

YEAR BOOK OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH: 2015-2016

**INCLUDING THE MINUTES
OF THE 208th ANNUAL MEETING**

**Held at the Hayes Conference Centre,
Swanwick, Derbyshire
from Tuesday 28th July to Friday 31st July 2015**

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

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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.

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COUNCIL

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

Mrs JM WILSON, BA	[until 2019]	Chairman [Training and Development, CAM and Local Churches]
Mr MJ HINDLEY, BA	[until 2017]	Vice-chairman
Ms JZ BROOKS, BA	[until 2017]	
Mr RH CUNNINGHAM BSc	[until 2018]	[Web Development, Health and Safety]
Mr MD HASELER, BSc	[until 2016]	[Purley Chase]
Mrs LK NICHOLLS	[until 2018]	[Youth]
Mrs RF TURNER	[until 2017]	[Human Resources]
Mrs SG FIELD FMAAT	[Non-voting Member]	[Company Accountant] [Finance]

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Mr GEOFFREY TURNER
Mr MICHAEL CLUBB
Mr PATRICK LEONARD JOHNSON
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:	HARRIS AND HARRIS CRIPPS HARRIES HALL

USEFUL CONTACTS INCLUDING VOLUNTARY WORKERS

(Voluntary Workers are shown in italics)

Spiritual Leader	Revd DE GAFFNEY, BSc
Ministers' Committee Secretary	Revd C BANK
Company Secretary	<i>Mrs JZ BROOKS, BA</i>
Council Recorder	<i>Mrs P RUSSELL</i>
Company Accountant	Mrs SG FIELD, FMAAT
Finance Manager	<i>Mr A BENTLEY</i>
Payroll & Pensions Manager	<i>Mr CV SKINNER, BSc</i>
Insurance Manager	Mr I HAYES
Lifeline Editor	<i>Mr AC MISSON, BSc</i>
Auxiliary Ministry Co-ordinator	Mrs J MILLAR
Technology Manager	Mr D GLOVER
Family Co-ordinator	<i>Mrs J JONES</i>
Child Protection	Revd R RUSSELL
	<i>Mrs JM WILSON, BA</i>
Youth Leaders:	Mrs J JONES
	Mrs J PICKARD
Property Manager North	<i>Mr J FORD</i>
Property Manager South	<i>Mr M WILSON</i>
Church Support North	<i>Mrs P GRIMSHAW</i>
	<i>Mrs A CLARKSON</i>
Church Support South	<i>Revd G GORDON</i>
Health and Safety	<i>Mr W WOODHOUSE</i>
Lifeline Distributor	<i>Mr H TURNER</i>
Conference Organiser	<i>Mr J FORD</i>
Conference Bookings Secretary	<i>Mrs M PRESLAND</i>
Conference Programme Secretary	<i>Mrs JM WILSON, BA</i>
Magazine Ordering	<i>Mrs M CURRY</i>

Keynote Address - Conference July 2015 - General Conference of the New Church.

"And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying towards Jerusalem." (Luke 13:22)

1. Journeys in this world - natural journeys.

I wonder if you have ever thought of all the different aspects there are to journeys. It wasn't until I began to think about this and tried to identify them that I realised there are so many and what complex things journeys actually are. Why does anyone go on a journey? It may be stating the obvious, but I concluded that no-one goes on a journey without a reason - a motive. Have you ever thought why you go on journeys; that there is something you love at the heart of all your journeys? Generally, we go on journeys for pleasure or for work or to serve some useful purpose. I would say that we always learn something new even if it is the same old journey we have made for years, especially if we keep our eyes open: new people, new challenges.

It's been an eye-opener for me to think about all the different aspects of a journey and realise that there is much more required for planning a journey than was immediately obvious to me. I have never put the sequence of their constituent parts down on paper before. Here is my basic list:

- Firstly, we need, a reason or motive to go (which is about our *loves*).
 - Identification of a destination or series of destinations which will fulfil our motive/loves
 - Direction and possible routes: maps, compass, and guides written by people who have already travelled the route.
 - Make travel notes from maps and guides.
 - Examine the terrain: hills, mountains, rivers, roads and paths, distances between towns and villages, valleys, bridges etc.
 - Note the time of year and the likely weather conditions.
 - Where we can stay en route to acquire food and drink, rest, and interact with people
 - A form of transportation or appropriate clothing and shoes.
- Cost and safekeeping of money/valuables

In ancient times, many journeys were simply about survival. The challenges of going on a journey then were much greater than they are today with our modern forms of transport and technology. With improvements in safety and

ease of travel, I feel we have lost something of the quality of journeys these days. Something of the rawness, exposure and risk has gone. In olden times, when people went on journeys, they were in danger of being attacked by bandits or eaten by wild animals, bitten by snakes, swept away by raging torrents, running out of food and water and so on.

These days, especially in the West, we have taken much more control of our journeys than in days gone by. Our journeys have become relatively risk-free affairs in which I imagine the Good Lord is less consulted.

The word ‘journey’ signifies: “... establishing patterns and order of life ...” (Swedenborg, *Arcana Caelestia*, Section 1293). This was especially the case with nomadic people, where movement to new pastures and the timings of their movements according to the seasons was essential for their survival; their wanderings from pasture to pasture and from watering hole to watering hole involved seasonal patterns and sequences; everything occurred in its proper time and place.

One thing had to come after another and fit into the patterns of the natural environment. Patterns repeated year after year but yet they shifted and changed and had their differences. For me, the patterns and order of journeys in ancient times seem to represent more closely the spiritual journeys we need to make to grow charitable and wise. Much of that awe and wonder of the natural environment is diminished, I believe, in journeys these days, because our modern forms of transport tend to remove us from contact with it. Although we are much safer, I wonder if there has been a price to pay for it. The destination these days for many of us seems to be much more important than the journey itself.

For most of our journeys, the planning is relatively simple and we don’t tend to formally check that we have considered all the elements, for instance, in the list above. For other journeys, say planning for a sailing trip, we need to prepare a meticulous and ordered plan as the risks are very high and there could easily be fatal consequences if we don’t do it properly or miss out a stage. It is useful I would say, for our mental/spiritual development, for us to learn these types of skills as this contributes to wisdom. If we can become more ordered in our thinking in relation to natural life, then I think this would inevitably extend into spiritual life as well (See: Swedenborg *Conjugal Love*, Sections 163 & 164 etc.).

2. The Lord’s spiritual journeys are a pattern for our own spiritual journeys.

The following passage from Swedenborg’s book “The New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine” (NJHD) describes the overall purpose of the Lord’s journey from the beginning to the end of His life on Earth.

“The Lord came into the world to save the human race, which would otherwise have perished into everlasting death. He achieved this salvation by subduing the hells, which were infesting every person coming into and leaving the world. He did this at the same time by glorifying His humanity, for He could thus keep the hells subdued for ever. The subjugation of the hells and at the same time the glorification of His humanity, were achieved by temptations which were permitted to assail the humanity He inherited from His mother, and by constantly winning victories over them. His passion on the cross was His last temptation and His complete victory.” (NJHD, Number 293 paraphrased)

The Lord was heading towards Jerusalem, and Jerusalem means ‘ecclesia’ or group of believers - ‘the church’. Heaven is the church, and church is also those people and groups of people on Earth who have the Word and from it know the Lord and love Him by living according to His instruction. The ‘church’ I have just mentioned, we call the *church specific* because it is where the Lord is known; but there is also a *church universal* which consists of those who live good lives according to the precepts of their religion - from an acknowledgement of the Divine - even though they do not know the Lord; these also are ‘*saved*’. As Swedenborg points out, the first and chief thing of every religion is to acknowledge the Divine and a religion that does not acknowledge the Divine is not a religion (See Heaven and Hell 318 and 319, also Arcana Caelestia 3704 and True Christian Religion) The Lord’s journey to Jerusalem also means His journey to the cross – His final temptation - through which He put in place the conditions for the existence of the church, both specific and universal.

The church universal as well as the church specific are both on the journey. It is a sobering thought that everyone born eventually ends up either in heaven or hell, a concept which these days may be unpopular inside or outside the church. All in heaven have a genuine love and respect for God and the good in their neighbour. Heaven is a loving relationship with God - the Lord. As members of Conference we are part of the specific church. Except for reason of external coercion against our will, I don’t see how we can *truly acknowledge* the *genuine* Lord Jesus as God, and then say that our God is another without separating ourselves from Him (As the Lord is His Word, see Swedenborg, Divine Providence, 231 on what is profane).

The Lord Jesus glorified His Human and subdued the hells thus redeeming mankind by overcoming successive temptations. The Lord’s temptations were far worse than any temptation we can comprehend. A sense of their severity can be gained from a study of the inner meaning of some of the psalms but this is a separate study in itself. Many of our own temptations may seem arduous indeed - Swedenborg even calls them grievous - but we can take heart because the Lord’s were far worse; and He has gone on ahead of us to show the way.

Having said all that, Swedenborg points out in his book Heaven and Hell No. 533 that *“It is not so difficult to live the life of heaven as some believe.”* Perhaps it’s worth a read? It’s worth noting that the Lord didn’t actually save anyone. This may sound ridiculous but what He did was to set the scene so that men and women could once again be in freedom to choose between good and evil and it is by choosing between the two - *as of ourselves* - that we save ourselves from hell by allowing heaven to flow in and ‘displace’ it; whilst at the same time giving the Lord the credit for doing the greater part *behind the scenes*. The Lord has achieved all this through Love. Ibn Arabi, the Sufi mystic, “the greatest master” and Islamic saint, made the following statement:

“I follow the Way of Love, and where Love’s caravan takes its path, there is my religion, my faith.” (Ibn Arabi)

The Lord’s love for us can be seen by the sacrifices he was prepared to make and the anguish he suffered under temptation whilst in states of exinanition (see Swedenborg, True Christian Religion, 104). All of us suffer temptations to some extent, or we couldn’t regenerate:

“Every son of Adam is prone to err, and the best of those who err are those who repent.” (Ibn Arabi)

Swedenborg says more about this in this extract from his book True Christian Religion:

“Real repentance is examining ourselves, recognising and acknowledging our sins, holding ourselves guilty of them and confessing them before the Lord, asking for help and power to resist them, and so desisting from them and leading a new life—and doing all of this as if we were doing it by ourselves. Do this once or twice a year when you go to Holy Communion. And afterwards, when the sins you have found yourself guilty of recur, say to yourself, “I do not want to do these things because they are sins against God.” This is real repentance.” (Swedenborg, True Christian Religion, 567.5)

The word sin is contentious these days, both inside and outside the church, probably because the word is associated with the rigidity, finger pointing and cruelty of some of the old orthodoxies; we perhaps need something to replace it with, but I don’t know what. However, according to Swedenborg:

“To sin is to do and to think what is evil and false, intentionally, and from the will” (Arcana Coelestia, 8925, see also: 4997 & 6784).

Guilt is the feeling that we should get back on the right path. Swedenborg suggests in the above quote (True Christian Religion, Number 567.5) that guilt is a useful thing, and is the feeling we get when we feel we have gone astray. The Lord knows all, and His arms are always open.

Swedenborg says, “*Shun evils as sins against God.*” Everyone who endeavours to walk with the Lord undergoes some level of temptation or they could not grow wise with age. As the Sufi mystic Rumi says:

“Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise so I am changing myself.” (Rumi)

And as Ibn Arabi also says: “How can the heart travel to Allah when it is chained by its desires.” (Ibn Arabi)

“The desires of this world are like sea water. The more you drink of them, the more you thirst.” (Ibn Arabi)

The heart’s destructive desires are various kinds of loves of self and loves of the world; these are unwise and need to be gradually supplanted over time by love of the Lord and the neighbour. I would say that we need to ‘buy’ ground - the Lord’s *ground* - in our spirits where the Lord can dwell with us. To buy in the spiritual sense is to *appropriate* or to take possession of something and devote it to special purposes (See Arcana Coelestia, 6137 etc.). Ground where we can - with the Lord’s help - plant seeds of His Divine Truth from His Word and good fruits can develop. Temptations are always against true usefulness or good works, and when they arise the Lord helps us to turn away from them if we ask Him - sometimes implore Him - and then we give Him the credit for our succeeding. He *bends* us towards heaven (AC 24, 868, etc.).

“Faith and belief are not wishful thinking, but are what settles in the heart and is verified in acts” (Ibn Arabi).

We walk the same path as the Lord did but an easier one. As Swedenborg comments:

“ He went according to his journeys ... From His earliest infancy the Lord advanced according to all Divine order to celestial things, and into celestial things; ... According to such order also are all led who are being created anew by the Lord; but this order is various with people, according to the nature and genius of each one. But the order by which a person is led while being regenerated is known to no-one, and not even to the angels, except obscurely, but to the Lord alone. (AC1554.)

*“God always gives His best to those who leave the choice to Him.”
(Ibn Arabi)*

Everyone is different and we all have the potential for unique uses in this world and in heaven, based on our *ruling loves*, so the Lord alone knows what we need for our own personally tailored journey of regeneration.

“Everyone has been made for some particular work, and the desire for that work has been put in every heart.” (Rumi)

3. In summary: our spiritual journeys.

I find it amazing how the Writings of the Islamic mystics seem to dovetail perfectly into the Writings of Swedenborg.

“If you seek an unending glory, seek it not in a glory that ends.” (Ibn Arabi)

Our progress or journey is borne along by instruction from the Word. This journey never ends; if we begin it in this life it continues to eternity in the next.

All of us have implanted within us from birth by the Lord, sublime inner feelings or experiences of His peace and joy. These are called *remains* because they remain with us. It is from these that we are *motivated* to search for heaven. That having been said, there are some who won't because they don't want to. All the elements of a physical journey have their spiritual counterparts. And just as we need to battle against natural difficulties such as finding the right maps, bad weather, and so on, the success of our spiritual journey relies on us overcoming their spiritual equivalents.

We may for instance be short of *true* instruction from the Lord's Word, i.e. we lack 'water to drink.' Or our minds are flooded with a deluge of false beliefs and understanding (delusions) which lead us astray through false reasoning - we lack the true faith.

The wild animals, that are the destructive affections of the will, will try to overpower the good, useful domestic animals of the will - constructive affections - so that we lose the will to carry on. Or we may lack 'food' for the spirit which is to do genuinely good works along the way. Or we are defeated in our attempts to scale the heights of the hills and mountains of goodness and love required for our spiritual progress - we lack the charity. Or we become depressed in the valleys of despond and remain there. It is often a challenge to implore the Lord for His help and leading in all these things and endeavour to follow it.

Assuming we have the motivation, we need to commit ourselves to the journey; which is lifelong and during which the Lord exposes to us His personal plan which He has for us. He exposes it to us bit by bit and at each stage he gives us tasks. We need to stay committed. The tasks he gives us, he gives us at the right stage of our development and in the right order. Quite often the patterns of events seem to repeat themselves, perhaps in different contexts and at further stages of our development. This is why the word 'journey' signifies:

“... *establishing patterns and order of life ...*” (AC1293).

Personally, I don't think it's really possible to commit to the journey unless we (New Church Christians) confirm ourselves in the faith of the Church in a clear cut way and do not drift on in a sort of “am I or aren't I” kind of way. It reminds me of a line in a song called ‘Tightrope’ by The Stone Roses: “*Are we etched in stone or just scratched in the sand, waiting for the waves to come and reclaim the land.*”

The Lord in His Gospels lays down in clear terms the holy sacraments of the Church as Baptism and the Holy Supper. If we are baptised as babies, then we commit ourselves to the journey by *confirming* to the Lord as adults that we intend to make a commitment to His leadership (or we commit ourselves another way of life, or to the God of another religion (see TCR, 677/5 etc ...)). Then we must take on instruction from His Word and reliable and rational teachings (doctrine) derived from it. Then apply these teachings to life - we live them out - see what comes our way and seek the Lord's guidance by prayer as we navigate our way, on our personal journey, with celebrations of the Holy Supper acting as milestones. These days however, many do not trust the church.

Reliable doctrine is of key importance, it is the map we use for guidance. The word doctrine can be a turn-off like the word sin. It simply means: “how we interpret scripture”. The same verse in scripture can be interpreted in different ways. Not all interpretations will tend to lead us towards heaven. Some people interpret scripture in a way which doesn't ask them to change.

Emanuel Swedenborg claims to have had a Divinely directed mission to update much of the erroneous scriptural instructions of his day, offering what to me at least are much more rational alternatives. In his writings, we have a consistent and comprehensive interpretation of the Word which we can follow, I believe, with confidence. Swedenborg also talked about the dangers of trying to use the sciences and philosophy in wrong ways to prove faith and spiritual things, which according to him will lead us away from the Lord rather than towards Him. We simply decide to believe in God. His existence cannot be proved by any type of *natural* science or vain philosophy. To attempt this is to eat of the fruit of the ‘tree of good and evil’, and it will take us away from the heavenly journey. This has been the cause of the fall of every church since the beginning (See Arcana Caelestia, Number 127). But we do *need* the natural sciences *combined* with the science of correspondences in order to interpret the Word.

Finally, the word **villages** as used in our key quotation from Luke 13:22 means all the knowledge we have gained from the Word and the natural world - our sciences (or scientifics). This knowledge of the world is essential knowledge,

as without it we cannot make any sense at all of scripture because scripture is written around all this knowledge. So villages means general education including knowledge of the contents of the Word. **Cities** on the other hand means inspired teachings derived from the Word which we can use for our guidance for the spiritual journey - for regeneration.

So to summarise by returning to our text: *"And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying towards Jerusalem."* (Luke 13:22). This means that we need to travel through life gaining knowledge of the Word (villages) and then knowledge of inspired teachings derived from the Word (cities), living out these teachings on our journeys through life, continually progressing towards the heavenly city (Jerusalem).

Revd David Gaffney

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

Tuesday 28th July 2015

1 In accordance with Minute 40 of the last Annual Meeting, the Conference assembled, as arranged by the Council, at 3.00 p.m. at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, on Tuesday, 28th July 2015.

2 Mr Alan Misson led a family service of worship.

3 Mrs Judith Wilson, acting as Chairman of the Council, took the chair and welcomed Members to the 208th Annual Meeting of The General Conference of the New Church.

4 The Chairman announced that she had invited Mrs Erica Cunningham and Mrs Sally Field 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	J M Wilson
Acting Vice-chairman	M J Hindley
Members	J Z Brooks R H Cunningham M D Haseler
Officer	S G Field

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

F M Burnley
E J Chambers
M Clubb
P A Grimshaw
P L Johnson
G S Kuphal
A C Misson

MINISTERS

Spiritual Leader	D E Gaffney C A Bank H T Brown L Chambers G Clarkson C Curry M E Duckworth J Dunion R M Jarratt B R Jarvis I Russell M W Stanley B M Talbot
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AREA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Yorkshire and North-East	P Blomfield, A Clarkson
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GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Stockport	J M Chadwick
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SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

Bournemouth	L M Pierpoint, J Pike
Bradford	J E Millar, T Millar
Brightlingsea	I Hindley
Burnley	S Wilson
Dalton	J Mrozek, W Richardson
Derby	B J Bentley, G C Bentley
Kearsley	J E Ford, S Kennion
Keighley	P Brooks, J L Raistrick
Greenhill	J N Harris
Kensington	H W Turner
West Wickham	H G Johnson, A Skinner
Seaburn Dene	T M Jarvis, E Regan
Southend-on-Sea	J Cunningham

SOCIETY VOTERS WHO ARE NOT REPRESENTATIVES

Bournemouth	M P Curry, S Thomas, R Turner, K Wilson
Bradford	G E Rowe
Brightlingsea	K F Fisher

Derby	B Clubb, J Jones, S Jones, E B Nicholls
Kearsley	C E Kennion, A J Presland, M Presland
Kensington	B D Friend
Greenhill	P Peacock
West Wickham	L Nicholls, C V Skinner
Seaburn Dene	M J Taylor

CENTRAL REGISTER MEMBERS

E Bank
E S Cunningham
C Goalen
C M Hawkins
D A Lomax
D Margison
P M Russell
A Southcombe

6 The Company Secretary read messages received from the Revd Robert Gill, the Revd Trevor and Mrs Joy Moffat, the Revd John and Mrs Jenny Sutton, Mr David and Mrs Susan Friend and the Revd Ian Arnold and drew to attention to the fact that they were displayed on the noticeboard.

A message was also received from Mrs Edith Schofield.

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

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

8 *Resolved:*

Rule A5 Membership

That the words 'Societies and Groups' be deleted and that the words 'Any Member' be inserted and that the words 'Company Secretary' be deleted and the word 'Council' be inserted.

Rule J8 The Ministry

That the existing Rule be deleted and the following substituted:

The Ministers' Committee, following approval by the Council, may appoint a Minister whose prerogative it shall be to decide who shall perform each ordination, in consultation with the ordinand concerned. He/she may perform the ordination, or may appoint any other Minister to do so, whether inducted

as an Ordaining Minister under the provision of earlier Rules or not.

The term of the appointment shall be decided at the time of appointment, but may be renewed subsequently. If the Ministers' Committee decides not to appoint an individual Minister to determine who shall perform each ordination, then the prerogative to do so shall remain with the Ministers' Committee.

9 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.”

10 The Revd Christine Bank spoke about the contribution to Conference made by Mrs Elisabeth Brooks, Mr Bryan Brown, Mr Norman Brown, Mr Maurice Stevenson and Miss Dorothy Turner who had all 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 Revd Christine Bank presented the Report of the Ministers' Committee.

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

13 *Resolved:* That Mrs Rebecca Mary Jarratt be ordained as a Minister.

14 Mrs Jan Millar introduced a presentation on the work of the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry, to which Mrs Anne Clarkson, Mr John Harris, Mrs Madeleine Taylor and Mrs Susan Wilson contributed.

15 Dr Geoffrey Bentley spoke about the work of the New Church

Children's Society.

16 Ms Alison Presland gave a presentation on the work of the New Church Youth Association.

17 At 8.00 p.m. the following special interest groups were held in parallel:

‘Any spiritual or theological questions’ with the Revd Michael Stanley.
Sacred Circle Dance with Mrs Patricia Russell.

‘Journeying’ - a presentation & exploration with the Revd Jack Dunion.
Annual General Meeting of the New Church Children’s Society.

Wednesday 29th July 2015

18 The morning session was opened at 9.30 a.m. with singing to praise the Lord led by the Revd Bruce Jarvis.

19 At 9.45 a.m. a Family Holy Supper service was conducted by the Revd Mary Duckworth and the Revd Christine Bank and the Revd Jack Dunion. There were 90 communicants including children.

20 The Revd Helen Brown presented Mrs Rebecca Jarratt with her final SOLCe diploma.

21 The Revd David Gaffney delivered the keynote address based on the Conference theme: “And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying towards Jerusalem.” (Luke 13:22) This was followed by discussion.

22 Mr David Haseler introduced a presentation on ‘Discovering *Secrets of Heaven*’, encouraging members to read the book. Five people gave personal testimonies about their experiences of reading *Arcana Coelestia*. This was followed by group discussion led by nine Ministers.

23 The Revd Bruce Jarvis and the Revd Clifford Curry led a session on ‘Experiencing the Apocalypse’, based on the work of the Apocalypse Study Group. It concluded with a guided meditation led by the Revd Mary Duckworth.

24 The Revd David Gaffney and Mrs Rebecca Jarratt led a short session entitled ‘Worship through music’.

25 At 8.00 p.m. Mrs Patricia Russell introduced a presentation about developments at the Swedenborg Open Learning Centre (SOLCe), to which the Revd Helen Brown, Ms Alison Southcombe and the Revd Mary Duckworth contributed.

26 The Revd Helen Brown led worship in the form of reflections at the ending of the day.

Thursday 30th July 2015

27 The morning session was opened at 9.30 a.m. with hymns and prayer led by the Revd Clifford and Mrs Marion Curry.

28 Mrs Sally Field presented the Report of the Company Accountant.

29 *Resolved:* That the Company Accountant's Report, the Balance Sheet and Accounts be adopted.

30 Mrs Judith Wilson presented the Report of the Council.

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

32 *Resolved:* That the Report of the Council be adopted.

33 At 2.15 p.m. the Conference Service was conducted by the Revd David Gaffney and the Revd Christine Bank in the chapel of the Hayes Conference Centre. The Revd David Gaffney ordained Mrs Rebecca Mary Jarratt as a Minister. The Revd Christine Bank delivered an address on "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21)

The offertory for the Conference funds amounted to £1882.25 (inclusive of Gift Aid).

34 *Resolved:* That Rebecca Mary Jarratt is hereby declared to be a Minister recognised by the Conference.

35 Mrs Jen Pickard gave an illustrated presentation on her work as Youth Leader.

36 Following a ballot Mrs Judith Wilson was declared to be Chairman of the Council until 2019.

37 Following a ballot Mr Michael Hindley was declared to be Vice-Chairman of the Council until 2017.

38 Following a ballot Mr Richard Cunningham and Mrs Lara Nicholls were declared to be members of the Council until 2018 and Mrs Rachel Turner was declared to be a member of the Council until 2017.

39 The Revd Jack Dunion gave a presentation about the Spiritual Friends website.

40 A collection of slides put together by the Revd David Gaffney of pictures of Purley Chase and various activities held there was shown.

41 At 8.00 p.m. a social was held, compered by Mrs Jan Millar, which included games led by Mr Stephen and Mrs Jenny Jones and dancing led by the Revd Bruce Jarvis.

Friday 31st July 2015

42 The younger people present gave a presentation about the future of the Church entitled 'When I'm 64'.

43 The children, under the guidance of their leaders, presented the work they had undertaken during the Conference.

44 The Spiritual Leader, the Revd David Gaffney, presented a Certificate of Ordination to the Revd Rebecca Jarratt.

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

46 *Resolved:* That, in accordance with the Council's proposal, the 209th Annual Meeting be held at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, starting on Tuesday, 26th July 2016.

47 *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 (the Bookings Secretary); Mrs Judith Wilson, for the planning of Conference; 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 Erica Cunningham and Mrs Sally Field for acting as the Credentials Committee; Mr Phillip Brooks and Mr Colin Skinner for acting as scrutineers; Mr Michael Clubb, Mrs Hazel Nicholls and Mr Howard Turner for arrangements for the Holy Supper service; Mrs Marion Curry (Music Director), the musicians and the choir; Mrs Jenny Jones and Mrs Jan Millar for the Social and Mrs Erica Cunningham for the beautiful floral arrangements.

48 *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.

49 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be accorded to the Chairman of the Council, Mrs Judith Wilson, and to the chairmen and vice-chairmen appointed by her, for their conduct of the Annual Meeting. Those who acted in this capacity were Mr Richard Cunningham, Mrs Sally Field, Mr David Haseler, Mr Michael Hindley, Mrs Lara Nicholls and Mrs Rachel Turner.

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

51 At 12 noon a closing service of family worship was conducted by the Revd Rebecca Jarratt.

52 The Annual Meeting closed at 12:45 p.m.

Signed

Judith M Wilson, Chairman

J Zoë Brooks, Company Secretary

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2015

1 MEMBERSHIP

The Council held four meetings during the year, which included one short meeting before the Annual Meeting. Details of attendances are as follows:

Chairman:	Mr D R A Friend	3 (Resigned 16 January)
	Mr M J Hindley	1 (From 17 January)
Vice-Chairman	Mrs J M Wilson	4
Trustees:	Ms J Z Brooks	4 (Also Company Secretary)
	Mr R H Cunningham	4
	Mr M D Haseler	4
	Mr M J Hindley	3 (Also Council Secretary) (Until 16 January)

In attendance were:

Company Accountant:	Miss S Ross	4
Ministers' Com. Secretary:	Revd C Bank	3 (4 possible)
Spiritual Leader:	Revd D E Gaffney	4

1.2 Mrs Lara Nicholls attended the non-confidential parts of the March meeting by invitation because she is considering standing for election to the Council in July 2015.

1.3 Mr David R A Friend (Chairman) resigned on 16 January 2015 on health grounds and Mr Michael J Hindley was appointed by the Council to be Chairman until the 2015 Annual General Meeting. Mr Hindley was taken ill on 10 March 2015 and Mrs Judith M Wilson has undertaken the duties of Chairman since that time. She intends to stand for election as Chairman in July 2015 and Mr Hindley intends to stand for the position of Vice-Chairman. Mr Richard Cunningham (Elected Member) will complete his term of office in July 2015 and will seek re-election.

The periods of office of members of the Council in their present roles are: Mr Michael Hindley until July 2015, Mr David Haseler until 2016 and Mrs Judith Wilson and Ms J Zoë Brooks until 2017.

1.4 At the Conference in 2014 only two of the four possible Trustees were appointed and subsequently the Council was two Elected Members short until

16 January and three short thereafter, making it the sixth year during which it has been without its full complement. This year, therefore, it is possible to appoint, in addition to the Chairman and quite likely the Vice-Chairman, two Trustees for a period of three years, one for a period of two years and one for one year, despite the fact that only one is retiring.

1.5 Following the appeal made at Conference 2014 a Member expressed an interest in serving on the Council if meetings could be moved to Saturday/Sunday. The Council had previously announced that it was prepared to make this change if necessary. However, when it considered the question in more detail the Council had to reluctantly conclude that it was not practicable to make such a change at present.

2 GENERAL REVIEW

Ms Alison Southcombe is being sponsored to train at SOLCe with a view to her replacing the Revd David Gaffney as Programme Director at Purley Chase. Her training, which was initially for a year, began in October 2014 and has progressed well and it is anticipated that it will be extended for a further two years. Ms Southcombe lives in Atherstone.

In order to continue to encourage young people to attend Conference the Council has again agreed that Mrs Jenny Jones be authorised to invite 16-19 year olds and those aged 20 and 21 who are undergoing full-time education to attend Conference 2015 as a free event.

As it is not only young families that sometimes have difficulty meeting the costs of attending Conference, the Council has also decided to continue to offer to reduce the price for all members to 75% of the actual cost for Conference 2015. Those who can afford to do so have been asked to make up the balance of 25% by donation, in addition to any donation they might wish to make towards the costs of young families. As a result of this reduction, young families are being offered attendance at only half of 75% but they are being asked to make this up to 50% by donation if they can afford to do so.

Following the death of Robert Harmer, who dealt with our property matters, Messrs Gregory Rowcliffe Milners were unable to act on our behalf with the same level of efficiency and they agreed that we might be well advised to engage another firm of solicitors. As a result the Council decided in October to transfer this work to Messrs Harris & Harris of 14 Market Place, Wells, Somerset, BA5 2RE, as they were already dealing with the problems with the Bristol Church and their work was proving to be very satisfactory.

3 LINK MEMBERS

Details of the links between the Council and those engaged in ministerial work are:

Web Development	Mr R H Cunningham and Revd J Dunion
Purley Chase	Mr M D Haseler and Revd D Gaffney
Finance	Miss S Ross and Revd C Curry
Human Resources	Mr R H Cunningham and Revd C Bank
Youth and Training & Development	Mrs J Wilson and Revd J Dunion
CAM and Local Churches	Mrs J Wilson and Revd C Bank

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

4 STAFF & REMUNERATION

In 2014/15 the total of stipends, telephone and broadband paid to ministers was £88,476. In addition one worked as a part-time non-stipendiary minister throughout the year. In the same year the total of salaries, wages, telephone and broadband paid to lay employees was £157,632. These figures include people employed for part of the year.

The Council approved a 2% increase from 1 April 2015 for all employees, except those paid hourly. This is slightly in excess of the Average Weekly Earnings index.

In anticipation of the statutory need for employees' total pension contributions to be at least 8% the Council has decided to increase its contributions for all eligible employees to 8% from 1 April 2015.

At its March meeting the Council considered a letter from Mr David Glover outlining his plans for retirement by April 2016. He will be difficult to replace and work to ensure an orderly handover period was begun immediately.

5 MINISTRY

Spiritual Leader

The Revd David Gaffney's term as sole Spiritual Leader comes to an end in July 2015 but he has agreed to continue in this role for a further two years until July 2017.

Non-Stipendiary Ministry

Once again the Council wishes to record its appreciation of the generosity of the Revd Clifford Curry, who worked as a part-time non-stipendiary minister

throughout the year. His voluntary work continues to contribute to Conference's improving financial position.

Ordination

Mrs Rebecca Jarratt will be ordained during Conference 2015.

Ordination Training

The Council wishes to remind everyone that it is now able to support an Ordination Student.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT - INFORMATION HELD ON COMPUTER

During the year Mr David Glover has been working on ensuring that we have a robust backup procedure for key personnel, paying particular attention for the need to backup vital data he himself holds and the use of a remote location.

7 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

The Council feels that as there are so many people who do such a great amount of voluntary work for Conference and for Societies it has become inappropriate to single out individuals for special recognition. Therefore it does not intend to recommend the appointment of any new Honorary Life Members.

8 VOLUNTEERS

The Council again wishes to express its gratitude to all those who have taken on voluntary roles. A full list of volunteers now working for Conference is given in the Year Book. The Council is still seeking to reduce the work of volunteers wherever possible.

When he took up the position of Chairman Mr Michael Hindley gave up his voluntary role as Council Secretary and the duties of that post have been distributed among the other Council members.

It is planned that shortly Mr Alan Misson will produce *Lifeline* only once every two months but that it will be a slightly thicker magazine. He has been asked to recalculate the price of production accordingly. The Council wishes to thank Mr Misson for agreeing to continue as the editor.

9 SOCIETIES

Mauritius

In September the Revd Christine Bank informed the Chairman and the Company Secretary that our friends in Mauritius were considering employing a General Church minister. This was done so that consideration could be given as to whether such a course of action would present any problems, in

view of the connection of Mauritius with Conference. No difficulties could be foreseen and both officers were happy to encourage the people in Mauritius to proceed with the plan, particularly as there was no likelihood of Conference being able to provide any ministerial support in the foreseeable future.

The Revd Joel Kouassi duly arrived in Mauritius on 20 December. He is a man in his early thirties and has a young family. He comes from the Ivory Coast. He is French-speaking, which will be very helpful as this is the preferred language in Mauritius. The Council wishes him every success with his ministry.

10 CONFERENCE PROPERTIES

Churches and Other Buildings

Keighley

The Council has made a grant of £2,000 to Keighley Society towards the cost of essential work that had to be done to its car park.

Bristol

The Council reported last year that there were problems with the sale of Bristol church. Firstly squatters had occupied the property and secondly a local group had succeeded in having the church listed as an Asset of Community Value by Bristol City Council, which meant that there was a moratorium period of six weeks during which we could not sell the property to allow for any interested group to lodge a request to be treated as a bidder.

The squatters were removed in June and the building was secured with a steel door and perma steel to the ground floor windows.

A notice was received from an appropriate group that they wished to be treated as a bidder and as result the moratorium period was extended by six months. In the meantime Conference appealed to Bristol City Council against their decision to list. The appeal was turned down and Conference proceeded to take Bristol City Council to court. This appeal was successful. The hearing took place on 23 January and judgement was made on 12 February. At this point the offer of £430,000 that had been accepted in March 2014 was still on the table, so we were able to proceed quickly and we hope to exchange contracts in early April. We are still waiting to receive our costs from Bristol City Council

Burnley

Last year it was reported that the residents of the flats at Burnley had put railings and a gate in front of their car park and also more railings and another gate at the entrance of the church's car park, all without consulting either the local Society or Conference, the freeholder of the flats, and that to make

matters worse they had dissolved the limited company that managed the flats, making it difficult for us to know whom to contact about this violation. They have now appointed a solicitor to deal with the reinstatement of the Management Company. When this has been done our solicitor will draw up an agreement whereby the Management Company accepts that it will be responsible for maintaining all the railings and both sets of gates and acknowledges that this does not in any way give the tenants any rights over the church's car park.

11 MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE

Since the last Annual Meeting Mrs Elisabeth Brooks, Mr Bryan Brown, Mr Norman Brown, Mr Maurice Stevenson and Miss Dorothy Turner have passed into the spiritual world.

12 NOMINATIONS AND PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

a) Nominations

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

b) Rules

The following rule change(s) will be moved by the Council at the AGM 2015:

Membership

Rule A5

That the words 'Societies and Groups' be deleted and that the words 'Any Member' be inserted and that the words 'Company Secretary' be deleted and the word 'Council' be inserted.

The Ministry

Rule J8

That the existing Rule be deleted and the following substituted:

The Ministers' Committee, following approval by the Council, may appoint a Minister whose prerogative it shall be to decide who shall perform each ordination, in consultation with the ordinand concerned. He/she may perform the ordination, or may appoint any other Minister to do so, whether inducted as an Ordaining Minister under the provision of earlier Rules or not.

The term of the appointment shall be decided at the time of appointment, but may be renewed subsequently. If the Ministers' Committee decides not to appoint an individual Minister to determine who shall perform each ordination, then the prerogative to do so shall remain with the Ministers' Committee.

13 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Company Accountant, Miss Sally Ross, reports on the Income and Expenditure accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015 and the Balance Sheet as at that date, subject to audit:

Overall Summary

The operational income has reduced compared with last year's results but we have still managed an operational surplus of £57,000.

Income

Society income has continued to fall and has gone down to £165,000 which is a decrease of 2.4% compared with last year, with the previous year only decreasing by 1.75%. Donations have decreased by 60%, to only £17,000, compared with the previous year.

Expenditure

There has been a decrease of expenditure of 1.4% compared with the previous year. This decrease is mainly due to reduced administration costs but there has also been a small decrease in human resources of £1,000.

Balance Sheet

We have again received a large amount of legacy money and this will be invested shortly.

Future Forecast

The forecast for the next few years follows the same pattern as the previous couple of years but with the operational surplus reducing more and more, so that in 5 years' time we will barely break even. It may be seen by some that Conference has a lot of money in the form of investments but this is crucial to pay the staff and running costs of Conference from the dividends received. If we spend the investments then the dividends will be reduced and Conference will be in an operational deficit again. Continued monetary and voluntary support is needed to ensure Conference continues.

14 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PURLEY MANAGEMENT TEAM

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

1 The Team

Michael Clubb	Chairman	Alison Plunkett	
Anne Gaffney	Manager	Sally Ross	Company Accountant
David Gaffney	Programme Director	David Haseler	Secretary

The competent housekeeping and catering team continued to ensure the smooth running of Purley during the year.

2 Events

It is encouraging that figures for Conference events (number, attendees and person-nights) have remained constant compared with the previous year, reflecting the work to attract new events to replace those that have closed at a time when Conference numbers are declining and new leaders are increasingly difficult to find. Both the total number of events and the number of person-nights are the highest since records began four years ago.

The monthly Sunday morning service continues, and David Gaffney started an Arcana Caelestia group in January 2015. The attendees are divided between existing church members and newcomers, leading to interesting discussions. The carol service again attracted a good number of people, and continues as a much loved and appreciated annual event.

The Team are conscious that David Gaffney has to deal with the pressures of being Spiritual Leader as well as those of his work as Programme Director.

3 Finance

There was a nett deficit of £18.4K compared with break-even in the previous year. Factors were a 34% decrease in gift-aided donations and significant increases in energy and maintenance costs despite an 11% increase in accommodation receipts. Charges have been increased from 1st January 2015.

4 Programme Director

The Team was delighted to learn that the Council had agreed to sponsor Alison Southcombe as a student with the aim of succeeding David Gaffney as Programme Director.

5 Buildings and Grounds

(a) General

Following 8 years of heavy use, a programme of redecoration has been started to maintain the appearance of the building. Work has also been necessary to repair a leak in the roof, to repair a chimney stack and to rebuild the damaged entrance wall.

(b) Grounds

The grounds continue to be maintained by volunteers and staff. We are grateful to two Conference volunteers who carry out work on trees biannually to maintain them in a safe condition; this is occasionally supplemented by work by a professional company

(c) Health and Safety

Health and Safety remains a high priority in view of the number of people using the premises. This is assured by routine maintenance, regular audits and by external regulatory checks.

6 Thanks

Purley continues to be well-run by our hard-working staff, and we continue to be grateful for their contribution to the Centre. The Team would also like to thank the people, too many to name, who have volunteered in different ways both large and small to ensure that Purley continues to operate successfully. We are grateful to the many people who donate generously to Purley, many on a regular basis.

The success of the Centre is primarily the result of the resident team of Anne and David Gaffney and Sally Ross whose hard work is well above the call of duty. Anne and David have the added pressure of effectively being on duty 24 hours a day. The Team expresses its thanks for their work and dedication.

On behalf of the Council:

David R A Friend, Chairman

Michael J Hindley, Chairman

Judith M Wilson, Acting Chairman

J Zoë Brooks, Company Secretary

REPORTS FROM AROUND THE CHURCH YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2015

1 AREA COUNCILS

1.1 SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION (Mrs H Laidlaw reports)

The Scottish Association of the New Church continues to meet quarterly.

Following some discussion, the Revd Jack Dunion made an excellent display board which is now used to give information about the Sunday Service or any other activity which is taking place in the Church. This Notice Board was used very successfully to display information about the Doors Open Day which once again was well attended and visitors appreciated the friendly welcome which they received.

Following on from this it was agreed to resume placing a Notice in the "Church News" section of the local paper.

There is ongoing discussion regarding altering the entrance door to the church to make it more welcoming and obvious that the Church is indeed open. A Member of the Committee put forward suggestions and photos of how it could be done without incurring a large expense and it was unanimously agreed to take this to the next Church Committee meeting for consideration.

1.2 YORKSHIRE AND NORTH EAST AREA COUNCIL (Mrs Jan Millar reports)

Gwendolen Rowe has served her first term as Chairman of the Area Council and Phillip Brooks has retired as treasurer to be replaced by Janet Jessop.

We once again held the AGM on a Sunday as part of a day of worship and activities to which all churches in the Area were invited as well as families and individuals who live in the area but are unable to attend a church on a regular basis. The stimulating day was well attended by both adults and children and gave us the opportunity to share in worship and fellowship together.

The reports received from all four churches at the 2015 Area AGM show that the lack of human resources and reduced numbers of people attending Sunday worship are the main problem faced by individual churches. Seaburn Dene continues to meet twice monthly and Bradford and Dalton have several joint services throughout the year in an effort to combat some of these problems.

We are grateful to the Ministers, Retired Ministers and Lay Worship Leaders who take our services and to all those who work so tirelessly on our behalf to maintain the life of our churches.

1.3 NORTH WEST (MANCHESTER) AREA COUNCIL
(Mrs Pauline Grimshaw reports)

i Two meetings of the Council have been held during the past year with an average of six persons attending from Stockport, Kearsley and Radcliffe.

ii Again three events have been organized by the Council during the past year which gave us the opportunity to worship, learn and enjoy being part of a greater whole. The New Church Day Service shared with our friends from North Lancashire was held at Accrington and led by Mr. Christopher Chambers.

iii The Celebration of Christmas was held at Kearsley and followed the usual pattern of a shared supper followed by Christmas hymns, poems and readings.

iv The Swedenborg Birthday meeting was held at Radcliffe and was led by Mr. Christopher Chambers. The meeting focused on our continuing study of the Apocalypse, illustrated by the appropriate cards. A variety of discussion techniques were used. It was gratifying to have a greater attendance than usual.

v Mr. Jeffrey Lomax represented our area at AGM of Conference whilst Mr. Keith Sandiford represented our Area on the Kildwick Committee.

vi A successful CAM sponsored workshop entitled ‘God’s relationship with us –Easter to New Church Day’ was held at Kearsley in November.

vii Our most pressing area of concern during the past year has been the difficulties of maintaining regular services of worship within the Area and the Radcliffe Church especially has suffered, because of the illness of Mrs. Hilary Eastwood. Most sincere thanks go to all worship leaders who have served the Area during the past year. Their efforts have been vital to ensure the value of our churches as worshipping communities. We have been pleased to have the services of Rev B Talbot leading services in the area on a more regular basis, which has helped to ameliorate the situation, particularly at Radcliffe.

viii During the coming year our officers again will be:-

Chairman: Mr. J. D. Lomax
Secretary: Mrs. P.A. Grimshaw
Treasurer: Mr. J. E. Ford

2 **KILDWICK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

(Keith Sandiford, the Secretary, reports)

As usual our season ran from Easter to the beginning of November. There were no major highlights or problems during that period.

Expenditure was mainly on general maintenance and services. However, there were again leaks in one of the washrooms plus loose slates on the roof which had to be attended to. The total cost of these repairs was £263.50. It was also necessary to spend £50 to deal with yet another mole invasion in July. Friends of Kildwick paid for the privet hedge to be cut and for concreting over the bare soil below the bay window at the front of the premises. This involved a total outlay of £556.

Bookings for the year were disappointing and continued the downward pattern of the last two years. The total was 16 bookings for 54 days compared with 19 for 62 days last year. Of these Church bookings accounted for 10 on 38 days (10 on 36 days last year). Outside groups numbered 6 on 16 days (9 on 24 days in 2013). Bookings were of a similar type to previous years. The Discussion Day led by the Revd Geoffrey Clarkson was popular as usual and there were parties from Radcliffe and Kearsley. The outside bookings included a unit of the Boys Brigade from Bradford and various family groups.

The premises have been kept in good order. However, if the decline in bookings continues it will be increasingly difficult to maintain current standards in the future. Improvements will be even more difficult to carry out.

3 **OVERSEAS**

(The Revd Norman Ryder, Overseas Secretary, reports)

South Africa Swedenborg Publishers International has received no information about the publication of the Zulu translation of “Conjugal Love” which it has sponsored.

Nigeria We continue to receive no news or communications from the leaders of The Lord’s New Church in West Africa (Nigeria), other than the Christian Guide for 2015 – the 23rd consecutive edition of this compendium of doctrinal teaching, lectionary, prayer calendar, and current addresses of Church leaders in Nigeria. It is now compiled by the Revd Dr Adegbemile Oluwadare, the General Secretary of the New Church in Nigeria and Principal of the Theological College in Owo, Ondo State.

The individuals to whom I send copies of the Writings and other New Church books express warm gratitude for what they receive. I thank the Swedenborg Society for the set of Arcana Caelestia and multiple volumes of The True

Christian Religion which they donated to one of our senior Ministers there: with this help, he reports, he has enrolled 82 of his church members in his doctrinal class.

Europe Swedenborg Publishers International is now planning what support we can give to Miss Lenka Máchová's proposal to prepare a Czech translation of *The True Christian Religion*. The only previous Czech version of this work was made about 60 years ago, with a few copies typed for private distribution during the Communist regime. The new translation into modern Czech will be a worthy successor to its 'samizdat' predecessor. Lenka has already translated extracts from the book and published them in anthologies drawn from Swedenborg's works.

The Revd Pavel Heger has expressed an interest in translating *Arcana Caelestia* into Czech, but could not accept the proposals of S P I as to how this could be done.

Mauritius It is good to learn that the New Church in Mauritius has been able to arrange for ministerial service from the Revd Henry Joel Kouassi, a French-speaking priest of The General Church of the New Jerusalem, from Côte d'Ivoire, for an initial period of one year from December 2014. The Revd Bruce Jarvis is establishing fraternal links with Joel, for which his own pastoral visits to Mauritius equip him with insights into the work there.

4 HOME WORSHIP

(Mrs Sylvia Fay, the Organiser, reports)

The issues for 2014/2015 have again been sponsored by Chester Society with no charge on Conference funds. Currently our team prints and sends by post 35 copies of each issue, with 49 more copies distributed by email. During the year we learned of the deaths of 5 recipients who had received the issues for over 25 years.

Comments received such as this should inspire our contributors to keep on composing, as they inspire us to keep on distributing: "My Home Worship notes are a real lifeline to me. I look forward to Sunday mornings when I settle down and digest the latest offerings. I would dread not being able to have the quiet period, an uplifting part of my week."

5 BROADFIELD MEMORIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

(Ray Pulsford, the Treasurer/Secretary, reports)

The Fund has continued to make grants, on request, to pensioners and ministers and a total of £16,220 has been distributed compared with £16,400 last year.

Donations remain at £16,000 and other income was £345 from CIF dividend. There was a balance of £668.95 on 31st March 2014 compared with £558.90 last year.

6 REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR AUXILIARY MINISTRY (The CAM Coordinator, Mrs Jan Millar, reports)

General

The work of the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry is developing to respond to the challenge of the changes that are taking place in many of our churches. CAM continues to work closely with SOLCe to support both churches and individuals in many aspects of church life and to offer training and resources where necessary. Some of our committee meetings are now held at Wellspring House to enable Revd Helen Brown and Phil Wood to attend.

Worship Leader Training and Support Programme

Both trainee and experienced worship leaders attended the Worship Leader Weekend which was held at Purley Chase in October 2014. The theme for the weekend was 'Leadership' and the sessions were led by a variety of lay people. The weekend was challenging, educational and inspiring and CAM would like to thank all those who have given of their time, insights, knowledge and expertise to support and encourage the worship leaders at this weekend.

Workshops

CAM sponsored a workshop led by Revd Mary Duckworth at Kearsley in November 2014. It was entitled 'God's relationship with us' and focussed on the Easter – Ascension – Pentecost – New Church Day sequence. CAM is happy to sponsor any workshops requested by churches or individuals. As always we are here to meet your needs.

Resources

There remains an ongoing need for a wide variety of resources to assist lay people in their ministry. Some of these resources have been included on the 'Spiritual Friends' website. The committee is grateful to all those who so generously share their work with others.

CAM would also like to thank the Council and the Committee of Ministers for the support and encouragement they give to the work of lay people. The committee is keen to introduce any new initiatives to meet the changing needs of the Church, but needs to be made aware of any training or support that may be required. Finally, CAM would like to thank all the Auxiliary Ministers who give so generously of their time, knowledge and enthusiasm to help to maintain the life of the Church. Their role is key to the future of the Church.

7 FAMILIES

(Mrs Jenny Jones, Family Co-ordinator, reports)

Events at Purley have been well attended by families over the last year. Both weekends have been fully booked and we have continued to have a short waiting list for cancellations. For this reason, a third weekend has been booked at Purley Chase for February 2016. It is hoped that this weekend will follow a more relaxed programme with activities being planned around a biblical theme so that families can work in mixed age groups together. This will reduce the need for official “leaders”. It continues to be difficult to find new leaders to work with the children, especially the children aged 12 plus. However, a small group of young adults have volunteered to help at family events in the future and we hope that this will eventually reduce the pressure on the dedicated group of current leaders who return year after year to support us. This “third weekend” was cancelled two years ago due to lack of bookings. We are obviously hopeful that it will take place next year.

Families and young adults also continue to attend Conference and we are thankful to Gwendolen Rowe, Tonia Jarvis and Sue Chesworth who help to provide activities for the children throughout the week. This allows parents to attend Conference and make a vital contribution. We continue to encourage young adults and families to come along and “give Conference a go!” Attending Conference is very popular with the group of children who attend and they rate it as highly as attending Purley events!

Easter Rally ran successfully again at Wellspring House in Manchester. We had the largest number of bookings in our six year history. Unfortunately, two were unable to attend due to work pressures but this meant we didn’t need to panic about the lack of space to accommodate everyone! Our age range was from 13 to 21 and we even had a visitor who flew from France to reach us! Holly had attended our international Easter Rally with the group from the USA four years ago and kept in touch via Facebook with her friends in the UK. She was studying in Grenoble over the Easter period so decided to join us! Thanks to Emily Taylor, Robert Taylor and Rev Jack Dunion for their invaluable help yet again.

8 YOUTH LEADERS

(Mrs Jen Pickard reports)

During my second year within the Youth Leader role I aimed to expand on areas of success from last year and encourage involvement and new opportunities for families and children.

After the hugely successful piloted Activity Day which took place in September 2013 at Calshot in Hampshire, 2014 saw the expansion to other areas of the country, so nine children aged 6-14 had a day in the snow at the Chill Factore, Manchester in April 2014.

The South Activity Day increased to 14 participants from the previous year's eight. The day included zip-wires, high ropes, raft building and archery. It was held at Avon Tyrrell Activity Centre in June. With the continued popularity of these days planning is already in hand to offer three locations for Activity Days in 2016, one in the South, one in the North and a new day in East Anglia.

Both days held in 2014 were a big hit with participants who submitted their own reports in Lifeline, Sunrise and the ELSAC inset. The days were a success on various levels as it was also offered to friends which a few of the participants accepted. Other events were also promoted, including Conference, who welcomed a new family as a direct result of this offer.

During the year I continued to join in, oversee and support some of the events and activities already successfully running; this included the All Age Day in Bournemouth which explored 'The Sense of Smell', Family Weekends and 9-12 Summer Camps. I was also made very welcome at the NCYA AGM and working party in Bradford.

In July a full set of Archery equipment was purchased, which is now housed within Purley Chase, thus enabling children and adults to enjoy archery as a fun activity during summer camps and Purley Chase events.

The Little Angels Parent and Toddler Group, which was set up in April 2013, continues to be held within the Church environment. It has proved to be an excellent opportunity to promote the organisation thus breaking down barriers. The group's format includes church-based activities. I was thrilled when nine budding artists submitted their newsletter designs to Pauline Grimshaw at the end of March 2015.

The group has recently been recognised by SureStart, a government-led initiative aimed at giving every child the best possible start in life.

By living close to, and with the continued support of, the Tuckton New Church (Bournemouth) I have an exceptional opportunity to try out new ventures which will include 'Family Fun Days' in September 2015.

9 REPORT OF THE MARKETING AND RESOURCES GROUP (Mr Stephen Russell-Lacy, Chair, reports)

The Group consists of Revd. Helen Brown, Revd. Jack Dunion, Patrick Johnson, Alan Misson, Stephen Russell-Lacy (chair & secretary), Colin Skinner, and Nigel Sutton (treasurer). It has continued to meet twice a year, and communicate between meetings via email.

Marketing should be integral to any planning of promotional material and events rather than being thought of as an advertising add-on. This is because

personal contact is central to effective marketing of our spiritual teachings. We need to be mindful of the ideas and language of those with whom we are communicating: e.g. whether or not they are familiar with the Bible, have experienced the sphere of church, and are seeking deeper answers to life's puzzles.

We aim to produce, commission, sponsor and encourage the production of resources tailored to different markets that help to effectively communicate our teachings.

We have funded the Apocalypse card set, booklet and exhibition, and materials for the *Heavenly Secrets* reading initiative. Although sadly behind on our timetable due to competing pressures on our time, we are continuing to develop a commercial web site as a sales outlet.

We need those, who sell our recent publications, to feedback to our treasurer their sales and stock information, so we can plan to meet current and future need. With the trend of building closure, we also need information regarding any unmet need for storage space of books, equipment and materials.

10 NEW CHURCH YOUTH ASSOCIATION REPORT

(Miss Alison Presland reports)

Council Meetings

Three meetings have been held during the past year.

NCYA Annual General Meeting

Our AGM this year is later than usual and will be held at the Seaburn Dene Society in June. The day will be entitled 'Bibles, Bags and Boxes' and will look at some of the resources available to societies and groups with children, and will give ideas that churches can use for unexpected or occasional children who might attend. A formal business meeting will be included during the day.

Summer Camp 1 and Other Purley Events

The NCYA organises and financially sponsors Summer Camp 1 (ages 9-12). The leader was Revd Christine Bank along with Bob and Lou Curry, Jen Pickard and Callum Nicholls. The theme of the camp was 'The Seven Days of Creation.' The children attending thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The NCYA also helps financially with Young Family events as requested and ensures that the store cupboard at Purley Chase is well stocked with art and craft materials.

Home Sunday Club

The NCYA has continued to send regular monthly lesson packs, containing a letter, activity sheets and Sunrise magazines to children with New Church connections who are unable to attend a new church regularly. Twenty eight

packs have been sent to fifty one children. Thanks for this invaluable work go to co-ordinator Carolyn Kennion and letter writers Lara Nicholls and Alison Presland.

Colouring Exhibition

The NCYA has provided a number of options for the Colouring Exhibition, including colouring sheets and newsletter templates on the subject of 'My Favourite Month.' It was particularly pleasing to have a number of entries from the Bournemouth LITTLE ANGELS toddler group.

Publications

Gwendolen Rowe has continued to produce and distribute Christmas, Easter and Summer/Harvest editions of Sunrise with extremely professional graphics including many photos of children's activities.

Pauline Grimshaw has also sent out two Contact news leaflets.

Children's Day

Again the third Sunday in January was designated as a 'Children's Day' for all our societies. Our President sent out material including a sermon to all Ministerial and lay Worship leaders which was much appreciated.

General

The NCYA continues to offer financial help and assistance to all schools involved in work with children.

Once again the NCYA wishes to thank everyone who has helped in work with children:- worship leaders, camp leaders and Sunday School/Club teachers. Their hard work is very much appreciated.

11 SPIRITUAL FRIENDS (SF) WEBSITE REPORT

(Revd Jack Dunion reports)

Over the past year there has been a significant change to the way the site is managed. Cathy Mahmood, who did a first class job in helping develop SF is no longer employed to work on the website. However, we are grateful that funding of £1,500.00 per annum has been continued and will provide for the costs of the webmaster's administration costs and expenses.

It is now apparent that the site has reached an important phase in its development and the time has come to take stock of all that has been achieved so far. We must look to identifying what works well and what doesn't in a realistic way as we focus our resources on the future. Something which needs looking at for example is the social networking area of the site. This was created with a view to connecting people and although it works well for those

who choose to use it we must be realistic in recognising that Facebook is a far more attractive option which most people much prefer.

Further, we have also encountered major problems with people needing to log into the site. The reason why we required people to log in was that we had foreseen a need to protect our younger members from any rogue content by identifying people before approving access to the site. For this reason I will be recommending that we look to further develop our social networking ability through Facebook and other existing mediums while maintaining direct links to SF. This will help eliminate both the problems stated above and allow us to focus on developing the site as a central hub.

I continue to feel strongly that this site has potential which will only be fully realised over time as our organisation emerges from the significant changes which we are currently going through. But it will only remain relevant if we maintain a willingness to adapt and overcome.

12 REPORT OF THE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMITTEE (Mrs Maeve Hawkins reports)

The Annual report of the Committee's work for 2013-14 was unfortunately submitted too late to be included in the reports for Conference or in the Year book for 2013-14. Consequently this report also includes something of the Committee's work in that year.

The Committee members, The Rev Norman Ryder (Chairman), Mrs Maeve Hawkins, Mr Patrick Johnson, Mr Gordon Kuphal and Mr Howard Turner were joined in 2014 by Mr Richard Lines. Four meetings are held each year. Mrs Pauline Grimshaw's associate membership of the Committee is expected to be confirmed at a meeting of the Council in July. Mrs Grimshaw is unable to attend meetings but her input to the work of the Committee is most useful.

We were very sorry Mrs Frances Fisher resigned her position as Secretary after twenty five years due to the illness of her husband Graham. Graham accompanied her to meetings and undertook some routine work for the Committee during the day. We thank Frances for her work over so many years. We miss them both.

The Committee members continued to be concerned about the future of the documents, books and other items in the Library and Archives collection. This is due both to a lack of younger people to join the Committee and a shortage of storage space. A request was made to The National Archives for advice. Dr Tim Powell of TNA visited Swedenborg House in May 2014. He submitted a useful report after his visit in which he stated "... The archives form a coherent whole and offer excellent documentation of the history of this denomination...".

Soon after the visit a proposal was made by the Swedenborg Society to take over the custodianship of the collection. Talks continue between Stephen McNeilly and James Wilson of the Swedenborg Society and Mr Kuphal and Mr Johnson, with the support of the Council, to reach a mutually acceptable agreement.

Enquiries continue to be received and are answered by members of the Committee. They have included two separate and unconnected enquiries for information concerning members of the Atwell family who were early members of the New Church in Scotland. The two enquirers, unknown to each other, have been now been put in touch. The Chairman of the Failsworth Historical Society asked for any information on the organ in the New Church there. He was delighted with a photo of the organ in situ and the information he received. Mrs Grimshaw has contributed names and details of New Church men from the Bolton area who died in the First World War to an Online Cenotaph for the Greater Manchester area. The names and details were taken from copies of the "The Young New Churchman" in the Conference Library.

The stained glass windows originally in the Bath church and later at Blackpool are now at the Stained Glass Museum at Ely Cathedral. Information on the history of the windows has been given to the Museum.

A number of enquiries arrive via the Swedenborg Society website and James Wilson is very helpful in assisting with these and also agreeing to meet with researchers who wish to visit the Conference archives when no Committee member can be present. We are grateful for this help.

REPORT OF THE MINISTERS' COMMITTEE 2014/15

1. Meetings

The Committee meeting took place from 18th - 20th November 2014 and the AGM from 17th - 18th March 2015. Nine members and Mr G S Kuphal (Recorder) were present at the November meeting with Mr David Haseler present for part of the meeting. In March there were 10 members plus Mr G S Kuphal as Recorder. In addition Mrs Rebecca Jarratt (final year Ordination student), Mr Phil Wood (leader of the Spiritual Centre, SOLCe) and Mr David Haseler all attended parts of the meeting by invitation. Both meetings took place at Purley Chase.

2. Spiritual Leader's Report

Greetings All.

As always, this year has been both challenging and rewarding for me as Spiritual Leader and Programme Director of Purley Chase. In general, the Church nationally continues in decline as far as conventional societies with church buildings is concerned, but with a few holding their own and one or two perhaps even growing a little. The values and perspectives of society continue to change and often we seem, to me, to be challenged to keep in step with it. It seems inevitable that some churches will continue to close; but something will replace them to carry forward the development of the New Jerusalem. The Lord will continue to lay out paths for journeys towards heavenly development; I think we should all rest assured about that. The Word of the Lord is good and true:

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever. (Isaiah 40: 8)

We all have self-centred loves, which the Lord 'bends' into good loves over periods of time, while those people who associate with the 'church' study the Lord's Word and co-operate with Him. And so we need to be able to accommodate others; as we endeavour to be in the world but not of the world.

I have been recently thinking about small groups and how useful they could be in the Lord's plan. At the same time as I have been thinking about these, other people have been contacting me with thoughts and ideas about small groups. Perhaps these could be led/co-ordinated by Lay Leaders and the Lay Leaders tutored by Ministers. This seems like a way forward, but at the moment these are just some thoughts I have been having, encouraged by the synchronicity of other people contacting me unprompted about the same subject.

Something else new which has been happening is that I have been running an Arcana Caelestia study group at Purley once a month. We started at Section number 1 progressing phrase by phrase, and it has been slow progress in terms of moving from one section to another; but we have covered a great deal of ground even though we are only covering about four sections per session. Unpacking the meanings of the terminology has been essential and fairly complex; but if broken down into layers and parts it has been understandable. Words such as *Lord, remains, vastation, internal and external man (person) etc. ...* are packed full of meaning: unpacking of these words themselves has in a sense been the tastiest part, revealing wonderful things. The quotations from the Word which Swedenborg inserts have generated an unexpected level of excitement. Some real surprises have emerged for us. It has been the running of this study group which, I think, rekindled my curiosity about the potential of small groups. We can't worship whom we don't understand and appreciate. The idea of setting up small groups is key - I believe - to Conference's vision. So perhaps a study of the Arcana is one medium amongst other possibilities through which small groups could operate.

Finally, I would like to say a word about Purley. We continue to be busy and attract new groups and individuals as well as serving our regular groups. We provide for local people and many from around the UK and to an extent, internationally. I feel that what we are about permeates to differing extents, those who come here. We are continually asked who Swedenborg is and give out information and many copies of his books. We continue to endeavour to seek to serve others and adapt to the needs of a large spectrum of people. We are blessed with good and caring staff.

May the Lord's blessings be with us all as we seek to experience His guidance in our lives.

Best wishes, Rev David Gaffney, The Spiritual Leader

3. New Church College / SOLCe

We invited Mr Phil Wood to our meeting to hear something of how the work of the Spiritual Centre is developing. On the education side Revd Helen Brown continues to lead the training of the students who are working with various modules.

4. Becky Jarratt and Alison Southcombe

We are delighted to celebrate the ordination of Mrs Rebecca Mary Jarratt this year and also welcome Ms Alison Southcombe as a sponsored student who is working towards becoming the Programme Director at Purley Chase as the eventual successor to Revd David Gaffney.

5. Committee for Auxiliary Ministry (CAM)

The Ministers' Committee is deeply appreciative of the work of CAM and those who freely offer their time and skills as Worship Leaders and Celebrants to serve groups and churches in a variety of roles. This continuing gift of time and energy to enable the regular public worship of the Lord Jesus Christ is a real and visible service to the whole church, even though it is often so easy to only focus on our own closest neighbours and their needs.

Worship Leaders are invited to attend two dedicated weekends at Purley Chase and we wish to affirm their value and encourage attendance at these events. The work of the CAM Committee and of the Co-ordinator, Mrs Jan Millar, is, as always, greatly appreciated.

6. Web presence

Revd Jack Dunion is our link member for Web development and maintains contact with those working on the Spiritual Friends website. Those who use or contribute towards the various church websites will know something of the range of resources and information available to use as well as the more conversational and social aspects of the site.

7. Apocalypse Study Group (ASG)

All members of the group (Revs Bruce Jarvis, Clifford Curry, Michael Stanley and Mary Duckworth) participated in the initial launch of the Apocalypse of John Card Set at Swedenborg House in September 2014. Since then further events have been held at Purley Chase and Wellspring House to bring the cards to a wider audience and to offer guidance about using them as tools to come to grips with the complex text of Revelation, and how its spiritual significance relates to our own situation. A special presentation based on the now published Set will be given at the Conference AGM by members of the ASG.

In May the illustrations G Roland Smith created were exhibited in a local York library by Becky Jarratt who presented child-friendly approaches to the images as well as using the existing notes which were aimed towards an adult audience. The event also included a talk about the illustrations given by Mary Duckworth.

8. Safeguarding

Revd Rita Russell and Mrs Judith Wilson, as our Safeguarding Officer and Deputy, have circulated revised guidance on the best practice for events involving children, whether they are held on church premises or at other locations. The Ministers' Committee together with the Council fully endorse this document and urge all leaders to implement these measures.

9. The office of Ordaining Minister and the Red Stole

The Ministers' Committee has continued discussions about the role of Ordaining Minister and the use of the red stole as a mark of those holding this office during the past year.

Our 2014 report enabled discussion at Conference and clarification that the office of ordaining minister and wearing of the red stole are matters of good practice and an orderly process. After further deliberation the Ministers' Committee have proceeded with proposals to confirm that the Spiritual Leader retains the prerogative of wearing the red stole during his or her term of office, and is the person with responsibility for arranging and conducting ordinations. At the end of their term of office the 'new' Spiritual Leader will receive the red stole and assume the responsibilities in their turn. A change in the Rules is required to formalise this and the Council will bring this before the Conference at the appropriate point in the Annual General Meeting.

10. Retired Ministers

The Committee wish to acknowledge the work of Ministers who do so much in retirement to support and lead congregations or groups and who continue to research, translate and write new material. Not all colleagues attend our Committee meetings or the Conference AGM but we all benefit from their continued service to the church.

11. 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 2%.

The salary (gross) for an ordained Minister for the year 2014/15 inclusive of the payment towards telephone and broadband is £30,265.

12. The Council

The Committee of Ministers is aware of, and sympathetic to, the difficulties faced by the Council as they continue to work with fewer than the allowable number of Trustees and make the necessary changes in response to illness among serving members. Representatives of the Ministers' Committee attend meetings, which provide valuable lines of communication between Ministry and those who take a lead in the central administrative functions of the organisation. The links between Ministers and Council are seen as being of value over and above attendance at the meetings.

13. Overseas

Very welcome overseas news was that the congregations in Mauritius were considering employing a Minister from the General Church to provide them

with much needed support. They approached us early in the process to ensure this was acceptable to all sides and it has been warmly welcomed. Conference has a history of our Ministers being able to visit the island, most recently Bruce Jarvis. This has never been for more than a few months and we were delighted that a more long-term arrangement could be made. Revd Joel Kouassi and his young family arrived there just before Christmas to take up a pastorate. Joel is in his early 30's and they have come from the Ivory Coast which is a move of several thousand miles. (Ivory Coast on the bottom of the African bulge, Mauritius in the India Ocean). Joel is a French speaker and this is the main language of the island. Both the Council and the Ministry wish Joel, his family and the church in Mauritius the very best for their time there.

14. Appointments and nominations

The Secretary of the Ministers' Committee, Revd Christine Bank, attends the meetings of the Council and Revd David Gaffney as Spiritual Leader also attends as an additional ministerial representative.

In addition we maintain links between the Council and the Ministry as below:

Web Development	Mr R H Cunningham and Revd J Dunion
Purley Chase	Mr M D Haseler and Revd D Gaffney
Finance	Miss S Ross and Revd C Curry
Human Resources	Mr R H Cunningham and Revd C Bank
Youth Training & Development	Mrs J Wilson and Revd J Dunion
CAM and Local Churches	Mrs J Wilson and Revd C Bank

We have appointed Revd Christine Bank as our representative on the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry

We have appointed Mrs Marian Kidd as Home Worship Co-ordinator.

David Gaffney [Spiritual Leader]
Christine Bank [Secretary]

REPORT OF THE COMPANY ACCOUNTANT YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2015

During the year, four legacies were received, £71,526.60 from the Christopher Jackson Estate, £8,305.00 from the Dr Margaret Jackson Estate, £240.92 from the Peggy Prince Estate and £294,719.02 from the Fredrick Shuttleworth Estate. Income has decreased by over 4% in comparison to the previous year and this is due to a decrease in investment income, society contributions and donations to Conference. Purley income continued to be the second largest income source to Conference, with investment income being the main source.

Expenditure decreased by 2% compared with the previous year due to a decrease of 3% for administration costs. Even with the addition of a fulltime sponsored student human resources costs have still fallen, albeit only slightly. This has meant an overall operational surplus of £57,000.

Investments in the Common Investment Fund have increased in unit value to £7,255 and the split between capital growth and income received from the investments still remains at a 50/50 split.

Purley had an exceptionally good year in 2013/14 and with the help of a legacy achieved a net profit for the first time. This year there was a loss of £18,064, due mainly to increasing costs and extra maintenance work done on the building during the year. Donations, like for Conference, have also fallen in the year mainly due to fewer large individual donations being received. Two new Conference events were run in the year and are being run again in the coming year which is encouraging. Standard charges have increased as of January 2015 to help cover increasing maintenance costs but Conference Group prices have remained unchanged.

Conference continues to be in a place of operational surplus, though the surplus total is decreasing. Looking at the years ahead to 2019/20 we are getting very close to a break-even point and that assumes the continuation of a high level of volunteers carrying out crucial work.

For Conference to succeed and not fall back into operational deficit in years to come, we need continued support in the form of volunteers and donations to Conference.

Sally Field – Company Accountant

Income and Expenditure Accounts

For year ended March 31st 2015

	£,000	£,000
	2014/15	2013/14
Societies	165	169
Donations - Conference	17	28
Investment Income	188	199
Trust Income	72	72
Bursary Grant	10	10
Other Income	0	3
Income Purley Chase	175	173
Total Receipts	627	654
Human Resources		
Ministry	98	108
Laity	85	89
Staff - Purley Chase	84	80
Student grants	27	5
Self Employed Fees	13	14
Employment Allowance	-2	0
Pensions	15	18
Housing	21	28
	341	342
Administration		
Travelling Expenses	20	22
Professional fees	25	33
Insurance	10	17
Office	13	11
Marketing /Resources	6	8
Central Costs	16	18
Education & Training	29	29
Youth Leading	1	5
Purley Chase	107	91
Kildwick	2	2
	229	236
Total Payments	570	578
Operational Surplus/(-Deficit)	57	76

Other Receipts and Costs

	£,000	£,000
Depreciation	-65	-65
Legacies	375	445
Closed Society Funds	-9	179
Homelands Waived Fees	10	10
Non Conference - CIF (Common Investment Fund)	28	3
Net Surplus/(-Deficit)	396	648

2015**2014***Note. The market value for the CIF per unit*

7.255

6.536

Balance Sheet as at March 31st 2015

	£	£
	2015	2014
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	2,744,346	3,004,776
Investment Assets	11,836,004	10,778,071
	14,580,350	13,782,847
CURRENT ASSETS		
Net Current Assets	1,088,338	738,302
Less Creditors	-50,000	-75,000
NET ASSETS	15,618,688	14,446,149
Represented by:-		
Endowment funds	1,221,627	1,094,237
Restricted funds	7,571,193	6,802,101
Unrestricted funds	6,825,868	6,549,811
	15,618,688	14,446,149

STATISTICAL TABLE

	Society Members	Non-resident	Total new members	Deceased	Removed	Increase	Decrease	Members of Conference
Accrington	40	16	0	3	0	0	3	32
Bournemouth	36	6	0	1	0	0	1	34
Bradford	28	0	1	0	0	1	0	22
Brightlingsea	17	6	0	2	2	0	4	10
Burnley	27	6	0	0	0	0	0	14
Chester & Wallasey	36	18	0	1	1	0	2	28
Clayton	17	7	0	0	1	0	1	10
Dalton	34	2	0	0	0	0	0	21
Derby	55	25	0	1	0	0	1	38
Kearsley	47	16	0	2	2	0	4	21
Keighley	35	9	0	1	1	0	2	27
Greenhill	19	8	0	1	0	0	1	8
Kensington	14	6	1	0	0	1	0	10
West Wickham	28	11	0	1	0	0	1	23
Paisley	51	9	0	1	1	0	2	26
Radcliffe	17	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
Seaburn Dene	27	0	0	4	0	0	4	20
Southend	18	6	0	1	1	0	2	9
Other members								181
Total 2014/15	546	153	2	19	9	2	28	541
Totals 2013/14	568	158	4	17	3	1	16	603

	Baptisms	Marriages	Funerals	Sunday School No. of children	Avg. attend. 16-	Holy Supper Administrations	Holy Supper Average Attend-	Overall Average Attend-
Accrington	0	1	3	1	1	6	18	17
Bournemouth	0	1	2	9	9	12	20	24
Bradford	1	0	0	7	2	13	10	12
Brightlingsea	0	0	1	0	0	3	6	8
Burnley	0	0	0	0	0	10	11	9
Chester & Wallasey	3	0	1	6	5	12	13	25
Clayton	0	0	0	0	0	7	6	6
Dalton	0	0	1	0	1	12	6	7
Derby	0	0	0	10	5	6	18	22
Kearsley	5	1	1	6	3	8	20	21
Keighley	3	1	6	0	0	12	19	32
Greenhill	0	0	0	0	0	11	11	11
Kensington	0	0	0	0	1	12	6	7
West Wickham	0	0	1	4	1	13	13	13
Paisley	0	0	0	2	2	6	15	14
Radcliffe	0	0	0	0	0	3	7	8
Seaburn Dene	0	0	3	10	0	7	17	32
Southend	0	0	0	0	1	8	8	9
Totals 2014/15	12	4	19	55	31	161	224	277
Totals 2013/14	21	4	28	67	41	157	240	297

THE NEW CHURCH COLLEGE REPORT OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL 2014 – 2015

This Report covers the work of the College Council for the year ended 31st March 2015. The New Church College uses the working name of The Swedenborg Open Learning Centre [SOLCe].

A COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

1 Attendance at Council Meetings

The Council met for full Council meetings on 3 occasions during the year (April 2014, October 2014 and January 2015), with one additional Council meeting in June 2014.

It also met for a Strategy Day in March 2015.

Membership and attendance at meetings were as follows:

	Council meetings	June meeting
Dr PM Russell, President	3	1
Mr RJ Nicholls, Treasurer	3	1
Mrs C Mahmood, Secretary	3	-
Mr JE Ford	3	1
Mr SR Lacy	2	-
Revd MW Stanley	3	-
Mrs MMJ Taylor (Resigned July 2014)	1	-
Mrs S Wilson	3	1
Mr R Kennion	3	1
Miss E Taylor (appointed June 2014)	1	-

The Administrator, Ms Melanie Bennett, attended the 3 meetings (3 possible) by invitation and the additional meeting in June 2014.

The Leader of Education, Revd Helen Brown, attended 2 full council meetings (3 possible) by standing invitation.

The Leader of the Spiritual Centre, Phil Wood, attended 3 full council meetings (3 possible) by standing invitation and the additional meeting in June 2014.

2 Attendance at the Annual Meeting

The 150th Annual Meeting of Governors was held at New Church College (commonly known as SOLCe, Swedenborg Open Learning Centre) on Saturday, 12th July 2014 with an attendance of 12 Governors and 8 guests/friends. A new name for the Spiritual Centre building was agreed as ‘Wellspring House.’

3 Membership of the Council

Madeleine Taylor resigned from the Council at the AGM in July 2014. Madeleine joined the Council in 2003/04 and has been an invaluable member of the Council, contributing her wisdom and understanding for 11 years. We all express our thanks to Madeleine and wish her well.

Emily Taylor was elected to join the Council at the AGM in July and attended her first meeting in October 2014. The Council is pleased to welcome Emily on board, especially at this exciting time of expanding plans and new developments. Emily brings a positive energy and youthful outlook to the Council and is a welcome addition to the team.

B EMPLOYEES

Revd Helen Brown	Leader of Education (15 hrs, with 5 hrs to delegate, per week)
Phil Wood	Leader of the Spiritual Centre (20 hrs per week; increased to 30 hrs per week) (an additional 10 hours per week for 3 years, from 1 st May 2014 – 30 th April 2017)
Melanie Bennett	Administrator (32 hours per week. Reduced to 25 hours from January 2015)

The Council thanks Mr Lomax for continuing his valued work overseeing the work-based training for the College's Ordination student, Mrs B Jarratt, on a self-employed basis.

At the first Council meeting of 2014/15, it was agreed to extend Phil Wood's hours to 30 hrs per week for a period of 3 years, with the additional 10 hours to be predominantly focussed on income generating activity and fundraising.

Due to health concerns, the Council agreed to reduce Ms Bennett's hours to 25 hours a week (3 eight hour days, Monday, Wed and Friday with one hour floating). This change has prompted the need for a part-time Administrator / Communications Coordinator to work alongside Ms Bennett. Recruitment for this new part time post will take place in the financial year 2015/16.

C EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION

In line with the current policy of the Council to follow the lead of General Conference, the salaries of the Leader of Education, Leader of the Spiritual Centre, and the Administrator were increased by 1.5% as from April 2014.

D GENERAL REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE COLLEGE

1 Performance of the Charity

The Council considers that the Charity has performed well in the year 2014-2015 in line with its charitable objects.

Wellspring House is a spiritual and educational centre with an inclusive Christian approach. We are developing a welcoming space for people of all faiths and none. We support personal spiritual growth and offer events and courses inspired by the writings of Swedenborg. The Spiritual Centre is a place to try out new ways of Ministering. New candidates for ordination training will see that we pilot new ways of meeting and connecting with people; we model different ways of dialoguing and sharing ideas.

The training of one ordination student has continued. This now includes work-based training. A second sponsored student is studying fulltime. 12 other students are studying either through open learning or in tutorial groups.

The Leader of Education, Revd H Brown and Mrs H Newton continued to coordinate a series of 'GEMS' Workshops. 'GEMS' is designed to be an accessible introduction to Swedenborgian perspectives. The Spiritual Centre Leader, Phil Wood also continued to lead a range of one-off and more regular sessions listed below.

Gems Workshops attendances:

- Journeying Home (Helen Brown),
10th April 2014 - 9 participants
- God and the Trick Cyclist (Stephen Russell-Lacy),
22nd May 2014 - 5 participants
- Forgiveness (Helen Newton),
19th June 2014 - 11 participants
- Discovering Trust and Inner Peace (Helen Brown)
10th July 2014 - 10 participants
- Visioning (David Lomax),
17th January 2015 - 6 participants
- Soul Symbols (Helen Newton),
21st February 2015 - 5 participants

Other workshops & events in 2014/15

- Blake with Boots on walk,
26th April 2014 - 6 participants
- Summer School, Developing Leadership,
11th June 2014 - 10 participants
- Under the Red Cliff, A walk by Phil Wood,
21st June 2014 - 5 participants
- Peace Week (range of events) 17th -
24th Sept 2014
- Walking the Angel Way (Helen Newton),
6th Dec 2014 - 7 participants

Ceremony of Light,
12th Dec 2014 - 20 participants
Blake with Boots on 2/Whitworth Gallery,
28th Feb 2015 - 4 participants

The Christian Meditation Group, The Mindfulness Group and The Spiritual Classics Reading Group met for a series of meetings between October and March, with a range of 3 - 12 participants.

In May 2014, our Trustees, the General Conference of the New Church, approved a 3 year financial plan (2014-2017) to enable SOLCe to draw on investments in order to invest in its future. SOLCe envisages a budgeted deficit in order to fund its activities. The total deficit over three years is expected to be within the £116,000.00 approved by our Trustee [the Council of Conference].

This represents approximately one third on payment of employees, one third on professional budgets and one third on the house and grounds. We recognise that this deficit cannot continue indefinitely and will reduce our investment income. We hope however that this investment in our future will produce momentum, add value to our property and attract future income streams.

Throughout the year Wellspring House has provided accommodation for an asylum seeker, Ms Patricia Maromo. We are extremely grateful for the voluntary work which Patricia has done in organising the many boxes of books beyond our library.

Wellspring House has been well used by other groups throughout the year.

MASCS / over 5 days and 4 counsellors weekly
MASCS Trustee meetings (quarterly)
ME group / Creative Living Centre (use the building for 8 weeks at a time a couple of times a year)
Residents of Shorecliffe Rise meeting (twice a year)
Shorecliffe Rise Managing Agents AGM (once a year)
Slimming World (2 groups weekly)
New Church Easter Rally (4 days annually)
Worship Group (weekly)
Away Days for the Creative Living Centre (occasional)

2 Future Development

The Council would like to find a way of developing a resources room within Wellspring House that is genuinely accessible for groups and individuals to interact and engage with spiritual ideas within a well-designed resources/

workshop area. It would like to create an attractive visitor experience that is educational and inspiring with exhibition/museum style displays in the reception area and resources room that can stimulate discussion on meaningful spiritual concepts for a broad audience.

Curated exhibition-style displays would provide an educational experience for all users of the building and would constitute a permanent display of who we are and the concepts we value. Temporary curated exhibitions would also support an outreach and engagement programme in which we could invite local schools and groups to explore religious concepts that are relevant to the national wellbeing agenda.

Displayed materials could be sold or loaned out. The resources would be held by SOLCe and available to New Church groups who could use the exhibition and workshop materials in their local areas. We envisage Wellspring House with this new resources centre as being important locally, regionally and nationally as a space for accessible learning for groups across the UK. A building extension could provide a modern, welcoming and artistic space for this venture.

There have been preliminary talks with North of England New Church House about collaborative work and a possible merger of our two charities. The educational resources project might be seen to embrace both NENCH's vision of a Resources Centre and SOLCe's vision of a vibrant and inspirational Spiritual Centre, offering educational resources which deliver Swedenborgian concepts in an accessible way. The Council feels that this would be an exciting new approach for the merged charity.

3 Staff

a) The Leader of Education

The focus of the Leader of Education role is needs-led education, facilitating spiritual understanding and reflection, mainly within the context of Swedenborgian teachings, and supporting students and tutors, especially those who are called to reach out to others e.g. in ministry, leadership, writing, workshops and worship leading. Rev Helen Brown is an ordained New Church minister. Rev Helen Brown is delegating the day-to-day organisation of our Ordination student's work-based training to David Lomax but retains a holistic view – liaising with the Committee of Ministers, the Council (Conference), the Sponsored Student Monitoring Group (SSMG) and the Education Committee.

b) Leader of the Spiritual Centre

The Leader of the Spiritual Centre, Phil Wood, is responsible for the development of SOLCe as a spiritual centre, encouraging new ways of reaching out to spiritual seekers and new ways of coming together to connect in spirit and to share a spiritual pathway.

His focus is person-, group- and community-centred i.e. facilitating spiritual understanding and reflection within the context of the individual and corporate needs of our constituency - whether centre attenders or in the wider community. He focuses on the creative potential of spiritual practices – prayer, spiritual reading, hospitality, meditation, peace-making and community building.

c) Creative and Community Outreach

Malaika, an Interfaith Minister, has been working on a self-employed basis for 6 hours a week with a focus on building community connections and local events such as Peace Week. Malaika also began a series of regular Mindfulness sessions which are continuing beyond the end of her contract with SOLCe, on a sustainable partnership basis.

d) Assistant to the Principal

Mr Alan Bowie requested to step down in 2014 from the duties of maintaining and developing the SOLCe website. There have been some delays in launching a new website, but plans are in motion for developing the Wellspring House brand and working with a new web developer for 2015.

e) Administrator

In 2013/14 The Council agreed that Ms Bennett could increase her working hours from 20 to 32 hours to accommodate the increased workload within the new staff structure. However, due to health reasons, Ms Bennett reduced her hours from 32 to 25 in January 2015 and her new work pattern (alternate working days) is suiting her well.

The Council would like to thank Ms Bennett for maintaining and developing new administrative, financial and communication systems to ensure the day-to-day smooth running of SOLCe.

4 SOLCe

a Sponsored Students

Becky Jarratt has increased her studies to half time including work-based training at West Thorpe Methodist Church. She is progressing towards ordination at the Annual Meeting of Conference 2015.

Alison Southcombe started as a full time sponsored student in October 2014 and is training for the role of Programme Director at Purley Chase Centre. She is undertaking a full three year training course.

b SOLCe Students

In addition to the 2 sponsored students, there are currently 12 others studying either through open learning or in tutorial groups. 6 different modules have been tutored by 7 different tutors.

c Education Committee

The Committee has met twice during the year. The Committee plays a major role in developing the educational work of SOLCe and benefits from the experience and expertise of its 10 members. The updating of current modules is an ongoing task. Mrs Sue Chesworth has taken on a new role in student liaison. It is expected that she will enable SOLCe to provide improved student support.

The committee continues to develop its understanding of the way in which work-based training can succeed in equipping students for their role in the church.

E PUBLIC BENEFIT

The College has continued to advertise its open learning courses and its spiritual centre programme on the web-site. Events and 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. We endeavour to create a welcoming spiritual centre with open doors to the local, regional and national community – building on existing networks and establishing new relationships to widen our reach and impact.

The College building is used by several neighbourhood groups.

F THE FABRIC

The fabric and grounds continue to be kept in good condition by the Estate Management Committee. There have been several improvements and repairs during the year. The Common Room has been transformed into a welcoming multi-use space and the kitchen has been re-decorated and refitted.

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. The College also relies on the support of Conference for tutors, examiners and module-writers.

H GOVERNORS

There are currently 7 Honorary Governors, 11 Life Governors, and 61 Annual Governors (-4); in total 79 (-4). (The numbers in brackets show the changes during the year).

At the last Annual Meeting, there were 12 Governors present.

I FINANCE

1 Annual Accounts

The Treasurer reported a net decrease in resources of £33,186 before capital movements for the year to 31st March 2015. (decrease of £9,263 in 2013-2014).

During the year, gains on the disposal of investments of £16,782 were realised and notional gains of £89,875 arose on the revaluation of investments.

The budget for 2014–2015 projected a deficit of £48,500 (before investment management fees but after property expenditure of £25,000) but the actual deficit for the year was £15,510 before investment management fees and £33,186 when these are included. The main reason for the reduction in the budgeted deficit was a deferment in some of the planned property developments in the first year of our 3 year plan.

A budget for 2015-2016 projects a deficit of £40,500 before any adjustments arising on the real and notional gains and losses or charges for managing our investments. Once again the reason for this deficit is to allow for developments at the College in the coming year including improvements to the property. This forms part of a 3 year plan which has been discussed with and is supported by the Conference Council.

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 Conference Company Accountant they have been instructed to continue concentrating on capital growth rather than income.

J FUNDING AND RESERVES POLICY AND RISK REVIEW

1 Objective

The objective of the Charity is stated in the Charity Commission Scheme dated 13th July 1977. This states that the Charity shall promote the education of members of the New Church, with emphasis upon the doctrine and life of the New Church. The land and investments belonging to the Charity shall be held in the name of the Trustee (The General Conference of the New Church). The Trustee shall administer and manage the said investments and shall pay the clear income thereof to the Council for application in furthering the Objective of the Charity.

2 Principle

The New Church College operates to a balanced budget, while recognising that, within each individual year, a small operating surplus or deficit may arise. Any deviation from this objective will be agreed with the Trustee in advance.

Monies available to the College are invested to obtain an income but with a focus on capital growth. The income is used to fund the day-to-day activities of the College, while the capital growth ensures the continuing viability of The College, enabling it to meet future commitments and objectives.

Small donations and legacies, which are not given for a specific purpose, will be used at the discretion of the College Council to fund and enhance the day-to-day activities of the College.

Substantial donations and legacies may be added to reserves to fund the future development of The College's Objective. These monies will be added to the Non-Permanent Endowment account at the discretion of the Treasurer of the College, in consultation with the Council and/or the Trustee if appropriate. Donations or legacies that are given for a specific purpose may require the establishment of new endowment funds. When required, these will be set up with the agreement of the Trustees.

The handling of these accounts, the level of reserves, and investment policy are subject to regular review by both the Trustee and the Council at their respective meetings, and as part of the annual budgeting exercise. This is supplemented by regular discussions between the two Treasurers of these organisations.

To assist in this objective, The New Church College currently operates the following accounts:

National Westminster Bank account. This is used for meeting day-to-day operating expenses.

Investment accounts are detailed below. In addition, the Council and the Trustee have responsibility for the assets as defined on the Balance Sheet, including the property in which the College currently resides.

Investment accounts operated by Brewin Dolphin Securities Ltd.

Deposit accounts. For each of the investment accounts below, Brewer Dolphin hold cash balances from the purchase and sale of investments and to meet transaction expenses.

Permanent endowment account established under the Charity Commission Scheme. This restricted fund contains the investments as defined in the Scheme. Over time, the detailed investments have changed as the result of sound investment decisions, but the principle of income together with capital growth remains. (These funds fall under the definition of Permanent Endowment as defined in the Charities Reserves booklet CC19, and are therefore not classified as reserves).

In one combined account, the two following funds are maintained with separate records of income kept for the two constituent funds.

The non-permanent endowment account contains additional non-restricted funds that have been donated to the Charity over time. These have been invested in line with the above principle, thus increasing investment income while allowing additional flexibility for funds as required by the Council. (These funds fall under the definition of Expendable Endowment as defined in the Charities Reserves booklet CC19, and are therefore not classified as reserves).

The Jersey Educational Fund was established following a substantial donation from the Jersey Society, and the non-restricted fund was established so that the income from the Fund would be allocated to the College for the development of New Church education. This is administered in line with the 'Memorandum of Intent' agreed by the Councils of the General Conference of the New Church and of The New Church College, signed on 8th April 1998. (These funds fall under the definition of Expendable Endowment as defined in the Charities Reserves booklet CC19, and are therefore not classified as reserves).

Note. Included within the funds, which are administered on behalf of the College by Brewin Dolphin, are investments in both the General Conference Pool, which is administered by the General Conference of the New Church, and the COIF Charity Funds administered by CCLA Investment Management Ltd.

This means that The New Church College does not currently hold reserves as defined in the Charities Reserves booklet CC19.

This policy is subject to an annual review as part of the budgeting process to ensure that the reserves still meet the requirements of the Charity, and that the policy is still being followed.

Any variances from the agreed policy, or changes to this policy document will be agreed with the Trustee.

K TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The charity trustee is responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustee is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply these consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of the charity's constitution. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

L ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Council thanks its employees for all their work. There are also many other people, both paid and voluntary, without whose contribution The College could not function. The Council expresses its gratitude to the College Governors and to all those who support its work in different ways.

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

Approved by the Council on 27 June 2015 and signed on behalf by:

PM Russell
President

C Mahmood
Secretary

LEADER OF EDUCATION REPORT

Once again this past year has brought a lot of changes in the educational aspect of SOLCE's work.

I am delighted that we have been joined by Mrs Sue Chesworth as our student liaison officer. Sue is working with our online students who are dispersed across the globe studying modules mostly on an individual basis. Sue brings a wealth of educational experience and is a valued addition to our team. I trust that both students and tutors will reap the benefit of this new post.

Alison Southcombe has joined us as a full time student training for a role at Purley Chase Centre.

At the same time we welcome Alison we say goodbye to Becky Jarratt as she will be completing her training and will be ordained at the annual meeting in July. We wish her well in her future ministry which I'm sure the Lord will provide and bless.

We need to continually move with the times, so we are using Skype for tutorials if possible, which enables us to reduce costs of time and travel as well as offer this to students overseas.

Some of our modules were written over 10 years ago and we need to update them incorporating the use of new publications, learning styles and media. This is a continuing process.

We need to offer refresher events for our tutors and enable the opportunity for dialogue and skills training. The next tutor event is on 3rd October at Wellspring House.

Our lifeblood is our students who are a continuing source of stimulation and interest. It is a privilege to work with them. It is our wish to encourage and support new and existing students. To this end SOLCe is launching a developmental sponsorship scheme that students can apply for finance to take modules that will encourage their learning and development in Swedenborgian studies. Applications need to be directed to Leader of Education and the closing date is 31st August.

Work on the new website will be a particular focus this coming year, with David Lomax being project leader for this new development.

As always my challenge is to manage our limited resources, financial and people, in the best and most creative way.

I cannot end without mentioning my own change in circumstances and to record my deep appreciation of SOLCe Council's forbearance in my bereavement and in particular Dr Patricia Russell's support and care of me after the loss of my husband Bryan.

Rev Helen Brown

LEADER OF THE SPIRITUAL CENTRE REPORT

My 2015 report reflects a year of steady changes. I am now in my second year with SOLCe and taking steps to clarify priorities in both my personal and professional life. There have also been significant staff and volunteer changes at SOLCe, which have made a significant difference to life here at Wellspring House. Finally I am able to report briefly on some personal highlights and forthcoming developments.

Spiritual Centre Programme

We have shifted the emphasis this year from one-off to regular events. Two new groups - Christian Meditation (Tuesday evening) and Spiritual Classics (Monday nights) are now up and running. As yet numbers haven't been large, but response to new signage and social networking has brought new enquiries. Our Mindfulness course was a considerable success and we hope to return to the groups in 2016. We now have a Meetup page and have been making increasing use of Streetlife. Thanks are due to Cathy Mahmood, who has helped us make our publicity – and signage – more professional. John Ford also did some excellent, if sometimes frustrating work, pursuing signage and exploring planning permission. Watch this space on this front. We are still working on getting SOLCe noticed.

Database

We have a working draft of the database. Melanie and I will continue to familiarise ourselves with it.

Room Hire and Partnerships

Last year MASCS (Manchester and Salford Counselling Service) – our resident counsellors – almost closed following the departure of staff and trustees. Melanie and I have stepped into the gap and are now on their Board. We are pleased to say that they have been steadily expanding their service. I have agreed additional use of the library and the upstairs lounge. We are also working with MASCS to help develop their desperately needed service. MASCS provide SOLCe with valuable room hire and have proved complementary to our core activities.

Personal Matters

I now have a second job, which runs alongside my Wellspring House commitments. It's with the Studio, a faith based arts project and church plant, based in Prestwich, Manchester near Heaton Park. In view of the additional hours the SOLCe Council have kindly agreed to my request for a reduction in hours. My SOLCe hours now stand at 20 per week.

Staff and Volunteers

Malaika continues to work with SOLCe on a periodic basis. We are currently negotiating a fresh Mindfulness course/group.

Melanie has now moved to a new routine, working a full day on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The pattern seems to have been running well. As always Melanie's role here at Wellspring House is invaluable, not least in helping the AGM and Summer School to run smoothly.

Following a very long legal process our residential volunteer Patricia Maromo was granted asylum in the UK. This is excellent news and a great relief. She is currently working a contract in Guernsey. We will clarify her volunteering on her return.

With extra hours Linda has done a great job of the housekeeping role giving us greater flexibility and improved support for events and hospitality. Thanks Linda, you're doing a great job!

Thanks are due to all our wonderful staff and volunteers. I also want to mention Carolyn Kennion, Margaret Presland and Diane Lewin, who have been a terrific help in establishing the Christian meditation group. Ray Kennion and John Ford have, as always been a supportive practical presence. The College wouldn't be the same without them.

Phil Wood

**The New Church College
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 March 2015**

TOTALS	2015	2014/3
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
Subscriptions and Donations	13,728	13,768
Investment Income	68,805	67,230
Fees	12,400	4,314
Miscellaneous Income	3,787	1,930
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Incoming Resources	98,720	87,242
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Resources Expended		
Direct Charitable Expenditure	110,006	84,643
Other Expenditure	21,900	11,862
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Resources Expended	131,906	96,505
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Incoming Resources	(33,186)	(9,263)
Transfers	-	-
Gains and Losses on Revaluations and Disposals Of Investments		
Realised Revaluations	16,782	(4,390)
	89,875	75,484
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Movements in Funds	73,471	61,831
Fund Balances brought forward @ 1 April 2014	1,968,298	1,906,467
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund Balances Carried forward @ 31 March 2015	2,041,769	1,968,298
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2015

	2015		2014	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Investments		2,037,708		1,945,169
Current Assets				
Debtors	16,084		14,521	
Cash at Bank and in Hand	10,178		21,549	
	26,262		36,070	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	22,201		12,941	
Net Current Assets		4,061		23,129
Net Assets		2,041,769		1,968,298
 Funds				
Unrestricted Funds;				
General		373,944		372,051
Designated - Jersey Education		360,865		344,236
Restricted Funds;				
Permanent Endowment		1,306,960		1,252,011
		2,041,769		1,968,298

Approved by the Council on 27 June 2015 and signed on its behalf by:

PM Russell
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
Anna Woofenden	2007
Trevor Millar	2007
Stephen Thomas	2008
Helen Newton	2009

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
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
2013	Swanwick	G.Gordon/D.Gaffney	R.Russell	76
2014	Swanwick	D.Gaffney	C.Curry/C.Bank	72
2015	Swanwick	D.Gaffney	C.Bank	76

MINISTERS, WORSHIP LEADERS, LAY PREACHERS AND CELEBRANTS

1 MINISTERS

The following are the Ministers recognised by the Conference:

*Retired or not in active service

#Overseas

Ordaining Ministers	ORDAINED	INDUCTED
* 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. (served as an Ordaining Minister 1996 to 2001)	June 30,1970
* 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 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
Christine Anne Bank	July 31,2008
Helen Thelma Brown	July 30,2009
Jack Dunion	July 30,2009
Rebecca Mary Jarratt	July 30,2015

(Ministers in the following categories are not entitled to vote at General Meetings of Conference)

Alan Christopher Misson	1994
Recognised as a Lay Pastor	2013
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
Gwendolen Rowe	2013

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
Howard Turner	2004
Linda Wells	2006
Grant Brackley	2006
David Brooks	2006

Michael Hindley	2006
Janet Jessop	2007
David Sharrock	2008
Tonia Jarvis	2012
Susan Wilson	2012
Liz Regan	2013
John Harris	2014
Phillipa Peacock	2014

Lay Preachers recognised for service in Mauritius

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

3 CELEBRANTS

The following are 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

LAND AND BUILDINGS HELD IN TRUST BY CONFERENCE

Insurance of buildings (excluding contents)

A Allianz	B Conference Block Policy
C Congregational & General	M AMP

+ Index Linked
 # Held in trust for the Emsbay 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 BH6 3HT	B £1,234,545	+
House at 101 Tuckton Road, Southbourne BH6 3HT	B £225,346	+
Brightlingsea. Church and rooms at Queen Street .CO7 0PH	B £875,830	+
Greenhill. Church and rooms at 177 Leicester Road, New Barnet EN5 5EB	B £1,376,394	+
Kensington. Church and rooms at 5 Pembridge Villas, London, W11 3EN	B £2,182,217	+
Southend-on-Sea. Church and rooms at Sutton Road SS2 5HX	B £489,443	+
West Wickham. Church and rooms at High Street BR4 0LZ	B £438,163	+
General Conference.		
House at 18 Pollard Road, Whetstone, London N20 0UB Freehold.	B £698,113	+
Bungalow at 80 Broadway, Southbourne Bournemouth BH6 4EQ. Freehold.	B £251,293	+
House at 6 Atwater Court, Faversham Road, Lenham, Kent. Leasehold.		Insured by freeholder

In the Midlands and West

Bristol. Church at Cranbrook Road, Redland BS6 7BS B £1,033,167 +

Derby. Church and rooms at

Horwood Avenue DE23 6AN B £941,956 +

House at 409A Burton Road, Derby DE23 6AN B £166,840 +

General Conference.

Bungalow at 215 Coventry Road, Nuneaton,

Warwickshire CV10 7AX Freehold. B £486,189 +

Purley Chase Centre, Atherstone. Freehold. B £5,476,667 +

In North Lancashire

Accrington. Church at Hargreaves Street BB5 2BB B £648,078 +

Burnley. Church and rooms at

Briercliffe Road BB10 1XH B £318,359 +

General Conference.

House at 5 Whittycroft Drive, Barrowford,

Nelson BB9 6AS Freehold. # B £199,629 +

House at 126 Mercer Crescent, Haslingden,

Rossendale BB4 4DH Jointly owned freehold. B £189,665 +

House at 6 Dunkirk Avenue, Fulwood,

Preston PR2 3RY Jointly owned freehold. B £218,802 +

In North-West (Manchester) and Cheshire

Chester. Church and rooms at Brook Lane,

Newton CH2 2BT B £406,693 +

House at 51 Woodlands Drive,

Newton CH2 3QQ B £140,023 +

Kearsley. Church and rooms at

Bolton Road BL4 9DD B £1,302,020 +

Radcliffe. Church and rooms at Stand Lane. C £1,180,506 +

General Conference.

House at Church Street,

Kearsley BL4 9DD Freehold. B £263,372 +

In Yorkshire and the North-East

Bradford. Church and rooms at Ashfield Avenue,
Frizinghall BD18 3AL B £578,641 +

Dalton. Church and rooms at Grove Place,
Dalton, Huddersfield HD5 9LH B £1,084,374 +
Flats at 111 and 113 Long Lane,
Dalton, Huddersfield HD5 9LL B £786,739 +

Keighley. Church and rooms at Braithwaite Road,
Braithwaite BD22 6PX B £252,901 +

Seaburn Dene. Church and rooms at Shields Road,
Seaburn Dene, Sunderland SR6 8ND B £470,780 +

General Conference.

House at 22 Wimborne Drive, Keighley.
Jointly owned freehold. # A £300,000
Kildwick New Church Centre, Main Road,
Kildwick. Freehold. # B £693,475 +

In Scotland

Paisley. Church and rooms at 17 George Street,
with library and creche contiguous PA1 2LB. B £1,572,302 +

New Zealand

59a Balmain Road, Birkenhead, Auckland, 1310 M NZ\$366,744
(Conference share 86.7647%)

Property of the New Church College

25 Radcliffe New Road, Radcliffe, Manchester. B 586,355 +

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	Contact Treasurer
Bournemouth	Tuckton Road, Southbourne BH6 3HT	Rev.C.Curry	Mrs.J.Pike	Mrs.L.Pierpoint
Bradford and Saltaire	Ashfield Avenue, Shipley W Yorks BD18 3AL	Contact Secretary	Ms.P.Blomfield	Mrs.J Millar
Brightlingsea	Queen Street Brightlingsea Essex CO7 0PH		Mr.N.A.Skinner	Mr.G.S.Kuphal
Burnley	Briercliffe Road Burnley Lancs BB10 1XH	Rev.M.W.Stanley *	Mr.T.Mitchell	Mrs S Wilson
Chester	Dicksons Drive Newton Park Chester CH2 2BN	Rev.N.Ryder *	Mr.R.Pulsford	Mr.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	Contact Secretary	Mr.N.K.Sutton / Mr.T.Cook	Mr.J.Shepherd
Kearsley (07913 121119)	Bolton Road Kearsley Lancs BL4 9DD	Contact Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw	Mr.D.Ormes	Mrs.P A Grimshaw
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		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	Mr. A.C. Misson	Mr. C.V. Skinner	Mr. D.E. Brooks
Mauritius	Remono Street, Curepipe Road and 2 Rue Champ de Lort Port Louis		Mr. R. Sookkeah	Mr. C. Phanjoo
* Retired Minister	** Supervising Minister			

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

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

City, Town, etc.	Usual Meeting Place	Minister or Lay Leader	Secretary or Contact Name	Usual Day and Time of meeting
Blackpool			Mrs.E.Morrison	
Dumbarton	Members' homes	Rev.J.Dunion	Rev.J.Dunion	Monthly
Edinburgh	Members' homes	Rev.R.A.Gill	Mrs.H.Laidlaw	Sept-Dec and Feb-June (first Monday of the month 7.30 p.m.)
Preston	23/25 Guildhall Arcade, Preston PR1 1HR	Mrs A Whittle	Mrs L Hale	First Sunday of the Month at 10.45 a.m.
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:-		
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	Mrs.J.Jessop
Broadfield Benevolent Fund	Mr.R.G.Pulsford	Mr.R.G.Pulsford
New Church College	Mrs.C.Mahmood	Mr.R.J.Nicholls
Committee for Auxiliary Ministry	Mrs.J.E.Millar	
Examining Board (College Education Committee)	Leader of Studies	
Home Worship Scheme	Mrs.S.Fay (Organiser)	
Honorary Life Members	Ms.J.Z.Brooks	
Jeggins Trustees	Mrs.D.Mullock	
Kildwick Committee	Mr.K.Sandiford	Mr.K.Sandiford
Library & Archives Committee	Mrs.M.Hawkins	
Marketing and Resources	Mr.S.Russell-Lacy	Mr.N.K.Sutton
Ministers' Committee	Rev.C.A.Bank	
New Church Children's Society	Mrs.S.Chesworth	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.D.Lewin	Mr.N.K.Sutton
Overseas Secretary	Rev.N.Ryder	
Purley Chase Centre	Mr.M.D.Haseler	Mrs.S.Field
Swedenborg Society	Ms.R.Wells	Mr.A.Morley
Women's League	Mrs.M.Liversedge	Mrs.A.Walton
League Benevolent Fund	Mrs.A.Walton	
Yorkshire Missionary Association	Mrs.J.Millar	Mrs.J.Jessop

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.

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.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: Mrs.J.Jessop

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