

YEAR BOOK OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH: 2012-2013

**INCLUDING THE MINUTES
OF THE 205th ANNUAL MEETING**

**Held at the Hayes Conference Centre,
Swanwick, Derbyshire
from Monday 23rd July to Friday 27th July 2012**

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,
under the Charities Act of 1960, on 11th July 1967,
with reference number 253206

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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
Company Accountant	Miss SG ROSS, MAAT
Payroll Manager	Mr CV SKINNER, BSc
Pensions and Insurance Manager	Mr DRA FRIEND
Finance Manager	Mr AJ BENTLEY, LLB, FCA
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 P RUSSELL

COUNCIL

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

Mr M CLUBB	[until 2013]	Vice Chairman
Ms JZ BROOKS, BA	[until 2014]	
Mr R CUNNINGHAM BSc	[until 2015]	Human Resources
Mr MD HASELER, BSc	[until 2013]	Purley Chase
Mr MJ HINDLEY, BA	[until 2014]	
Miss SG ROSS, MAAT	[Company Accountant]	Finance
Mrs JM WILSON, BA	[until 2013]	Youth and Training and Development

Although she is no longer a Council member Mrs K Brooks will continue as the link for the Vision Team, CAM and Churches, via the Secretary of the Ministers' Committee.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Mr GEOFFREY TURNER
Miss DOROTHY TURNER
Mr MICHAEL CLUBB
Mr PATRICK LEONARD JOHNSON
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
Mr ALAN C MISSON

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 SPEECH 2012
PRESENTED BY THE REVD GILLIAN GORDON

**“SEE I HAVE ENGRAVED YOU ON THE PALMS OF MY HANDS;
YOUR WALLS ARE EVER BEFORE ME”**

COMMITMENT

I have a confession to make – I AM AN ADDICT – you weren’t expecting that now were you? I am addicted to antiques programmes on the T.V. ‘Bargain Hunt’, ‘Put your money where your mouth is’, ‘Antiques Roadshow’, ‘Flog it’ - you name it, if it’s got antiques in it - I like it. This bracelet of mine, if I took it on one of those programmes it would probably be valued at 50 to 80 ... PENCE! In other words its monetary value is negligible but its spiritual value is huge to me. Because it is exactly the same as one I had through my childhood which I wore to church and it has the 10 commandments engraved on each of the droplets and at the end there hangs a miniature Bible. In *Arcana Caelestia* 9416 Swedenborg tells us that ‘engraving’ means a memory composed of real things which are to remain there permanently. Permanently. That is why this bracelet is valuable to me because it is a physical symbol of The Lord as ‘The Word’ and the engraving represents permanency and commitment ... both ways – the Lord with us and we with The Lord.

At this point I’d like to do something else you won’t be expecting - I would like to pause for just 3 minutes for us all to listen to some music to help us focus during this speech on the reason for our own existence and indeed for the church’s existence and for our decisions and deliberations within it. That focus is the Lord Jesus Christ, a real person; born as a child, raised to manhood in earthly circumstances, dying and rising and being glorified for us. The reason for our church is to facilitate a personal relationship with Him. Jesus. Let’s listen with open hearts.

... (Music)

Our theme last year was based on the quote from the Bible, from Jeremiah, *“For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper and not to harm you”*. The Lord has a plan and a purpose for each of us and it is a plan so personal that He has engraved us on the palms of His hands, and that is our theme for this year – *“See I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.”* That quote demonstrates the Lord’s commitment to us. He is totally committed to us and

knows our problems and difficulties. This quote is about the Lord always remembering us even when we forget Him. *“Even though they may forget, yet I will not forget you, behold I have engraved you upon my hands”*. And when God speaks of the walls that surround us He is talking about the truths of faith with which He defends us, as a city is defended by the walls that surround it. Those walls do not keep us in; they do not imprison us, they are the truths of faith which protect the good within us as the walls of a city would protect the good people within. The truths of faith, lead us into making discerning decisions thus protecting the good within us and those around us.

We can panic and be outraged or sad yet relieved at recent events - but know this - The Lord has the whole situation in His hands and can and will use this circumstance to develop and mature all concerned and the church as an organisation in His providence, fit to go forward into new situations ... provided we interact with understanding and love and are not looking for whom to blame. We are precious to Him as individuals and as a church organisation. Let me take this opportunity to remind you that others have left during New Church study for ministry or during ministry itself in the past – there’s nothing new in that - and some have returned and gone on to take leadership roles in the church. It was all part of their spiritual journey and part of the spiritual path of the church organisation also. The Lord alone knows the plans He has for us. We do not. The Lord develops and matures people and churches through the circumstances they are in. The hells, in their turn, use circumstances to divide and rule, to fill our minds and time with destructive rather than constructive thoughts and for us to miss opportunities for good because they try to get us to think on their level and not God’s.

The Lord also knows that many in this church are tired and feeling the need and desire for fresh input and energy. He also knows we have young families coming up who need ministering to and being encouraged to take on roles within this church, to take over from the old stagers. It is interesting to note that some churches are getting more children attending with the need for extra family events being highlighted. Employment of a family or youth worker I feel sure would greatly help us in our work with families. The Lord knows that and it would appear He is providing the means to finance it now too. The Lord knows we have more money but less personnel willing or able to work for the Church but He also knows and remembers, with affection I am sure, the dedication and commitment of those who attend our churches week after week, year after year and who keep worshipping Him, studying His Word and the Writings and keep everything going. He knows the efforts being made in putting on new ventures and providing new avenues to bring people to Him. The Lord knows and He cares. We are not alone. Ever.

Another important point is this - as well as personal plans, the Lord has a universal plan, and His personal plans for us and the church organization also fit into this universal plan. God is working in fulfilling his plan for us even today ... now, here at Conference. But we must acknowledge, recognise and be fully aware that His Word - the Bible - and the Doctrines play a major part in that plan and we dismiss His Word and its spiritual sense and act on our own opinions at our peril. His Word and the Writings are what set us apart as individuals and as an organisation and forms and strengthens us. Once we start making decisions based on current events, cultural trends, politics, fashion or peer pressure we are no longer a church based on the Lord through His Word. We stand in danger of ending up like the judges when 'everyone did as they saw fit' instead of acting from guidance in the Word. That is the message and guidance from your Spiritual Leaders – commit yourselves to the Lord by looking to The Word and the Writings for guidance. Mature with it spiritually....and grow in knowing the Lord more clearly and more dearly as a result. That is the great reward. Take note of current trends, but do not take your leadership from them.

For the truth is that we simply cannot live out God's purposes by leading an ordinary worldly life. We have to strive to lift up and develop our spiritual life for Him to meet and to use us within His plans. In other words, The Lord wants us to grow and mature spiritually ... not for His sake, but for ours. Do you feel you are growing in your spiritual life within the church and its associated events – services, workshops and Purley Chase? Can you help with those processes? Are you able to find within yourselves the willingness to volunteer to help?

I believe that recent events are facilitating the spiritual growth process whether we like it or not, because in past years, Conference has had a few ups and downs on practical matters. Now we face genuine spiritual decisions and views which we, as your Spiritual Leaders, believe must be based on the Bible and the Writings, for that is what separates us from any other Christian organisation. We are not to judge people but we are to discern people's actions prayerfully for ourselves as spiritually mature adults. Also to discern the right way forward individually and as a church. This kind of discernment requires wisdom not clever intellectual argument from one's own prudence. *"They are in their own prudence who confirm appearances in themselves and make them truths, especially the appearance that one's own prudence is everything and the Divine Prudence is nothing ..."* (DP 310)

God works on us and with us spiritually as individuals if we are willing to be worked on, if we are open minded enough to listen and learn from His lead. We are all different and the way God works on us will be different also. We

can receive knowledge and instruction from Ministers and from our own study but we have to take personal responsibility for our own spiritual growth.

David and I, as your spiritual leaders, are conscious that we must spiritually lead from the Word and the Writings, not from fashion, peer pressure or European or British politics and directives. To respect and follow God's Word in our lives is an act of love and commitment on our part. It is neither fanatic nor dogmatic. It is discipleship. Remember the phrase 'everything changes but God changes not'. To be a disciple of the Lord involves commitment to His Word. I have heard some people say the church is 'out of touch' – but isn't the truth that it is those people who are out of touch – out of touch with the Truth that guides within the Word of God, the Bible, and that leads to salvation and eternal life. Is it that they have fallen under the influences of politics, 'new age' thinking and worldly values and lost sight of what really matters?

True Christian Religion 428

“Some people are naturally compassionate and they do not make their natural disposition spiritual because they do not act according to genuine charity, although they think that they do. They believe that charity or love means giving to every poor person and relieving everyone's difficulty and perceived needs without first inquiring whether they are good or malevolent. They say that such inquiry is needless as God regards only the help and assistance that is given. After death however, these people are carefully distinguished and separated from those who have carried out charitable acts prudently. Those who act from this kind of blind idea of love or charity give resources to good people and mischievous people alike and as a consequence allow bad people to cause mischief to the good. ...”

It is a sad fact of life, and causes so much havoc in the world, when well-meaning people unwittingly facilitate the dubious and hidden motives of those who would, consciously or unconsciously, work against heavenly order.

In Genesis 12 God appeared to Abraham and gave him a promise, a vision, and a purpose in life. Though Abraham left his house in obedience to God's calling, the Bible says there were times when his faith was shaken. That will happen to each of us at some time or another too. In Genesis 12, 15, & 17 God appeared to Abraham and strengthened his faith and that also will happen to us if we seek God's help. Finally in chapter 17 of Genesis Abraham responds by complete obedience. By now Abraham began to mature in his faith and God finally gave him a son when he was 100 years old. It took 25 years for Abraham's faith to mature. I don't know about you, but I don't think I've got that long so I'd better start working on maturing my faith right now!

".... Jehovah was with Sarah; she said to Abraham, "Cast out this servant-girl and her son"... this being very grieving in the eyes of Abraham, ... God admonished him, "Grieve not... but comply with Sarah in all this matter..." Genesis 21: 1-12

Here, natural goodness and truth represented by Hagar and Ishmael had become of such a nature that they had ceased to serve spiritual truth represented by Sarah. Meaning that there is a time for us to let go of our liking for simple natural good and truth and use the discernment of heavenly or spiritual truth which brings all things into line with Divine Order and the heavenly life. This was a real struggle for Abraham as it is also for us.

Our struggles in both church and secular life are permitted by The Lord so that we may turn to Him and mature in our spiritual life. When our spiritual life begins to grow so the problems of this world become less important and our focus will be more on what God is calling us to be and do. The Lord God is 100 per cent committed to you. The Lord is with Sarah - your spiritual Truth. The question is, as individuals and as a Church Organisation are we 100 per cent committed to Him? And if so, how? Are we willing to give more of our time and energies to release those who have done so for so long in the past? Are we willing to speak but also to listen and learn? Are we willing to stand up and be counted? Are we committed?

The Lord works on others as well as us as individuals to collectively establish His plans. Remember, Abraham alone could do nothing to see God's plan come to fruition of providing a son for him. He needed support from his wife, Sarah. God had to work with Sarah's co-operation after working with Abraham to accomplish His purpose. God has to work co-operatively with members of this church, church congregations and with groups. This is often where the struggle lies in conflicting views and decisions. One function of the Ministry is to point people to the Truth. The Lord will flow into those things showing us their 'spiritual' meaning, ordering them, and uplifting them. As a Committee of Ministers we acknowledge we have different views on some subjects but we are committed to listen to each other respectfully and move forward together in love. This is a maturing process for both us as a Committee and as a lead for the Church Organisation.

The value of tough situations is that within the turmoil the Lord can, and does, lead us to genuine deep thought about spiritual matters and what is important to us, to our peers, to our organisation and to God. What seems good to us as individuals may not seem good to the wider Church and it is vitally important to David and me that the wider church is never forgotten and that their views

and concerns are also considered. If we are committed then we need to unite as a Church Organisation. For we are precious to Him, and He is committed to us. Today all that you are going through is a plan of The Lord. He wants you to be mature in your faith and spiritual life. The more Abraham was obedient to God, the more God became intimate with Abraham. The more you fall in line with God's plan the more He will reveal His plan and purpose to you. The more you will become enriched and mature in your spirit when you stand on your own two feet.

AE 666. [4] "To stand upon the feet" signifies life itself when it is in its fullness; and life is in its fullness when the natural lives from the spiritual.

But do not forget when we struggle with spiritual points of view that The Lord has us engraved in the palm of His hand and our walls are ever before Him – He knows exactly what we are going through and has our wellbeing and future prosperity also in His hand. So how do we achieve spiritual maturity?

1 Peter 2:2 – "Desire the pure milk of the Word, that you may grow thereby."

The Word of God and The Writings teach that spiritual growth or regeneration is essential to our happiness and wellbeing. The Lord wants us to grow to maturity, to stand on our own two feet, to be strong and independent, to commit ourselves to Him, both as individuals and as an organisation - to decide for ourselves to defy hell and yet at the same time to question heaven ... to think about what is taught, to listen critically, and to be rational and responsible for our own spiritual destiny. That is mature commitment. Yes, we may differ but maturity can unite us in our differences and we can go forward in confidence and love. We are in changing times when Christianity is sometimes seen as a weakness rather than a strength – another appearance of The Truth. That is not to say other religions and for some no religion have their strengths, but that is not what we are about as a New Church Christian organisation. Truth is a duality with falsity so that we can choose between them and become truly human. This is the gift of redemption. We must have knowledge of, respect and to some extent embrace other religions but at our core we must remain New Church Christians in spirit and soul. I believe everyone here has the desire to be useful and serve to the full extent of their ability. To do this we cannot work via public opinion or what is socially acceptable at the time.

Matthew 4:4 – "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." "And He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you."

Just as the Lord spoke to the Jews through Ezekiel in the hope that they would change into responsible, thinking, sensitive and mature adults, so the Lord speaks to us, hoping that we will "grow up" and mature spiritually and begin to take responsibility for our own spiritual life. That, in the view of the Spiritual Leaders is one of the new ways forward for our General Conference of the New Church. Of course we must try new ventures but the truth is that for us a new way forward is to take responsibility for our own views and to show The Lord our own commitment.

In spiritual maturity people develop the commitment to do the things commanded in the Word. This is to act selflessly for the sake of others, to be useful. The New Church organisation has been led by people like that. Perhaps you today will feel you want to search your souls to see if you are willing to come forward to do the same – remember God is not interested in your ability – just your availability.

The Lord's promise is that as we become useful, His truth will become increasingly open and clear to us. That is the reward. We will be enlightened and see truth from the light of heaven. That way the Lord's commitment to us becomes clearer and our commitment to Him becomes deeper as His truth is engraved on our hearts. From the Word and the Writings we can face difficulties together. We can, and will, mature and see The Lord, your God and my God more clearly and more dearly. And we will hear Him. We are certain The Lord is committed to us, let's reflect upon and work upon our commitment to Him. *"See I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me"*.

Even if we believe that it makes no difference to the Lord whether we do some things He advised against, still we cannot just go ahead and do them to please ourselves; for we must bear the burden of being considerate of the doubts and fears of others – of those who feel these things are wrong.

I conclude with a quote from Romans 15 verses 3-6, a book which Swedenborg tells us is useful for the church. *"For even Christ did not please Himself but, as it is written 'The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me'. For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify God"* Amen

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

Monday 23rd July 2012

1 In accordance with Minute 53 of the last Annual Meeting, the Conference assembled, as arranged by the Council, at 3.30 p.m. at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, on Monday, 23rd July 2012.

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 Acting Chairman of the Council, Mr Michael Clubb, took the chair and welcomed Members to the 205th Annual Meeting of The General Conference of the New Church.

4 The Chairman announced that he had invited Mrs Enid Nicholls and Mrs Lynda Pierpoint 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:

COUNCIL

Acting Chairman	M Clubb
Members	J Z Brooks K M Brooks David Haseler Michael Hindley Judith M Wilson
Officer	Nigel K Sutton

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Mary Burnley
Jean Chambers
David R A Friend
G S Kuphal
Alan C Misson
Geoffrey Turner

MINISTERS

Spiritual Leader
Spiritual Leader

D Gaffney
G L Gordon
C Bank
H T Brown
Leslie Chambers
C Curry
M E Duckworth
J Dunion
Bruce R Jarvis
D A Lomax
Ian Russell
R M Russell
Michael W Stanley

AREA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

London and Southern
North-West (Manchester)
Yorkshire and North-East

B Brown
J Chadwick
Ian Johnson

SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

Bournemouth
Bradford
Brightlingsea
Burnley
Dalton
Derby
Taylor
Kearsley
Keighley
Kensington
West Wickham
Paisley
Seaburn Dene
Southend-on-Sea

L M Pierpoint, Stephen Thomas
J E Millar, Gwendolen Rowe
Frances Fisher, I Hindley
S Wilson
Jean Mrozek, W Richardson
Barbara J Bentley, G C Bentley, J

John E Ford, Samuel Kennion
Phillip Brooks, A E Clarkson
H W Turner
Ann Skinner, C V Skinner
J Alan Bowie
E Regan, E K Schofield
John Cunningham

SOCIETY VOTERS WHO ARE NOT REPRESENTATIVES

Bournemouth
Chester
Derby
Jones,

Marion P Curry
Rebecca M Jarratt
Betty Clubb, Jenny Jones, Stephen

Kearsley
Kensington
West Wickham
Seaburn Dene

Enid B Nicholls
Alison Presland, Margaret Presland
Susan Friend, Barry D Friend
M Misson, Lara Nicholls
T M Jarvis

CENTRAL REGISTER MEMBERS

Erica Cunningham
Richard Cunningham
Clive Goalen
Maeve Hawkins
Sally Ross
P M Russell
S Russell-Lacy
P M Wilson
C T Wilson

6 *Resolved:* That Mr Colin Skinner be appointed to superintend the order of business in co-operation with the Chairman and the Company Secretary.

7 *Resolved:* That Mr Gordon Kuphal, Mr David Friend and Mr Michael Hindley be a Committee to co-operate with the Chairman and the Company Secretary in revision of the Minutes; Secretary, Mr Kuphal.

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

9 *Resolved:* That the rules in Section G, regarding the Senior Minister, be suspended.

10 The Conference, having been informed that the Revd Christopher Jackson, Mrs Susan Blomfield and Mr Eric Yates 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.

11 The Company Secretary presented apologies from Mr Patrick and Mrs Hilda Johnson and Mrs Pauline Grimshaw 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 Robert Gill, the Revd Christopher and Mrs Joy Hasler, the Revd John and Mrs Jenny Sutton, Mrs Dorothy Margison, the Revd Helen Newton, and Mrs Madeleine Taylor.

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

12 The Revd David Lomax, the Revd Michael Stanley and Mr Stephen Russell-Lacy gave a presentation entitled 'Our Church in a Changing Culture'. Ten small groups then discussed the implications of four particular questions posed as part of the presentation.

13 A statement was made on behalf of the Ministers' Committee about Mrs Helen Newton's decision not to continue with her training for ordination as a New Church minister, and also about issues related to this decision.

14 An Extraordinary General Meeting was held at 7.45 p.m.

15 At 9.00 p.m. evening worship was conducted by Mr Phillip Brooks.

Tuesday 24th July 2012

16 The morning session was opened at 9.30 a.m. with a Family Holy Supper service conducted by the Revd Bruce Jarvis, assisted by the Revd Christine Bank. There were 79 communicants and 20 children.

17 The Revd Gillian Gordon delivered the keynote address based on the Conference theme contained in Isaiah 49: 16 – "See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me."

18 *Resolved:* That Mr Alan Misson, of the West Wickham Society, be appointed an Honorary Life Member of the Conference.

19 The Revd Mary Duckworth, the Revd Jack Dunion, the Revd David Gaffney, the Revd Bruce Jarvis and the Revd Michael Stanley formed an ‘Any Questions’ panel under the chairmanship of Mr Alan Misson.

20 The Revd Helen Brown presented a session entitled ‘Unity in Diversity and Any Answers’, which enabled discussion, in groups, and sharing of views and opinions on matters to do with both ordination and the impact of human sexuality on church ceremonies.

21 The Revd David Lomax presented a session entitled ‘Passion, Change and Values’ and discussion followed in small groups on both personal and organisational aspirations for the future of the Conference.

22 At 7.45 p.m. the following special interest groups were held in parallel:

- Spiritual Geography – Mr Alan Bowie,
- Meditation – Revd Helen Brown,
- Conjugal Love – Revd David Gaffney,
- The Annual Meeting of the New Church Children’s Society.

23 At 9.00 p.m. evening worship was conducted by the Revd David Gaffney.

Wednesday 25th July 2012

24 The morning session was opened at 9.30 a.m. with family worship conducted by the Revd Helen Brown.

25 The Revd Christine Bank presented the Report of the Ministers’ Committee.

26 *Resolved:* That the following are hereby declared to be the Ministers recognised 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	
* Leslie Chambers, B.A., Ph.D.	June 27,1956	
*# Ian Allan Arnold	June 30,1965	
*# John Maitland Sutton, B.Ag.Sc.	June 30,1970	
(served as an Ordaining Minister 1996 to 2001)		
* Michael William Stanley, M.Sc., Ph.D.	June 27,1971	
*# 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	
* Bruce Roger Jarvis	July 30,1985	
* Brian Mark Talbot, B.A.	July 26,1989	
* Geoffrey Clarkson, B.A.	July 26,1989	
David Andrew Lomax, B.A.	July 28,1994	
*# David Allan Moffat, B.Mus.	July 23,1997	
Gillian Lindsey Gordon	July 5,2000	
* Rita Mary Russell	July 25,2001	
David Edward Gaffney, B.Sc	July 29,2004	
Rebecca Esther Florence Byrne	Sept 18,2004	
Christine Anne Bank	July 31,2008	
Helen Thelma Brown	July 30,2009	
Jack Dunion	July 30,2009	

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
Tonia Jarvis	2012
Susan Wilson	2012

Lay Preachers recognised for service in Mauritius

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

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

- 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, Funerals and Marriages.
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.
Mrs Liz Regan – Holy Supper
Mrs Rebecca Jarratt – Holy Supper

29 *Resolved:* That the Report of the Ministers’ Committee be adopted.

30 Mr Nigel Sutton presented the Report of the Treasurer, assisted by Miss Sally Ross, Company Accountant.

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

32 Mr Michael Clubb presented the Report of the Council.

33 Mr Clubb announced that, following the resignation of Mr Nigel Sutton as Treasurer at the end of July, the Council had agreed that the role of Miss Sally Ross, MAAT, as Company Accountant, should be enhanced and that Mr Andrew Bentley, LLB, should be appointed as Finance Manager.

34 Mr Richard Cunningham was declared to be a member of the Council until 2015.

35 *Resolved:*

(a) That the existing Rule B6 be deleted and a new Rule B6 be adopted as follows: ‘Every Group in connection with the Conference shall be entitled to send to any General or Extraordinary General Meeting one representative.’

(b) That the existing Rule B7 be deleted and a new Rule B7 be adopted as follows:

‘Each Area Council shall be entitled to send to any General or Extraordinary General Meeting not more than two representatives of whom at least one shall preferably be a Member not actively associated with a Society.’

(c) That the existing Rule N3 be deleted and that the existing Rule N4 be renumbered N3.

(d) That from Rule J10 the words ‘shall be adopted by resolution at every Annual Meeting, and’ be deleted and the following words be added at the end ‘Any addition to the list, or removal from the list other than by reason of death, shall be made by resolution at the Annual Meeting.’

(e) That from Rule K4 the words ‘which shall be adopted by resolution at every Annual Meeting and shall be published in the Year Book.’ be deleted and that the following be substituted ‘and this list shall be printed in the Year Book. Any addition to the list, or removal from the list other than by reason of death, shall be made by resolution at the Annual Meeting.’

36 *Resolved:* That the body referred to in Article 29 appointed to conduct the business of Conference between the General Meetings of Conference shall be known as the Council.

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

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

39 Presentations were made by Miss Gwendolen Rowe and Ms Alison Presland about the work of the New Church Youth Association, ably assisted in a demonstration of modern Sunday School teaching methods by a number of the children.

40 Mr David Haseler and Ms J Zoë Brooks presented alternative views

on the possible introduction of a 'One Member One Vote' system within the Conference. An inconclusive discussion followed, and the topic was referred to the Council for consideration and reporting back to a future Annual Meeting.

41 Arising from questions raised during consideration of the Council Report earlier in the day, there was a discussion on the tensions between the ministerial needs of Societies and the calling of individuals to minister in alternative ways. The Council was invited to consider the wide spectrum of ideas expressed on this topic.

42 At 7.45 p.m. a social was held which included children's games and participative dancing.

43 At 9.45 p.m. evening worship was conducted by Mrs Rebecca Jarratt.

Thursday 26th July 2012

44 The morning session was opened at 9.30 a.m. with family worship conducted by the Revd Gillian Gordon.

45 A presentation on the work of SOLCe was made by the Revd David Lomax and Mrs Rebecca Jarratt, currently an ordination student, spoke of the ideas she had for her ministry following ordination.

46 Mrs Jan Millar made a presentation on the current work of the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry (CAM), during which the Revd Gillian Gordon, Spiritual Leader, presented certificates and medallions to Mrs Tonia Jarvis and Mrs Susan Wilson.

47 The Revd Helen Brown spoke of her work in developing workshops as part of her ministry, using examples from the succession of workshop material already in use.

48 Mrs Judith Wilson spoke about the Council's concerns regarding the future of the church organisation, in the light of the reducing numbers of older, experienced members currently undertaking the work, and made an appeal for younger volunteers to come forward.

49 At 2.30 p.m. the Conference Service was conducted by the Revd Jack Dunion in the Main Hall of the Hayes Conference Centre. His theme was based on the text contained in Isaiah 49: 16, “See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.”

The offertory for Conference funds amounted to £1,962.75 (inclusive of Gift Aid).

50 The Revd David Gaffney, Programme Director, Purley Chase Centre, reported on the very successful current situation at the Centre, including an update on the development plans to expand the social uses of the Centre.

51 Mrs Kathie Brooks introduced a session entitled ‘Thoughts on the future of the Church’, about the work of the Vision Team. She was assisted by Mrs Jan Millar, Mrs Judith Wilson, Mrs Cathy Mahmood and the Revd Jack Dunion. Information was provided about the new website, spiritualfriends.org.uk, which is designed to assist with the linking of separate New Church groups and individuals.

52 The Revd Clifford and Mrs Marion Curry made a short illustrated presentation about their recent visit to the New Church of Southern Africa.

53 At 7.45 p.m. the following special interest groups were held in parallel:

- Sacred Dance – Revd Rita Russell,
- Who do you think you are? – Revd Michael Stanley,
- Historical Society Annual General Meeting.

Friday 27th July

54 Mr Stephen Jones spoke about the events involving young people in the past 12 months, supported by Mrs Lara Nicholls, who reported on All-Age days at Kensington and Bournemouth. More All-Age days and similar activities are being planned for the coming year, but more adult volunteers are needed to support young people’s activities.

55 It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent from Conference to Mr Andrew Leather for his work over many years in connection with

summer camps for young people.

56 The children, under the guidance of their leaders, presented the work they had done over the period of the Conference.

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

58 *Resolved:* That, in accordance with the Council's proposal, the 206th Annual Meeting be held at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, starting on Tuesday, 23rd July 2013.

59 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be conveyed to all those responsible for making arrangements for the Meeting, in particular Mr John Ford (the Conference Organiser); Mrs Margaret Presland and Mrs Isabel Hindley (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 and Mrs Lynda Pierpoint for acting as the Credentials Committee; Mr Michael Clubb, Mrs Edith Schofield and Mr David Friend for arrangements for the Holy Supper service; Mrs Marion Curry (Music Director) the musicians and the choir; and Mrs Erica Cunningham for the beautiful floral arrangements, in memory of our dear friend Peter Schofield.

60 *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.

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

62 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be accorded to Ms Zoë Brooks for her work behind the scenes and in coordinating the smooth running of the annual meeting.

63 *Resolved:* That the thanks of the Conference be accorded to Mr Nigel Sutton for his years of service as Treasurer.

63 The session concluded with the Acting Chairman's closing remarks.

64 At 12 noon a closing service of family worship was conducted by the Revd Mary Duckworth.

65 The Minutes of this Annual Meeting were verified.

66 The Annual Meeting closed at 3:35 p.m.

Signed

Michael Clubb
Acting Chairman

J Z Brooks
Company Secretary

G S Kuphal
Secretary, Minutes Committee

David R A Friend
Minutes Committee

Michael Hindley
Minutes Committee

John E Ford, Enid B Nicholls.

**MINUTES OF AN
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING
OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH**

1) The meeting, duly convened by the Governing Council, was held at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire on Monday 23rd July at 7.45pm.

2) Mr Michael Hindley took the chair and Mrs Judith Wilson acted as Vice-chairman.

3) After the Company Secretary, Ms J Zoë Brooks, had explained the purpose of the Special Resolutions and had informed the Conference that all the necessary formalities had been complied with, she moved the following five Special Resolutions: -

That the provisions of the Company's Articles of Association be altered by making the following amendments: -

4) **Special Resolution Number One**

Article 2

That from 'BNCF' to the end be deleted.

5) The Resolution was seconded and carried as a Special Resolution.

6) **Special Resolution Number Two**

Articles 2 and 29

Article 2

That the words 'Governing Council referred to in Article 29' be deleted and the following be substituted 'body referred to in Article 29 appointed to conduct the business of Conference between the General Meetings of Conference and such Council shall be known by such name or title as the General Conference in General Meeting may from time to time determine' and that at the end of the Article the following two definitions be added "'Company Secretary" shall mean any officer by whatever title he or she is known whose duties include those of Company Secretary. "Treasurer" shall mean the person appointed by the Council, by whatever title he or she is known, who is responsible for ensuring that all accounting and financial obligations are met.'

Article 29

That the word 'Governing' be deleted from the title and from the first sentence.

7) The Resolution was seconded and carried as a Special Resolution.

8) **Special Resolution Number Three**

Articles 10, 11, 12 and 14

Article 10

That after ‘The Representatives of any Society’ the words ‘or Group’ be inserted.

Article 11

That (c) ‘the Chief Executive of the General Conference’ be amended to ‘the Company Secretary’ and that ‘the Council Secretary’ be inserted as (d).

That the existing Articles 11(d) to (h) be renumbered (e) to (i) and that in the new Article (h) the reference to Article (f) be amended to (g).

That the existing Article (i) be deleted.

That a new Article (j) ‘the Representatives of Groups’ be inserted and the existing Article (j) be renumbered Article (k).

Article 12

That in sentences one and three the words ‘and Groups’ be added after ‘Societies’ and that the words ‘and each Group may appoint one Representative.’ be added at the end.

Article 14

That the second word ‘any’ be deleted and ‘a’ be substituted.

That on the three occasions the word ‘or’ occurs before ‘Area Council’ it be deleted and that the words ‘or Group’ be added after ‘Area Council’.

9) The Resolution was seconded and carried as a Special Resolution.

10) **Special Resolution Number Four**

Articles 31 and 32

Article 31

That the notations ‘(a)’ and ‘(b)’ be deleted and that from ‘may employ’ in the first sentence to ‘hold office’ in the final sentence be deleted and the following substituted ‘shall appoint a Company Secretary and a Treasurer, and may appoint such ministerial representatives and such other paid or unpaid staff, advisers or agents as it deems necessary. The Council may require any of those appointed to attend the meetings of the Council but without the right to vote. All such persons appointed shall hold office indefinitely or’.

Article 32

That the words ‘the Senior Minister, the Chief Executive, the Treasurer, the

Secretary or any other officer' be deleted and that the words 'any officer' be substituted.

That the words 'in accordance with the terms of their contract of employment' be deleted and the words 'provided there is no violation of their terms of contract' be substituted.

11) The Resolution was seconded and carried as a Special Resolution.

12) Special Resolution Number Five

Articles 40 to 48

Article 40

That this Article be deleted.

Article 42

That the words 'The Treasurer of the General Conference' be deleted and replaced by the words 'an officer duly appointed by the Council'.

Articles 41 to 48

That these Articles be renumbered 40 to 47.

13) The Resolution was seconded and carried as a Special Resolution.

14) Special Resolution Number Six

Articles 5, 6, 13, 19, 23, 25, 27 and 39

That in Articles 5, 6, 13, 19, 23 (twice), 25, 27 and 39 (twice) the words 'Chief Executive' be deleted and replaced by the words 'Company Secretary'.

15) The Resolution was seconded and carried as a Special Resolution.

16) The Extraordinary General Meeting was closed at 8 p.m.

Michael Hindley, Chairman

J Zoë Brooks, Company Secretary

Gordon S Kuphal, Secretary, Minutes Committee

David R A Friend, Minutes Committee

Michael Clubb, Acting Chairman of the Council

John E Ford, Enid B Nicholls.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL – YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2012

SECTION 1 – CENTRAL TOPICS

1 MEMBERSHIP

1.1 The Council held five meetings during the year, including one short meeting before the Annual Meeting, with the following attendances:

Old Structure

Chairman:	Mr D H Sharrock	2	
Vice-Chairman:	Mr M Clubb	2	
Trustees:	Mrs K Brooks	2	
	Ms J Z Brooks		2
	Mr M D Haseler	2	
	Mrs J M Wilson	2	

In attendance were:

Chief Executive:	Mr MJ Hindley	2	
Treasurer:	Mr NK Sutton	1	[possible]
CoM Secretary:	Revd C Bank	2	
Spiritual Leader:	Revd D E Gaffney	2	

New Volunteering Structure

Acting Chairman:	Mr M Clubb	3	
Trustees:	Mrs K Brooks	3	
	Ms J Z Brooks	3	
	(Also Company Secretary)		
	Mr M D Haseler	3	
	Mr M J Hindley	3	
	(Also Council Secretary)		
	Mrs J M Wilson	3	

In attendance were:

of 3	Treasurer:	Mr N K Sutton	2 (plus part
	CoM Secretary:	Revd C Bank	3
	Spiritual Leader:	Revd D E Gaffney	3

Miss S G Ross attended parts of some meetings in her role as Company Accountant. Mr Richard Cunningham, a prospective Council Member, also attended most of the March meeting.

1.2 The Council records its appreciation to Mr M Clubb for service as Acting Chairman for the year. Mr Clubb said from the outset that he was only prepared to fill this office for one year. A new Chairman is therefore sought to succeed him.

The Council is also appreciative of the service of Mrs K Brooks who is not seeking re-election.

The period of office of the remaining members of the Council are: Mr Michael Clubb [Vice-Chairman] until 2013; Ms Zoë Brooks until 2014; Mr Michael Hindley until 2014; Mr David Haseler until 2013 and Mrs Judith Wilson until 2013.

1.3 At the Conference last year only three of the four possible Trustees were appointed and subsequently the Council has been one member short for a third year. This year therefore, in addition to the Chairman, it is possible to appoint two Trustees for a period of three years, despite the fact that only one is retiring.

2 GENERAL REVIEW

The Council was ever mindful of the request for more support for young families and of the resolution at the 2011 AGM that it consider the sponsorship of ordination students and the employment of ministers as a priority. At its September meeting it accordingly decided to sponsor Helen Newton for her final year of training as a minister. Unfortunately the anticipated New Church ordination of Mrs Newton will not now take place. Mrs Newton attended the November Council meeting on the Tuesday afternoon, when it was agreed that the sponsorship would come to an end when she completed the SOLCe module she was studying. Her expression of a willingness to help with areas of New Church work where she could be useful and of her continued commitment to New Church teachings provided some comfort in this difficult situation. The Council wished her every success in her Interfaith ministry.

The Council feels that we are now in a position to sponsor an ordination student but that it must take care to attract someone whose calling is in line with the services that members feel a minister should provide. The Council recognises that whilst there is a need to support existing churches they must

also consider new areas where potential new ministers might wish to put their energies. Accordingly this will be debated at Conference.

The Council is also looking at the possibility of engaging a Youth Worker to satisfy the need expressed by young families.

In order to encourage teenagers to attend Conference the Council agreed that Mrs Jenny Jones be authorised to invite 16-19 year olds to attend Conference 2012 as a free event. We are pleased to report that two young people have taken us up on this offer.

The working of the Revd Gillian Gordon and the Revd David Gaffney in a dual leadership role as Spiritual Leaders since July 2011 has progressed well. However, thought needs to be given to the position from July 2013, as the joint leadership offer was for a period of two years only.

The Council wishes to record its appreciation of the work of Mr Michael Hindley as Chief Executive for the final period until his retirement in July 2011.

3 LINK MEMBERS

The link membership has been amended. It was decided that the Treasurer would become the Finance Link as it was necessary to have access to the Counciling records to be effective in this role. Details of the links between Counciling members and the Ministry are:

Churches and CAM	Mrs K Brooks and Revd C Bank
Web Development,	
Communication and Youth	Mrs K Brooks and Revd J Dunion
Purley Chase	Mr D Haseler and Revd D Gaffney
Finance	Mr N Sutton and Revd C Curry
Human Resources	Mrs J Wilson and Revd G Gordon
Training and Development	Mrs J Wilson and Revd D Lomax

In addition Mrs J Wilson links with Mrs J Jones on working with Youth.

4 STAFF & REMUNERATION

In 2011/12 the total of stipends, telephone and broadband, paid to ministers was £125,244. In addition one worked as a non-stipendiary minister until July 2011 and one worked as a non-stipendiary minister throughout the year. In the same year the total of salaries, wages, telephone and broadband paid to lay employees was £159,065. These figures include people employed for part of the year.

The Council approved a 1.75% increase from 1 April 2012 for all employees, except those paid hourly, to be in line with the Average Weekly Earnings index.

5 VISION TEAM

The team comprising Revds Catherine Lauber, David Gaffney and Jack Dunion and Mrs Kathie Brooks and Mr David Haseler lost two members during the year, as Mr Haseler resigned in May and the Revd Catherine Lauber returned to Canada in September.

At their May meeting the (Governing) Council discussed at length the Team's proposed new name and structure for the said body. It was generally agreed that time should be allowed for the new volunteer body to become established before trying to alter the structure. It was subsequently agreed that 'Governing' be dropped and that we should be known simply as the Council.

6 MINISTRY

Non-Stipendiary Ministry

The Council again wishes to record its appreciation of the generosity of the Revd Mary Duckworth who worked as a non-stipendiary minister until Conference 2011 and the Revd Clifford Curry who continues as a non-stipendiary minister. Their voluntary work has helped considerably in improving the Conference financial position.

Revd Catherine Lauber

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

7 MILEAGE RATE

In the Budget the mileage rate was not increased from 45 pence per mile for the first 10,000 miles and the Council approved rate therefore remains at this level.

8 VOLUNTEERS – THE NEW STRUCTURE

Following the retirement of the Chief Executive at Conference 2011 his work was divided amongst a number of volunteers. A full list of volunteers now working for Conference as a result is given below.

Council Secretary	Michael Hindley
Council Recorder	Marion Curry
Conference Organiser	John Ford
Conference Bookings Secretaries	Margaret Presland
	Isabel Hindley

Conference Programme Secretary	Jan Millar
Company Secretary	Zoe Brooks
Treasurer	Nigel Sutton
Assistant Treasurer, Pensions and Insurance	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
Child Protection	Judith Wilson
Magazine Ordering	Marion Curry

Action is being taken to reduce the work of volunteers wherever possible. As part of this initiative some statistical returns and other forms are being scrapped or revised and some amendment to Rules is being proposed.

It has been recognised by the Council that the Council Secretary, Company Secretary and Treasurer are key roles and that the Council needs to be kept up to date with significant and vital information held by these individuals and that it also needs to ensure that arrangements are in place to cover emergencies. The Council has also decided that these three appointments should be reviewed annually.

The new structure appears to be working surprisingly well. People are sometimes in doubt as to whether they should contact the Council Secretary or the Company Secretary but the two officers are regularly in touch and have managed to decide who does what between them.

The Council wishes to express its gratitude to all those who have taken on voluntary roles.

9 CHILD PROTECTION

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

10 SOCIETIES

Birmingham

As the exciting new plans for Birmingham unfortunately came to nothing because the main non-New Church organisation involved withdrew, the Birmingham Society decided at an EGM in February 2011 to convert to a Group and give up its premises. Subsequently the formation of a Group has not materialised

Blackpool

The Blackpool Society decided at the end of June to convert to a Group. The Council agreed to support the Group in fulfilling its wish to attend other New Churches for services.

Heywood and Morecambe Bay Groups

The Council is saddened by having to report that these two Groups are no longer functioning.

11 CONFERENCE PROPERTIES

Domestic

The bungalow 45 Minehead Avenue was sold in June for £122,000. Conference's interest in 6 Park Avenue, Seaburn, Sunderland was disposed of in December 2011.

The purchase of 6 Atwater Court, Lenham, Kent was completed in March for £305,000.

The house at 112 Kensington Road, Southend-on-Sea has been sold, subject to contract, for £225,000 and the bungalow at 14 Riverside Lane, Tuckton, Bournemouth is in the process of being sold.

Churches and Other Buildings

The former Heywood church was not in a good state of repair and we were fortunate in that the nursery that rented part of it was an eager purchaser. The sale, for £160,000, was completed on 13 February 2012. An overage clause is included in the contract.

The Council had for some time been concerned about the lack of a purchaser for either Besses or the Rhodes site, particularly as Besses had already suffered one act of vandalism. Following a comprehensive review by the selling agent it was decided to offer these properties for sale by auction. There

was no great interest in either property prior to the auction and as a result the auctioneer recommended reserves of £140,000 for Rhodes and £150,000 for Besses. In the event, Rhodes was sold in the room for £139,000 (the auctioneer having used his discretion) but the only offer for Besses was £145,000, so this was not sold. The agent subsequently attempted to negotiate a sale with the person who had bid £145,000 but this was not successful as he appeared to have lost interest after the auction. The Council therefore entered the property in the next auction in September with a reserve of £140,000. Unfortunately there were no viewings prior to the auction and the property again remained unsold. A local community team is eager to acquire Besses as a community centre but at present does not have the funding to purchase the property. However, they feel that if the centre were up and running they would be able to get funding. The Council is concerned about the risk of further vandalism if the property remains empty and is proposing to let the church to this group at a peppercorn rent for six months in the hope that they will then be in a position to buy it.

Garages in Birmingham were sold on 14 February for £4,000. Oaklands itself is being sold for £425,000 and it is hoped to complete this sale by the end of May.

Another church organisation showed an interest in purchasing the church at Blackpool but decided not to proceed, so this property is now in the hands of an estate agent, with an asking price of £130,000.

General

Difficulties have been experienced with some property transactions because of the properties being on unregistered land. Our solicitors have therefore been asked to put in place a programme to register all Conference land.

12 MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE

Since the last Annual Meeting Mr Eric Yates, Mrs Suzzie (Susan) Blomfield and the Revd Christopher Jackson have passed into the spiritual world. Memorial notices are being circulated with the proof reports.

13 ARTICLES AND RULES

As mentioned in last year's report the Council is working on simplification. It has concentrated on the Articles this year, with only a few urgent changes to the Rules. The Rules Committee is charged with making a comprehensive revue of the rules next year, in conjunction with our solicitors. The idea is to reduce the number of Rules substantially.

14 NOMINATIONS AND PROPOSED ARTICLE AND RULE CHANGES

a) Nominations

The Council propose:

that Mr Alan Misson be appointed an Honorary Life Member of Conference; and

that Messrs BW Business Services Ltd of Derby be re-appointed auditors for the Conference.

b) Articles

The following Special Resolutions will be moved by the Council at the EGM in order to effect amendments to the Company's Articles of Association. Attention is drawn to the fact that the Companies Acts require that Special Resolutions at EGM's cannot be amended but can only be passed in their entirety or rejected.

Special Resolution Number One

Article 2

That from 'BNCF' to the end be deleted.

Special Resolution Number Two

Articles 2 and 29

Article 2

That the words 'Governing Council referred to in Article 29' be deleted and the following be substituted 'body referred to in Article 29 appointed to conduct the business of Conference between the General Meetings of Conference and such Council shall be known by such name or title as the General Conference in General Meeting may from time to time determine' and that at the end of the Article the following two definitions be added "Company Secretary" shall mean any officer by whatever title he or she is known whose duties include those of Company Secretary. "Treasurer" shall mean the person appointed by the Council, by whatever title he or she is known, who is responsible for ensuring that all accounting and financial obligations are met.'

Article 29

That the word 'Governing' be deleted from the title and from the first sentence

Special Resolution Number Three

Articles 10, 11, 12 and 14

Article 10

That after ‘The Representatives of any Society’ the words ‘or Group’ be inserted.

Article 11

That (c) ‘the Chief Executive of the General Conference’ be amended to ‘the Company Secretary’ and that ‘the Council Secretary’ be inserted as (d).

That the existing Articles 11(d) to (h) be renumbered (e) to (i) and that in the new Article (h) the reference to Article (f) be amended to (g).

That the existing Article (i) be deleted.

That a new Article (j) ‘the Representatives of Groups’ be inserted and the existing Article (j) be renumbered Article (k).

Article 12

That in sentences one and three the words ‘and Groups’ be added after ‘Societies’ and that the words ‘and each Group may appoint one Representative.’ be added at the end.

Article 14

That the second word ‘any’ be deleted and ‘a’ be substituted.

That on the three occasions the word ‘or’ occurs before ‘Area Council’ it be deleted and that the words ‘or Group’ be added after ‘Area Council’.

Special Resolution Number Four

Articles 31 and 32

Article 31

That the notations ‘(a)’ and ‘(b)’ be deleted and that from ‘may employ’ in the second sentence to ‘hold office’ in the final sentence be deleted and the following substituted ‘shall appoint a Company Secretary and a Treasurer, and may appoint such ministerial representatives and such other paid or unpaid staff, advisers or agents as it deems necessary. The Council may require any of those appointed to attend the meetings of the Council but without the right to vote. All such persons appointed shall hold office indefinitely or’.

Article 32

That the words ‘the Senior Minister, the Chief Executive, the Treasurer, the Secretary or any other officer’ be deleted and that the words ‘any officer’ be substituted.

That the words ‘in accordance with the terms of their contract of employment’ be deleted and the words ‘provided there is no violation of their terms of contract’ be substituted.

Special Resolution Number Five

Articles 40 to 48

Article 40

That this Article be deleted.

Article 42

That the words ‘The Treasurer of the General Conference’ be deleted and replaced by the words ‘an officer duly appointed by the Council’.

Articles 41 to 48

That these Articles be renumbered 40 to 47.

Special Resolution Number Six

Articles 5, 6, 13, 19, 23, 25, 27 and 39

That in Articles 5, 6, 13, 19, 23 (twice), 25, 27 and 39 (twice) the words ‘Chief Executive’ be deleted and replaced by the words ‘Company Secretary’.

c) Rules

The following rule changes will be moved by the Council at the AGM 2012:

1) That the existing Rule B6 be deleted and a new Rule B6 be adopted as follows: ‘Every Group in connection with the Conference shall be entitled to send to any General or Extraordinary General Meeting one representative.’

2) That the existing Rule B7 be deleted and a new Rule B7 be adopted as follows:

‘Each Area Council shall be entitled to send to any General or Extraordinary General meeting not more than two representatives of whom at least one shall preferably be a Member not actively associated with a Society.’

3) That the existing Rule N3 be deleted.

4) That from Rule J10 the words ‘shall be adopted by resolution at every Annual Meeting, and’ be deleted and the following words be added at the end ‘Any addition to the list, or removal from the list other than by reason of death, shall be made by resolution at the Annual Meeting.’

5) That from Rule K4 the words ‘which shall be adopted by resolution at every Annual Meeting and shall be published in the Year Book.’ be deleted and that the following be substituted ‘and this list shall be printed in the Year Book. Any addition to the list, or removal from the list other than by reason of death, shall be made by resolution at the Annual Meeting.’

Also, provided that the proposed new Article 2 is adopted, the (Governing) Council will formally move that it now be known as the Council.

15 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	Light on human happiness

16 WEB PRESENCE

(Mrs Cathy Mahmood reports)

A Website meeting was held at Purley Chase on 16 March 2012 at which Cathy Mahmood and Leonie Winson discussed the aims and functionality of the new website with a core group of webmasters and ministers. Leonie was appointed as freelance web designer, following a tendering process, in Jan 2012. Collectively we chose a domain name: www.spiritualfriends.org.uk - which reflects our aim to connect people, create a hub for promoting communication and friendship, and sharing resources and ideas. The site will initially enable existing members of the church to login, create a profile and invite others to join. Training sessions are being planned for May and June 2012. The site will be a dynamic interactive site, with a broad appeal, signposting people to other websites (connected to the Church or Swedenborg) from the home page as well as offering new ways for people to talk, using forums and groups, find out about events, download resources and watch videos.

17 MARKETING & RESOURCES GROUP

(The Chairman, Stephen Russell-Lacy, reports)

The seven person strong Group meets twice a year, works on projects between meetings and is supported by others via email. It aims to produce, commission, sponsor and encourage the production of marketable materials that help to effectively communicate our teachings.

Guardian Angels Video

One thing it has done is to sponsor the creation of a short video *Guardian Angels* scripted by Revd. Helen Brown. This video shows two young women conversing on a park bench and how angel voices in the head can provide a better alternative to baser thoughts in one's conscious mind. Now the video is being effectively used in *Walking the Angel Way* workshops. Personal dramatisation is seen as more effective than a 'talking head'. It can be viewed at <http://spiritualquestions.org.uk/2012/02/how-guardian-angels-help/>

Spiritual Wisdom Publications

The big idea this year is to develop electronic publishing and we feel we are beginning to get to grips with this totally new field. The main advantages are those of ease of production and distribution both in terms of cost and time but also the opportunity for a wider reach for our books, courses, videos, and leaflets. We want to develop an e-shop for Conference.

Spiritual Questions Internet magazine

The Group have commissioned www.spiritualquestions.org.uk which has been gradually building its audience base over the last 20 months. It is a website aimed mainly at those outside organised religion interested in deeper questions of life. The editor is Stephen Russell-Lacy who also writes most of the material. He tries to respond to questions people ask rather than to what they ought to be asking. The content of the site thus explores issues to do with for example ethics, human consciousness, and the meaning of life. There is an attempt to show links between ideas in psychology, spiritual healing, and Swedenborg's writings. One main article per week is provided together with the opportunity for people to feedback their responses which are shown. Subscribers receive a weekly Bulletin of links to new articles and new comments by readers.

Impact 365

We have sponsored one person to attend Impact 365 in Michigan organised by the General Church which was attended by over 80 people lasting three days.

The event raised questions about the nature of outreach, the decline of traditional church and the way to develop a shared alternative vision, the use of social media in contemporary culture, and the world-wide reach and thus potential for sharing of web-based resources and activity.

Outlook

Our financial support for Outlook is continuing.

18 OVERSEAS

(The Revd Norman Ryder, Overseas Secretary, reports.)

South Africa The New Church of Southern Africa suffered a great blow when their Secretary General, the Revd Eddie Gologolo, died suddenly on 20th May 2011. The message of sympathy which I sent was read during his Funeral Service. So far I have not been told who was appointed in his place during his Church's Annual Conference last December.

The President of NCSA, the Most Revd Henry T Kalo, has written to me twice, with thanks for the books and booklets which I have been able to send to Ministers in South Africa. He is now working from home in Beaufort West, The Cape, rather than in Orlando East, because of health problems.

Individual Ministers have asked for guidance on matters of church government, ministerial vestments and doctrinal topics. They express their thanks in graphic ways, such as one of them now referring to me as his "father".

At Chester Society's annual charities fair I was able to raise £104 towards the cost of sending books to Ministers in South Africa. I express my appreciation for the large number of books, Sunday School teaching publications, and missionary material made available to me from the stocks held at New Church House, Manchester, from Oaklands Society in Birmingham and from individual Church members.

Nigeria The Revd Joseph Ogun Ogunbodede, Principal Emeritus of New Church College in Owo, has published the 2012 edition of his "Christian Guide", and I have distributed copies to people likely to use them in Britain, Netherlands, and America.

The Most Revd Lawrence Wariboko, leader of The New Church Organisation in West Africa (Nigeria), has not replied to my letters of greeting for his Church's Annual Conference held in December 2011 and at other times during the year.

Individual Ministers have sent thanks for the New Church books and missionary publications which I have been able to send to them. Their pleas for me not to become ill or to die yet are most touching.

Europe I have maintained contacts with The Revd Gudmund Boolsen in Copenhagen (who has published volume 8 of his Danish translation of “Arcana Coelestia”), Miss Lenka Máčková in the Czech Republic (who continues her lone missionary translation work with the support of Swedenborg Publishers International), Svetlana Manayenkova and her friends in the Swedenborg Society of the Ukraine, and Ministers in Sweden and Switzerland. A new contact is with a young couple in Italy who have embarked on the translation of Swedenborg’s books and their publication on the internet.

Asia So far I have had no reply from a new enquirer in Malaysia who has sent to the Swedenborg Society a copy of her book arguing New Church doctrinal ideas against Darwinian views of creation. Officers of The New Church of Pakistan have not responded to my messages during the past year. We have had no contact with New Church members in Burma since 1995, but I hope and pray that the changing political situation there will result in any survivors resuming communication with us.

South America Readers of the Swedenborg Society’s newsletter “Things Heard and Seen” dated Spring 2011 may recall an article about the life and work of Edward Brayley Hodgetts (1859-1932). So far I have drawn a blank in response to a request to a man in Brazil for a photograph of this former member of New Church Societies in Argyle Square and Kensington.

19 KILDWICK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

(Keith Sandiford, the Secretary, reports)

Prior to our usual Easter opening we had to face problems caused by the very severe winter. Even though the hot and cold water systems had been drained there had been a number of bursts in the washrooms as a result of residual water in the pipes freezing. The bursts only became apparent when the water was turned on again. Repair work had to be carried out and drain taps installed to prevent any future repetition. This was expensive, over £400. This was in addition to the planned work and the replacement of the second gas heater in the common room. Fortunately the cost of £567 for the heater was met by the Friends of Kildwick.

The season, with one exception, has been quite successful. Bookings have

followed much the same pattern as previous years. There was a well-attended Discussion Day and also groups from Radcliffe, Kearsley and Derby. The total number of bookings was similar to last year but the number of days in use was less, 27 for 86 days compared with 29 for 103. They consisted of 20 church bookings for 71 days (24 for 95 days in 2010) and 7 outside groups for 15 days, which was exactly the same as last year. Unfortunately one of the outside parties caused damage to an internal door and fire extinguisher. However, they did pay for all the necessary repairs.

We have continued to keep the premises in good condition with an annual programme of routine maintenance and improvements. Also during the year the heater in the dining room has had a major repair, a number of floorboards in the common room have been replaced and the large privet hedge has been cut. The work on the hedge was paid for by the Friends of Kildwick. There is work that needs to be carried out in the close season apart from the usual redecoration etc. The main problem is the drain from the kitchen which is not flowing freely and this needs to be dealt with as a matter of urgency. There is an ongoing problem with moles: we are now on our third mole and its activities need to be curbed.

Thanks are again due to the small group of people who make it possible for the Centre to continue in existence.

20 EDWARD JEGGINS TRUST

(Mrs Deborah Mullock, the Secretary, reports)

As a matter of courtesy the Trustees report that they received no requests for grants during the past year. The Trustees remind Society officers that the Trust can make grants towards the cost of maintenance of their Church premises, and that to neglect such work when it is necessary is often a false economy – a grant from the Trust can be like a “stitch in time”.

21 BROADFIELD MEMORIAL BENEVOLENT FUND

(Ray Pulsford, the Treasurer/Secretary, reports)

Demands on the Fund have increased but income has not, which means that, regretfully, many individual grants have had to be reduced.

Donations totalling £16,000 have been received, which together with CIF dividends, gave an income of £16,358 compared with £16,415 last year.

Grants totalling £17,025 have been distributed to ministers and pensioners compared with £16,560 last year.

A balance of £391.97 was in hand on 31st March 2012 compared with £1,068.86 the previous year, an excess of expenditure over income of £676.89.

22 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PURLEY MANAGEMENT TEAM 2011 – 2012

(Michael Clubb, Chairman, and David Haseler, Secretary, report)

1 THE TEAM

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

The Team continues to be supported by the competent housekeeping and catering team of Sue Earp, Stella Stephenson and Chris Ross. We have been joined this year by Dawn Scaife.

2 EVENTS

Growth in the usage of Purley continues with increases in the three categories of Conference, General Church and outside events. We were pleased to welcome several groups for the first time.

Though advertising continues, with more emphasis on contacts through the internet, personal recommendation continues to be the major reason for new people and groups coming to Purley. Many outside groups make repeat bookings and this is a reflection of the attractive facilities, a welcoming atmosphere, good cooking and competitive charges.

Purley is becoming well known in the surrounding area, with an increasing number of people dropping in for refreshments or even staying for bed-and-breakfast. There continue to be bookings for meals by local groups, particularly before Christmas, with a total of 456 attending during the year.

There have been 3066 person-nights at overnight events with 828 attendees; some of these will have come to several events. 1111 person-nights, 36% of the total, were at 20 Conference events.

The monthly Sunday morning service continues with a small core of regular attendees supplemented by occasional visitors and one or two local people.

The Team recognises the time-pressures on David Gaffney since his appointment as a Spiritual Leader, and is concerned that these should not

reduce significantly his input into the Purley project. There is also a concern that it is becoming more difficult to find people within the church who are willing to lead and teach at Conference events; there is a need for new approaches and ideas.

3 FINANCE

Income from accommodation increased by 30% to £138.1K, mainly as the result of large increases in income from General Church and outside groups. There was also an encouraging increase in donations of 37% including a few for significant amounts. Two thirds of donations were gift-aided.

Costs were generally under control though there was an increase in wages to reflect the increased usage of Purley. The deficit for the year reduced from £29.9K to an encouraging £10.2K, a decrease of 66%.

The turnover is now close to the VAT threshold and this will be monitored and controlled to ensure that the limit is not exceeded.

4 BUILDING AND GROUNDS

(a) General

The chimney stacks have been repaired, the gables in the old building have been repaired and painted, and the valleys have been cleaned.

The Team has proposed to the Council that a conservatory be built outside the Bar to improve the facilities, to make the Centre more attractive to groups and to make it easier to hold two disparate events at the same time.

The Team is grateful to the former Oaklands Society for the donation of several items of furniture.

(b) Grounds

A small orchard has been planted in the meadow so that visitors will benefit from both seeing the blossom and eating the fruit.

David Gaffney and friends have started laying the hedge along the field-boundary.

5 MISCELLANEOUS

A second-hand estate car in excellent condition has been bought for the exclusive use of the Centre for carrying goods and for transporting people. This obviates the wear and tear incurred by the cars owned by the Gaffneys. Loss-of-business insurance cover has been taken out.

6 THANKS

The Team wishes to thank our reliable and hard-working staff who ensure that the Centre is always clean and welcoming for visitors and so contribute to the attractiveness of the Centre. There are many volunteers, mainly from the church but also from the neighbourhood, who help in many different ways to maintain the grounds and the building, and the Team is grateful to them for their support.

The Team particularly wishes to thank Anne and David Gaffney, who are continually trying to reach out to attract new people and who take every opportunity to explain our teachings to visitors as well as ensuring the smooth running of the Centre. They are capably assisted by Sally Ross who helps to reduce costs and to find new ways of attracting people to the Centre as well as carrying out competently her routine work.

23 FAMILIES

(Mrs Jenny Jones reports)

The two weekends held at Purley Chase for families have continued to be very popular over the last year. Families of all shapes and sizes attend and the children's ages range from babies to teenagers.

We continue to be lucky to have a wonderful group of volunteers who return each year to care for and teach the children and young people. However, we would love to welcome new faces to our team to alleviate the pressure so if anyone feels able to help please don't hesitate to get in touch. We continue to choose a theme each weekend that every age group can study at their own level.

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 this year been extended to all young people aged 16 and over. We are pleased that three young people have chosen to come and hope that more may consider joining us in the future. It has been hard this year, however, to find volunteers to lead the children's groups. If this continues to be the case it may be difficult to continue to invite families to attend Conference.

All Age Gatherings have continued to take place at different churches in the North of England during the year. The four dates were advertised in September and have followed the theme of the Seasons. Unfortunately the days have not been as well attended as they were last year. This has led to

discussions on whether to continue running the days and how many should be run. It is intended that all families who have attended at any time be asked for their opinions so that a decision can be made about the best way to move forward. It is likely at the moment that two events will be held next year instead of four.

A successful All Age Gathering was held in April at Bournemouth New Church. This was well attended by 47 adults and children from the Bournemouth and West Wickham New Churches as well as other families from the area. The adults were led in a Bible reflection while the children, with adult support, did a variety of activities involving touch – clay modelling, playing with cornflour and then some flubber (which was enjoyed by both children and adults alike!), hand-printing leaves on a tree and on a large piece of paper, writing our names next to it. Making beautiful cards was a very popular activity as was making cookies and the topping for an apple crumble. The day also included worship at the start and end of the day, a delicious shared lunch, team games and drama prepared by the older children. It is hoped that another All Age Day will take place next year. Many thanks to Lara Nicholls for organising this event.

A three day Easter Rally again took place at SOLCE in April for young people aged 13 and over. This was attended by eleven young people and was run by Jenny and Steve Jones and Rev Jack Dunion. A fantastic time was had by everyone and the teenagers requested “more” events for this age group in their feedback. The possibility of holding an outdoor pursuits weekend for 16 and over was also discussed and the young people are very keen for this to take place.

24 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(The Treasurer, Nigel Sutton, reports on the Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended March 31st 2012 and the Balance Sheet as at that date, subject to audit.)

Operational Summary;

A very satisfactory result has been achieved for the year, with an operational surplus of over £25,000, and being £5,000 better than the forecast last year.

Income

The two key categories of income, namely Society Contributions and Investment Income increased over the year by a total of £15,000 with the income from investments more than compensating for a reduction of £10,000 in contributions from societies. In spite of the effects of the recession, it is

encouraging that we have been able to pay an overall dividend of 23.75p per unit for the year, to unit holders in the Common Investment Fund.

Expenditure

This year has seen a 13% reduction in the cost of Human Resources, which is by far the main contributory factor in the overall surplus.

This was also significantly helped by the lowest net cost of £10,000 at Purley Chase, probably ever. A summary statement will be included in 'Notes to the Accounts'.

Financial Future Forecast.

A further surplus is forecast for the next year which should not be less than this year's.

Working Capital at the beginning of the year was in the region of £3.6 million and primarily as a result of further property sales during the ensuing year will probably increase by a minimum of £700,000, barring any serious collapse in the financial markets by the year-end.

SECTION 2 – AROUND THE CHURCH

25 REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR AUXILIARY MINISTRY

(The CAM Coordinator, Mrs Jan Millar, reports)

General

The work of the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry continues and is developing in line with the changing needs of the Church. The closer links with SOLCe have enabled the two bodies to work together on projects and look for new ways to introduce training and support in various aspects of church life.

Workshops

A workshop on 'Fellowship and Community' was held at Dalton in September and another on 'Working with Groups' was held at Radcliffe in March. CAM is happy to organise workshops anywhere in the country to meet the needs of churches and individuals.

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 2011. The theme for the weekend was 'Them and Us' in which Revd Geoffrey Clarkson looked at racism in the Old Testament. We also explored ideas from nature, what constitutes worship, being familiar with the Bible and updated the CAM recommended booklist. A Worship Leader Day will be held at the New Church College on 26th May 2012. CAM would be pleased to organise a similar day elsewhere as it is an opportunity for local worship leaders to get together for a day of study and mutual support. Revd Geoffrey Clarkson continues to lead the Worship Support Group at Keighley as well as an annual study day at Kildwick and we are grateful for his continued support for the work of CAM.

Celebrants

Revd Christine Bank has led training for Helen Newton, Pauline Grimshaw, Becky Jarrett & Trevor Millar to become Marriage Celebrants and Revd Bruce Jarvis is currently leading training for Becky Jarratt and Liz Regan to become Celebrants of the Holy Supper. CAM is grateful for their willingness to undertake these roles.

Resources

The building up of a wide variety of resources to assist lay people in their ministry remains an important part of the work of CAM. 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 especially the valuable part played by link member Kathie Brooks.

CAM is keen to introduce new initiatives to reflect the changing needs of the Church. The committee does, however, need to be made aware of what training and support is required in order that necessary workshops and seminars can be arranged. Finally CAM would like to thank all the lay people who give of their time, knowledge and enthusiasm to maintain the life of the Church. Their role is key to our future.

26 AREA COUNCILS

26.1 LONDON AND SOUTHERN AREA COUNCIL

The Area currently has six Churches, with one full time minister, who is of

retirement age, three part time and two retired ministers. Most of the everyday running is carried out by dedicated lay people. Stephen Thomas is a lay pastor supporting isolated members in Eastbourne where Dorothy Margison and Alan Bula continue to hold monthly discussion sessions. Local events are promoted in an Area Inset, produced by David Friend, for inclusion in the church newsletters. Rev Gillian Gordon organised an “All Age Day” at Kensington the week before Christmas.

Bournemouth. Worship every Sunday with thanks to our two part-time Ministers and Lay people, with average attendance maintained. Spiritual Discussion Group led by Revd Clifford Curry meets monthly in homes. Revd Rita Russell held an Angels Workshop, and monthly Spiritual Sharing, for the wider public. Christmas Services and the New Year Party were all enjoyable and very well attended. Various Charities and the Children’s Society have been supported. Sacramental Services for Families with children now introduced. Circle Dancing continues monthly. Premises used widely by the community. Many enjoyed a Theatre visit to see “Patience”; also, a Skittles evening with meal, organised by Rita.

Brightlingsea. Since November, services have only been held approximately every other Sunday at Brightlingsea, as two of our regular worship leaders have been out of action, either because of their own health or family illness problems. Also, Mr Geoffrey Cunningham, who has moved back to Southend, is much missed. Mr Michael Hindley has been able to take services again since January and Mrs Frances Fisher is about to resume doing so. Nonetheless average attendance has only declined slightly. Rev Robert Gill made another much appreciated visit. At the annual meeting in May the church will decide whether it can again hold worship every Sunday.

Greenhill. Another year continuing worship and service to the community, with numbers attending being maintained and local groups using our building. We are indebted to our Ministers and Worship Leaders who provide such varied, meaningful teaching, and to those who arrange and facilitate Workshops held at Greenhill. John Graham, architect for our building in 1975 visited in May to see how things had developed in 36 years. It was interesting to learn John had trained at Leeds School of Art. Philippa, Rosella and Terry, were very pleased to welcome him, and hear his memories.

Kensington. The Society comprises an active, yet small, congregation, keeping New Church teaching alive in Notting Hill, in premises which are the envy of many visitors. Attendances have improved slightly and family services have been introduced to encourage parents’ attendance. Varied

workshop activities are led by a hard-working minister, visiting lay worship leaders and Society members. Charitable donations and Churches Together contacts have been maintained, and use of the premises is being sought to meet the mission of involvement in the community. Development work is progressing steadily, and the congregation appreciates having the organ back in one piece and sounding so much better.

Southend. Significant events over the year include substantial strengthening of the church nave's wooden beams, two adult baptisms of relative newcomers to our congregation, and the departure to Kent of Rev Christopher Hasler and Joy after close-on 30 years' service. Whilst serving as President of Conference, Christopher accepted responsibility for both Southend and Kensington Societies. He has run numerous study groups and courses. On 4 March the Southend Church held a farewell ceremony and presentation followed by luncheon. Several charities (not least children's charities) receive support. Church Services are held each Sunday. The Society thanks the service leaders, some of whom come from afar.

West Wickham. We enjoy a variety of excellent Worship Leaders for Sunday worship but are delighted when Rev Gillian Gordon is able to lead us. Monthly family services are well attended. Regular discussion groups for both Bible study and New Church teachings are held. We now also offer regular monthly Meditation sessions led by Rev Helen Brown to which everyone is invited. Porch displays seem to interest the general public. Fund raising coffee mornings for various charities and 'Open Door' weekly coffee mornings for the local community are as busy as ever. There is increased use of the expanding Church library. Another good year! The Open meeting at Swedenborg House on Wednesday 18 April was attended by nine members.

26.2 THE NW (MANCHESTER) AREA COUNCIL 2011-2012

1. Two meetings of the Council have been held during the past year with an average attendance of seven.
2. During the past year we have held our three annual Area events when we have come together and enjoyed being part of a greater community.

The New Church Day service was held at Kearsley and was a family worship service led by Mr Christopher Chambers. We were joined by members of the Accrington Society from North Lancashire for a very happy 'Get Together.' We all enjoyed renewing friendships and chatting over afternoon tea.

The beginning of December saw us again meeting, this time in the evening at Kearsley for our 'Celebration of Christmas.' We started with a shared meal and then gathered in the candlelit church, where we shared our favourite Christmas passages and poems and sang carols. There is always a really special atmosphere at this gathering that seems to capture something of the true essence of Christmas.

The January Swedenborg Birthday meeting was held at Radcliffe and the Rev David Lomax was the speaker. He took as his topic '2012 – Swedenborg and the End of the World.' It was illustrated by PowerPoint and included small group discussion of this very interesting and unusual topic sparked off by predictions in the Mayan Calendar.

3. Monthly Circle Dance meetings, serving the Area, meet at Kearsley. A 'Walking the Angel Path' experience facilitated by Mrs P Russell and Mr R J Kennion was held in March at Kearsley.

4. During the year the Heywood Society ceased to meet and the premises have been sold.

5. Mr J Lomax represented the Area at the General Conference and Mr Keith Sandiford represents the Area on the Kildwick committee.

6. Although not a part of the Area in the accepted sense, we are aware that New Church House has had continued difficulties in finding personnel to maintain its uses and its future is the subject of ongoing discussion.

7. Again 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.

8. During the coming year, Mr. J D Lomax will continue to be our chairman, Mr JE Ford our treasurer, and Mrs. P A Grimshaw our secretary.

26.3 YORKSHIRE AND NORTH EAST AREA COUNCIL

At last year's area meeting it was decided to hold the AGM after a Sunday service for an experimental period of two years. On 22nd April, Bradford, Keighley and Seaburn Dene churches closed for the day and transported their congregations by minibus to a service, AGM and afternoon of all age activities held at Dalton. Families and isolated members from the area also came along to what was a very successful day. Thirty one people attended the AGM and

over seventy adults and children took part in the other activities. Evaluation sheets completed at the end of the day indicated that the vast majority of people were willing to support a future area event of this nature and were unwilling for the area to be disbanded.

In September we once again held a wonderful Area Weekend at Purley Chase. It is a good opportunity for meeting together to worship, study and socialise in a lovely relaxed environment.

These two events and the reports received from all four churches show that the area remains generally in good heart. We are very grateful to all the Ministers, Retired Ministers and Lay Worship Leaders who work so tirelessly on our behalf to maintain the life of our churches.

27 REPORT OF THE LIBRARY & ARCHIVES COMMITTEE (Mrs Frances Fisher reports)

The Committee, consisting of Revd Norman Ryder, Mrs Frances Fisher, Mrs Maeve Hawkins, Mrs Isabel Hindley, Mr Patrick Johnson, Mr Gordon Kuphal and Mr Howard Turner, has met three times this year. We have been pleased to welcome Mrs Hindley as a new member.

The closure of the Oaklands Society and the pending closure of New Church House in Manchester have involved Mrs Hawkins and Mr Ryder in several visits to see what material should be removed to Swedenborg House and other Libraries.

The possibility of creating an electronic catalogue of our Library has taken up considerable time and we are still debating which path to take.

The Committee has donated a collection of James John Garth Wilkinson's manuscript material to the Swedenborg Society, which already holds the rest of Wilkinson's documents.

Various items from Greenhill and West Wickham Societies have been brought to Swedenborg House for safekeeping.

The work of looking after the Library and archives and answering historical and genealogical enquiries has continued as usual.

28 REPORT OF THE NEW CHURCH YOUTH ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

1. COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

Miss G Rowe (President)	3	Mr C Goalen
3		
Mrs P A Grimshaw (Treasurer)	3	Mrs C E Kennion 2
Miss A J Presland (Secretary)	3	Mrs K Higgins 3
Rev C Bank		3

2. NCYA CONFERENCE 2011

This was held at the Derby church and, like in 2010, was incorporated into an All-Age Worship Day. The formal business was conducted at the end of the day and so allowed those who had come to the All-Age Worship Day to come down to the AGM. During the meeting, Mrs E J Chambers stood down as President and Miss G Rowe was inducted as our new President. Miss A J Presland joined the council as Secretary and Mrs P A Grimshaw became Treasurer.

The day was well-attended and it was decided to follow the same format for 2012. Our Conference will be held at Keighley and will be on the theme of 'Summer'.

3. SUMMER CAMP 1 & 2

Summer camp 1 and 2 were held at the same time at Purley Chase in 2011. This was in order for the Purley Chase building to be utilised to its full capacity. This arrangement was met with some success but there were some concerns around keeping adequate space between the two age groups. The issue was therefore discussed at the Young Families School at the end of October 2011, and it was decided to keep the schools separate for 2012. Due to 2011 being the last Summer Camp 1 for the leader and also for Mr C Goalen, articles were placed in Lifeline and Contact and a new team was found for Summer Camp, consisting of Rev C Bank, Miss B Johnson, Lou Curry and Miss G Rowe. Many thanks go out to these persons for committing their time to run the camp. Personal invitations were made to children regarding Summer Camp 1 and those children coming up to the age to be able to go to Summer Camp 1, as it was thought that a personal touch might encourage bookings, especially with children who might be a little nervous to attend the first time.

The Council has continued to offer sponsorship and financial assistance to schools involved with work with children and families.

4. STOCK AT NEW CHURCH HOUSE

Due to the closure of New Church House in Manchester, Mrs P A Grimshaw visited to assess the NCYA stock there. 50 copies of Light and also copies of the Teachers' Compendium have been saved.

5. SUNRISE

Miss G Rowe has produced two excellent issues of Sunrise over the past year, the Christmas issue being a 'Bumper' issue. Miss G Rowe continues to highlight the problem of ensuring there is enough material for Sunrise. She has helped to distribute the flyer for the All-Age Worship Day/NCYA Conference for 2012. Many thanks to Mr Chris Chambers for producing the flyer.

6. CONTACT

Mrs P A Grimshaw produced an issue of Contact in Spring 2012.

7. HOME SUNDAY CLUB, COLOURING EXHIBITION

Mrs C E Kennion continues to send out lesson packs for members. Miss A J Presland started writing the letters for the Age 9+ packs in January 2012.

The Colouring Exhibition pictures were displayed at the Conference at Derby for everyone to see. Each entrant received a small gift. Many thanks to Erica Cunningham for her stickers and comments on each entry.

8. CHILDREN'S DAY

All churches were sent information about our Children's Day, a day when the Council asked that children were to be specially remembered in all church services and activities. A covering letter and a selection of prayers were relayed to each society to give guidance with this.

9. GENERAL HELP

The NCYA is always ready to offer support and financial help to all schools.

10. THANK YOU

Once more the NCYA wishes to thank everyone who helped – worship leaders, camp leaders and teachers for all their hard work with children and families.

On behalf of the Council:
Michael Clubb, Acting Chairman

REPORT OF THE MINISTERS' COMMITTEE 2011/12

1. Meetings

During the year a short meeting was held at the end of the Ministers' Seminar on 23rd September 2011. The autumn meeting took place from 22nd – 24th November 2011 with 13 members plus Mr G S Kuphal (recorder) present and the annual meeting from 13th – 15th March 2012 with thirteen members plus Mr G S Kuphal (recorder) in attendance. All meetings took place at Purley Chase.

2. Spiritual Leaders' Report

Revd David Gaffney and Revd Gillian Gordon:

“Our term so far as Spiritual Leaders has been full and in many ways a steep learning curve, involving varied issues relating to the ethos, pastoral care, values, direction and management of the Church as a whole. We are experiencing times of change and challenge both in society and the Church which is causing debate, re-examination and if necessary defence of a number of fundamental Christian values. This has been, and continues to be, time consuming and draining but we believe essential. However, there is a renewed spirit of camaraderie and initiative developing across the Church with such events as all age days, young family weekends, local church and area church weekends at Purley and many individual church outreach efforts.

Purley Chase itself is becoming a multi-faith, multi-cultural melting pot with a New Church Core and all the demands and enquiries that involves. Much good work is carried out throughout the country and although we are a small organisation, we believe we are doing our utmost to carry out the Lord's work according to His will and learning valuable lessons in the process. As the saying goes, it is not the destination that counts but the journey. The Lord is in control but we feel that we need to respond to any situation that He puts before us to the best of our ability and that this will pay long term dividends. Gillian and David are available for anyone to talk to and welcome contact. We will do our best to help and support you. We request your prayers that this wonderful organisation will continue to develop in harmony and true usefulness.

May the Lord bless you and keep you,

David and Gillian”

3. Sexual Orientation and Ordination into New Church Ministry

This year the Committee's meetings have been dominated by the discussions of issues around human sexuality and ordination into more than one organization with particular reference to how this would impact on the anticipated ordination of Mrs Helen Newton.

Her decision in late 2011 to not continue as an ordination student has led to a very difficult time for all involved and the Committee very much regret that this whole issue has been the cause of a great deal of stress and distress to Helen herself and to many individuals throughout the church. It is clear that in this complex area there are deeply held and sincere views among the Ministry, but we are committed to working together to try and deepen our understanding while acknowledging that there are times when living with difference or tension is part of the process of exploration and discernment.

Conference 2012 will allow these issues to be raised and discussed as part of the sessions and it is hoped that the whole church will be able to take part in an ongoing exploration and discussion around our collective understanding of human relationships, marriage and ordination.

4. New Church College

The Principal, Revd David Lomax, has been working with those connected with the College to look at its vision and support the progress of ordination students. Mrs Helen Newton's decision to stop her New Church studies leaves Mrs Becky Jarratt as the sole ordination student at the present time.

5. Committee for Auxiliary Ministry [CAM]

During the year the Committee were delighted to approve the appointment of Mrs Pauline Grimshaw as a Marriage celebrant and welcomed Mrs Liz Regan's request for training towards leading Sacraments. The work of all the Auxiliary Ministry in leading worship each week is greatly appreciated and the Committee thank all those who give of their time and skills to serve groups and congregations in this way. CAM continues to provide support and training opportunities for Worship Leaders and the Committee wish to encourage participation in these events. While recognising that ongoing training cannot be made compulsory we would affirm the value of these opportunities. Thanks are particularly due to the Coordinator Mrs Jan Millar and the CAM Committee for their work during the year.

6. Web Presence and Vision Team

Work around setting up an Internet Church website has now moved on significantly with new emphasis being placed on a 'web presence' and considerable progress has been made by the Vision Team in implementing what is a long term strategy to make our presence felt more widely around the world and also improve overall communications within our organisation.

Support is given when possible to any evidence of green shoots in areas of the church. Part of the vision is to support such initiatives.

In terms of the administration of the organisation this is the first year "Volunteers" are managing many roles and it is important to support and develop this new way of working. The Committee of Ministers' is deeply appreciative of the way individuals have come forward to ensure necessary tasks are covered.

7. Children and the Holy Supper

A paper entitled "Guidelines on children's participation in the Holy Supper" has been produced and distributed to church secretaries and via CAM to the authorised Celebrants. It is intended to offer encouragement to groups as they address the way they involve children in all aspects of worship rather than to set out strict or definitive rules.

8. Apocalypse Study Group [ASG]

Work on the deck of cards has progressed steadily through the year. The pressure of other commitments means that much of the work, especially the more collaborative part, is done when the ASG meets together for some intensive activity during our two workshops prior to Committee of Ministers' meetings.

However, both the card deck and the Handbook are now very close to completion, and a number of photo-copies of both should be available for the Exhibition at Swedenborg Hall in June 2012 (see below). Following that event it is intended to seek some further feedback on the Handbook from one or two non-New Church 'critics'. Then after that, there will be a professional production in a boxed format for more general use and sale at Purley Chase and other outreach centres and events.

The Exhibition of Roland Smith's 25 illustrations featuring some of the striking images from the Book of Revelation was successfully mounted at Glencairn Museum in Bryn Athyn, USA, and was safely returned to this country just before Christmas. Reports from North America were of a most encouraging reception.

We were then greatly cheered by the prospect of a 2nd North American initiative when Revd Catherine Lauber began plans for a series of showings in the Kitchener area of Canada, designed to be linked with a new outreach programme. Sadly, that intention has been frustrated by an unwillingness of the central library there to host the exhibition, though Catherine still intends to proceed with the outreach programme, using the illustrations and other materials developed by ASG.

Arrangements are in hand for the Exhibition to be displayed over a week-end in June 2012 at Swedenborg House, London. Thereafter we have no definite bookings but have hopes of a venture in Scotland by the Scottish Association. We await enquiries, requests and suggestions from around the Church in the UK; and a leaflet has been developed which we hope to send to potential secular venues. Members of Conference are urged to look for potential venues, and to liaise with ASG.

9. Salary Rates

Once again the Committee agreed that the standard salary rate for ministers should be published in this report, and to record our thanks to the Council for their decision to increase the salaries of employed ministers, the fees of self-employed ministers and the fees of retired ministers by 1.75%

The salary (gross) for an ordained minister for the year 2012/13, inclusive of payment towards telephone line and broadband cost is £28,860. This figure represents the salary of ministers in full time paid employment.

10. Home Worship

Thanks to a dedicated team involved in all aspects of writing, producing and distributing, the Home Worship pack continues to be produced for each Sunday of the year. Contributions from both ordained and auxiliary ministers are appreciated and the quietly efficient team ensure distribution by both email and the postal service. Although costs are increasing the team recognise that for isolated individuals there is a considerable pastoral benefit in receiving a physical envelope and this is valued far more than focussing solely on cost cutting. Geographically the range continues to extend beyond Europe and the USA; this year an enquirer in Malaysia has been added to the list of recipients. Mrs Thelma Wilson has stepped down as the co-ordinator after many years' service and the role has been taken over by Mrs Marian Kidd. The Ministers' Committee is very grateful to Mrs Wilson for her dedication and gentle reminders of approaching deadlines during her time as coordinator and thank Mrs Kidd for offering her time and skills to continue this work.

11. The Council

The Ministers' Committee is aware of and sympathetic to the difficulties faced by the Council as roles move into a volunteering structure and tasks are passed to different people. We are also very aware of the difficulties faced by fewer Council members as insufficient new Trustees are coming forward to maintain full numbers. One of the Spiritual Leaders and the Secretary of the Ministers' Committee attend the meetings and this is helpful to the communication between Ministry and those who take a lead in the central administrative functions of the organisation.

12. Appointments and Nominations

Revd Christine Bank, Secretary of the Ministers' Committee, attends the meetings of the Council. Revd David Gaffney has been appointed as an additional ministerial representative at Council meetings until the 2013 Annual Meeting of Conference.

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

Revd David Lomax	Training and development
Revd Clifford Curry	Finance
Revd Gill Gordon	Human resources
Revd David Gaffney	Purley Chase
Revd Jack Dunion	Youth, web and communication
Revd Christine Bank	CAM and 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 Marian Kidd as Home Worship Coordinator.

David Gaffney, Gillian Gordon [Spiritual Leaders]
Christine Bank [Secretary]

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST 2012

The Treasurer was pleased to report that the highlight of the financial year was being able to show an operational *surplus* after a number of consecutive years of *deficits*.

Overall, *Income* had increased by 9% over the previous year, and again as last year *costs* had fallen by 5%, thus achieving a swing of over £80,000, from a deficit in 2010/11 of £57,408 to a surplus of over £23,000.

Sally Ross explained that *Human Resources*, our largest cost, had reduced by £36,000 in the year, due to staff reductions, which together with a reduction of £8,000 in the cost of *Administration* were the main contributory factors in the overall cost savings.

She went on to clarify that the significant increase in Income had resulted, sadly, from capital receipts as a result of societies closing during the year, which more than compensated for reduced receipts and lower donations from individual members and/or from society contributions to 'Central Payments'.

Conference was most grateful for two legacies received during the year. These were £49,806 from the estate of Don Marshall and a further £18,414, in addition to payments made in the previous year, from the residue of Peggy Prince's estate.

It was reported that Purley Chase had enjoyed an excellent year, achieving a significantly reduced loss, resulting from increased useage across all groups who regularly contribute to the turnover, especially from the General Church which increased its occupancy by 112%.

There was also a significant increase of 39% from donations, demonstrating the appreciation of all those enjoying its facilities.

The Treasurer then referred to the successful consolidation of the Common Investment Fund Accounts into the General Conference Balance Sheet, which was necessary for Newton Investment Managers to be able to act on our behalf, since it was now accepted that what had since 1966 been a 'separate Balance Sheet' was a Charitable Fund.

He concluded by saying that in Financial terms the Conference Balance Sheet was strong, with *Working Capital*, a measure of our financial reserves, having grown on average by £500,000 each year since 2008 to over £5 million, and was likely to continue to increase at a similar rate for at least the next few years. Furthermore he also had forecast an increased surplus for the current year.

In conclusion, he thanked Conference for the opportunity to have been Treasurer for more than a decade, and once again paid tribute to; David Friend; Colin Skinner; David Sharrock and Andrew Bentley without whose ‘sterling’ voluntary services it wouldn’t have been possible, and also to the significant contribution from Sally Ross, the Company Accountant over the past five years.

Nigel Sutton - Treasurer

Income and Expenditure Accounts

For year ended March 31st 2012

	£,000	£,000
	2011-12	2010-11
INCOME		
Societies	164	176
Donations - Conference	30	40
	194	216
Investment Income	131	104
Trust Income	67	65
Bursary Grant	15	15
Other Income	14	14
Income Purley Chase	171	129
Total Receipts	592	543
EXPENDITURE		
Ministry	139	157
Laity	87	123
Staff - Purley Chase	81	69
Student grants	9	3
Self employed fees	13	13
	329	365
Pensions	23	31
Housing	20	25
	372	421
Travelling Expenses	27	25
Professional fees	26	22
Insurance	9	13
Office	10	10
Marketing/Resources	3	1
Central Costs	15	11
Education & Training	11	10
Purley Chase	97	88
Kildwick		
Total Payments	570	601

	£,000	£,000
OPERATIONAL SURPLUS/DEFICIT	23	-57
Other Receipts and Costs	-	
Depreciation	- 76	- 73
Closed Society Receipts	534	80
Closed Society Costs	-	144
Legacies	71	
Homelands	10	
Adjustment to Property Valuation	- 17	
CIF	133	
Prior Year Adjustments	- 2	- 7
NET SURPLUS	677	87

Balance Sheet as at March 31st 2012

	£	£
	2012	2011
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>		
Tangible Assets for operational use	3,309,530	3,123,765
Investment Assets	7,456,216	7,131,495
	10,765,746	10,255,260
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Net Current Assets	128,456	264,598
Less Creditors falling due after more than one year	- 125,000	- 350,000
<u>NET ASSETS</u>	10,769,202	10,169,858
Represented by:-		
<u>FUNDS</u> Endowment funds	881,099	902,471
Restricted funds	4,656,908	4,737,331
Unrestricted funds	5,231,195	4,530,056
	10,769,202	10,169,858

STATISTICAL TABLE as at 31st March 2012

	Society Members	Non-resident	Total new members	Deceased	Removed	Increase	Decrease	Members of Conference
Accrington	51	16	0	3	0	0	3	38
Bournemouth	36	6	0	4	2	0	6	35
Bradford	27	0	0	1	0	0	1	24
Brightlingsea	24	10	0	1	0	0	1	16
*Bristol	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Burnley	30	6	1	0	0	1	0	18
Chester & Wallasey	39	18	0	3	0	0	3	33
Clayton	19	7	0	1	0	0	1	12
Dalton	38	2	0	0	0	0	0	30
Derby	63	21	1	0	0	1	0	44
Kearsley	58	17	0	1	0	0	1	23
Keighley	43	16	0	1	1	0	2	33
Greenhill	20	8	1	0	0	1	0	10
Kensington	13	5	0	0	0	0	0	10
West Wickham	30	12	0	0	0	0	0	25
Paisley	54	7	0	1	0	0	1	31
Radcliffe	18	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
Seaburn Dene	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
Southend	18	6	1	1	0	0	0	11
Central members								190
Total 2011/12	618	160	4	17	3	3	19	616
Totals 2010/11	672	182	3	22	41	1	62	624

*2010/11 Figures

	Baptisms	Marriages	Funerals	Sunday, School No. of children	Avg. attend. 13+	Holy Supper Administrations	Holy Supper Average Attendance	Overall Average Attendance
Accrington	0	0	3	6	4	4	28	27
Bournemouth	1	0	6	8	8	10	23	26
Bradford	0	0	0	8	3	14	16	16
Brightlingsea	0	0	0	0	0	4	9	10
*Bristol	0	0	0	0	2	6	6	6
Burnley	0	0	0	0	0	12	10	11
Chester & Wallasey	1	1	6	0	6	13	13	27
Clayton	0	0	0	0	0	7	8	7
Dalton	3	0	0	0	1	11	10	18
Derby	0	2	1	16	5	12	28	31
Kearsley	3	0	3	5	3	4	26	24
Keighley	2	3	1	6	5	11	14	31
Greenhill	0	0	0	0	0	13	10	10
Kensington	0	0	0	11	1	11	8	10
West Wickham	0	0	0	4	0	13	13	14
Paisley	0	0	1	3	0	6	15	14
Radcliffe	0	0	0	0	0	3	10	12
Seaburn Dene	1	1	4	13	12	10	25	40
Southend	1	0	1	1	1	12	10	13
Totals 2011/12	12	7	26	81	51	176	282	347
Totals 2010/11	24	6	38	108	53	186	292	352

*2010/11 Figures

2012 in line with its charitable objects.

The training of one ordination student continues, and 14 students are studying either through open learning or in tutorial groups. The Principal and the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry Coordinator continue to work together to develop and deliver training for the Conference organisation. A new course that will be more accessible to people without a Swedenborgian background is being developed. The College continues to run Schools and Workshops.

2 Staff

a Principal

The Principal continues to extend his training work within Conference, including supporting work with young people and families, and is also endeavouring to present new thinking to the Committee of Ministers and to Conference. This is, of course, in addition to his work within SOLCe to support students.

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

In addition to her routine work, Ms Melanie Bennett continues to work to reduce running costs, and has achieved success with water-supply, gas and PAT testing during the year. Following the decision of the Council to publish 'SOLCe News' on the web, she has designed a web-site for this.

Melanie has completed her Diploma in Business Administration (formerly NVQ Level 3) and submitted this for assessment.

3 SOLCe

a Ordination Students

The Council was sad and disappointed that Helen Newton had withdrawn from her SOLCe course in the late Autumn, and wishes her well in her service as an Interfaith minister.

Rebecca Jarratt continues her studies on a part-time basis. There is concern in some quarters about the time it will take her to complete her course. The Sponsored Student Monitoring Group (SSMG) is aware of this issue from Becky's point of view and the Education Committee and the Committee of Ministers are considering this in relation to training and the curriculum for

ordination students.

b SOLCe Students

In addition to the ordination student, there are currently 14 students, 3 of whom are from overseas, studying 12 different modules tutored by 7 different tutors including a lay person. 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. As a result, one student has already enrolled.

c Modules

2 modules have been revised during the year; there are now 30 modules available on the web-site. The Council was pleased that the Governing Council has agreed to fund a quarter-module; 'An Introduction to the Gospels.' This is intended to be attractive to people who do not have a Swedenborgian background.

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. Co-operation with CAM in providing training for the church is developing.

f Assessments

During the year, it became apparent that not all students were receiving written assessments on the completion of a course, though they had received immediate verbal feedback. In view of the backlog, the Council decided that a letter of apology should be sent to all students concerned. To prevent a recurrence of this problem, a new procedure for recording and preparing assessments has been introduced.

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. The College building is used by several neighbourhood groups.

F THE FABRIC

The fabric and grounds continue to be kept in good condition by John Ford and his team. Major items were the installation of insulation in the loft, decoration of the downstairs toilets, and repair of the lower part of the drive. Routine testing of safety equipment has been carried out.

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 (0), and 63 Annual

Governors (+2); in total 86 (+2). The numbers in brackets show the changes during the year. It is proving difficult to recruit new Governors and this is a concern to the Council as strong and active Governors are needed to act as the ultimate body responsible for The College.

I 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

As the Annual Meeting has been held at The College for the past ten years, and as it has not proved possible to incorporate the Meeting within the Annual Meeting of General Conference, the Council has decided to hold the 2013 Meeting at Swedenborg Hall on Saturday, 29th June 2013. This should facilitate the attendance of Governors who are not able to attend a meeting in Radcliffe.

J FINANCE

1 Annual Accounts

The Treasurer reported a net decrease in resources of £2,340 before capital movements for the year to 31st March 2012. (Decrease of £2,668 in 2010-2011).

During the year, losses on the disposal of investments of £15,731 were realised and notional losses of £76,398 arose on the revaluation of investments.

The budget for 2011–2012 projected a deficit of £10,550 but the actual deficit for the year was £2,340. The College maintained its working capital during the year by drawing down cash of £10,000 from investments.

A budget for 2012-2013 projects a deficit of £6,400 before any adjustments

arising on the real and notional gains and losses on investments.

2 Investments

The unrestricted funds, including the Jersey Fund, are amalgamated to minimise trading costs and to form a larger portfolio. The funds continue to be separated from an accounting point-of-view.

Following a visit to the investment adviser, Brewin Dolphin, with the Treasurer of Conference, they have been instructed to continue concentrating on capital growth rather than income.

K ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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: 30th June 2012

THE NEW CHURCH COLLEGE REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL 2011 – 2012

Introduction

Last year I talked in my report about liaison with the wider church. Much of my effort this year has been applied in the same area, but with a specific focus directly related to my work for SOLCe.

Students

Helen Newton ceased to be an ordination student at the end of November 2011. As a result of discussions between Helen and the Ministers' Committee, Helen felt that she had no option but to withdraw from her training. This was because the outcome of these discussions involved an insistence related to Helen's proposed ordination within Conference, with which she did not feel able to comply. These matters resulted from Helen having completed training with the Interfaith Seminary and being ordained by the Interfaith Foundation in July 2011.

Much of my time this year before and since this event has been spent trying to enhance communication between various parts of the church with respect to this matter, especially as regards ministers. I am sad to say that I do not feel that I have been successful in my attempts by and large.

Becky Jarratt's training as an ordination student has continued this year. She has been following her training part-time and there has been a balance between practical work and other SOLCe modules, although the amount of the former within a New Church environment has been limited.

As a result of the situation with Helen, the role of the Sponsored Student Monitoring Group for Becky has been clarified and the importance of communication with the wider church regarding Becky's future ministry has been acknowledged.

A number of other students have followed modules, either individually or in groups.

The Education Committee and College Council have both been considering issues of training and course development.

Liaison with the wider church

I have continued to work with Jan Millar and we have jointly led two workshop days over the year. The first was at Dalton and looked at how we create a feeling of fellowship in our church groups and the second was at Radcliffe and looked at how we can use the group format in worship and other activities.

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.

General

The Education Committee continues to work on areas relating to the training of students. I am grateful to those on the Education Committee for their help.

Thanks go to Melanie Bennett and Linda Stoney for their assistance in running events and the welcome they provide, 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.

The College is also indebted to Alan Bowie for his work in his various roles as tutor, course-writer and webmaster, as well as others who work in the first two of these roles.

David Lomax
May 2012.

THE NEW CHURCH COLLEGE
Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2012

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 under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave 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.

G F Whiteside FCA
Douglass Grange,
Chartered Accountants,
Stanley House,
Phoenix Park,
Blakewater Road,
Blackburn.
BB1 5RW

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2012

	2012	2011
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Investments	1,737,769	1,839,899
Current Assets		
Debtors	9,460	10,249
Cash at Bank and in Hand	21,896	11,141
	-----	-----
	31,356	21,390
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12,629	10,324
	-----	-----
Net Current Assets	18,727	11,066
	-----	-----
Net Assets	1,756,496	1,850,965
	=====	=====
Funds		
Unrestricted Funds;		
General	332,959	349,497
Designated - Jersey Education	310,987	325,163
Restricted Funds;		
Permanent Endowment	1,112,550	1,176,305
	-----	-----
	1,756,496	1,850,965
	=====	=====
<u>INCOME</u>		
	2012	2011
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
Subscriptions and Donations	13,857	14,268
Investment Income	66,391	60,284
Fees	2,610	1,460
Miscellaneous Income	880	939
	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	83,738	76,951
	=====	=====

EXPENDITURE

<u>Direct Charitable Expenditure</u>	2012	2011
	£	£
Salaries & Consultancy Fees	52,569	51,447
Module & Tutorial Expenses	3,317	2,023
Student Support	132	200
In-Service Training	432	360
Library Books	281	310
Books, CD-ROMs etc. for Sale (and write offs)	315	289
Office Equipment - purchases	1,385	432
Office Equipment		
Leasing and Maintenance	1,823	2,032
Property Expenses	8,918	7,642
Catering and Housekeeping	457	488
Telephone and Fax	836	972
Stationery	135	168
Postages	547	201
Council and Staff Expenses	3,332	2,088
General Conference Support		
Jersey Fund	7,328	6,548
Miscellaneous Expenses	410	401
	-----	-----
	82,217	75,601
	=====	=====

<u>Other Expenditure</u>	2012	2011
	£	£
Bank and Interest Charges	272	237
Professional Fees	3,200	3,540
Miscellaneous Expenses	389	241
	-----	-----
	3,861	4,018
	=====	=====

Net Outgoing Resources (2,340) (2,668)

Approved by the Council on 30th June 2012 and signed on its behalf by:
C J Chambers, President

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/ Spiritual Leader	Preacher	Members
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
2012	Swanwick	G.Gordon/D.Gaffney	J. Dunion	74

LAND AND BUILDINGS HELD IN TRUST BY CONFERENCE

Insurance of buildings (excluding contents)

A Ansvar	B Conference Block Policy
C Congregational & General	M AMP
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	£1,186,456	+
House at 101 Tuckton Road, Southbourne.	B	£216,569	+
Brightlingsea. Church and rooms at Queen Street.	B	£841,714	+
Greenhill. Church and rooms at 177 Leicester Road, New Barnet.	B	£1,322,779	+
Kensington. Church and rooms at 5 Pembridge Villas, London, W11.	B	£2,097,214	+
Southend-on-Sea. Church and rooms at Sutton Road.	B	£470,378	+
West Wickham. Church and rooms at High Street.	B	£421,096	+

General Conference.

House at 18 Pollard Road, Whetstone, London N20. Freehold.	B	£426,958	+
House at 112 Kensington Road, Southend-on-sea. Freehold.	B	£131,603	+
Bungalow at 80 Broadway, Southbourne Bournemouth. Freehold.	B	£153,688	+
Bungalow at 14 Riverside Lane, Tuckton, Bournemouth. Freehold.	B	£331,805	+
House at 6 Atwater Court, Faversham Road, Lenham, Kent. Leasehold.			Insured by freeholder

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 £1,141,861 +

Derby. Church and rooms at Horwood Avenue. B £905,264 +

House at 409A Burton Road, Derby. B £160,341 +

General Conference.

Bungalow at 215 Coventry Road, Nuneaton,
Warwickshire. Freehold. B £297,346 +

Purley Chase Centre, Atherstone. Freehold. B £5,215,685 +

In North Lancashire

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

Burnley. Church and rooms at Briercliffe Road. B £305,959 +

General Conference.

House at 5 Whittycroft Drive, Barrowford,
Nelson. Freehold. # B £122,091 +

House at 126 Mercer Crescent, Haslingden,
Rossendale. Jointly owned freehold. B £115,997 +

House at 6 Dunkirk Avenue, Fulwood, Preston.
Jointly owned freehold. B £133,816 +

In North-West (Manchester) and Cheshire

Chester. Church and rooms at Brook Lane, Newton. B £386,046 +

House at 51 Woodlands Drive, Newton. B £134,580 +

Kearsley. Church and rooms at Bolton Road. B £1,251,302 +

Radcliffe. Church and rooms at Stand Lane. C £981,912 +

General Conference.

House at Church Street, Kearsley. Freehold. B £119,715 +

Church and rooms at Charles Street,
Whitefield, Manchester. Freehold. B £712,100 +

In Scotland

Paisley. Church and rooms at 17 George Street,
together with library and creche contiguous. B £1,511,056 +

In Yorkshire and the North-East

Bradford. Church and rooms at Ashfield Avenue,
Frizinghall. B £556,101 +

Dalton. Church and rooms at Grove Place,
Dalton, Huddersfield. B £1,042,135 +

Flats at 111 and 113 Long Lane,
Dalton, Huddersfield. B £756,094 +

Keighley. Church and rooms at Braithwaite Road,
Braithwaite. B £243,049 +

Seaburn Dene. Church and rooms at Shields Road,
Seaburn Dene, Sunderland. B £452,441 +

General Conference.

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

Kildwick New Church Centre, Main Road,
Kildwick. Freehold. # B £666,463 +

New Zealand

59a Balmain Road, Birkenhead, Auckland, 1310 M

Property of the New Church College

25 Radcliffe New Road, Radcliffe, Manchester. B £563,516 +

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 **	Dr.R.A.Gilbert	Miss.M.Thomson
Burnley	Briercliffe Road Burnley Lancs BB10 1XH	Rev.M.W.Stanley *	Mr.T.Mitchell	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		Mr. B.R. Smith	Mr. P. Cunningham
West Wickham (07534 702887)	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. Sookeeah	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
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Blackpool			Mrs.E.Morrison	
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Dumbarton	Members' homes	Rev.J.Dunion	Rev.J.Dunion	Monthly
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East Sussex	Member's 'home (Eastbourne)	Mr S Thomas	Mr.A.Bula	Consult contact
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Edinburgh	Members' homes	Rev.R.A.Gill	Mrs.H.Laidlaw	Sept-Dec and Feb-June (first Monday of the month 7.30 p.m.)
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City, Town, etc.	Usual Meeting Place	Minister or Lay Leader	Secretary or Contact Name	Usual Day and Time of meeting
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.J.Z.Brooks	
Library & Archives Committee	Mrs.F.Fisher	
Jeggins Trustees	Mrs.D.Mullock	
Kildwick Committee	Mr.K.Sandiford	Mr.K.Sandiford
Marketing and Resources	Mr.S.Russell-Lacy	
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 (2); *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)