

# **YEARBOOK OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH: 2021-2022**

**INCLUDING THE MINUTES  
OF THE 214<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**

**Held at the Hayes Conference Centre,  
Swanwick, Derbyshire  
from Tuesday 27th July to Friday 30th July 2021**

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

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

It was entered in the General Register of Charities,  
under the Charities Act of 1960, on 11th July 1967,  
with reference number 253206

The General Conference became a Trust Corporation on 16th September 2019

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2021

A Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in England No. 6039

## **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**

### **TRUSTEES**

Mrs M COWIE	[until 2022]	Chairman
Mr N SUTTON	[until 2022]	
Mrs S CHESWORTH	[until 2022]	
Revd R GILL	[until 2022]	
Revd B JARVIS	[until 2022]	
Mrs P GRIMSHAW	[until 2022]	
Mrs M MORGAN	[until 2022]	
Mr R TAYLOR	[until 2022]	

### **NON-VOTING MEMBERS**

Mrs SG FIELD, FMAAT, MSc

### **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS**

Mr MICHAEL CLUBB  
Mr DAVID RICHARD ALFRED FRIEND  
Mr GORDON ROLAND SMITH  
Mrs FRANCES MARY BURNLEY  
Mr GORDON STANFORD KUPHAL  
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

**USEFUL CONTACTS INCLUDING VOLUNTARY WORKERS**  
(Voluntary Workers are shown in italics)

Company Secretary	To be appointed *
Company Accountant	Mrs SG FIELD, FMAAT, MSc
Finance Manager	<i>Mr A BENTLEY</i>
Payroll & Pensions Manager	<i>Mr CV SKINNER, BSc</i>
Insurance Manager	Mrs SG FIELD
Auxiliary Ministry Co-ordinator	Mrs J MILLAR
Technology Manager	Miss G MCLEAN, BA
Child Protection	<i>Mrs R RUSSELL</i>
Youth Leaders:	Mr R CLARK
	Mrs J JONES
Property Manager North	<i>Mr J FORD</i>
Property Manager South	<i>Mr P BROOKS</i>
Health and Safety Manager	<i>Mr W WOODHOUSE</i>
Conference Organiser	<i>Mr J FORD</i>
Conference Bookings Secretary	<i>Mrs M PRESLAND</i>
Conference Programme Secretary	To be appointed *
Magazine Ordering	<i>Mrs M CURRY</i>
Data Protection Manager	Miss G MCLEAN, BA
E-News & E-Read Production Manager	Miss G MCLEAN, BA

\* In the meantime, queries should be addressed to the Chairman.

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

**Company Number 00006039**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

1 In accordance with Minute 27 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, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

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

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

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

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

3 Mrs Judith Wilson, the Chairman of the Council, took the chair

4 Mr Trevor Millar immediately proposed that the Chairman, the Vice-chairman and Ms Zoë Brooks be removed from office. This was seconded by Mr Barry Friend. Following advice from the Company Secretary regarding the Conference Rules, this motion was not put. Mr Millar then proposed a motion of no confidence in the Chairman, but this also was not put. After further discussion, which became very acrimonious, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

5 When the meeting resumed Mr John Ford took the chair. The Chairman and the Revd Christine Bank read out statements that they had prepared earlier for presentation and questions from the floor were dealt with.

6 At 8.00 p.m. there were choice sessions:

- Circle Dancing,
- Annual General Meeting of the New Church Historical Society.

### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

7 At 9.30 a.m. a Family Holy Supper service was conducted by the Revd Helen Brown and the Revd Becky Jarratt.

It was announced that Mr Lee Differ would not be ordained at the Conference Service on Thursday.

8 The Revd Robin Wooldridge spoke about the future of SOLCe.

9 Mrs Jan Millar gave a report on behalf of the Committee for Auxiliary Ministry. She presented a gift to Mr Michael Clubb in recognition of his 30 years' service as a Recognised Worship Leader. She also presented a certificate and medallion to Mrs Jenny Jones who became a Recognised Worship Leader at the Zoom Conference in 2020.

10 At 2.30 p.m. the Revd Alison Southcombe and the Revd Christine Bank led an All Age session entitled 'Is there anyone out there?'

11 At 4.45 p.m. the Revd Jack Dunion and the Revd Becky Jarratt led a session called 'Apocalypse Awakening: What can we discover about ourselves?'

12 The Revd Alison Southcombe gave the Conference news about the Purley Chase Centre.

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

- Any Spiritual or Theological Questions – led by the Revd Robin Wooldridge,
- Evening of Singing and Playing – led by Mrs Ruth Friend,
- Game for all ages – led by Shannon, Shauna and Sharmaine Fitzgerald.

### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

14 The morning session was opened at 9.30 a.m. with family worship led by the Revd Alison Southcombe.

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

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

17 The Company Secretary read messages received from Mr Christopher Chambers, Mr David and Mrs Susan Friend and also a letter from Mr Gordon

Kuphal regarding the health of Mr Michael Hindley and containing greetings from Mrs Isabel Hindley. She drew attention to the fact that these items were displayed on the noticeboard.

She also conveyed the following messages:

Mrs Mary Burnley sends her greetings and best wishes to the Annual Meeting of Conference.

Mrs Erica Cunningham sends her apologies for absence and says we will all be in her thoughts and prayers.

Mrs Pauline Grimshaw sends her formal apologies for not being present at the Conference AGM and her best wishes and prayers for the meeting.

The Revd Michael Stanley sends his apologies for absence.

Mrs Linda Wells sends apologies for her absence and her best wishes and greetings to everybody at Conference, wishing for a happy and successful meeting.

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

18 The Revd Christine Bank spoke about the contribution to Conference made by Mrs Mary Bell, Mrs Lilian Middlemiss and Mr Peter Wilson who had all passed into the spiritual world. She also spoke of the death of the Revd Jack Dunion's son Darren, who as a child had attended three Conferences with his father and who had tragically died at the age of 22.

19 *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.

20 The Revd Christine Bank presented the Report of the Ministers' Committee. She drew attention to the following anniversaries of ordination: Revd Michael William Stanley 50 years; and Revd Mary Elizabeth Duckworth 25 years.

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

22 Mr Trevor Millar apologised regarding his actions on the first day of Conference.

23 *Resolved, by Special Resolution:*

#### Article 11

That in Article 11 after the second sentence five sentences be inserted as



follows: ‘Should it not be possible for any reason to hold the Annual General Meeting at such time or at such place as prescribed by the General Conference at the preceding Annual General Meeting the Council may make such arrangements as it thinks fit and these may include holding the Annual General Meeting by suitable electronic means agreed by Council in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants. Any Member participating at a meeting by suitable electronic means agreed by the Council in which a participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants shall qualify as being present at the meeting. Meetings held by electronic means must comply with the rules for meetings, including chairing and the taking of minutes. A ballot can include the electronic equivalent for virtual and hybrid meetings. Where a change is necessary after the notice convening the Annual General Meeting has been issued the posting of details of the change on the General Conference website and in any electronic General Conference newsletter in existence at the time not less than 21 days before the date of any such meeting shall be sufficient notification.’

24      *Resolved, by Special Resolution:*

Article 11

That in Article 11 at section (k) the words ‘or Group’ be added after ‘Society’.

25      *Resolved, by Special Resolution:*

Article 25

That in the second sentence of Article 25 ‘two’ be amended to ‘eight’.

26      *Resolved, by Special Resolution:*

Article 26

That in Article 26 ‘or by electronic means using any address or number previously communicated to the General Conference.’ be added at the end of the Article.

27      *Resolved:*

Rules Section C

That at section C a Rule C7 be added as follows:

‘Should the Annual General Meeting be held electronically Rules C1, C4(b), C5 and C6 shall not apply.’

28      *Resolved:*

Rules Section M

That at section M the first sentence of Rule M2, which reads:

‘The Company Secretary shall summon a meeting of Honorary Life Members whenever required and shall act as their secretary.’ be deleted.

29 Mr Richard Cunningham presented the Report of the Council.

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

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

32 Following a ballot Mr Richard Cunningham and Ms J Zoë Brooks were not elected to the Council.

33 There was a session of news from the New Church Youth Association presented by Mrs Carolyn Kennion and Ms Alison Presland, during which certificates were presented to seven children. This was followed by news from the Youth and Family Team introduced by Mrs Jenny Jones.

34 At 4.15 p.m. the Conference Service was conducted by the Revd Christine Bank, the Revd Helen Brown, the Revd Clifford Curry, the Revd Becky Jarratt, the Revd Alison Southcombe and the Revd Robin Wooldridge.

The offertory for the Conference funds amounted to £940.00 (inclusive of Gift Aid).

35 At 8.00 p.m. a social entitled ‘Party Time for Everyone’ was held, compered by Mr Steve Jones and Mrs Jenny Jones.

### **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

36 At 9.45 a.m. the morning began with an announcement by the Vice-chairman that he had invited Mr David Brooks and Mrs Sally Field to check the credentials of Voting Members and to supervise the signing of the Conference Roll.

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

#### **COUNCIL**

Chairman	J M Wilson
Vice-chairman	R H Cunningham
Members	J Z Brooks
	S Fitzgerald
	L K Nicholls

Officer

S G Field

#### HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

M Clubb  
G S Kuphal

#### MINISTERS

C A Bank  
H T Brown  
C Curry  
J Dunion  
R M Jarratt  
A C Southcombe

#### AREA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Yorkshire and North-East    L Griffiths, J Millar

#### SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

Accrington	A Walton, J Walton
Bournemouth	M Curry, L Pierpoint
Bradford	P Blomfield, G Rowe
Dalton	J Mrozek
Derby	G Bentley, J Stopher-Clark
Kearsley	J Ford
Paisley	M Cowie
Seaburn Dene	N Ramsay
West Wickham	D Brooks

#### SOCIETY VOTERS WHO ARE NOT REPRESENTATIVES

Bournemouth	R Russell
Bradford	S Fitzgerald, S Fitzgerald, T Millar
Derby	B Clubb, J Jones, R Kennion, N Sutton
Kearsley	C Kennion, A J Presland, M Presland
Keighley	K Brooks, P Brooks

#### CENTRAL REGISTER MEMBERS

J Cunningham  
B Friend  
C Goalen  
M Haseler  
M Hawkins

E Jones  
M Morgan  
P Morgan  
R Ogden  
R Wooldridge

38 At 10.00 a.m. there was a session in which the children and young people presented the work they had undertaken during the Conference.

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

40 *Resolved:* That, in accordance with the Council's proposal, the 215<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting be held at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, starting on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

41 *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 Lara Nicholls, for the planning of Conference; Miss Gemma McLean, for Information Communication Technology arrangements and those who stood in for her when she was absent; Mrs Jenny Jones and all those involved in enabling and planning for families to be present at the Meeting; Mr David Brooks and Mrs Sally Field for acting as the Credentials Committee; Mrs Lynda Pierpoint and Mrs Sally Field for acting as scrutineers; Mr John Ford, Mrs Hazel Nicholls, Mr Michael Clubb and Mrs Betty Clubb for arrangements for the Holy Supper service; Mrs Ruth Friend (Music Director), the musicians and the choir; Mrs Jenny and Mr Steve Jones for the Social, Mrs Erica Cunningham for the beautiful floral arrangements and Mr John Ford for taking the chair for part of the meeting.

42 *Resolved:* That the warm thanks of the Conference be accorded to all those unsung volunteers and church workers whose dedication to the Conference fills the 362 days of the year when the Annual Meeting is not happening. These include the members of the Conference Council, the Ministry, both active and retired, the Purley Management Team and the Company Accountant, plus many others who keep the Societies and institutions of the church running.

43 The session concluded with closing remarks from the Vice-chairman who was in the Chair at this time.

44 At 12 noon a closing service of family worship was conducted by Mrs Lynne Griffiths.

45 The Annual Meeting closed at 12:40 p.m.

Signed

Judith M Wilson, Chairman

J Zoë Brooks, Company Secretary

## **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL - YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2021**

### **1 MEMBERSHIP**

1.1 The Council held five meetings during the year. Details of attendances are as follows:

Chairman	Mrs J M Wilson	5
Vice-chairman	Mr R H Cunningham	5
Trustees:	Ms J Z Brooks (Also Company Secretary)	5
	Mrs M L Cowie	5
	Miss K S Fitzgerald	5
	Mrs L K Nicholls	5

In attendance were:

Company Accountant:	Mrs S Field	5
Ministers' Com. Secretary:	Revd C Bank	5
Spiritual Leader:	Revd J Dunion	5
Deputy Spiritual Leader:	Revd A C Southcombe	4 (4 possible)

1.2 Mr Richard Cunningham, Ms Zoë Brooks and Mrs Lara Nicholls will complete their terms of office in July 2021. Mr Cunningham and Ms Brooks will seek re-election but Mrs Nicholls will not.

1.3 At the Annual General Meeting in 2020 it was not possible to hold a ballot to elect Council members as the meeting took place by Zoom. Ms Zoë Brooks was the only person seeking election, so after the meeting the trustees appointed her to the Council for the period until the next Annual General Meeting, in accordance with the provision in Article 33(f). This means that the Council's number of voting members remained at six, making it the twelfth year during which it has been without its full complement. Therefore, at Conference 2021 it will be possible to appoint two Trustees for a period of three years and two for a period of two years in addition to appointing a Vice-chairman.

The Council particularly needs people with legal and accountancy skills to join its membership.

### **2 CORONAVIRUS**

The influence of Coronavirus on our organisation has been enormous this year. It has affected our finances, our activities and our staff.

For some staff there was no work for a large part of the year and we had to take advantage of the Government's furlough scheme in order to pay them. Most of the remainder of the staff found that their workload had become heavier, as they had to find new ways of doing things. They rose to the challenge magnificently and the Council wishes to record its appreciation of their efforts.

Income from Societies was a little less than usual but Purley Chase was severely affected as it remained closed from April till the beginning of September, normally its busiest period, and was then open only for a short time. We rely heavily on dividend income and this was considerably reduced, as was the value of our share holdings.

Many of our activities, particularly those for young people, were drastically affected. In order to comply with the Government's directions our churches have been forced to be closed for public worship for a lot of the time and when they have been open singing has not been allowed. However, on the bright side Zoom services were introduced and this gave people who no longer had a church near them the chance to join in worship again. In order to continue to be able to serve a wider audience these services are taking place regularly and the intention is that they will become a permanent feature in the future.

Our Annual Conference was a casualty of the pandemic. The lack of certainty was a major problem. Few people booked and most of those who were to lead sessions did not want to attend. The Council was left with a dilemma, whether to cancel and face a heavy cancellation fee in order to give people certainty or whether to wait and see if The Hayes was obliged to cancel, in which case there would be no fee. When the Hayes very generously offered to allow us to cancel without incurring any cancellation fee the Council decided that cancellation was the best course of action. However, this did not solve all our problems as we were legally obliged to have an Annual General Meeting. This had to be a physical meeting on the date already notified to Members as our Articles do not allow for any alternative. This is why amendments to the Articles are being put before Conference this year. Plans were put in place for two separate events. These were to be a Zoom meeting at which presentations could be made but at which no decisions could legally be made and a physical meeting at which the legal business of an Annual General Meeting could be transacted, the arrangements being dependent on whether or not the Hayes was allowed to open. A considerable amount of work went into these plans. The Government then passed legislation at the end of June that allowed us to hold the Annual General Meeting by electronic means. A lot of effort would have been spared had this legislation been more timely. Holding only a Zoom meeting was obviously preferable to having two separate events and the Council and the Ministry had to work hard to speedily alter the plans for the informal Zoom meeting, entitled Together Online, so that it now encompassed

everything.

Holding a Conference and Annual General Meeting by Zoom was technically considerably more difficult than our traditional way of doing things and involved rehearsals in order to try to eliminate technical hitches and get everything to run smoothly. This extra effort proved to be worthwhile and Together Online went without a hitch.

### **3 THE COST OF ATTENDING CONFERENCE**

In order to continue to encourage young people to attend Conference the Council has 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 2021 as a free event.

As Conference finances have been damaged by Coronavirus we are returning to the subsidy position we had before 2013 for all other people, and adults are being asked to pay the full cost instead of 75% and those bringing children are being asked to pay half the cost instead of 37.5%. There remains no charge for the children themselves. Those who are able are asked to make up the balance by donation.

### **4 LINK MEMBERS**

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

Purley Chase	Mrs S G Field and Revd A Southcombe
Finance	Mrs S G Field and Revd C Curry
Youth	Mrs L K Nicholls and Revd R Jarratt
Human Resources	Mrs J Wilson and Revd C Bank
Training and Development	Miss K S Fitzgerald and Revd R Jarratt
CAM	Mrs M L Cowie and Revd C Bank

### **5 STAFF & REMUNERATION**

In 2020/21 the total of stipends, telephone and broadband paid to ministers was £154,261. In the same year the total of salaries, wages, telephone and broadband paid to lay employees was £188,286. These figures include people employed for part of the year.

The Council approved a 1% increase from 1 April 2021 for all employees, except those paid hourly, who are treated individually. This figure is less than the one shown by the Average Weekly Earnings index, which is 2.128%. There were two reasons for the lower increase. Firstly, the fact that many lower paid people had lost their jobs, and that the increase was in part due to this rather than people receiving pay rises, and secondly the fact that Conference's financial position has been worsened by the pandemic.



## **6 MINISTRY**

The Revd Jack Dunion has taken over the role of Spiritual Leader. At first he was supported by the Revd Alison Southcombe taking over the administrative duties as Deputy Spiritual Leader but she has now withdrawn from this role. Initially his appointment was until July 2021 but it has now been agreed that he will continue for a further three years from that time.

The Revd Becky Jarratt has ceased to commit any of her working time to West Thorpe Methodist Church and now devotes a proportion of her time to the production of the online services of worship.

Mr Lee Differ began his second year as a Research Associate on 1 September 2020. His ordination is scheduled for July 2021.

The Conference Council has very reluctantly decided that at present it cannot afford to support any more ordination students.

## **7 VOLUNTEERS**

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

## **8 CONFERENCE PROPERTIES**

### **Dicksons Drive Chester**

There seems little hope of disposing of this property in the near future. At present it is being used as a distribution centre for food banks.

## **9 CONFERENCE'S MEDIA PRESENCE**

In July the Conference Council asked the Revd Jack Dunion to look at our various websites to see if they could be amalgamated. He developed this idea further and in conjunction with the Revd Alison Southcombe, Mr Richard Cunningham and Miss Shannon Fitzgerald looked at our overall media situation.

## **10 BANK ACCOUNTS**

As the Council had become very dissatisfied with the service provided by RBS, accounts with Santander were opened last year. All balances have now been transferred and the RBS accounts have been closed, except one. This account has a nil balance but for some reason RBS has failed to close it.

## **11 POLICIES**

### **Health and Safety**

The Health and Safety policy has been amended to include a section on the provision of special glasses for employees using computers for prolonged periods. An enhanced version of the policy with four new appendices concerned with buildings has been issued to those with responsibility for non-

residential buildings. A Health and Safety Management System has also been adopted.

## **12 SOCIETIES**

### **Auckland**

The Council has to report that sadly the Auckland Society has had to close its church, the last service there being held on 14 March 2021. The altar is now in the basement of the Revd John Sutton's home and he intends to hold services there periodically. The Society was affiliated to Conference until 2011, when it changed its affiliation to The New Church in Australia.

### **Radcliffe**

The Secretary of this Society was admitted to a nursing home during the year. The Treasurer, who had taken over her duties, then sadly died. It seems inevitable that this Society will now close.

## **13 MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE**

Since the last Annual Meeting Mrs Mary Bell, Mrs Lilian Middlemiss and Mr Peter Wilson have passed into the spiritual world.

## **14 NOMINATIONS AND MOTIONS**

### **1) NOMINATIONS**

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

### **2) MOTIONS**

#### **A) Articles**

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

### **Special Resolution Number One**

#### **Article 11**

That after the second sentence five sentences be inserted as follows: 'Should it not be possible for any reason to hold the Annual General Meeting at such time or at such place as prescribed by the General Conference at the preceding Annual General Meeting the Council may make such arrangements as it thinks fit and these may include holding the Annual General Meeting by suitable electronic means agreed by Council in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants. Any Member participating at a meeting by suitable electronic means agreed by the Council in which a participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants shall qualify as being present at the meeting. Meetings held by electronic means must comply with the rules for meetings, including chairing and the

taking of minutes. A ballot can include the electronic equivalent for virtual and hybrid meetings. Where a change is necessary after the notice convening the Annual General Meeting has been issued the posting of details of the change on the General Conference website and in any electronic General Conference newsletter in existence at the time not less than 21 days before the date of any such meeting shall be sufficient notification.'

### **Special Resolution Number Two**

#### **Article 11**

That at section (k) the words 'or Group' be added after 'Society' at the end of the first sentence.

### **Special Resolution Number Three**

#### **Article 25**

That in the second sentence 'two' be amended to 'eight'.

### **Special Resolution Number Four**

#### **Article 26**

That 'or by electronic means using any address or number previously communicated to the General Conference.' be added at the end of the Article.

### **Special Resolution Number Five**

#### **Article 33**

That an additional subsection be added as follows: '(g) Where for any reason it is not possible to hold a ballot at an Annual General Meeting any Council Member whose term of office should come to an end at that Annual General Meeting shall remain in office until the following Annual General Meeting.'

### **Special Resolution Number Six**

#### **Article 41**

That the following words be deleted: 'and, subject to any reasonable restrictions as to the time and manner of inspecting the same, shall be open to the inspection of Members.'

### **B) Rules**

The following rule changes will be moved by the Council:

That at section C a Rule C7 be added as follows:

'Should the Annual General Meeting be held electronically Rules C1, C4(b), C5 and C6 shall not apply.'

That at section M Rule M2, which reads:

'The Company Secretary shall summon a meeting of Honorary Life Members whenever required and shall act as their secretary. The Honorary Life Members may report to the Annual Meeting.' be deleted.

## **15 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The company accountant, Mrs Sally Field, reports on the Income and Expenditure accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and the Balance Sheet as at that date, subject to audit:

### **Overall Summary**

The operational surplus in 2020/21 has decreased by £60,000 compared to last year, to only £75,000.

### **Income**

Society income has decreased further this year to £106,000, which is a decrease of 11% compared with last year. This decrease of £13,000 is, as are decreases in previous years, due to some Societies reducing or ceasing their contributions to Conference. This trend is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. Donations to Conference increased slightly to £19,000, mainly due to a small number of individuals giving larger than normal donations. Purley Chase, on the other hand, saw a reduction in donations by nearly two thirds. Investment income continues to be the largest source of income. This year due to COVID-19 though, investment income decreased by 25% compared to last year. This meant a reduction of £107,000 in this income. Purley Chase was also drastically affected with only being able to open for two months of the financial year and so only receiving an income of £12,000 from events. Fortunately, government support for businesses has helped greatly in offsetting the costs of Purley but, as the scaling back of this support begins in 2021/22, it is most likely that this will be when the overall cost of Purley will be at its highest, not 2020/21.

### **Expenditure**

There has been a decrease in expenditure of nearly 28% compared to the previous year, although human resources costs still rose by nearly 3% to £314,000. The decrease, therefore, lies within administration costs. The reduction in travel costs, AGM accommodation and subsidies for events at Purley, being the main causes, all of which are the result of COVID-19. Administration costs actually went down by 28% compared to the previous year, which is a reduction of £62,000.

### **Exceptional Items**

Due to COVID-19 there have been a lot of exceptional circumstances which have led to many exceptional items during the year in both income and expenditure. There have been no property sales during the year but a couple of payments from legacies originating in previous years have been received totalling £41,000.

### **Future Forecast**

COVID-19 greatly affected the finances this year and will continue to do so in 2021/22. The uncertainty of numbers returning to Purley events and the cost

of the additional measures having to be taken by staff and the centre itself, will further affect the total cost to Conference of Purley in the next financial year. It is hard to know the full financial impact the government's decisions will have when support is withdrawn and measures are taken to recover the financial aid given to businesses such as Purley, since March 2020. It is expected to take a few years for investments to return to their pre-COVID levels, meaning smaller operational surpluses over the coming years, before going into deficit for the latter part of the next ten years. With still so much uncertainty in the air, it is hard to predict with any real accuracy income from investments and from Purley, meaning small surpluses could easily turn into deficits sooner than expected.

## **16 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PURLEY MANAGEMENT TEAM 2020 – 2021**

(Mr Grant Brackley, Chair, reports)

### **1 The Team**

Grant Brackley	Chair
Rachel Gilsenan	Manager
Alison Southcombe	Programme Leader
Sally Field	Company Accountant
Vivien Stewart-Wood	Committee Member
Chris Woodhouse	Committee Member

This has been a year of yet more change and Purley has been closed for most of it owing to the Covid-19 pandemic

We have continued to have meetings with all but one being over Microsoft Teams. This has been successful and thanks go to Alison and Sally for sharing the administration of the team and for organising the technology.

### **2 Events**

For this last year as everyone is probably aware all ministry efforts were directed in keeping people in contact with the Church and offering support in difficult times. This was put into practice via Zoom worship services, which have taken the place of many physical church events, although some physical services have now resumed.

These Zoom services employ the Purley Programme Leader in an administration, technical support or leading function on a weekly basis.

The Revd Alison Southcombe partnered with Mr Stephen Russell-Lacy to offer a Zoom discussion group called 'Fellow Travellers' which took place over six weeks in summer 2020.

The Arcana Caelestia Group resumed online from November 2020, and is held each month on Zoom. The intention is to take this back to being held at Purley when we can.

### **3 Dates**

In March 2020 the Centre closed and it then re-opened on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020. It closed again on 4<sup>th</sup> November and the planned re opening is on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021. This year and next are totally filled with groups at weekends so if the UK doesn't go in to anymore lockdowns we will be back up and running with some small alterations in the way we operate to ensure a safe system within Purley.

### **4 Finance**

There was a net deficit including subsidies of £90,081.00 compared with a deficit of £88,432.00 in the previous year. The effects of Covid-19 have skewed the figures for this year and the end of the previous financial year.

### **5 Staff**

The Centre Manager has kept in regular contact with all staff during the furlough periods. They are all looking forward to returning to work in May.

### **6 Building and Grounds**

Mr Christopher Woodhouse has been busy replacing doors. The decking outside the dining room was found to be rotten, so he is also replacing this. The Centre Manager (and her husband) have kept the grounds in good order which I witnessed on a recent brief visit.

### **7 Thanks**

Despite being closed to outsiders there has been an enormous amount of maintenance work and Mrs Gilsenan has managed most of this with some help. There has been a substantial amount of administration regarding aspects such as Health and Safety (in maintaining all relevant checks) and Human Resources (in meeting all legal needs including those covering furlough) and this has been managed well by Mrs Field and Mrs Gilsenan.

On behalf of the Council:

Judith M Wilson, Chairman

J Zoë Brooks, Company Secretary

## **REPORTS FROM AROUND THE CHURCH – YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2021**

### **1 AREA COUNCILS**

#### **1.1 YORKSHIRE AND NORTH EAST AREA COUNCIL**

(Miss Gwendolen Rowe reports)

For the first part of the year Bradford was meeting for weekly Worship on Zoom. Dalton also met on social media. Seaburn Dene remained closed but have held monthly prayer group/services on Zoom. Keighley remained closed through the lockdowns, opening briefly in the Autumn for a short time before the second lockdown. Since the New Year Dalton and Keighley continue to hold weekly services and Bradford has reduced its services to twice a month out of necessity due to lack of pulpit supply. Bradford and Dalton continue to hold their joint services and have managed two of these in the past year. Dalton have also restarted their Fellowship Circle twice a month to which members of other churches have been coming. This is found to be a very valuable experience.

This time of isolation has brought a new way of connecting for our Churches. Bradford have been taking part in a Community Project run by the council. This has been such a support to people in the local area providing food parcels and some who just want someone to talk to. It continues to be a real success. Dalton have kept in touch with all those using the building and have been a real support to people in this difficult time. Both these Churches have seen an increase in membership which is wonderful in these difficult times. Seaburn Dene have also maintained contact with their members sending out monthly newsletters, postcards and also putting beautiful quotes on Facebook, letting people know they were still there to support each other.

We are, as ever, very grateful to the Ministers, Retired Ministers and Worship Leaders who lead our services and to all those who work hard to maintain the life of our churches especially through what has been a very difficult year.

#### **1.2 NORTH WEST (MANCHESTER) AREA COUNCIL**

(Mrs Pauline Grimshaw reports)

1. In January 2021 an on-line consultation regarding the future of the Council took place. It was decided that as there had been no organised activities during the past year that the Area Council cease meeting as a formally organised body from the beginning of January 2021.
2. The funds of the Council were donated to the Purley Chase Centre and the bank account was formally closed.
3. The Kearsley Society remains the only active society with in the area.

## **2 KILDWICK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

(Mr Keith Sandiford, the Secretary, reports)

As with most things this year the season was dominated by Covid 19. The lockdown in March came in before the Centre had been cleaned and made ready for opening. As a result all the early bookings were lost. It was not until July that the Centre could be opened and the first booking began on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Some later bookings were cancelled and others that did take place were reduced in size in order to comply with ongoing restrictions.

In total there were 11 bookings on 44 days (18 on 59 in 2019). Of these 8 on 35 days (13 on 47 in 2019) were church family groups and 3 on 9 days (5 on 12 in 2019) were outside groups.

In addition to the difficulties caused by Covid 19 there were problems with moles in summer and a small flood from the River Aire in early November. The premises are in good order but the usual routine maintenance such as decorating will need to be carried out even though income from bookings is roughly half the usual amount.

Hopefully next season will be a little more normal than this one. However, nothing is certain and we may have to try and carry on in the limited way that we did this year.

## **3 HOME WORSHIP**

(The Revd Gillian Gordon reports)

The team consists of Linda Wells, who knows whom to remind their contribution is due and when, Gemma McLean who administrates and the Revd Gillian Gordon who checks the theology. We are delighted with the way contributors have been so willing to spend their time, experience and energy producing Home Worship, and we know from feedback that all home worship services are well received and appreciated. Linking Home Worship with zoom services and the fact people cannot attend church due to lockdown restrictions has led to its usefulness and importance increasing. We pray for another year of contributions to come and for The Lord to bless them.

## **4 THE EDWARD JEGGINS TRUST**

(The Secretary, the Revd Christine Bank, reports)

As a matter of courtesy the trustees report that they have made three grants totalling £5,250 during the year 2020/21.

Any request from a Society for financial help towards projects to repair or improve premises will be sympathetically considered.



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

### **General**

It has been a challenging year for CAM with events cancelled due to the pandemic. My main role has been keeping in touch with individuals and churches and offering support where necessary.

### **Leaders United**

Events were cancelled due to the closure of Purley Chase. CAM however hosted a meeting on Zoom with lay people within the church where it was agreed to hold a series of seminars on Zoom to replace the planned Leaders United Weekend.

### **Resources**

CAM holds a wide variety of resources to assist lay people in their ministry and these are available to anyone who may find them useful. A number of people have asked for these.

### **Communication**

The CAM co-ordinator has joined a group via Zoom to discuss how communication can be improved in the church.

### **Future Training**

CAM is willing to set up training and support on a variety of topics either via Zoom or in person once we are able to meet again. Please do not hesitate to ask if the committee is able to help in any way.

Finally CAM would like to express our thanks to the Conference Council and the Committee of Ministers for their continuing support for the work of lay people in the Church. Thanks are also due to all the Auxiliary Ministers who have worked so hard to maintain the life of the church in such challenging circumstances.

## **6 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NEW CHURCH YOUTH ASSOCIATION**

(Miss Gwendolen Rowe, the Secretary, reports)

**Council Meetings:** 3 Council Meetings have been held on Zoom during the last year.

**NCYA Conference:** Due to Covid-19 our AGM in 2020 was conducted via email.

**Home Sunday Club:** Currently Home Sunday Club is posted or emailed to 50

children and 2 adults every month. Members range in age from 3 to 18 years. The new set of Starters leaflets covering 5 years has now been completed for the 3-7 year olds. Judith Taylor took over writing the Starters letters when Lara Nicholls 'retired' last summer. In addition to the regular letters and Bible story leaflets, members have also received birthday greetings, Christmas cards and letters to parents, Children's Day leaflets, Sunrise Magazines, exhibition materials and seeds to sow.

**Colouring Exhibition** The Conference Bible passage from Revelation 21 - 'Behold, I am making all things new' has been used as the exhibition theme this year. Children and adults were invited to colour the pictures provided, paint a pebble or create something of their own choice to represent the theme. Entries will be displayed at Conference, in E-News and Sunrise Magazine and all children who enter receive a small 'prize'.

**Sunrise Magazine:** 130 Sunrise Magazines are sent out 3 times a year. This year we decided to change to electronic production for adults whilst still posting copies to children and Churches.

**Children's Day:** This was held on the third Sunday in January and Ministers, Worship Leaders and HSC families were invited to focus on children and young people. The Secretary has produced a useful leaflet with a short talk and some prayers for those who wanted it.

**Links with other organisations:** We have been aware of a need to clarify the roles of those who work for children and young people in our Church. Helen Chambers has produced a Venn diagram in consultation with the Children's Society and the Youth & Family Team to show our unique roles and where we work together. This is due to be introduced at Conference 2021.

**Zoom Services:** The NCYA were invited to get involved in the Family Services held once a month on Zoom. They have led 4 services in the last year and will continue this year.

**History of the NCYA:** Pauline Grimshaw has been working on a booklet detailing the history of the NCYA since 1940. This is an ongoing process and Pauline has advertised in E-News for more photos and memories to augment the booklet.

**Grants and Loans:** We continue to offer financial assistance where appropriate when needed.

**Website:** Work is still being carried out to try and improve our website presence. Keith Dunbar is endeavouring to get this up and running with other members of the council assisting.

Finally, we would like to express our thanks and appreciation go to all those who work so hard with the children and young people in our organisation.

## **7 YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

(Mrs Jenny Jones reports)

During the past year, the Youth and Family team have explored new ways to reach out to young people and families. This has been through the use of Zoom online events. We have held three “Film Clubs” using the animated films, “Boxtrolls”, “Inside Out” and “Trolls” in order to generate discussion about Spiritual concepts and these have been advertised in E-news, the Purley People Facebook page and a new Whatsapp group for families. We have extended the discussion groups to include an adults’ group so that the events were suitable for all ages. We have also organised a “Meet the Reptiles” event on Zoom and used this activity to learn about and discuss the story of Adam and Eve.

We have had a fantastic group of volunteers come forward to help with leading each group and we are especially pleased that some of our younger leaders from the Purley camps have taken part. Themes for discussion are sent to all the leaders in advance and we ask that a biblical topic and an area from the Writings are covered in each group.

Regular quizzes and games delivered on Zoom have taken place and we were pleased to have been joined by one of the North American youth leaders and two young people who attended the 2019 International Camp at Purley Chase. Some of our quizzes have also been posted in E-news so that the wider church can see what is taking place and join in at home.

Alongside the NCYA, the team have led Family services on Zoom on the third Sunday of each month. Many of our families and young people have also joined in as readers or by playing music. In addition, the Revd Becky Jarratt and the Revd Christine Bank jointly led Zoom discussion groups for parents on the theme of “Does God get angry?” and “Does God forgive?” and Mrs Jenny Jones and Mr Robert Clark have completed the SOLCe course “An Introduction to the Gospels”.

## **8 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMITTEE 2020-21**

(Mrs Maeve Hawkins, the Secretary, reports)

The members of the Committee, Gordon Kuphal, Maeve Hawkins, and Pauline Grimshaw have not met during the year due to the Covid pandemic. Our usual quarterly meetings take the form of a business meeting and work in the Archives, important work now much delayed. We haven’t held meetings

on Zoom as email contact is more useful for our purposes.

Despite the difficult circumstances it has been a very busy year with a large number of enquiries since March 2020 including some from abroad.

In June 2020 we were contacted by a granddaughter of the late Revd E. J. Pulsford who, with a view to publication, is transcribing her grandfather's 45 years of diaries covering the whole of his ministry. We have given her information about the organisation of Conference and of its institutions and committees. She has also received copies of the many reports, articles and Addresses by her grandfather which had appeared in New Church periodicals and Year Books. The Revd John Elliott and Alex Murray, librarian of the Swedenborg Society, have also been involved although Alex was at times required to work from home without access to the information needed. The enquiry is ongoing.

We look forward to resuming our meetings when circumstances permit.

## **9 REPORT OF THE MARKETING AND RESOURCES GROUP**

(Mr Stephen Russell-Lacy, Chairman, Reports)

Our teachings have been made more attractively accessible by the redesign of the spiritualwisdom.org.uk web site by Muriel Morgan. Podcasts recorded for the non-Christian listener are now available for download from spiritualquestions.podbean.com website. We have also published *What's in store for us if we survive death?* available in print and as an ebook.

If anyone is interested in helping with our work of commissioning producers, writers and designers please email me [russell\\_lacy@hotmail.com](mailto:russell_lacy@hotmail.com).

## **10 BROADFIELD MEMORIAL BENEVOLENT FUND**

(The Treasurer, Mrs Erica Cunningham, reports)

We continued to try and contact all those who were believed to be entitled to request assistance. The majority by email which elicits a response from most, others are contacted by post. All payments are now made by electronic bank transfer which is much more efficient.

Donations received totalled £17,000 and the Broadfield fund stands at £4429.82 in the bank and holds 7360 units in the Common Investment Fund at a pre audit value of £9.771 per unit as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

During the year of the pandemic we found that a number of those contacted felt they had even less need than usual thus the total of payments made to those who expressed a need were £11,120.00.

The Broadfield Fund currently has adequate funds to assist all those who might express a need.

## **REPORT OF THE MINISTERS' COMMITTEE 2020/2021**

### **1. Meetings**

The Committee meeting took place from 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and the Annual Meeting from 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Twelve members were present at both meetings and Mr. Lee Differ was present at both by invitation. Due to Covid-19 restrictions both meetings took place via Zoom.

### **2. Spiritual Leadership**

During the year the employed Ministers, Jack Dunion as Spiritual Leader, Alison Southcombe as Deputy Spiritual Leader, Christine Bank and Becky Jarratt worked initially on establishing and developing Sunday worship via Zoom. As Covid-19 guidance changed and churches reopened gradually the balance and priorities among this small group evolved. Alison has now stepped back from the Deputy role and is focused towards Purley Chase while Becky is taking a lead on forward planning of future Zoom services.

### **3. Spiritual Leader's report from Revd. Jack Dunion**

It has been a difficult year with the pandemic continuing to dictate the various means of communication. The initial group structure involving the employed Ministers working closely together as part of a team was formed before the pandemic and served to provide an emergency provision of online Zoom services. This arrangement successfully helped keep our church together in a time of crisis and also helped provide vital spiritual support to all of our members. As is always the case with the Lord's provision, much of the benefits remain to be seen. One very visible benefit though has been the re-connection with isolated members through online worship.

More recently, in recognition of not everyone needing to be at every meeting, it was thought prudent to change the structure of our meetings and hold them at the point of need to include those directly involved with each activity, rather than meeting weekly or fortnightly to discuss business. We still meet as a group of employed Ministers once a month for a supportive, stress-free meeting allowing each of us to take stock and speak openly about our feelings and the pressures we Ministers face on a day to day basis.

We continue to work close with the Ministers' Committee, Conference Council, SOLCe, New Church Youth Association, Youth & Families Team, CAM/Leaders United and others and hold meetings at the point of need. Communications between all of these groups is improving and this is also helping address problems at source before they reach the point of service provision. As individuals within the employed Ministry group we are gradually settling into a specific role and the difficulties in identifying and accepting these roles, having in the past acted more autonomously, is still improving.

The Apocalypse Study Group recently disbanded and the Ministry thanked them in recognition of their outstanding work over two decades.

A new group has been formed: “Apocalypse Awakening” (AA) to pick up the baton and help move the project material into the new digital age.

With Conference and the ordination of Lee Differ on the horizon the Ministry will also be busy working on a new vision for our church going forward. We recognise that our Church needs to change to keep pace with a rapidly changing world. The Ministry, however, continue to acknowledge that we need to be in the world but not of the world; according to the Lord’s words in John 17:13,14 *“I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one”*.

#### **4. Online worship including copyright.**

The Zoom services of worship have continued most Sundays at 3.30pm with leaders from among the Ministry, Worship Leaders and new volunteers coming forward. Support roles including the unseen but vital work to enable the practicalities of bringing together music, images and hymns to flow smoothly on the day are vital. We thank all those who bring their different creative contributions to the services. The Revd Becky Jarratt is acting as the coordinator for future Zoom worship and is always ready to hear from those who are interested in assisting with the practicalities as well as with leading and reading. Training and support for those willing to become involved is available and enquiries are encouraged.

As we continue to offer online worship the questions of copyright and best practice arise. The Revd Alison Southcombe has produced a guide to using images and music and an online Vault linked to the General Conference website holds images (photos) taken by church members and video hymns produced in accordance with the guidance. We particularly thank Miss Gemma McLean for her support with the Vault and Mrs. Muriel Morgan for her work in producing the hymns. These resources are available to use freely and avoid risk of the church being caught up in reputational damage or ‘strikes’ for breach of copyright. As our online presence extends to new areas the attention of all creators of digital content is drawn to the need for best practice in this arena.

Conference 2020 was turned into “Together Online” and the employed Ministry was heavily involved in enabling this alternative to our physical Conference as we met on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

#### **5. Working arrangements**

In common with many others the Ministry have been working from home and we recognise and appreciate that the work of others within the church also moved online and provided new ways to find fellowship, to be in a youth & family setting, to discuss and of course to worship. Many local initiatives

have sprung up to keep friends and congregational groups in contact when physical travel or gatherings have been impossible and the value of these has been immense. As thoughts begin to turn towards longer term planning the provision of online as well as physical resources will be an ongoing consideration.

#### **6. Mr. Lee Differ**

The planned ordination of Lee Differ in 2020 was deferred and we look forward to celebrating this together and welcoming him formally into the Ministry of the New Church at our 2021 Conference.

#### **7. Changes at the New Church College**

Personnel changes at the College in Manchester saw the Revd Helen Brown's retirement from the position of Leader of Education and the Revd Robin Wooldridge appointed from October 2020. After a handover period Helen formally left in December 2020. The separate report of the College is available, but we wish to record thanks to Helen and wish her well in retirement and welcome Robin to the role.

#### **8. New Church Overseas**

Reports shared with the church via E News (#79 & #90) have advised of changes and needs in the South African church and an appeal for funds to support building work was made and updates given.

Auckland New Church sold their building in the last year, holding a final service in March 2021 (E News #83)

The New Christian Bible Study Website continues to develop as a worldwide New Church resource.

Colleagues felt it would be useful to include the website addresses for some of our sister organisations. The South African church has no central contact point at the time of writing; please contact the CoM Secretary in the first instance.

#### **USA**

[swedenborg.com](http://swedenborg.com) - Swedenborg Foundation. Publish New Century Editions, Off the Left Eye

[newchurch.org](http://newchurch.org) - The General Church of the New Jerusalem

[swedenborg.org](http://swedenborg.org) - The Swedenborgian Church of North America (The General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America)

[thelordsnewchurch.org](http://thelordsnewchurch.org) - The Lord's New Church which is Nova Hierosolyma.

#### **Australia**

[newchurch.net.au](http://newchurch.net.au) - The New Church in Australia

#### **Worldwide**

[newchristianbiblestudy.org/new-church-map](http://newchristianbiblestudy.org/new-church-map) - Worldwide location map with

contact details. Please note this information may not be updated regularly.

### **9. Safeguarding and DBS checks.**

The Ministers' Committee join with the Conference Council to affirm their commitment to this process and thanks Mrs. Rita Russell and Mrs. Lara Nicholls for their work to ensure appropriate checks for all those working with children are completed and renewed as necessary.

### **10. Home Worship**

Home Worship is reported elsewhere and the thanks of the Ministry go to the team involved; it has truly been a resource to draw on deeply when physical church worship ceased and provides a common platform for those who wish to share and discuss New Church ideas.

### **11. Committee of Auxiliary Ministry (CAM)**

Supporting and developing fellowship and online contact in lockdown has been challenging for us all. CAM continues to offer resources and moved online during the period Purley Chase has been unavailable. The Ministry thanks all those involved who act as Worship Leaders and those under the broader banner of Leaders United supporting churches and reaching out to their local community. Last year Mrs. Jan Millar marked 20 years as the CAM Coordinator and she continues to offer encouragement and practical support to those serving the church.

### **12. Apocalypse Study Group**

After twenty years the Apocalypse Study Group has formally disbanded. The Revds Bruce Jarvis, Clifford Curry, Mary Duckworth and Michael Stanley have had the support of many colleagues and friends over the years. The artistic contribution of Mr. G Roland Smith in producing a series of images will be familiar to many and these continue to be available for display and are currently at Purley Chase. ASG colleagues continue to be available as advisors going forward and their years of dedication to this project is appreciated. The work of studying and exploring the book of *Revelation* is now moving in new directions under the Revds Jack Dunion and Becky Jarratt who are developing video and other options to share online and reach new audiences. Their work will be under the new name of Apocalypse Awakening.

### **13. 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 and the fees of self-employed retired ministers by 1.0% from April 2021.

The full-time salary (gross) for an ordained minister for the year 2021/22 including telephone and broadband is £35,123.86.



#### **14. Retired Ministers**

The Committee wishes 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 in their own ways.

#### **15. Appointments and nominations**

In addition to the Spiritual Leader and Secretary attending Council meetings we maintain links between the Council and the Ministry as below:

<b>Youth</b>	Becky Jarratt	Lara Nicholls
<b>Training and development</b>	Becky Jarratt	Shannon Fitzgerald
<b>Finance</b>	Clifford Curry	Sally Field
<b>Purley Chase</b>	Alison Southcombe	<i>Sally Field</i>
<b>Human Resources</b>	Christine Bank	Judith Wilson
<b>Churches and CAM</b>	Christine Bank	Margaret Cowie

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

Jack Dunion [Spiritual Leader]

Christine Bank [Secretary]

**10<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

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## **REPORT OF THE COMPANY ACCOUNTANT YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2021**

During the year, we received £32,260.90 from the Christopher Jackson Estate, £8,470.83 from the Eric Hepworth Estate and £3,853.24 from the closure of the Bristol bank account.

Income decreased by 16% due mainly to the decrease in investment income of £99,000 due to COVID-19. Investment income remains the largest form of income now standing at 61% of the total income. Society income has continued to fall and is 19% of the total income.

Expenditure has also decreased by over 11% compared with the previous year. Human Resources costs increased again this year by £6,000 and Administration costs decreased by 28% due to the AGM not taking place at Swanwick in 2020. The cost of Purley made up 19% of total expenditure and increased slightly on the previous year. The business grants and job retention scheme money received due to COVID-19 have made this an exceptional year making it hard to compare with the previous year.

The capital price per unit of the common investment fund at the end of the financial year increased to £9.774 from the previous year value of £8.081. This large increase highlights the fluctuation in investments on a daily basis and proves that the value of investments is only truly relevant when coming to buy or sell units. The split between capital growth and investment income remains a 50/50 split.

As we are getting back to a more normal way of life, investments capital and dividends are increasing again but it will most likely be a few years before they will be at pre-COVID levels. Between years 2026/27 and 2027/28 we are looking at returning to an operational deficit again unless action to reduce costs or increase income is put into place now and for years to come.

Sally Field – Company Accountant

## Income and Expenditure Accounts

For year ended March 31st 2021

	£,000	£,000
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Societies	106	119
Donations - Conference	19	16
Investment Income	336	437
Trust Income	74	78
Bursary Grant	10	10
Other Income	11	2
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>662</b>
<b>Human Resources</b>		
Ministry	167	157
Laity	88	86
Student grants	24	32
Self Employed Fees	1	2
Employment Allowance	-4	-3
Pensions	20	19
Housing	17	14
	<b>313</b>	<b>307</b>
<b>Administration</b>		
Travelling Expenses	2	24
Professional fees	15	17
Insurance	8	14
Office	18	18
Marketing /Resources	1	1
Central Costs	11	23
Education & Training	12	21
Youth Leading	1	4
Purley Chase	91	98
Kildwick	4	4
	<b>163</b>	<b>224</b>
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>531</b>
<b>Operational Surplus/(-Deficit)</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>131</b>

**Other Receipts and Costs**

	£,000	£,000
Depreciation	-78	-72
Legacies	41	
Closed Society Funds	4	5,091
Property Sales		142
Women's League		0
Non Conference - CIF (Common Investment Fund)	0	0
<b>Net Surplus/(-Deficit)</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5,292</b>

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

2021	2020
£9.774	£8.081

**Balance Sheet as at March 31st 2019**

	£	
	2021	2020
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible Assets	2,263,786	2,329,477
Investment Assets	28,386,805	23,299,418
	<b>30,650,591</b>	<b>25,628,895</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Net Current Assets	412,804	185,592
Less Creditors		
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>31,063,395</b>	<b>25,814,487</b>
<b>Represented by:-</b>		
Endowment funds	1,668,965	1,380,103
Restricted funds	21,021,272	17,523,783
Unrestricted funds	8,373,158	6,910,601
	<b>31,063,395</b>	<b>25,814,487</b>

## STATISTICAL TABLE

	Society Members	Non-resident	Total new members	Deceased	Removed	Increase	Decrease	Members of Conference
Accrington	30	8	0	1	0	0	1	25
Bournemouth	30	6	0	0	0	0	0	27
#Bradford	13	0	3	0	0	3	0	13
Dalton	33	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
Derby	50	24	0	0	0	0	0	32
#Kearsley	38	10	0	0	0	0	0	19
Keighley	32	12	0	0	0	0	0	18
Paisley	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
*Radcliffe								
Seaburn Dene	28	4	0	2	0	0	2	21
West Wickham	23	9	0	1	0	0	1	18
Other members								219
Total 2020/21	301	75	3	4	0	3	4	411
Totals 2019/20	313	78	6	19	1	6	16	422

\* No details available

# Last year's figures, as no details provided for year to 31 March 2021

	Baptisms	Marriages	Funerals	Sunday School No. of children	Avg. attend. 16-	Holy Supper Administrations	Holy Supper Average Attendance	Overall Average Attendance
Accrington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bournemouth	0	0	2	2	1	5	23	22
#Bradford	0	0	0	1	1	13	10	10
Dalton	0	0	0	0	1	6	10	11
Derby	0	0	0	0	2	2	10	13
#Kearsley	4	0	0	4	3	2	14	21
Keighley	0	0	2	0	0	5	10	12
Paisley	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	9
*Radcliffe								
Seaburn Dene	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	12
West Wickham	0	0	1	0	0	2	8	9
Totals 2020/21	4	0	9	9	8	35	85	119
Totals 2019/20	10	4	23	28	18	73	120	149

## **THE NEW CHURCH COLLEGE REPORT OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL 2020 - 2021**

**Below is a summary of the full report.  
The full report has been sent to all Governors of the New Church College  
and copies are available on request from the Treasurer of the New  
Church College.**

### **1. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

#### **1.1 Attendance at Council Meetings**

The Council met, on Zoom, for full Council meetings on 3 occasions during the year in April 2020, September 2020 and January 2021. There was also an AGM in July 2020. Membership and attendance at meetings were as follows:

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>3 Council meetings</b>	<b>AGM (July)</b>
Mr C Chambers, President	3	1
Mr RJ Nicholls, Treasurer	3	1
Ms Gwendolen Rowe, Secretary	3	1
Revd M Duckworth	3	1
Dr P Isherwood	3	1
Mr R Kennion	3	1
Mr S Kennion	3	1
Mrs D Lewin	3	1
Revd MW Stanley	3	1

The Administrator, Melanie Bennett, attended 3 Council meetings (3 possible) by standing invitation.

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

The Leader of Education, Revd Robin Wooldridge attended 1 full Council meetings (1 possible) by standing invitation.

The Centre Leader for Wellspring House, Karen Nolan, attended 2 full Council meetings (2 possible) by standing invitation.

#### **1.2 Attendance at the Annual Meeting**

The 156th Annual Meeting of Governors of the New Church College was held via Zoom on Saturday 4th July 2020 with an attendance of 22 Governors and 6 guests/friends.



## 2. EMPLOYEES

Revd Helen Brown, the Leader of Education, retired at the end of December 2020 after a 3-month handover working with the new Education Leader, Revd Robin Wooldridge. We are delighted with this new appointment; Robin took up his post in October 2020. Karen Nolan, the Centre Leader, resigned at the same time, so the staff position at the end of the financial year was:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job Role</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Revd Robin Wooldridge	Leader of Education	20 Hours	0.5 FTE
Melanie Bennett	Administrator	35 Hours	0.87 FTE

Linda Stoney undertook the house keeping duties on a casual basis, working on average 5–7 hours per week until Wellspring House had to close. An agreement is in place with Ray Kennion to open up the building for external room bookings on a casual and occasional basis; for example, where cover is needed for staff holidays or absence. Although this has not been needed this last year, as the building has been closed, Ray has been keeping an eye on the building and facilitating any work that has needed doing on repairs.

The work of the Leader of Education is supported by a team of tutors who are engaged on a consultancy basis to assist with module writing and delivery.

## 3. EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION

It is the current policy of the Council to follow the lead of General Conference in determining salaries. In line with this, the Council agreed to increase the salaries of the Leader of Education and the Administrator by 1% in April 2021.

## 4. GENERAL REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE COLLEGE

### 4.1 Performance of the Charity

Due to Covid-19, the college has been closed and has not been able to have any face to face events. A number of events have taken place on Zoom including:

- Interwoven Webinar led by Revd Helen Brown, Helen Newton, Jack Dunion, Shannon Fitzgerald & David Lomax. 26/27th June 2020
- Interwoven Virtual Summer Gathering 4th July 2020
- 3 x Navigating Uncertainty courses have been run online led by Stephen Russell-Lacy
- 156th AGM 4th July 2020

- Tutor Development Day 23rd October 2020

On the advice of the Government and the Charity Commission, all bookings have been cancelled until further notice due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **4.2 Highlights of the Year**

- Paul Morgan has completed his second year as a student and is working slowly but steadily through his studies.
- 2 people have successfully completed the new Sacred Scripture module alongside Paul and this was led by Mary Duckworth.
- It was lovely to hear how much our new Leader of Education, Revd Robin Wooldridge, has done to update the website allowing SOLCe to provide short courses which would be more accessible. He has been in consultation with Michael Stanley and Stephen Russell-Lacy about other ideas for longer courses. This is very exciting news and the college looks forward to seeing how this develops.

## **4.3 Future Development**

Despite being closed the college has continued to provide online courses. Our plans to extend the building have been put on hold at present due to the pandemic. The council remain committed to ensuring the building remains fit for the work it wishes to do and will resume consideration of the need for this once it is open again and in use.

## **4.4 Staff**

### **Leader of Education**

For the first half of the year, Revd Helen Brown continued to provide a role in education, facilitating those wanting to learn and reflect on spiritual concepts and supporting students and tutors as they continue their various modules. The College Council really appreciated her dedication to her work and wished her well in her retirement which took place in December 2020.

Since Revd Robin Wooldridge's appointment he has been very busy setting up a new website. He has had meetings with the Education Team and devised some new style courses which he has called, 'Stepping Stones'. He is very keen to continue an online presence using Zoom for courses once the College reopens. His enthusiasm is evident and we look forward to seeing how his role as Leader of Education develops over time.

### **Wellspring House Leader**

Karen Nolan, the Centre Leader, worked from home, and focussed very much on the preparatory work of finding a Project Manager for our project to extend. Although this took a lot of effort and time initially, once we had found

a suitable company to project manage, her work slowed down. Sadly, Karen tendered her resignation in December and so we are, at this current time, without a Centre Leader.

The college would like to thank Karen for all her hard work over 4 years and particularly the work she has done to update the college policies which was a lot of work. The college is grateful too, for efforts she made to reach out to people and to create a welcoming space for those attending events at Wellspring House. This has been truly exceptional work. We would also like to thank Peter Isherwood, her line manager, who has been a great support and advised the council as needed.

The college council have taken the decision to put on hold employing a new Centre Leader until Wellspring House reopens when they can review the need for this. At present any work required to be done has been taken on by Melanie Bennett, the College's Administrator and we are really grateful for her offer to do this. She is being paid pro-rata for any work she is doing in this role.

### **Administrator**

Melanie Bennett has continued to work, on behalf of Wellspring House, from home during the pandemic. She provides administrative support to the college but as mentioned above has also taken a few extra roles due to the resignation of the Centre Leader. The college are deeply grateful for her tireless work keeping in contact with people and continuing to administer any work needed during this time.

### **Facilities Management**

During the pandemic the Facilities Management team have continued work on the fabric of the building and the grounds. These continue to flourish and the college is grateful to the team who work tirelessly to ensure our beautiful building is well cared for and that the grounds stay well presented. Ray Kennion who facilitates this work has a real talent in this role and nothing gets past his sharp eye. We owe him an enormous debt of gratitude for all his efforts in this area. We have continued to improve the building preparing a new office and carrying out maintenance work as needed. With the college being closed it has provided a good opportunity to carry out some remedial work which would be difficult whilst the building is in use.

### **Support Staff**

The college continues to benefit from the invaluable work Sue Chesworth does within her role supporting students. We sincerely thank her for her continued work in this area.

We cannot forget the amount of work Ray Kennion does as additional caretaker and thank him for this work.

### **Volunteers**

We value greatly the many lay people who volunteer at the college and provide so much support to the team. We warmly thank them all for their commitment and dedication to the college.

## **4.5 SOLCe**

### **Sponsored Students**

During this last year our student Paul Morgan has been continuing his studies. He is making slow but steady progress. He started the financial year, as a second year student and transitioned into his third year in January 2021. Although he has had to put his work on Worship Leading on hold (due to the present circumstances) he has continued to study college modules. He is participating in Zoom online courses.

### **SOLCe Students**

There have been 16 further students studying 9 different modules:

Sacred Scripture

Insights into the Bible

Introduction into the Gospels

A Pathway to Wholeness

Introduction to Swedenborgian Thought

Tutor skills

Divine Providence

John's Gospel

Skills in Swedenborgian Studies

## **4.6 Outreach**

The College advertises its open learning courses and events programme on the website [www.swedenborg-openlearning.org.uk](http://www.swedenborg-openlearning.org.uk). These are available to those in the general public and to church members. SOLCe usually holds a weekend at Purley Chase each year but sadly this did not place due to Purley Chase being closed.

Our endeavour is to provide a welcoming sphere for people to learn, to come together and to share in spiritual matters in a safe environment, albeit on Zoom for the time being. We continue to reach out to the wider community to build networks and to establish new relationships whilst always aiming to reach a wider audience.

## **4.7 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 income 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.

#### **4.8 Governors**

There are currently:

Honorary Governors - 3

Life Governors - 5

Honorary Life Governors - 4

Annual Governors - 51

Making a total of 63 in all.

### **5. FINANCE**

#### **Annual Accounts**

The Treasurer reported a net decrease in resources of £18,183 before capital movements for the year to 31st March 2021. (decrease of £8,335 in 2019-2020).

During the year, losses on the disposal of investments of £5,626 were realised with notional profits of £608,742 arising from the revaluation of investments.

The budget for 2020–2021 projected a deficit of £12,900 (before investment management fees) but the actual deficit for the year was £4,205 before investment management fees and a deficit of £18,183 when these are included. The main reason for the reduction in the budgeted loss resulted from changes in activities due to Covid-19.

A budget for 2021-2022 projects a deficit of £3,300 before any adjustments arising on the real and notional gains and losses or charges for managing our investments. The reason for this deficit is the continuing reduction in revenue resulting from Covid-19 and related loss of income from room hire.

Expenditure is also reduced as there is no immediate replacement of the Wellspring House Leader and a continuing reduction in travel costs for meetings.

#### **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, we agreed a minor updated investment policy statement which should provide additional flexibility to the managers around our investment categories to hopefully

improve income from our investments.

## **6. FUNDING AND RESERVES POLICY AND RISK REVIEW**

### **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 income from investments held in the name of the Trustee in accordance with the Charity Commission Scheme dated 13th July 1977, is by agreement paid directly to the College.

### **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 both an income and 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. 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.

The handling of these accounts, the level of reserves, and investment policy are subject to regular review by the Council at its meetings, and as part of the annual budgeting exercise.

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 classed 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.

## **TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The charity trustee (Corporate 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). This activity is performed by the Treasurer (whose nomination for the post is approved by the Corporate Trustee) and by the College Council on behalf of the Corporate Trustee.

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. The College Council assists the Corporate Trustee to meet those requirements. In preparing the financial statements, the Corporate 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 College Council and Treasurer assist the Corporate Trustee to meet its responsibility 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.



## **Structure, governance and management**

C Chambers

G Rowe

R J Nicholls

The College Council report was approved on behalf of College Council.

## **C Chambers R J Nicholls**

President      Treasurer

Dated: 16 July 2021   Dated: 3 July 2021

### **Leader of Education—Annual Report 2021**

As you will be aware, the world has changed dramatically over the last year. One of the major shifts we have experienced is how quickly businesses have adapted to a restricted working environment and moved their businesses online – which meant that prospective customers and clients could gain access to services and products anytime day or night. Education is one of the areas that has embraced this move towards the digital platform and SOLCe is very much part of that shift.

SOLCe has started to move its considerable learning materials online, which means students will be able to study the advanced modules from anywhere in the UK or abroad. Tutorials can be conducted over Zoom – a technology many of you know due to its successful use in the online Sunday services. This means tutorials can be booked around busy work or family commitments.

SOLCe is also expanding its scope of courses by introducing a range of short, informal 'Stepping Stones' courses; each one is designed to cover an aspect of the Teachings. The new courses will be particularly useful for newcomers to the Teachings, for those with no prior biblical knowledge or experience of church. These new courses will be made available on the new dedicated SOLCe website which is currently under construction and will be available towards the end of this year.

SOLCe has a rich and important heritage and we never forget the founding fathers who established the College all those years ago and we remain true to their ideals today – even in this digital age.

Revd Robin Wooldridge  
Solce, Leader of Education  
June 2021

**The New Church College**  
**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

	<b>Unrestricted funds general</b>
	<b>2021 £</b>
<b><u>Income and endowments from:</u></b>	
Donations and legacies	19,107
Other trading activities	6,193
Investments	58,166
Other income	1,356
<b>Total income</b>	<b>84,822</b>
<b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>	
Raising funds	11,335
Charitable activities	98,295
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>109,630</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	201,506
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b>	<b>176,698</b>
Gross transfers between funds	18,700
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>195,398</b>
Fund balances at 1 April 2020	930,989
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2021</b>	<b>1,126,387</b>

<b>Unrestricted funds Jersey</b>	<b>Restricted endowment funds</b>	<b>Totals</b>	
<b>2021 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>	<b>2020 £</b>
-	-	19,107	17,146
-	-	6,193	6,726
9,268	-	67,434	97,050
-	-	1,356	187
9,268	-	94,090	121,109
2,643	-	13,978	14,299
-	-	98,295	115,145
2,643	-	112,273	129,444
82,759	318,851	603,116	(297,082)
89,384	318,851	584,933	(305,417)
(9,570)	(9,130)	-	-
79,814	309,721	584,933	(305,417)
345,992	1,324,444	2,601,425	2,906,842
425,806	1,634,165	3,186,358	2,601,425

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**Balance Sheet**  
**As at 31 March 2021**

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Investments	3,167,620	2,577,833
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	12,088	12,967
Cash at Bank and in hand	24,567	43,572
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	36,655	56,539
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due within one year	(17,917)	(32,947)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	18,738	23,592
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Assets</b>	3,186,358	2,601,425
less current liabilities	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Capital Funds</b>		
Endowment funds	1,634,165	1,324,444
<b>Income Funds</b>		
Unrestricted funds - Jersey Education	425,806	345,992
Unrestricted funds - general	1,126,387	930,989
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>	3,186,358	2,601,425
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The accounts were approved by the College Council on 3 July 2021.

C Chambers [President]

The accounts have also been subject to an Independent Examination and were signed by Douglas Grange Accountants on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

## **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
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
Alan Misson	2015
Paul Morgan	2020

#### **Graduate in Swedenborgian Studies (Level Three)**

Rita Russell	2001
Alan Bowie	2006
Lee Differ	2019

## LAST 40 ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

<b>Year</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>President/ Senior Minister/ Spiritual Leader</b>	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Members</b>
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
2016	Swanwick	D.Gaffney	J.Dunion	83
2017	Swanwick	D.Gaffney	H.Brown/J.Dunion	77
2018	Swanwick	D.Gaffney	M.E.Duckworth	69
2019	Swanwick	D.Gaffney	C.Bank/J.Dunion	67
2020	Via Zoom	J.Dunion	None	-
2021	Swanwick	-	-	52

# **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

<b>Ordaining Ministers</b>	<b>ORDAINED</b>	<b>INDUCTED</b>
* 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

<b>Ministers</b>	<b>ORDAINED</b>
* John Edward Elliott, B.A., B.D.	June 23,1954
*# John Emanuel Teed	June 23,1954
*# 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., DipEd., B.Sc.	July 26,1989
* Geoffrey Clarkson, B.A.	July 26,1989
*# David Allan Moffat, B.Mus.	July 23,1997
* Gillian Lindsey Gordon	July 5,2000
* 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
Alison Claire Southcombe	December 9,2017

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

## **MINISTERS ORDAINED FOR SERVICE ABROAD**

### **Ministers Ordained for Service in the Czech Republic**

Martin David Krejza	April 3,1994
(Ordained in the Czech Republic)	

### **Ministers Ordained for Service in the Commonwealth of Independent States**

Alexander Gorbenko	July 29,2004
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## **MINISTERS ORDAINED BY OTHER NEW CHURCH ORGANISATIONS**

### **RECOGNISED**

Patrick Duvivier	July 28,1999
(Ordained by the General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America on July 2, 1982)	
Catherine Lauber	July 31,2009
(Ordained by the Swedenborgian Church of North America on July 5, 2008)	
Robin Wooldridge	July 25,2017
(Ordained by the Revd D. Gaffney on behalf of The New Church in Australia on August 7, 2016)	

## **2 WORSHIP LEADERS AND LAY PREACHERS**

The following are the Recognised Worship Leaders, Accredited Worship Leaders, and Lay Preachers recognised for service in Mauritius.

\*Retired or not in active service

### **Recognised Worship Leaders**

Geoffrey Charlton Bentley	1958
*Bryan Richard Smith	1962
Gordon Stanford Kuphal	1968
Stephen Russell-Lacy	1979
Jeffrey David Lomax	1982
Anne Elizabeth Clarkson	1991
Michael Clubb	1991
*Robert Joseph Kirk	1991



*David Richard Alfred Friend	1992
*Willie Huggins	1992
*Kathryn Mary Brooks	1993
Phillip Nicholas Brooks	1993
Frances Mary Burnley	1993
Maurice Garnett	1993
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
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
Helen Newton	2007
David Haseler	2007
Gwendolen Rowe	2013
Richard Cunningham	2018
Jenny Jones	2020

#### **Accredited Worship Leaders**

*Derrick Pearce	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
David Sharrock	2008
Tonia Jarvis	2012
Susan Wilson	2012
Liz Regan	2013
*John Harris	2014
*Philippa Peacock	2014
Christine Mrozek	2018
Lynne Griffiths	2019

### **Lay Preachers recognised for service in Mauritius**

	Authorized
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:

\*Retired or not in active service

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.

\*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 - Holy Supper and 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)

B Conference Block Policy  
M AMP

+ Index Linked  
# Held in trust for the Embsay Fund

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

<b>Bournemouth.</b> Church and rooms at Tuckton Road, Southbourne BH6 3HT	B £1,833,577	+
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<b>West Wickham.</b> Church and rooms at High Street BR4 0LZ	B £489,219	+
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#### General Conference.

House at 18 Pollard Road, Whetstone, London N20 0UB Freehold.	B £779,461	+
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Bungalow at 80 Broadway, Southbourne Bournemouth BH6 4EQ Freehold.	B £280,577	+
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31 Barlavington Way, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9TG Jointly owned freehold.	B £378,939	+
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### In the Midlands and West

<b>Derby.</b> Church and rooms at Horwood Avenue DE23 6AN	B £1,119,832	+
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House at 409A Burton Road, Derby DE23 6AN	B £412,569	+
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#### General Conference.

Bungalow at 215 Coventry Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 7AX Freehold.	B £542,843	+
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Purley Chase Centre, Atherstone Freehold.	B £6,227,977	+
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## **In North Lancashire**

**Accrington.** Church at Hargreaves Street BB5 2BB

B £723,597 +

**General Conference.**

House at 5 Whittycroft Drive, Barrowford,  
Nelson BB9 6AS Freehold. #

B £222,891 +

## **In North-West (Manchester) and Cheshire**

**Chester.** Church and rooms at Brook Lane,  
Newton CH2 2BT

B £390,001 +

House at 51 Woodlands Drive,  
Newton CH2 3QQ

B £305,596 +

**Kearsley.** Church and rooms at  
Bolton Road BL4 9DD

B £1,576,877 +

**Radcliffe.** Church and rooms at Stand Lane.

B £1,590,804 +

**General Conference.**

House at Church Street,  
Kearsley BL4 9DD Freehold.

B £294,062 +

## **In Yorkshire and the North-East**

**Bradford.** Church and rooms at Ashfield Avenue,  
Frizinghall BD18 3AL

B £677,793 +

**Dalton.** Church and rooms at Grove Place,  
Dalton, Huddersfield HD5 9LH

B £1,210,732 +

Flats at 111 and 113 Long Lane,  
Dalton, Huddersfield HD5 9LL

B £878,423 +

**Keighley.** Church and rooms at Braithwaite Road,  
Braithwaite BD22 6PX

B £572,079 +

**Seaburn Dene.** Church and rooms at Shields Road,  
Seaburn Dene, Sunderland SR6 8ND

B £525,637 +

**General Conference.**

House at 22 Wimborne Drive, Keighley  
Jointly owned freehold. #

B £381,385 +

Kildwick New Church Centre, Main Road, Kildwick Freehold. #	B	£774,273	+
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**New Zealand**

59a Balmain Road, Birkenhead, Auckland, 1310 (Conference share 86.7647%)	M	NZ\$470,960	
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**Property of the New Church College**

25 Radcliffe New Road, Radcliffe, Manchester.	B	£947,338	+
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**LIST OF SOCIETIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**  
(For addresses and telephone numbers see Address List)

<b>City, Town, etc.</b>	<b>Situation of Church</b>	<b>Minister or Lay Leader</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
Accrington	Hargreaves Street Accrington BB5 2BB		Miss.J.Walton	Mrs.A.Walton
Bournemouth	Tuckton Road, Southbourne BH6 3HT	Rev.C.Curry	Mrs.J.Pike	Rev G Gordon
Bradford and Saltaire	Ashfield Avenue, Shipley W Yorks BD18 3AL	Contact Secretary	Ms.P.Blomfield	Mrs.D.Nolan
Dalton, Huddersfield	Grove Place, Dalton Huddersfield HD5 9LH	Mr T Millar	Mr.R.Jessop	Mrs J Mrozek
Derby	Horwood Avenue Derby DE23 6AN	Mrs.C.Sutton	Mr.N.K.Sutton	Mrs R.F.Delderfield
Kearsley (07913 121119)	Bolton Road Kearsley Lancs BL4 9DD	Contact Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw	Mr.D.Ormes	Mrs.P A Grimshaw

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<b>City, Town, etc.</b>	<b>Situation of Church</b>	<b>Minister or Lay Leader</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
Keighley	Braithwaite Road Braithwaite Village Keighley BD22 6PX	Rev.C.Bank	Mr.M.Pepper	Mrs.K.Higgins
Paisley		Rev.J.Dunion	Mr.CA.Macpherson	Mrs.W.Laing
Radcliffe	Stand Lane Radcliffe Manchester M26			
Seaburn Dene, Sunderland	Shields Road Seaburn Dene, Sunderland SR6 8ND		Mr.G.Nicholls	Mr.W.Griffiths
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.Sookeah	Mr.C.Phanjoo



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

	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
Broadfield Benevolent Fund		
New Church College	Miss.G.Rowe	Mr.R.J.Nicholls
Committee for Auxiliary Ministry	Mrs.J.E.Millar	
Examining Board (College Education Committee)	Leader of Studies	
Home Worship Scheme	Rev.G.L.Gordon (Organiser)	
Jeggins Trustees		
Kildwick Committee	Mr.K.Sandiford	Mr.K.Sandiford
Library & Archives Committee	Mrs.M.Hawkins	
Marketing and Resources	Mr.S.Russell-Lacy	
Ministers' Committee	To be appointed *	
New Church Children's Society	Mrs.S.Chesworth	Mrs.C.Rowlands
New Church Historical Society	Mrs.M.Hawkins (Convenor)	Mrs.P.A.Grimshaw (Sec/Treas)
New Church Youth Association	Miss.G.Rowe	Miss.S.Fitzgerald
Purley Chase Centre	Mr.G.M.Brackley	Mrs.S.Field
Swedenborg Society	Ms.D.Prentice (Admin)	Mr.A.Morley
Yorkshire Missionary Association	Miss.G.Rowe	
Yorkshire & North-East Area Council	Miss.G.Rowe	Mr.T.Millar

\* In the meantime, queries should be addressed to:  
[com.secretary@generalconference.org.uk](mailto:com.secretary@generalconference.org.uk)

## **AREA COUNCIL**

This Council comprises 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.

### **Yorkshire and North-East**

Minister: Rev.C.Bank, Rev.B.Jarvis, Rev.R.M.Jarratt

Secretary: Miss.G.Rowe

Treasurer: Mr.T.Millar

\*Bradford and Saltaire (2); \*Dalton (1); \*Keighley (2); \*Seaburn Dene (2)

## **WEB SITES**

General Conference

Purley Chase

Spiritual Wisdom

Apocalypse of John

Spiritual Questions

SOLCe

Swedenborg Society

[www.generalconference.org.uk](http://www.generalconference.org.uk)

[www.purleychasecentre.org.uk](http://www.purleychasecentre.org.uk)

[www.spiritualwisdom.org.uk](http://www.spiritualwisdom.org.uk)

[www.apocalypse-of-john.org.uk](http://www.apocalypse-of-john.org.uk)

[www.spiritualquestions.org.uk](http://www.spiritualquestions.org.uk)

[www.swedenborg-openlearning.org.uk](http://www.swedenborg-openlearning.org.uk)

[www.swedenborg.org.uk](http://www.swedenborg.org.uk)



