

# The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches



University of Hertfordshire - 2008 Annual Meetings Venue

**Annual Report 2007**

**The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches**

**Registered Charity, No. 250788**

The seventy-ninth

## **Annual Report**

Submitted at the Annual Meeting  
of the Assembly 2008

Unitarian Headquarters

Essex Hall, 1-6 Essex St, Strand, London WC2R 3HY

Telephone: (020) 7240 2384 Fax: (020) 7240 3089

Web: [www.unitarian.org.uk](http://www.unitarian.org.uk)

Email:

for Information: [ga@unitarian.org.uk](mailto:ga@unitarian.org.uk)

for Finance: [finance@unitarian.org.uk](mailto:finance@unitarian.org.uk)

**Credits: Photos supplied by:**

**John Hewerdine**

**Pages: 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 16, 24, 25, 27**

**James Barry**

**Pages: 21, 35**

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**Reverend Celia Midgley**

**President of the General Assembly 2007-2008**

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Looking ahead to the Assembly Meetings in Hatfield in 2008, I am aware as the weeks pass of the tension within the name and role of the President. At Hatfield I shall preside as chair, very much in meetings mode, impartial, watchful and a step back from the heat of debate. This contrasts with my approach as I have visited congregations and districts this past year. There I have endeavoured to be warmly supportive of the local group, feeling both committed to it and involved in it. I have not felt it my duty to explain or interpret the workings of the Executive Committee, which has its own district links. Rather, my main emphasis has been the encouragement of our local communities, which are the heart of our Assembly. These groups and their importance have formed my theme this year.

Yet there is also in the name and the role of President the acceptance of the importance of the larger body and the opportunity to be a presence for that body on ceremonial and other special occasions. In the presence of politicians, royalty and clergy and ministers of various denominations, I have worn the medallion with pride and confidence. 'Ah,' said one prominent politician, 'the Unitarians!'

The one trip overseas was, with Chief Executive Rev. Steve Dick, to the meetings of the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists in Oberwesel, Germany. A GA Delegate, I doubled also as a national leader, and, with Steve, was pleased to engage in discussion and debate with our liberal religious cousins from many countries of the world.

Thank you, all of you, for the honour of this Presidency. I am looking forward to the 2008 Annual Meetings and hope that you are too. There is much to celebrate, not least the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Assembly and the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Women's League. Come with your gladness and hope – for your congregation and for your General Assembly and all that it is and yet may be.

## **General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches**

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Essex Hall, 1-6 Essex Street, LONDON, WC2R 3HY  
Telephone: (020) 7240 2384 Fax: (020) 7240 3089

**Chief Executive:** Rev Steve Dick

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The **Trustees** of the General Assembly are the Members of the GA Executive Committee, which comprises the Honorary Treasurer, and eight elected Members (Members may be co-opted to fill vacancies occurring during a triennial) as listed below.

### **GA Executive Committee (Appointed April 2005)**

**Honorary Treasurer:**

Martin West

**Elected Members:**

Jennifer Atkinson  
Dawn Buckle  
Rev Steve Dick (until November 2006)  
Dorothy Hewerdine  
Neville Kenyon  
Rev Dr Ann Peart  
Sir Peter Soulsby  
Rev R Wightman

**Co-opted Member:**

Lis Dyson Jones (from December 2006)

### **Other Appointments:**

Solicitor: Charles Russell LLP

Auditors: Shaw Gibbs LLP

Custodian Trustee: The British and Foreign Unitarian Association (Incorporated)

## General Assembly Officers and Honorary Members

### Secretaries / Chief Executives

1928 Rev S H Mellone, MA, DSc  
 1928 Rev R Travers Herford, BA, DD  
 1929-49 Rev Mortimer Rowe, BA, DD  
 1949-69 Rev John Kielty, LD, DD  
 1969-79 Rev Brian L Golland, MA  
 1979-94 Roy W Smith, DHL  
 1994-07 Jeffrey J Teagle  
 2007- Rev S Dick

### Treasurers

1928-39 Lieut-Col S Chatfield-Clarke, DL  
 1939-59 Mr Ronald P Jones, MA, FRIBA  
 1959-70 Sir C Herbert Pollard, CBE, FCA  
 1970-71 Mr Albert Forrester, FCA  
 1971-79 Mr Arnold Graves, FCA, FCIS  
 1979-98 Mr Geoffrey Head, BA  
 1998-05 Mr Michael Tomlin  
 2005- Mr Martin West

### Deputy Treasurers

1996-98 Mr Michael Tomlin

### Presidents

1929 Rev C J Street, MA, LLB (B&FUA)  
 1929 Rev Henry Gow, BA, BD (Nat Conf)  
 1929-31 Mrs Sydney Martineau  
 1931-32 Mr J Harrop White, JP  
 1932-34 Rev Alfred Hall, MA, DD  
 1934-35 Mr Ronald P Jones, MA, FRIBA  
 1935-36 Mr George G Armstrong  
 1936-37 Rev H McLachlan, MA, DD, LittD  
 1937-38 Mr N Bishop Harman, MA, LLD  
 1938-39 Rev R F Rattray, MA, PhD  
 1939-40 Mr J T Bibby  
 1940-41 Rev E Rosalind Lee, MA  
 1941-42 Mr P M Oliver, CBE, BA  
 1942-43 Rev H J Rossington, MA, BD  
 1943-44 Mr R H Motttram, JP, FRSL  
 1944-45 Mr Alfred Pilling, OBE, JP  
 1945-46 Rev Raymond V Holt, MA, BLitt  
 1946-47 Mr Harold Baily, MBE  
 1947-48 Rev Lawrence Redfern, MA, BD  
 1948-49 Prof FJM Stratton, LLD, FRS  
 1949-50 Rev Fred Cottier  
 1950-51 Mr Harold B Moore  
 1951-52 Rev G Randall Jones, MA, BSc, BD  
 1952-53 Miss Dorothy Tarrant, MA, PhD  
 1953-54 Rev Herbert Crabtree  
 1954-55 Mr Stanley R Butler, ACA  
 1955-56 Rev Frank A Bullock  
 1956-57 Mr C Herbert Pollard, CBE, FSA  
 1957-58 Rev James Percival Chalk  
 1958-59 Rt Hon J Chuter Ede, CH, JP, DL, MP  
 1959-60 Rev Arthur W Vallance, BA  
 1960-61 Mr Arthur L Blake, OBE

1961-62 Rev J Harry Smith  
 1962-63 Mr Kenneth M Street, MM  
 1963-64 Rev Walter M Long  
 1964-65 Mr Stanley J Kennett, BSc, PhD  
 1965-66 Rev E Shirvell Price, MA  
 1966-67 Mr T H Hollingsworth  
 1967-68 Rev Fred Kenworthy, MA, BD  
 1968-69 Mrs Amy Howarth, MA  
 1969-70 Rev C Gordon Bolam, MA, BD  
 1970-71 Mr Arnold Graves, FCA, FCIS  
 1971-72 Rev H John McLachlan, MA, BD, DPhil  
 1972-73 Mr M Humphreys Winder, BA  
 1973-74 Rev D Jacob Davies, BA  
 1974-75 Mrs Gwyneth J M Thomas, BSc  
 1975-76 Rev Evan David Davies  
 1976-77 Mr George Morrison, MA  
 1977-78 Rev Dr Peter B Godfrey, BA, DD  
 1978-79 Mr Geoffrey Head, BA  
 1979-80 Rev A Hilton Birtles, JP, BA  
 1980-81 Dr June Bell, MA, MB, BS, PhD  
 1981-82 Rev Eric Wild, BA  
 1982-83 Mrs Eleanor Dixon  
 1983-84 Rev Arthur J Long, MA  
 1984-85 Mrs Helen M Nicholson, MBE  
 1985-86 Rev Sydney H Knight  
 1986-87 Mrs Sheila Crosskey, MB, ChB  
 1987-88 Rev Derek Smith  
 1988-89 Mr Robert HE Inkson, BSc, FSS, FIS  
 1989-90 Rev J Eric Jones, BA  
 1990-91 Mrs Eila Forrester, BA  
 1991-92 Rev Peter Hewis, BA  
 1992-93 Mrs Celia Kerr  
 1993-94 Rev James McClelland, MA  
 1994-95 Mr Michael Tomlin  
 1995-96 Rev Anne McClelland, BA  
 1996-97 Dr Jane Williams, MB, BCh, BAO  
 1997-98 Rev Clifford Reed, BA  
 1998-99 Dr Beverley Littlepage, MSc, MRCOG, FFPHM  
 1999-00 Rev Keith Gilley, BA, MA  
 2000-01 Mrs Judith Crompton, JP  
 2001-02 Rev John Midgley, BA, BD, MA, MEd  
 2002-03 Mr Alan Ruston, BSc  
 2003-04 Rev Austin Fitzpatrick  
 2004-05 Mrs Dawn Buckle  
 2005-06 Rev Brian Cockroft  
 2006-07 Mr David Dawson  
 2007-08 Rev Celia Midgley

### Honorary Members

Rev H John McLachlan, MA, BD, DPhil  
 (Deceased 28/01/07)  
 Dr June Bell, MA, MB, BS, PhD  
 Mr Geoffrey Head, BA  
 Rev Dr Peter Godfrey, BA, DD  
 Rev Dr Arthur J Long, MA (Deceased 09/12/06)

## Anniversary Service Preachers

1929 Rev Alfred Hall, MA, DD  
 1930 Rev H J Rossington, MA, BD  
 1931 Rev Herbert McLachlan, MA, DD, LittD  
 1932 Rev Herbert Barnes  
 1933 Rev John C Ballantyne, MA  
 1934 Rev Charles M Wright, MA  
 1935 Rev Lawrence Clare  
 1936 Rev Arthur S Hurn, MA, DLitt  
 1937 Rev Sidney Spencer, BA  
 1938 Rev Raymond V Holt, MA, BLitt  
 1939 Rev Arthur H Lewis  
 1940 Rev W E Williams, BA  
 1941 Rev Fred R Cottier  
 1942 Rev Rev Leslie Belton, MA, MSc  
 1943 Rev E George Lee  
 1944 Rev Stanley Mossop  
 1945 Rev Reginald W Wilde, MA, MSc, PhD  
 1946 Rev Wallace B Travener  
 1947 Rev Frank A Bullock  
 1948 Rev Frederick May Elliot, MA, DD LLD  
 1949 Rev G Randall Jones, MA, MSc, BD  
 1950 Rev Mortimer Rowe, BA, DD  
 1951 Rev Lawrence Redfern, MA, BD  
 1952 Rev H G Woodford  
 1953 Rev Arthur L Agnew, OBE, BA, DD  
 1954 Rev Sydney P Whitehouse, MA, BLitt  
 1955 Rev H Stewart Carter, MA  
 1956 Rev Basil Viney  
 1957 Rev Arthur W Vallance, BA  
 1958 Rev W J Carter, MA  
 1959 Rev Wilfred Waddington, BA, BD  
 1960 Rev Dana L McGreeley, DD  
 1961 Rev Phillip N Tindall, BA, BD PhD  
 1962 Rev C Gordon Bolam, MA, BD  
 1963 Rev A Margaret Barr, MA  
 1964 Rev Fred Kenworthy, MA, DD  
 1965 Rev D Jacob Davies, BA  
 1966 Rev John Radcliffe, BA  
 1967 Rev Charles Bartlett, BA  
 1968 Rev Brian L Golland, MA  
 1969 Rev John Kielty, LLD, DD  
 1970 Rev Harry Lismer Short, MA  
 1971 Rev Eric S Price, MA  
 1972 Rev Robert N West, BA, BD, DD  
 1973 Rev Lancelot A Garrard, MA, BD, LLD  
 1974 Rev E Basil Short, BSc  
 1975 Rev A Hamilton Birtles, BA  
 1976 Rev Fred M Ryde, MA  
 1977 Rev Dudley E Richards, MA, BD  
 1978 Rev Anne McClelland, BA  
 1979 Rev Eric Wild, BA and Eileen Kielty, BA  
 1980 Rev A Ben Downing, MA, BD  
 1981 Rev Gabor Kereki  
 1982 Rev Arthur J Long, MA  
 1983 Rev Bruce Findlow, BA  
 1984 Rev O Eugene Pickett, BA, BD, DD  
 1985 Rev D Elwyn J Davies, MA, BD, PhD  
 1986 Rev Peter B Godfrey, BA  
 1987 Rt Rev William McMillan, MA  
 1988 Rev William F Schulz, MA, DMin, DD  
 1989 Rev Frank Walker, BA  
 1990 Rev Glyn Pruce, STB, MA  
 1991 Rev Andrew Hill, BA  
 1992 Rev Leonard Smith, MA, PhD  
 1993 Rev Denise Boyd  
 1994 Rev Keith Gilley, BA, MA, BDQ  
 1995 Rev Clifford Reed, MA  
 1996 Rev Judith Walker-Riggs  
 1997 Rev Dr John A Buehrens  
 1998 Rev Dr David C Doel, MA, PhD  
 1999 Rev Alec Finbow, BA  
 2000 Rev Joy Croft, BA, MA, MTh  
 2001 Rev Penny Johnson  
 2002 Rev Bill Darlison  
 2003 Rev John Clifford, BA, MSc  
 2004 Rev Dr Ann Peart, BA, MA, PhD  
 2005 Rev J Eric Jones, BA  
 2006 Rev Peter Hewis, MA  
 2007 Rev Brenda Catherall



GA Anniversary Preacher Rev Brenda Catherall, with Service Leader Rev Geoffrey Usher and GA Chief Executive Rev Steve Dick

## Affiliated Societies and GA & Essex Hall Staff Members

The following societies are affiliated to the General Assembly:

British League of Unitarian and other Liberal Christian Women (Women's League)  
Canadian Unitarian Council - Le Conseil Unitaire du Canada  
L'Église libérale protestante de Bruxelles  
European Unitarian Universalists  
Foy Society  
National Unitarian Fellowship  
Provincial Assembly of Presbyterian and Unitarian Ministers and Congregations of Lancashire and Cheshire  
Unitarian and Free Christian Music Society  
Unitarian and Free Christian Peace Fellowship  
Unitarian Association of Lay Leaders  
Unitarian Christian Association  
Unitarian Historical Society  
Unitarian Holiday Conference  
Unitarian Lay Preachers' Association  
Unitarian Society for Psychological Studies  
Unitarian Union of North East India  
Unitarian Women's Group

### GA & Essex Hall Staff

The following were members of the GA Staff during the financial year:

Rev Jane Barraclough  
Sonia Buckles  
John Crosskey  
Rev Steve Dick (from March 2007)  
Howard Hague  
Rev John Harley  
Andrew Mason  
Elizabeth Obe  
Jeffrey Teagle (until April 2007)  
Peter Teets (from March 2007)



*New Staff Member, Peter Teets*

The following were members of the Essex Hall Staff during the financial year:

Isabella Clarke (Caretaker)  
Valerie Wright (Cleaner)

## The Object of the Assembly

From the Constitution of the General Assembly as amended 19 April 2001 and approved by the Charity Commission:

### **"2. Object**

#### ***Preamble***

We, the constituent congregations, affiliated societies and individual members, uniting in a spirit of mutual sympathy, co-operation, tolerance and respect; and recognising the worth and dignity of all people and their freedom to believe as their consciences dictate; and believing that truth is best served where the mind and conscience are free, acknowledge that the Object of the Assembly is:

#### ***Object***

To promote a free and inquiring religion through the worship of God and the celebration of life; the service of humanity and respect for all creation; and the upholding of the liberal Christian tradition.

To this end, the Assembly may:

Encourage and unite in fellowship bodies which uphold the religious liberty of their members, unconstrained by the imposition of creeds;

Affirm the liberal religious heritage and learn from the spiritual, cultural and intellectual insights of all humanity;

Act where necessary as the successor to the British and Foreign Unitarian Association and National Conference of Unitarian, Liberal Christian, Free Christian, Presbyterian and other Non-Subscribing or Kindred Congregations, being faithful to the spirit of their work and principles (see appendix to the constitution), providing always that this shall in no way limit the complete doctrinal freedom of the constituent churches and members of the Assembly;

Do all other such lawful things as are incidental to the attainment of the above Object."

In reference to second last clause of Object, the following is a statement of the Objects of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association, as set forth in Rule 2 of its Constitution:

The diffusion and support of the principles of Unitarian Christianity, including the formation and assistance of Congregations which do not require for themselves or their Ministers subscription to any doctrinal articles of belief; the publication and circulation of biblical, theological, scientific and literary knowledge related to Unitarian Christianity; the doing of all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

The following is a statement of the Objects of the National Conference of Unitarian, Liberal Christian, Free Christian, Presbyterian and other Non-Subscribing or Kindred Congregations, as set forth in Rule 1 of its Constitution:

To consult, and when considered advisable to take action, on matters affecting the well-being and interests of the Congregations and Societies on the Roll of the Conference, as by directing attention, suggesting plans, organising expressions of opinion, raising funds to carry out the foregoing objects.

The seventy-ninth Annual Meetings of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches were held from Tuesday 10 April to Friday 13 April 2007 at the University of Hertfordshire. The programme of departmental and affiliated society meetings and workshops commenced during the afternoon of 10 April. The opening celebration took the form of a service of worship conducted by the Reverend Celia Cartwright, which commenced at 19.30 hours.

The first business session commenced at 08.45 hours on Wednesday 11 April and was chaired by the General Assembly President, David Dawson. The Reverend Joy Croft led the opening devotions. The Standing Orders for the Conduct of Business Meetings were adopted and the Steering Committee, consisting of the Rev John Clifford, Miles Howarth and Roderick Ramage, were appointed. The General Secretary read out apologies and written greetings and then submitted the Annual Report. This meeting then witnessed the first annual report of the new Executive Committee. This was facilitated by its Chairperson, Sir Peter Soulsby. The General Assembly Treasurer, Martin West, spoke to the annual account and the budget for 2007-08. This business session concluded at 10.15 hours.

Stephen Lingwood led devotions at the commencement of the second business meeting on at 09.00 hours on Thursday 12 April. Dawn Buckle presented the Education Commission report. Martin Gienke introduced the Outreach and Communication Commission report. Three motions were debated. The third business session commenced at 10.45 hours the same morning. Neville Kenyon presented the Nightingale Centre Annual Report and Accounts and the Rev Celia Midgley did likewise for the Denominational Support Commission report. Three motions were debated.

On Friday 13 April Maud Robinson led the opening devotions for the fourth business session at 09.15 hours. Martin West presented the Sustentation Fund and Stipend Review Committee reports and the Reverend Dr Ann Peart presented the Ministry

Commission report. One motion was debated.

The Final business session witnessed the votes of thanks, delivered by the President and General Secretary, the Presidential Address and then installation of the Reverend Celia Midgley as the General Assembly President 2007-2008. The further motions were all passed and the new President led the closing act of worship.

#### RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions were carried:

##### 1) FROM THE EASTERN UNION OF UNITARIAN & FREE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches, noting that the syllabuses for Religious Education in maintained schools are periodically reviewed, encourages its member congregations to inform themselves about their local syllabus with a view to having some input into the review process.

##### 2) FROM THE GOLDERS GREEN UNITARIANS

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches:

a) Notes that an increasing number of people living in the UK are foreign migrant workers, and that they contribute to the national wealth;

That many of these migrant workers experience exploitation by unscrupulous employers who take advantage of their ignorance of their rights and of weak regulation, and that they also face prejudice;

That in recent years a number of faith and community groups have come together to support migrant workers living and working in the UK.

b) Urges the General Assembly Executive Committee, and all Congregations, District Associations and Affiliated Societies, to get involved in appropriate campaigns to support foreign migrant workers and new-arrival communities in Britain, and to help end their exploitation.

##### 3) FROM THE UNITARIAN WOMEN'S GROUP

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches:

- A. Welcomes the recent action of Her Majesty's Government in signing the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Beings;
- B. Urges the immediate introduction of all necessary measures required by the terms of the Convention.
- C. Pledges its active support at national, district and local levels of the work of CHASTE (Churches Alert to Sex Trafficking across Europe) and other Non Government Organisations to end this appalling abuse of human beings and their sexuality.

##### 4) FROM WESTGATE CHAPEL (UNITARIAN), WAKEFIELD

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches supports the Strangers into Citizens Campaign.

##### 5) FROM THE NORTHERN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches urges all Churches, Fellowships and their members and friends to, firstly do a personal and collective carbon footprint and secondly work out ways to reduce it.

##### 6) FROM SEVENTEEN INDIVIDUAL VOTING MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches:

- Welcomes the recent report 'Time to Talk: The Case for Diplomatic Solutions' on Iran issued by a coalition of humanitarian, medical, environmental, trade union, Muslim and Christian organisations warning of:
- the potentially highly dangerous consequences unleashed by an armed attack on Iran's nuclear installations,
  - the deaths of many innocent civilians in densely populated areas near these nuclear facilities,
  - heightened instability in the Middle East, with grave effects on the political situation in Iraq and neighbouring countries,
  - a disruption of the oil supply leading to a serious worldwide energy crisis and

consequent economic damage to many economies following rises in oil prices,

- environmental degradation caused by nuclear contamination, and
- an inflammation of the already grave dangers of terrorism throughout the region

This General Assembly, mindful of these dangers, calls on the British Government to pursue resolutely all available diplomatic options through the United Nations within the framework of international law and the UN Charter in order to seek a peaceful diplomatic solution of the crisis caused by nuclear proliferation and political instability in the Arabian Gulf and throughout the region.

##### 7) FROM THE UNITARIAN PEACE FELLOWSHIP

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches recognising the suffering caused to civilian populations around the world by the use and indiscriminate nature of cluster munitions, calls upon HM Government to support the call by the International Committee of the Red Cross for a new international humanitarian law agreement to specifically regulate cluster munitions and the implementation of the following three measures by all Nation States;

- To immediately end the use of cluster munitions;
- To prohibit the targeting of cluster munitions against any military objective located in a populated area;
- To eliminate stocks of cluster munitions and, pending their destruction, not to transfer such weapons to other countries.

Further that all Churches, Fellowships, Societies and individual Members of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches be encouraged to support the above by highlighting the issue through worship, talks and workshops during 2007, and to support the Unitarian Peace Fellowship Lent Appeal.

## PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

- 1) That the Report of the General Assembly Executive Committee and the Accounts of the General Assembly be received and adopted.
- 2) That Messrs Edmund Gibbs & Co (now Shaw Gibbs LLP) be reappointed as Auditors.
- 3) That Martin G West be appointed Honorary Treasurer for the year 2007-2008.
- 4) That the thanks of the Assembly be given to Martin G West for his services as Honorary Treasurer, and to district association and local officers for their invaluable services.
- 5) That greetings be sent to kindred churches and societies abroad.
- 6) That the thanks of the Assembly be given to the Reverend Brenda Catherall for preaching the Assembly Sermon.
- 7) That the thanks of the Assembly be given to the Reverend Geoffrey R Usher, worship leader for the Anniversary Service, and to all those who provided music and other content for the Anniversary Service and on other worship occasions during these meetings.
- 8) That the thanks of the Assembly be given to the members of the General Assembly Annual Meetings Panel and other volunteers for their inestimable help in organising the Meetings.
- 9) That the Reverend Celia Midgley be appointed President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches for the year 2007-2008
- 10) That Joyce Ashworth be appointed as Vice-President for the year 2007-2008.
- 11) That this seventy-ninth General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches expresses its gratitude for the services provided by David Dawson as President during the year 2006-2007.



Group photo of the 2007 Annual Meetings Participants

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Elected Members:** Jennifer Atkinson, Dawn Buckle, Steve Dick (until November 2006), Lis Dyson-Jones (from January 2007), Dot Hewerdine, Neville Kenyon, Rev Dr Ann Peart, Sir Peter Soulsby MP (Convenor) and Rev Bob Wightman.

**Appointed Member:** Martin West (Honorary Treasurer)

**Secretary:** the Rev Steve Dick (Chief Executive, from April 2007), Jeffrey Teagle (General Secretary, until April 2007)

Less than a year old itself, 2006-2007 was notable for the number of transitions that the General Assembly Executive Committee (EC) either experienced or initiated. The sum effect of this collection of changes is likely to have a positive impact on the work of the General Assembly for many years to come.

Nearly the first item of business at the first meeting held during this reporting period (27 October 2006) was the decision to appoint the Rev Steve Dick as the GA Chief Executive succeeding Jeffrey Teagle, the last in a long line of General Secretaries.

Steve assumed responsibilities from Jeffrey at the 2007 Annual Meetings in Hatfield midway through the financial year and much of the EC's meeting time during this year was devoted to preparation for this historic transition.

Increased support was given to the project 'Ministry for All Congregations' which was transformed into "future ministry" and is reported on elsewhere here by its new panel. This initiative, which had its birth in the General Secretary's urge to support congregations not able to afford ministry, is likely now to have a constructive and significant impact on the shape of all Unitarian and Free Christian ministry in the United Kingdom.

A major administrative task that stretched across this financial year was the appointment of new members of the GA Commissions and associated Panels. This was the first time this task had been

undertaken since the Commission structure was initially introduced and it had been delayed a year to give the new EC an opportunity to find some of its feet. It was further complicated by the significant and useful decision to split the Outreach and Communication Commission into the Communications and the Faith & Public Issues Commissions.

As with many new processes, there were some teething problems relating to the process of volunteering and the realignment and decommissioning of panels. The EC apologises to all persons affected by this and it has learned from the experience how to improve the process during the next round. However, the EC is convinced the GA is now served by a top-notch group of commissions and panels.

The membership of the EC itself changed during the year as Steve stepped down mid-term to enable a new member to join as soon as practical. Lis Dyson-Jones was the unanimous choice of the current membership to fill the vacancy and she has already proved to be an asset to the EC, not least because of her involvement in and knowledge of the congregations in Wales.



New EC Member, Lis Dyson-Jones

The meeting style of the EC changed partway during the year with a conscious decision to make nearly all of its gatherings 24 hour sessions based on evidence of increased effectiveness. Eight meetings of the EC were held during the current period including 27 October 2006, 24 November 2006, 26-27 January 2007, 8-9 March 2007 at Great Hucklow, 13 April 2007, 11 May 2007, 12-13 July 2007 and 7-8 September 2007.

One major programme initiative stewarded by the EC during the year was the completion of the development of the Consistent Identity scheme launched by its designer Mark Howard at the 2007 Annual Meetings in Hatfield. Mark was also the designer for the re-vamped GA website that went live after the Hatfield meetings. Both these projects required extraordinary expense that was made possible with funding from the Millennium Fund.

Both projects are also ongoing as various parts of the GA embrace the Consistent Identity principles in their own printed and display materials; and as preparation is underway for further enhancements of the website.

A more recent communications initiative organised by the EC was the appointment of James Corrigan as Communications Consultant in June of 2007. Although that appointment has now come to an end, the EC is grateful to him for his assistance and looks forward to building on the work he has begun.

Another particular success has been the arrangement by which each District Association has a link member of the EC who makes regular visits and maintains continuing contact. Some Districts have reported they feel they now receive more GA information than when they had a member of the previous GA Council. The EC link scheme was augmented during 2007 with a series of regional Road Shows to provide even more opportunities for EC accountability.

Growth was also a continuing focus of the EC framed around statistical information the General Secretary had compiled of the actual growth of Unitarian and Free Christian

congregations as compared to similar data from other denominations. Much was made of this at the 2007 meetings and a product of these discussions will be the special EC Growth Day at the 2008 Annual Meetings again in Hatfield.

Space does not permit discussion here of the many ways in which the EC and the GA staff working on the EC's behalf have continued to look after the ongoing and more routine needs of members congregations including initiatives such as the distribution of a book on the new fire risk assessment provisions to all congregations in December of 2006. It takes more than sixty pages of text to record the minutes of all of the EC meetings during this financial year.

The EC would be remiss though to close this report without expressing publicly its thanks and appreciation to each and every member of the GA staff who served the EC and the larger GA so faithfully during this financial year including now retired General Secretary Jeff Teagle, and new Chief Executive (the Rev) Steve Dick; Programme Staff members the Rev Jane Barraclough, Howard Hague, the Rev John Harley (Youth Officer) and Peter Teets (the CE's Personal Assistant during this period); and the Operations Staff including Andrew Mason (Operations Manager), Sonia Buckles, John Crosskey and Elizabeth Obe.

Inevitably there have already been further developments since the end of the financial year and the EC is keen to discuss the results of its continuing medium and long-term strategy to secure our Unitarian and Free Christian Future. The EC wants to know what you think and so strategy will form the major basis of the EC verbal report at the 2008 Meetings in Hatfield. It hopes many of you will be able to be present to be in dialogue with the EC as the embodiment of the EC's commitment to work collaboratively.

### ANNUAL MEETINGS PANEL

**Chair:** Louise Rogers (until September 2007), Neville Kenyon (from September 2007)

**Secretary:** Andrew Mason

**Members:** Anne Ashley, Jen Atkinson (from September 2007), Rev Alex Bradley (from January 2007), Sue Cooper (from September 2007), Rev Steve Dick, Rob Fincham, Neville Kenyon, Louise Rogers (until 2007), Martin West

**Remit:** The Panel's remit was changed to the following in late 2007:

1. To support and assist the GA Staff in locating and arranging sites for Annual Meetings of the General Assembly.
2. To review all aspects of the Annual Meetings and to make suggestions to the GA Staff for possible improvements and new programmes.
3. To support and assist the GA Staff at the Annual Meetings in coordinating those activities usually undertaken by volunteers.
4. To undertake a continuing programme of evaluation of aspects of the Annual Meetings by participants and other members of the Unitarian community and to ensure the GA Staff and Executive Committee are provided with the results.

**Activity in 2006/7:** Further development in improving the Stalls areas; exploring reduction in business time to permit alternative issues; promoting workshops at the Meetings; and looking at future venues.

**Aims for 2007/8:** Expand knowledge of possible future venues; enable earlier booking of venues; continue to run questionnaires to garner participants' views of the Annual Meetings.

### FUNDING DEVELOPMENT PANEL

**Chair:** Neville Kenyon

**Members:** Neville Kenyon, Louise Rogers, Rosemary Ruston, Martin West

**In attendance:** Andrew Mason (from February 2007)

**Remit:** To increase live giving to the General Assembly.

**Activity in 2006/7:** The Community Appeal is a yearly fundraising initiative running for a calendar year. In 2007 it was launched with a leaflet sent out to all congregations.

The Big Quiz was launched in February 2007 a little later than anticipated. It raised £550 which was matched by the Bowland Trust.

A Summary of the Annual Report was prepared for the 2007 Annual Meeting. This was well-received.

A session was delivered on fundraising to provide further ideas for the fundraising guidelines which had been produced in draft. The Support for Organisational Leadership guidelines, 'Help in at Hand' removed the need for these separate guidelines. There was an Associate Members reception held at the Annual Meetings.

A new legacy leaflet was being drafted.

The Associate Membership newsletter was redesigned – twice: and increased from two to four to eight pages in length.

The total raised from the Community Appeal during the reporting period for 2006/7 was £5,982 and £15,687 from Associate Membership subscriptions (including tax relief).

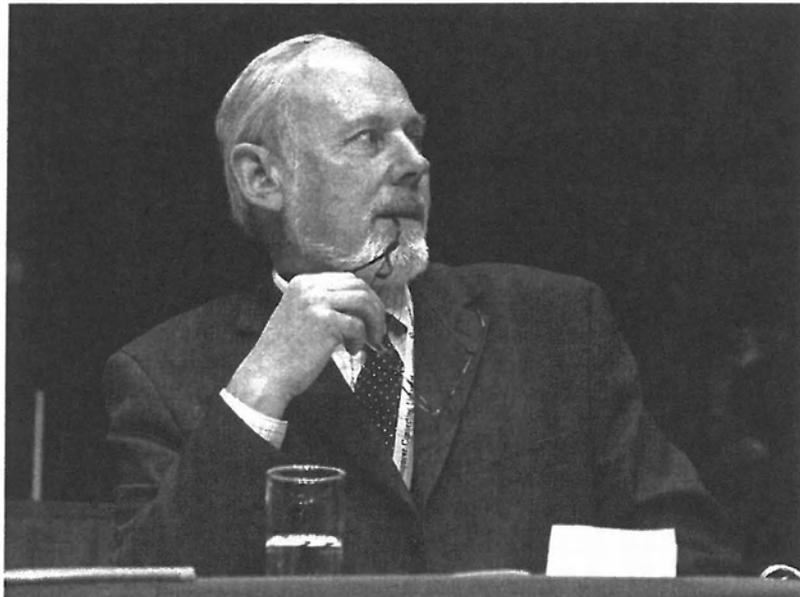
**Aims for 2007/8:**

- To raise £33,500.
- To complete and distribute the new legacy leaflet.
- To continue to raise the profile of GA weekend.
- To survey Associate Members to help to improve services to them.
- To publish and release another quiz before the end of 2007.



*New GA Chief Executive, the Rev Steve Dick (Left)*

*Retiring GA General Secretary, Jeffrey Teagle (Below)*



The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Actual Twelve Months to 30th September 2007

**Income**

	Actual 12 months to 30.09.07	Actual Year to 30.09.06	Budget Year to 30.09.07	Budget Year to 30.09.08
Legacies	0	29,680	10,000	10,000
Associate Membership	15,739	17,021	18,500	16,500
Subscriptions	5,063	4,900	4,500	5,000
Congregational Contributions	81,648	78,844	82,000	84,000
Community Appeal	5,982	12,681	15,000	6,000
Special Collections	5,338	3,943	4,000	5,500
Dividends	77,821	64,561	68,000	75,000
B&FUA	26,573	24,601	22,000	27,000
Essex Hall Mgmt Fee	18,750	15,000	15,000	20,000
Essex Hall (In kind)	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
B&FUA Management Fee	3,489	3,462	2,000	3,650
Inquirer Accountancy Fee	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Speed Trust Mgmt Fee	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Bowland Trust	136,585	153,747	130,000	141,000
Sundry Donations	6,238	3,685	2,000	6,000
Annual Meetings	(8,670)	0	0	(4,000)
Youth Officer Grant (Chalice Appeal etc)	22,500	20,739	22,500	22,500
Rent	1,619	1,026	0	1,000
Payroll Calculation Service	2,721	2,300	3,000	2,750
Sales	1,730	4,145	4,000	4,000
Exceptional items	20,017	3,038		
Allocation for future Youth Officer Grants		(40,000)		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>476,843</b>	<b>457,073</b>	<b>456,200</b>	<b>479,600</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Programme Activity (See Over)	217,845	183,055	198,815	228,445
Administration Costs (See Over)	258,692	236,046	245,500	251,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>476,537</b>	<b>419,101</b>	<b>444,315</b>	<b>479,445</b>
<b>Net Incoming Resources</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>37,972</b>	<b>11,885</b>	<b>155</b>

The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Actual Twelve Months to 30th September 2007

Expenditure	Actual 12 months to 30.09.07	Actual Year to 30.09.06	Budget Year to 30.09.07	Budget Year to 30.09.08
GA Council	0	1,238	0	0
Cost of EGM	0	3,246	0	0
	0	4,484	0	0
Administration Commission/Executive Committee				
Commission Expenses	15,855	6,597	6,500	15,000
Grants Payable - IARF etc	11,114	4,742	5,000	10,000
Fund Raising Panel	2,505	11,795	2,000	2,000
Review and Support	780			
	30,254	23,134	13,500	27,000
Education and Training Commission				
Commission Expenses	964	1,071	1,000	1,500
JUEG Panel	519	550	1,000	1,600
Groups Working Well Panel	1,644	0	2,000	2,000
Hucklow Summer School Panel	1,587	1,534	2,000	2,500
RE Publications Panel	0	67	500	500
RE Coordinators Panel	0	0	500	500
Sunday School Income	(759)	(675)	(385)	(675)
Organisational Leadership Panel	2,168	0	5,000	3,000
Engagement Support Panel	1,071	27	2,000	2,000
Chalice Award Panel	158	0	500	500
	7,352	2,574	14,115	13,425
Denominational Support Commission				
Commission Expenses	2,665	811	1,250	6,000
Programmes	4,758	1,452	5,000	6,000
Worship Panel	753	542	1,000	1,500
Youth Panel	405	1,004	2,000	2,000
Hymn Book Panel	74	250	400	800
Buildings Advisory Panel	0	0	0	2,000
District Association Panel	0	0	0	2,000
Welsh Committee	2,750	3,109	3,000	3,500
	11,405	7,168	12,650	23,800
Ministry Commission				
Commission Expenses	812	1,429	1,750	1,750
Programmes	3,590	850	4,250	4,250
Interview Panel	1,932	1,903	2,500	2,500
	6,334	4,182	8,500	8,500
Communications Commission				
Commission Expenses	3,449	3,718	3,600	4,000
Publication Panel	142	558	1,000	1,000
Information Panel	8,203	2,269	350	350
Programmes	16,173	12,078	7,528	7,500
	27,967	18,623	12,478	12,850
Faith and Public Issues Commission				
Commission Expenses	547	1,702	2,372	2,500
Ecumenical Panel	185	351	350	350
Interfaith Panel	472	404	500	520
Penal Affairs Panel	442	545	350	500
Social Responsibility Panel	375	520	1,000	1,000
	2,021	3,522	4,572	4,870
Commission Sub-Total	85,333	63,687	65,815	90,445
Non Commission Specific Programme Expenditure				
Inquirer Grant	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Salaries to Programme Work	129,512	116,368	130,000	135,000
<b>TOTAL PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>217,845</b>	<b>183,055</b>	<b>198,815</b>	<b>228,445</b>
General Administration				
Salaries, Pensions, etc.	129,512	116,368	130,000	135,000
Ex Gratia Payments	12,000	7,000	0	0
Accommodation (In kind)	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Officers Travel & Expenses	4,185	2,246	4,000	4,000
Office Expenses	34,702	33,146	30,000	30,000
Staff Training	1,593	0	1,500	1,500
Audit	5,980	6,240	6,000	6,000
Investment Management Fees	4,750	5,536	6,000	6,000
Legal Fees	4,998	4,622	5,000	5,000
Insurances	4,193	3,965	4,000	4,000
Minister's House Repairs	0	0	1,000	1,000
Irrecoverable VAT	6,780	6,923	8,000	8,500
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>258,692</b>	<b>236,046</b>	<b>245,500</b>	<b>251,000</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>476,537</b>	<b>419,101</b>	<b>444,315</b>	<b>479,445</b>

The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Report on the Expenses of holding the 2007 Annual Meetings

	Income	Expenditure	Balance
Accommodation and Fees	68,052	88,982	(20,930)
Conference Fees	17,369		17,369
Donations to Meetings	6,888		6,888
Printing		1,192	(1,192)
Group Registration	930		930
Overpayment of Fees	131		131
Pre-AGM Expenses		1,464	(1,464)
Room Hire and Audio Visual		4,340	(4,340)
Speakers & Fees		1,005	(1,005)
Receptions and Sundries		4,312	(4,312)
Travel		1,192	(1,192)
Van Hire		332	(332)
Youth Honoraria & Expenses		1,099	(1,099)
Surplus from 2006	1,878		1,878
		0	0
	<u>95,248</u>	<u>103,918</u>	<u>(8,670)</u>

### COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

**Chair:** Dianne Bennett (from April 2007), Martin Gienke (until April 2007).

**Staff Support:** Rev Steve Dick, Howard Hague

**Members:** Marion Baker (from April 2007), Dianne Bennett (from April 2007), Janet Briggs (until April 2007), Jim Corrigan (from April 2007), Janet Eldred (from April 2007), Martin Gienke (until April 2007), Neville Kenyon (from April 2007), Tony Rees (until April 2007), Kate Taylor (from April 2007), Howard Wilkins (until April 2007).

#### Activities

The start of the new triennial brought a newly formed Communication Commission (CC), which took on part of the remit of the old Outreach and Communication Commission (OCC). Continuity from the sterling work of the previous commission has been enabled by the presence of two members of the old OCC, and we have been equally fortunate to have recruited several new members, all of whom have quickly formed into an effective, enthusiastic and hard-working group.

A number of projects have been identified. These are at various stages of planning and implementation.

#### Website

The new GA website was launched at the 2007 annual meetings and has been welcomed as a bold and refreshing vehicle for communication with members and the wider world alike. The staff at Essex Hall, and Jane Blackall in particular, have worked hard with input from members and commissions to address initial teething problems and make the site a live and developing medium. The CC has been working with the EC to progress to the next phase, identifying and commissioning additional functionality and content.

#### Consistent Identity

Linked closely to work on the website, a key focus for the CC has been promoting the implementation of the consistent identity. The new chalice logo, in various formats, is available for download via the GA website, as are various Word and PowerPoint templates,

together with guidance on using these resources. We have been extremely pleased with the response to the notice board project, which makes available to congregations funding to support new notice boards designed in line with the consistent identity. Ideas for future projects are always welcome!

Upper Chapel Sheffield volunteered to act as a pilot site for implementation of the consistent identity and will report back at the annual meetings.

#### Leaflets

Following on from the success of the revised *A Faith Worth Thinking About*, the first leaflet to be produced in the new style, a full review of the available leaflets has been undertaken. As a result of this a number of titles have been prioritised for revision/reprinting, including the series on 'rites of passage'. The production of these leaflets will contribute to raising awareness of our profile. The commission is grateful to those authors who give of their time to revise and provide content for publications.

#### Publicity and promotional activities

The CC has been pleased to be able to benefit from the services of Jim Corrigan, Communication Consultant to the GA (although this did unfortunately mean that Jim could no longer serve as a member of the commission). A number of articles have appeared in the national press and on national websites with wide audiences, thus contributing further to the important task of raising awareness of our movement. The CC has also continued to support the Macclesfield congregation in their publicity project.

Advertising campaigns continue to bring a significant number of enquiries to Essex Hall, managed ably by the hard-working staff. The way such enquiries are responded to has been reviewed, and local congregations and groups are being encouraged to get involved via the 'meet a local Unitarian' scheme.

New chalice badges have proved extremely popular, as have the newly designed car window stickers! Ideas for further merchandise continue to be explored.

### LINDSEY PRESS PANEL (FORMERLY PUBLICATIONS PANEL)

**Convenor:** Kate Taylor

**Members:** Rev Jane Barraclough, George Chryssides (until Feb 2007), Kay Millard, Rev Don Phillips, (until Feb 2007), Catherine Robinson, Kate Taylor.

The Panel met three times during 2008-7 but members continued to undertake substantial work outside the meetings.

We are sorry that George Chryssides (who has been a very active member and editor since our inception) and the Rev Don Phillips (who has also given sterling worth) have had to withdraw from the Panel.

The year saw the publication of the Rev Dr Vernon Marshall's book, *The Larger View: Unitarians and World Religions* (in April 2007). This was the subject of an extensive press release.

The (immense) task of negotiating copyright permissions for Stephen Lingwood's collection of seminal Unitarian writings has fallen to Catherine Robinson and work on this is making steady progress.

A number of other projects, including a book of Alternative Services, are under consideration and we look forward, in 2007-8, to being joined by David Dawson and Margaret Hamer.



Participants at the 2007 Annual Meetings

### DENOMINATIONAL SUPPORT COMMISSION

**Chair:** Rev Celia Midgley (until April 07),  
Dot Hewerdine (from April 07)

**Secretary:** Rev Jane Barraclough, Rev  
Steve Dick, Howard Hague

**Members:** Joyce Ashworth (from April 07),  
Lis Dyson-Jones, Dorothy Hewerdine, Rev  
Cen Llwyd, Rev Celia Midgley, Jeffrey  
Teagle, (until April 2007).

**Mission Statement:** *The mission of the DSC is to give practical support, responsive and pro-active, which enables our congregations to flourish in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

**1. Meetings:** The Commission met 5 times during the year in February, June, July, September, and November. The July meeting was a 2-day residential workshop during which the Commission reviewed its past work and planned for the new triennial. The aims and objectives for the next three years took into consideration the Executive Committee's strategic priorities and the relevant issues raised in the Executive Committee's Surgery room held during the Annual Meetings in Hatfield.

Sincere appreciation is given to those members of Panels serving during the last Triennial for the excellent achievements made which have laid strong foundations for our future work. We welcome the newly formed Panels and are delighted by the enthusiasm shown in response to our aims for the next three years.

During the year, the Executive Committee chose to take the 'future ministry' Panel (formerly Ministry for all Congregations) as a direct reporting Panel in view of the importance of this project. Three members of the DSC (Joyce Ashworth, Lis Dyson-Jones and Dot Hewerdine) continue as members of this Panel.

**2. Collaboration:** A major new initiative sprang from issues about prejudice raised in the Executive Committee's Surgery room in 2007. This has developed into a joint project with the Faith and Public Issues Commission currently entitled "Hospitality." The DSC continues to collaborate also with the

Education and Training Commission through the work of Lis Dyson-Jones as a member of the Support for Organisational Leadership Panel.

A further issue about support for young adults was raised by members of BUYAN (British and Irish Unitarian Young Adult Network). The DSC considered this issue alongside concerns expressed about the need for support for people with young families and people living on low incomes, or reliant on State Benefits as well as including older retired members. The DSC is committed to exploring issues of 'generational gaps' in the General Assembly's support for members.

**3. District Support:** Following the cancellation of the District Connections weekend in June 2007, the Executive Committee asked the DSC to look at the issue of District Support. It is planned to set up a District Associations' Panel to explore the issue and make recommendations. Our thanks are given to those who have worked on the District Connections weekends and we look forward to reporting further action during 2008.

**4. Welsh Department:** The Commission welcomed Rev Eric Jones to its meeting in November 2007. Recommendations from that meeting have been made to the Executive Committee relating to a number of ways of supporting our Welsh communities. The DSC also discussed the need to find a successor to Rev Eric Jones when he steps down from his role as Honorary Secretary to the Department.

**5. Buildings:** The Buildings Advisory Panel continues to offer the services of its consultants on Historic Buildings matters. Sincere thanks are due to Judy and Graham Hague who have given tirelessly of their time and expertise in the past and who will continue as consultants. The Panel will be pro-active in working with any community needing advice on buildings and will collaborate with the Support for Organisational Leadership Panel on keeping up to date the information about buildings including legal and health & safety issues.

**6. Unitarian Communities:** The Commission has debated at length the support needed for Congregations, Fellowships and other Unitarian Communities including the potential for new-start Unitarian communities. The plans for the new triennial are ambitious and have been supported and encouraged by the Executive Committee. Our Panels have been in place since September 2007 and are already working hard. We look forward to sharing the results of this work throughout 2008.

### CONGREGATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

**Secretary:** Joyce Ashworth

During the year five applications for assessment have been received from congregations/fellowships. Four of these are currently ongoing and the other is still at the planning stage. A training session for facilitators will take place early in May and it is envisaged that this will result in a doubling of the number of facilitators currently involved in the process, hopefully giving greater flexibility and a reduction in waiting time.

CAP involves detailed consultation with congregations in needs assessment and the joint planning of suitable strategies to boost morale and better face the future.

### HYMNBOOK WORKING GROUP

**Secretary:** Rev Andrew Hill

**Members:** David Dawson, Rev Andrew Hill, Alan Myerscough, Peter Sampson, Wyn Simister, Kate Taylor.

**1.** We have reached the final stages of the 'Sing Your Faith!' hymn book project and will be bringing 'mock ups' (but not the final product) to the 2008 General Assembly meetings. Text and music is all being set in house but final printing pages won't be produced until we have completed the process of obtaining copyright permissions. We are reluctant to project a completion date for this process but we'd like it (with definitely no promises!) to be 2009.

**2.** 'Sing Your Faith!' will be a collection of about 225 hymn texts all written in the 20th and 21st centuries. The music will not be confined to those centuries but will cover a wide variety of musical styles. The book will be a supplement to both Hymns for Living and to Hymns of Faith and Freedom and no hymns from either of these books are included. However a selection has been included from more recent Unitarian and Unitarian Universalist hymn books 'Let us Sing' (1994), 'Singing the Living Tradition' (1993), 'Singing the Journey' (2005) and 'May This Light Shine' (2006). Other hymns and songs have been gathered from a wide variety of contemporary hymns books and other sources. Others are original submissions to the project.

**3.** The book will have a purple cover - not because purple is the favourite colour of the members of the Hymn Book Group! - but for ease of identification. Other hymn books used in our churches are red, green, pink and grey.

**4.** For printing purposes we needed to gather some information about how many copies of 'Sing Your Faith!' congregations were likely to purchase. A recent inquiry letter to congregations (included in a GA send out) brought in (at 3 October 2007) 40 replies including 4 'nos', 4 'wait and sees' with the remaining 32 'yes'.

### WORSHIP PANEL

**Convenor:** Rev Celia Midgley (until June 2007), Rev Joy Croft (from June 2007)

**Secretary:** Rev Joy Croft (until June 2007),  
Adrienne Wilson (from June 2007)

**Members:** Rev Joy Croft, David Dawson, Martin Gienke, Rev Linda Hart (from June 2007) Rev Celia Midgley (to June 2007), Barbara Smith (from June 2007), Adrienne Wilson (from June 2007).

### 1. Changes

Celia Midgley, our convenor for the last triennium, left the panel in June, having served the Panel / Committee / Subcommittee almost from its inception. Knowing how greatly our work has benefited

from her deep sense of its purposes and practices as well as her ongoing commitment to it, we give her our warm thanks.

Joy Croft, previously secretary, is now convenor; Adrienne Wilson is now secretary.

### 2. MEETINGS

Again this year, we met three times. Three guests attended our open meeting in London in October, and contributed much. Sadly no non-member attended the second one which we offered, in Manchester.

### 3. AT THE 2007 ANNUAL MEETINGS

As usual, we arranged three daily worship events including a communion service, holding the first day's service at lunchtime and thereby creating a quiet interlude in the main auditorium's otherwise continuous activity. There were also opening reflections to open the three morning business sessions. We find these brief in-gatherings a good platform to introduce student ministers to the denomination.

Nicholas Gibson's stimulating lecture on "Head and Heart in Worship" proved an effective departure from the Panel's customary G.A. workshop. Dr. Gibson co-ordinates the Psychology and Religion Research Group at Cambridge University.

Members of the Watford Fellowship designed an appealing multi-sensory Quiet Room, easily accessible from the main meeting areas.

### 4. PUBLICATIONS

*With Heart and Mind*, edited by David Dawson, appeared on schedule at the Annual Meetings and has been widely used in services since then. Its forty-two diverse reflections have also proved effective prompts for discussion groups.

**Updated Worship Packs** Work continued on these with arrangements in place to circulate them soon both electronically and on paper.

**Unitarian Anniversaries** Recognising the time required to prepare service packs to mark anniversaries, we are engaged in long term planning. Next in the pipeline is Theophilus Lindsey's bicentenary late in 2008. We welcome suggestions of other occasions to include.

### 5. LOOKING FORWARD

The Worship Panel and its predecessors have worked in a similar way for some thirty-five years now: monitoring quality and change in Unitarian worship and providing worship activities, workshops and materials. In that time, we recognise, our denomination has changed, as have ways of communicating and accessing information. Consequently we have begun a consultation with Unitarians to ensure we are filling current needs in the best ways. This process will include a meeting at the 2008 Annual Meetings. We welcome your views there and elsewhere.



*Dr Nicholas Gibson offering a lecture for the Worship Panel at the 2007 Meetings*

### YOUTH PANEL

**Chair:** Cathie Masztalerz

**Minutes Secretary:** Andrew Mason

**Members:** Freda Laverick, Cathie Masztalerz, Louise Shatliff, Richard Whitham, Howard Wilkins, Rev John Harley (GA Youth Coordinator).

### Mission Statement

*The Youth Panel's aim is to develop and sustain a strong network of young people within our denomination and to ensure an arena for the presentation of the views and opinions of young people with a view to future membership of the denomination.*

*We have a commitment to running challenging events for young people that are*

safe, accessible, enjoyable and run in a professional manner with a Unitarian and Free Christian ethos at their core.

The panel continued its work in line with the above mission statement.

Possibly the highlight in 2007 for youth programme leaders was the 'Youth Leader's Conference', a weekend in September at Hucklow where leaders could share good practice, ideas, concerns and clarify safeguarding issues. We are grateful to the Wood Green Trust and the Unitarian Millennium Panel for providing generous funds towards this conference. It was attended by 21 leaders and it is hoped the links they have forged will ensure that volunteers work together closely in delivering the youth programme. Many have signed up

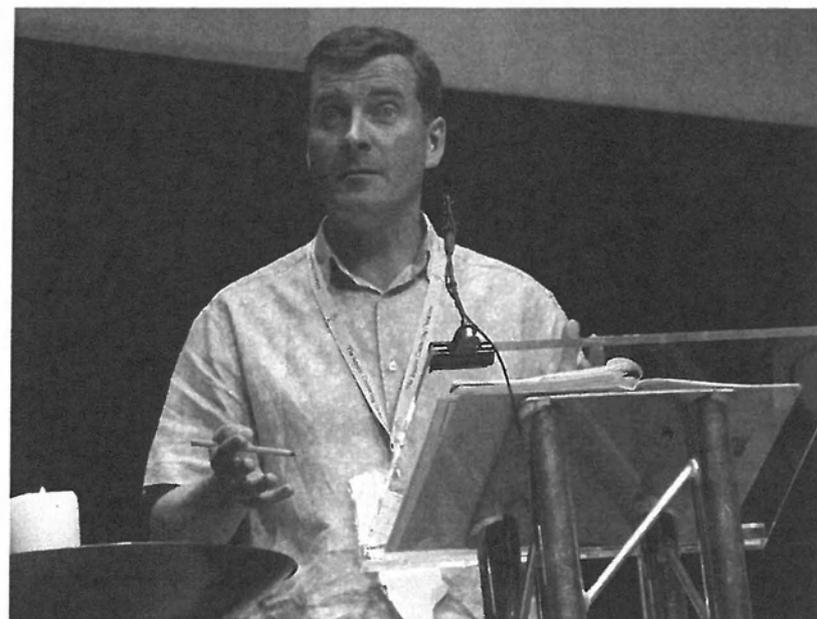
with Facebook in order to share activities and challenges.

One highlight for our young people was 'Five Days Away' in August – attended by 25 youngsters aged 11-16 – this was a very encouraging attendance

During 2007 John Harley visited UCM, YUU, Merseyside District and Cefn Coed Chapel to encourage awareness of the needs of young people in our communities.

New initiatives include a London-based event for teenagers at the Tate Modern and the possibility of a new leaflet about the youth programme.

Many thanks to all our dedicated leaders who make the youth programme a reality.



*The GA Youth Officer, Rev John Harley, reports on the group's activities*

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION

**Chair:** Dawn Buckle

**Staff Support:** Rev Steve Dick, Howard Hague

**Members:** Dawn Buckle, Rev John Harley (ex officio), Joan Hill, Rev Lindy Latham (Rev Jean McNeile, Margaret Robinson

**Mission Statement:** *To provide a framework for education and training within the Unitarian movement which will enhance the development of people of all ages as both individuals and Unitarians.*

The Education and Training Commission has had a most satisfactory year with all Panels providing worthwhile support for congregations, districts and individuals within the Unitarian and Free Christian community. Our connection with youth work in the community continues with the Youth Officer, the Rev John Harley, working closely with the Commission and particularly, with two of its Panels. The Commission is grateful for generous funding from the Executive Committee, made possible by the overall improved financial situation, due to the matching of live-giving by the Bowland Trust. The Commission is also grateful for the efficient secretarial services of Howard Hague from the Essex Hall staff. Here are some highlights from the year

Perhaps the most outstanding achievement is the publication of a handbook by the Support for Organisational Leadership Panel, for trustees and officers of congregations, and districts – 'Help is at Hand.' The Handbook, which was previewed at the GA Annual Meetings 2006, was well received at the two major launches in London and Manchester. The Panel is following these up with 'mini-launches' in individual districts and at the 2007 GA Annual Meetings. Attending one of these events is the only way that congregations can obtain their copy, currently. But the panel will ensure that all congregations receive the Handbook in the near future. The Handbook came to fruition so quickly due largely to the work of panel member Ken Johnson to whom the Commission owe a debt of gratitude.

The Commission has long wanted to see the re-establishment of district Religious Education Co-ordinators in all districts. Thanks to the efforts of Margaret Robinson this came nearer to being achieved following a meeting at the GA Meetings of 2006. Margaret, as chair, Jean Mason and the Rev Doctor Vernon Marshall now form the Religious Education Co-ordinators Panel. They organised a successful conference at the Nightingale Centre in the autumn and are working towards re-establishing a Religious Education Co-ordinators network.

The Groups Working Well Panel was a fledgling Panel at last year's Annual Meetings but has now assumed its full plumage with a course for student ministers which students from both Manchester, where the course was held, and Oxford greatly appreciated. A follow-up is planned for February 2008 and there is the intention to make such a course a permanent feature of all ministerial training in the future. Both participants and Panel learned a lot from the district pilot scheme heralded in the annual report last year. An improved version of the course is now being promoted within districts.

Other Panels have had their successes too. The Chalice Award Panel is benefiting from its additional members and has produced six new modules for use with young people in churches and Sunday schools. These are being promoted at the GA Annual Meetings. More young people in Junior Churches and Sunday Schools in England and Scotland have received green, bronze and silver certificates.

The Engagement Support Panel has continued its work, through publicity in the national Unitarian press, its regional group meetings and has held two very successful training courses in London and York.

The theme of Hucklow Summer School 2007 was 'of the moment' focussing, as it did, on shared ministry. The notion of having five theme speakers, a different one each day, was innovative and personified the theme most effectively. The Panel are to be congratulated on a dynamic week that was appreciated by over 40 Unitarian adults and three children.

Following a successful regional Worship Studies Course, Foundation Step in the North West the Joined Up Education Panel has its largest number of students to date, following the Preliminary Step of the course. The Administrator, Liz Shaw and the Tutors, the Rev Ernest Baker, the Rev Alex Bradley and the Rev Dr Vernon Marshall, find themselves working hard to keep up with the enthusiastic students. Guidelines have been produced to assist districts to provide the Foundation Step themselves.

There have been no new Religious Education publications this year, although the adult courses produced three or four years ago continue to sell well. Helen Parsons, who has co-ordinated RE Publications since the establishment of the Commission, has had to step down due to ill-health. The Commission sincerely thank Helen for all her work. They have decided to hold this Panel in abeyance for the time being and deal with publications themselves.

Almost 30 dedicated volunteers serve on the Commission and its Panels putting in additional hard work alongside whatever else they do locally and nationally, with the object of assisting the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches to flourish and to grow. This report is one way in which their work is appreciated.



*Celebrating Easter / Spring at the Commission's Annual Meetings slot*

### CHALICE AWARD PANEL

**Convenor:** Joan Hill

**Secretary:** Rev Jean McNeile

**Members:** Joan Hill, Sue Hodgson, Rev Jean McNeile, Rev John Harley

This year has been productive. The panel prepared and ran an intergenerational workshop called "Light Up Your Spring Chalice", for the General Assembly Meetings 2007. We used practical activities from the Chalice Award Scheme, introduced a story bag, ideas for occasional child visitors and closed with a sharing ritual. The workshop was well-attended and positive networking commenced with some of the participants. Certificates for Green, Silver and Bronze levels have been presented at special services in several churches.

Six new modules entitled 'The Unitarian Journey', 'Celebrations', 'The World of Work', 'World Religions', 'Diversity', and 'Holidays' are almost completed and a new leaflet about the Award Scheme should also be available in time for the 2008 GA Annual Meetings. Members of the panel are to support the Education and Training Commission stall again to display the new modules and offer advice and help to all who work with children in their congregations and fellowships.

### ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT PANEL

**Convenor:** Rev Margaret Kirk

**Secretary:** Dr Jane Blackall

**Members:** Joyce Ashworth, Dr Jane Blackall, Rev Margaret Kirk, Rev Lindy Latham, Rev Jim Robinson.

### Mission Statement

*To offer ministers and lay persons the skills and practices to enable them to facilitate groups/communities that live out the relationship of right relationship with each other and with God.*

### Scope of Remit:

To provide training and give support to those facilitating Engagement Groups within the Unitarian and Free Christian community and to promote the value of Engagement groups within congregations and fellowships.

### Meetings

There have been 3 meetings held in October, March and July. The evolving process of Engagement groups in our various communities has provided the panel with an opportunity to reflect upon the distinctive meaning of Engagement. This has led to a strengthening of our sense of the purpose of Engagement as a spiritual activity which springs from the community and feeds back into it.

### Support and Information

Members of the Engagement Support Panel visited, by invitation, individual Unitarian and Free Christian Churches to discuss the principles of Engagement Groups and Small Group Ministry. On-going support groups for facilitators of Engagement Groups are sponsored – one in the north and one in the south.

### Training Sessions

Following a number of requests for Engagement facilitation training, it was decided at the July meeting that we would run two sessions in Autumn 2007 based in the north and the south. Preliminary ideas about structure and content for these were discussed at our July meeting. (These were attended by nearly 30 interested people.)

### Inquirer Stories

We have continued to encourage groups to submit articles to the Inquirer under the heading 'Developing Engagement' with the purpose of illustrating the diversity of engagement practice.

### Revision of Engagement Support Resource pack

Jane Blackall undertook to re-format the document and begin updating the text in readiness for the GA meetings in April. It was suggested that as the pack is rather weighty we should consider producing a leaflet on 'Unitarians and Engagement Groups'. Lindy Latham and Jane Blackall agreed to work on this in Autumn 2007.

### E-Engagement Group

The idea for this originated from Joan Wilkinson (NUF). She and Jane Blackall discussed approaches to this and a two-hour session was allocated at Hucklow Summer School to explore possibilities. A trial of the e-group began in September 2007.

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### GROUPS WORKING WELL PANEL

**Chair:** Dawn Buckle

**Members:** Dawn Buckle, Rev Michael Dadson, Dot Hewerdine, Rev Margaret Kirk, Rev Lindy Latham (until March 2007), Rev David Shaw

The highlight of the year was the four-day Group Facilitation Course at Luther King House, Manchester, for seven students then in ministerial training or pre-training. A bi-product of the course was the opportunity for students from Unitarian College Manchester and Harris Manchester College, Oxford to work together. This was much appreciated by the students. There were many peak experiences during the course and students took away with them a realisation of the relevance of this kind of work to their future ministries. The intention is to make such a course a permanent feature of all ministerial training in the future.

Recently appointed ministers were specially invited to the course but in the event none were able to attend. This is of some concern to the Panel. Maybe the Panel did not make the course publicity sufficiently enticing or maybe ministers did not see the value of such a course or maybe they were so hard pressed that they had no time for professional development. A follow-up course is planned for the previous participants in February 2008. The Panel is exploring the possibility of offering a course at the Ministerial Fellowship annual meeting in the near future.

The panel also facilitated a district pilot scheme for congregational representatives of the Yorkshire Union and the Northern Association in Bradford. For those who stayed the course that was spread out over 3 Saturdays at monthly intervals, it proved very successful. But lessons were learned by the

panel with regard to expectations of the students' commitment and the appropriate use of co-facilitation. A new, improved course is now available under the working title 'Nurturing Communities'. Several districts have expressed interest and any other officers of districts who would like to know more, should make contact with members of the Panel.

The Panel believe that understanding how to work together well, in our congregations and other Unitarian groups, nurturing our communities, is an essential element of growth and development.

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### HUCKLOW SUMMER SCHOOL PANEL

**Members:** Patricia Walker-Hesson (Dean), Jane Blackall, Rev Michael Dadson (until August 2007), Maggie Davies (from August 2007), Margaret Hamer (until October 2007), Rev Lindy Latham.

The Hucklow Summer School Panel is committed to:

- providing high quality workshops, courses, engagement groups, worship, fellowship and fun.
- enabling participants to promote and facilitate the development of a variety of religious education activities in their own communities.
- encouraging participants in their own personal spiritual journey.
- supporting the development of religious education "from cradle to grave" within the Unitarian and Free Christian community.

The topic of Hucklow Summer School 2007 was "In Our Hands: Discovering Our Shared Ministry". In keeping with this collaborative theme, this year's theme talks were given by a team of speakers, each taking on a particular aspect of the topic: Rev Lindy Latham, Maggie Davies, Rev Sarah Tinker, Dawn Buckle and Rev Michael Dadson. Many Summer School participants expressed appreciation, through our formal evaluation process, for the way in which each speaker brought their own perspective and style to the

subject and the resulting variety of the theme sessions.

Morning workshops were offered on the themes "Diversity: Being Different Together" (led by Mel Prideaux and Rev. Elizabeth Birtles), "Listen That You May Live" (led by Rev. Margaret Kirk and Dr. Jane Blackall) and "Dwelling in Possibility: The Secret Ministry of Writing" (led by Margaret Hamer and Rev. Lindy Latham). The morning workshops consist of six two-hour sessions over the course of the week and are intended to give participants an intensive experience of adult RE, providing – we hope – examples of best practice in small group facilitation, and they were largely very well-received. The children's programme, led by Heather Foster and Glenys Baird, was also much appreciated.

A diverse range of optional afternoon and evening activities were also provided. This included training sessions ("Speaking Confidently in Public", "Groups Working Well", and a session on storytelling), music and dance ("Songs of Praise" and "Circle Dancing"), art and craft ("Kokoro no Te" and "Feltmaking for Beginners"), and some straightforward fun with a light-hearted games afternoon, a quiz evening, and two "Performance Circles".

One other innovation of the 2007 event was the re-introduction of a "Minister of the Week". This role was taken on by Rev Michael Dadson who provided invaluable support to the Summer School community in so many ways throughout the week at Hucklow. In the light of a very positive response to the provision of a "Minister of the Week" we intend to continue this practice in the year to come.

The Hucklow Summer School Panel typically meets four times throughout the year with a residential weekend in early summer to finalise the detailed programme for the week. Planning is well underway for the 2008 event, which will have the theme "Reclaiming the Language of Faith", and we hope that Summer School application forms will be distributed by the end of 2007.

### JOINED UP EDUCATION PANEL

**Members:** Dawn Buckle (Convenor), Rev Celia Cartwright, Rev Dr Vernon Marshall, Rev Dr Ann Peart, Elizabeth Shaw (Administrator), Rev Dr Arthur Stewart.

We are delighted that the interest in the two modular courses (Worship Studies & Unitarian Studies) has been increasing during the year and we currently have fifteen students registered. At the GA meetings in 2007 we were pleased to present Sue Woolley with her final certificate having been the first to complete the Worship Studies Course. It is hoped that we may be able to present a final certificate to another student during the GA meetings in 2008.

Some students are still working through the CLPCW and have opted to finish this course rather than transfer over to the WSC. Support is still being provided for these students by the Course Tutors

Two districts are currently providing or have completed training on the Foundation Step with a third district commencing training during 2008. The panel are also looking at the feasibility of providing this important step as a one-off national training event.

The Joined Up Education Panel met twice this year and at the meeting in October 2007 the Tutors for these two courses joined the meeting, which was found to be beneficial to all.

JUEP is grateful to the Tutors, Rev Ernest Baker, Rev Alex Bradley and Rev Dr Vernon Marshall for their continuing service to training Lay Worship Leaders.

### RE CO-ORDINATORS

**Co-ordinator:** Margaret Robinson

**Members:** Rev Dr Vernon Marshall, Jean Mason, Margaret Robinson

The Religious Education Co-ordinators (RECs) met at the 2007 GA Annual Meetings and decided on actions to revive the RECs Network. Rev Dr Vernon Marshall and Jean Mason were invited to join the REC Panel in April 2007.

A successful REC Conference was held at Hucklow in September 2007 with nine participants. Good practice RE activities (which could be used with adults, children or intergenerationally) were shared and morning and evening worship celebrated. Rev Dr Vernon Marshall led a session based on his book 'The Wider View' and another session from his RE course 'The British Unitarian Journey'. Jean gave an insight into the RE weeks she has attended on Star Island, USA. Rev John Harley (GA Youth Officer) gave information on Issues and Challenges facing RECs, which included Safeguarding (both children and leaders).

From October 2007 nine districts have Religious Education Coordinators and the Panel is actively recruiting RECs from the remaining Districts without RECS. RECs should ideally not be Ministers but dedicated, committed and enthusiastic laypeople, who can work alongside Ministers.

Revised Awakenings, an RE resource for use with children under seven will be launched at the 2008 GA Annual Meetings.

The list of books held from the Lay Leadership library has been circulated to District Secretaries, RECs and the two colleges. It is hoped that members of the denomination will make use of these books.

A further REC Conference will be held in September 2008.

### RE PUBLICATIONS

**Co-ordinator:** Helen Parsons (until June 2007)

Helen Parsons, who has co-ordinated RE Publications since the establishment of the Commission, has had to step down on ill-health grounds. Helen did fine work in seeing through the publication of the last three adult education courses. These courses continue to sell well.

An annotated list of all RE Publications was produced and distributed to all congregations thanks to Howard Hague at Essex Hall. Most titles sell steadily

A revised version of *Awakenings; first steps in religious awareness for under 7s* is ready for publication and will be on sale at the 2008 GA Annual Meetings. Margaret Robinson has been largely responsible for seeing this publication through and Youth Officer, the Rev John Harley has designed a smart new cover.

The Commission have decided, under the circumstances to hold the Religious Education Publications Panel in abeyance for the foreseeable future and take on the responsibility for publications themselves.

### SUPPORT FOR ORGANISATIONAL LEADERSHIP PANEL

**Chair:** Dawn Buckle

**Members:** Joyce Ashworth, Lis Dyson-Jones, Peter Hanley (from November 2007), Ken Johnson, Barbara Smith.

The panel continues to operate as a joint Education and Training / Denominational Support Commission Panel.

The Handbook 'Help is at Hand - practical hints for church officers and trustees', heralded at last year's Annual Meetings, is published. It is a smart hard-backed loose-leaf file with a purple and white cover sporting the consistent identity chalice. This format has been chosen so that pages can easily be changed, or the handbook added to, as

legislation or recommended good practice in charity governance changes.

The Panel worked extremely hard to meet the deadline of September 2007. They were successful largely due to principal author Ken Johnson, and proof-reader Barbara Smith, both Panel members, and to Jane Blackall (who is not a Panel member) for the layout and design. Two major launches took place in London and Manchester in the autumn. The Panel took the controversial decision to distribute handbooks only to those congregations whose representatives attended the launches. This is because much of what is in the handbook, such as who is regarded as a trustee by the Charity Commission and what responsibilities they have, for say, risk assessment, is new to many congregational officers and can appear daunting. The Panel wanted to reassure and to support.

The Panel is offering 'mini-launches' to districts to cover those congregations who were not able to have representatives at the initial launches. So far successful events have taken place in the Midland Union and the South Wales Association and four more are planned. Handbooks will be distributed at the GA Meetings at which the Panel will give a presentation. The Panel will then find a method of reaching congregations who have not been covered. If you would like Panel members to come to your district please contact one of them.

Additional sections on data protection and copyright are already at the planning stage. These will be posted to secretaries of congregations during 2008, when complete.

### FAITH & PUBLIC ISSUES COMMISSION

**Chair:** Rev Jeff Gould

**Staff Support:** Rev Jane Barraclough, Rev Steve Dick,

**Members:** Rev Chris Goacher, Rev Jeff Gould, Karen Hanley, Rev Alan Kennedy, Gavin Lloyd, Rev Feargus O' Connor, Tony Rees, Rev Bob Wightman.

The members of the commission have met three times in the past year. The following persons are members of the commission: The Rev Chris Goacher; The Rev Jeff Gould (Chair); Ms Karen Hanley; The Rev Alan Kennedy; Mr Gavin Lloyd; The Rev Feargus O'Connor; Mr Tony Rees; The Rev Bob Wightman (EC Link Person). The Rev Steve Dick (Chief Executive Officer) attended all meetings, and the commission was served by the Rev Jane Barraclough (GA Staff Supporter).

At its first meeting, the commission formulated its mission statement, which is as follows: *"We seek to offer the distinctive Unitarian and Free Christian perspectives on matters relating to the arenas of ecumenical, inter-faith and social action engagement, and in turn, inform and stimulate thought and action on these same subjects within the General Assembly."*

With this goal in mind, the members of the commission have worked towards identifying those persons within the movement (either currently serving on the commission, or willing to contribute to its efforts through specific ancillary roles) who might represent the General Assembly on relevant ecumenical, inter-faith and social action bodies. The Penal Affairs Panel is the only pre-existing sub-group that continues in its efforts as a separate entity, and reports directly to the commission on its work. Its membership currently comprises the following persons: Mr Tony Cann; Mr Bruce Chilton (Chair); Ms Emily Hewerdine; Mrs Kay Millard; Mr Bob Pounder; Ms Sally Ramage (Secretary); Mr Tony Rees; Miss CMP Taylor.

The commission benefits from a healthy financial base, which is supplemented by

monies remaining from the work of the former Sexual Orientation Equality Group (SOEG). Ongoing communication with the emerging network of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered persons in the General Assembly is seeking to discern appropriate projects for support with this funding. The commission wishes to acknowledge the generous donation towards projects and efforts relating to the sphere of social responsibility from Helen Parsons.

The Faith and Public Issues Commission has pledged itself to work in concert with the Denominational Support Commission to develop a denominational project on the subject of "Hospitality." This would explore the issue of prejudice, and encourage our communities to be more aware of the overt and 'hidden' messages that members and visitors receive. At the Annual Meetings of 2008, a joint consultative exercise will take place, in which interested persons can share their experiences, reflections and aspirations on this subject in an open forum.

The members of the commission are aware of the very wide remit of its mission, in that it seeks to maintain both an internal and external reach. Key to its success is the contribution of the wider movement, through the supportive work of individuals on specific projects, and through co-operation with other appropriate bodies within the General Assembly. It will be the commission's highest priority to support efforts at the congregational level and upwards, both practically and morally, rather than generate work that involves small numbers of people who operate at a distance from local affairs.

#### PENAL AFFAIRS PANEL

**Chair:** Bruce Chilton

**Secretary:** Sally Ramage

**Members:** Tony Cann, Bruce Chilton, Geoffrey Head, Rev Ann Latham, Kay Millard, Sally Ramage, Kate Taylor.

#### Activities

The Panel met twice during the year. The work of the Panel breaks down into the following areas:

a) **Information** in the form of responses in the denominational the national press on issues that have arisen and presence at the Annual Meeting at the General Assembly. There have been articles in *The Inquirer*, (Tony Cann's *"Unitarians could lead this fight"*, Oct 2006 and Kate Taylor's *"Creative Prisons show what could be"*, September 2007), and letters published in newspapers. The designer of the creative prison is Will Alsop. In an essay on the Creative Prison, Alsop wrote: *"My intention is to introduce, above all, a sense of beauty to the prison campus because ultimately, it is the raising of spiritual values which leads to better citizenship"*.

b) **Response to Government Consultation Paper**, namely the Department of Constitutional Affairs' Consultation Paper on 'Voting Rights of Convicted Prisoners Detained within the United Kingdom'. The Panel's stance is that withdrawal of voting rights is inappropriate as a punishment; that it is incompatible with the concept of rehabilitation; that postal voting now made it practicable for the secret ballot to be extended to prisoners; that giving prisoners the right to vote might be a spur to education in the political system; and that candidates for election as Members of Parliament might be prompted to visit prisons to put their party's case.

c) **Involvement in the 'Strangers into Citizens' campaign**, co-ordinated by Citizen Organising Foundation, [www.cof.org.uk](http://www.cof.org.uk), which aims to persuade the government to give a right to remain in the UK to some illegal immigrants and failed asylum seekers. The rights of 'strangers' in our midst means the rights of non-citizens, categorised as 'irregular immigrants' by the classification systems in current use. The word 'stranger' denotes a person who arrives unasked and who awaits classification; the stranger is the outsider, the non-member, and classification - does she need help, does she deserve help, does she pose a danger to the community, would she be a worthy member of the community - in our present society is prior to the allocation of rights. Strangers have human rights - and the two fundamental human rights are the right to life and the right to protection from torture and from inhuman or degrading treatment. These fundamental

human rights are contained in the UN Declaration of Rights, and are Articles 2 and 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights. These two Articles have no exceptions: they are applicable to failed asylum seekers, illegal immigrants, suspected terrorists and persons convicted of serious crimes. The UK laws dealing with 'strangers' are the 1996 Asylum and Immigration Act; the 2002 Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act; the 2004 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc) Act; and the 2006 Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act. The objective of classification, legislation and policy is to regulate immigration, made clear by the 2006 Act which says that the legislation builds on two published policy documents which set out five-year strategies for the management of asylum and immigration; these documents are *"Controlling our Borders: Making Migration Work for Britain"* and *"Confident Communities in a Secure Britain"*.

The "Strangers into Citizens" Campaign is aimed at diluting the emotionally charged views that have criminalised and demonised migration (Melossi 2003; Young 2003)

d) **Involvement in the Churches' Criminal Justice Forum (CCJF)**, the panel's representative being Bruce Chilton.

#### Conclusion

The work of the panel is vital. Nearly 3% of the total UK prison population are people confined under the Immigration Acts. In addition to these individuals, there is a much larger number of non-citizens serving criminal sentences in the nation's prison system. Of the 77,000 prisoners in UK prisons, 11,000 are non-citizens (Denham, 2006:518, HMIP 2006b). According to Anti-Slavery International, there are cases of trafficked persons being detained before they have been identified as trafficked in the UK. These are all urgent reasons for the reform of the UK prison system and this is why we need the Penal Affairs Panel.

### MINISTRY COMMISSION

**Chair:** Rev Dr Ann Peart

**Secretary:** Rev Steve Dick

**Members:** Jen Atkinson (from September 2007), Rev Alex Bradley (from April 2007), Iain Brown (until April 2007), Rev Brian Cockroft (until April 2007), David Dawson, Rev Steve Dick (from January 2007), Rev J Eric Jones, Bernard Omar (until April 2007), Rev Dr Arthur Stewart (from April 2007), Jeffrey Teagle (until April 2007), Rev Dr Andrew Rowley (from September 2006 until December 2006).

**The Commission's Mission Statement** was agreed as: *To plan and take strategic decisions relating to all forms of ministry within the body of the General Assembly; and to ensure the achievement of the highest possible degree of satisfaction for both spiritual leaders and congregations.*

The Commission plans to review this statement, its aims, current objectives and working practices during 2008.

**Meetings:** The Commission met three times during 2007, each time at Essex Hall.

**GA Roll of Ministers and Lay Pastors:**

Lynne Readett, David Shaw and Maud Robinson were accepted for inclusion on the Roll of Ministers with probationary status. Myrna Michell was accepted on the Roll of Lay Pastors with probationary status. Revs Simon Ramsey, and Jean McNeile were granted full status. Rev Evan J Williams died on 9 December 2006. Rev Dr John McLachlan, former GA President and honorary member, died on 28 January 2007, Rev Colin Wicker died on 15 August 2007, Rev Dudley Richards died on 1 November 2007. Rev Michael Joyce died on 18 November 2007. The following ministers retired; Andrew Hill, Austin Fitzpatrick, Peter Hughes, Desmond Porter, Goronwy Evans, John Allerton.

**GA Roll of Lay Leaders;** Malcolm Sadler remains on this roll as leader of the congregation at Banbury.

**Guidelines for Partnership between Congregations and Ministers:** Work

continued on this throughout the year, involving consultations with the Ministerial Fellowship, a session at the 2007 GA annual meetings, and wide distribution of a consultation draft. The document was ready for publication in December 2007, having been delayed by staff illness. The Commission would like to record its gratitude to David Dawson for his work on preparing the new document. A policy decision was made at the outset that this was to be a round of minor revisions to iron out inconsistencies and out-dated terminology. The commission plans to start consultation on policy revisions and the section on dealing with conflict in 2008. The new guidelines are designed so that as each section is up dated it can be replaced without needing a reprint of the whole document.

**Review and Support Panel:** This panel has now been adopted by the Executive Committee so that it can have a wider and more effective brief involving other commissions. It has been re-named the Partnership Support Panel.

**The Mentoring Process.**

A course for new and little-experienced mentors was run by Rev David Monk and Rev Dr Ann Peart at Luther King House in the autumn of 2007, and a review of the process is planned for early 2008.

**The Colleges:**

**Unitarian College Manchester.** The college continues to play an active part within the Partnership for Theological Education based at Luther King House, and has been accepted as a member of the wider Southern North West Training Partnership, which includes Anglicans as well as non-conformists and covers the dioceses of Manchester, Chester and Liverpool. Unitarian students achieved good results in their academic work, and were much appreciated in their placement congregations. In the spring of 2007 the Groups Working Well Panel ran a three session training course on group dynamics, to which the Oxford students and recently qualified ministers were invited. We hope that this course can be offered in every two year cycle.

**Harris Manchester College.**

Unfortunately the illness of Rev Dr Andrew Rowley hindered the training of the two lay pastors during the academic year 2006-7. Rev Dr Arthur Stewart was appointed to the post of tutor from October 2007, though initially on a part-time basis. Both Lay Pastor students are pursuing academic studies with other universities, as well as their Unitarian training at Oxford.

**Wales.**

The Welsh department co-operated in the training of a lay pastor student.

**Inter-Commission Panels.**

Members of the ministry commission have been pleased to co-operate with other commissions and work on the future ministry and partnership support panels.



*Rev Dr Ann Peart, Chair of the Ministry Commission & Principal of Unitarian College Manchester*

### THE INTERVIEW PANEL

**Chair:** Dr Jane Williams

**Members:** Rev John Clifford (from April 2007), Rev Brian Cockroft (until April 2007), Rev Chris Goacher (from September 2007), Rev Eric Jones (until April 2007), Rev Dr Ann Peart, Rev Cliff Reed, Rev Dr Arthur Stewart (from September 2007), Dr Jane Williams.

**In attendance:** Jeffrey Teagle (until April 2007), Rev Steve Dick (from April 2007).

The Panel met three times during the year, at Oxford for two days in January and for a single day at Essex Hall in May and September.

Lynne Readett and David Shaw continued their training in Manchester where they were joined by Stephen Lingwood. Ray Seal and Lewis Rees continued Lay training at Oxford where Maud Robinson studied for a higher degree.

The Mentor system has been maintained and is working well. We are grateful to the Mentors and send our thanks.

We also send our thanks to the various members of the Panel who have stood down after many years of fine service.

We have been recently concerned about the small number of candidates presenting themselves for possible training; however at the time of writing there has been a good response and we remain hopeful about the future.

Our future plans include closer co-operation with the Ministry Commission and also with the newly formed Partnership Support Panel which has emerged from Review & Support and is taking a radical new approach to the support of Ministry.

We remain concerned about the Funding for students and are in discussion about this subject. In future the administration and promotion of the Ministerial Students' Fund will be in the hands of the Interview Panel.

## Associate Members

In accordance with rule 4 of the Constitution of the General Assembly the following persons, having contributed not less than £25 each to the funds of the Assembly in the financial year 2005-6, are Associate Members of the General Assembly. Names of Honorary Members and Full Members who have subscribed not less than £25 during the financial year each are also listed.

\*Indicates that subscriptions are paid by gift aid or other tax efficient means enabling the General Assembly to recover income tax in addition. Further details on such schemes are available from the GA Finance Department.

* Adams WJ Mrs	* Camper Rev A	* Faiers Mrs E	* Hill Rev AM
* Adkinson EB	* Cann Mr HA	* Fieldhouse Miss	* Hill Mrs M
Miss	* Cartwright Rev	AM	* Hill Mrs JM
* Allured M Mr	CM (Full Member)	* Fieldhouse Miss	* Hird Dr JL
* Anderson EC Mrs	* Chilton Mrs CD	S	* Hoskins Mrs AJ
* Archer D Mrs	* Chilton Mr GEB	* Finer Mrs MA	* Howarth Mr M
* Arthur D Mr	* Clarke Mrs HM	* Firth Mrs RE	* Howarth Mrs J
* Ashworth B Mrs	* Cockcroft Rev BS	* Fitzpatrick Mrs S	* Hughes Miss A
* Ashworth J Mrs	(Full Member)	* Ford Ms JM	* Hughes Mr D
(Full Member)	* Cockcroft Rev L	* Forrester Mrs E	* Hughes Ms M
* Atkinson JM Mrs	(Full Member)	* Foulkes Mr RO	* Hytch Mr FJ
(Full Member)	* Cockcroft Mrs BW	* Fowler Miss AM	* Inkson Mr RHE
* Attfield R Prof	* Coldwell Mr AH	* Frere Mr LPD	* Inkson Mrs J
* Aylmer V Mrs	* Coldwell Mrs D	* Gienke Mr M	* Isaac Mr AW
* Bailey AD Mr	* Collier JS Mr	* Gillman Mr DE	* Isaac Mr RB
* Baker Mrs M	* Cook Mrs J	* Goacher Rev C	* Janes Mrs JA
* Baker Mr T	* Cooper Mrs M	(Full Member)	* Jerome Ms JA
* Barber Mrs E	* Copley Mr DW	* Godfrey Rev PB	* Johnson Mr KJ
* Barber JM Mr	* Copley Mrs H	(Full & Honorary	* Johnson Ref PF
* Barlow Mrs EJ	* Corrigan Mr J	Member)	(Full Member)
* Barwick S Mrs	* Crilly Mr S	* Godfrey Mrs S	* Johnson Mr PB
* Bateman Mr S	* Crompton Mr DF	* Godwin Mrs M	* Jones Dr AW
* Bell Dr J	* Crompton Mrs J	* Goodchild Mr J	* Jones Mrs B
(Honorary Member)	* Crosskey Mr JM	* Greenhalgh Mr F	* Jones Mrs E
* Bennett Ms DE	* Crosskey Dr KSM	* Gwinnell Mr P	* Jones Rev JE
* Birtles Rev AH	* Cupper Mr AM	* Hague Mrs G	* Jones Mrs A
(Full Member)	* Cusack Miss KO	* Hague Mr H	* Kay Mrs H
* Birtles Rev E (Full	* Darling Mr DF	* Hague Mrs J	* Kenyon Mr N
Member)	* Davies Mr GG	* Hamer Mrs MC	(Full Member)
* Blake Mrs CD	* Dawson Mrs C	* Handoll Mrs	* Kenyon Mrs B
* Bradley Rev A	* Dawson Mr D	HWG	* Kern Mrs PM
(Full Member)	* De Wit Mr S	* Hankinson Mrs	(Dec'd)
* Bridgeman Mr B	* Deas Mrs E	AS	* Kerr Dr DG
* Brooks Mrs B	* Denby Mr RN	* Hardy Dr SJ	* Kirby Rev A (Full
* Brooks Mr GE	* Dick Ms E	* Harrison Mrs M	Member)
* Broom Miss EC	* Dick Rev SW	* Hastie Mr WJ	* Knopf Ms B
* Brown Mr AHO	(Full Member)	* Haughton Ms DP	* Lake Mrs M
* Brown Mr I	* Doel Rev Dr DC	* Head Mr G	* Latham Rev A
(Full Member)	(Full Member)	(Honorary Member)	(Full Member)
* Buckle Mrs D	* Dumpleton Mrs H	* Heale Mr P	* Latham Rev AY
(Full Member)	* Dyson-Jones Ms	* Healey Miss R	(Full Member)
* Buckle Mr R	E (Full Member)	* Hewerdine Mrs	* Latta Miss J
* Buckley Mr D	* Edwards J Ms	DC (Full Member)	* Latta Mrs S
* Burbage Miss	* Elder Mr RC	* Hewerdine Mr AJ	* Lawlor Mr P
* Burgess Mr B	* Ellis Mrs HA	* Hewis Rev P	* Laycock Mrs BA
* Burns Mrs M	* Evans Mrs EM	* Hewis Mrs H	* Lee Dr K
* Calderara Mrs B			

## Associate Members

* Lingwood Mr S	* Roberts Rev D	* Tinker Rev SM
* Loyd Mr G	(Full Member)	(Full Member)
* Lovis Mr R	* Roberts Dr J	* Tomlin Mrs JR
* Maguire Mrs M	* Roberts Mrs WM	* Tomlin Mr M
* Mason Mr GH	* Robinson Rev J	* Toulson Mr G
* Mason Ms H	(Full Member)	(Dec'd)
* Mason Mr JI	* Robinson Ms M	* Uprichard Mrs
* Maud Mr G	* Robinson Rev M	EM
* McClelland Rev J	(Full Member)	* Usher Rev G (Full
(Full Member)	* Robinson Mr WS	Member)
* McClelland Rev A	* Rogers Mrs J	* Usher Mrs C
(Full Member)	* Rogers Ms L	* Usher Rev G (Full
* Michell Ms M	* Russell Mrs BS	Member)
* Midgley Rev C	* Ruston Mr AR	* Usher Mrs A
(Full Member)	* Ruston Mrs R	* Voegeli Mrs I
* Midgley Rev J	* Ruston Ms J	* Walker Rev F
(Full Member)	* Ruston Mr M	* Walker Mrs PJ
* Milne Mrs S	* Sampson Mr PW	* Ward Mr WH
* Needham Mrs A	* Sanders Dr N	* Ward Mrs M
* Norman Mr JAH	* Scott Mr JA	* Wardle Miss J
* Nuttall Mrs M	* Scott Mrs M	* Warhurst Mr DE
* O'Brien Mrs E	* Scragg Mr TW	* Warhurst Mrs H
* O'Connor Rev F	* Seal Mrs S	* Watson Mr KW
(Full Member)	* Sellman Ms J	* West Mr MG (Full
* Oates Mr ADG	* Shaw Rev D	Member)
* Omar Mr B	* Shaw Mrs E	* Whitell Rev M
* Packer Mr GWC	* Shellabear Mrs	(Full Member)
* Parsons Mrs H	RD	* Whitham Mr P
* Parker Rev A	* Short Mrs A	* Whitham Mrs M
(Full Member)	* Silk Rev PA (Full	* Wightman Rev R
* Partington Mr C	Member)	(Full Member)
* Partington Mrs J	* Simmons Mrs J	* Wightman Mrs M
* Paxton Mrs M	* Sinclair Mrs A	* Wilkins Mr H
* Paxton Mr G	* Sinclair Mr MS	* Wilkinson Mr J
* Payne Mrs B	* Slaven Ms S	* Williams Prof DA
* Peace Mr I	* Smith Mrs B	* Williams Dr DJ
* Pearson Mrs S	* Smith Mr G	* Williams Mrs WM
* Peart Rev Dr A	* Smith Sir Cyril	* Wilson Mrs AM
(Full Member)	* Smith Mrs DM	* Wilson Rev C
* Pebody Dr I	* Smith Rev D (Full	(Full Member)
* Percy Mrs A	Member)	* Wilson Mrs S
* Potts Mr AE	* Smith Mrs P	* Winder Mrs JR
* Raettig Mrs S	* Smith Dr RW	* Woodhouse Mr J
* Ramage Mr RW	* Smith Mrs C	* Woodhouse Mrs
* Ramsden Mrs	* Soulsby Sir Peter	K
DM	(Full Member)	* Woolley Ms S
* Rathbone Mrs B	* Speed Mr AMM	* Wykes Dr DL
* Reed Rev CM	* Tavkar Ms II	* Wykes Dr E
(Full Member)	* Taylor Mr GC	* Wylie Mr HS
* Reed Mrs P	* Taylor Miss CMP	* Wylie Mrs J
* Rees Mr AM	* Taylor Mrs TM	
* Reynolds Mrs HM	* Teagle Mr JJ	
* Richards Mr JCT	* Teagle Mrs S	
* Richards Mrs R	* Thompson Miss J	
* Richards Mr W	* Thompson Miss	
* Rigby Mrs V	C	
* Roberts Rev J	* Thursfield Mrs A	
(Full Member)	* Timperley Mr P	

## Congregational Contributions

1 October 2006 to 30 September 2007

All collections and donations received are included in the one total against each church. Amounts are shown as at 30 September 2007 and contributions received after that date will be shown in the next annual report.

<b>England</b>			
Ainsworth	378.00	Ditchling	357.00
Altrincham	1176.00	Doncaster	420.00
Ashton-in-Makerfield	1260.00	Douglas	126.00
Atherton	900.00	Dover	105.00
Banbury	210.00	Dudley	21.00
Bath	231.00	Dukinfield	1100.00
Bedfield	42.00	Eccles	1470.00
Belper	294.00	Enfield	294.00
Billingshurst	147.00	Evesham	462.00
Birmingham Edgbaston	882.00	Framlingham	210.00
Birmingham Hollywood	714.00	Gloucester	210.00
Blackpool	400.00	Godalming	819.00
Bolton Bank Street	1218.00	Great Hucklow	441.00
Bolton Chorley New Road	420.00	Great Yarmouth	210.00
Bolton Egerton	630.00	Hale Barns	630.00
Bolton Halliwell Road	336.00	Harrogate Fellowship	168.00
Boston	189.00	Hastings	378.00
Bournemouth	168.00	Hinckley	714.00
Bradford Broadway Avenue	315.00	Hindley	252.00
Bradford Russell Street	189.00	Horsham	651.00
Bridgwater	105.00	Horwich	126.00
Bridport	294.00	Hull	714.00
Brighton	777.00	Hyde	42.00
Bristol Brunswick Square	483.00	Hyde Flowery Field	400.00
Bristol Frenchay	420.00	Hyde Gee Cross	350.00
Bury	2037.00	Ipswich	903.00
Bury St Edmunds	483.00	Kendal	1134.00
Cambridge	1176.00	Kidderminster	588.00
Chatham	110.00	Knutsford	1113.00
Chelmsford	252.00	Leeds	735.00
Cheltenham	252.00	Leicester	546.00
Chester	210.00	Lewes	70.00
Chorley	525.00	Lincoln	294.00
Cirencester	126.00	Liverpool Gateacre	420.00
Coseley	147.00	Liverpool Sefton Park	756.00
Coventry	147.00	Liverpool Toxteth	189.00
Cradley	525.00	London Bethnal Green	63.00
Crewkerne	273.00	London Golders Green	861.00
Croydon.	1029.00	London Hampstead	2824.75
Cullompton	84.00	London Islington	525.00
Dean Row	1806.00	London Kensington	567.00
Denton	90.00	London Lewisham	336.00
Derby	126.00	London Newington Green	630.00

## Congregational Contributions

London Stratford	210.00	Taunton	315.00
Loughborough	63.00	Tenterden	168.00
Lytham	105.00	Torquay	189.00
Macclesfield	924.00	Trowbridge	441.00
Maidstone	147.00	Urmston	735.00
Manchester Chorlton-cum	231.00	Wakefield	294.00
Manchester Cross Street	588.00	Warrington	315.00
Manchester Dob Lane	336.00	Warwick	357.00
Manchester Gorton	420.00	Watford	231.90
Mansfield	1050.00	West Kirby	420.00
Mossley	252.00	Whitby	189.00
New Mill	126.00	Whitefield	1260.00
Newcastle	483.00	Wolverhampton	105.00
Newcastle upon Tyne	484.00	Woodhall Spa	21.00
Newport	168.00	Worthing	168.00
Northampton	168.00	York	819.00
Norwich	630.00		
Nottingham	462.00	<b>Wales</b>	
Oldbury	105.00	Aberdare	588.00
Oldham	315.00	Alltbyblaca	162.00
Oxford	903.00	Cardiff West Grove	630.00
Padiham	1155.00	Cefn Coed y Cymer	609.00
Plymouth	483.00	Cellan	84.00
Portsmouth	987.00	Ciliau Aeron	58.00
Pudsey	294.00	Cribyn	246.00
Rawtenstall	168.00	Cwmsychbant	204.00
Richmond	1134.00	Cwrtnewydd	316.00
Rivington	546.00	Felinfach	112.00
Rochdale	1156.00	Lampeter	648.00
Scarborough	252.00	Llandysul	200.00
Sevenoaks	500.00	Llanwnnen	616.00
Sheffield Fulwood	1050.00	Nottage	211.00
Sheffield Norfolk St	1218.00	Pontsian	204.00
Sheffield Stannington	525.00	Prengwyn	286.00
Shelf	168.00	Swansea	273.00
Shrewsbury	378.00	Talgarreg	400.00
Sidmouth	84.00	Trebanos	420.00
Southampton	378.00	Wick	147.00
Southend-on-Sea	63.00		
Southport	210.00	<b>Scotland</b>	
Stalybridge	273.00	Aberdeen	1092.00
Stockport	168.00	Dundee	945.00
Stockton-on-Tees	714.00	Edinburgh	1365.00
Stourbridge	168.00	Glasgow	770.00
Styal	525.00		

## District & Other Contributions

### Subscriptions

#### Districts

East Midland Unitarians	100.00	
London District & South Eastern Provincial Assembly of Unitarian & FCC (Inc)	500.00	
Manchester District Association of Unitarian & FCC	500.00	
Merseyside District Missionary Association	450.00	
Midland Union of Unitarian & FCC	500.00	
North East Lancashire Unitarian Missionary Association	350.00	
Scottish Unitarian Association	150.00	
Sheffield District Association	100.00	

#### Trusts

Memorial Hall Trustees	1,500.00	
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#### Societies & other groups

Adelaide Unitarians	200.00	
Auckland Unitarians	150.00	
British League Of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women	50.00	
Liverpool Women's League	10.00	
National Unitarian Fellowship	90.00	
Oxford Unitarian Women's League	5.00	
Sheffield District Women's League	30.00	

Individuals	100.00	
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4785.00

### Other Donations

<b>Bowland Trust</b>		136,585.00
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#### Individual and Districts

Scarborough Trustees	750.00	
Bury St Edmunds Trustees	1,000.00	
Lucas Fund	29.00	
P Overbury	3,000.00	
Other Individuals	1,458.54	6,237.54

#### Youth Panel

Flagg Trust	500.00	
Wood Green Trust	500.00	
Hackney Gravel Pit Fund	954.00	
Millennium Fund	1,533.96	
Wood Green Trust	243.70	3,731.66

#### Annual Meetings

Greaves Trust	1,000.00	
Wood Green Trust	4,750.00	
Individuals	638.00	6,388.00

152,942.20

## Accounts of The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

for the year ended 30 September 2007

Registered Charity No: 250788

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

### Trustees' Responsibilities In Relation to the Financial Statements

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the financial year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law, regulations and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### Auditors

On 8 May 2007, Edmund Gibbs transferred its business to a limited liability partnership, Shaw Gibbs LLP. The trustees have consented to extend the appointment of Shaw Gibbs LLP effective from 8 May 2007.

A resolution to reappoint Shaw Gibbs LLP as auditors for the ensuing year will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITARIAN AND FREE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

We have audited the financial statements of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches for the year ended 30 September 2007, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body in accordance with Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and regulations made under Section 44 of that Act. Our audit has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### Respective Responsibilities of trustees and auditors

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) as set out in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities.

We have been appointed as auditors under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 44 of that Act. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Trustees' Annual Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records or if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We read the Trustees' Annual Report, and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

### Basis of Audit Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of the information in the financial statements.

### Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice of the affairs of the charity as at 30 September 2007 and of its incoming resources and application of resources in the year then ended and;
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993 and;
- information given in the Trustees Report is consistent with the financial statements.

264 Banbury Road  
Oxford  
OX2 7DY

Shaw Gibbs LLP  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
and Registered Auditors

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 30 September 2007

	Unrestricted Funds (Note 8)	Designated Funds (Note 9)	Restricted Funds (Note 10)	Endowment Funds (Note 11)	Total Funds 2007	Total Funds 2006
<b>Incoming Resources</b>						
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds:</b>						
Voluntary Income	367,695	2,283	110,898	-	480,876	438,313
Activities for Generating Funds	14,103	-	-	-	14,103	7,926
Investment Income	81,375	600	31,877	-	113,852	99,280
<b>Incoming Resources in Furtherance of GA Objects</b>	21,749	-	-	-	21,749	17,176
<b>Other Incoming Resources</b>	106,942	-	1	-	106,943	61,826
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>591,864</b>	<b>2,883</b>	<b>142,776</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>737,523</b>	<b>624,521</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>						
<b>Costs of Generating Funds</b>						
Activities for generating funds	12,373	-	-	-	12,373	2,866
Investment Management Fees	4,750	56	1,750	711	7,267	7,413
<b>Charitable Activities</b>						
Grants	14,484	1,345	57,759	-	73,588	59,181
Programme Activity	227,421	557	1,265	-	229,243	210,264
<b>Governance Costs</b>						
	247,162	-	-	-	247,162	223,587
<b>Other Resources Expended</b>	110,698	-	-	-	110,698	71,955
<b>OHMB Funds transferred to the Midland Union</b>	-	-	50,489	-	50,489	-
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>616,888</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>111,263</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>730,820</b>	<b>575,266</b>
<b>Net Incoming/(outgoing) Resources Before Transfers</b>	<b>(25,024)</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>31,513</b>	<b>(711)</b>	<b>6,703</b>	<b>49,255</b>
<b>Transfers Between Funds</b>	<b>25,330</b>	<b>(380)</b>	<b>(24,950)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Incoming/(outgoing) Resources</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>6,563</b>	<b>(711)</b>	<b>6,703</b>	<b>49,255</b>
<b>Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)</b>						
<b>Realised Gains/(Losses) on Investments</b>						
	6,490	76	5,119	-	11,685	3,879
<b>Unrealised Gains/(Losses) on Investments</b>						
	(1,953)	10	3,094	(2,287)	(1,136)	151,284
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>	<b>4,843</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>14,776</b>	<b>(2,998)</b>	<b>17,252</b>	<b>204,418</b>
<b>Funds Balances Brought Forward 1 October 2006</b>	<b>1,680,009</b>	<b>30,564</b>	<b>365,157</b>	<b>580,052</b>	<b>2,655,782</b>	<b>2,451,364</b>
<b>Funds Balances Carried Forward 30 September 2007</b>	<b>1,684,852</b>	<b>31,195</b>	<b>379,933</b>	<b>577,054</b>	<b>2,673,034</b>	<b>2,655,782</b>

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2007

	Note	2007	2006
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	6	75,769	84,250
Investments	7	<u>2,329,853</u>	<u>2,319,304</u>
		<b>2,405,622</b>	<b>2,403,554</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stocks		15,881	13,741
Loans	14	4,256	2,752
Debtors	11	136,168	134,356
Short Term Deposits		184,631	122,537
Cash at Bank and In Hand		<u>516</u>	<u>15,538</u>
		<b>341,452</b>	<b>288,924</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		<u>(73,720)</u>	<u>(36,311)</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>267,732</b>	<b>252,613</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>			
		<b>2,673,354</b>	<b>2,656,167</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - deferred income</b>			
		<b>(320)</b>	<b>(385)</b>
<b>Total Assets Less Liabilities</b>		<b><u>£2,673,034</u></b>	<b><u>£2,655,782</u></b>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
General Funds	13	1,684,852	1,680,009
Designated Funds	9,13	31,195	30,564
Restricted Funds	10,13	379,933	365,157
Endowment Funds	12,13	577,054	580,052
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b><u>£2,673,034</u></b>	<b><u>£2,655,782</u></b>

Approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2007, and signed on its behalf by:

Martin West, Honorary Treasurer

Stephen Dick, Chief Executive

The notes on pages 5 to 12 form part of these accounts.

# The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

## Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 September 2007

### 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the financial statements the General Assembly follows best practice as set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP) issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 1993. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### a. Incoming Resources - Donations, legacies and gifts

Donations, legacies and gifts are included in the year in which they are receivable, which is when the General Assembly becomes entitled to the resource.

#### b. Incoming Resources - Investment income

Income from investments is accounted for in the period in which the General Assembly becomes entitled to the receipt.

#### c. Resources expended

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis. A detailed analysis of expenditure and allocation between funds is detailed in notes 8 to 10 and 12 to the financial statements. Grant expenditure is detailed in note 2 to the financial statements.

#### d. Staff salary costs

Approximately 50% of full time equivalent staff hours are spent on programme work. Accordingly, total salary costs have been split equally between programme support costs and management and administration costs.

#### e. Funds accounting

Funds held by the General Assembly are:

*Unrestricted general funds* – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

*Designated funds* – these are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

*Restricted funds* – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

*Endowment funds* – permanent and expendable endowment funds are the result of gifts to the charity that are to be invested and the income thereof used for the purposes of the charity either as restricted or unrestricted funds dependant on the wishes of the donor.

Further details relating to each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

#### f. Fixed asset investments

Investments are included at closing mid-market value at the Balance Sheet date. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### g. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Freehold land and property held jointly are not depreciated. The cost of equipment is written-off by equal annual installments over their expected useful lives as follows:

Furniture	5 years
Computer Equipment	3 years

#### h. Stock

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value.

# The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

## Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 September 2007 (continued)

### i. Pensions

The General Assembly operates a defined contribution scheme available to all eligible employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Pension costs charged in the Statement of Financial Activities represent the contributions payable by the General Assembly in the year.

### 2. Direct Charitable Expenditure – Grants

During the year to 30 September 2007, the General Assembly has made grants to enable the promotion of a free and inquiring religion in the UK and abroad, and for the education of ministers of religion and the relief of poverty. See also note 4 for details of grants made between unrestricted, designated and restricted funds of the General Assembly.

#### Grants by Category

Grants to UK Institutions	49,141
Grants to Overseas Institutions	9,188
Benevolent/Welfare Grants	345
Educational Grants	14,914
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,588</b>

	No. of Grants	Total Value
<b>Grants to Individuals</b>		
Benevolent/Welfare Grants	3	345
Educational Grants	8	13,380
Youth Leaders Course	1	1,534
		<u>15,259</u>

#### UK Unitarian Churches and Institutions

Dr Hadwen Trust	1	1,000
Fire Safety Guides	1	2,088
Annual Meeting Grants	1	5,350
Inquirer Publishing Company	1	3,000
Churches main Committee	1	173
Howard league	16	70
Brighton Festival	1	100
Sue Ryder Fund	1	200
Plymouth	1	2,000
East Midlands	1	500
Nightingale Centre		426
District Connections	1	355
Future Ministry	1	2,010
Publicity Consultant	1	6,008
Stockton on Tees	7	3,211
Speed Trust Grants to Scottish Churches		<u>22,650</u>

**Total Grants to UK Unitarian Churches and Institutions** **49,141**

#### Overseas Institutions

Indian Council of Unitarian Churches	1	1,796
International Association for Religious Freedom	1	2,000
International Council of Unitarian Universalists	1	1,503
Kharang Rural Centre	1	3,889
<b>Total Grants to Overseas Institutions</b>		<u><b>9,188</b></u>

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

### Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 September 2007 (continued)

#### 3. Direct Charitable Expenditure

Analysis of expenditure on activities which further the objects of the General Assembly, support costs and the cost of administration are shown in notes 8 to 10, 12, 15 and 16.

#### 4. Transfers Between Funds

Description	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds
Arnold Graves Trust Subscription	330		(330)
Central Postal Mission grant to Information Department	396	(396)	
Sunday School Fund Grant to ETC	759	67	(826)
Lewis Edwards Memorial Fund Grant to Executive Committee	94		(94)
Union for Social Service Fund donation to SR	51	(51)	
James Speed Trust Management Fees	1,200		(1,200)
Youth Officer (Chalice Fund)	22,500		(22,500)
Animal Welfare Capital Account		(516)	
Animal Welfare Income Account		516	
Development Fund			(362)
Task Force Fund			362
<b>Total Transfers Between Funds</b>	<b>25,330</b>	<b>(380)</b>	<b>(24,950)</b>

#### 5. Intangible Income

General Assembly receives accommodation and services free of charge from Essex Hall Trustees to an estimated value of £50,000 per annum, which would have to be paid for if not provided free. (See also note 8)

#### 6. Fixed Tangible Assets

	Leasehold Properties held jointly	Freehold Land and Ground Rent	Equipment	Totals
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 October 2006	55,302	21,350	56,737	133,389
Additions	—	—	3,794	3,794
Sales at Cost	(7,517)	—	—	(7,517)
At 30 September 2007	47,785	21,350	60,531	129,666
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 October 2006	—	—	49,139	49,139
Charge for year	—	—	4,758	4,758
At 30 September 2007	—	—	53,897	53,897
<b>Net Book Value</b>				
30 September 2007	£47,785	£21,350	£6,634	£75,769
30 September 2006	£55,302	£21,350	£7,598	£84,250

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

### Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 September 2007 (continued)

#### 7. Fixed Asset Investments

	2007	2006
<b>Quoted Investments</b>		
Market Value at 1 October 2006	2,319,304	2,112,483
Less: Sale Proceeds	(358,687)	(296,916)
Add: Acquisitions at Cost	358,687	348,574
Net Gains on Disposals	11,685	3,879
Net (Losses)/Gains on Revaluation	(1,136)	151,284
<b>Market Value at 30 September 2007</b>	<b>£2,329,853</b>	<b>£2,319,304</b>
<b>Historical Cost as at 30 September 2007</b>	<b>£1,895,880</b>	<b>£1,763,491</b>

#### Consolidated Investment Portfolio

	Qty	Book Cost	Market Value at 1 Oct 2006 or cost of addition	Unrealised Gain/(Loss)	Market Value at 30 Sept 2007
5% Treasury Stock 2012	18,150	18,675	18,493	(284)	18,209
5% Treasury Stock 2014	25,600	28,048	26,362	(751)	25,631
8% Treasury Stock 2009	20,075	20,035	21,848	( 727)	21,121
Bradford & Bingley 11 5/8% Perp Subord Bonds	10,000	16,971	19,978	(3,592)	16,386
Bradford & Bingley 13% Perp Subord Bonds	50,000	85,272	110,038	(11,662)	98,376
Bristol & West 13.375% Unscrud					
Pep Sub Bds	70,000	115,618	160,499	(28,573)	131,926
Charishare Inc	90,148	274,500	408,009	29,659	437,668
Halifax 8.75% Perp Subord Bds	100,000	115,321	131,969	(12,272)	119,697
M&G Charifund Units	29,857	304,814	452,086	7,518	459,604
Newton Fund Managers (CI) Ltd Offshore Stgy Fund	108,000	108,495	104,911	(8,402)	96,509
Newton Fund Managers Global Growth & Income Charity	129,425	108,678	168,939	12,192	181,131
Newton Fund Managers Higher Income Fund (Sterling) Institution	491,016	358,687	358,687	(4,665)	354,022
Newton Fund Managers Global Higher Income Fund	69,408	79,492	76,217	12,688	88,905
City of London Investment Trust	57,914	161,775	165,344	8,398	173,742
Ing UK Real Estate	15,500	15,500	18,988	(3,255)	15,733
Charities Property Fund	64,646	83,999	88,601	2,592	91,193
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>		<b>1,895,880</b>	<b>2,330,989</b>	<b>(1,136)</b>	<b>2,329,853</b>

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 September 2007 (continued)

8. <u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	Incoming Resources	Fund Transfers	Total 2007	Total 2006
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Incoming Resources from generated funds:				
Voluntary Income				
Legacies	0		0	29,680
Subscriptions / Assoc Membership	20,472		20,472	21,921
Congregational Contributions				
Quotas	81,648		81,648	78,844
Anniversary Service Collection	5,338		5,338	3,943
Community Appeal	5,982		5,982	12,681
British & Foreign Unitarian Assoc.	30,062		30,062	28,063
Essex Hall Trustees	18,750		18,750	15,000
Essex Hall Trustees (in kind)	50,000		50,000	50,000
Inquirer Management Fee	2,500		2,500	2,500
Speed Trust Management Fees	0	1,200	1,200	1,200
Other Donations				
Bowland Trust	136,585		136,585	153,747
Individuals and Districts	6,238		6,238	3,685
Information Panel	0		0	741
OCC Programmes	0		0	92
Youth Panel	3,732		3,732	2,160
Annual Meeting	6,388		6,388	1,971
Youth Officer	0	22,500	22,500	(19,261)
	<b>367,695</b>	<b>23,700</b>	<b>391,395</b>	<b>386,967</b>
<b>Activities for Generating Funds</b>				
Sales of Goods				
Information Panel	14,103		14,103	7,926
	<b>14,103</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,103</b>	<b>7,926</b>
Investment Income				
Dividends and Interest	77,821	1,630	79,451	64,561
Loan repayments	1,935		1,935	3,038
Rental Income	1,619		1,619	1,026
	<b>81,375</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>83,005</b>	<b>68,625</b>
<b>Furtherance of GA Objects</b>				
Payroll Calculation Service	2,721		2,721	2,300
Youth Conferences				
Run by ETC	9,965		9,965	9,395
Run by DSC	9,063		9,063	5,481
	<b>21,749</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21,749</b>	<b>17,176</b>
<b>Other Incoming Resources</b>				
GA Annual Meetings	88,860		88,860	59,816
Profit on sale of Property	18,082		18,082	0
Travel Pool	0		0	797
	<b>106,942</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106,942</b>	<b>60,613</b>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>591,864</b>	<b>25,330</b>	<b>617,194</b>	<b>541,307</b>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>616,888</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>616,888</b>	<b>503,334</b>
<b>Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources</b>	<b>(25,024)</b>	<b>25,330</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>37,973</b>

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 September 2007 (continued)

8. Unrestricted Funds (continued)	Charitable Expenditure	Fund Transfers	Total 2007	Total 2006
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
<b>Costs of Generating Funds</b>				
Investment Management Fees	4,750		4,750	5,536
Cost of Goods Sold	12,373		12,373	3,781
	<b>17,123</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,123</b>	<b>9,317</b>
<b>Charitable Activities</b>				
Grants				
Executive Committee	11,114		11,114	4,742
Penal affairs Panel	70		70	70
Faith & Public Issues Panel	300		300	0
Inquirer	3,000		3,000	3,000
	<b>14,484</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,484</b>	<b>7,812</b>
<b>Programme Activities</b>				
General Assembly Council	0		0	2,035
Executive Committee Programmes	16,729		16,729	8,393
Executive Committee Panel	2,505		2,505	10,000
ETC Educational Programmes	11,757		11,757	11,419
ETC Panels	5,560		5,560	550
DSC Programmes	20,218		20,218	8,451
DSC Panels	4,741		4,741	6,358
MC Programmes	4,402		4,402	2,279
MC Interview Panel	1,932		1,932	1,903
OCC Programmes	0		0	17,589
OCC Panels	0		0	5,318
Communications Programmes	20,018		20,018	0
Communications Panels	8,345		8,345	0
Faith & Public Issues Programmes	547		547	0
Faith & Public Issues Panels	1,155		1,155	0
Staff Salaries due to programme work	129,512		129,512	116,368
	<b>227,421</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>227,421</b>	<b>190,663</b>
<b>Governance Costs</b>				
General Administration				
Salaries, Pensions etc	129,512		129,512	116,368
Ex Gratia	12,000		12,000	7,000
Officers Travel and Expenses	4,185		4,185	2,246
Office Expenses	34,702		34,702	33,146
Staff Training	1,593		1,593	0
Audit and Accountancy Fees	5,980		5,980	6,240
Legal Fees	4,997		4,997	4,622
Accommodation	50,000		50,000	50,000
Insurance	4,193		4,193	3,965
	<b>247,162</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>247,162</b>	<b>223,587</b>
<b>Other Resources Expended</b>				
GA Annual Meetings	103,918		103,918	61,786
GA Extraordinary Meeting	0		0	3,246
Irrecoverable VAT	6,780		6,780	6,923
	<b>110,698</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>110,698</b>	<b>71,955</b>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>616,888</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>616,888</b>	<b>503,334</b>

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 September 2007 (continued)

9. Designated Funds	Balance at 1-Oct-06	Incoming Resources	Charitable Expenditure	Funds Investment Transfers	Balance at 30-Sep-07
Animal Welfare (Capital)	3,835	0	0	(516)	22
Animal Welfare (Income)	444	154	1,014	516	0
Benevolent Fund	345	1,000	345	0	0
Central Postal Mission	9,904	396	37	(396)	57
Future Vision	3,523	0	0	0	0
ETC RE Project	0	0	67	67	0
HW Fairey (Spec Bequest)	2,123	0	0	0	0
SOEG Designated Fund	3,227	0	35	0	0
SR Counterpoint Fund	1,058	0	455	0	0
SR Designated Fund	4,834	1,282	0	0	0
Union for Social Service	1,272	51	5	(51)	7
	<b>30,564</b>	<b>2,883</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>(380)</b>	<b>86</b>
					<b>31,195</b>

10. Restricted Funds	Balance at 1-Oct-06	Incoming Resources	Charitable Expenditure	Funds Investment Transfers	Balance at 30-Sep-07
Development	648	116	210	(362)	0
Chalice	74,700	13,582	1,331	(22,500)	429
Lewis Edwards Memorial	2,355	94	9	(94)	14
Arnold Graves	8,259	330	30	(330)	47
India Fund	11,028	6,046	5,726	0	63
Kharang Rural Centre	3,457	138	13	0	20
James Speed Income	11,468	24,035	23,355	(1,200)	3,692
Lay Pastors	22,024	881	82	0	127
Millennium Fund	134,982	5,399	16,544	0	775
Ministerial Students	21,274	90,735	13,380	0	0
One World Week	175	100	0	0	0
Presidents Chain	(1)	1	0	0	0
EU Romania	1,791	320	0	0	0
M Humphreys Winder	4,302	0	0	0	24
M H W- Income	811	172	16	0	0
Sunday School Fund	20,660	827	78	(826)	119
Task Force	(362)	0	0	362	0
	<b>317,571</b>	<b>142,776</b>	<b>60,774</b>	<b>(24,950)</b>	<b>5,310</b>
					<b>379,933</b>
OMHB Funds transferred to Midland Union	<b>47,586</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50,489</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,903</b>
	<b>365,157</b>	<b>142,776</b>	<b>111,263</b>	<b>(24,950)</b>	<b>8,213</b>
					<b>379,933</b>

### 11. Sundry Debtors

Included in Sundry Debtors is an amount of £98,744, being the balance of the Grant from the Bowland Charitable Trust due on receipt by the trustees of a certificate from the Auditors following the finalization of the General Assembly audit.

## The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 September 2007 (continued)

### 12. Endowment Funds

	Balance at 1.10.2006	Incoming Resources	Charitable Expenditure	Funds Transfer	Investment Gains	Balance at 30.09.2007
James Speed Trust	566,158	0	711	0	(2,287)	563,160
Millennium Fund	13,894	0	0	0	0	13,894
	<b>580,052</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,287)</b>	<b>577,054</b>

### 13. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Investments	Net Other Assets	Total
Endowment Funds	—	502,968	74,086	577,054
Restricted Funds	—	331,154	48,779	379,933
Designated Funds	—	27,190	4,005	31,195
Other Charitable Funds	75,769	1,468,541	140,542	1,684,852
	<b>£75,769</b>	<b>£2,329,853</b>	<b>£267,412</b>	<b>2,673,034</b>

### 14. Loans

A balance of £4,256 remains of travel loans made in the year to two members of staff (2006 £2,752).

### 15. Staff Costs and Trustees Remuneration

	2007	2006
Wages and Salaries	223,351	200,815
Social Security Costs	21,067	20,392
Pension Costs	14,605	11,529
Ex-gratia payments	12,000	7,000
	<b>£271,023</b>	<b>£239,736</b>

No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum (2006: £nil).

The average number of employees, (FTE), was 7 (2006: 7).

The trustees neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2006: £nil).

Travel and subsistence expenses totaling £4,275 were reimbursed to 9 trustees (2006: 18 trustees totaling £3,730).

### 16. Pensions

The General Assembly operates a defined contribution scheme available to all eligible employees other than Ministers. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

The Ministers who work for the General Assembly are members of the Ministers Pension Fund, which is a defined benefit scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity and are administered by the Ministers Pension Fund.

The last actuarial valuation of the Ministers Pension Fund was at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004 and showed a deficit of £160,000.

The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the defined contribution scheme of £9,195 and contributions payable to the Ministers Pension Fund of £5,410. The amount due for payment at the year-end was £NIL (2006 : £NIL).

**The Unitarian Convalescent and  
Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow**

**Trading As  
The Nightingale Centre**

**Financial Statements**

**For The Year ended  
30th September 2007**

**The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow**

**Trustees Responsibilities for Preparing the Financial Statements**

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

Make adjustments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2005)" and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the Assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Reserves Policy and Risk Management**

The Trustees have examined the major strategies, business and operational risks which the Charity faces and confirm that the systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level which equates to approximately one year's unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs and to respond to emergency maintenance costs which arise from time to time. Unrestricted funds were maintained at this level throughout the year together with sufficient funds to cover the cost of the building development.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of  
The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow**

We have audited the financial statements of the Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow for the year ended 30 September 2007, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulations made under the Charities Act 1993. Our audit has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Auditors**

As described in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

We have been appointed as auditors under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 44 of that Act. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Trustees' Annual Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records or if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We read the Trustees' Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

**Basis of audit opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

**Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice of the charity's affairs as at 30 September 2007 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, in the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

Central Buildings  
5-7 Corporation Street  
Hyde  
Cheshire  
SK14 1AG

Scott Roberts Taylor & Co  
Accountants and Registered Auditors

**The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended**

**30th September 2007**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Designated Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2007</b>	<b>Total Funds 2006</b>
<b><u>Income and expenditure</u></b>				
<b><u>Incoming Resources</u></b>				
Charges	193,069		193,069	171,028
Rents Receivable	16,212		16,212	15,693
Donations	12,488		12,488	13,334
Investment Income	3,658		3,658	5,411
Grants	880		880	559
Other Income	2,062		2,062	1,797
<b><u>Total Incoming Resources</u></b>	<b>228,369</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>228,369</b>	<b>207,822</b>
<b><u>Resources expended</u></b>				
Direct Charitable Expenditure	198,867		198,867	172,879
Management and Administration of the charity	34,030		34,030	31,686
Fundraising and Publicity	245		245	182
<b><u>Total Resources Expended</u></b>	<b>233,142</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>233,142</b>	<b>204,747</b>
<b><u>Net Incoming Resources</u></b>				
<b><u>For The Year</u></b>	<b>(4,773)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(4,773)</b>	<b>3,075</b>
Realised Gains on Sales of Investments	0	0	0	58
Unrealised (Losses)/Gains on Investments	206	0	206	480
Millennium Fund grant	0	0	0	6,934
Womens League Bed Appeal	0	0	0	7,300
Transfer between Funds	37,335	(37,335)	0	0
Astley Chapel	0	23,435	23,435	0
Frodsham	0	10,000	10,000	0
In Memory of Sue Nelson	0	2,500	2,500	0
Mrs M Baker	0	1,000	1,000	0
Unitarian Music Society	0	400	400	0
<b><u>Net Movement in Funds</u></b>	<b>32,768</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,768</b>	<b>17,847</b>
Fund Balances brought forward at 1st October 2006	474,391	1,495,881	1,970,272	1,952,425
Fund Balances carried forward at 30th September 2007	<b>507,159</b>	<b>1,495,881</b>	<b>2,003,040</b>	<b>1,970,272</b>

**The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow**

**Balance Sheet at 30th September 2007**

<u>2006</u>		£	£	£
	<b>Capital Account - Designated Funds</b>			
1,411,647	Buildings at Valuation	1,411,647		
6,934	Millennium Fund Grant	6,934		
7,300	Womens League Bed Appeal	7,300		
20,000	Charity Donation	20,000		
50,000	MDA Building Grant	50,000		
-	Astley Chapel	23,435		
-	Frodsham	10,000		
-	In Memory of Sue Nelson	2,500		
-	Mrs M Baker	1,000		
-	Unitarian Music Society	400		
1,495,881		1,533,216		
0	Transfers to General Account- Unrestricted	(37,335)		
1,495,881			1,495,881	
	<b>General Account - Unrestricted Funds</b>			
470,778	Balance at 1st October 2006	474,391		
0	Transfers from Designated Funds	37,335		
3,613	(Deficit)/Surplus for the Year	(4,567)		
474,391			507,159	
1,970,272			2,003,040	

**The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow**

**Balance Sheet at 30th September 2007 (Continued)**

<u>2006</u>		£	£	£	£	£
	<b>Represented by:-</b>					
	<b>Fixed Assets (Notes 3 &amp; 4)</b>	<b>Balance b/f</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Depre/n</b>	<b>Balance c/f</b>	
1,411,647	Buildings	1,411,647			1,411,647	
470,087	Building Improvements	470,087	20,005	(14,232)	475,860	
1,881,734		1,881,734	20,005	(14,232)	1,887,507	
34,833	Furniture and Equipment	34,833	774	(5,975)	29,632	
1,916,567		1,916,567	20,779	(20,207)	1,917,139	
3,211	Investment (Note 5)					3,417
7,195	Stock					6,285
2,385	Debtors and Prepaid Expenditure					11,663
115	Bank Deposit Account					119
77,475	Bank Current Account ( Interest Bearing)					102,639
158	Cash in Hand					374
77,748						103,132
2,007,106						2,041,636
(36,836)	Less:- Creditors					(38,596)
1,970,270						2,003,040

Approved by the Executive Committee of The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches on 29th November 2007

**The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow**

**Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended**  
**30th September 2007**

<u>2006</u>		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
167,071	Charges to Residents (Including self-catering)	186,902	
3,957	Charges to Day Visitors	<u>6,167</u>	
171,028			193,069
267	Shop Profit	346	
1,593	Rents	612	
1,530	Other Income	<u>1,716</u>	
3,390			2,674
559	Grants for Countryside Stewardship	880	
14,100	Rents Receivable - Barleycrofts Property	15,600	
<u>189,077</u>	<b>Trading Income</b>		<u>212,223</u>
106,880	Salaries, Wages, Pension and NIC	125,176	
1,163	Staff Travelling	1,068	
13,825	Repairs and Maintenance	16,818	
11,094	Heat, Light, Power and Water Rates	11,647	
32,156	Food Consumption	35,624	
4,880	Non Food Supplies	5,195	
5,529	Laundry	3,522	
5,332	Insurance	6,818	
1,257	Telephones	1,095	
2,134	Printing and Stationery	2,553	
182	Advertising	245	
343	Postages	369	
2,132	Committee Expenses	1,965	
800	Audit Fee	840	
558	Sundries	0	
(5,411)	Interest Receivable	(3,658)	
16,482	Depreciation	20,207	
<u>199,336</u>	<b>Trading Expenditure</b>		<u>229,484</u>
<u>(10,259)</u>	<b>Trading Profit/(Loss) carried forward</b>		<u>(17,261)</u>

**The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow**

**Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended**  
**30th September 2007 (Continued)**

<u>2006</u>		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
(10,259)	<b>Trading Profit/(Loss) brought forward</b>		(17,261)
	<b>Donations</b>		
7,559	Friends of Hucklow	7,078	
3,159	Money raised at the Open day	3,230	
1,000	Memorial Hall Trustees	1,000	
500	East Cheshire Union	500	
0	Memory of Doris May Fielding	130	
500	Legacy Beverley Littlepage	0	
200	Manchester District Association	200	
0	Merseyside District	150	
100	Midland Union	100	
66	Sir C C Grundy Trust	0	
100	L.D.P.A.	100	
150	Provincial Assembly	<u>0</u>	
13,334			12,488
480	Unrealised Profits on Investments		206
58	Realised Profit on sale of Investments		0
<u>3,613</u>	<b>Net Surplus for the Year carried to the Balance Sheet</b>		<u>(4,567)</u>

## The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre at Great Hucklow

### Notes to the Financial Statements - 30th September 2007

1 The Land and Buildings comprised in the Charities called The Unitarian Convalescent and Holiday Centre are vested in the British and Foreign Unitarian Association (Incorporated) as Custodian Trustee. The Convalescent and Holiday Centre was valued at 30th September 1999 for insurance purposes at £1,265,000 and the Barleycroft Building was valued at 30th September 1999 for insurance purposes at £400,000. For the purpose of capitalising the Land and Buildings the value of the Net Building Improvements amounting to £253,353 at 30th September 1999 has been deducted from the valuation to arrive at a net valuation of the Land and Buildings of £1,411,647. In addition the next phase of development costing £258,625 should be added to this figure to give a total value of £1,670,272. It is intended to have a further insurance valuation in the new year.

2 Income received from Appeal funds is not reflected within the Income and Expenditure Account but taken directly to the Fund to which it relates .  
When Appeal Funds are closed they are transferred to the Capital Account.

#### 3 Accounting Policy

Building improvement works are capitalised.

#### 4 Depreciation Policy

Maximum forty years for building improvements and twenty five years for furniture and equipment.

Freehold Property is not depreciated as, in the opinion of the Committee, the property is not worth less than its book value and, therefore, any depreciation would be immaterial.

#### 5 Investments

<u>Charifund Accumulation Units</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Market Value 1st October 2006	3,211	2,731
Net unrealised investment gains	206	480
Market Value 30th September 2007	<u>3,417</u>	<u>3,211</u>
Historical Cost as at 30th September 2007	<u>684</u>	<u>684</u>

<u>COIF Charities Investment Fund Units</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Market Value at 30th June 2006	0	789
Sale realised	0	(847)
Realised investment gain	0	58
Net unrealised investment gain	0	0
Market Value at 30th September 2007	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Historical Cost at 30th September 2007	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

## **The Sustentation Fund**

**for the Augmentation of Ministers' Stipends**  
**Registered Charity No.235449**  
Founded 1883

# Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30th SEPTEMBER, 2007

#### **Trustees**

Officers of the General Assembly (Ex Officio)

Rev Celia Midgley, President

Joyce Ashworth, Vice President

Rev Stephen Dick, Chief Executive

Trustees appointed by the General Assembly:

Dawn Buckle

Geoffrey Head

Rev Eric Jones

Rev Jim McClelland

Michael Tomlin, Chair of the Committee

Martin West

Officers of the Fund appointed by the Committee

Eileen Wield, Honorary Secretary

66, Thelton Avenue, Broadbridge Heath, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 3LT

Martin West, Honorary Treasurer

The Chaplain's House, West Lane, High Legh, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6LR

#### **Custodian Trustee**

The British & Foreign Unitarian Association (Incorporated)

Essex Hall, 1-6, Essex Street, London WC2R 3HY

#### **Auditors**

Scott, Roberts, Taylor & Co

Central Buildings, 5-7 Corporation Street

Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 1AG

#### **Bankers**

Bank of Scotland, 55, Temple Row, Birmingham B2 5LS

#### **Investment Managers**

Mellon Fund Managers Ltd., 71, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4DR

## Report of the Trustees

### 1. Objects of the Fund

The objects of the Fund shall be to aid in the maintenance of faithful and efficient Ministers serving congregations affiliated to the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches.

### 2. The Committee

The Trustees are appointed by the Executive Committee of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches on a triennial basis, to manage the Fund. The Custodian Trustee is the British and Foreign Unitarian Association (Incorporated).

### 3. Administration of Grants

Application forms for grants are available from the Secretary via the District Associations. The Trustees meet in June or July each year to consider applications for grants for the year commencing the first of October following. The grants are then paid in quarterly instalments.

### 4. Meetings

The Trustees met once during the year on 10th July 2007. The Officers administering the grants maintained a close liaison amongst themselves throughout the year.

### 5. Annual Accounts

The Accounts for the year ended 30th September, 2007, showed an operating surplus of £40,143 (2006: £28,666). After a net investment profit from disposals of £1,870 (2006: Loss £43), a year end market revaluation loss of £8,284 (2006: Profit £25,143) and investment management fees of £1,008 (2006: £1,142) there was an overall surplus of £32,721 (2006: £52,624) for the year.

### 6. Investments

Mellon Fund Managers Ltd, continued as Investment Managers and participated with the Trustees in the Unitarian Investment Panel. The investments are held in the name of the Custodian Company of the Bank of New York, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5AL, on behalf of the Trustees, and may be held outside the United Kingdom. The Trustees wish to pursue an investment policy which provides revenue for their current purposes and enhances income and capital growth over the longer term, thereby enabling them to meet their current and future objectives in accordance with the purposes of the fund.

### 7. Grants

Applications for grant-aid towards the payment of stipends were received for the support of 20 Ministries. Of the 20 Awards made 5 ceased during the year due to the Ministers moving or retiring.

### 8. Donations

We are enormously grateful to the providers of donations to the Fund. This year, in addition to the support of a number of individuals - £1,323, the Midland Union - £500 and the Memorial Hall Trustees - £1,200, we received a donation of £992 from the collection at Emily Bushrod's Memorial Service and a very generous legacy from Emily Bushrod of £34,791. The total donations we received this year amounted to £38,806 (L.Y. £28,239).

### 9. Auditors

At the Annual Meeting of the Trustees it was resolved to change the auditors of the Fund from Edmund Gibbs & Co to Scott, Roberts, Taylor & Co of Hyde Cheshire.

### 10. Regulations and Standing Orders

Following a review of the Regulations and Standing Orders, in the light of the replacement of the General Assembly Council by the Executive Committee, the Trustees considered and resolved that the revised Orders be accepted and submitted to the Executive Committee for their approval.

15th October 2007

Michael Tomlin  
Chair

## SUSTENTATION FUND Registered Charity No.235449

### Independent Auditors' Report to the Trustees of the Sustentation Fund

We have audited the financial statements of the Sustentation Fund for the year ended 30 September 2007, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulations made under the Charities Act 1993. Our audit has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Auditors

As described in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees' are responsible for the preparation of the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

We have been appointed as auditors under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 44 of that Act. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Trustees' Annual Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records or if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We read the Trustees' Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

#### Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice of the charity's affairs as at 30 September 2007 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, in the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

Central Buildings  
5-7 Corporation Street  
Hyde  
Cheshire  
SK14 1AG

Scott Roberts Taylor & Co  
Accountants and  
Registered Auditors

**SUSTENTATION FUND Registered Charity No.235449**

**BALANCE SHEET at 30th September 2007**

2006 £	ASSETS	£	2007 £
420,674	Investments at Market Valuation Cost as at 30th Sept.2007:£414,226 (30th Sept.2006:£341,920)		458,325
17,471	Cash at Bank	14,265	
2,575	Investment Managers Client A/c	2,467	
20,046			16,732
6	Income Tax Recoverable	6	
1,650	Dividends Received after Year End	0	
1,656			6
442,376			475,063
<b>Less LIABILITIES</b>			
650	Sundry Creditors		615
441,726			474,448
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>			
Sustentation Fund			
389,102	Balance as at Start of Year	441,727	
52,624	Increase in the Value of the Fund	32,721	
441,726	Balance as at End of Year		474,448

Note 1 The Custodian Trustee of the Sustentation Fund is The British and Foreign Unitarian Association Incorporated whose Registered Office is at Essex Hall, 1-6 Essex Street, London WC2R 3HY. The Fund is managed on behalf of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association Incorporated by Trustees appointed by the General Assembly of Unitarian & Free Christian Churches at the same address, for the purpose of making grants to assist member congregations of the General Assembly to meet the cost of employing their Ministers.

Note 2 For greater ease of reading, the figures in these Accounts are shown in round pounds. In places, this may suggest that they do not "add-up". This is due solely to the rounding. There are no discrepancies in the Books of Account.

**Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements**

The Charities Act 1993 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make adjustments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2005)" and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
4. Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

M.J.Tomlin  
Chair

M.West  
Hon.Treasurer

**SUSTENTATION FUND Registered Charity No.235449**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

for the year ended 30th September 2007

2006 £	TOTAL RESOURCES ARISING IN THE YEAR	2007 £
18,440	Bank Interest & Income from Investments (Gross)	20,823
28,239	Donations	38,806
46,679		59,629
<b>Less EXPENDITURE</b>		
16,225	Grants	17,708
Administration Expenses		
500	Secretarial Honorarium	500
500	Treasurer's Honorarium	500
384	Travelling Expenses	381
19	Printing & Stationery	44
6	Telephone & Postage	0
379	Audit Fee	353
1,788		1,778
18,013		19,486
28,666	<b>REVENUE SURPLUS</b>	40,143
<b>INVESTMENT DISPOSALS &amp; REVALUATION</b>		
(43)	Net Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Investments	1,870
25,143	Unrealised Gain/(Loss) on Revaluation of Investments	(8,284)
(1,142)	Investment Management Fees	(1,008)
23,958		(7,422)
52,624	<b>TOTAL INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF THE FUND</b>	32,721

**SUSTENTATION FUND Registered Charity No.235449**

**INVESTMENTS**

**Investments at 30th September 2007**

	2006		2007	
	Cost £	Market Value £	Cost £	Market Value £
Fixed Interest Securities				
UK Government	46,067	43,870	23,035	21,478
Quoted Equities UK	295,853	376,804	391,191	436,847
	<u>341,920</u>	<u>420,674</u>	<u>414,226</u>	<u>458,325</u>

**Movement in Investments**

	Market Value	
	2006 £	2007 £
Investments held at beginning of year	373,282	420,674
Investments purchased during year	43,900	147,322
Investments sold during year	(21,651)	(101,387)
	<u>395,531</u>	<u>466,609</u>
Net increase in market value	25,143	(8,284)
Market value of investments held at end of year	<u>420,674</u>	<u>458,325</u>

**Schedule of investments held at 30th September 2007**

	Cost £	Market Value £
Fixed Interest Securities UK Government		
21,400 Treasury 5% 2012	23,035	21,478
	<u>23,035</u>	<u>21,478</u>
Equities and Unit Trusts		
155,712 Newton Offshore Fund	149,168	139,144
112,249 Newton Higher Income Institution	81,998	80,932
11,393 M & G Charifund	118,801	175,373
2,800 Ing UK Real Estate	2,800	2,842
11,621 Charities Property Fund	15,100	17,052
25,600 Commercial Property Trust	23,324	21,504
	<u>391,191</u>	<u>436,847</u>
<b>Total at 30th September 2007</b>	<u>414,226</u>	<u>458,325</u>