

Assembly of Christians at Holburn Hall

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

For the Year ended
30 September 2024

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Trustees' Annual Report

INTRODUCTION

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 September 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Deed of Trust and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, in particular Schedule 2.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trust was established through the granting of a Deed of Trust on 18th January 1934.

The Trust was created for Charitable and Religious purposes, with the following principal purposes explicitly specified, namely:

- (a) Breaking of bread weekly.
- (b) Holding prayer meetings
- (c) Exposition of the scriptures
- (d) Proclamation of the Gospel

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

Holburn Gospel Hall
220 Holburn Street
Aberdeen
AB10 6DB

CURRENT TRUSTEES

George Cheetham
Andrew Adams (Secretary)
Noel Roberts

The trustees receive no remuneration for their services. They are willing to devote time and skill for the benefit of the Charity. The Charity also benefits from the services of the members of the Assembly who help out at events organised by Holburn Gospel Hall. The trustees are immensely grateful for all such contributions.

A SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY UNDERTAKEN AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PERIOD

The Charity owns and operates Holburn Gospel Hall, which is a Christian Brethren Assembly meeting weekly for worship and outreach. The trustees are also Elders at the church and meet monthly to plan, discuss business and monitor progress.

The Charity organises events for young people, families and older people. With weekly Sunday School, a weekly children's meeting at Garthdee, monthly services in Duthie Park Winter Gardens as well as the Sunday and midweek church meetings. There is also a Ladies' Missionary class who organise knitted clothing, nappies and other parcels for Medical Missionary News and, annually, shoeboxes for Blythswood. We also hold monthly Bible Teaching evenings over the winter, an Annual Bible Teaching conference and various other outreach and Bible Teaching events during each year as arranged. We have, this year, restarted our Bible Experience where schools are invited to bring P6 & P7 classes to the hall to see rooms explaining the history and stories from the Bible. For this we fund buses, if necessary.

Donations are given by members of the Assembly and this is used for running costs for the church, costs of events and distributed to Christians (retired and actively working) both within the UK and abroad. No requests are made to the general public for funds.

In addition, the Charity has various policies and procedures in connection with legislative requirements. These are regularly reviewed and, where necessary, updated.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Charities with a gross income of less than £250,000 can prepare accounts on the Receipts and Payments basis and this is how the Trustees have prepared these accounts.

It is the policy of the Trust to not retain a reserve but to use funds as they are provided. However, a £72,000 legacy received during the year resulted in a significant surplus for the year. Restricted income earmarked for gifts to Christians elsewhere increased almost 60% and weekly Sunday offerings fell by 5% to give a total income, including the legacy, of £106,739. Total expenditure of £47,456 comprised of gifts of £15,177 and operating costs of £32,279. Operating costs increased approximately £8,000 compared to the previous year, largely due to increased spend on various outreach activities and heat and light. All restricted gifts received were disbursed as restricted expenditure in the year resulting in a net increase in unrestricted funds of £59,283 leaving the Trust in strong financial position at the year end.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf



28 May 2025

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 30 September 2024

	<i>Note</i>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<i>Income</i>					
Gifts and Donations	2	99,493	7,246	106,739	36,650
Total Income		99,493	7,246	106,739	36,650
<i>Expenditure</i>					
Gifts	3	7,931	7,246	15,177	17,569
Operating Costs	4	32,279	-	32,279	24,308
Total Expenditure		40,210	7,246	47,456	41,877
Net (expenditure)/income for the year		59,283	-	59,283	(5,227)

The notes on pages 6 to 7 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:



24 June 2025

Notes to the Accounts

1 Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: 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) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds Structure

The Charity distinguishes between the unrestricted funds and restricted funds. Unrestricted funds are available at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Trust and which have not been designated for other purposes. Restricted funds comprise certain specific receipts earmarked to particular purposes.

(c) Income recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has received the income. Donations, are recognised when the Trust has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date and funds are lodged in the bank account. Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

(d) Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure when payments are made only. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

2 Income from Gifts and Donations

Income from gifts and donations can be analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gifts for Missionaries & Homeworkers, NECYC and Summerhill (restricted)	6,662	4,231
Subscriptions (restricted)	584	563
Sunday offerings (unrestricted)	27,482	28,852
Sundry gifts (unrestricted)	72,011	3,004
	<u>106,739</u>	<u>36,650</u>

This year we received a legacy of £72,000 which is included in sundry gifts.

3 Gifts

The gifts can be analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Missionary Gifts	6,143	6,084
Homeworkers' gifts	6,925	8,921
Summerhill	500	1,000
NECYC	1,025	1,000
Subscriptions	584	564
	<u>15,177</u>	<u>17,569</u>

4 Operating Costs

The operating costs can be analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Children's work	5,349	3,656
New Year Conference	1,064	765
Annual Conference	869	612
Books, tracts, outreach	4,232	5,470
Catering	1,799	1,674
Building repairs	230	442
Heat & light	11,975	3,796
Insurance	2,879	2,703
Telephone, internet & zoom	1,257	3,634
Sundry	2,625	1,556
	<u>32,279</u>	<u>24,308</u>

Heat & light is a significant increase as we exited a low 2 year rate for gas and SSE caught up on billing for electricity.

Children's work includes the Bible Experience.

5 Movement in Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>Bank and Cash in Hand</i>				
Opening balances	8,216	-	8,216	13,443
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	59,283	-	59,283	(5,227)
	<u>67,499</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,499</u>	<u>8,216</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Assembly of Christians at Holburn Hall

I report on the accounts of Assembly of Christians at Holburn Hall (Registered Scottish Charities No. SC 009904) for the year ended 30 September 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The Charity Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations 2006. An examination includes a 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 seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by 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 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

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.