

**NEWBURY CHRISTADELPHIAN ECCLESIA
REGISTERED CHARITY No 1168280**

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

CONTENTS

Trustees' Report

- 1 Reference and Administrative Details
- 2 Structure, Governance and Management
- 3 Objectives and Activities
- 4 Achievements and Performance
- 5 Financial Review
- 6 Declaration

Independent Examiner's Report

Receipt and Payments Account

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

NEWBURY CHRISTADELPHIAN ECCLESIA
REGISTERED CHARITY No 1168280

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees of Newbury Christadelphian Ecclesia ("The Charity") present their report and financial information for the year ended 31 December 2023.

SECTION A – REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered Charity number

11682820

Charity's principal address

243 Lower Way,
Thatcham
West Berkshire
RG19 3TP

Charity trustees

Christopher Paul Edwards – Secretary (resigned 17 March 2024)
Benjamin David Cox - Treasurer and Administration Committee Member
Miriam Elisabeth White – Administration Committee Member
Stephen Beresford Robinson – Administration Committee Member / Secretary
Rodger Yuile – Administration Committee Member (appointed 17 March 2024)

Independent Examiner

Philip Lawrence

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
Newbury Building Society

SECTION B – STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document	Constitution
How charity is constituted	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection method	Membership of the Newbury Ecclesia's Administration Committee – subject to election every two years

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

SECTION C – OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Charity's objectives are to advance a Bible based Christian faith – to the glory of God and honour of Jesus Christ for the benefit of the Christadelphian community and members of the public, particularly in the Newbury area.

The Charity's main activities, undertaken for the public benefit, in pursuit of these objects are:

- 1 Holding meetings for worship, prayer and Bible teaching.
- 2 Preaching through personal engagement and by invitation to meetings.
- 3 Provision of Sunday School, a youth club and other occasional activities.
- 4 Periodic collection for charitable needs, including disaster relief.
- 5 Serving, to the extent feasible, attendees pastoral and welfare needs.

The foregoing activities promote a fuller understanding of the human condition, relative to the eternal things of God, and serve members of the public with direction, balance and purpose in today's complex world.

In the exercise of their powers and duties in connection with the Charity's objectives, the trustees have reviewed and had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit as last updated in September 2013.

The profile of our church has changed since the beginning of the year with many members moving away from the area and some joining other Christadelphian ecclesias. This is clearly seen in attendance at the hall on Sunday mornings where we have far fewer Farsi speakers present. However, Newbury church remains a spiritual and practical support to many brothers and sisters near and far.

Activities in 2023

Newbury Christadelphian Ecclesia holds regular and ad hoc meetings both at the hall and online. On Sundays, we regularly hold two services in the hall. One is our regular Breaking of Bread meeting in which we remember the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The other is our Bible Time, where we provide introductions to Bible topics mainly aimed at those visiting or in the early stages of learning about the Bible. These meetings are open to all and we have welcomed a number of visitors.

Throughout the year, we have run ongoing Introductory 22 lesson courses on-line as well as several Preparation for Baptism sessions, including one course in French for contacts in Belgium. We also have a mid-week Bible discussion group that is a regular feature of our programme. The Ladies Tuesday Group meets at the hall once a month and online every week. There are also ad hoc meetings such as the Fellowship Day held in September.

We regularly review our services to ensure they continue to meet the needs of our members. For example, have looked at the transition once the Sunday School members have left the service, to help members get into the right 'spiritual zone'. We have experimented with changes of times with Sunday Services too, to see if it helped more brothers and sisters attend and more work continues with reviewing the times and formats of our services. We continue to invest time and money ensuring our technical set-up works for both in-person and online services. Translation has been an ongoing point of discussion as we do our best to find a way of making our services accessible to all without losing the flow and we have moved to a mainly 'on-screen' translation service.

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

We have had a number of changes to our membership over the year to December 2023 and very many regular visitors to our services - both online around the UK and in person at our hall. We witnessed and celebrated 8 baptisms in the course of 2023 and welcomed 3 new members from other Christadelphian ecclesias. We also transferred 3 members to other ecclesias with our blessing. At the end of 2023, our membership numbered 96 people but nearly half of these members are not local.

Preaching

Our regular Bible Time on Sundays is a cornerstone of our preaching activities and has been well attended by visitors over the year - with many of these visitors joining our membership as time went on. There are also regular classes online (usually with Farsi translation) that help people learn about the Gospel.

Invitations to our activities are mainly by word of mouth. Those that attend already are keen to bring new friends along. We have also had some people drop in from the local area thanks to our notice boards outside. From time to time, we produce paper/ email invitations for our members to hand out - such as to invite people to our Christmas service.

Youth

We are privileged to have the regular company of several children at our services and their full participation in our Sunday School programme. At the start of the year, we had 11 children, split across three classes. We were sorry to lose the company of 3 children over the course of the year, due to moves outside the area.

We continued to run three classes throughout the year together with a smattering of 'whole Sunday school' sessions where we combine all the classes in one group. During the first half of the year, these sessions were linked to seasonal themes (e.g. New Year, Lent). For the second half of the year and as our project during the summer holidays, we followed the theme of 'Biblical Timeline' and attempted to help the children understand how events in the Bible fit together across the ages and what happened when - with a large visual aid running across the Sunday school room!

The whole church comes together to celebrate the children twice a year when we have the Sunday School party (January) and the Sunday School Outing and Prize Giving (June/July).

The older children have been able to join in with Thames Valley Youth Group over the course of the year. This meets every other week on either a Friday evening or Saturday afternoon with an activity and then a Bible session - we have been investigating the books of the Bible. Newbury organised paddleboarding in June and ice skating in December. Four of our older children attended the Junior CYC Camp in Corfe Castle in the summer and the reunion/ meet up event leading up to it.

Our Sunday School children also benefit from the regular 'Family' services on Sundays at 11:45am.

All of those involved in teaching our Youth are DBS checked and we have secure Safeguarding policies procedures in place.

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Charitable Donations

We are pleased to support the work of NHS Berkshire Mental Health by regularly allowing them to use our hall for meetings.

We match-funded a member's mince pie fund-raising event, contributing £400 towards the Dolphin & Lion children's inpatient wards at Royal Berkshire Hospital.

Any surplus from our Monthly Lunch Club is donated to a chosen charity. This year £40.45 was donated to CARA (Christadelphian Aid for Refugees and Asylum seekers) and £40.44 to the Newbury foodbank.

We supported a number of charities financially over the year. Amongst these were 8 Christadelphian charities which do a range of activities from Preaching to Financial Aid to projects in developing countries. Disaster relief funds were channelled through the Disasters Emergency Committee and the Christadelphian Samaritan Fund.

Pastoral and Welfare

We have a Welfare Committee that meets bi-monthly to consider the welfare and needs of our church family. This has resulted in practical and financial help being offered in addition to prayers and spiritual encouragement. This year we have seen our baptised numbers grow but also, in the latter half of the year, a lot of our Iranian members move away. We continue to support the Iranian refugee community with advice and practical help where necessary as many of them gain their leave to remain and start the process of finding employment and accommodation.

Lunch club re-started in the spring on the third Thursday of each month and have shared some lovely meals together with up to 13 people attending each month. This is a great way to reach out to people who may not attend other services.

We have a large number of Iranian members who live remotely from Newbury. Over the year we have sent various care packages including hand written cards, puzzle books and a photo of the fellowship weekend. These have been well received. Christmas packages were arranged for older members in December. These were given at the Ladies Tuesday Group Festive Meal and were appreciated by all. The Sunday School made a Nativity picture and we sent a print of it to all of the ecclesia.

Once a month, we join together for a bring and share lunch at the hall, to which all are invited. There are other opportunities for pastoral support in the way of socials - be that meeting up in a park, going for a walk or celebrating birthdays together.

Every Sunday we have a welfare report giving us news and updates on our members and people we may know. This is followed by a welfare prayer and is an opportunity for anyone to ask for prayers they need. From time to time, we send cards to people to give them comfort or encouragement.

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

SECTION D – ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The church collects for external charities on a weekly basis. This year we were pleased to raise over £9000. The benefiting charities were:

- Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), which brings together 15 aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently at times of crisis overseas.
- The Christadelphian Bible Mission (CBM), which supports preaching worldwide and provides welfare to churches and individuals.
- The Christadelphian Auxiliary Lecturing Service (CALS), which supports preaching in the UK.
- The Christadelphian Benevolent Fund (CBF), which provides support for members of Christadelphian churches who are in need.
- Christadelphian Care Homes (CCH), which provides a network of care to those in need of residential, nursing, dementia or respite care.
- The Christadelphian Sunday School Union (CSSU), which provides teaching resources for children.
- Christadelphian Meal-a-Day, which provides worldwide 'down-to-earth' support for vulnerable children, the provision of clean water, agricultural skills, basic health care and education and a meal a day.
- The Christadelphian Samaritan Fund, which funds external charities supporting relief from natural disaster and war.
- The Shunem Home, which provides shelter, education and care for some of the most vulnerable in Hyderabad, India.
- Christadelphian Aid for Refugees and Asylum Seekers (CARA), which aims to provide relief for asylum seekers in our churches in the UK.

NEWBURY CHRISTADELPHIAN ECCLESIA
REGISTERED CHARITY No 1168280

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

SECTION E – FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts are prepared on a cash basis, due to the size of the Charity.

The principal source of income continues to be voluntary member donations, including gift aided donations. The expenditure in the year has supported the Charity's objectives in respect of:

- Upkeep of the property, the objectives of which is to provide a suitable premises for the main activities of worship, study and fellowship.as well as the making our hall and facilities available for use by external organisations.
- Charitable giving to external organizations, which include local charities.
- Pastoral welfare of members that need support.

The income for the year was slightly lower than in the previous year reflecting membership changes. Net spending was lower than in the previous year and the level of Outreach activities and donations paid reduced. Other expenditure was in line with the previous year.

The Charity's reserve policy is to hold main reserves at the level of one year's operating budget, to provide some resilience against any unforeseen events.

Receipts and Payments

	2023		2022	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Receipts				
Donations	13,311	7,368	20,679	20,210
Tax reclaimed from Gift Aid	3,029	1,664	4,693	5,781
Interest on deposit account	212	0	212	53
Sales	11	0	11	30
Total receipts	16,563	9,032	25,595	26,074
Payments				
Repairs and maintenance	168	0	168	0
Electricity and gas	1,092	0	1,092	1,460
Water and sewerage	361	0	361	200
Insurance	1,184	0	1,184	1,059
Telephone and internet	329	0	329	383
Donations paid	983	9,061	10,044	11,113
Administration	700	0	700	0
General Housekeeping	2,929	0	2,929	2,813
Outreach activities	4,890	0	4,890	6,631
Total Payments	12,636	9,061	21,697	23,659
Net receipts / (payments)	3,927	-29	3,898	2,415
Cash funds end of last year	13,520	4,144	17,664	15,249
Transfer between funds	3,327	-3,327	0	0
Cash funds end of this year	20,774	788	21,562	17,664

Statement of assets and liabilities

Cash funds

Newbury Building Society Deposit account
Lloyds Bank Current account

2023	2022
14,108	7,242
7,454	10,422
21,562	17,664

**NEWBURY CHRISTADELPHIAN ECCLESIA
REGISTERED CHARITY No 1168280**

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

SECTION F – DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S B Robinson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Stephen B Robinson
Secretary**

Date: 28 October 2024



Charity Name	No (if any)
Newbury Christadelphian Ecclesia	1188280

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/01/2023		31/12/2023

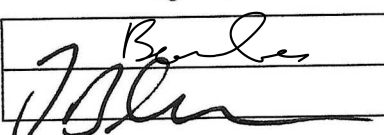
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	13,311	7,368	-	20,679	20,210
Tax reclaimed from Gift Aid	3,029	1,664	-	4,693	5,781
Interest on deposit account	212	-	-	212	53
Sales of mags, diaries and hymnbooks	-	-	-	-	30
Wayleave	11	-	-	11	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	16,563	9,032	-	25,595	26,074
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	16,563	9,032	-	25,595	26,074
A3 Payments					
Repairs and maintenance	168	-	-	168	-
Electricity and gas	1,092	-	-	1,092	1,460
Water and sewage	361	-	-	361	200
Insurance	1,184	-	-	1,184	1,059
Telephone and internet	329	-	-	329	383
Admin	700	-	-	700	-
Donations paid	983	9,061	-	10,044	11,113
General housekeeping	2,929	-	-	2,929	2,813
Outreach activities	4,891	-	-	4,891	6,631
Sub total	12,636	9,061	-	21,697	23,659
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	12,636	9,061	-	21,697	23,659
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,927	- 29	-	3,898	2,415
A5 Transfers between funds	3,327	- 3,327	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	13,520	4,144	-	17,664	-
Cash funds this year end	20,774	788	-	21,562	2,415

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Newbury Building Society Deposit A/C	7,454	-	-
	Lloyds Bank Current A/C	13,320	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	20,774	788	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Benjamin David Cox	28-Oct-24
	Stephen Beresford Robinson	28-Oct-24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Newbury Christadelphian Ecclesia
Registered Charity No:1168280

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity ("The Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibility and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("The Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination that gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip Lawrence', written in a cursive style.

Philip Lawrence

10 November 2024

The Lodge

Mill Lane

Aslockton

NG13 9AS

UK