

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr A Suthers Mr A Samuel Mrs S Suthers Mrs E Deakin
Charity number	519321
Independent examiner	Azets 2 Regan Way Chetwynd Business Park Chilwell Nottingham United Kingdom NG9 6RZ

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees report	1 - 2
Independent examiner's report	3
Statement of financial activities	4
Balance sheet	5
Notes to the financial statements	6 - 14

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's 1987 constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016)

Objectives and activities

The object of the charity is to spread the gospel of Christianity as found in the Bible and as expounded in the Christian Science Textbook 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures' by Mary Baker Eddy.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The year saw little change in terms of the number of services held at our Church but we eventually added a monthly Testimony Meeting in March 2024. The Reading Room continued to be open just two days per week from 11am to 1pm and we experienced a slight decline in visitors during the year.

It was decided to sell the Church premises owing to its size and a diminishing membership. We had decided not to look for a new tenant when Trent PTS didn't renew their lease in May 2022 owing to the onset of major building works. Our immediate neighbour had made it known to us that if we were to sell we should contact them as they would be interested in buying. We did this and they made an offer which was accepted. The sale was well underway by March 2024 but the purchaser seemed to be procrastinating despite having given us a non-refundable deposit of £15,000 to ensure that we sold the building to them.

We had already set in motion a search for alternative premises.

Our decision to change from our status as a Church to a Society came to fruition in December 2023. This was done in compliance with the Mother Church Manual and would allow us to operate in a more flexible way, thus alleviating the pressure on existing members. New byelaws were being worked on as the year drew to a close and would be sent to the Mother Church and the Charity Commission in due course.

Remaining work funded by the Christian Science Trust in Great Britain, and the Westminster Fund, was completed during the year, the most important being the tanking of the cellar which was completed in June 2023. The main fuse board was moved from the basement to the ground floor foyer to facilitate the work in the basement. The front and rear elevations of the building were decorated and scaffolding removed when this had been completed.

A new website was commissioned in April 2023 but the work had been delayed until the outcome of the sale and possible new premises had been settled.

We have conducted regular Members' Meetings and members were elected to continue in their roles of the previous year. Members continue to work together in a harmonious and democratic way. The desire to share Christian Science with our community remained undiminished.

Financial review

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Although the money invested in Cambridge and Counties Bank is increasing at an acceptable rate of interest, our balance at Mansfield Building Society has fallen considerably during the year. Expenditure is monitored at the regular business meetings but there have been inevitable increases in utilities for instance. The repair works to Church premises, although 75% funded by Christian Science Trusts, required Church input of 25% having a considerable effect on our financial resources. It is calculated that we would have sufficient funds to allow us to operate comfortably for the foreseeable future but we are in the process of selling our Church premises having already received a non-refundable deposit of £15,000 from the purchaser who has offered £495,000 for the freehold. We expect completion by mid-2024. The sale of the Church premises completed in May 2024.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document - the Church Byelaws - a constitution adopted in 1987 and reviewed regularly.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr A Suthers

Mr A Samuel

Mrs S Suthers

Mrs E Deakin

The method of recruitment - The board proposes a candidate and the members vote at a quarterly members meeting.

In December 2023 the Church converted to a Society which was recognised by the Mother Church and set about constructing new byelaws to be adhered to.

As a result of being recognized as a Society, more freedom has been granted, enabling us to hold two Sunday services per month and one Testimony meeting per month.

Although the Church was run autonomously, under the rules in the Mother Church Manual it no longer met the definition of a Church for the following reasons:-

1. We no longer had a Christian Science Journal-listed Practitioner as a member.
2. Reduced membership numbers no longer enabled us to support
 1. Services every Sunday of the month
 1. Testimony Meetings every Wednesday of the month.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr A Samuel

Trustee

13 December 2024

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Christian Science Society, Nottingham (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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 financial statements to be reached.

Nicola Bridgeman FCA
for and on behalf of Azets
2 Regan Way
Chetwynd Business Park
Chilwell
Nottingham
NG9 6RZ
United Kingdom

Dated: 31 December 2024

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Notes							
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>							
Donations and legacies	3	764	31,951	32,715	621	42,762	43,383
Charitable activities	4	-	1,432	1,432	-	1,784	1,784
Investments	5	3,935	-	3,935	6,379	-	6,379
Other income	6	-	-	-	3,960	-	3,960
Total income		<u>4,699</u>	<u>33,383</u>	<u>38,082</u>	<u>10,960</u>	<u>44,546</u>	<u>55,506</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>							
Raising funds	7	-	1,723	1,723	-	2,050	2,050
Charitable activities	8	36,384	31,951	68,335	44,377	42,762	87,139
Other	11	288	-	288	252	-	252
Total expenditure		<u>36,672</u>	<u>33,674</u>	<u>70,346</u>	<u>44,629</u>	<u>44,812</u>	<u>89,441</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	-	-	-	(2,727)	-	(2,727)
Net outgoing resources before transfers		<u>(31,973)</u>	<u>(291)</u>	<u>(32,264)</u>	<u>(36,396)</u>	<u>(266)</u>	<u>(36,662)</u>
Gross transfers between funds		<u>(77)</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(95)</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(32,050)</u>	<u>(214)</u>	<u>(32,264)</u>	<u>(36,491)</u>	<u>(171)</u>	<u>(36,662)</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		<u>186,873</u>	<u>2,433</u>	<u>189,306</u>	<u>223,364</u>	<u>2,604</u>	<u>225,968</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		<u><u>154,823</u></u>	<u><u>2,219</u></u>	<u><u>157,042</u></u>	<u><u>186,873</u></u>	<u><u>2,433</u></u>	<u><u>189,306</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		47,899		47,899
Current assets					
Stocks	15	1,896		2,043	
Debtors	16	-		59	
Investments	17	118,962		135,047	
Cash at bank and in hand		4,789		6,677	
		<u>125,647</u>		<u>143,826</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(16,504)</u>		<u>(2,419)</u>	
Net current assets			109,143		141,407
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>157,042</u>		<u>189,306</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds			2,219		2,433
Unrestricted funds			154,823		186,873
			<u>157,042</u>		<u>189,306</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 13 December 2024

Mr A Samuel
Trustee

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Christian Science Society, Nottingham is an unincorporated registered charity.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Equipment	20% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	20% on cost
Organ	20% on cost

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	-	764	764	621
TrustbriT grant income	31,951	-	31,951	42,762
	<u>31,951</u>	<u>764</u>	<u>32,715</u>	<u>43,383</u>

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Sales to church	842	1,330
Reading room sales	590	454
	<u>1,432</u>	<u>1,784</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2024 £	2023 £
Rental income	-	3,313
Interest receivable	3,935	3,066
	<u>3,935</u>	<u>6,379</u>

6 Other income

	Total	Unrestricted funds
	2024 £	2023 £
Other income	-	3,960
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,960</u>

7 Raising funds

	2024 £	2023 £
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Reading room costs	1,723	2,050
	<u>1,723</u>	<u>2,050</u>

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Raising funds (Continued)

8 Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Clerk, administration and caretaker costs	11,485	11,674
Water rates	544	449
Light and heat	3,431	2,713
Repairs renewals and maintenance	41,900	62,894
Insurance	1,003	1,000
Motor and travel costs	189	162
Accountancy costs	1,080	1,110
Other legal and professional	2,460	-
Telephone	325	677
Printing, postage and stationery	413	212
Advertising	683	625
Musician fees	510	210
Readers allowance	845	700
Librarian fees	2,335	2,065
Reading room literature for church use	663	1,805
Sundry expenses	469	843
	68,335	87,139
	68,335	87,139
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	36,384	
Restricted funds	31,951	
	68,335	
For the year ended 31 March 2023		
Unrestricted funds		44,377
Restricted funds		42,762
		87,139

9 Trustees

Mr A Suthers received remuneration during the year amounting to £11,485 (2023 £11,674) for duties as clerk, administrator and caretaker.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2024 Number	2023 Number
1	1
=====	=====

Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Clerk/Administrator wages	11,485	11,674
	=====	=====

11 Other

	2024 £	2023 £
Other expenditure	288	252
	=====	=====

12 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Total Unrestricted funds	
	2024 £	2023 £
Revaluation of investments	-	(2,727)
	=====	=====

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Organ £	Hymnals and Bibles £	Total £
Cost						
At 1 April 2023	47,898	2,625	7,247	1,600	1	59,371
At 31 March 2024	47,898	2,625	7,247	1,600	1	59,371
Depreciation and impairment						
At 1 April 2023	-	2,625	7,247	1,600	-	11,472
At 31 March 2024	-	2,625	7,247	1,600	-	11,472
Carrying amount						
At 31 March 2024	47,898	-	-	-	1	47,899
At 31 March 2023	47,898	-	-	-	1	47,899

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	1,896	2,043

16 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	-	59

17 Current asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Unlisted investments	118,962	135,047

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	15,101	907
Accruals and deferred income	1,403	1,512
	16,504	2,419

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	47,899	-	47,899
Current assets/(liabilities)	106,924	2,219	109,143
	154,823	2,219	157,042

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

20 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate compensation	11,485	11,674

The above expenses have been paid to Mr A Suthers for his role as Clerk, Administrator & Caretaker.

21 Independant Examnners Remuneration

During the year the fee paid to the independent examiner was £1,080 (2023- £1,100).