

Annual Report 2011 - 2012

1. CHARITY : *LONDON FOREST HILL CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES*
2. ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2012

Legal and Administrative Information

3. The Congregation is an unincorporated association now constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 28th May 1997 and registered with The Charity Commission.
4. Registered Charity No. 1069147.
5. The Congregation has during the last year been administered by the following Trustees, being Elders of the Congregation duly appointed pursuant to the Constitution:

Chairman: Anthony Dawson
Secretary: Cleveland (Peter) Jones
Other Trustees: Wayne Jones, Andreas Modestou, Harley Burford, Vernal Rochester, Jacob Tommy, Wilson Dodzo, Robert Golbourne.
6. The Registered Address of the Congregation is The Kingdom Hall, 27 Brockley Rise, London SE23 1JG.
7. The Congregation's Bank for the stated period was Barclays Bank plc, 93 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6BB.
8. At the end of the year there were 125 congregation members.
9. The Congregation is associated with the London No.8 Circuit of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Objects and Activities

10. The Constitution restricts the operation of the Congregation to religious purposes and limits the use of its assets to such purposes: It defines the objects of the congregation as 'the practice and advancement of Christianity founded on the Holy Bible.' For this purpose the Congregation is organized on the basis of scriptural precedent and as otherwise recommended by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Britain ('the Society') with which the Congregation is affiliated.

During the year the Congregation has achieved its objects and continued to pursue its purposes by holding regular twice-weekly meetings for the public worship of God and Bible study. Further, most Congregation members have assisted by sharing regularly in preaching the good news of God's Kingdom and teaching principles of Christian living including respect for secular authority, persons and property; the maintenance of personal morality and family values; and other facets of practical Christianity.

Governance

11. 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 all other persons engaged in the activities of the Congregation have done so on an entirely voluntary unpaid basis.

Annual Report 2011 - 2012

Review of Year and Financial Developments

12. The Congregation is funded by voluntary donations made by congregation members and others, supplemented by income from (property and) investments. Further, it is confirmed that the congregation's accounts comply with the Constitution and with the relevant statutory requirements.

Throughout the year such funds have been used to provide facilities for the holding of the 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 during the year. Funds have also been donated to the Society (and to other duly constituted congregations) to assist them in carrying out their related religious purposes.

The Annual Assets and Liabilities Statement at 31/03/12 confirm the cash assets of the Congregation were as follows:

Funds: Cash in Current Account : £ 46,812

Total Funds : £ 46,812

13. These funds are held for the purposes of financing the future activities of the Congregation, including the acquisition / improvement of accommodation for the holding of meetings for worship and Bible study.
14. Property - The Kingdom Hall, 27 Brockley Rise, Forest Hill, London SE23 1JG - Held in trust for the Congregation by locally appointed Trustees / The Kingdom Hall Trust.
15. Of particular significance in the financial affairs of the Congregation during the year were the following expenses:-

- £3,325.00	Convention Coaches
- £2,400.00	Kingdom Hall operations and maintenance
- £1,722.00	Watchtower Bible and Tract Society
- £ 965.00	Donations to Watch Tower for TOAA
- £ 800.00	Donations to Watch Tower for KHAA

Contributions approved by Congregation resolution for the charitable work of associated Charities were as follows:

- £8,000.00	Donation to Circuit Flat Project
- £ 750.00	Donations to Kingdom Hall Assistance Fund

In all respects the Congregation continues to co-operate closely with the other duly constituted Congregations within the Circuit and with the Society for the common purpose of advancing Christianity by preaching the Good News of the God's Kingdom by Jesus Christ.

Internal Controls:

16. Proper controls and procedures are adhered to, so that the monthly reports accurately represents all Transactions, are in balance and provide reasonable assurance that finances are being used for their intended purpose. A competent person independently examines the accounts on a quarterly basis, using guidelines prepared by the Society. The result is announced to the congregation.

Annual Report 2011 - 2012

Investments Policy:

17. The trustees have the power to invest in any way they see fit, but subject to the provisions of the Constitution. They will have regard to the soundness of the financial institution, and invest in harmony with Christian principles. Any funds that may be needed in the short term will be invested on that basis.

Reserves Policy:

18. 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 is to ensure that we have free reserves on hand, not designed for specific purpose or otherwise committed, equivalent to not less than 3 months working expenditure. At the year - end, the free reserve were roughly equal to 12 months working expenditure.

Risk Management:

19. The trustees actively review the major risks the charity faces and believe that by maintaining free reserves at the level stated in the Reserves Policy, combined with the internal audit program, the charity will have sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. Established systems are in place to mitigate the significant risks.
20. Approved by the Trustees of the charity on 8th June 2012 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed:

.....

.....
Chairman

.....

.....
Secretary