



**CHRISTIANS on AGEING**  
a resource to the Churches

# **Annual Report and Accounts 2019**

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

Registered Charity number 289463

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## 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*

## **Patrons**

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

Rev Lynn Green – General Secretary, the Baptist Union of Great Britain

Rt Rev Dr Alan Smith – Bishop of St Albans, the Church of England

Rev Dr Jonathon Hustler – Secretary of the Methodist Conference, the Methodist Church

H.E. Cardinal Vincent Nichols – Archbishop of Westminster, the Roman Catholic Church

Archbishop Elisey of Sourozh – the Russian Orthodox Church

Mrs Elaine Cobb – Director of Older People's Services, the Salvation Army

Rev John Proctor – General Secretary, the United Reformed Church

## **Vice-Presidents**

Mrs Joyce Bullen

Mr Tony Flynn

Rev Dr Graham Hawley



## **Executive Committee**

*David Jolley*

Vice Chair & Acting Chair

It is with temerity that I take on this role from Gerry Burke, who has relinquished his roles as Chair (six years) and Acting Chair (two years). The prospects are good because Gerry continues to be generously active and creative, as are others who have already given many years to the work: Jo and Sue Kennedy, Albert Jewell, Maureen Murphy and John Lansley. Marion Shoard has joined us and has added a wealth of knowledge, ideas and contacts through her personal network.

Our website is gradually proving to be the asset we had hoped it would become when we made an investment of funds in its refurbishment over the last few years. We are using it as our main means of communication, not just with members but with the wider audience we are seeking in the Churches and wider society. It is intended to help fulfil our primary objectives of informing and influencing all those who care about the well-being of older people. The most important development in the last year has been the addition of a short video about who we are and how we approach our work. Visitors to the website are now also able to follow views we express about current events affecting older people through our News and Speaking Out columns, and we have re-activated our Twitter account to make it easily accessible through the website. Much more, of course, can and will be done to make the website a means of publishing ideas and initiatives which will enhance our efforts to be a resource to the Churches. The regular quarterly meetings of the Executive Committee at Sheffield give chance to get together face to face and explore ideas and plans. They are complemented by email communications which keep us in touch several times during every week. This means we do not miss many tricks. A wider circle is kept in touch by a newsletter which is circulated electronically.

Our conference in September 2019 at the URC Church in Sheffield 'Being Old, Being Bold' was a great success, attracting a good turnout, addressing key topics and discovering from those who attended, what they would like to see us do from now on.

We anticipate welcoming three new members to the executive committee, drawn from people who attended the conference. The learning points from that day are posted to the website. We plan another conference this September at the same venue. Topics to be addressed include the special situation and needs of Black and Ethnic Minority older Christians in this country, loneliness, and aspects of life in care homes. There will again be time for delegates to share their stories and ideas for the future.

We look forward to a future informed by the founding principles and aims of Christians on Ageing and focussed on the needs of the present and the years ahead.

Many thanks for your help

<p><b>Our magazine: <i>plus</i></b></p> <p><i>John Lansley</i> Editor</p>
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Quarter by quarter **plus** continues to appear, and it seems to be appreciated by a large number of readers, if the comments the Editor receives are anything to go by. That it does appear is due to a lot of contributors not least Executive Committee members, who respond to editorial demands for copy at the last minute with speed and cheerfulness, to our book reviewers, and above all to Sue Kennedy, who deals with all the production side, turning a jumble of articles and short pieces into the coherent and elegant magazine which finally is sent out, with great speed and fortitude. This year we included articles from the September conference, which enabled us to share the excellent papers, but which created very tight production deadlines for Sue. To all, my grateful thanks.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dementia Network</b></p> <p><i>Albert Jewell</i> Secretary</p>
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During the last year our network gained a further dozen subscribers, taking the total to well over three hundred, our improved CCOA website and Sheffield day conference having helped publicise it more widely. The Rev Dr Margaret Goodall, who always produced a challenging letter for each issue of our sixth monthly newsletter, retired from her role as network chair and we record our gratitude for all that she has done over many years.

The main content of the newsletter comprises three main sections:

- The media is awash with information about research and practice in the dementia area and we seek to draw attention to the main developments.
- There is also an ever-increasing number of books published by experts, those living with dementia and their family carers, for which we offer reviews.
- An increasing amount of space is given to featuring other organisations and individuals at work and offering support in the area, not least in regard to spiritual care.

Working together we can make a real difference in raising dementia awareness within churches and more widely.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Merseyside Branch</b></p> <p><i>John Lansley</i> Secretary</p>
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The proposed conference on how different faiths view dementia had to be postponed last year, but we have every hope of holding it in early September this year. We are grateful for the active cooperation of the Merseyside Dementia Action Alliance.

## Publications

*Sue Kennedy*

Publications Officer

It has been another very disappointing year for sales of publications. The total number of booklets sold was 127 compared to 199 last year. There was just the single bookstall at the conference which helped the sales figures but not as much as had been hoped. Sales were evenly divided between the website and other methods of purchase.

No publication was 'way out in front' for sales. The top three titles being *Growing dementia-friendly churches*, *Worship in residential care* and *I call you friends*.

The income figure was £198 while the expenses were £146 giving a 'profit' on the publications annual account of just £51 (£284 last year).

We have sent out one complimentary full set of leaflets to a church in Backwell, just outside Bristol, who made Christians on Ageing their charity of the month. This cost around £30 although the church sent a large donation which more than covered these costs. Many thanks must go to them.

For the future –

We are letting the first 2 volumes of *Thoughts for meditation and worship* go out of print as they are showing their age a little but a new one, number 6, will be out in 2020.

Another new title is due out - *Making a start – developing pastoral care for older people*. We hope this will be able to answer some of the questions raised by delegates at the 2019 conference.

As always, the price for these booklets will be low as our policy is to make booklets accessible to everyone who may be interested regardless of income. All our titles are listed on the website and in **plus**, together with purchase information, or can be obtained from the Publications Officer.

## **Membership**

*Sue Kennedy*

Membership Officer

I would love to be able to report that membership had grown over the last year but unfortunately yet again it has dropped, to 170 from 190. The drop is mainly from the personal memberships there being 33 organisation (36) and 137 personal (163) members. There are new memberships being taken out but the numbers leaving are always greater. The reason is rarely given but of those where it is known a change of job or a death are the most common.

## **Finance**

*Sister Maureen Murphy, FMSJ*

Treasurer

2019 was an eventful year for Christians on Ageing because the website was finally completed, and we also produced a promotional video. The cost of these items more or less accounted for our increased expenditure and higher deficit and the consequent decrease in our balance sheet although this continues to be healthy. We held a conference for the first time in many years and this was almost self-funding with just a small deficit.

Our income would benefit from the sale of some new publications and we are therefore seeking volunteers to produce them. Our other main source of income is from subscriptions and increased new membership would therefore be helpful.

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts  
Report to the Trustees of the Christian Council on Ageing

On Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

Registered Charity no. 289463

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2019, which are set out on pages 11 to 13.

**Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent 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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.
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**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 the 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- the accounts did 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 accounts to be reached.

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

21 February 2020

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
for the year ended 31 December 2019

	General fund		Dementia fund (restricted)		<b>2019</b> <b>total</b>		2018 total	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Incoming resources</u></b>								
Voluntary income								
Subscription income	2,841				<b>2,841</b>		3,371	
Donations	1,185		6		<b>1,191</b>		1,021	
Donations to newsletter			10		<b>10</b>		0	
Credits from branches								
Tax credits	<u>452</u>		<u>        </u>		<b><u>452</u></b>		<u>976</u>	
		4,478		16		<b>4,494</b>		5,368
Income from charitable activities								
Sales	234		64		<b>298</b>		434	
Conference income	<u>925</u>		<u>        </u>		<b><u>925</u></b>		<u>        </u>	
		1,159		64		<b>1,123</b>		434
Other income								
Investment income		<u>148</u>		<u>31</u>		<b><u>179</u></b>		<u>103</u>
Total incoming resources		<u>5,785</u>		<u>111</u>		<b><u>5,896</u></b>		<u>5,905</u>

	General fund		Dementia fund (restricted)		2019 total		2018 total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Resources expended</u></b>							
Charitable activities							
<b>plus</b>	2,318				<b>2,318</b>		1,826
DN Newsletter			63		<b>63</b>		27
Website	87				<b>87</b>		1,167
Trustees travel							
expenses							
Printing, stationery, advertising	214		1		<b>215</b>		193
Post, telephone	142		12		<b>154</b>		379
Subscriptions, insurance							100
Publications purchased	10		27		<b>37</b>		37
Publications support	2,141				<b>2,141</b>		1,811
Promotional expenses	2,530				<b>2,530</b>		1,218
Research							
Donations							
Bank charges							
		7,432		76	<b>7,508</b>		6,758
Governance							
Trustees travel expenses	1,090				<b>1,090</b>		275
Meeting rooms	180				<b>180</b>		180
Conference	768				<b>768</b>		
Examiner's fee	180				<b>180</b>		174
AGM expenses	312				<b>312</b>		
Other expenses							
		2,530			<b>2,530</b>		584
<b><u>Total resources expended</u></b>		<b>9,962</b>		<b>79</b>	<b>10,039</b>		<b>7,342</b>
Surplus/(Deficit)for year		-4,177		35	<b>- 4,142</b>		-1,437
Funds brought forward		23,674		5,313	<b>29,987</b>		30,424
Funds carried forward		<u>19,497</u>		<u>5,348</u>	<u>24,845</u>		<u>28,987</u>

**CHRISTIAN COUNCIL ON AGEING**  
**Registered charity no 289463**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**as at 31st December 2019**

2018			2019	
£	£		£	£
		Current assets		
1,171		cash at Bank - General Fund	<b>-500</b>	
22,677		COIF - General Fund	<b>20,177</b>	
1,192		Cash at Bank - Dementia Account	<b>1,227</b>	
<u>4,121</u>		COIF - Dementia Account	<u><b>4,121</b></u>	
	29,161			<b>25,025</b>
		Current Liabilities		
		Sundry Creditors	<u><b>180</b></u>	
<u>174</u>				<u><b>180</b></u>
	<u>174</u>	Net current assets		<u><b>24,845</b></u>
	<u><u>28,987</u></u>			
		Represented by:		
	23,674	General funds		<b>19,497</b>
		Restricted funds		
	5,313	Dementia fund		<b>5,348</b>
	<u>29,987</u>	Capital employed		<u><b>24,845</b></u>

Signed on behalf on the Trustees:

G. Burke (Trustee)  
J.C. Kennedy (Hon. Secretary)

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020

## Contact us

For any enquiry contact can be made through the

**Secretary**, Mr Jo Kennedy:-

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

By telephone: 01609 881408

By email: [info@ccoa.org.uk](mailto:info@ccoa.org.uk)

Through the website: [www.christiansonageing.org.uk](http://www.christiansonageing.org.uk)

Other specific contact points:-

### **Treasurer**

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### **Dementia Network**

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### **Ageing Issues Study Network**

The Secretary (See above)

### **'plus' Editorial and Merseyside branch**

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