

Annual Report

1. Chester-le-Street Congregation of Jehovah's Witness.
2. Annual Report for year ending 31st March.2012

Reference and Administration Details

3. Registered Charity No. **1067335.**
4. The registered address of the congregation:

The Kingdom Hall,
Portobello Road,
Birtley,
DH3 2JW.
5. On the date this report was approved the congregation was administered by the following trustees:
Chairman: Carl Ingram. Secretary: Joe Pittman.
Other Trustees: Barrie Baird, Ray Boughen, Jonathan Dixon, Malcolm Watson,
Gary Wilkinson and Sean Dawson.
6. The Kingdom Hall in Portobello Road, Birtley, is held in trust for the congregation by The Kingdom Hall Trust.

Structure, Governance and Management

7. The congregation is an unincorporated association constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 16th May 1997 ("The Constitution"). The congregation is affiliated with Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Britain (The Society).

New trustees are selected by the existing trustees from among congregation members, and are duly appointed pursuant to the Constitution.

The affairs of the congregation are managed by the trustees, who as members of the charity work closely together, and meetings are called whenever required, but at least three times a year. All major decisions are made by formal resolutions at meetings of congregation members as provided for in the Constitution.

The trustees and other persons engaged in the activities of the congregation have done so on a voluntary unpaid basis.

Objectives, Activities and Public Benefit

8. The Constitution restricts the operation of the congregation and the use of its assets to religious purposes. It defines the object of the congregation as “the practice and advancement of Christianity founded on the Holy Bible, including the preaching of the good news of God’s Kingdom by Jesus Christ within the Congregation Area and the holding of meetings for public Christian worship.” For this purpose the congregation undertakes the following activities: holding and arranging for public religious worship; teaching of the Bible and the gospel of Christ at these public meetings; teaching and preaching the gospel to the public within the congregation area; distribution of Bibles and other religious literature to the public in the congregation area.

These meetings are provided, and ministry engaged in, without charge to adherents or the general public. Both provide opportunities for fellowship along with the praise and worship of God. They serve to advance religious education among both Christian and the wider public by providing training in reading, teaching, and applying the Bible. Further, through the teaching of principles of Christian living - which include respect for secular authority, persons, property, and the maintenance of personal morality and family values – individuals are aided to change their lives in harmony with such principles. This affords those who follow the teaching of Jesus an improved moral climate, better marital, employer-employee, and social relationships, and greater happiness and contentment.

The trustees confirm that they have taken into consideration Charity Commission guidance on public benefits in exercising their powers of duties.

Achievements, Performance and Financial:

9. The congregation is primarily funded by voluntary donations made by congregation members and others, supplemented by bank interest. Throughout the year such funds have been used to provide facilities for the holding of regular weekly meetings for worship and Bible study. Donations have been made by congregation members towards the cost of circuit assemblies and other conventions held in the year. Funds have also been donated to the Society to assist them in carrying out their related religious purposes.
10. Noteworthy expenses included: **£4753.49** Kingdom Hall Operation/Maintenance
£5000.00 Donation to Durham Congregation
£5000.00 Donation to Blaydon Congregation
£1200.00 Donation to Worldwide Work
£120.00 Donation to Missionary Work
£120.00 Donation to Gujarati Congregation
£1350.00 Donation to Circuit/District Assemblies
£113.98 CO Expenses
£150.00 CO Accommodation
£330.00 Kingdom Hall Assistance Arrangement

**ANNUAL CONGREGATION
ACCOUNTS REPORT
6th April 11 – 5th April 12**

Congregation: CHESTER LE STREET

RECEIPTS

Congregation Contributions (C)	£5830__	
Tax Repayment	£3706__	
Congregation Contributions by Standing Order (D)	£7484__	
Congregation Gift Aid (G)	£_____	
Legacies (E)	£33381__	
Interest from Investments (I) (e.g. bank deposit account)	£_____	
Rents from Property (R)	£_____	
Proceeds from Sale of Assets (S) (e.g. old sounds equipment)	£_____	
Loans Received (L)	£_____	
Other: Coach	£_____	
	£_____	
	£_____	
	£_____	
Total Receipts		£50401__

PAYMENTS

Donation to IBSA/Watch Tower (from congregation funds)	£1200__	
Other Donations from Congregation Funds (A) Missionary fund (e.g. pioneer school, circuit), Circuit & District Assemblies)	£120__	
	£1680__	
Donations to Gujarati Congregation	£120__	
Kingdom Hall Operation and Maintenance (U)	£4753__	
Circuit Overseer and Visiting Speaker Expenses (V)	£114__	
Long Term Investments (Z) (tied up for a year or more)	£_____	
Equipment Purchased for Kingdom Hall (Q) (e.g. photocopier)	£_____	
Purchase of Land or Buildings, including extensions	£_____	
Loan Repayment to the Society re KH Building (M)	£_____	
Insurance	£_____	
Travelling Overseer Assistance	£150__	
	£_____	
Sundries Coach	£_____	
Year Text	£_____	
Donation to Durham Congregation	£5000__	
Donation to Bladen Congregation	£5000__	
Total Payments		£18137__
Surplus (Deficit) – Difference between Receipts and Payments		£32264__

Amount outstanding on Society loan at end of March 12

£_____

~~Funds on hand in bank account at end of March 12~~

~~£_____~~

Date: 29th April 2012

Secretary J Pittman