

ST ALBANS WEST CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2016

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity No. 1065597/0.

The registered address of the Congregation is The Kingdom Hall, 69 Old London Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 1QD.

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

Chairman: Jason Reed Secretary: David Burden

Other Trustees: R. Barnard, A. Butler, P. Constantinou, S. Cook, S. Firth-Bernard,
P. Holland, and D. Murray.

The Kingdom Hall in Old London Road, St Albans, is held in trust for the congregation by the following locally appointed trustees: Robert Barnard, Joseph Eleini and David Burden.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Congregation is an unincorporated association constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 29th 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

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. 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 in the year. Funds have also been donated to the Society to assist them in carrying out their related religious purposes.

The £234 that remained in the “Society’ Funds-on-Deposit” Account has now been reclaimed.

Noteworthy expenses during the year for the congregation include: £2,146 to pay for the coaches to take West Congregation members to the Regional Convention at Milton Keynes.

The Kingdom Hall Operating Account has been set up so each congregation can donate monthly to cover the expense of running the Kingdom Hall. During the year we spent £724 to install video equipment for the Sign Language Group to have their meetings in the Second School room.

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 that limit.

These funds are held to finance the future activities of the congregation.

Approved by the Trustees of the Charity on
and signed on its behalf by:

Chairman _____ Secretary _____

The St Albans West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES: YEAR TO MARCH 31, 2016

	Current Year	Previous Year
<u>CASH ASSETS:</u>		
Bank and Cash Balances		
Bank Current account	<u>£18,747</u>	<u>£7,307</u>
Funds on Deposit with Society	<u>—</u>	<u>£234</u>
Cash in the Kingdom Hall Operating Account	<u>£648</u>	<u>£726</u>
Cash not banked	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total: Agrees with March 31 balance on Annual Account	<u>£19,395</u>	<u>£8,267</u>
Loans other congregations and Watch Tower Society		
Other (_____)	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>LIABILITIES:</u>		
Due for immediate payment	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Loans (Repayment within one year on request)	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>Future and contingent liabilities:</u>		
Loan re purchase of 99-year lease (Footnote A)	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>OTHER ASSETS:</u>		
Long term investments (tied up for a year or more)	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Other Property (Footnote D)	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Retained for the Charity's own use		
Place of worship (Footnote B)	<u>£300,000</u>	<u>£300,000</u>
Furniture and other contents of place of worship (Footnote C)	<u>£50,000</u>	<u>£50,000</u>

Footnotes:

A Loan: The Loan was paid off in full in January 2014

B Registered Place of Worship: Kingdom Hall, 69 Old London Road, St Albans – Good Condition.

Property Leasehold – 99-year lease expires March 2105 with a peppercorn rent if requested

C Contents: Shown at cost. Condition of Contents: Good.

D Other Property (Not the place of worship): None

The St Albans West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

Inland Revenue Tax Reference No XN43219 Registered Charity No. 1065597

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

	Current Year	Previous Year
RECEIPTS:		
(Voluntary Sources)		
Congregation Contributions	<u>£10,463</u>	<u>£11,112</u>
Tax Repayment and Refunds	<u>£3,436</u>	<u>£4,287</u>
Congregation Gift Aid	<u>£10,010</u>	<u>£12,960</u>
Small Gift Aid Donations	<u>£1,667</u>	<u>£1,417</u>
Donations from St Albans East	<u>£2,790</u>	<u>£2,563</u>
Sub-total:	<u>£28,365</u>	<u>£32,338</u>
(Misc Receipts)		
Other (_____)	—	—
Sub-total:	—	—
Total Receipts	<u>£28,365</u>	<u>£32,338</u>
PAYMENTS:		
Direct Charitable Expenditure)		
Donations to IBSA/Watch Tower Society (Associated Registered Charities)	<u>£7,500</u>	<u>£900</u>
Donations to Circuit/District/Congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses	<u>£1,306</u>	<u>£40,942</u>
<u>(Other Expenditure)</u>		
Kingdom Hall Operation and Maintenance	<u>£4,832</u>	<u>£3,274</u>
Circuit and Visiting Minister Expenses	<u>£472</u>	<u>£596</u>
Hosting Day with International Convention	—	<u>£10,965</u>
RBC Design Expenses	—	<u>£812</u>
Kingdom Hall Lock	—	<u>£278</u>
Projector	—	<u>£1,579</u>
Sign Language Video equipment	<u>£724</u>	—
(Payments for Investment and Other Assets)		
Assets retained for investment purposes	—	—
Miscellaneous expenses	<u>£257</u>	—
(Misc Payments)		
Other (<i>Coaches to Conventions</i>)	<u>£2,146</u>	<u>£4,079</u>
Total Payments	<u>£17,237</u>	<u>£63,425</u>
Net receipts/expenses for the year	<u>£11,128</u>	<u>-£31,087</u>
Bank and cash balances at April 1, 2014	<u>£8,267</u>	<u>£39,354</u>
Bank and cash balances at March 31, 2015	<u>£19,395</u>	<u>£8,267</u>

Signed _____ Date _____

Secretary to the Trustees of the St Albans Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

RICHARD W. HOUGHTON

22, Brackendale Grove, Harpenden, Herts. AL5 3EJ
Tel. 01582-622474

The Trustees,
St. Albans West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses,
c/o 4, Stanmount Road,
ST. ALBANS,
Herts.

July 13, 2016

Dear Brothers,

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees: Charity No. 1065597/0 The St. Albans West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

I report on the accounts of the Congregation for the year ended 31st March 2016, as provided to me as an attachment to your annual report.

Respective Responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- to examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act),
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

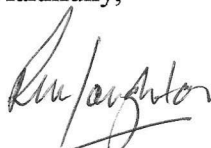
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts. However, the high standard of record keeping is such that I have every confidence that a full audit would be satisfactory.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination of the 2015-16 accounts, I confirm that no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the following requirements have not been met -
 - ◆ To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act : and
 - ◆ To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Yours faithfully,



Richard W. Houghton, B. Sc.