

# **Stratford Upon Avon Christadelphian Ecclesia Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

## **Section A: Reference and administration details**

**Charity Name:** Stratford-Upon-Avon Christadelphian Ecclesia

Registered Charity Number: 1201174

Charity's address: Christadelphian Hall, Rother Street, Stratford-Upon-Avon CV37 6LU

### **Names of the trustees:**

For the whole year

Andrew Bramhill	Secretary (January to September 2024)
David Willey	Secretary (October to December 2023)
John Vincent	Assistant Secretary
David Ensell	Treasurer
George MacDonald	Assistant Treasurer
Richard Harris	
David Simpson	

## **Section B: Structure, Governance and Management**

**Type of Governing Document:** Constitution comprising Articles of Association approved following a vote of members on July 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 together with procedures adopted on June 6<sup>th</sup> 2021 following a ballot of members.

The Charity converted from a Company Limited by Guarantee to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO no 34014) on July 19<sup>th</sup> 2023, confirmed by the Charity Commission and Companies House updated on October 24<sup>th</sup> 2023. It has an annual turnover of over £25,000.

Trustee selection methods: Bi-Annual election by members

### **Additional information:**

The Trustees form an arranging committee responsible for the activities of the ecclesia. They are chosen from members familiar with the objectives and activities of the ecclesia.

The ecclesia is part of a worldwide community of Christadelphians.

## **Section C: Objectives and Activities**

### **The objects of the Charity:**

To advance Bible based Christian faith to the glory of God and the honour of Jesus Christ in accordance with the Christadelphian Birmingham Amended Statement of Faith for the benefit of the Christadelphian community and other members of the public, particularly in and around Stratford-Upon-Avon.

### **Ways of carrying out these objects**

1. Holding of meetings open to the public, for worship, prayer, breaking of bread by Christadelphians and Bible teaching.
2. Preaching to the public through personal engagement, by invitation to special meetings, seminars and seasonal events and other means.
3. Engaging with the local public through the provision of Sunday School and/or youth club and/or other occasional activities.
4. Engaging with the wider Christadelphian community and wider public through periodic collections for charitable needs, including collections for disaster relief.
5. Serving to the extent feasible the pastoral and other welfare needs of the Ecclesia members and others.

With the exception of the meetings of members of the charity known as Ecclesial Members Meetings, all our activities are open to all. No fees are charged. No-one receives private benefits from the charity other than as a legitimate beneficiary. There is no public detriment in any of our activities.

## **Section D: Achievements and performance**

The ecclesia began the year with a membership of 48 adult members. During the year one was baptised and received into fellowship, three members transferred from other Christadelphian ecclesias and two of our elderly members fell asleep in the Lord. So, we ended the year with a total of 50 members. Attendance of members at services and other activities remained healthy, with some taking advantage of Zoom.

### **Summary of activities**

Regular services were held each week for the benefit of our members and others interested to learn about our beliefs. These included a meeting each Sunday morning for the proclamation of the Gospel which contained a Farsi translation for some regular Iranian visitors, followed by the sharing of the bread and wine in memory of our Lord Jesus. A meeting was held each Wednesday for the study of the Bible. There were also classes held for some Iranian asylum seekers.

There were regular activities for fellowship and recreation. Practical support for our elderly members continued. Activities for young people included a special youth day which attracted a good number of teenagers for a day of religious teaching, and social and networking time. Collections and donations for other charities were arranged including holding a coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Support and donating items to the local food bank.

## **Section E: Financial Review**

The cash movements and balances are summarised in the attached receipts and payments accounts.

The ecclesia's reserves policy is to hold a balance in the general and preaching funds sufficient to meet the ongoing expenses of the ecclesia for one year. In the Appeals fund we hold a balance of no more than £1,000. In the property fund a reserve of £30,000 is held to cover the repairs and maintenance costs of a mature building. All funds are held in instant access accounts. Most contributions from the members are made either through bank standing orders or through the weekly box collection, with all taxpayers encouraged to make use Gift Aid.

Funds donated specifically for external charities are forwarded to the relevant organisation within three months of the donation.

# Stratford Upon Avon Christadelphian Ecclesia

## Receipts and Payments Statement for the Year to September 2024

Ecclesial Funds	Unrestricted General Fund £	Preaching Fund £	Building Fund £	Restricted Appeals Fund £	Welfare Fund £	External Organisations £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Receipts</b>								
<b>Voluntary Sources</b>								
Members Donations	12,242.45	1,187.15		1,179.77	612.98	8,825.95	24,048.30	23,051.37
Gift Aid Tax Reclaimed	4,373.00						4,373.00	6,098.25
Benevolent Fund Grant					1,500.00		1,500.00	
Sale of chairs								312.77
Transfers	-5,420.47		1,040.00		7.47	4,373.00	0.00	-
Magazines	259.20						259.20	118.00
<b>Income From Investments</b>								
Bank & COIF Interest	2,127.93						2,127.93	1,337.74
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>13,582.11</b>	<b>1,187.15</b>	<b>1,040.00</b>	<b>1,179.77</b>	<b>2,120.45</b>	<b>13,198.95</b>	<b>32,308.43</b>	<b>30,918.13</b>
<b>Payments</b>								
Utilities	4,164.30						4,164.30	2,735.98
Insurance	2,007.26						2,007.26	1,812.02
Printing, Magazines	1,758.10						1,758.10	1,021.00
Visiting Speakers Expenses	604.50						604.50	414.50
Property and Equipment Expenses	2,903.59						2,903.59	1,670.12
Sundries	2,726.21						2,726.21	1,137.95
<b>Preaching</b>		1,282.67					1,282.67	1,214.97
<b>Building Fund</b>			360.00				360.00	417.00
<b>Appeals</b>				1,020.00			1,020.00	159.00
<b>Welfare Grants</b>					2,120.45		2,120.45	-
<b>Donations to External Organisations</b>						13,198.95	13,198.95	15,521.12
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>14,163.96</b>	<b>1,282.67</b>	<b>360.00</b>	<b>1,020.00</b>	<b>2,120.45</b>	<b>13,198.95</b>	<b>32,146.03</b>	<b>26,103.66</b>
<b>Opening Balances</b>	<b>16,906.07</b>	<b>1,327.28</b>	<b>29,705.59</b>	<b>795.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>48,734.44</b>	<b>43,919.97</b>
<b>Increase / (- Decrease) in Funds for the F</b>	<b>-581.85</b>	<b>-95.52</b>	<b>680.00</b>	<b>159.77</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>162.40</b>	<b>4,814.47</b>
<b>Closing Balances</b>	<b>16,324.22</b>	<b>1,231.76</b>	<b>30,385.59</b>	<b>955.27</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>48,896.84</b>	<b>48,734.44</b>
<b>Represented by</b>								
<b>Nat West Bank Account</b>							<b>9,488.17</b>	<b>11,150.15</b>
<b>COIF Deposit Account</b>							<b>39,358.67</b>	<b>37,404.80</b>
<b>Cash</b>							<b>50.00</b>	<b>179.49</b>
							<b>48,896.84</b>	<b>48,734.44</b>

Andrew Bramhill  
Secretary

David Ensell  
Treasurer



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the  
trustees/directors/  
members of

Stratford upon Avon Christadelphian Ecclesia

On accounts for the year  
ended

30 September 2024

Charity no.:

1201174

Company no.:

CEO 34014

Set out on pages

attached

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30/09/2024.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

Signed:

Date:

04 December 2024

Name:

Michael Ward