

Annual Report

and

Accounts

2016



**Christians on Ageing
(Christian Council on Ageing)**

Registered Charity number 289463

Registered address:
3, Stuart Street,
Derby
DE1 2EQ

www.christiansonageing.org.uk
info@ccoa.org.uk
01609 881408

Christians on Ageing

The story of older people is the story of their unique life journey. They have lived through war and peace, have known hope and failure, and have found, and sometimes lost, friendship and love. For many, their Christian faith has been the context within which they have lived and in which they will die. They have handed on the gospel message to the next generation but are also living it day by day. Their story is not just about the past; they are part, in the here and now, of the Churches' proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. They are a valued and precious resource. They want to give as well as receive. ***Christians on Ageing*** is one of their voices.

Christians on Ageing

- *works throughout the United Kingdom*
- *operates as an ecumenical Christian organisation*
- *publishes resources for individuals and local ministries*
- *arranges conferences and events*
- *promotes research and innovation*
- *comments on current issues affecting older people*

A Resource to the Churches

- *improving understanding on issues that matter*
- *providing a link between the denominations*
- *contributing to innovation in work with dementia*
- *responding to enquiries on age and ageing*
- *unlocking the talent and experience of older people*
- *seeking dialogue between people of faith and wider society*

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 20th September 2017. Members are being provided with a copy of the Report some months in advance of the meeting. It is inevitable that, through the regular updates in **plus** magazine and on our website www.christiansonageing.org.uk, much of the information about our activities in 2016 will be known already. The Report is the formal record about what has been happening rather than the latest news.

Patrons

Rev Esme Beswick, MBE – the Joint Council for Anglo-Caribbean Churches

Mrs Elaine Cobb – the Salvation Army

Rev Lynn Green – The Baptist Church

Cardinal Vincent Nichols – the Roman Catholic Church

Rev Gareth Powell - the Methodist Church

Rev John Proctor - the United Reformed Church

Rt Rev Dr Alan Smith – the Church of England

Archbishop Elisey of Sourozh - Greek Orthodox Church

President

Mrs Elizabeth Harbottle

Vice-Presidents

Mr Tony Flynn

Rev Graham Hawley

Executive Committee

Chair Mr Gerry Burke

Vice-chair Ms Wendy Cocks

Secretary Mr Jo Kennedy

Treasurer Sister Maureen Murphy

Members

Mr Tony Flynn (until September)

Mrs Gill Dascombe (until November))

Rev Dr Margaret Goodall (from September)

Rev Gaynor Hammond

Rev Graham Hawley (until September)

Rev Dr Albert Jewell

Rev Dr John Lansley

In attendance when required

Membership and
Publications Officer

Mrs Sue Kennedy

Executive Committee Report

Gerry Burke
Chair

There are times for rejoicing and times for reflection in every aspect of human activity, not least in a small charity like *Christians on Ageing*. Looking back at annual reports from recent years and at the level of activity over the past year, it is clear that 2016 was a time of reflection. We started the year by preparing and submitting an application for funding to a charitable Trust. We sought increased resources to help us move forward with plans to establish an Ageing Issues Study Network, a project which had received significant support from members and participants at two specially convened national meetings. Our application was unsuccessful and it was decided to try again with two other Trust funds, with the same result. The lack of success, as indicated in feedback from the potential funders, was largely because of a perception that our ambition exceeded our ability. We needed to reflect on this and decide the best way forward.

In the end, it was easy. A decision was taken to be *less* ambitious: rather than seeking funds from others, to use instead money we had saved from donations and legacies over the years for some essential re-ordering of our priorities. This would involve appointing a Resources Co-ordinator for a limited period to oversee a refreshment of the website and the management of our growing directory of contacts within the Churches.

During the year, we had changed our website manager to a firm more familiar with the needs of a small Christian charity. The Resources Co-ordinator will be able to help us make the most of this change. Similarly, requests were made to all the Churches to provide us with the contact details of those working most closely on issues of interest to older people; the response was excellent but the task of constructing a useful database will be a challenge. Again, the Resources Co-ordinator will enable us to create a bank of information which will be of use to all the Churches; no other organisation is offering this service.

Our stated aim is to be a resource to the Churches; we can only be a resource if people seeking information know that we have it and are able to access it easily and fruitfully. The task for 2017 is, therefore, simple and clear.

There were some changes in personnel in 2016. Two long-standing members of the Committee retired from active service: Tony Flynn who had been involved in the organisation almost from its inception in the early 1980s, and for many years had chaired the Finance Committee, and Graham Hawley, who was responsible for the regular book reviews in our magazine **plus**. The Committee wished to recognise the commitment and loyalty of these long-serving members by appointing them as

Vice-Presidents of the organisation, and at the same time acknowledging the important contribution of Elizabeth Harbottle over many years by changing her role from Vice-President to President. All three graciously accepted these appointments and it is good that we will not lose their wisdom and experience.

On behalf of the organisation I would also like to thank Gill Dascombe for her membership of the Committee during the year; Sister Maureen Murphy for her continuing sound management of the accounts as Honorary Treasurer; Jo Kennedy for his sometimes hidden but essential work as the Honorary Secretary; John Lansley for the provision of consistently good material as Editor of **plus**; and Sue Kennedy for the excellence of her work as Membership Secretary and Publications Officer.

My hope is that the fallow field and time of reflection which was 2016 will produce a rich harvest and a time of rejoicing in 2017.

Dementia Network

Albert Jewell
Secretary

The network currently runs at over 300 recipients of the six-monthly Dementia Newsletter which means that it has effectively doubled our total contacts taking into account that a proportion of the newsletter recipients are paid-up members of Christians on Ageing but most are not. Recruitment is usually through our website or through those who respond at events at which Christians on Ageing are represented. The newsletter mainly contains up-to-date news in the field of dementia, latest book reviews and the featuring of organisations with similar aims to ourselves, as well as a stimulating letter from Margaret Goodall, our chair. It is good to receive a number of appreciative comments from subscribers and it is a privilege to have served as editor for the past ten years.

Christians on Ageing was the main channel through which participants were recruited for a study of Christians who are the primary carers of persons with dementia, regular reports of which have appeared in the newsletter. This work is now reaching fruition in the publication of two papers, one on the faith of the carers, the other on the isolation and loneliness they experience. We are grateful for the honesty of the 53 respondents from whom churches have much they can learn.

Membership

Sue Kennedy
Membership Secretary

The years pass by but not much changes on the membership front. Interestingly the number of individuals in membership has remained constant at 172, the number of losses being matched by new members. However the number of organisations in membership has dropped from 48 to 37. Total membership dropped from 220 in December 2015 to 209 in the same month in 2016.

Our magazine: *plus*

John Lansley
Editor

plus continues to appear quarterly, and all the indications are both that our members appreciate reading it, and that, like the web site, it gives us a good 'shop window' for enquirers who want to get a sense of what issues and interests Christians on Ageing is concerned with. Over the last year we have included articles which reflect the creativeness of older people, including some people with dementia and their helpers. We have discussed issues of residential care, including the health and welfare of older prisoners – an issue which was very close to the heart of the late Canon Michael Butler, the previous editor of **plus**. We have thought about the experience older people have of their churches, ranging from the design and layout of buildings, particularly as it affects people suffering from dementia, to the need for sensitive and effective safeguarding systems. And we always include articles for meditation and spiritual development.

As always we are very grateful to all our contributors – and would like to hear from more! – and to those who deal with the printing and publication. Sue Kennedy falls into all these categories, and, like everyone in Christians on Ageing, we owe her an enormous debt of gratitude. Joyce Bullen has retired this year from proof-reading each edition of the magazine, a task which is only noticed when it fails to happen and mistakes creep in – and Joyce has ensured that this never happened: thank you very much.

Publications

Sue Kennedy
Publications Officer

This year was a reasonable year for publication sales. Far and away the best sellers were our two publications relating to dementia, *Growing dementia-friendly churches* (68), published with Methodist Homes and Faith in Elderly People, Leeds and the set of leaflets *People with dementia* (36), published with Methodist Homes. Total sales were 318, down from 435 in 2015. These sales were made through bookstalls (2), the website (21) and by post, email and personal contact (18).

There were just two new titles in the year, *With grateful hearts* by Sister Maureen Murphy and *Thoughts for meditation and worship* – five.

Interestingly, even in this age of computer literacy, the highest value of sales, £526, came from non-website sales. These generated £193. Income last year was £377 but sadly expenses were high again this year as 2 new publications generated costs but little income. Therefore after deduction of expenses the sales 'profit' amounted to £208.

Merseyside Branch

John Lansley
Secretary

Our main activity this year was a half-day conference in October on Older People and Loneliness: Social and Spiritual Needs. The speakers were Dil Daly, CEO of Age Concern Liverpool, Barbara Dickens, a church community worker in Norris Green, Liverpool, and the Rev Graham Hawley, who spoke about work with churches and health agencies in Stockport. Although the attendance was small, there was a lot of appreciative interest in the talks and discussion.

Two members left the committee this year: Wendy Steadman will concentrate on her work in Chester, and Sister Teresa Flynn sadly died, but we look forward to welcoming two new members, from the Salvation Army and the Roman Catholic Church, next year.

Ageing Issues Study Network

Jo Kennedy
Secretary

As mentioned in the Chair's report, it has been a matter of deep disappointment that Christians on Ageing have not been able to secure funding for the development of the Ageing Issues Study Network. We have not lost sight of the main purposes of the Network, i.e. the identification of areas of concern in the spiritual and pastoral care of older people that need further study, the exchanging of information about work that is in-hand in various institution and church organisations and the highlighting of results and experiences as a resource for all those engaged in ministry to older people.

It is envisaged that as our website is developed it will become a vehicle for the exchange of ideas, information and examples of good practice to stimulate debate and action in local churches, wider church councils and training initiatives.

Finance

Sister Maureen Murphy,
FMSJ

From a financial viewpoint the year 2016 was a quiet one with no extraordinary income or expenditure to report. A small profit was achieved on both the main and the dementia accounts after a deficit in the previous year. The total funds available at the end of the year included approximately £5000 donated for development. This could be used as matched funding in the event of a future grant application being successful or in some other way to enable further development of our aim to become a resource to the churches.

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the Trustees of the Christian Council on Ageing on the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2016

Registered Charity no. 289463

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2015, which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present 'a true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with 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 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

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

Daniel Smith, John A. Porter & Co
74 Dickenson Road
Manchester
M14 5HF

3 March 2017

CHRISTIAN COUNCIL ON AGEING
Registered charity no 289463

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
For the year ended 31st December 2016

	General fund		Dementia fund (restricted)		2016 total		2015 total	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Incoming resources</u>								
Voluntary income								
Subscription income	3,445				3,445		3,907	
Donations	2,425				2,425		1,787	
Donations to newsletter			10		10		25	
Credits from branches								
Tax credits	<u>538</u>				<u>538</u>		<u>1,235</u>	
		6,408		10		6,418		6,954
Income from charitable activities								
Sales	166		265		431		692	
Conference income	<u></u>		<u></u>		<u></u>		<u></u>	
		166		265		431		692
Other income								
Investment income		103		21		124		130
<u>Total incoming resources</u>		<u>6,677</u>		<u>296</u>		<u>6,973</u>		<u>7,776</u>

	General fund		Dementia fund (restricted)			2016 total		2015 total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Resources expended</u>								
Charitable activities								
plus	2,287				2,287		1,828	
DN Newsletter			35		35		13	
Website	313				313		197	
Development							787	
Trustees travel expenses 25%	143				143		405	
Printing, stationery, advertising	369		2		371		380	
Post, telephone	388		33		421		517	
Subscriptions, insurance	213				213		112	
Publications purchased	29		55		84		103	
Publications support	1,976				1,976		1,976	
Research								
Donations								
Bank charges								
		5,718		125		5,843		6,318
Governance								
Trustees travel expenses 75%	428				428		1,217	
Meeting rooms	202				202		373	
Conference							234	
Examiner's fee	162				162		156	
Secretarial support								
Other expenses								
		792				792		1,980
<u>Total resources expended</u>		6,510		125		6,635		8,298
Surplus/(Deficit)for year		167		171		338		(522)
Funds brought forward		25,166		4,823		29,989		30,511
Funds carried forward		25,333		4,994		30,327		29,989

CHRISTIAN COUNCIL ON AGEING
Registered charity no 289463

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 2016

2015		2016
£	£	£
	Current assets	
1,645	cash at Bank - General Fund	1,818
23,677	COIF - General Fund	23,677
702	Cash at Bank - Dementia Account	873
<u>4,121</u>	COIF - Dementia Account	<u>4,121</u>
30,145		30,489
	Current Liabilities	
<u>156</u>	Sundry Creditors	<u>162</u>
<u>156</u>		<u>162</u>
<u><u>29,989</u></u>	Net current assets	<u><u>30,327</u></u>
	Represented by:	
25,166	General funds	25,333
	Restricted funds	
4,823	Dementia fund	4,994
<u>29,989</u>	Capital employed	<u>30,327</u>

Signed on behalf on the Trustees:
G. Burke (Chair)
J.C. Kennedy (Hon. Secretary)

Dated: 25th April 2017

Contact us

For any enquiries contact can be made through the Secretary, Mr Jo Kennedy:-

By post to: Christians on Ageing
'Stoneway', Hornby Road
Appleton Wiske
Northallerton
DL6 2AF

By telephone: 01609 881408

By email: info@ccoa.org.uk

Through the website: www.christiansonageing.org.uk

Other specific contact points:-

Treasurer

Sister Maureen Murphy,
St Joseph's Convent,
150, Greenleach Lane,
Worsley,
Manchester
M28 2TS
Email: fmsj@aol.com

Dementia Network

Rev Dr Albert Jewell
63, Moor Grange View,
West Park
Leeds
LS16 5BH
Email: ajj633@btinternet.com

'plus' Editorial and Merseyside branch

Rev Dr John Lansley
25, Buckingham Avenue
Liverpool
L17 3BA
Email: johnwlansley@gmail.com

Ageing Issues Study Network

Mr Jo Kennedy,
'Stoneway', Hornby Road,
Appleton Wiske,
Northallerton
DL6 2AF
Email: joseph.kennedy123@btinternet.com