet and e-publishing. We recognise that budding writers need further encouragement / support / training including confidential critical feedback and this group are considering how best to do this.

20 OVERSEAS

The Revd Norman Ryder, Overseas Secretary, reports:

South Africa The New Church of Southern Africa has reported success in beginning the next phase of building new administration and teaching facilities on its headquarters site in Orlando East, Soweto.

I have continued to send New Church books for the use of Ministers in the New Church of Southern Africa, having raised £63 at Chester Society's annual charities fair, to cover postage costs. I provided Christmas and Easter sermons to a number of these Ministers. Individual Ministers have written to me to ask for basic doctrinal and biblical information for use in their sermons and doctrinal classes – information which they have evidently not received in the course of their pre-ordination training. It is good to know that they are trying to increase their knowledge in these areas.

Nigeria The Revd J O Ogunbodede has sent copies of his "Christian Guide for 2011" which I have distributed to people likely to use them in Britain, U.S.A., and the Netherlands. I have continued to send New Church books and missionary material on request to an as-yet unordained pastor of the New Church in Nigeria. I also sent a sermon on the subject of marriage for him to use at his own marriage ceremony in his church in Bayelsa State. This ceremony was conducted by his District General Superintendent. In return he sent me photographs of his bride and himself.

Europe It is a joy to report that the second International Swedenborg Publishers Conference, organised by the Swedenborg Society, was held in London on 3rd and 4th June 2010. Among those present were New Church translators from the Ukraine, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Sweden, and the Netherlands. The isolation in which they work to spread the doctrines of the New Church would daunt us, so this opportunity for them to meet each other and the rest of us was a terrific morale booster for them. We owe our thanks to the Swedenborg Society for assisting them with their travel costs.

I maintain links with the Swedenborg Genootschap in The Hague, the Revd Gudmund Boolsen in Copenhagen (who has now published the sixth volume of his Danish translation of “Arcana Caelestia”), New Church Ministers in Sweden and Switzerland, and Miss Lenka Máchová (whose new Czech translation of “Heaven and Hell” was published in May 2011).

This year I have made new links with translators of “Heaven and Hell” into Norwegian and Georgian.

Swedenborg Publishers International As far as I know the General Conference has made no grant this year towards the work of S.P.I. which currently includes the publication of the mentioned Norwegian, Georgian, and Czech translations, a Malayalam translation of “Heaven and Hell” (published in March 2011), and other translations into Korean and Nepali.

Asia I have exchanged Christmas greetings with one of the leaders of the New Church in Pakistan, but so far I know nothing about their foundation, current activities, or facilities and numbers. Another new contact is a member of the General Church of the New Jerusalem in Japan whose home is, happily, nowhere near the areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami which devastated her country earlier in 2011. I have received no reply from a Japanese New Church Minister in Tokyo to whom I wrote in October 2010.

21 KILDWICK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr Keith Sandiford, Secretary/Treasurer, reports:

As usual the season ran from Easter to November. Before the start of the season and during it various improvements and repairs were carried out. New mattresses for the front dormitory were provided by the Friends of Kildwick who also paid for the new handrails at the front and side steps and railings along the edge of the flat roof. This came to the total of £855. They once again paid for the privet hedge to be cut.

The dining room was redecorated and the front door and gate were painted. During the year it was necessary to replace the mower, a heater in the

common room and the meter controlling the showers. These were an unexpected expense amounting to £799. There were also problems with moles.

The use made of the centre followed the normal pattern. There was the Discussion Day, and family parties from Radcliffe, Kearsley and Derby. However, the amount of use increased considerably. The overall total was 29 bookings for 103 days compared with 24 bookings for 73 days last year. The breakdown was 24 church bookings for 95 days [17 for 58 days in 2009] Outside bookings were 5 for 8 days [7 for 15 days in 2009] This was the second successive increase and hopefully the trend can be maintained.

The centre has been kept in good condition but even routine maintenance is expensive. Insurance and caretaking costs also account for a high percentage of expenditure. We are now faced with extra security requirements from the insurers and it is likely that the other heaters in the common room will need replacing. However, with increased bookings and help from the Friends of Kildwick the centre should be able to function effectively

22 EDWARD JEGGINS TRUST

As a matter of courtesy the Trustees report that during the past year they have made a grant amounting to £2,000 to one Society affiliated to the General Conference towards the cost of maintenance of their church premises. The Trustees invite Societies to apply for grants for such costs in the year ahead.

23 HOME WORSHIP

The organiser, Mrs Sylvia Fay, reports:

The Home Worship scheme is still going smoothly. We send out 70 copies by post and 38 copies by email. There have been a few deaths in the year reducing the number circulated. Some people continue to photocopy or re-send by email, translating into other languages for further recipients and so they do go out to more than our numbers.

It is heartening to continue receiving the scripts for the services regularly. We enjoy getting thank-you letters from recipients too. The Revd Norman Ryder commented that the remarks we get make it all worth doing. Remarks such as:

“Thank you from the bottom of our hearts”; “As we can no longer get to church we still feel a part of it”; “We sit down at 10 o’clock each Sunday morning and read our service. It feels so special”; “Sometimes we sing a hymn too”; “Knowing that many others are also taking part and reading ‘our’ service lifts up our spirits and makes us feel we are not on our own.”

They all thank everyone concerned in the production of the Home Worship Scheme – from the writers to the post-mistress.

I would like to thank everyone concerned too. I don't seem to have to 'remind' people that we should have their contribution. Thank you once again, everyone.

24 DEEDS

The deeds for properties in Conference trust and other important documents are held in the safe in the Conference strong room, apart from a number which for various reasons are held by solicitors or officers of societies or the Conference. The deeds for properties owned by Conference itself are held by the Conference solicitors, Gregory Rowcliffe Milners. As part of the new volunteer process the deeds currently held in the safe in the Conference strong room will subsequently be transferred to Gregory Rowcliffe Milners.

25 MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE

Since the last Annual Meeting the Revd David Allsopp, Mrs Patricia Grange, Mr Don Marshall, Miss Doreen Metcalfe, Mrs Dora Preston, and Mr Peter Schofield have passed into the spiritual world. Memorial Notices for each will be circulated with the Proof Reports.

26 NOMINATIONS & PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

Nominations

The Council propose:

[1] that Mrs Pauline Ann Grimshaw be appointed an Honorary Life Member of Conference;

[2] that Messrs BW Services Ltd of Derby be re-appointed auditors to the Conference;

Rules etc

The Council recommend:

[3] the adoption of a replacement Rule C8(b) at the Annual Meeting as circulated with the Proof Reports;

[4] that as part of the transition from Senior Minister to Spiritual Leaders the suspension of Rule G regarding the Senior Minister;

[5] the suspension of Rule C3 regarding the appointment of a Nominations Secretary.

SECTION 2 – AROUND THE CHURCH

27 REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR AUXILIARY MINISTRY

The CAM Co-ordinator, Mrs Jan Millar, reports:

General

This year has seen a gradual change of emphasis in the role of the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry in the light of needs and expectations arising from the changing needs of the Church. The new personnel on the committee have already made valuable contributions towards meetings and in supporting the work of CAM.

Closer links between CAM and SOLCe

CAM and SOLCe are now working closely together. Revd David Lomax and I were invited to attend a meeting of the Governing Council where we explained our plans and aspirations for training and education throughout the Church. We are particularly involved with churches, groups and individuals who are having to adjust to the changing face of the Church. A joint workshop on 'Fellowship and Community' is planned for September and we are overseeing training for Marriage Celebrants.

Worship Leader Training and Support Programme

Several worship leaders are still undergoing training as either Accredited or Recognised Worship Leaders. Both trainee and experienced worship leaders attended the Worship Leader Weekend that was held at Purley Chase in October 2010. The theme for the weekend was 'Linking with the Lord'. As well as a varied programme looking at different practical aspects of worship and changing needs in the Church, Revd Helen Brown led the participants in exploring meditation in worship. A Worship Leader Day, led by Revd Christine Bank was also held at the New Church College. This was attended by several people who, for various reasons, have been unable to attend a residential weekend, as well as many of the worship leaders who normally attend the events at Purley Chase. This was again well received and another day is planned for next year. CAM would be happy to organise a similar day elsewhere. Revd Geoffrey Clarkson continues to lead the Worship Support Group at Keighley and has also agreed to be the guest tutor at the next residential weekend. We are grateful to Geoffrey for his continued support for the work of CAM.

Lay Pastors

Trevor Millar and Stephen Thomas are both proving effective in their roles of Lay Pastor at Dalton Church and for the East Sussex Group respectively. CAM will continue to train and support these and any further lay pastors who are appointed to this key role.

Resources

The building up of a wide variety of resources to assist lay people in their ministry remains an important function of CAM. There has been an increase this year in the amount of material that has been requested and CAM is always seeking new sources of inspiration. The committee is grateful to all the ministers and lay people who so generously share their work with others.

Governing Council

CAM is grateful for the support which the Governing Council has given to the work of lay people. The continued presence of link member Kathie Brooks at our meetings is a valuable addition to our work. The increase in the mileage rate payable to volunteers to 40p per mile has also been welcomed.

At a time of great change CAM is keen to introduce new initiatives to meet the changing needs of the Church. The committee does, however, need to be made aware of what training and support are required in whatever areas are deemed necessary. Finally CAM would like to thank all the lay people who work tirelessly to maintain the life of the Church.

28 REPORT OF THE NEW CHURCH YOUTH ASSOCIATION COUNCIL 2010-2011

1 COUNCIL MEETINGS

Three meetings have been held during the year two at Kearsley and one at Keighley. Attendance was as follows:-

Mrs E J Chambers (President)	3
Mr P G Schofield (Treasurer)	1
Mrs PA Grimshaw (Secretary)	3
Rev C. Bank	3
Mr C Goalen	2
Mrs K Higgins	3
Mrs C E Kennion	3
Miss G Rowe	3

2. OUR TREASURER MR PETER GRANVILLE SCHOFIELD

At the end of February Mr Peter Schofield, the NCYA treasurer for over forty years passed into the Spiritual World. He will be very much missed by all of us as a most efficient and capable treasurer, who firmly believed that money was not for saving but for enabling work amongst families, children and young people. His enthusiasm and his ability to see to the essence of a problem and then to suggest ways in which to move forward will be sadly missed by all of us, but perhaps most importantly we shall all miss him as a very dear trustworthy, loyal and reliable friend.

3. NCYA CONFERENCE 2010

This was held at the Bradford Church and differed from our usual Conference format, instead being organised as an 'All Age Activity Day' with the formal business being streamlined and conducted at the end of the day. The theme of the Conference was 'Lost and Found' and dramatic and artistic activities and a computer learning session were organised on this theme. A picnic lunch was held and as the weather was mild we were able to enjoy the outdoors during the lunch break. There was a good attendance of all age groups and feedback showed that it had been a happy and stimulating experience.

Our Conference programme at Derby 2011 will take place as one of the sequence of All Age Worship days and will be on the theme of 'Sight.'

4. SUMMER CAMP 1

The camp this year was curtailed by a day, which seemed to prevent 'homesickness' and excessive overtiredness. Adequate staffing levels were maintained this year and although Rev C Bank was somewhat 'under the weather' during the week, this did not cause undue stress on the rest of the staff.

Summer camp 2011 will be the last camp for the present leader and also for Mr Clive Goalen.

Articles regarding the camp leadership have been placed in Lifeline and also in Contact and it is hoped that persons will come forward to help with Camp 2012.

The Council has continued to offer sponsorship and financial assistance to camps and events involved with work with children and families. It has also been pleased to offer financial assistance to the Easter Rally for teenagers from the UK, the USA and Canada. Council members also had the opportunity to meet with Kurt Fekete, the General Convention youth worker to discuss work with young people.

5. SUNRISE

Miss Gwendolen Rowe has again produced three interesting, informative and colourful issues of Sunrise over the past year. She has also produced a range of artistic and colourful flyers and posters for various events.

6. HOME SUNDAY CLUB AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mrs Carolyn Kennion has continued to send out lesson packs for the Home Sunday Club members. She has dispatched 21 Primary sets and 30 Junior sets and 2 sets to adults. As well as the UK, sets are also sent to New

Zealand and the Czech Republic. Mrs Lara Nicholls is now writing the children's letter to accompany the packs.

Colouring Exhibition sheets have been sent to all schools and Home Sunday Club members and fifty six pictures have been returned. Gold stars and encouraging stickers were provided by Mrs Erica Cunningham.

Three issues of Contact, a newsheet for teachers have been sent out during the past year.

7. GENERAL HELP

The NCYA is always ready to offer support and financial help to all schools to enable them to keep up to date with modern equipment.

8. COUNCIL OFFICIALS

We are pleased this year to welcome Miss Gwendolen Rowe as our incoming President. For the coming year we are pleased to welcome Ms Alison Presland onto our Council as its Secretary whilst Mrs. P Grimshaw will be the Treasurer.

9. THANK YOU

Once more the NCYA wishes to extend a big thank you for all those people, worship leaders, camp leaders and teachers who do so much to help in work with children and families. Such work is not usually high profile and invariably involves regular and sustained commitment. Seeds do not grow unless they are tended and cared for – the seeds of the Lord's Word within young people also need to be nurtured and tended and helped to grow.

29 AREA COUNCILS

29.1 LONDON AND SOUTHERN AREA COUNCIL

There are six Churches in the Area served by one full time minister and some part time and retired ministers. Most routine functioning is performed by dedicated lay members. Several isolated members are still active, some of whom receive pastoral support from Stephen Thomas. Alan Bula and Dorothy Margison have almost finished reading Divine Providence, with the help of Revd Hasler's notes. Members in London are attending the new study group led by Revd John Elliott. David Friend continues to produce the Area Inset which is circulated with the church newsletters. ELSAC joined with the Swedenborg Society on 19 June to celebrate the Society's 200th Anniversary.

Bournemouth. Regular Sunday Services continue and following one Service Clifford Curry led a discussion on the Service Theme. Spiritual Discussion Group meets monthly at Church or in Southampton. There was a viewing of the film Heaven, Hell and other Places. Following previous Workshops some ladies led by Rita Russell meet monthly for Spiritual Sharing, the majority not having any connection with our Church. Christmas Services and Events were

enjoyable, also the excellent New Year Party. Events for various Charities raised £1014-70. Circle dancing continues monthly. We are pleased to support the Children's Society. A Poole Theatre visit to see the Mikado was pleasurable.

Brightlingsea. Gratifyingly, average attendance at worship has not fallen and only one service was cancelled because of bad weather. Most of our services were conducted by one or other of our five local worship leaders, but four services were led by ministers, Revd David Gaffney, Bruce Jarvis, and Rita Russell. We were particularly pleased that Revd Robert Gill came for a long weekend with his wife, did some pastoral visiting and led a bible study as well as Sunday worship. The pre-school Bizzy Bees, which was run in our hall for many years, closed and the future use of the hall is uncertain. The restricted availability of manpower is an increasing concern to us.

Greenhill. The past year has been difficult due to continuing anti social behaviour, and two burglaries at our premises, resulting in Police attention and Insurance claims. Our worship numbers, and outside groups using the building continue satisfactorily. Thanks to Revd Helen Brown and Hilda Johnson for arranging workshops at Greenhill usually well attended, and the excellent group of Ministers and Lay Preachers who provide meaningful services. Norman Pettersen, a valued member, entered the Spiritual world on February 14th; he will be greatly missed by all. Grateful thanks to all who support and work voluntarily for Greenhill.

Kensington hosted 3 successful Churches Together in Notting Hill events – their A.G.M , a prayer lunch and a lively Ceilidh. Members also took part in the ecumenical service for Christian Unity and an ecclesiastical outing to Hertfordshire. Links with families are growing with another baby baptism and 9 New Church children acting in the Nativity. The tea bar is being revamped following enlargement of the disabled toilet area. The organ will soon be repaired with support from members and friends. Donations went to a hospital palliative care unit, Crisis, N.C.C.S. and Roland Smith's Revelation pictures. Sunday worship continues to be led by the Minister, 3 members and visiting preachers.

Southend. Worship every Sunday – excepting one snowy interruption – delaying our Carol Service. Thanks to those at Southend and other Societies who lead our Services. Our strength is maintained; younger and older elements visiting Purley Chase and Conference. The local Fire Service approves our premises and an incident book awaits its first entry. The north boundary fence now replaced for £2000. Since our 88-year old Church's walls are bowing inconveniently, we await stabilising the interior wooden 'A' beams with steel rods, involving almost £6000 expenditure. We supported several charities: Haiti's children, a local woman's refuge, the New Church Children's Society and Samaritan's Purse.

West Wickham. Fortunately for us, Revd Gillian Gordon will be able to stay with the London churches until her retirement. A great variety of excellent Worship Leaders for Sunday worship. Successful monthly family services. Regular discussion groups for both Bible study and also New Church teachings. A new way of making better use of our front porch to get our teachings out to the general public. Fund raising coffee mornings for various charities. 'Open Door' weekly coffee mornings for the local community also attended by community support officers! Increased use of the Church library with many new books added. A good year!

The Open meeting at Swedenborg House on April 2, was attended by David Friend, Gillian Gordon, Howard Turner and Bryan Brown.

29.2 NORTH WEST [MANCHESTER] AREA COUNCIL

1. Two meetings of the Council have been held during the past year with an average attendance of six.

2. During the past year we have held three Area events when we have met together and enjoyed being part of a greater community worshipping, learning, and socialising together. The New Church Day Service was held at Kearsley and was led by Revd David Lomax who included a power - point presentation in the service. This was followed by tea in the hall.

At the beginning of December we again met at Kearsley for a celebration of Christmas. We started with a shared meal and then gathered in the church, where in a lovely Christmas atmosphere, we read our favourite Christmas passages and poems and sang carols, including two items by the Kearsley music group and a beautiful rendition of Mary's Boy Child by a Stockport member.

The Swedenborg Birthday meeting held at Radcliffe was well attended. Mr Christopher Chambers the speaker departed somewhat from the usual format. He selected two of the seven churches in the Apocalypse and illustrated them using both power-point and postcard sized pictures to facilitate discussion. We discussed in pairs and as part of larger groups and had an instructive and enjoyable afternoon.

Monthly Circle Dance Evenings, serving the area, meet monthly at Kearsley. A 'Rainbow Workshop' led by Revd Helen Brown was also hosted by Kearsley for the area.

3. During the year the former Stockport Society completed the process of becoming a group. The situation at Heywood has deteriorated due to the roofing slates being stolen and water flooding the worship room. The group has not met over the winter months.

4. Mrs P Grimshaw represented the Area at the General Conference and Mr Keith Sandiford represents us on the Kildwick Committee.

5. Again many most sincere thanks are due to the worship leaders, both lay and ministerial who continue to serve the area on Sundays, to run groups and to offer the rites and ceremonies of our church when they are needed.

6. During the coming year Mr JD Lomax will continue to be our chairman, Mrs P A Grimshaw our secretary and Mr J E Ford our treasurer.

29.3 SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

On Sunday 17th October 2010 the induction of Revd Jack Dunion as Minister of the Paisley Society took place with a Service conducted by the senior minister of the General Conference of the New Church, Revd Mary Duckworth.

In September we once again took part in Renfrewshire's "Doors Open Day" and welcomed just over one hundred visitors to the church premises.

Unfortunately severe winter weather curtailed some of our services and events over December and January when safety had to be the first consideration.

The Scottish Association offered to fund a trial of the Internet Church which the Governing Council and Ministers' Committee were happy to accept.

Through the Bridge Project funding has been received to set up a room within the church premises for use by a Toddlers' Group. Equipment and toys have been purchased and it is hoped that this will be the first phase of the Bridge Project's "Community Access Plan" leading to expansion in several other areas.

29.4 YORKSHIRE AND NORTH EAST AREA

The area meeting was held this year at Keighley and it was followed in the afternoon by questions and discussion based on the Clear Knowing session taken from 'The Seven Spirits of the Church'.

Despite having to deal with various problems and changes the four churches, Bradford, Dalton, Keighley and Seaburn Dene, remain generally in good heart. They are all very grateful to the Ministers, Retired Ministers and Lay Worship Leaders who work so tirelessly on their behalf.

Numbers attending the AGM have been falling off and the future of the Area Council was discussed. A decision was made to hold the AGM after a Sunday service at one of the churches. The other three church congregations would close for that day and visit the host society. This would also give the

members of congregations the opportunity to worship with a much larger number of New Church people than normally attend individual churches. This new format will be tried out over the next two years after which the situation will be reviewed.

29.5 The former Midlands & West Area, disbanded several years ago

29.5.1 Birmingham

The Birmingham society has been considering its future, and its premises against the need to appoint new officers. A detailed feasibility study was produced by a steering group including letting rooms for several days each week to non-New Church organisations. This was no longer feasible after one such group withdrew and the steering group sadly concluded that the proposed project was no longer viable. Birmingham will now consider converting to a group.

29.5.2 Derby

Weekly 10.30 am. Services; monthly sacramental services; weekly Sunday Club meetings; followed by coffee; monthly Friendship Lunches. The average number of adults is 29, the average number of children is 16 and average number under is 6. Harvest, Christmas, Easter, the carol service and other special services bring in more people, of course. We have had three weddings during the year. The incorporation of projection equipment enables us to use beautiful pictures and words to hymns which greatly enhance our services. Special services include Christmas, Easter, Mothers' Day when the children make gifts for the ladies of the church and they perform a nativity every year and also a pantomime performance on the same day as the Christmas party and a visit from Father Christmas. We also have a Ladies Service led by 3 or 4 ladies, and a service put together and led by the young people of our society. We recently hosted the NCYA incorporating an Activities Day which was great fun. We have a Sunday School picnic with games and activities; a bonfire provides fun in November and we have during the last year held a Coffee Service in our hall where the children incorporated their Sunday School activities into the informal service. The Pastoral Care Team meets monthly. A new music group was introduced this year where two parents and some children play for our service using guitar, keyboard and recorder. We have study groups at Derby, Nottingham and Melbourne. We usually have a carol singing group for charity though this year it was abandoned due to the extreme cold on the night. Donations were still made to Shelter, the chosen charity. We support our local Padley Day Centre for homeless and our local Happy Hens free range egg suppliers, who support young people in hard times needing strong and loving guidance, by buying their eggs at coffee time each week. We also use the idea of growing a £1 and

increase it for church funds and our Sunday school youngsters are also involved. Our young people support the alternative Christmas card scheme which provides gifts for communities in Africa. The shoebox scheme is supported in November. A New Church BBQ was held in our grounds and a society weekend was held at Purley Chase in October. Our annual Spring Banquet took place in April. We have weekly users of our premises and the Manse is still rented out.

30 REPORT OF THE LIBRARY & ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Three meetings have been held this year and the Committee has carried out its usual work of conservation and responding to genealogical enquiries.

Otherwise, of particular interest was an enquiry from English Heritage about church premises which had been built specifically for the New Church, both those still in use by the New Church and those now used for other purposes. Copies of the list of these buildings have been sent to English Heritage and also placed in our archives.

A few Societies have not responded to the Committee's request to provide a list of the registers which they hold.

Membership of the Committee: Revd. Norman Ryder, Mrs Frances Fisher, Mrs Maeve Hawkins, Mr Patrick Johnson, Mr Gordon Kuphal and Mr Howard Turner.

On behalf of the Council:
David Sharrock, Chairman
Michael Hindley, Chief Executive

REPORT OF THE MINISTERS' COMMITTEE 2010/11

1 Meetings

Two meetings were held during the year. The autumn meeting was held from 2nd to 4th November 2010 at Purley Chase Centre, with fifteen members and Mr G S Kuphal (recorder) present. The annual meeting was held from 22nd to 24th March 2011, with thirteen members, Mr G S Kuphal (recorder), Mrs J Millar (CAM Co-ordinator) and Mrs K Brooks (representing the Governing Council) present.

2 Senior Minister

The Revd Mary Duckworth reports:

During my 5-year term of office we have had 4 new ministers, 3 trained in this country and one from the Swedenborgian Church in North America, who has brought fresh views into the Conference sphere. We have seen the initiation of self-employed and non-stipendiary ministers and in Scotland a team ministry has been formed. Two ordination students are still in training. Regular support for ministers through mentoring, reviews and ad hoc counselling has developed.

A closer liaison has developed between ordained and lay leadership. During the last 5 years 2 new lay pastors have taken on responsibilities. 10 new people have become celebrants for sacraments and/or ceremonies making a total of 29 last year. Out of these 9 were newly authorised to conduct the Sacraments of Baptism and the Holy Supper and 18 to conduct funerals making the current totals, 9 for Baptisms, 24 for Holy Supper, 21 for funerals and 2 for marriages. 42 people are Recognised Worship Leaders and 18 Accredited Worship Leaders. Some lay people are now invited to attend Ministers' Seminars. Two members of the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry and a representative of the Governing Council are invited to some Ministers' Committee meetings to further understanding and broaden input. Stronger links have been established between the Ministry and Governing Council.

The Church has seen growth in the development of websites, wider use of the renewed Purley Chase and the co-ordination of workshops throughout the Church. These have all reached out into the community and beyond enabling communication, dialogue and spiritual growth with a diverse range of people. Purley Family weekends have become so popular for adults and children alike that All Age Days now take place enabling everyone to learn, share and play together more frequently. Families attending the Annual Meeting of Confer-

ence have rejuvenated it. Young life has raised the spirit and given hope to an ageing Church.

It is becoming increasingly obvious that the Church is unsustainable in its present form. Officers are difficult to replace. Congregations dwindle to too few to continue as before. People grieve for what was and this is a natural response. But we need not be ashamed of letting go. It is this very letting go that allows something new to arise which is more appropriate for our current needs.

Local congregations and groups enable personal nurturing and community. The internet opens up possibilities for worldwide contact, sharing and learning. The horizon has broadened enormously challenging us to a deeper understanding of what the Church is and what its essentials are. I hope and trust that the Five Essentials programme will help the Church to focus on the basis of life – the Lord’s unfathomable love for all people and our loving response in return to him and to all creation.

3 Spiritual Leadership

The Committee has given careful consideration to the provision of spiritual leadership for the Conference following the retirement of Revd Mary Duckworth from the office of Senior Minister at this year’s Conference AGM. After lengthy consultations it became clear that we were not able to find a single nominee to fill the post of Senior Minister and so other alternatives have been considered including a team leadership consisting of two ordained ministers. Following these discussions we are pleased that Revd Gillian Gordon and Revd David Gaffney have agreed to be nominated as joint spiritual leaders. Although they will not attempt to fill all the roles traditionally covered by the Senior Minister, they will jointly provide the Church with a new form of ministerial leadership.

Following their nomination, Revd Gillian Gordon and Revd David Gaffney have been consulting with Revd Mary Duckworth and others to determine the details and working arrangements of their new responsibilities. They have also been authorized to delegate to others such roles and responsibilities as they see fit.

4 Sexual Orientation

Following our publication in 2009 of a policy statement on “Sexual Orientation” the Ministers’ Committee is continuing its study and discussion of this matter. A further statement was published in the March 2011 edition of Life-line.

The Ministry is particularly aware of the pastoral implications of these ongoing discussions as well as the effect that they might have on Church practice. For this reason we are allowing ourselves sufficient time for in-depth study and reflection. Although the process is protracted, the Ministry is serious in seeking a better-informed and more enlightened understanding of these matters. It will inevitably take time to work through this dialogue, requiring mutual respect and patience. The prize will be a deeper and more mature understanding of human sexuality and a more compassionate and wise ministry to all, no matter what their sexual orientation.

The Ministry asks for the prayers of the wider Church as it continues this process of study and dialogue. We also urge members of the Laity to think about these matters and communicate any thoughts and concerns that they may have to us. This can be done by speaking to any minister or to the secretary of the Ministers' Committee. In the meantime we shall continue to keep the Church informed of our work and progress in these important discussions.

5 New Church College

The Principal, Revd David Lomax, has kept the Committee up to date with the progress of the two ordination students, Mrs Helen Newton and Mrs Becky Jarratt. Alongside her studies with the New Church College, Mrs Newton has also been studying with the Interfaith Seminary and she is due to be ordained by that body this summer. It is currently envisaged that Mrs Newton will be ordained as a New Church minister at the Conference AGM in 2012.

6 Committee for Auxiliary Ministry [CAM]

Following a question at the 2010 Conference AGM, the Committee discussed the value of having CAM report directly to the Ministers' Committee and then including that report in the Ministers' Committee annual report. In discussion it was noted that CAM is actually appointed by the Governing Council and, although it certainly does have a strong connection with the work of the Ministers' Committee, it was felt to be more orderly for it to report back to the Governing Council. As it is likely that some major changes will be made in the near future to the Conference's constitution, there was a reluctance to spend more time considering this minor change.

The Committee, in discussion with the CAM Co-ordinator, agreed that the time was now right to undertake a review of the lay pastor trial. It was also good to hear that CAM is looking at ways in which it can offer support during a period of significant change within the Church. In this regard the Committee supports CAM in its efforts to identify and train potential leaders for working with small groups. The Ministry also welcomes the closer working relation-

ship that is developing between CAM and SOLCe.

Once again the Committee wishes to express its warm thanks and appreciation for the commitment and work of all our auxiliary ministers. We recognize the very valuable contribution that auxiliary ministers make and we affirm our intention to support them in every way possible.

7 Vision

Last year we reported that the Ministers' Committee had appointed a group of four ministers to take forward our discussions for a vision for the Church. Since then this group has been superceded by a new Vision Team appointed jointly by the Governing Council and Ministers' Committee. The Vision Team has been comprised of five members, including two trustees from the Governing Council and three ordained ministers (Revd David Gaffney, Revd Catherine Lauber and Revd Jack Dunion). At each of our meetings this year, the Ministers' Committee has received full updates on the work of the Vision Team and we have had the opportunity to respond in detail to the early proposals produced by it.

8 Internet Church

Following our report to Conference in 2010, Revd Jack Dunion took the lead in preparatory work necessary to set up an Internet Church website. Many other people expressed an interest in the project and a willingness to give advice and technical help in order to move it forward. However, since the vision team proposals for a new web site were projected significantly to overlap this work and Revd Jack Dunion had subsequently joined the Vision Team, it has now been overtaken by new proposals from the Vision Team for a broader Conference website. The Governing Council has agreed to provide funding and support with development needs for this new website, which will offer a wide range of New Church thought and worshipful experiences. It is envisaged that it will be a point of access for enquirers, a means of reaching out and supporting new growth, and a means of communication within the existing Church. The Ministers' Committee now feels that the original proposals for an Internet Church can be fully met through this new Conference website and that it is sensible to amalgamate the two proposed projects.

9 Children and the Holy Supper

The Committee has been made aware of problems caused by differences in practice in regard to the admission of children to the Holy Supper. Some ministers and congregations welcome children as participants, whilst others do not. This situation can result in confusion and hurt for children and their par-

ents when, having been welcomed to the Holy Supper on one occasion, a child is excluded on another.

Whilst some understanding of the Holy Supper is considered to be an important element in the act of communion, the Committee believes that the experience of a sphere of love and acceptance is of even greater importance. In order that there should be a greater consistency in practice throughout the Church the Committee has appointed a group of three ministers and one Holy Supper celebrant to look into the matter further and recommend a policy on the participation of children and young people in the sacrament of the Holy Supper. The Revd Christine Bank will be the co-ordinator of this working group.

10 Working with Youth

The Committee was delighted to give its full support to the Easter Rally 2011 for young people at Purley Chase. The rally was organized by Steve and Jenny Jones and led by Kurt Fekete, a New Church Youth Leader from the USA. Several young people from North America joined others from the UK at the event. Additional leadership was provided by Revd Catherine Lauber and Revd Jack Dunion. Reports from the rally indicate that it proved to be a very successful and happy event, generating a great deal of energy and new life among the young people who attended. New international friendships were forged and efforts are now being made to maintain and strengthen these links.

The Ministry is heartened by the new energy and growth that is appearing in our Church's work with families and young people. Many residential and one-day events are now over subscribed and we are seeing a new form of Church emerging here. We extend our thanks to all those who are giving generously of their talents, time and energy, in order to support young people as they seek a greater understanding and experience of the New Church.

11 Helping Local Churches

The Committee is keenly aware that many local churches lack regular or even any ministerial leadership. Whilst it is simply not possible to fill that lack adequately, we are concerned that congregations should not feel abandoned and unloved. Individual ministers are making efforts to offer limited help whenever and wherever this is practical. Although, for a variety of reasons, it has not proved possible to organize such help on a national basis, many ministers are pleased to give some occasional and limited assistance when they are made aware that a need exists. Such informal arrangements could easily leave some congregations feeling excluded and we are anxious to avoid this. Even if

little practical help can be offered we do wish to be kept informed of local needs to ensure that whatever limited help is available can be allocated as equitably as possible.

12 Apocalypse Study Group

The highlight of the past year's endeavours was undoubtedly the culmination of Roland Smith's labours in producing 25 illustrations of some of the main events in the Apocalypse. His work for the Group has been very fruitful, and we have been full of admiration for his visual representations of the textual word pictures, often testing his powers of imagination and artistry to the limit. Throughout this period, Christopher Hasler has been our "agent", communicating to Roland what the Group was hoping to highlight and emphasize, and the collaboration resulted in the wonderful outcome seen in the Exhibition launched at last year's annual meeting of Conference. David Friend has also played an increasingly vital role in displaying the pictures, and then organising the Exhibition. Micah Duckworth designed the catalogue for us, and we were delighted with his efforts. Thankfully, modern printing methods enable us to produce small print runs whenever fresh supplies are needed.

Following the annual meeting at Swanwick, the Exhibition was mounted for several weeks at New Church College in Manchester during the autumn, and some events were held in conjunction with it. We are grateful to the Principal, David Lomax, for his enterprise. Currently, the Exhibition is in the USA where it will be shown for several months at the Glencairn Museum in Bryn Athyn. David Friend is co-ordinating future exhibitions, and it is hoped that Church members will be suggesting possible venues in this country.

The other major current venture for the Group is the production of a deck of cards of the Apocalypse with accompanying Handbook which can be used in a variety of settings both to aid familiarity with the Book of Revelation and to support spiritual growth where individuals and groups find aids beneficial. During the year much progress has been made towards finalizing the 64 illustrations for the cards, and with the preparation of the Handbook that gives guidance in the various uses of the deck. Trials with several groups will be conducted to ensure that the Handbook's guidance for using the cards is clear and user-friendly.

As before, the Group has met for two workshops at Purley Chase, immediately prior to Ministers' Committee meetings, and it is here that progress is made when colleagues are able to work together for a few hours, enjoying the intensive and productive discussions. After 10 years, Christopher Hasler has withdrawn from daily involvement with the Group, though he retains his links and

interest in what we are doing. Similarly, David Gaffney's commitments at Purley Chase and other new roles mean that he no longer functions as an active member of the Group. We have been delighted that David Lomax, a founder member of the Group, has been able to renew his links with us in recent months.

13 Salary Rates

Once again the Committee agreed that the standard salary rate for ministers should be published in this report. We express our thanks to the Governing Council for its decision, in these times of financial stringency, to increase the salaries of employed ministers, the fees of self-employed ministers, and the fees of retired ministers, all by 2%.

The salary [gross] for an ordained minister for the year 2011/12, inclusive of payments towards telephone line rental and broadband, is £28,368. This figure represents the salary of ministers in full-time paid employment. Individual salaries actually vary considerably as some ministers work on a part-time basis and others on a non-stipendiary basis.

14 Home Worship

Home Worship material has continued to be produced and distributed every Sunday of the year. A large team of contributors, including both ordained and auxiliary ministers, is involved in writing the material and the Ministers' Committee expresses its thanks to them all. We also extend our thanks to Mrs Thelma Wilson (the Co-ordinator), Mrs Sylvia Fay (the Organiser), and Revd Norman Ryder and the production team at Chester. Without the hard work of all these people we would not be able to maintain this service which is still greatly appreciated by many people.

15 Ministerial Archives

For a number of years various archives and papers of the Ministers' Committee have been stored in a locked area in the loft at Purley Chase. Whilst some of these archives can now be properly disposed of, others are considered to have historical, doctrinal, or other significant importance and need to be preserved. The Revd Ian Russell has been authorized by the Committee to check through these archives and to dispose in a secure way of any that are no longer needed. Any archives that still need to be preserved will either be passed to the Library and Archives Committee or, if of a strictly confidential nature, be kept in an appropriate and secure way.

16 Appointments and Nominations

We have nominated Revd David Gaffney and Revd Gillian Gordon as Spiritual Leaders for 2011-2013.

This year the Revd Robert Gill retires from the office of Secretary of the Ministers' Committee and is to be replaced by the Revd Christine Bank; however Robert will serve one further year as Assistant Secretary in order to ease the process of transition. In addition to her work as Secretary, Christine will continue to attend meetings of the Governing Council. The Revd David Gaffney has been appointed as an additional ministerial representative to attend meetings of the Governing Council until the 2013 Annual Meeting of Conference.

We have appointed the following ministers to liaise as appropriate with the members of the Governing Council on linked matters:

Revd David Gaffney – Purley Chase;
Revd David Lomax – Training and Development;
Revd Clifford Curry – Finance;
Revd Jack Dunion – Youth, Web and Communications;
Revd Gill Gordon – Human Resources;
Revd Christine Bank – CAM/Local Churches.

We have appointed Revd David Lomax and Revd Christine Bank as our representatives on the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry.

We have appointed Mrs Thelma Wilson as Home Worship Coordinator.

Mary E Duckworth [Senior Minister]
Robert A Gill [Secretary]

Treasurer's Report For the year ended March 31st 2011

The Treasurer commenced his report by summarising three *financial highlights*, and welcomed the fact that Conference was indeed beginning to see the light at the end of its 'recessionary tunnel'.

Overall, *Costs* had been cut by 5%; *Income* levels had largely been maintained, and thirdly, the *Operational deficit* had been reduced by 32%.

Expenditure is dominated by the cost of *Human Resources* which has reduced this year by nearly £30,000, but represents about 70% of total operating costs, a proportion which has not changed for some years and is expected to remain next year. A reduction of 10% has also been achieved in the cost of *Administration*, and in total the remaining costs of £179,877 were within £5,000 of forecast.

Total *Income* was only 1.5% less than the previous year, but lower by just under £8,000, although in line with expectations. Investment income held up well in spite of the continuing very low bank base rate, but income from Societies has shown a downturn as a result of closures.

The welcome downward trend is shown by the *Operating Deficit* at £57,408 compared to £84,281 for the previous year. The target should be to reach a point when any operating deficit, can be covered financially year on year, and that point in time is now in sight.

Conference has benefitted again this year from a number of *Exceptional receipts* which by their nature are not reflected in the operating deficit. This total of £217,442 represents; *Transfers to Reserves* which include; a final amount received from the former Copenhagen society of £34,811 and Investments of £109,163 from the closed Heywood Society; together with almost £80,000 gratefully received from the estate of Miss Peggy Prince; and £500 from the estate of Mr F S Sutton.

In conclusion, the Treasurer referred to the continued national and indeed global economic uncertainty, but as far as Conference's *Financial Outlook* was concerned the future was bright, although this was the result of 'triumph over adversity' due to the sad closures of societies.

Finally, he expressed his thanks, on behalf of Conference, to David Friend and Colin Skinner for their continued dedicated voluntary service as Assistant Treasurers.

Nigel Sutton - Treasurer

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
For the year ended March 31st 2011

Expenditure	2010/11	2009/10
Stipends/Salaries/Grants & Wages	364,410	394,360
Pensions	31,217	33,532
Housing	25,167	22,510
	420,794	450,402
Administration	80,613	87,241
Other Central Costs	11,043	15,682
Purley Chase (Excl Salaries & Wages)	88,221	81,917
	600,671	635,242
Total Expenditure		
Income		
Societies	175,820	182,950
Donations	39,563	38,296
Trust Funds	80,242	79,773
Investment Income	103,386	103,439
Purley Chase Income	129,989	130,911
Other	14,263	15,592
	543,263	550,961
Total Income		
Operating Deficit	-57,408	-84,281
Depreciation	-73,022	-88,313
Exceptional Receipts re Capital/Reserves	136,947	163,946
From legacies	80,495	1,500
Net Transfer to Balance Sheet Reserves	87,012	-7,148

BALANCE SHEET
As at March 31st 2011

	2011	2010
<u>Fixed Assets</u>		
Tangible Assets for Operational use	2,973,765	3,044,276
Investments	3,790,223	3,364,619
	6,763,988	6,408,895
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Stocks	3,943	3,694
Debtors	16,087	20,374
Cash at Bank and in Hand	589,732	644,906
Less Creditors	-538,498	-517,282
Net Current Assets	71,264	151,692
Less Creditors falling due after one	-350,000	-375,000
<u>Net Assets</u>	6,485,252	6,185,587

Represented by:-

Funds

Unrestricted	3,213,481	3,091,104
Restricted	503,627	493,689
Endowment	902,471	857,130
Revaluation Reserve	1,865,673	1,743,664
	6,485,252	6,185,587

STATISTICAL TABLE as at 31st March 2011

	Society Members	Non-resident	Total new members	Deceased	Removed	Increase	Decrease	Members of Conference
Accrington	54	19	2	3	0	0	1	47
Birmingham	*25	15	0	0	38	0	38	16
Blackpool	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	14
Bournemouth	42	9	0	3	0	0	3	40
Bradford	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Brightlingsea	25	10	0	1	3	0	4	17
Bristol	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Burnley	28	6	0	1	0	0	1	17
Chester & Wallasey	42	18	0	0	0	0	0	36
Clayton	20	7	0	0	0	0	0	13
Dalton	38	2	0	2	0	0	2	30
Derby	62	20	0	1	0	0	1	44
Kearsley	59	17	0	5	0	0	5	24
Keighley	45	16	0	2	0	0	2	34
Greenhill	19	8	0	1	0	0	1	10
Kensington	13	5	0	0	0	0	0	10
West Wickham	30	12	1	0	0	1	0	25
Paisley	55	7	0	2	0	0	1	31
Radcliffe	18	2	0	1	0	0	1	7
Seaburn Dene	32	0	0	0	0	0	2	23
Southend	18	6	0	0	0	0	0	11
Central members								147
Totals 2010/11	672	182	3	22	41	1	62	624
Total 2009/10	728	196	5	23	3	3	24	665
Mauritius	32	5	0	1	0	0	1	7

* Rationalisation of Membership Roll

	Baptisms	Marriages	Funerals	Sunday School No. of children	Avg. attend. 13+	Holy Supper Administrations	Average Attendance Holy Supper	Overall Average Attendance
Accrington	0	0	3	7	7	4	24	26
Birmingham	0	0	1	0	0	10	13	9
Blackpool	0	0	0	4	4	4	6	6
Bournemouth	1	0	5	8	5	12	20	23
Bradford	1	0	1	1	1	12	15	13
Brightlingsea	0	0	1	0	0	6	10	12
Bristol	0	0	0	0	2	6	6	6
Burnley	0	0	1	0	0	11	12	12
Chester & Wallasey	5	1	4	9	7	12	14	30
Clayton	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	7
Dalton	1	0	2	0	2	11	15	21
Derby	0	3	0	34	6	12	26	29
Kearsley	6	0	5	5	3	3	17	23
Keighley	9	2	1	10	6	12	16	34
Greenhill	0	0	0	0	0	10	11	10
Kensington	1	0	0	11	0	12	7	8
West Wickham	0	0	0	2	0	13	13	13
Paisley	0	0	1	3	0	6	15	14
Radcliffe	0	0	3	0	0	2	13	14
Seaburn Dene	0	0	9	13	9	11	22	31
Southend	0	0	1	1	1	10	10	11
Totals 2010/11	24	6	38	10	53	18	29	352
Totals 2009/10	10	4	35	97	25	18	31	401
Mauritius	0	0	1	2	2	5	10	8

THE NEW CHURCH COLLEGE
EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL
2010 – 2011

This Report covers the work of the College Council for the year ended 31st March 2011.

A COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

The Council met at the College on 3 occasions during the year. Membership and attendance at meetings were as follows:

Mr CJ Chambers, President	2	Mr P Leather	3
Mr RJ Nicholls, Treasurer	3	Rev MW Stanley	2
Mr MD Haseler, Secretary	3	Mrs MMJ Taylor	3
Mr JE Ford	3	Mrs CT Wilson	1
Mr SR Lacy	2		

The Principal, Rev David Lomax, attended 3 meetings by standing invitation.

The Administrator, Ms Melanie Bennett, attended 3 meetings by invitation.

The 146th Annual Meeting of Governors was held at The New Church College, Radcliffe on Saturday, 10th July 2010 with an attendance of 23 Governors and 6 friends.

B EMPLOYEES

The Principal, Rev David Lomax has been supported by a strong team comprising:

Mr JA Bowie	Assistant to the Principal and WebMaster.
Ms MJ Bennett	Administrator.

C EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION

In line with the current policy of the Council to follow the lead of General Conference, the salaries of both the Principal and the Administrator were increased by 1% as from April 2010.

D GENERAL REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE COLLEGE

1 Performance of the Charity

The Council considers that the Charity has performed well in the year 2010-2011 in line with its charitable objects.

The training of the two ordination students continues, and 18 students are studying either through open learning or in tutorial groups. The Principal and the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry Coordinator are working together to develop and deliver training for the Conference organisation. The College continues to run Schools and Workshops.

2 Staff **a Principal**

The Council is pleased with the new initiatives proposed by the Principal during the year, and welcomes his closer co-operation with the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry to work together on training within the organisation.

b Assistant to the Principal

Mr Alan Bowie continues to use his expertise and experience to maintain and develop the College web-site.

Alan has also tutored 2 modules.

c Administrator

Ms Melanie Bennett, having mastered the routine work at The College, has increasingly been involved with various initiatives. She has reduced the cost of electricity and gas, and has arranged a new phone contract that should halve this cost. In addition, she has been heavily involved in the organisation of the exhibition and meetings that have taken place in the building.

The Council was pleased that Melanie has gained her Level 2 NVQ in Business and Administration and has agreed to support her as she starts studying for the Diploma in Business Administration (formerly NVQ Level 3).

3 SOLCe

a Ordination Students

Following the completion of her Interfaith Seminary training course in the Summer, Helen Newton will be studying full time at SOLCe during the next academic year with the intention that she be ordained at the Annual Meeting of Conference in 2012.

Following the birth of her second baby, Rebecca Jarratt is continuing her studies on a part-time basis.

b SOLCe Students

In addition to the 2 ordination students, there are currently 16 students, 2 of whom are from overseas, studying 11 different modules tutored by 9 different tutors including 2 lay people. 2 new students enrolled during the year.

To encourage new students, the Council has agreed that people should be able to study their first half or quarter module free-of-charge.

c Modules

Two modules have been revised during the year; there are now 29 modules available on the web-site.

d Bursaries

There have been no applications for bursaries during the year, and so the Council has decided to publicise again the availability of these.

e Education Committee

The Committee continues to play an important role in the development of the educational work of the Council, benefiting from the wide range of expertise and experience of its members.

f Events

In October 2010, SOLCe organised the first public exhibition of the original paintings by Roland Smith illustrating the message within the Book of Revelation. It was advertised locally and attracted several people from the neighbourhood as well as church members. To accompany the exhibition, two Workshops were held.

The College was pleased to welcome the Swedenborg Society for the first time for an event to launch the new translation of 'Heaven and Hell' and also to show a new film about Swedenborg. This attracted a good number of Society members from the North West as well as Conference visitors. The Society is hoping to plan a further event in the future.

E PUBLIC BENEFIT

The College has continued to advertise its open learning courses on the web-site; these courses are available to the general public as well as to our church members and a limited number of bursaries are available towards their cost.

In addition to two events advertised in the area, The College is allowing an informal group of Friends of a local park to use the building and is also discussing with other local groups the possibility of using the premises.

F THE FABRIC

Routine work has been carried out during the year to maintain the fabric and also to improve the facilities.

Action has been taken to improve further the security of the building in view of the fact that the Administrator is often working alone in the building.

A leak occurred as the result of a corroded ball-valve in a water-tank in the attic. Fortunately, the building was in use at the time and so the immediate action taken minimised the damage to the fabric. The majority of the cost of repair was covered by insurance.

Despite the best efforts of John Ford, he has been unable to find a way in which a disabled toilet could be installed on the ground floor.

The Council is satisfied that the building complies with fire-regulations and insurance requirements.

G RELATED PARTY

The Trustee, The General Conference of the New Church, is a registered charity. The General Conference is entitled to a proportion of the net incoming resources from the Jersey Fund and provides payroll facilities for which The College pays a service charge.

H GOVERNORS

There are currently 8 Honorary Governors (0), 15 Life Governors(-1), and 61 Annual Governors(-1) ; in total 84 (-2). The numbers in brackets show the changes during the year. The Council is concerned with the decrease in the number of Governors and is planning to recruit new ones to restore a healthy democratic structure to support the Council and the work of The College.

I FINANCE

1 Annual Accounts

The Treasurer reported a net decrease in resources of £2,668 before capital movements for the year to 31st March 2011. (Decrease of £21,969 in 2009-2010).

The capital movements, which include realised gains of £43,434 on the disposal of investments and notional gains of £112,302 on the revaluation of investments mean that overall The College reports a net increase in funds of £153,068 for the year

The budget for 2010 – 2011 projected a deficit of £5,500. The actual deficit for the year was £2,668. Though income was £9.5K below budget, expenditure was £12.4K below budget, including a saving of £2.2K in energy and phone costs resulting from improved contracts. The deficit will be covered by drawing down capital.

During the year, a decision was made to concentrate on capital growth at the expense of income. As a result of this policy, the value of investments had grown by £112K in the year while investment income had increased by £2.5K. A budget for 2011-2012 projects a deficit of £10.5K before any adjustments arising on the real and notional gains and losses on investments.

2 Investments

The unrestricted funds, including the Jersey Fund, have been amalgamated to minimise trading costs and to form a larger portfolio. The funds continue to be separated from an accounting point-of-view. If allowable, it is also planned to combine the restricted funds with these other funds.

Following a visit to the investment adviser, Brewin Dolphin, with the Treasurer of Conference, they have been instructed to adjust the investments so there is a concentration on capital growth rather than income.

JACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The smooth and effective running of The College depends principally on the hard work of the Principal and the Administrator, and the Council express their gratitude to both of them. There are also many other people, both paid and voluntary, who support The College in different ways, and the Council thanks them for their varied contributions.

Thanks are also due to the students, an essential component of The College.

Approved by the Council and signed on its behalf by:

CJ Chambers, President
MD Haseler, Secretary

Dated: 2nd July 2011

THE NEW CHURCH COLLEGE REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL 2010 – 2011

Introduction

The major feature of my annual report this year is working jointly with other bodies in the church. Some of this falls into a category of training, but much of this liaison with the wider church is in more general areas of support and development. Much of this relates to looking at areas of potential new development for the church.

Students

Helen Newton and Becky Jarratt's training as ordination students has continued this year. In both cases, this has been limited by other matters; in Helen's case that has been the continuation of her training with the Interfaith Seminary. She is due to be ordained by the Interfaith Foundation in July 2011. It is hoped that she will then be able to progress to ordination with General Conference in 2012.

Helen has endeavoured to integrate this training she has received from the Interfaith Seminary with her SOLCe training where possible, although there are differences between the two. Whereas in SOLCe training we aim to have a balance between "Heart, Head and Hands", the Interfaith Seminary training tends to focus more on "Heart and Hands". It is intended that in her final year of SOLCe training, Helen will be able to work practically, using both areas of training that she has been receiving.

Becky has not been training with SOLCe since the birth of Richard towards the end of October 2010. Becky continued working with SOLCe until less than a month before Richard was born in order to finish a module which she was studying. She will resume her training in the summer of 2011, on a part-time basis as previously.

As with Helen, there has been discussion as how best to move forward with Becky's training to meet her circumstances, including her location in York, her part-time work and her vision of ministry.

We continue to try to involve as many people as possible in Helen and Becky's training, both as tutors and fellow students. Other students have worked on various modules over the last year. Although we prefer face-to-face tutorials where possible, we also offer modules by e-mail and using Skype for tutorials via webcam.

Liaison with the wider church

Following a request from the Governing Council for CAM and SOLCe to work together to oversee training in the church, Jan Millar and I have been liaising to take this forward. We have communicated our vision as to the overall form that this could take to Governing Council. However, different churches or groups have very different needs and no clear way forward has emerged. We have encouraged churches and others to approach us if they have particular needs.

One specific area in which we have been involved has been to support the discussions that have been taking place regarding the future of the church at Oaklands in Birmingham. Our reason for this involvement was twofold – firstly, we were responding to a request and, secondly, we believed that this might offer a template for the future for the church at large, notwithstanding the unique situation of Oaklands, as with all our churches and groups.

Other events are also being planned in this area of providing training and support to the wider church. The intention is also that the SOLCe Summer School be open to people in the church at large.

I have also been liaising with the Marketing and Resources Group, most specifically Helen Brown, to help to organise the programme for a Writers' Weekend, held at Purley Chase in March 2011. With the aid of a visiting speaker, we considered areas such as marketing and the use of new technologies in spreading spiritual ideas.

Several events were held at SOLCe in October relating to the completion of the pictures by Roland Smith based on the Book of Revelation. Three day workshops were advertised to coincide with the exhibition of these pictures in the College. The exhibition was first staged at the Annual Meeting of Conference and these events drew on the work carried out to this purpose by the Apocalypse Study Group. The pictures have been stored in the College since the exhibition and have been displayed on a couple of occasions since October. They will be sent to Bryn Athyn in the U.S.A. to be exhibited there in Summer 2011.

An all-age gathering was held in the College building during December 2010, hosted by Elizabeth and myself.

Part of the reason for holding these events in the College building has been our desire to have the building used more, but this has also stemmed from a sense

of wanting to make our premises available to the wider church for events for which they offer suitable accommodation.

Thanks go to Melanie Bennett and Linda Stoney for their assistance in running these events and the welcome they have provided, as well as looking after the building in other respects, along with John Ford. I am also grateful to Melanie for all her other work that relates to the running of SOLCe.

As well as being involved in networking in the “New Church” orbit, I have attempted to develop contacts with some other religious bodies. This has been for two reasons – firstly, in order to be able to be aware of developments which may be of interest within the New Church and, secondly, with a view to making contacts that may be of use in training students.

I have continued to be involved in various aspects of the work of Committee of Ministers and liaised with the Senior Minister to put together the programme for Ministers’ Seminar.

Curriculum Development

The Education Committee continues to look at areas relating to the development of the curriculum and the training of students. I am grateful to those on the Education Committee for their help and guidance in dealing with these and other issues.

I am also grateful to Alan Bowie for his work in his various roles as tutor, course-writer and webmaster.

I am conscious that we need to keep on developing both our curriculum and the role of SOLCe in order to assist the church at large to develop in ways which enable it to meet the challenges of our changing world.

David Lomax
May 2011.

THE NEW CHURCH COLLEGE
Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2011

The following pages contain a summary of the financial statements of The New Church College. A full set of accounts is available on request from the Treasurer, Richard Nicholls, or from The College itself

**Independent Examiner's report on the accounts
to the Governors of The New Church College**

Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner

The charity's trustee is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustee considers that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the trustee 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 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 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.

Anthea Grange FCA

Douglass Grange

Chartered Accountants

Stanley House

Phoenix Park

Blakewater Road,

Blackburn. BB1 5RW

The New Church College Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2011

	2011		2010	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Investments		1,839,899		1,683,840
Current Assets				
Debtors	10,249		9,586	
Cash at Bank and in Hand	11,141		14,720	
	-----		-----	
	21,390		24,306	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10,324		10,249	
	-----		-----	
Net Current Assets		11,066		14,057
		-----		-----
Net Assets		1,850,965		1,697,897
		=====		=====

Funds

Unrestricted Funds;		
General	349,497	328,541
Designated - Jersey Education	325,163	293,633
Restricted Funds;		
Permanent Endowment	1,176,305	1,075,723
	-----	-----
	1,850,965	1,697,897
	=====	=====

Approved by the Council on 25th June 2011 and signed on its behalf by:

C J Chambers, President

INCOME

	Total 2011 £	Total 2010 £
Incoming Resources		
Subscriptions and Donations	14,268	14,246
Investment Income	60,284	57,683
Fees	1,460	811
Miscellaneous Income	939	2,398
	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	76,951	75,138
	=====	=====

EXPENDITURE

<u>Direct Charitable Expenditure</u>	2011	2010
	£	£
Salaries & Consultancy Fees	51,447	51,961
Module & Tutorial Expenses	2,023	3,719
Student Support	200	71
In-Service Training	360	280
Library Books	310	212
Distance Learning Library	-	70
Books, CD-ROMs etc. for Sale (and write offs)	289	347
Office Equipment - purchases	432	190
Office Equipment Leasing and Maintenance	2,032	3,036
Property Expenses	7,642	22,425
Catering and Housekeeping	488	638
Telephone and Fax	972	1,226
Stationery	168	43
Postages	201	325
Council and Staff Expenses	2,088	2,390
General Conference Support Jersey Fund	6,548	6,179
Miscellaneous Expenses	401	445
	-----	-----
	75,601	93,557
	=====	=====
 <u>Other Expenditure</u>	 2011	 2010
	£	£
Bank and Interest Charges	237	275
Professional Fees	3,540	2,701
Miscellaneous Expenses	241	574
	-----	-----
	4,018	3,550
	-----	-----
Total Resources Expended	79,619	97,107
	=====	=====

NEW CHURCH COLLEGE

Names of people who have successfully completed accredited Courses, other than those who have been recognized as Ministers.

Certificate holders

Ruth Duckworth	1979
David Fitzjohn	1979
Margaret Presland	1989
Geoffrey Cunningham	1990
Renée James	1999
Alan Bowie	2002
Bev Johnson	2004

Diploma holders

Raymond Kennion	1990
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Swedenborg Open Learning Centre

Certificate in Swedenborgian Studies (Level One)

Marion Curry	2004
Bev Johnson	2004
Lenka Machova	2004
Judith Wilson	2004
Thelma Wilson	2006
Peter Wilson	2006
Leslie Hurst	2006
Anna Woofenden	2007
Trevor Millar	2007
Stephen Thomas	2008
Helen Newton	2009
Rebecca Jarratt	2010

Graduate in Swedenborgian Studies (Level Three)

Alan Bowie	2006
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LAST 40 ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Year	Place	President/Senior Minister	Preacher	Members
1972	Chester	R.A.Preston	C.V.A.Hasler	81
1973	Derby	L.Chambers	L.P.Russell Lacy	85
1974	Kearsley	C.H.Presland	E.J.Jarmin	88
1975	Bromley	J.O.Booth	M.W.Stanley	81
1976	Stirling	J.O.Booth	B.Kingslake	68
1977	Birmingham	J.O.Booth	J.M.Sutton	94
1978	Chester	J.O.Booth	L.Chambers	86
1979	Clacton-on-Sea	J.O.Booth	R.A.Gill	84
1980	Radcliffe	C.V.A.Hasler	C.V.A.Hasler	93
1981	Leeds	C.V.A.Hasler	T.A.Moffat	97
1982	Swanwick	C.V.A.Hasler	C.H.Presland	92
1983	Southampton	C.V.A.Hasler	I.P.Johnson	86
1984	Swanwick	C.V.A.Hasler	F.Clarkson	95
1985	Clacton-on-Sea	N.Ryder	N.Ryder	91
1986	Swanwick	N.Ryder	J.O.Booth	85
1987	Manchester	N.Ryder	J.C.Duckworth	91
1988	Hoddesdon	N.Ryder	J.E.Elliott	77
1989	Durham	N.Ryder	B.R.Jarvis	82
1990	Swanwick	R.A.Gill	R.A.Gill	86
1991	Birmingham	R.A.Gill	C.V.A.Hasler	82
1992	Swanwick	R.A.Gill/N.Ryder	J.D.Allsopp	80
1993	Glasgow	N.Ryder	J.M.Sutton	72
1994	Hoddesdon	N.Ryder	B.J.Presland	77
1995	Swanwick	N.Ryder	B.M.Talbot	78
1996	Lancaster	J.M.Sutton	J.M.Sutton	83
1997	Hoddesdon	J.M.Sutton	O.C.E.Jackson	81
1998	Swanwick	J.M.Sutton	N.Ryder	72
1999	Swanwick	J.M.Sutton	G.Clarkson	79
2000	Hoddesdon	J.M.Sutton	D.A.Moffat	77
2001	Swanwick	I. Russell	R.P. Brugler	83
2002	Swanwick	I. Russell	I. Russell	68
2003	Swanwick	I. Russell	C. Curry	76
2004	Hoddesdon	I. Russell	M.E. Duckworth	70
2005	Swanwick	I. Russell	R.A. Gill	79
2006	Swanwick	M. Duckworth	G.L. Gordon	86
2007	Swanwick	M. Duckworth	J.C. Duckworth	98
2008	Swanwick	M. Duckworth	R.A. Gill	87
2009	Swanwick	M. Duckworth	D. Lomax	88
2010	Swanwick	M. Duckworth	M.W. Stanley	88
2011	Swanwick	M. Duckworth	G.Gordon/D.Gaffney	82

LAND AND BUILDINGS HELD IN TRUST BY CONFERENCE

Insurance of buildings (excluding contents)

A Ansvar	B Conference Block Policy
C Congregational & General	M AMI
S Saga	
+ Index Linked	
# Held in trust for the Embsay Fund	
* Last year's figure	

Conference maintains with Ecclesiastical a combined insurance policy for employers, public and products liability on the properties listed below and also for other Societies and associated institutions

In London and the South of England

Bournemouth. Church and rooms at Tuckton Road, Southbourne.	B	£1,147,432	+
House at 101 Tuckton Road, Southbourne.	B	£203,743	+
Brightlingsea. Church and rooms at Queen Street.	B	£814,029	+
Greenhill. Church and rooms at 177 Leicester Road, New Barnet.	B	£1,279,272	+
Kensington. Church and rooms at 5 Pembridge Villas, London, W11.	B	£2,028,233	+
Southend-on-Sea. Church and rooms at Sutton Road.	B	£454,907	+
West Wickham. Church and rooms at High Street.	B	£407,245	+

General Conference.

House at 18 Pollard Road, Whetstone, London N20. Freehold.	B	£412,914	+
House at 112 Kensington Road, Southend-on-Sea. Freehold.	B	£131,603	+
Bungalow at 80 Broadway, Southbourne Bournemouth. Freehold.	B	£148,633	+
Bungalow at 14 Riverside Lane, Tuckton, Bournemouth. Freehold.	B	£331,805	+

In the Midlands and West

Birmingham. Oaklands New Church Centre.

Winleigh Road, Handsworth Wood.

Church, rooms and residential accommodation. B £578,056 +

Bristol. Church at Cranbrook Road, Redland. B £1,104,304 +

Derby. Church and rooms at Horwood Avenue. B £875,488 +

House at 409A Burton Road, Derby. B £155,067 +

General Conference.

Bungalow at 215 Coventry Road, Nuneaton,
Warwickshire. Freehold. B £287,566 +

Purley Chase Centre, Atherstone. Freehold. B £5,044,132 +

In North Lancashire

Blackpool. Church and rooms at Reads Avenue. A £292,332

Burnley. Church and rooms at Briercliffe Road. B £295,895 +

General Conference.

House at 5 Whittycroft Drive, Barrowford,
Nelson. Freehold. # B £118,075 +

House at 126 Mercer Crescent, Haslingden,
Rossendale. Jointly owned freehold. B £112,181 +

House at 6 Dunkirk Avenue, Fulwood, Preston.
Jointly owned freehold. B £129,415 +

In North-West (Manchester) and Cheshire

Chester. Church and rooms at Brook Lane, Newton. B £373,349 +

House at 51 Woodlands Drive, Newton. B £130,412 +

Heywood. Church and rooms at Hornby Street. B £678,290 +

Kearsley. Church and rooms at Bolton Road. B £1,210,145 +

Radcliffe. Church and rooms at Stand Lane. C £917,675

General Conference.

House at Church Street, Kearsley. Freehold. B £115,777 +

Church and rooms at Charles Street,
Whitefield, Manchester. Freehold. B £438,258 +

In Scotland

Paisley. Church and rooms at 17 George Street,
together with library and creche contiguous. B £1,461,356 +

In Yorkshire and the North-East

Bradford. Church and rooms at Ashfield Avenue,
Frizinghall. B £537,810 +

Dalton. Church and rooms at Grove Place,
Dalton, Huddersfield. B £1,007,857 +
Flats at 111 and 113 Long Lane,
Dalton, Huddersfield. B £731,225 +

Keighley. Church and rooms at Braithwaite Road,
Braithwaite. B £235,054 +

Seaburn Dene. Church and rooms at Shields Road,
Seaburn Dene, Sunderland. B £437,560 +

General Conference.

House at 22 Wimborne Drive, Keighley.
Jointly owned freehold. # S £500,000 *

Kildwick New Church Centre, Main Road,
Kildwick. Freehold. # B £410,171 +

House at 6 Park Avenue, Seaburn, Sunderland.
Jointly owned freehold. # S £500,000 *

New Zealand

59a Balmain Road, Birkenhead, Auckland, 1310 M

Property of the New Church College

25 Radcliffe New Road, Radcliffe, Manchester. B £544,982 +

LIST OF SOCIETIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

(For addresses and telephone numbers see Address List)

City, Town, etc.	Situation of Church	Minister or Lay Leader	Treasurer	Secretary
Accrington	Hargreaves Street Accrington BB5 2BB		Mr.D.H.Sharrock	Mr.A.Duckworth
Bournemouth (01202 424831)	Tuckton Road, Southbourne BH6 3HT	Rev.C.Curry	Mrs.M.Waugh	Mrs.L.Pierpoint
Bradford and Saltaire	Ashfield Avenue, Shipley W Yorks BD18 3AL	Contact Secretary	Mr.J.Skaife	Mrs.J.Millar
Brightlingsea	Queen Street Brightlingsea Essex CO7 0PH		Mr.N.A.Skinner	Mr.G.S.Kuphal
Bristol	Cranbrook Road, Redland Bristol BS6 7BS	Rev.C.Curry **	Mr.R.A.Gilbert	Mr.J.D.Lewin
Burnley	Briercliffe Road Burnley Lancs BB10 1XH	Rev.M.W.Stanley *		Mrs S Wilson
Chester	Dicksons Drive Newton Park Chester CH2 2BT	Rev.N.Ryder *	Mr.R.Pulsford	Mrs P Ryder

LIST OF SOCIETIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
(For addresses and telephone numbers see Address List)

City, Town, etc.	Situation of Church	Minister or Lay Leader	Treasurer	Secretary
Clayton-le-Moors	Arthur Street Clayton-le-Moors BB5 5NY	Rev.L. Chambers *	Mr.D.Sagar	Mrs C Sagar
Dalton, Huddersfield	Grove Place, Dalton Huddersfield HD5 9LH	Mr T Millar	Mrs.J.Jessop	Mrs J Mrozek
Derby	Horwood Avenue Derby DE23 6AN	Mrs.C.Sutton	Mr.N.K.Sutton	Mrs R.F.Delderfield
Greenhill	177 Leicester Road, New Barnet, Herts., EN5 5EB	Rev.G.L.Gordon	Mr.N.K.Sutton / Mr.T.Cook	Mr.J.Shepherd
Kearsley (07913 121119)	Bolton Road Kearsley Lancs BL4 9DD	Contact Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw	Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw	Mr Grant Brackley
Keighley	Braithwaite Road Braithwaite Village Keighley BD22 6PX	Rev.C.Bank	Mr.M.Pepper	Mrs.Y.Higgins
Kensington (020 7229 9340)	5 Pembroke Villas Kensington London W11 3EN	Rev.G.L.Gordon	Mrs.L.F.Wells	Mr.D.R.A.Friend

LIST OF SOCIETIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
(For addresses and telephone numbers see Address List)

City, Town, etc.	Situation of Church	Minister or Lay Leader	Treasurer	Secretary
Paisley	17 George Street Paisley PA1 2LB	Rev. J. Dunion	Mr. C.A. Macpherson	Mr. N.R. Laidlaw
Radcliffe	Stand Lane Radcliffe Manchester M26		Mrs. H. Eastwood	Mrs. M. Burton
Seaburn Dene, Sunderland	Shields Road Seaburn Dene, Sunderland SR6 8ND	Rev. B. R. Jarvis*	Mr. G. Nicholls	Mr. W. Griffiths
Southend-on-Sea	Sutton Road Southend-on-Sea SS2 5HX	Rev. C. V. A. Hasler*	Mr. B. R. Smith	Mr. P. Cunningham
West Wickham (020 8777 1588)	142 High Street, West Wickham Kent BR4 0LZ	Rev. G. L. Gordon	Mr. C. V. Skinner	Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Brooks
Mauritius	Remono Street, Curepipe Road and 2 Rue Champ de Lort Port Louis		Mr. R. Sookkeah	Mr. C. Phanjoo
* Retired Minister	** Supervising Minister			

LIST OF GROUPS AND STUDY CIRCLES IN CONNECTION WITH THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The information given is liable to change, and potential visitors are advised to check with the Secretary or Contact concerned. For addresses and telephone numbers of the Secretaries, Ministers, etc., see the Address List

City, Town, etc.	Usual Meeting Place	Minister or Lay Leader	Secretary or Contact Name	Usual Day and Time of meeting
Blackpool			Mrs.E.Morrison	
Birmingham			Mr.M.D.Haseler	
Dumbarton	Members' homes	Rev.J.Dunion	Rev.J.Dunion	Monthly
East Sussex	Member's 'home (Eastbourne)	Mr S Thomas	Mr.A.Bula	Consult contact
Edinburgh	Members' homes	Rev.R.A.Gill	Mrs.H.Laidlaw	Sept-Dec and Feb-June (first Monday of the month 7.30 p.m.)
Heywood			Mrs.A.Clarke	

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City, Town, etc.	Usual Meeting Place	Minister or Lay Leader	Secretary or Contact Name	Usual Day and Time of meeting
Morecambe Bay	Members' homes	Rev.M.W.Stanley	Dr.M.Jackson	Consult contact
Nottingham	Members' homes			Bi-monthly
Preston	23/25 Guildhall Arcade, Preston PR1 1HR	Mrs A Whittle	Mrs L Hale	First Sunday of the Month at 10:45 a.m.
Radcliffe	New Church College	Rev. D. Lomax	Contact College	Consult contacts
Southampton	Members' homes	Rev.C.Curry		Consult contact (monthly 2.30 p.m.)
Stockport	Members' homes		Mr.J.D.Lomax	Usually fortnightly

**SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS OF
NEW CHURCH INSTITUTIONS AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES**

	Secretary	Treasurer
Area Councils:-		
London & Southern	Mr.B.Brown	Mr.B.Brown
North-West (Manchester)	Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw	Mr.J.E.Ford
Scottish Association	Mrs.N.Laidlaw	Mrs.R.Johnstone
Yorkshire & North-East	Mrs.J.E.Millar	Mr.P.Brooks
Broadfield Benevolent Fund	Mr.R.G.Pulsford	Mr.R.G.Pulsford
New Church College	Mr.M.D.Haseler	Mr.R.J.Nicholls
Committee for Auxiliary Ministry	Mrs.J.E.Millar	
Examining Board (College Education Committee)	College Principal	
Home Worship Scheme	Mrs.S.Fay	
Honorary Life Members	Ms.Z.Brooks	
Library & Archives Committee	Mrs.F.Fisher	
Jeggins Trustees	Mrs.D.Mullock	
Kildwick Committee	Mr.K.Sandiford	Mr.K.Sandiford
Ministers' Committee	Rev.C.A.Bank	
New Church Children's Society	Dr.G.C.Bentley	Mr.D.Thomas
New Church Historical Society	Mrs.M.Hawkins (Convenor)	Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw (Sec/Treas)
New Church Youth Association	Miss.A.Presland	Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw
North of England New Church House	Mrs.M.Kidd	Mr.N.K.Sutton
Overseas Secretary	Rev.N.Ryder	
Purley Chase Centre	Mr.M.D.Haseler	Miss.S.Ross
Scottish Association of the New Church	Mrs.N.Laidlaw	Mrs.R.Johnstone
Swedenborg Society	Mr.R.Lines	Mr.A.Morley
Women's League	Mrs.M.Liversedge	Mrs.A.Walton
League Benevolent Fund	Mrs.A.Walton	
Yorkshire Missionary Association	Mrs.J.Millar	Mr.P.Brooks

AREA COUNCILS

These Councils comprise a Secretary, a Treasurer and as many Ministers and Lay Members as are deemed necessary.

The numbers in brackets after the names of the Societies denote the number of representatives which the Society is entitled to send to the Annual Meeting of the Conference.

An asterisk indicates that the property of the Society is in Conference Trust.

London and Southern

Ministers: Rev.C.Curry, Rev.G.L.Gordon, Rev.R.Russell, Rev.H.Brown

Secretary: Mr.B.Brown

Treasurer: Mr.B.Brown

*Bournemouth (3); *Brightlingsea (2); *Greenhill (1);* Kensington (1);

*Southend-on-Sea (1); *West Wickham (2)

North-West (Manchester)

Secretary: Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw

Treasurer: Mr.J.E.Ford

*Chester (2); *Kearsley (2); *Radcliffe (1);

Scottish Association

Ministers: Rev.R.A.Gill, Rev.E.Byrne,Rev.J.Dunion

Secretary: Mrs.N.Laidlaw

Treasurer: Mrs.R.Johnstone

Registrar of Isolated: Rev.R.A.Gill

*Paisley (2)

Yorkshire and North-East

Minister: Rev.C.Bank, Rev.B.Jarvis

Secretary: Mrs.J.E.Millar

Treasurer: Mr.P.Brooks

*Bradford and Saltaire (2); *Dalton (2); *Keighley (2); *Seaburn Dene (2)