

Charity Registration No. 1143776 (England and Wales)

JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

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JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

The Joint Christian Science Reading Room, whose contact address is: 52-54 King's Road, Reading Berkshire, RG1 3AA, is a registered charity number 1143776, and is governed by its constitution adopted in February 2013 and last amended in June 2018.

The Trustees act as the Management Committee, which consists of up to ten persons elected annually by the members of the organisation from among their number.

During the year to 31 December 2024 the Trustees were:

John Lardge (Chairman)	Edwin de Leon
Gay Bryant-Flatt	Timothy Twinn
Susan de Leon (Resigned 12/07/2024)	John Houston
Susan Thomas	

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As stated in the constitution, the purpose of the Joint Christian Science Reading Room UK is the public promotion of the practical healing method known as Christian Science, in accordance with the Manual of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. It carries this out under the Manual provisions of Article XXI concerning the operation of Reading Rooms. Under this provision it is listed in The Christian Science Journal as a Joint Christian Science Reading Room.

The main activity is the sale and distribution of "Science and Health with key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy and other publications from the Christian Science Publishing Society. This is carried out through the UK Online Reading Room website, books, Christian Science magazines and other products ordered online are mailed to customers in the UK and abroad by the specialist stock-holding firm, My Warehouse. All the stock holding, and sales management is handled by that firm.

The Online Christian Science Reading Room remained open during the lockdown periods in 2021 when other Christian Science Reading Rooms had to close. Being primarily web-based it continues to be open round the clock supporting Christian Science organisations and customers with sales and services.

The Trustees employ a salaried Librarian, Administrator, Technical Assistant, and a Digital Services Manager to manage key functions of the Charity. This includes operating the website and acting as an information centre for queries about Christian Science, its publications, and activities, particularly in the UK.

The Trustees use various freelance persons and firms for website maintenance, development, and management. General management functions are carried out voluntarily by Trustees and members. The Trustees have continued to organise the live-streaming of Christian Science lectures and other events, including concerts, when requested by various Christian Science churches and with the approval of the lecturers concerned, who are all members of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship. Further top quality equipment was acquired in the year to extend the availability and reliability of the live-streaming and to develop video-making for Christian Science events.

JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES *continued*

Advice and support was also provided to any churches wishing to live stream their services during the time that services and meetings in buildings were not possible.

The Trustees also continued to offer expert assistance in creating and upgrading websites of individual Christian Science Churches in the UK.

They also continued to offer the installation of remotely managed display screens for windows of Christian Science Reading Rooms. These high quality screens show revolving posters and notices of Christian Science information and activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

As information and activities of the Charity are clearly displayed on its website, and are available to the public, the trustees are satisfied that they have fully complied with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial affairs of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 are shown in the attached Accounts, which have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.

All donations and contributions to the funds are considered to be “unrestricted” and are recorded as such in the Accounts.

The Trustees, having full consideration of the requirement for charities to hold Reserves Funds, consider that the level of funds at the end of the financial year are appropriate to meet current and future planned activities.

.....
(For and on Behalf of the Trustees)

.....
Date

JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

To the members of the Joint Christian Science Reading Room UK

I report on the Accounts of the Charity, registered number 1143776 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The Charity Trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act),
- to follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 (5) (b) of the act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedure undertaken does not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention, which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the Members have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
- accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with accounting requirements of the Act; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....
Geraldine Coates Accounting
Robson House
Chapel Street
Honiton
EX14 1EU

.....
Date

JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

Closing Balances on Accounts

	2024	2024	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank Accounts				
CAF Current Account				
Movement in Year	349		4,489	
Balance C/f		5,959		5,610
CAF ORR				
Movement in Year	7,194		615	
Balance C/f		8,917		1,722
CAF Gold				
Movement in Year	(2,481)		8,364	
Balance C/f		145,268		147,749
Stripe				
Movement in Year	3,079		(7,590)	
Balance C/f		(4,483)		(7,562)
Paypal				
Movement in Year	-		(80)	
Balance C/f		-		-
	8,141	155,660	5,798	147,519

JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
MONETARY ASSETS		
Value of funds brought forward at 1 st Jan 2024	147,519	141,721
Surplus of Income for the Year	<u>8,141</u>	<u>5,798</u>
Value of funds carried forward at 31 st Dec 2024	155,660	147,519
	=====	=====
Represented by:		
Bank Accounts:		
CAF Current Account	5,959	5,610
CAF ORR	8,917	1,722
CAF Gold	145,268	147,749
Stripe	(4,483)	(7,562)
Paypal	-	-
	155,660	147,519
	=====	=====
Other Assets		
Stock at Cost	25,606	25,606
Display, Filming & Technical Equipment	77,440	77,440
Debtors	-	1,171
	103,046	104,216
	=====	=====
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	-	4,249
	-	4,249
	=====	=====
TOTAL ASSETS	258,706	255,048
RESERVES		
Reserves Account	250,565	249,250
Total Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	<u>8,141</u>	<u>5,798</u>
	258,706	255,048

Approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf by:

..... Trustee

..... Trustee

**JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	2024 £	2023 £	2022 £
<u>Online Reading Room Activity</u>			
Income:			
Online & Sundry Other Sales	7,473	9,135	11,339
Donations for Google Adwords	-	-	155
Donations from Churches	<u>-</u>	<u>33,008</u>	<u>28,716</u>
	7,473	42,143	40,210
Expenditure:			
Stock Purchases	5,331	6,962	4,015
Google Adwords	741	328	-
Employee Salaries & Employer Costs	77,072	64,460	50,253
Social Media Fees	-	100	1,813
My Warehouse Charges	2,556	2,605	2,310
Website & General Running Costs	37	1,141	2,450
Subscriptions	6,504	-	-
Journal Card & Other Advertising	<u>973</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>344</u>
	93,214	76,074	61,186
Surplus/(Deficit)	(85,741)	(33,932)	(20,976)
<u>Livestreaming & Video Production of Events</u>			
Income:			
Donations from Churches for Streaming Costs	20,377	19,602	6,525
Expenditure:			
Livestreaming Expenditure	<u>5,231</u>	<u>24,262</u>	<u>12,353</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	15,146	(4,660)	(5,828)
<u>Website Design and Management for Churches</u>			
Income:			
Fees for Website Creation and Management	5,184	3,181	2,175
Expenditure:			
Development Costs	<u>2,516</u>	<u>722</u>	<u>634</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	2,668	2,459	1,541
<u>Reading Room Remotely Managed Display Screens</u>			
Income:			
Installation Fees from Churches (Incl Mgt Fees)	7,300	3,245	23,910
Expenditure:			
Equipment, Installation & Development Costs	<u>3,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,329</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	3,600	3,245	12,581

**JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT *continued*

	2024	2023	2022
	£	£	£
<u>Equipment Acquisitions</u>			
Equipment Purchases in Year	14,910	7,907	11,783
<u>General Income & Expenditure</u>			
Income:			
General Donations	46,382	13,758	8,640
Grants from Trust Brit	3,869	40,216	14,142
Grants from Westminster	39,825	-	-
Interest	2,482	1,386	527
Gift Aid Refunds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>184</u>
	92,557	55,360	23,493
Expenditure:			
Events	1,073	1,483	15,240
Meetings	1,200	3,085	1,368
Insurance	-	1,120	1,008
Professional Fees	2,050	1,900	675
Miscellaneous	252	564	-
Mailing & Office	349	218	1,083
Bank Charges	<u>255</u>	<u>397</u>	<u>204</u>
	5,179	8,767	19,578
Surplus/(Deficit)	87,378	46,593	3,915
TOTAL RECEIPTS	132,890	123,530	96,313
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	124,749	117,732	116,863
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	8,141	5,798	(20,550)

JOINT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT *continued*

	2024	2023	2022
	£	£	£
RECEIPTS			
Income:			
Church Websites	5,184	3,181	2,175
Donations – General	46,382	13,758	8,640
Donations – Google Adwords	-	-	155
Donations – Livestreaming	20,377	19,602	6,525
Donations – ORR	-	33,008	28,716
Donations – Trust Brit	3,869	40,216	14,142
Donations – Westminster	39,825	-	-
Gift Aid Refunds	-	-	184
Interest	2,482	1,386	527
Online Sales	7,473	9,135	11,339
RR Screens	<u>7,300</u>	<u>3,245</u>	<u>23,910</u>
	132,890	123,530	96,313
Expenditure:			
Advertising	973	480	344
Church Websites	2,516	722	634
Google Adwords	741	328	-
Librarians, Admin & Tech	77,072	64,460	50,253
Livestreaming	5,231	24,262	12,353
My Warehouse Charges	2,556	2,605	2,310
ORR Website	37	49	1,623
RR Screens	3,700	-	11,329
Running Costs	-	1,092	491
Shopify Fees	-	-	336
Subscriptions	6,504	-	-
Social Media	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>1,813</u>
	99,329	94,096	81,486
Stock & Equipment			
Equipment	14,910	7,907	11,783
Stock	<u>5,331</u>	<u>6,962</u>	<u>4,015</u>
	20,241	14,869	15,798
Running Costs			
Bank Charges	255	397	204
Events	1,073	1,483	15,240
Insurance	-	1,120	1,008
Meetings	1,200	3,085	1,368
Professional Fees	2,050	1,900	675
Stationery, Postage & Other	349	218	1,083
Miscellaneous	<u>252</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>-</u>
	5,179	8,767	19,578
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	124,749	117,732	116,863
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	8,141	5,798	(20,550)