

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021
(Registered Charity Number 1007825)

Verbum Dei Centre
Nunnery Lane
Carisbrooke
Isle of Wight PO30 1YR

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

(Registered Charity Number 1007825)

Declaration

The income and expenditure account for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2021, set out on pages 6, 7 and 8, the balance sheet as at 31 December 2021 set out on page 9, and the notes to the accounts set out on page 10 are all as approved by the trustees.



Catherine Cruz
For and on behalf of the Trustees

28th October 2022

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

(Registered Charity Number 1007825)

Annual Report of the Trustees

The Verbum Dei Community, “Verbum Dei Centre”, Nunnery Lane, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight PO30 1YR is registered with the Charity Commissioners (No 1007825) and constituted by Deed of Trust.

The Charity is administered by the following trustees:

Maria de la Portilla (*Superior*)
Catherine Cruz (*Secretary*)
Sue Cooper

Verbum Dei is an international Catholic Community whose particular focus is prayer and preaching the Word of God, and encouraging each baptised person to share their gifts for the good of all.

The continued effects of the Pandemic for the Retreat centre

Although in the second half of 2021 it has been possible to begin to return to some normality in the retreat house programme, we noticed that still during this time people felt very reticent to attend activities in person. Although we experimented with various activities which people could attend either online or in person, we found that for some activities this was a good model, for actual retreats it did not work so well. The online element has continued to be fruitful and, in many ways, has opened up channels to reach more people. The issue is that often these channels are not very much reflected on a level of income. Although with the perspective of 2022, there has been an increase of in presence participation and attendance of retreats this was by no means visible in 2021. At the same time speaking with other Religious Communities and the Diocesan Church, this long-term effect of the Pandemic that has reduced active participation is a factor that is affecting groups of all types.

It is interesting to note that donations actually went down slightly in 2021 in comparison with 2020. This is due to the fact at the beginning of the Pandemic several individuals were very sensitive to the situation of the retreat house and made some significant donations to back up the community. In 2021 this was not so much in evidence and the recovery of numbers attending the retreat house was slow. There were continued fundraising efforts to help families in other countries, particularly Venezuela, affected by the Pandemic.

Other projects

In the summer of 2021, the Diocese of Portsmouth requested support for University Chaplaincy for the University of Portsmouth. The Southampton Community has been very involved for many years with both the University of Southampton and Solent University. The conclusion was that this was an appropriate area to support the Diocese and our mission to help young people and one member from the Isle of Wight Community and one member from the Southampton Community became involved in this project. Another project during this period although that had been initiated in 2020 was a very small training project. In the past the international community has requested that the Isle of Wight be available to host a training course or Novitiate for young women beginning their journey as internal vowed community members. In 2021 there was a short-term project which is the reason that some funds came into the UK from the International Community in this period.

Ongoing activities

During this year the Communities have continued in many ways through one-to-one meetings and online groups to accompany and support both married couples, families, the elderly and young people. All the community members involved in University Chaplaincy, in all three communities have continued with their pastoral roles, often in difficult circumstances. The Parish work in London similarly has been an

important platform of support for many people through the uncertainties of the Pandemic period.

Additional Comments concerning the Trustees

In our meeting of vowed community members and Trustees it was decided to increase the number of official Trustees and to have one person from each community for a greater representation of the whole UK reality. The additional Trustees are as follows Anabel Gonzalez Castañeda, María Yadira Betsabé Calderón Peralta and Dora Luz Gonzalez Cortez.

The pastoral work of the Community is open to everyone on a totally non-discriminational basis. The financial situation of the Community is considered to be satisfactory and the Trustees can confirm that there have been no serious incidents.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Cruz'.

Catherine M. C. Cruz
On behalf of the Trustees
28th October 2022

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

(Registered Charity Number 1007825)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Verbum Dei Community

This report is on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's 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;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes 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; consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.



Ashley Rebello ACCA
Independent Examiner

Flat 92, 581 North End Road
HA9 0UT

Date
28th Oct 2022

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY

Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2021

General Purposes Fund

	2021 £	2020 £
Income		
Donations	60,628	68,772
Tax reclaimed on Gift Aided Donations	2,241	14,030
	<u>62,869</u>	<u>82,802</u>
Other Income	38,934	35,998
Transfer from Verbum Dei overseas	1,685	-
Total Income	<u>103,488</u>	<u>118,800</u>
Expenditure		
<i>Direct Charitable Expenditure</i>		
Living Costs and Retreat Costs	44,507	33,359
Travel and Motoring	15,304	14,128
	<u>59,811</u>	<u>47,487</u>
<i>Other Expenditure</i>		
Repairs and maintenance	16,803	26,544
Heating, Lighting and Water	13,642	10,585
Rent and Council Tax	2,449	2,393
Printing, Stationery and Postage	1,460	2,913
Telephone and Fax	3,713	4,416
Professional fees	1,765	-
Bank Charges	95	146
Studies	2,059	1,699
Sundry Items	5,124	5,171
Transfer to Verbum Dei overseas	2,800	3,042
	<u>49,911</u>	<u>56,910</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>109,722</u>	<u>104,397</u>
Net Income for the Year	(6,234)	14,403
Balance at 1 January (Bank Deposits)	53,704	39,300
Debtor carried forward	10,300	7,098
Regulation of Debtor	(10,300)	(7,098)
Gift Aid claim	11,339	10,300
Transfer from / (to) Building Fund	-	-
Fund Balance at 31 December	<u>58,809</u>	<u>64,004</u>

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY

Income & expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2021

Building Fund

	2021	2020
Income	£	£
Donations	13,140	6,887
Tax reclaimed on Gift Aided Donations	2	-
Other Income	-	20
Total Income	13,142	6,906
Expenditure		
Living Costs and Retreat Costs	250	-
Repairs and maintenance	2,100	58,120
Professional fees	-	-
Total Expenditure	2,350	58,120
Net Expenditure for the Year	10,792	(51,214)
Balance at 1 January	19,927	71,141
Transfer from General Purposes Fund	-	-
Fund Balance at 31 December	30,719	19,927

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY

Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2021

Summary of Funds

	2021		
	General Purposes £	Building Fund £	Total £
<i>Grants and Donations</i>			
Donations	60,628	13,140	73,768
Tax reclaimed on Gift Aided Donations	2,241	2	2,243
	<u>62,869</u>	<u>13,142</u>	<u>76,010</u>
Bank Interest			
Other Income	38,934	-	38,934
Transfer from Verbum Dei overseas	1,685	-	1,685
	<u>103,488</u>	<u>13,142</u>	<u>116,630</u>
Expenditure			
<i>Direct Charitable Expenditure</i>			
Living Costs and Retreat Costs	44,507	250	44,757
Travel and motoring	15,304	-	15,304
	<u>59,811</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>60,061</u>
<i>Other Expenditure</i>			
Repairs and maintenance	16,803	2,100	18,903
Heating, Lighting and Water	13,642	-	13,642
Rent and Council Tax	2,449	-	2,449
Printing, Stationery and Postage	1,460	-	1,460
Telephone and Fax	3,713	-	3,713
Bank Charges	95	-	95
Studies	2,059	-	2,059
Professional fees	1,765	-	1,765
Sundry Items	5,124	-	5,124
Transfer to Verbum Dei overseas	2,800	-	2,800
	<u>49,911</u>	<u>2,100</u>	<u>52,011</u>
	<u>109,722</u>	<u>2,350</u>	<u>112,072</u>
Net Income/(Expenditure) for the Year	(6,234)	10,792	4,558
Balance at 1 January (Bank Deposits)	53,704	19,927	73,631
Debtor carried forward	10,300	-	10,300
Regulation of Debtor	(10,300)	-	(10,300)
Gift Aid claim	11,339	-	11,339
Transfer from / (to) Building Fund	-	-	-
Fund Balances at 31 December	58,809	30,719	89,528

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2021

	2021 £	Note	2020 £
Fixed Assets	-	1	-
Debtor	11,339	2	10,300
Bank and Cash Deposits	78,189		73,631
Net funds	<u>89,528</u>		<u>83,931</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>			
General Purposes Fund	58,809		64,004
Building Fund	30,719		19,927
	<u>89,528</u>		<u>83,931</u>

THE VERBUM DEI COMMUNITY

Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts

1. Fixed Assets

For the use of the Charity and belonging to the General Purposes Fund are buildings at the Verbum Dei Centre, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight, as well as several cars and furniture & fittings. All fixed assets are recorded in the accounts at a net book value of zero.

2. Debtor

The amount receivable at 31 December represents income tax recoverable from the Inland Revenue on gift aided donations. The entire amount is receivable within one year.