

The Harpenden Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

Inland Revenue Tax Reference No. XN 62815

Registered Charity No. 1065696

ANNUAL RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT: - YEAR TO MARCH 31, 2016

RECEIPTS:

(Voluntary Sources)

		Previous Year
Congregation Contributions	£3003.62	£1966.18
Tax Repayment	£1115.06	£1551.88
Congregation Gift Aid (Monthly)	£2820.00	£2980.00
Congregation Gift Aid (Small Donations)	£1338.00	1477.00
Hire of Hall	Nil	Nil
Legacy	£20,551.00	
Total Receipts	£28,827.68	£7975.06

PAYMENTS:

(Direct Charitable Expenditure)

Donation to IBSA/Watchtower Society (Associated Registered Charities)	£20,400.00	£10,600.00
Kingdom Hall Construction	£2400	Nil
Other Donations (eg: Circuit/District Expenses)	£355.00	£1006.80
Kingdom Hall Operation and Maintenance	£3876.72	£3350.86
Global Assistance	£168.00	£171.00
Equipment purchased for Kingdom Hall	Nil	£516.10
Convention Coach	£1974.60	£1943.10
Phone Link	£57.60	Nil
Literature Cart	£266.96	Nil

Total Payments	£29,498.88	£17,645.46
Net receipts for the year	£671.20	£9670.40
Bank and Cash Balances at April 1, 2015	£3940.97	£13,611.37
Bank and Cash Balances at March 31, 2016	£3269.77	£3940.97

Signed *Maxwell Vines*

Date *5th May 2016*

Secretary for the Trustees of the Harpenden Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

HARPENDEN CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2016

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Charity No.1065696

Registered Address: Kingdom Hall Hickling Way Harpenden Hertfordshire AL5 4NL

On the date this report was approved, the Congregation was administered by the following trustees:

Chairman: Christopher Dobson

Secretary: Maxwell Vines

Other Trustees: Jason Durant, Richard Houghton.

The Kingdom Hall is held in trust for the congregation by the following locally appointed trustees:

Christopher Dobson, Richard Houghton and Maxwell Vines.

Structure, Governance and Management

The congregation is an unincorporated association constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 29 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 continue to offer their services on a voluntary unpaid basis.

Objectives, Activities and Public Benefit

The Constitution restricts the operation of the congregation and the use of its assets to religious purposes. It defines the objects 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 meetings 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 Christians 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, and 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 teachings 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 benefit in exercising their powers or duties.

Achievements, Performance and Financial Review

The congregation is primarily funded by voluntary donations made by congregation members and others, supplemented by claims to HMRC for donations made by Gift Aid. Throughout the year such funds have been used to provide and maintain 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 the regional convention held in the year. Funds have also been donated to the Society to assist them in carrying out their related religious purposes. As implemented by the Society, trolley witnessing is now a feature of the preaching work and four trolleys are now available allowing two sites in Harpenden and one in Redbourn to be scheduled on a regular basis during the weekdays and weekend.

The Annual Assets and Liabilities Statement of 31 March 2016 confirm the cash assets of the congregation were as follows: Cash in hand or in Current Account £3269.77

The charity has a consistent income base, through donations from congregation members, some of which is by tax-effective means. Based on this income, we can plan confidently with relatively small reserves. The policy on reserves is to ensure that we have free reserves on hand, not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed, equivalent to not less than 3 months working expenditure. At the year-end, the free reserves were in excess of three months working expenditure.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 2016 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed: -----
C Dobson
Chairman

M Vines
Secretary

MICHAEL WHITE

Bookkeeping & Computing

101 Knightsfield Welwyn Garden City Herts AL8 7JE

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees : Charity No. 1065696 The Harpenden Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

I report on the accounts of the Congregation for the year ended 31st March 2016, which are set out on pages 01 to 06.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act ;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under Section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act)
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

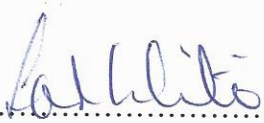
Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioner. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements :
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) of the 2005 Act and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 44(1) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounting Regulations and
 - which are consistent with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities
 - have not been met or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


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L. A. Michael White

29 years bookkeeping/accounting experience in public practice.

101 Knightsfield Welwyn Garden City Herts AL8 7JE

Dated 10TH FEBRUARY 2017