

**The Churches Fellowship for Psychical and Spiritual Studies (CFPSS)**  
**Registered charity number 233778**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022**

**Trustees:**

Dr Santha Bhattacharji (President)  
Rev. Jennifer Lane (Chair)  
Ms Cherry Simpkin, (Hon Treasurer) (re-elected 3 September 2021)  
Rev Neil Broadbent (re-elected 9 September 2022)  
Mrs Barbara Broadbent (until 9 February 2022)  
Mrs Vicky Jeffs, (re-elected 3 September 2021)  
Mr Roger Straughan (until 9 December 2021)  
Mrs Helen Beck  
Mrs Ruth Bird  
Ms Rhoda Martin (until July 2021)  
Rev Alison Earl (until 17 March 2022)  
Mrs Margaret Lee (until 1 August 2021)  
Ms Ellen Davis  
Dr Robert Gilbert  
Mr Ian Fordyce (from 9 September 2022)  
Mr Andrew Cort (from 9 September 2022)  
Rev Andrew Fisher (re-elected 3 September 2021)

**Independent Examiner:** Myrus Smith, Norman House, 8 Burnell Road, Sutton, Surrey SM148W

**Solicitors:** Porter Dodson, Telford House, The Park, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 1DY.

**General Secretary**

Mrs Joanne Arnold

**Office Address**

Office 8, The Creative Suite, Mill 3, Pleasley Vale Business Park, Mansfield, NG19 8RL

**Structure, Governance & Management**

The governing document of the trust is a Constitution amended by resolution on 1 April 1963 and 8 September 2017. Under the Constitution the charity is governed by a Council consisting of the President, a Chair, an Honorary Treasurer, 1 Representative from each Region and up to 6 others. Up to 3 Vice-Presidents and up to 2 Vice-Chairs may also be elected.

Members of the Council are elected by the members of the charity at an AGM, the President to serve for 5 years and all others to serve for 3 years. All Council members are eligible for re-election.

The Council has the power to co-opt up to 3 trustees to serve until the next AGM, when they will be eligible for election by the members. It may co-opt trustees in the event of casual vacancies to serve for the remainder of the term of the person replaced.

The Council may also appoint a paid General Secretary and any other staff as they see fit. Remuneration and duties of all staff shall be determined by the Council. At present, the charity's only member of staff is the General Secretary. The Editor of the charity's magazine *The Christian Parapsychologist* receives an honorarium.

The CFPSS does not hold any funds as a custodian trustee on behalf of others.

### **Objectives of the Charity**

The objects of the Charity are to encourage the study in a Christian context of spiritual, paranormal, psychological and other scientific phenomena and to try to assess their validity and their relevance to the Christian faith.

### **Public Benefit**

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Council has given due consideration to general guidance published by the charity commission relating to public benefit.

Membership of the CFPSS is open to all those who belong to a recognised Christian denomination or are themselves in sympathy with the Christian faith. Within that framework, we welcome all adults regardless of personal circumstances. The minimum annual donation for membership is determined by General Meeting from time to time but the Council has the power to reduce such sum in cases of hardship or other reasons as the Council sees fit. The Council may also grant bursaries as appropriate to enable members with limited resources to attend CFPSS events.

The CFPSS provides a forum for discussion on subjects such as the healing and deliverance ministry, religious experience, paranormal phenomena, mysticism and prayer, particularly in terms of their relevance to the Christian faith. In doing this, it seeks to foster a general understanding of these subjects and to contribute to academic research.

The CFPSS offers a safe meeting place where members and enquirers may share and explore their experiences in these areas, in an open atmosphere of love and acceptance. Many people value the help they have received when they have experienced spontaneous gifts of the Spirit, the pain of bereavement or simply a call to deeper spiritual understanding, especially when they have found little encouragement or support from elsewhere.

The CFPSS takes seriously its duty of care towards Trustees, Staff, Members and the general public. It discourages any form of abuse for whatever reason. The Trustees regard their safeguarding responsibilities in respect of vulnerable adults particularly

important since the nature of the charity's objectives may lead those in mental and spiritual distress to seek its help. The Charity is not involved with children.

### **Achievements and Activities**

Discussion groups continued using online platforms such as WhatsApp and were well used.

Two online one-day conferences using Zoom were held during the year, one on 24 April 2021 on the meaning of the words 'psychical' and 'spiritual' and one on 5 March 2022 on 'The Dark Night of the Soul'. Both were well attended.

An Annual Conference was held at Swanwick in Derbyshire from 3 to 5 September 2021 on the theme of 'Inspiration'.

The CFPSS published two editions each of its two magazines *The Christian Parapsychologist* and *The Fellowship Review*. The Review is now produced using digital printing enabling the use of colour at no extra cost and greatly improving the magazine's appearance.

Groups of related articles from past magazines are freely available on the CFPSS website and are well read.

The CFPSS library continued to be well used. The library holds over 1500 books and booklets and 500 audio recordings and is free to use (subject to paying postal costs). The library is available to members through the website or by contacting the general secretary.

The new Publications Committee continued to meet. The following books were published in September 2021:

*Introduction to Psychic Awareness* by Rev. Neil Broadbent  
*The Church of England's Spiritualism Report*, re-set by Matthew Arnold

The Committee also began work on the publication of a book of talks by Rev. Martin Israel to be entitled *The Reality of Prayer and Other Reflections*.

A new CFPSS Regional Group was set up in Oxfordshire. Since the year-end 3 new groups have been set up for Wales, Scotland and East Midlands.

A support network has been set up whereby clergy members of the Fellowship will be available for those seeking help in relation to personal experiences of the paranormal. 9 clergy members have agreed to be part of this project.

A new Membership Leaflet has been produced which sets out the criteria for membership more clearly while still being faithful to the requirements laid out in the CFPSS Constitution.

### ***Financial Controls***

A revised Financial Controls Policy was issued in February 2022.

### ***Safeguarding***

The Council policy on safeguarding is reviewed annually. Due to the size of the charity and its limited human resources, the posts of Safeguarding Officer and Trustee are combined. This post is currently held by Rev. Jennifer Lane. The Council has established that all trustees do not need to be DBS checked.

### ***Data Protection***

The Council's data protection policy is in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). The policy was updated in February 2022.

In order to keep email and paper data private and safe the CFPSS uses two documents,

- a. The CFPSS privacy notice informs members or public what information is held and for what purpose, how long it is kept and deleted. Their rights are also explained. This Notice is displayed on the CFPSS website.
- b. The CFPSS Consent Form which has to be filled in to authorise consent for personal information to be held. This can be done by email or paper. This form must be returned to the General Secretary. If it is not, any information held is deleted.

Mrs Helen Beck is the appointed Trustee Responsible for GDPR and Mrs Joanne Arnold, the General Secretary, is the main data user.

The CFPSS is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for Data Protection.

The CFPSS has never had a data breach but knows how to report one should it happen.

### ***Financial Review***

#### ***Going concern***

The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

#### ***Overall results***

During the year ended 31 March 2022 the Charity made an operating loss of £(23,311) compared to a surplus of £23,937 in 2020/21. With investment gains of £16,246, the overall loss was £(7,065) compared to a surplus of £45,516 in 2020/21.

As at 31 March 2022, investments were valued at £256,558 (2020/21: £240,312).

Total net assets at 31 March 2022 were £283,138 (2020/21: £290,203).

### ***Trustee expenses***

Trustees expenses during the year amounted to £826 for 5 trustees (2020/21: £153 for 1 trustee). No trustees received any remuneration for work as a Trustee.

### ***Reserves***

Trustees aim to maintain reserves at a sufficient level to ensure our financial resilience and sustainability, including protecting the charity against identified risks. The Trustees aim to strike the appropriate balance between ensuring a sustainable financial position and using our available funds to fulfil our charitable mission. The Trustees aim to retain sufficient unrestricted funds to cover a year's running costs.

The charity has no long-term liabilities.

### ***Investment Policy***

The charity's main sources of income are donations and legacies from members. It also receives returns on investments and interest on cash deposits and some income from the sale of books and copies of the *Christian Parapsychologist* to non-members.

The charity's policy is to mitigate the risks presented by stock market volatility and the economic uncertainty by spreading its investments over a number of different types of funds and to move investments between funds from time to time to maximise returns. The funds are managed by the CCLA.

### ***Risk Management***

The Trustees have continued to assess the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are working to ensure that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to them.

### ***Future plans***

In 2022-23, the Trustees plan to:

- publish two editions each of its two magazines *The Christian Parapsychologist* and *The Fellowship Review*.
- publish new books and booklets, including a booklet on Talking about Spiritual Experience, aimed at helping clergy who may be approached by people who feel out of their depth about an experience they have had or a gift they have discovered.

- hold a special Annual Conference to celebrate CFPSS' 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- run events for members online
- continue with online discussion groups and services of worship
- hold a residential retreat
- seek ways to get the CFPSS better known, including taking a roadshow round the UK and having a stall at Greenbelt and the Festival of Healing
- continue to look for new venues for conferences in order to vary where they are held and thus make them more accessible to members in various parts of the country.
- increase its presence on social media platforms and promote its work at external events.
- find new ways to raise funds, increase membership and operate cost effectively
- agree a risk management policy, and safeguarding policy for operating online
- review the CFPSS Constitution to ensure it is fit for purpose, in particular to clarify the roles of the President and Chair

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.


The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to

ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on their behalf:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Santha Bhattacharji". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a small 'i' at the end.

Dr Santha Bhattacharji  
President  
Date: 31 January 2023

THE CHURCHES FELLOWSHIP FOR PSYCHICAL AND SPIRITUAL STUDIES

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Donations & Membership	7,860.00		7,791	
Legacies	40.28		41,464	
<b>Investment Income</b>	8,035.73		8,044	
Profit on Books, Tapes & CD	2,043.62		390	
<b>Conferences</b>	7,997.02		2,767	
Sale of Christian Parapsychologist	143.17		141	
Other Income	<u>77.11</u>		<u>84</u>	
		26,196.93		60,681
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Cost of Quartely Review & Christian Parapsychologist	4,225.39		3,465	
<b>Pension contributions</b>	654.31		386	
Salaries, Wages & NIC	20,569.08		17,553	
Books	142.85		0	
Council Retreat & Working Parties	6,309.58		1,914	
<b>Conference expenses</b>	5,294.33		1,528	
Travelling & Car Expenses	978.48		83	
Profit on disposal of Motor Vehicle	0.00		0	
Rent, Rates, Light & Heat	4,117.63		3,830	
Postage & Stationery	2,065.53		1,969	
Telephone	482.88		398	
Insurance	1,865.44		1,816	
Accountancy	1,284.00		1,217	
Legal & Professional	0.00		35	
IT support	318.21		708	
Sundries	175.50		183	
Staff Recruitment	0.00		0	
Office Move Costs	0.00		0	
Equipment	92.20		0	
Depreciation of Equipment	298.20		375	
Movement in stock of books	328.00		336	
Net cost of Regions & Branches	6.60		48	
Bank Charges	0.00		0	
Honorarium CP	<u>300.00</u>		<u>900</u>	
		49,508.21		36,744
		<u>(23,311.28)</u>		<u>23,937</u>
Realised and unrealised (loss)/ gain on investments		16,246.00		21,579
		<u>(7,065.28)</u>		<u>45,516</u>



# THE CHURCHES FELLOWSHIP FOR PSYCHICAL AND SPIRITUAL STUDIES

## Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Investments	1	256,558.00		240,312	
Tangible Assets	2	<u>1,192.80</u>		<u>1,491</u>	
		257,750.80			241,803
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Stock		14,192.00		14,520	
Debtors	3	0.00		0	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>13,237.01</u>		<u>37,367</u>	
		27,429.01		51,887	
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	4	<u>2,042.02</u>		<u>3,487</u>	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			25,386.99		48,400
<b>Net Assets</b>			<u>283,137.79</u>		<u>290,203</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted - General & HQ	5	277,490.30		284,855	
Designated - Regional Fund	5	5,647.49		5,348	
		<u>283,137.79</u>		<u>290,203</u>	

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 31 January 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

*Santha Bhattacharji*

President - Dr Santha Bhattacharji

*Ceryn*

Treasurer - Miss C Simpkin

**THE CHURCHES FELLOWSHIP FOR PSYCHICAL AND SPIRITUAL STUDIES**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1	INVESTMENTS	2022	2021	
	Market value brought forward at 1 April 2021	240,312	218,733	
	Disposals	0	0	
	Realised & Unrealised Gains	16,246	21,579	
	Market value carried forward at 31 March 2022	<u>256,558</u>	<u>240,312</u>	
2	FIXED ASSETS			
		Office Equipment	Motor Vehicle	Total
	COST			
	As at 1 April 2021	6,509.00	0.00	6,509.00
	Disposals	0.00		0.00
	As at 31 March 2022	<u>6,509.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>6,509.00</u>
	DEPRECIATION			
	As at 1 April 2021	5,018.00	0.00	5,018.00
	Eliminated on disposal	0.00		0.00
	Charge for the year	298.00	0.00	298.00
	As at 31 March 2022	<u>5,316.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,316.00</u>
	NET BOOK VALUE			
	At 31 March 2022	<u>1,193.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,193.00</u>
	At 31 March 2021	<u>1,491.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,491.00</u>
3	DEBTORS	2022	2021	
	Retreat deposit prepaid (Launde Abbey)	0.00	0	
	Other Debtors	0	0	
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u>	
4	CREDITORS	2022	2021	
	PAYE Control	727.80	348	
	Pension Control	119.98	91	
	Membership fees in advance	279.46	126	
	Accruals	914.78	2922	
		<u>2,042.02</u>	<u>3,487</u>	

THE CHURCHES FELLOWSHIP FOR PSYCHICAL AND SPIRITUAL STUDIES  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

5 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance b/f at 1 April 2021	Income	Gain on Investments	Expenses	Transfer	Balance c/f at 31 March 2022
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
General & HQ	284,855.61	26,190.30	16,246.00	49,501.61	(300.00)	277,490.30
<b>Designated</b>						
Regional Fund	5,347.46	6.63		6.60	300.00	5,647.49
	<u>290,203.07</u>	<u>26,196.93</u>	<u>16,246.00</u>	<u>49,508.21</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>283,137.79</u>

Comparative figures for 31 March 2021

	Balance b/f at 1 April 2020	Income	Gain on Investments	Expenses	Transfer	Balance c/f at 31 March 2021
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
General & HQ	237,995.22	60,676.97	21,579.00	36,723.29	1,327.71	284,855.61
<b>Designated</b>						
Regional Fund	6,691.91	3.55		20.29	(1,327.71)	5,347.46
	<u>244,687.13</u>	<u>60,680.52</u>	<u>21,579.00</u>	<u>36,743.58</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>290,203.07</u>

**THE CHURCHES FELLOWSHIP FOR PSYCHICAL AND SPIRITUAL STUDIES**

<b>Regional Balances</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
East Anglia	178.77	178.56
South West	846.31	845.32
South East	1,783.15	1,781.06
London	1,466.29	1,164.57
East Midlands	238.85	238.57
North West	1,134.12	1,139.38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>5,647.49</u>	<u>5,347.46</u>

## **The Churches Fellowship for Psychical and Spiritual Studies**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHURCHES FELLOWSHIP FOR PSYCHICAL AND SPIRITUAL STUDIES**

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2022 which are set out on pages 8 to 11.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors 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 under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company'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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.



.....  
K C Fisher FCA  
c/o Myrus Smith  
Chartered Accountants  
Norman House, 8 Burnell Road,  
Sutton, Surrey. SM1 4BW

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023