

Annual Reports 2021

the unitarians



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Team Reports

Photographers:

We would like to thank all those who provided photographs for this Annual Report.

Cover Image / design: This Ain't Rock'n'Roll.

President's Report

General Assembly President 2021-22 Anne Mills



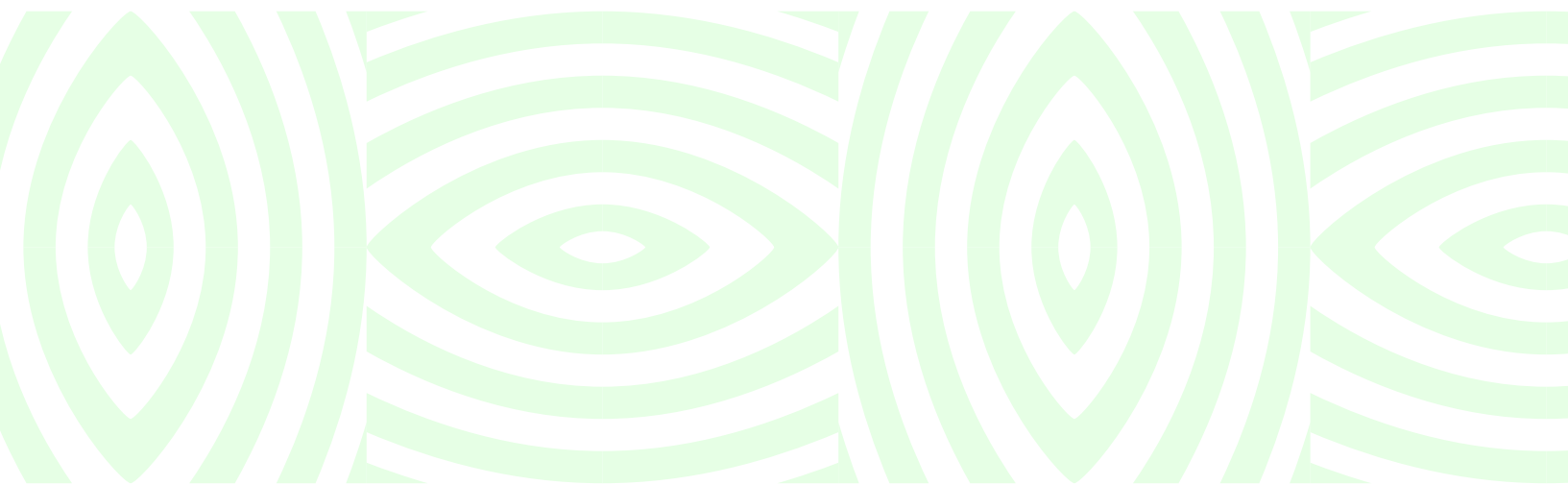
Last April, during the continuing post-pandemic period, I was installed as the President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches, thereby making history! My installation was by Zoom, not in-person, as our 2021 Annual Meetings were being held virtually. Will I be the only, or last, "Zoom" President, or will our developing technical skills lead to further experimentation?

Immediately after lockdown, I had to embrace Zoom services, meetings, and courses, but I was delighted that I had, once I realised Zoom's potential for uniting our denomination. I've conducted services, since 2020, which would have been much more complicated (and expensive) had I attended in-person, and this has been a wonderful experience: to make contact with many congregations and members, and come to know more Unitarian folk much better. Our traditions of warmth and hospitality have prevailed, and kind and appreciative welcoming has been apparent, everywhere. In-person services bring enjoyable personal contact, too; I wouldn't have missed the total experience for the world!

Leading worship has formed the greater part of Presidential life, and offering support and encouragement to a variety of congregations has brought great pleasure.

Recently, we have seen several new Unitarian ministers ordained - excellent news, indeed - and I hope that more will choose to train and serve our churches with energy and inspiration in the future. I have been honoured to attend several Valedictions, and Inductions, this year, and have rejoiced with ministers and congregations alike, as they all set forth along exciting new paths of potential fulfilment and challenge.

Uncertain times have meant that many traditional Presidential events have not been organised; I was, however, invited to attend the Remembrance Sunday Service at The Cenotaph, although the commemoration was greatly scaled down, and The Queen's presence, sadly, lacking. Nevertheless, the occasion was profoundly moving; I felt keenly its solemnity and sacrifice, especially whilst the two-minute silence was observed and wreaths were laid. Surrounded by many Commonwealth representatives, politicians, faith-leaders, and members of The Royal Family, the Cenotaph became the focus for recollection and the desire for peace and unity. Inspecting the Whitehall wreaths, later, as well as The Field of Poppies, outside Westminster Abbey, provided a fitting conclusion to a memorable day.



As we look to the future, let us appreciate our current unique opportunity. In our denomination, districts and churches, as we assess the after-effects of lockdown, as we must, we can adopt innovations, introduce improvements, embrace changes - without feeling unduly tied to the past.

My Presidential year has given me much valuable experience and insight, but, most of all, I have cherished the support received from our members, and have felt my efforts have been fruitful; it has been a tremendous privilege to represent the Unitarian Movement.

Anne Mills



GA President Anne Mills at the Cenotaph Service

Chief Officer's Report



General Assembly Chief Officer Elizabeth Slade

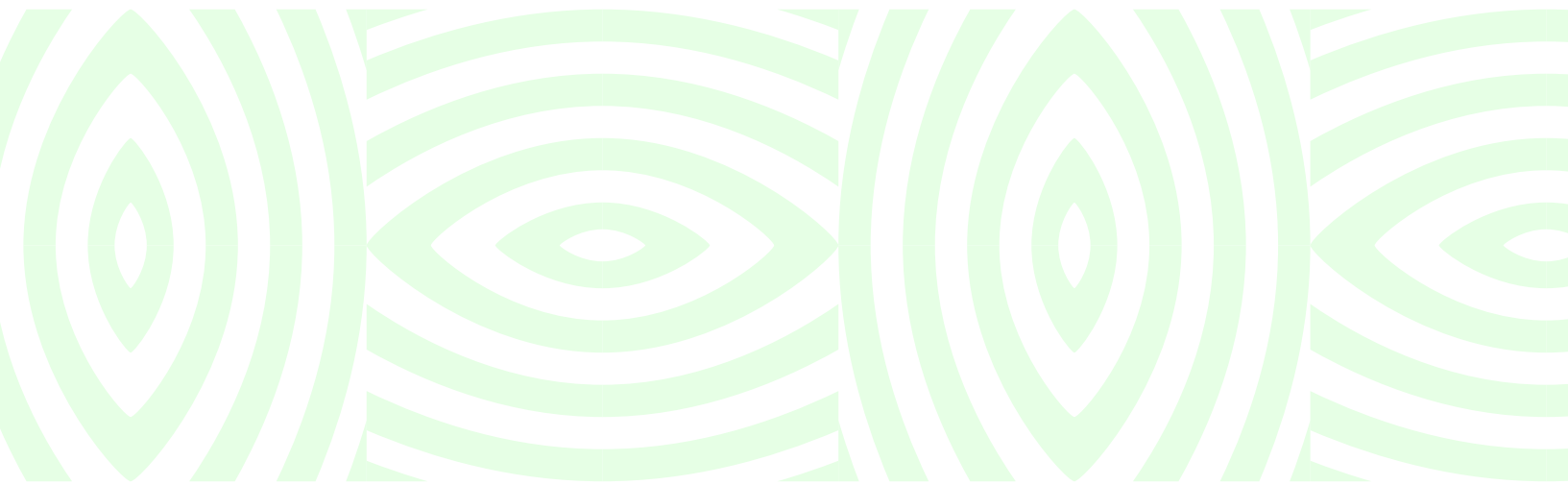
Reflecting on the 2020-21 year feels difficult – time has felt so slippery during pandemic, with so many of the normal rhythms being disrupted, and with so many false dawns of feeling like we might be moving beyond Covid. It's clear now that the 'normality' is not coming back, and the work ahead of us is to find how we adapt to our new – and seemingly ever-changing – circumstances.

These uncertain circumstances have meant change in how we do things; just as the world around us is full of change and uncertainty, our Movement has had to respond and adapt. Pandemic has prompted us to make creative strides forward in what we offer online. The necessity of this change in lockdown has uncovered other benefits – for example congregations reconnecting with people who have moved away, or making worship more accessible to disabled people or those who have caring responsibilities that mean they can join a congregation from home but not in person.

But there are big changes beyond online worship too. For some, the changes mean a recognition that their congregation has reached the end of the line, and to take the decision to close. We know that there are others who are currently grappling with the question of whether to stay open. For some, it has meant a clarifying of focus, when what was working before is no longer possible or sustainable.

I am certain that change will continue, and that we will continue to uncover new things as we adapt how we create and steward our communities – and I hope that congregations will also find a moment to breathe, step back, and celebrate the changes they have led and managed.

It's not surprising that in these times of uncertainty, the hunger for spiritual community has got stronger. Two years (and counting) of pandemic, against a backdrop of climate crisis and political unpredictability, mean that the cultural landscape of Britain has changed. Part of this change is that it has become much more common to speak of our inner lives; the pandemic brought such stark changes to our lives that talk of our emotional and spiritual wellbeing moved from the edges into the mainstream. For example, it is now very normal for employers to offer support for staff's emotional health, or to offer mindfulness training; the cultural barriers to engaging with our spiritual health are lifting. There has also been renewed appreciation for the value of community, not only because of the isolation we all experienced, but also in the need for a place to process all that we are experiencing; a place to explore with others, and to seek wisdom on how to make sense of our changing world.



There is a need for deep community that in some ways we are very well placed to meet – we know how to welcome people who are uncertain in their theological beliefs, or who are grappling with big questions. We know how to address the wariness that many people might have about religious organisations, whether about doctrine, hierarchy, homophobia, or misogyny.

There are other ways in which it is a challenge for us to meet people well. For several decades now, most of our congregations have been losing more members than they have gained, and so we can be unpractised at adapting our approaches to the needs of the newcomers.

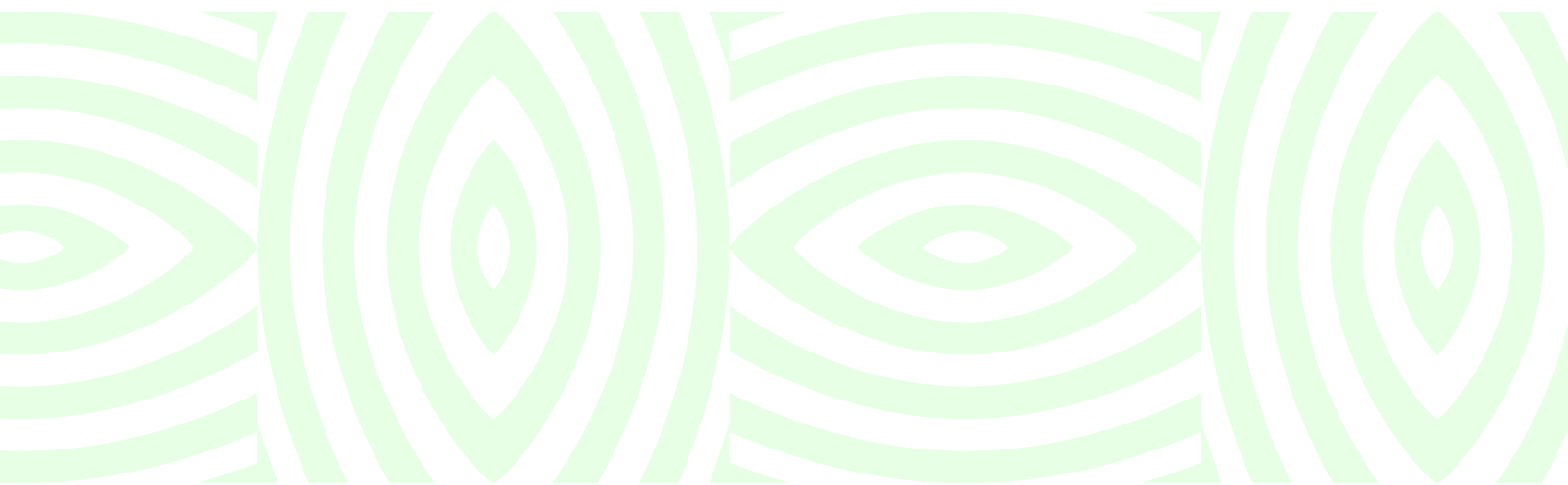
Quota membership figures are a blunt way of measuring our health as a Movement, but as we dip below 3,000 members, and bearing in mind that for many congregations three quarters of members and trustees are over 70, it's clear we are at a critical moment in which to recruit the next generations to steward our Movement for the future.

One of our biggest questions right now is how a congregation can continue to meet the needs of its current members, while also meeting the needs of newcomers. Evolution is part of our DNA – the natural consequence of being a free and inquiring faith – but

without practice, this evolution can be harder, and with many congregations relying on work from a small number of volunteers just to keep going as they are, the capacity for evolution can feel limited too.

But it seems important to tackle these questions, so that we can serve the needs of those people we might help.

Part of the work of the General Assembly is to support congregations to explore what the answers are for them; we know there is no common answer for all of us, or an answer that can be neatly provided by the Executive Committee or Staff. This support started before the pandemic with the Art of Hosting training, where 40 leaders from across our Movement explored what it means to serve spiritually healthy communities, while learning skills to host these conversations among others. In 2021 we launched a design programme to help congregations communicate more effectively with their communities, which provides prompts, tools and templates that will help find these answers. The workshops on congregational strategy offered in 2020/21 by Prof John Bates (of London Business School, and Chair of New Unity) did something similar through a different lens – supporting congregations to find their purpose, and then align their policies and operations to that core mission.



Our intention is to continue working in this way – enabling people to act, building capacity, supporting the sharing and learning that helps congregations to help each other. The answers are not going to come from the GA, but I'm sure we can help the answers to emerge from the wisdom and experience of our membership and our allies.

We see part of our responsibility as leaders for the GA to take some leaps of faith too. We are not in a time societally or as a Movement to rely on tried and trusted playbooks; yes, we must learn from what has gone before, but recognise that today's circumstances are new. Our Movement will not find its future without some bold leaps – along with careful discernment. The launch of the new Lindsey Press book, 'Why are we here? Discerning our Unitarian mission in an upturned world', based on 2021's online Summer School talks, provides provocations and questions for congregations to explore in small groups, to help us find our vision for the future.

We continue to look to improvements in how we enable communication within our Movement, in order to keep people well-informed and to strengthen the fabric of our community. Rory Castle Jones, our Communications Officer, and Lizzie Kingston Harrison, our Congregational Connections Lead are particularly focused on this work, though it comes into play for the whole team.

We also want to move beyond being a well-kept secret, by getting our voice out more in the public domain. I was glad to be invited to speak on Radio 4's 'Sunday' programme in 2021 to contribute to a discussion on assisted dying, and Rory Castle Jones and Melda Grantham have both featured in religious TV programmes 'Dechrau Canu', 'Dechrau Canmol' and 'Songs of Praise'. We hope to build on these relationships, and also find the ways to build awareness beyond the traditional faith sector.

We know that we also need to strengthen our foundations. This includes ensuring access to training for the skills that are needed for leading healthy congregations, investing in our leaders and ministers, and also looking ahead to our long-term financial sustainability.

We hope that all of our work together will help to create the conditions from which we can shine our light more brightly.

Liz Slade

Our Trustees





Marion Baker (Convenor)

Marion is a retired career civil servant and past President of the Unitarian denomination. She is Treasurer of the Trustees of Upper Chapel, Sheffield, Treasurer of the Sheffield District Association and Chairperson of the Nightingale Centre Management Committee. Wife of Rev Ernest Baker and mother of Tim.



Rev Celia Cartwright

Celia has spent almost all her life within the Unitarian and Free Christian Movement; as a congregant, spiritual searcher, Lay Preacher, Lay Pastor and Minister. She was a member of 6 congregations, then as lay pastor & minister to 6 congregations across England.

Throughout her life, her Unitarian faith has guided, supported and enabled her. As a lay preacher, lay pastor and minister she has served her congregations, and since retirement has been honoured to serve as President of both the British Unitarian Women's League and the General Assembly, and since 2021 as a member of the EC.



Hilda Dumbleton

Hilda is a lifelong member of the Swansea Unitarian Church and is currently the Treasurer. Her working life was in education, teaching Mathematics as well as positions of management. Although retired, she still does some work for the Welsh Examination Board. She is involved with the South East Wales District Society and also the Welsh Department.



Simon Hall

Simon has been a Unitarian since 2011, attending both Northampton and Leicester Great Meeting over the years. He has worked in the IT Services industry for the past 20 years, supplying case-management systems/ services to local authorities around the country. In Nov 2021 he started a new part-time role with Leicester Unitarians - Congregational Support Lead and is filled with a great sense of anticipation and excitement, having already started an ambitious programme of engagement around extending fellowship/activities with the members. Simon's passions are: fast cars; developing his spirituality whilst striving to serve others from a pastoral perspective; large-choir singing; and long country hikes.



Robert Ince

Robert's working career was spent in engineering and contracting consultancy in international business and he is a former Treasurer and Convenor of the General Assembly. He is currently President of the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF), President of the Sheffield District Association and chair of a number of other Unitarian bodies.



Jenny Jacobs

Jenny lives in Harrogate and is Secretary and an occasional worship leader at York Unitarians. She only discovered the Unitarians relatively recently, and wishes she'd known about them sooner. This helps explain why Jenny is passionate about raising the profile and public presence of Unitarianism. She's convinced there are a whole lot more people out there who want what we offer, but probably don't know we exist. Recently retired from her main job in housing, Jenny still works part time for the Ministry of Justice as a Valuer Member of the First-Tier Tribunal (Property Chamber).

Our Trustees



Rev Jo James

Jo is minister of Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds, where he has a particular interest in theology of emergence, mental health & wellbeing, social justice, environment, creative arts and interfaith conversation.

Before training for the ministry at Oxford he worked as an actor for over twenty years including work on radio, TV & film as well as at the RSC & National Theatre. Jo is married to Ann, a ceramic artist, they have two young children.



Rev Dr Rob Whiteman

Rob is Minister with Dundee Unitarians, having previously served with the Cotswold Group. He came to ministry following careers in Church Administration and Teaching, as well as a brief period in Development at the University of St Andrews where he had previously read theology. He discovered Unitarianism at St Mark's, Edinburgh.

Trustees' Review

Executive Committee



EC Convenor Marion Baker

Members during the year:

Marion Baker (Convenor), Rev Celia Cartwright (from Apr 2021), Sir Philip Colfox (until Apr 2021), Rev Jim Corrigan (until Apr 2021), Hilda Dumbleton, Simon Hall (from Apr 2021), Peter Hanley (Hon Treasurer), (until Apr 2021), Robert Ince, Jenny Jacobs (from Apr 2021), Rev Jo James, Rev Lynne Readett (until Apr 2021), Rev Dr Rob Whiteman (Acting Hon Treasurer from Apr 2021).

Staff Support:

Liz Slade (Chief Officer),
Andrew Mason (Minutes)

The Executive Committee (EC) acts as the trustee body of the General Assembly (GA) and is responsible for determining the overall direction and development of the GA in line with the decisions and policies agreed at the Annual Meetings and the requirements of charity law and other legal requirements. The Executive Committee provides strategic leadership, appoints the Chief Officer, and is responsible for ensuring the effective use of the assets of the General Assembly. Executive Committee members are not representatives of individual districts or areas of the country but must act in the best interests of the General Assembly as a charity.

The period of this annual report started in hope after a few months of lifted covid restrictions, but quickly showed us that the pandemic moved into winter 2020, and the 'cancelled Christmas' and following lockdowns across the UK. Our leaders and congregations have had their stamina tested as the challenges and uncertainty have become part of our normal lives. The impact on individuals, communities, and our wider society is deep and will be long-lasting. We are learning what it looks like to be in a chronic crisis – but despite the difficult context, there are many positive things happening within our movement. For many, the pandemic is a prompt to focus on what

is most important – to turn to the values that we hold highest, and how we are living them out.

This year we held the General Assembly's first ever online Annual General Meeting. Around 200 people attended, from across the country, in a day-long meeting that included the debates, motions, and devotions that we are used to in our in-person AGMs. We are grateful to Rev Kate Whyman for leading the team that offered pre-AGM worship the evening before, and to Helen Mason who hosted a social hour afterwards, to give people a chance to connect with each other. Rev Celia Cartwright, as President, chaired the meeting, supported by Andrew Mason, GA Operations Manager, and the Annual Meetings Steering Committee (Ann Sinclair, Alison Thursfield, and Rev Daniel Costley). We know that nothing quite feels the same as meeting in person, but we are glad to have had this 'proof of concept' that we can conduct our denominational business remotely when required.



This was an election year for the Executive Committee, so we welcomed Rev Celia Cartwright, Simon Hall, Jenny Jacobs, and Rev Jo James to the EC. Thank you to everyone who voted in the election, and to congregational Secretaries for coordinating the ballot during a time when most churches were closed. We thank Sir Philip Colfox, Rev Jim Corrigan, and Rev Lynne Readett for their terms as EC members, and also Peter Hanley for his six years of service as

Honorary Treasurer. We are grateful to Rev Dr Rob Whiteman for taking up the role of Acting Honorary Treasurer this year.

In inviting people to stand for election, we made sure to specifically encourage younger people and people of colour to stand, but all nominees were over 50 and white. This tells us that we need to do more to identify the barriers to standing for leadership positions in our Movement for those who are currently under-represented.



Welcome to new ministers

It has been an exciting year for new ministers joining the GA Roll. We welcomed Rev Dr Rory Castle Jones and Rev Melda Grantham to the Roll following their studies at Unitarian College, and Rev Robin Hanford who studied at Harris Manchester College Oxford. The timing of Rory and Melda's ordination services in Gellionnen and Llynrhodwen respectively after most pandemic restrictions were lifted allowed many Unitarians from across the country to visit and attend in person for a wonderful celebratory weekend.

Change in our communities

Hindley and Kidderminster have continued the process of closure, and Dudley are also formally closing, along with Bolton Bank Street. We are grateful to those who have navigated the difficult decisions to close their congregation, and for all their commitment over many years in service of their communities.

Online gatherings continue to thrive, and we're pleased to welcome a new weekly online service offered by the Unitarian Christian Association, led by a variety of ministers and worship leaders. Online communities started in pandemic are holding strong, particularly Heart and Soul (regular small group contemplative gatherings), the Unitarian and Free Christian Bible Study Group (for anyone wishing to explore the Bible, irrespective of belief), and Bad Coffee Club (a fortnightly session for games and connection for teenage Unitarians). These all continue to welcome new participants, and have also formed a strong core community. We have heard from many congregations that online worship has allowed them to broaden their reach, and make creative changes to their worship practices.



Unitarian Transformers is a new project, started with funding from the Wood Green Trust, that offers a variety of online worship and meditation, as well as support for those connecting Unitarianism into school groups. We congratulate Rev Mark Hutchinson for energising this new initiative, the wider Unitarian Transformers team, and the Wood Green Trust for their leadership in providing financial support for innovation within our movement.

GA Staff

We had two new Staff members join in December 2020 – Rev Bob Janis-Dillon as our first Congregational Connections Lead, and Cherralyn Davies as our Finance

Assistant. Bob has since moved on, returning to the US, and we are grateful for the strong foundations that he laid for this new role in his eight months with us. The Congregational Connections Lead is a role that weaves links across our community, identifying local successes and helping them to be shared, and connecting people who can help each other. We were delighted to welcome Dr Lizzie Kingston Harrison into the role in 2021 to pick up the reins from Bob.

The half of our Staff team that is usually based in our Essex Hall offices have mainly been working from home during this period, due to covid restrictions, and we're grateful for their adaptability in finding new ways to carry out their commitments during these uncertain times.

Visibility of Unitarianism

This year we launched a new website for the GA, after a long process to develop a new brand identity with a professional design agency and a steering group from across the Movement. The aim of the work was to position the Unitarian Movement in today's cultural context – a changeful society, with the uncertainty of political division and climate crisis, and where the majority of people in Britain do not play an active role in religious community. We know that our Unitarian faith can seem like a well-kept secret, and that with our critical decline in membership over recent decades, we need to be proactive in telling our story. Part of our strength as a Movement is that each of our congregations is independent and autonomous – and this can also be a challenge, as newcomers will get a different experience in different chapels. The design work aims to work with the strength of our decentralised community, and we have developed tools, templates and prompts to help congregations reflect on how they might use the designs to reflect their unique ethos and character, while showing that they are part of the broader Unitarian and Free Christian family.

Trustees' Review



We know that for some people the new designs came as a surprise, leaving them confused about the process by which they had been developed. We are grateful to those who got in touch directly with their concerns, as we were able to have conversations to hear and understand the underlying issues, and this led to many improvements to the website. We hope this will be an ongoing dialogue as we continue to refine how we tell the story of our faith to the wider world.

The Nightingale Centre

2021 saw the welcome reopening of the Nightingale Centre after many months of closure, during which staff were furloughed. We thank the Management Committee for their careful oversight during these changeable and challenging times, when normal operation of the centre was impossible. We are also hugely grateful to the Nightingale Centre staff team – their commitment and adaptability has meant that there has been a warm welcome to Unitarians and guests as they returned to the centre this year.

Many people across the Movement donated to support the centre financially during lockdown, and this generosity really made a difference. Thank you to all those who donated.

The Nightingale Centre continues to make operational and environmental improvements, and has been awarded the Peak District Environmental Quality Mark.

Finances

The accounts of the General Assembly are set out later in this report in summary form along with those of the Nightingale Centre. A full copy of the annual accounts is available on the Charity Commission website and from Essex Hall.

The Finance Group of the EC has continued to meet this year - Marion Baker, Sir Philip Colfox (up to April 2021), Peter Hanley (up to April 2021), Robert Ince, and Rev Dr Rob Whiteman, with David Joseph and Liz Slade from the Staff team. The Finance Group supports the in-year budget planning process, and looks at longer-term financial sustainability for the GA.

At the 2021 AGM, a resolution was passed to disinvest from fossil fuels. The resolution requests that the GA does not invest in companies whose total turnover is more than 10% derived from the extraction and/or supply of fossil fuels, and that the divestment is fulfilled by 2025; a review has begun to look at how this will be achieved.

The General Assembly's reserves policy is to hold sufficient free reserves, not restricted by their purpose or by virtue of endowment, to ensure that it is able to service its annual budgeted expenditure and to ensure that its risks in relation to its pension obligations are mitigated. The Finance Group will be reviewing the adequacy of this reserves policy in line with the GA's investment policy.

Risks

Beyond the immediate risks brought to our Movement by Covid-19, our longer-term risks relate to our ability to adapt to our current context in order for our decline in membership to be reversed. Over half of our 160 congregations have fewer than 20 members, and while size is not always a reliable indicator of the health of a congregation, we know that many are struggling to fulfil all roles needed for

their community to thrive. For many, the chapel or meeting house buildings need attention, money, or expertise – and can take significant energy from local committees meaning that there is limited capacity for congregational development in addition to caring for the fabric of the building.

Safeguarding should always remain in view as a risk, as shown this year by the report from the national Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse in religious organisations, to which we contributed a witness statement reporting on our procedures and practices. We continue to respond to the independent safeguarding audit that we commissioned last year from church safeguarding experts 31:8. Part of our response has been to increase the time available from our Safeguarding Lead, Gavin Howell, in order for us to have more capacity to develop our policies and practices, and to move beyond a limited 'compliance' based approach to safeguarding, towards investing in a safe and caring culture across our Movement.



Future plans

The EC and Staff have been reflecting and planning during this year to look ahead beyond pandemic and what is needed for our movement to develop a sustainable future.

Four key areas of focus have been identified:

Enabling people to act: we see the need to build capacity within our Movement, investing in leaders now and in the future. We recognise that many of our leaders have been

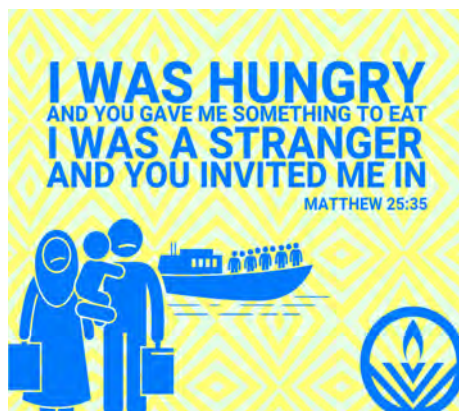
under great pressure during the pandemic, and there is risk of burnout in our Movement. Beyond pandemic, we see the need to develop a culture where those with ideas and energy receive the support, encouragement, and resources that enable them to take action.

Designing for spiritual health: evolution of practice is at the heart of our ethos – freedom of worship and spiritual inquiry. However, as our numbers have fallen, there have been fewer opportunities and capacity for cross-fertilisation of ideas, for theological exploration, and innovation in worship. This means that it can be hard for congregations to keep adapting to provide what will offer the biggest impact to their communities' spiritual health. We see the need to invest in supporting this to happen, to help congregations and worship leaders to do what best meets people's spiritual needs, rather than just continuing what has been done before.

Communicating within the Movement: we need to stay connected and informed, whether that's online, in print, or in person. We will build on our current approaches to communication (via social media, email, websites, the Inquirer, the Lindsey Press, online events and in person events) to keep weaving strong connections across our Movement.

Communicating with the wider world: we need to get our message out there, at the local and the national level. We know there is an appetite for free-thinking spiritual community, and yet many people in Britain haven't heard of Unitarianism. We will strengthen our public voice, and support congregations to do the same, so that we can be in service to more people.

Trustees' Review



Our Volunteers



Electoral Panel

Members during the year:

Gavin Mason, Nicola Temple, Howard Wilkins

The Electoral Panel (was established under the GA Constitution (Paragraph 7) to be responsible for conducting the election of the Executive Committee. It is accountable to the Annual Meetings.

The Panel was able to conduct its business by email and confirmed it would run a similar process to that in 2019.

It was agreed by the Executive Committee that one of the five people elected in 2019 would only serve for a two-year term to return to the pattern of four places being filled by election every two years to ensure a managed change of membership.

Anne Hock, of Popularis, was again appointed as Independent Election Supervisor.

A Call for Nominations was issued on 1 December 2020 with nominations opened from 15 December 2020 to be received by 26 January 2021 for the 2021 Election. Congregational secretaries were also informed of their responsibilities in the event of an election being called. There were six nominations received and, with one withdrawn, five remained for the four vacancies and an election was held. The decision of 2014 that the full results would be published was continued. The election opened on 16 February and closed on 23 March. Anne Hock reported on 23 March and a public announcement of the result was made on 24 March.

After two occasions when there were insufficient candidates to require an election (2015 & 2017), it is notable that, as in 2019, there were more candidates than places. Albeit again only one more, this is positive for accountability. The turnout of 39% is similar to previous years (2019: 39%; 2012: 35.6%; 2008: 43.5%).

We would like to thank Anne Hock of Popularis and her Staff and Elizabeth Slade, Chief Officer, and Staff at Essex Hall for their assistance. Previous feedback resulted in the following actions:

- Changes to the paperwork were made it clarify to candidates that what they state in their election statement will be reproduced exactly as written.
- The text in the biographical information document regarding current or former main occupation was made clearer, to avoid confusion.
- A poster about the election had been circulated, including to congregational Secretaries for display on noticeboards.

A “lessons learnt” review will be held for the next election in 2023. The Electoral Panel (normally three members) will be reconstituted to conduct the next EC election in 2023 and would welcome views on the election process from Congregations, Unitarian bodies and Associate & Honorary Members of the General Assembly. These should be sent to Elizabeth Slade (eslade@unitarian.org.uk).

Gavin Mason

Result of 2021 Executive Committee Ballot:

JOHN BATES	New Unity CIO	699	
REV CELIA CARTWRIGHT	Unitarian Peace Fellowship	889	ELECTED
SIMON HALL	Leicester Great Meeting	701	ELECTED
JENNY JACOBS	York Unitarians	746	ELECTED
REV JO JAMES	Mill Hill Chapel	799	ELECTED

Ballot Papers – 2931 dispatched, 1136 received (39%) and 4 spoilt.

Local Leadership – Supporting Congregations

Local Leadership

Members during the year:

Louise Rogers (Chair),
Margaret Robinson (Secretary & LEAP),
Winnie Gordon (WSC), Nicola Temple
(HSS), Howard Wilkins (BAG)

The Local Leadership Strategy Group (LLSG) has not met at all this year. This is partly due to the pandemic but also we believed that a re-organisation of strategy groups was imminent.

Sitting within the purview of the LLSG, Louise Rogers started the Unitarian Digital Resources Network, with an associate with technical skills, in January 2021. Bob Janis Dillon also supported the planning and the development of the Network. The aims and objectives of this were:

Aim:

To meet a variety of spiritual needs through good quality digital worship content.

Objectives:

1. To support the creation of high-quality, digital resources for the Unitarian and Free Christian community; and

2. To support those who wish to use digital resources, in obtaining a high-quality experience from these resources – finding the resources and being able to use the resources.

The Network has met online three times, and we have had two training sessions delivered by Rev Kimberley Debus with 35 people attending each session. The funding for these sessions came from the Hibbert Trust.

Up to the end of September 2021 eight newsletters had been sent to Network members. Any plans for the future will depend upon Network members' expressed needs.

Louise Rogers



Summer School Convenor

Jane Blackall

Mission statement (amended extract):
The core activity of Hucklow Summer School (HSS) is Religious Education. We aim to provide a balanced programme including Small Group Activities and Morning Theme Talks.

We are committed to providing opportunities for Daily Spiritual Practice including meditation sessions each morning and worship in the chapel each evening. We provide a Programme for Children and Young People.

It is essential that HSS is a safe and caring environment. To this end, we are committed to provision of a named "Minister of the Week" for pastoral care, and to the widespread use of group covenants.

It is our hope that participants will be inspired and challenged by their experience of HSS to develop and promote religious education activities back in their own congregations and communities.

Hucklow Summer School

Members during the year:

Jane Blackall (Convenor), Michael Allured, Kate Brady McKenna, Nicola Temple

We aim to promote diversity at HSS, representing the breadth within our Movement, in terms of our demographics, theologies and varied forms of spiritual practice.

Achievements

In 2021, due to the ongoing pandemic, Hucklow Summer School once again held a week of online events instead of our usual in-person residential week at the Nightingale Centre in Great Hucklow.

This year our theme was: 'Why Are We Here? Discerning our Unitarian Mission in an Upturned World'. We were delighted to present worship led by Jane Blackall, and a series of nightly talks by Jo James, Shana Parvin Begum, Rory Castle Jones, Stephen Lingwood and Kate Brady McKenna.

Local Leadership – Supporting Congregations

These online events are an opportunity to showcase the quality of what we offer to a wider audience. We hope to continue to offer live streaming of our theme talks in future years, when Hucklow Summer School returns to the Nightingale Centre, for those who are unable to attend in person.

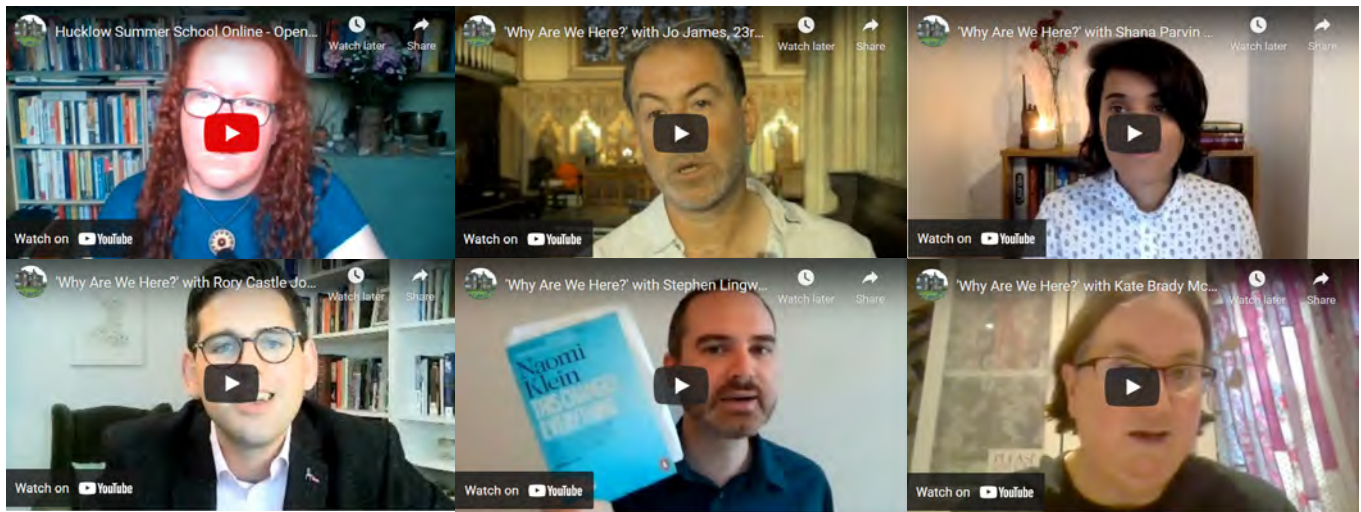
The talks were recorded and uploaded to our YouTube channel, as well as being released in podcast form as in previous years, so many more can access and revisit them. Links to the audio and video are available on our website:

www.hucklowsummerschool.co.uk/talks/

We are also working with the Lindsey Press Panel to produce a publication based on these talks.

Due to ongoing concerns around the safety of large in-person gatherings Hucklow Summer School Panel is deferring any decision about the shape of next year's event until early 2022.

Jane Blackall



The theme speakers at the 2021 Summer School -
watch or listen to their talks at www.hucklowsummerschool.co.uk/talks/

Buildings Advisory Group

Members during the year:

Mike Barber (Acting Convenor), Viv Aylmer, Adrian Isaac, Geoff Levermore, Howard Wilkins

Staff Support:

Simon Bland

Historic Consultants:

John Goodchild, Graham Hague, Judy Hague, Mark Pearce

During the year the Buildings Advisory Group (BAG) continued to be open for business, conducting all of its business by email. No physical meeting of the group took place.

Our mission is to informally offer practical guidance and suggestions on developing, financing, and maintaining our building stock and grounds.

The purpose of the Group this year, as previous ones, was to respond to requests for advice from various Unitarian places of worship and other denominational buildings. Requests are usually submitted via Essex Hall.

This year BAG has corresponded with three causes: Ballyhemlin, Northern Ireland; Swansea and Tamworth.

Essex Hall: the group continues to be represented, with a number of BAG members sitting on the Essex Hall Board of Trustees.

Gregson Trust: BAG is represented by Mike Barber and Mark Pierce.

We continue to look for a new Convenor as well as augmenting the membership of the group to broaden and deepen our expertise on offer.

In the absence of a Convenor, Mike Barber continues to act as 'Caretaker', fielding any new enquiries received.

Mike Barber



Images from the Swansea Church

Local Leadership – Supporting Congregations

Worship Studies Course

Members during the year:

Rev Winnie Gordon (Chair & Mentor),
Rev Sue Woolley (Course Administrator & Tutor), Rev Ernest Baker (Tutor), Rev Celia Cartwright (Tutor), Rev Sheena Gabriel (Tutor), Rev John Harley (Tutor), Rev Ant Howe (Tutor), Rev Dr Ann Peart (Tutor)

Foundation Step:

Unitarian College held its first Foundation Step course in January & February this year. Revs Winnie Gordon, Celia Cartwright and Sue Woolley were tutors for this, as well as Rev Ant Howe and Helen Mason, Director of Unitarian College. Students are required to complete all elements of the training and have two services assessed to receive their Foundation Step certificates.

Intermediate and Advanced Steps:

Registration on the Worship Studies Course (WSC) presently has eighteen students on the WSC Intermediate Step and seven on the Advanced Step, with seven students enrolled on the Unitarian Studies Course (USC).

We are grateful for the support of the GA in the cost of running the Intermediate and Advanced Step as they continue to subsidise the expenditure. We are also aware that the WSC Tutors continue to give much of their time and efforts to this endeavour for very little remuneration. In fact, their remuneration has not risen in over 10 years although the time and efforts to mark work, attend meetings, update the curriculum and refresh the course has increased.

The Worship Studies Course Team met twice this year, both times via Zoom, with most in attendance and all the tutors sending in their reports prior to the meeting. Much was discussed about the contribution the WSC makes to the Movement and the importance for congregations to have a good support of lay worship leaders.

Change in Governance:

The Worship Studies Course now comes under the aegis of Unitarian College. We have already co-facilitated four successful Foundation Step courses (see above) and are planning to update and refresh the Advanced Step during the next year.

The success of the WSC would not be possible without the work of the Intermediate and Advanced Tutors, and the Tutors and Facilitators on the Foundation Step that lay the ground work so well. Our denomination is very blessed to have such volunteers and the Chair expresses gratitude and thanks for all their time and efforts in training lay worship leaders.

If you would like more information about the WSC or the USC please do come and see us at GA, or contact Rev Sue Woolley, Course Administrator (revsuewoolley@gmail.com).

Rev Sue Woolley

Local Leadership – Supporting Congregations



Participants at the Intermediate Worship Studies Course

Ministry

Ministry Strategy Group

Members during the year:

Rev Sarah Tinker (Interim Chair), Rev Daniel Costley, Jane Couper, Helen Mason, Rev Lynne Readett & Jo James (EC Link)

Staff Support:

Simon Bland (Ministry & Congregational Support Officer), Liz Slade (Chief Officer)

Mission Statement:

To provide the General Assembly with excellent spiritual leadership with the skills and ability to develop and lead thriving religious communities.

The Ministry Strategy Group (MSG) holds oversight of Unitarian ministry training, with on-going responsibility for the GA's Roll of Ministers and for the work of ministers in congregations. The group met three times (including Interview Panel grouping) during the year covered by this report, all meetings being held online. MSG works closely with Simon Bland, our Ministry & Congregational

Support Officer. The impact of the pandemic was particularly marked this year, with both the group meetings and the interviews for ministerial candidates having to be undertaken via zoom, rather than in person.

Ministry Training

Our ministry colleges continued to deliver training and support during this challenging time and the variety of lockdown periods meant hybrid style teaching and learning was developed.

Reviewing both the ministry training competencies document and the Guidelines for Partnership between Congregations & Ministers, together with the start of a review into the General Assembly Roll of Ministers and Lay Leaders will help streamline the classifications on the GA Roll and provide a foundation for future development of the denomination. The MSG also recognises the importance of working with the Ministerial Fellowship on a Code of Conduct for Ministers.

Sarah Tinker



New Ministers Rory Castle Jones and Melda Grantham at their Induction Services in 2021

Ministry

Interview Panel

Members during the year:

Rev Maria Curtis (until Mar 2021), Rev Daniel Costley, Jane Couper (from Mar 2021) Rev Patrick Timperley, Rev Sarah Tinker (Chair), with College Tutors involved in the January interviews: Rev Alex Bradley and Rev Ant Howe

Staff Support:

Simon Bland (Ministry & Congregational Support Officer)

The Interview Panel held its first ever online interviews in March 2021, with candidates undertaking interviews over two days, in a similar pattern to the in-person interviews usually held at Harris Manchester College, Oxford (HMC). The presentation of an online sample service by each candidate was a powerful reminder of how many of our congregations had to operate during the year.

The Interview Panel continues to review its working practices on a regular basis, aspiring to professional standards in all our work for our Movement. We aim to give clear and helpful feedback to candidates if requested and to ensure appropriate levels of transparency in our decision-making, whilst maintaining absolute confidentiality about any individuals involved. We encourage all those who sense a call to ministry to engage in a process of discernment, often over a number of years. Those interested in ministry can learn much by observing and consulting with Ministers at work in our congregations and nationally, and by actively engaging with the life of their congregation and district association.

In July 2021 we held our usual Ministry Inquiry Day, online again. Inquiry Days provide an opportunity for people at all stages of their journey towards ministry to ask questions and consider possibilities. We also welcome email queries, which can be followed up in a phone conversation, or in an informal chat at the Annual Meetings. Our Movement needs more professionally trained Ministers, and yet it is not a path for everyone, and there are many other forms of leadership needed, both paid and voluntary.

1

Minister admitted
to the Roll with
Full status



9

Ministerial students in training in the academic year to Summer 2021



In March 2021 the Interview Panel recommended that Jennifer Sanders and Shana Begum be offered training with Unitarian College (UC). In addition, Julio Torres, a newly-qualified Unitarian Universalist minister, was accepted at HMC to undertake a year of bespoke training.

Melda Grantham, Rory Castle Jones, Robin Hanford, Jane Blackall, Laura Dobson and Elizabeth Harley all completed their training during the report period. Their vivas were conducted online, with independent academic input from Dr Mel Prideaux, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Leeds, Professor Bill Mander, Professor of Philosophy at Oxford University, Rev Dr Kim Wasey, Principal of Open College, Luther King Centre and Graham Sparkes, President of the Luther King Centre. It is heartening to witness our students acquitting themselves so professionally in conversation with external academics and to have our training schemes validated in this way. Our thanks go to our viva panel members and congratulations to all our students.

During the academic year to the Summer of 2021 nine students were in training:

Harris Manchester College, Oxford:
Julio Torres and Robin Hanford.

Unitarian College:

Jane Blackall, Rory Castle Jones, Laura Dobson, Melda Grantham (from Jan 2020), Elizabeth Harley, Arek Malecki and Jennifer Sanders (from Sept 21), with Shana Begum starting with a year's academic access course.



Unitarian College Students and Staff

New Ministers

The Rev Mark Hutchinson was accepted onto the Roll with Full Status.

Ministerial Students Fund

We continue to seek contributions to our Ministerial Students Fund, providing essential grants for students in training, administered by Essex Hall Staff. As a Movement we are committed to ensuring that students receive some assistance with the costs of training but the financial support offered to students is still inevitably modest. We are also grateful to congregations for their support of our students, by offering placements and preaching opportunities, and all those making generous contributions to the funding of our colleges, both independent charities. We can be rightly proud of our ministerial students and the efforts they undergo on the path towards congregational ministry. Our continuing support and encouragement will help to ensure a vibrant and visionary ministry, leading our Unitarian & Free Christian congregations onwards in the years ahead, adapting to the changing times we are living through.

Sarah Tinker

Visibility

Lindsey Press

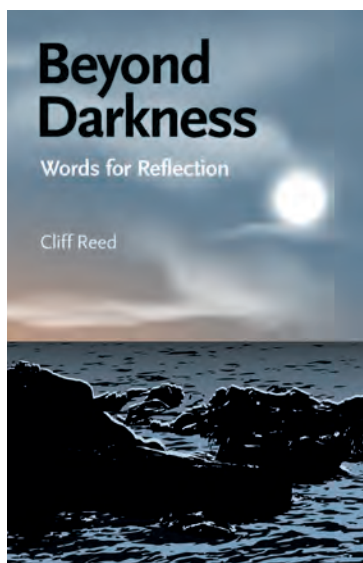
Members during the year:

Catherine Robinson (Convenor), Rev Dr Maria Curtis, Leslie Schipa (from Dec 2020)

Staff Support:

Audrey Longhurst, Rory Castle Jones (Communications Officer), Liz Slade (Chief Officer)

One new book was published under the Lindsey Press imprint during the past financial year: *Beyond Darkness: Words for Reflection*, an anthology of prose and verse for private meditation and public worship, composed (some of it in response to the pandemic) by Rev Cliff Reed. The book was launched at a virtual GA event in April 2021 led by Rev Kate Dean, who conducted a half-hour interview with the author about his sources of inspiration and methods of working, followed by a one-hour workshop for c. 30 participants on creative writing for devotional purposes.



New Lindsey Press Title, 'Beyond Darkness'

The book was well reviewed; for example: "It deals with sorrow and pain, with the agonies that humanity has inflicted upon itself and the world, and it emerges on the other side of that with a positive statement that goes 'beyond darkness'" (Faith and Freedom).

In general, sales of Lindsey Press books have been low during the pandemic (457 copies this year, and 890 last year, compared with 1,122 in the financial year ending September 2019), since we depend greatly on purchases at the GA Annual Meetings and other in-person Unitarian events, all of which had to be cancelled because of the national lockdowns. However all our books are readily available on-line via the GA website, where they can be ordered from Bookshop. Org (a more ethical alternative to Amazon). As always, we are grateful to staff member Audrey Longhurst at Essex Hall for her invaluable help with marketing Lindsey Press books and analysing sales patterns.

Work in progress includes a major volume of essays and worship resources concerned with Eco-spirituality: green theology, philosophy, and politics viewed through a Unitarian lens, commissioned by Rev Maria Curtis.

As a congregational resource we also plan to publish a selection of the talks given during the virtual Hucklow Summer School in 2021, on the theme *Why Are We Here?* Transcripts of the talks will be accompanied by questions for reflection and discussion.

Other ideas (currently in need of authors and/or commissioning editors) include a volume of essays presenting Unitarian perspectives on LGBTQ+ issues; a practical guide to congregational development; and an introduction to Unitarianism for beginners (to replace *Elements of Unitarianism*, which is out of print). Further suggestions (submitted to the Panel's Convenor at cmrobinson.oxford@gmail.com) are invited. We would also welcome advice from anyone with expertise in the legal and practical aspects of electronic publishing via Kindle and other digital services.

Catherine Robinson

Penal & Social Affairs

Members during the year:

Bruce Chilton (Chair / Secretary), Tony Cann, Jenny Jacobs, Jo O'Sullivan, Tony Rees, Tony Ward, David Warhurst, Paul Wheeler, Sarah Wilcox, Jane Williams

The Penal and Social Affairs Panel (PSAP) is a social responsibility activity of the Unitarians.

It was created as the Penal Affairs Panel in 1992 following the General Assembly's "great concern at the poor conditions and regime at many local prisons." The Panel was given the task "to investigate the current situation on... penal policy, to keep the denomination informed..., and to provide a liberal religious voice in response... to current legislation."

The prison population of the UK rose steadily from 42,000 in 1992 to 86,000 in 2020, including those held under Immigration Act powers in detention centres legally described as "prisons". The onset of the Covid pandemic has cut the prison population to under 80,000 and those in detention centres to under 2,000 by the use of "immigration bail".

But these figures hide alarming developments. More than 12,000 are unsentenced and almost 4,000 have been held beyond the legal limits because of the pandemic and the delays in the courts. The pandemic and the wider use of bail and immigration bail has reduced the numbers of women and child prisoners. The Legal Aid system continues in crisis.

Sadly, the pandemic and its restrictions have reduced the activities of the Panel. Perhaps the benefits of Zoom meetings – the Panel has held five during the year – do not increase enthusiasm to research and write. Two articles have been published in The Inquirer and three new editions of the PSAP News have been issued with online



links to news of recent developments in criminal justice, human rights, prisons and social problems. We have held a monthly series of discussions on Zoom on specific social issues. The Panel members made big efforts to give a presentation, "The Importance of Social Action", at the Unitarian Zoom Societies days in June, of the Panel's interests and work. It was well received. Panel members attended the AGM of Liberty on behalf of the Unitarians.

Your Panel is intent on encouraging social responsibility efforts by Unitarians and throughout our Unitarian Movement. We share the view that it is essential to maintain our history of social action and reform by having a national social responsibility centre with a specific officer at the General Headquarters at Essex Hall. Sadly, the Panel's application to the Wood Green Trust for financing was defeated by other interests with the laudable aim of increasing the training of Unitarian ministers. We continue to plan for the return of a social responsibility officer to Essex Hall.

The Panel now looks forward to the return to in-person General Assembly meetings in 2022 and resuming our long series of high-quality lectures from eminent and expert speakers. We hope to engage a well-known national figure on an issue of major national importance whose address will attract national publicity to The Unitarians and our GA Meetings.

The Covid pandemic has been a sad time. A brighter effect has been the outburst of social action by so many volunteers in such areas as foodbanks and giving to charity. As our Movement's numbers fall, it seems to the PSAP that these volunteers are an obvious source of Unitarians. We do believe that social responsibility is religion in action. Do you?

Bruce Chilton

Wales

Welsh Department

Members during the year:

Rev Alun Wyn Dafis, Hilda Dumbleton, Mattie Evans (Co-opted, from Oct 2020), Lis Dyson Jones (Co-opted), Tony Foster, Rev Eric Jones (life member), Megan Jones Roberts (from Oct 2020), Rev Cen Llwyd, Julie Nedin, Morwen Thomas, Rev Wyn Thomas (Chair from Jun 2020), Alun Watts

Staff Support:

Melda Grantham (Secretary)

This was a year like no other, and we will look back at this period as certainly a difficult and anxious time, but I hope that we will also marvel at the adaptability of members and congregations who made sure that Unitarianism in Wales did not grind to a complete halt. The innovation shown by ministers and others meant that there was always an opportunity to attend digital services, to view pre-recorded services and meditations on-line, as well as a wide variety of offerings on social media platforms, and we should never underestimate the amount

of work that this has entailed. The Unitarians Wales committee are truly grateful for the way that the Movement responded when it would have been much easier to withdraw and give up. It is apparent that a far wider audience has been reached through these efforts as people who would not physically been able to attend a chapel building have been logging on from their homes and have been able to create or maintain a connection with a congregation. It has also allowed an element of shopping around which means that those searching for a spiritual home have been able to do so easily.

The magic of Zoom has meant that the committee has been able to meet regularly, and in fact has met more often than we would have under normal circumstances, and this dedication by volunteers is to be commended too. Many plans had to be adapted or postponed because of the pandemic, but this produced other opportunities and allowed us to consider what changes need to be made to what we provide and how it is provided. Every congregation responded to a survey that we sent out in August, and although some only wanted 'things to return to normal', most were very positive and were hopeful for the future.

Members of the Welsh Department on a Zoom call with GA Chief Officer Liz Slade



We had, before Covid struck, agreed to hold Art of Hosting sessions, a gentle way to hold important and sometimes difficult conversations, and were able to start holding these sessions through Zoom. They have been very successful, with all those who have attended being enthusiastic and commending the work we are doing to change the 'committee culture' by providing safe spaces for every voice to be heard. These are continuing with the next round being held in November for Welsh-language speakers.

Although we have not been able to gather, we have been able to reach a very wide audience through some good television coverage which has raised our profile effectively. The first occasion was a half-hour Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol programme talking about the history, the historical characters and how our radical history influences the way we work today. The second programme was a service led by Melda Grantham at Gellionnen chapel. The theme was love and the celebration of LGBTQ+ month and Rory Castle Jones also took part. Both programmes were very well received by those outside of the Movement.

The weekend of the 4th and 5th September 2021 provided a reason for celebration as two new ministers were ordained - Rev Melda Grantham on the Saturday and Rev Dr Rory Castle Jones on the Sunday. We wish Rory all the best for his ministry at Gellionnen.

Our greatest sadness during this time is that we lost a valuable member of the committee through the death of the Rev Alun-Wyn Dafis. His loss has been felt throughout the Movement and we extend our deepest condolences to his family and his many friends.

Melda Grantham

Youth

Youth Panel

Members during the year:

Jim Blair, Jen Hazel, Claire Maddocks,
Sara Robertson, Claire Wilton

Staff Support:

Gavin Howell (Youth Coordinator), Andrew
Mason (Minutes)

GA Unitarian Youth Programme Update

So, Gav, what's been happening since the last youth report?

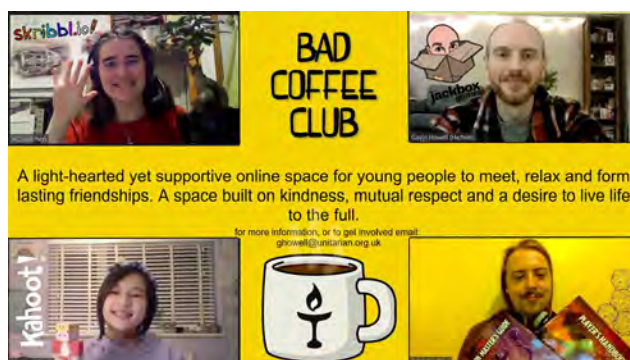
Well, this is my second annual report since the start of the pandemic and at the time of writing (November 2021) various Covid19 restrictions remain in place across the country. For an organisation of our size and capacity, this, as you can imagine, has created a very challenging environment in which to provide traditional residential youth work. The landscape too is ever changing with cases once again on the rise and the introduction of a possible 'Plan B' on the horizon. Consequently, and with some sadness, we haven't hosted any residential youth and family events this year.

However, despite the challenges of the moment, it's still been an excellent year for the Unitarian Youth Programme. In the space cleared by the pandemic lots of new opportunities have emerged.

You'll be pleased to read that many of the initiatives which came out of the first period of lockdown, and mentioned in last year's annual report, have matured, and gone from strength to strength.

Bad Coffee Club (BCC), a fortnightly online engagement group created and held by a group of young Unitarians aged 14 – 18, continues to grow. For those of you who don't know, BCC describes itself as 'A light-hearted and supportive space for young people to

meet, relax and form lasting friendships. A space built on kindness, mutual respect and a desire to live life to the full.' In April, the group received confirmation from The Wood Green Trust that their grant request for £1,500 over 3 years had been successful. They've used the money to develop the provision further by purchasing new content material, investing in safeguarding training as well as resourcing a new wellbeing initiative. It's wonderful to see this provision grow both in terms of depth as well as reach. Congratulations Bad Coffee Club! Your vision, drive and creative flair are an inspiration to us all.



The GA Congregational Youth Leader Support Group, whose purpose is to support congregations develop a form of youth and family ministry in harmony with their setting, has welcomed new participants and together co-created new opportunities for those they serve. One of which has been an internship of sorts that has partnered #Blessed, a Unitarian youth group based at Gellionnau Chapel, with the planning team which organises the Malvern Festival of Ideas. The festival has strong links with the Malvern Transformers youth group which is supported by Evesham Unitarian Chapel.



The #Blessed Group and the Malvern Transformers

Impressively, as part of the event line-up which has 'Imagination' as its theme, the interns have managed to secure the attendance of Rob Hopkins (imager, writer, and environmental activist), Baroness Julia Neuberger DBE (member of the House of Lords) and Dominic

Grieve (former Attorney General for England and Wales). An impressive line up! A fantastic initiative which really showcases the enormous potential of congregational cooperation.

Our partnership with Religions for Peace Inter Faith Youth Network too is developing nicely. In November 2020 I helped organise their first in-person event since the start of the pandemic. It took place at the St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace in London. In attendance were participants representing Christian, Jewish, Humanist, Buddhist, Muslim, Jain, Hindu, Sikh, Unitarian, and Zoroastrian groups. In July, a group of young Unitarians participated in an online interfaith event called, 'My faith and the environment.' Needless to say, they gave a great account of themselves and our Unitarian Movement. It's very early days, but I'm excited by what might come from our participation in this network. The opportunity to meet, collaborate and cocreate with young people from differing faith traditions is an exciting one. Let's see what happens.

In March 2021 we held our first online national youth event called 'Cloud9'. It was billed as, 'An alternative online space for young people to relax, have fun and make lasting friendships.' In total 66 children and young people (from toddlers to those in their mid-20s) registered for the event with 52 attending on the day. 84 participants attended the various sessions with many attending more than one. Many were attending a Unitarian youth event for the first time. Interestingly, of the 7 sessions, 3 were planned and delivered by our young people themselves. I feel it was a solid first attempt at running a national online youth event. We learnt a lot. My sincere thanks to the many volunteers who did everything from running sessions to helping with publicity. We couldn't have done it without you.

In addition to the above, I'm pleased to inform you that several new initiatives have emerged since my last report.

A group of young adults are exploring the potential of having a Unitarian presence at the Greenbelt Festival. For those of you who don't know, (and from their website) Greenbelt is 'A place where artistry meets

activism, the secular meets the spiritual, and politics meets positivity. A place to dream up a better world, dance, debate, pray and party.' Sounds great! The group feel that there's a lot we could learn from this space. Let's see what happens.

Recently, we've held a number of conversations regarding what an online group for parents might look like. So far, we've discussed its purpose, potential content as well as how and when it might meet. It's early days but we hope to be able to trial something soon.

We're continuing to have conversations with Unitarian youth leaders overseas. Some of these have already begun to bear fruit. It was great to see our own Tomas Frere-Jenkins join the US-based Soul Matters Sharing Circles Youth Packet Research Team. His first resource pack *On The Road Together: The Path of Exploring Possibilities*, co-authored with Jakobe Neal, was published in September 2021. I'm excited by what else might come from these conversations. Again, let's see what happens.

Finally, I'm pleased to report that the General Assembly has teamed up with Unitarian College and The Nightingale Centre to discuss future residential programming at the venue. I'm very pleased that this collaboration is taking place and, together, I look forward to exploring what Unitarian youth and family residential programming might look like in this new, and rapidly changing, landscape.

In all, a very encouraging year with lots of new, and very different, shoots randomly appearing in unexpected places. What they'll grow into, if they grow at all, is anyone's guess. That's the exciting part. It feels like a rewinding of sorts is taking place. The source of these shoots, the seeds from which they have germinated, is our Unitarian Movement. They've come from you.

So, if you have an idea that you'd like to explore drop me an email. Let's have a conversation and see what emerges. Always happy to support.

Gavin Howell

Email: ghowell@unitarian.org.uk



Nightingale Centre - Great Hucklow

Members during the year:

Marion Baker (Chair), Dot Hewerdine, Karen Hicks, Cathie Masztalerz, Richard Merritt, Colin Partington (Financial Secretary), John Rowland, Michael Tracey (Secretary)

The Nightingale Centre began the year closed to all guests with Staff remaining on furlough and the building maintenance and essential administration monitored and kept up to date by members of the Management Committee, in particular Marion Baker who ensured all bills were paid on time and that guests received timely responses to their queries.

As the Pandemic continued with extended lockdown restrictions, into the New Year, we continued to furlough the staff and respond to guest queries. The members of the Management Committee started to make plans for reopening but it wasn't until June 2021, after several false starts, we were able to implement those plans and prepare for the first guests to return.

Our loyal staff returned to the Centre at the beginning of June, taking two weeks to do a thorough deep clean, ensure that all furnishings, equipment etc, were serviced and any maintenance repairs and updates completed. The Staff and committee also worked on the restrictions and requirements for the Centre to be Covid-safe and drew up guidelines for guests in line with the Government's strict protocols including increased cleaning regimes, one-way systems, and the wearing of masks.

Our first guests arrived in the middle of June. Initially only specific types of groups could be accommodated and numbers had to be carefully monitored. But, gradually, over the next few months, the restrictions on numbers were lifted and the house was once again able to accommodate some of our regular, larger groups. In particular, educational groups and Send a Child to Hucklow visits resumed and it was wonderful to hear the laughter of children and young people fill the rooms and the garden. August and September were very busy months and





Images from the centre

we are indebted and deeply grateful to the staff who coped with all the challenges Covid threw at them including staff illnesses, additional cleaning and hygiene practices required to maintain Covid safety for all.

As the year drew to a close at the end of September 2021, October bookings promised another busy and challenging month. The quieter months from November 2021 into the early New Year of 2022 will give opportunities for the Staff and the Management Committee to attend to necessary maintenance and improvement tasks and to review the needs for 2022.

We are grateful to our loyal regular guests for willingly deferring their bookings, often more than once, during the worst of the pandemic. It has been a delight to welcome many back to the Centre during the Summer and we look forward to seeing many more in the coming year. Queries and requests for accommodation from new groups and individuals are also plentiful and bookings are looking very good for 2022 and beyond.

Most of all we are grateful to the staff who have been able to return to the Centre and who have “worked their socks off” to ensure that our guests are safe and have a warm welcome and comfortable stay. The time since re-opening has not been easy for anyone. There have been many challenges and all have been faced and overcome with optimism and determination! None of us can predict what will happen during the coming Winter in terms of the pandemic. But we do know that The Nightingale Centre will continue to offer excellent and friendly service to all our guests.

Richard Merritt



Images: Surrey Pride 2021, Rev. Melda Grantham on Welsh TV programme 'Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol' for LGBT+ History Month, Mansfield Food Festival, Candles for the NHS at Ullet Road Unitarian Church Liverpool, Extinction Rebellion in Godalming, and The Chapel In The Garden Bridport illuminated as part of the 'Right Up Your Street' project

Annual Meetings



Annual Meetings 2021



After careful consideration, we took the decision not to hold the 2021 Annual Meetings in person and instead held our Annual General Meeting online on Saturday 24 April 2021 to cover the business and decision-making for The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches. There were 268 participants, of whom 158 were voting members.

The resolutions passed at the AGM covered topics such as the development of a Code of Ethics for ministers and other leaders, divestment from fossil fuels, youth provision, and supporting the Red Cross. You can find full information about the resolutions at <https://www.unitarian.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Resolutions-from-the-2021-Annual-General-Meeting.pdf>

As well as discussing and voting on important matters, the AGM was an opportunity to hear from our Chief Officer, President and Executive Committee, to receive the 2020 Annual Report and Accounts, to thank retiring ministers and welcome new ones, and to participate in short worship sessions led by some of our ministers. GA staff members gave updates on their work via pre-recorded videos, which you can find at: <https://www.unitarian.org.uk/agm-2021/>

Separate events were held on Zoom for those interested - a Social Evening and a Worship Service.

As well as the AGM, societies and groups held their annual gatherings online, with several of them coming together between 17 and 19 June for a three-day online gathering.





Our Finances and Organ

isation



Annual Meetings 2021 Accounts

The 2020 & 2021 Annual Meetings were not able to take place in person. Instead we ran an online Business Meeting. In 2020, the Meetings had to be cancelled at short notice, which incurred various penalty costs. In 2020, some of those who had booked for the Meetings generously donated the monies they had paid for their bookings. In 2021 some people also choose to donate.

Summary of Financial Results	2021	2020	2019
	£	£	£
Income			
Accommodation & Conference Fees			94,364
Group Registration			4,347
Donations to Meetings	2,041	10,943	14,153
	2,041	10,943	112,864
Expenditure			
Pre-AGM Expenses		464	830
Receptions & Social			1,030
Room Hire and Audio Visual		4,220	8,301
Speakers and Fees		820	2,815
Sundries	180	1,547	872
Venue Account		78	69,422
	180	7,129	113,488
Balance: Surplus / (Loss)	1,861	3,814	(624)

CA Financial Summary – Income

Finance Manager

David Joseph



Overview

The General Assembly like many organisations, continued to be affected by the Covid-19 lockdown which had an impact on our activities and our finances. The Annual Meeting was an online event, as were many of our activities. Our investment valuations recovered resulting in total investment gains of over £1M. This favourably affected the result for the year (Net Movement in Funds) generating an operating surplus of £1,013,394.

Income

Total income for the year was £640,776, down £383,057 on 2019/20. The main reason for this was the fall in legacy income in the year compared to 2019/20, a net reduction of £339,973. Regardless, we still received net £119,000 from two unexpected legacies. Fees and grant income (from Essex Hall and the British & Foreign Unitarian Association) amounted to £253,693 (2019/20: £258,087). Other operating income includes revenues from Live Giving, book sales and investment income. There were donations in support of the Annual Meeting of £2,041, down from 2020 (£10,943).

Grants from Essex Hall Trust and

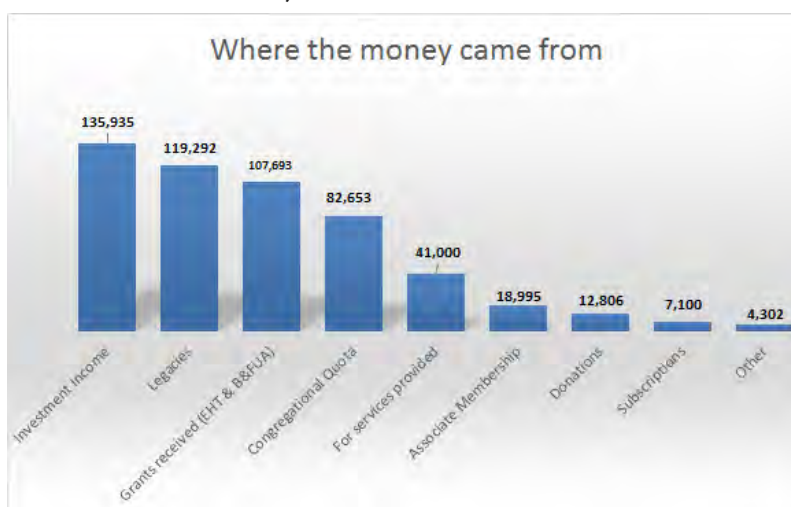
B&FUA The Essex Hall Trust grant, gifted accommodation and management fees charged to the Trust amounted to £226,000.

The gift-in-kind of free office space included in this sum is valued at £111,000. The B&FUA grant was £27,693 (2019/20: £32,087).

Loan to the GA The GA repaid the loan from the Essex Hall Trust on time by a planned drawdown from investments. This generated a realised profit on sale of shares of £17,098 (included in total gains. The GA is grateful to Essex Hall Trust for providing this interest free loan early in the pandemic which enabled the GA to avoid being adversely affected by the fall in investment valuations.

Investment Income was £135,935 (2019/20: £135,264).

Unrealised and realised gains After the significant fall in market value last year, the GA's investments recovered and achieved total gains of £1,090,636. This included a realised profit on the sale of some investments; the proceeds were used to repay the loan to Essex Hall Trust.



Note: The income chart excludes the non-cash element of the EH grant.

CA Financial Summary – Expenditure

Expenditure

The GA spent £718,018 (2020: £757,625) in the year to 30th September 2021, a reduction of £39,607 against 2020. This includes expenditure from programme activities, grant payments and other charitable activities as well as administration expenses. As the Annual Meeting took place online, the event costs were avoided. Other major savings were in Strategy Programme costs, administration and governance as many activities were adapted to be delivered online.

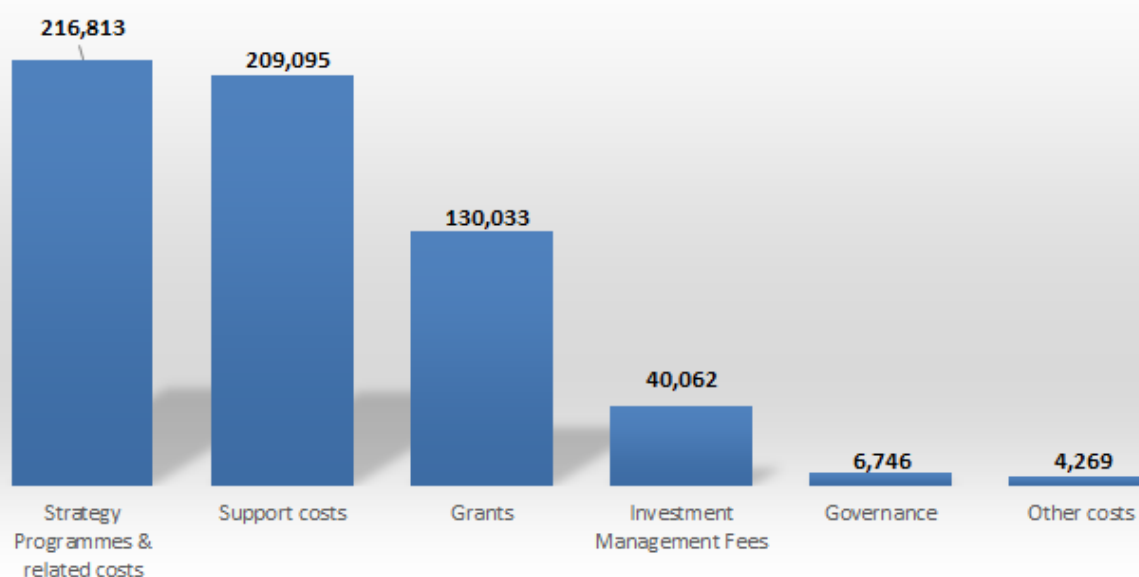
Strategy Group Programme includes the Local Leadership, Visibility and Ministry strategy groups as well as the Welsh and Youth Programmes and cost £163,940. Strategy Group Committee costs were £5,342, similar to 2019/20 (£5,297).

Grants paid amounted to £130,033 (2019/20: £149,246). There was a reduction in grant payments by £19,213.

Governance and EC activities amounted to £6,746 (2019/20: £11,835). The fall in costs of EC activities continued as EC business remained online.

Long-term liability This arises from the General Assembly's participation in the Staff pension scheme and represents the amounts payable to the Pensions Trust under the deficit funding agreement. It has been actuarially calculated and shown in the balance sheet at £38,430. (30 September 2020: £52,219).

Where we spent our money



Note: The expenditure chart excludes the non-cash office space notional cost.

Balance Sheet

	2021	2021	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Assets	56,667		58,281	
Investments	6,580,425		5,679,850	
Investment property	<u>150,000</u>		<u>150,000</u>	
		6,787,092		5,888,131
Current Assets				
Stocks	3,194		8,296	
Debtors	355,324		494,151	
Investments	-		-	
Cash at Bank and in hand	<u>273,445</u>		<u>185,059</u>	
	631,963		687,506	
Current Liabilities				
Creditors falling due within one year	<u>(68,386)</u>		<u>(224,573)</u>	
Net Current Assets		563,577		462,933
Long term Liabilities		(38,430)		(52,219)
Total Assets less Liabilities		7,312,239		6,298,845
Unrestricted Funds		2,906,967		2,928,418
Restricted Funds		3,457,542		2,564,430
Endowment Funds		947,730		805,997
Total Funds		7,312,239		6,298,845

Income and Expenditure Report

Where the money came from	2020-21	2019-20
Income from Donations & Legacies		
Legacies	119,292	459,265
Associate Membership fees received	18,995	14,475
Subscriptions from Related Charities	7,100	5,625
Community Appeal	0	440
Sundry donations and other income	12,806	28,842
Essex Hall Accommodation and Grant	191,000	191,000
B&FUA Grant	27,693	32,087
	376,886	731,734
Income from Charitable Activities		
Furtherance of GA Objects	395	165
Annual Meetings Income	2,041	10,942
Congregational Quota	82,653	99,201
Sales of Books	1,866	5,527
Income from Other Trading Activities	41,000	41,000
Investment Income	135,935	135,264
	640,776	1,023,833
Where we spent our money		
Cost of Books	1,097	1,328
Grants Paid and Payable	130,033	149,246
Support costs	367,626	357,343
Strategy Group Programme activities	163,940	190,874
Strategy Group Committee costs	5,342	5,297
Governance	6,746	11,835
Investment Management Fees	40,062	34,566
Other	3,172	7,136
	718,018	757,625
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources	(77,242)	266,208
Gains/ (losses) on investments	1,090,636	(415,665)
Net Movement in Funds	1,013,394	(149,457)

The Nightingale Centre Financial Summary

Another interesting year from a financial point of view!! Last year I said "....the Centre will survive." It has.

Our finances are good because of:-

- Generous donations to the centre, especially the Fighting Fund established by David Warhurst
- The Government Grant and Furlough Scheme
- A legacy from Mark Anthony James.

The Centre has received a substantial legacy from the estate of Mark Anthony James, who had fond memories of attending the old Children's Holiday Home in Great Hucklow



and regarded the Nightingale Centre as their direct successor. We are pleased that his early experiences of Hucklow formed such a strong impression, and are very grateful for his legacy, which will help insure our future for new generations of visitors. Our normal income from residents is returning and will continue to flourish due to the excellent management and staff.

Note:- We aim to complete our depreciations by the end of 2023 and then pay in real time.

Colin Partington MBE

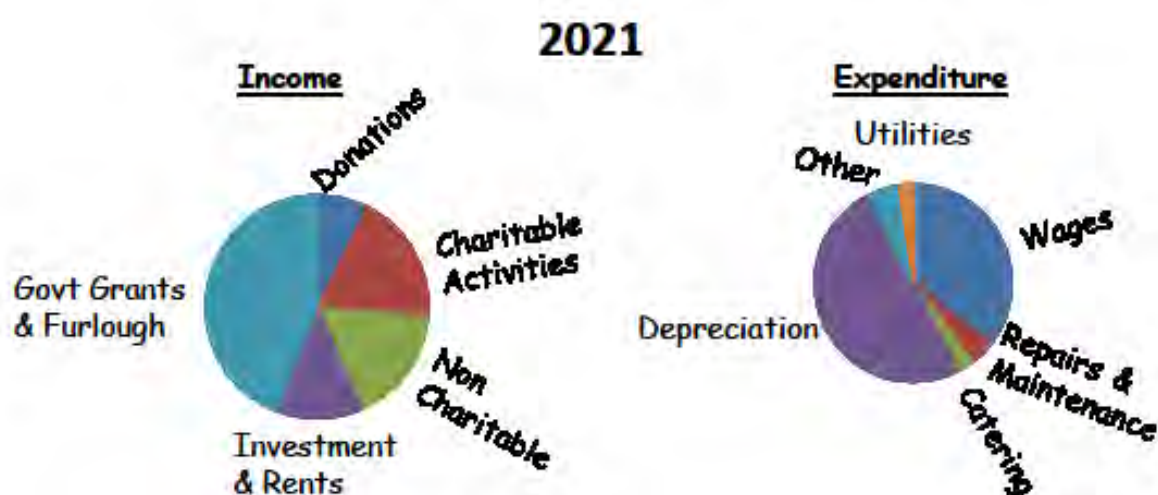
Income and Expenditure Report

Where the money comes from	2020-2021	2019-2020
	£	£
Donations	18,284	440,361
Charitable Activities	47,493	82,733
Non-Charitable Activities	42,070	9,193
Investment and Rental Income	30,929	30,783
Government Grants and Furlough Scheme	109,372	72,741
Total incoming Resources	248,148	635,811
Where we spent the money		
Providing the Services - Charitable	328,242	289,677
Providing the services - non-charitable	36,471	32,303
Governance Costs	1,260	870
Total Outgoing Resources	365,973	322,850
Net Incoming resources	(117,825)	(129,034)
Gains/losses on investment assets	135,482	34,075
<u>Net Movement of Funds</u>	<u>17,657</u>	<u>347,036</u>

Balance Sheet

Total Assets of The Nightingale Centre as at 30 September 2021

	2021	2021	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Assets	1,431,076		1,575,952	
Investments	224,286		193,135	
Investment Property	1,035,852		931,522	
		2,691,214		2,700,609
Current Assets				
Stocks	929		414	
Debtors	31,127		409,387	
Cash at Bank and in hand	609,940		194,443	
		641,996		604,244
Current Liabilities				
Creditors falling due within one year	(77,333)		(66,663)	
Net Current Assets		564,663		537,611
Total Assets		3,255,877		3,238,220



Covernance

The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches
Registered Charity No 250788

The Nightingale Centre
Registered Charity No 242256

The General Assembly :

- Is a charity in its own right
- acts as a 'supervisory charity' to many congregations with 'excepted' status
- Is considered a parent charity under law to the Nightingale Centre.

The objects of the General Assembly:

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 the penultimate 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 Nightingale Centre

The Trustees of The Nightingale Centre are the Members of the GA Executive Committee.

Day to day Management of the Centre is delegated to a Management Committee.

The objects of the Nightingale Centre:

(1) The object of the charity is, for the benefit of the public, to further the religious and other charitable work of the Unitarian and Free Christian Churches including:

(a) the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, financial hardship or other disadvantage; and

(b) the provision of facilities for the education of students of educational establishments.

Subject to the provisions of clauses 5 (Power to dispose of purpose property) and 10 (Disposal of land), the land identified in the schedule to this scheme must be retained by the trustees for use for the object of the charity.

Being a Charity

Advantages

As a charity the General Assembly is exempt from income tax and corporation tax on its charitable earnings, and there are advantages involving VAT and rates.

Particular decisions on tax matters are complex and need to be taken with professional advice.

Responsibilities

As a charity the General Assembly is subject to charity law which insists we behave in a prudent and reasonable manner and fulfil the obligations of the Charities Act and other legislation.

The General Assembly is subject to supervision by the Charity Commission, to whom an Annual Return, which includes our annual report and financial accounts, must be submitted.

The General Assembly has taken great care and professional advice in relation to its position as a parent charity to the Nightingale Centre and has concluded that at the moment the objects of the charities are sufficiently similar, and the degree of control exerted by the Trustees of sufficient magnitude, that the General Assembly should be considered as a parent charity.

In accordance with this, the GA has fulfilled the requirement to publish consolidated accounts for the charities.

Our Staff

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

Chief Officer	Elizabeth Slade	ESlade@unitarian.org.uk
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PROGRAMME STAFF:

Ministry & Congregational Support Officer	Simon Bland	SBland@unitarian.org.uk
Welsh Department Secretary	Melda Grantham	MGrantham@unitarian.org.uk
Youth Coordinator & Safeguarding Lead	Gavin Howell	GHowell@unitarian.org.uk
Congregational Connections Lead	Bob Janis-Dillon	Until July 2021
	Lizzie Kingston Harrison	ekingston@unitarian.org.uk

SUPPORT STAFF:

Operations Manager	Andrew Mason	AMason@unitarian.org.uk
Administrator (External)	Audrey Longhurst	ALonghurst@unitarian.org.uk
Communications Officer	Rory Castle Jones	RCastleJones@unitarian.org.uk

FINANCE

Finance Manager	David Joseph	DJoseph@unitarian.org.uk
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VOLUNTEER

Rosemary Ruston	Associate@unitarian.org.uk
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The following were members of the Essex Hall Trust Staff during the financial year:

Lee Warren	Caretaker
Hepzi Lewis	Cleaner

Our Members



Our Members

Honorary Members

Rev Dr Peter Godfrey	Mrs Dawn Buckle
Mr Michael Tomlin	Rev Dr Ann Peart
Rev J Eric Jones	Mr Alan Ruston
Rev Cliff Reed	Mr Martin West
Rev James McClelland	

In accordance with rule 4 of the Constitution of the General Assembly the following persons, having contributed not less than £30 each to the funds of the Assembly in the financial year 2020-21, are Associate Members of the General Assembly. Names of Honorary Members and Full Members who have subscribed not less than £30 each during the financial year are also mentioned.

Aaronson, Jane	Carter, John	Faiers, Elizabeth	Hills, Ashley
Adkinson, Barbara	Cartwright, Celia	Foggo, Kate	Hills, Elizabeth
Allured, Michael	Chilton, Bruce	Ford, Janet	Hird, John
Ashworth, Joyce	Chilton, Carol	Fordham, Ed	Hoskins, Gareth
Atkinson, Jennifer	Cockroft, Brian	Foster, Katie	Howarth, Jane
Attfield, Robin	Cockroft, Lena	Foster, Megan	Howarth, Miles
Aylmer, Vivien	Code, Ross	Fowler, Angela	Hughes, Mary
	Coldwell, AH		
Baker, Marion	Constable, Elizabeth	Gabriel, Sheena	Ince, Robert
Barber, Mike	Cook, Joan	Gaines, Richard	Isaac, Adrian
Barwick, Sheila	Copley, David	Gienke, Martin	Isaac, Bob
Beck, Robert	Copley, Helen	Gillman, David	
Beckett, Kathy	Cordingley, Leo	Godfrey, Peter	Janes, Jennifer
Bennett, Diane	Corrigall, Jim	Greenwood, Craig	Johnson, Ken
Birtles, Elizabeth	Costley, Daniel		Johnson, Penelope
Blair, James	Costley, Janet	Hague, Gillian	Jones, Aled
Boyce, Sarah	Cotterill, Kevin	Hague, Howard	Jones, Anne
Boyle, Brendan	Cotterill, Susan	Hague, Judy	Jones, Brenda
Boyle, Dee	Crompton, Judith	Harris, Lucy	Jones, Eric
Bradley, Alex	Crosskey, Sheila	Harrison, Marjorie	
Bradley, Jean	(Deceased)	Hartley, Lesley	Kay, Hazel
Brooks, Beryl	Cupper, Anthony	Hartley, Roger	Kenyon, Betty
Brown, Arthur	Darlison, William	Hastie, James	Kenyon, Neville
Brown, Iain	Dawson, Christine	Haughton, Dorothy	Kerr, Donald
Brown, Richard	Day, Mike	Hennis, Mary-Jean	King, Linda
Buckle, Dawn	De Silva, Marco	Hewerdine, Claire	Kirk, Margaret
Buckle, Roy	Dolso, Corrina	Hewerdine, Dorothy	
Buckley, David	Dyson-Jones,	Hewerdine, John	Lake, Mavis
Burns, Colleen	Elisabeth	Hewis, Heddwen	Laycock, Barbara
		Hewis, Peter	Lingwood, Stephen
Calderara, Betty	Edwards, Juliet	Higgins, Martin	Lloyd, Gavin
(Deceased)	Egloff, Urs	Hill, Andrew	Lodge, Sylvia
Cann, Tony	Elder, Raymond	Hill, Margaret	Ludbrook, Babs

Our Members (ctd)

Maguire, Maurine	Ramage, Roderick	Slaven, Sarah	Williams, Jane
Mansfield, Jane	Ratcliffe, Molly	Smith, Carole	Wilson, Adrienne
Mardle-Moss,	Rathbone, Betty	Smith, Julian	Winder, Joy (Deceased)
Kieren	Raymond, Gwyneth	Smith, Kenneth	Woodman, Jacqueline
Marks, Brian	Raymond, Stanley	Smith, Matthew	Woolley, Sue
Martin, Christine	Reed, Clifford	Soulsby, Peter	Wykes, David
Mason, Gavin	Reed, Paulette	Storey, David	Wykes, Elizabeth
Mason, Helen	Rees, Clare	Sykes, Jenny	
McAuley, Derek	Rees, Tony		
McClelland, Anne	Reynolds, Amanda	Teagle, Jeffrey	
McClelland, James	Richards, John	Teagle, Sue	
Merritt, Helen	Richards, William	Temple, Nicola	
Merritt, Richard	Roberts, Wilna	Thompson,	
Midgley, Celia	Robinson, Jim Rev	Christine	
Midgley, John	Robinson, Margaret	Thompson, Joyce	
Mills, Anne	Rogers, Jocelyn	Thursfield, Alison	
Mills, Colin	Rogers, Louise	Tinker, Sarah	
Mills, Roger	Rowland, Jennifer	Tombs, Susan	
Mitchell, Susan	Ruston, Alan	Tomlin, Jane	
	Ruston, Jennifer	Tomlin, Michael	
Nicodei, Eduard	Ruston, Mark	Tucker, Andrew	
Nuttall, Marian	Ruston, Rosemary		
	Rycroft, Keith	Usher, Ann	
Omar, Bernard		Usher, Geoffrey	
(Deceased)	Sakurai, Shige		
O'Connor, Feargus	Sampson, Peter	Varley, Lynne	
O'Neil, Sandie	Sanders, Neil	Varley, Richard	
Oulton, Robert	Scott, Alisdair	Voegeli, Iris	
	Scott, Gillian	Voegeli, Rodney	
Parkes, Madeleine	Scott, John		
Parsons, Helen	Seccombe,	Wagner, Erich	
Partington, Colin	Josephine	Walker, Frank	
Partington, Joan	Sellman, Jennifer	Warhurst, David	
Paxton, Margaret	Seymour-Smith,	Warhurst, Hazel	
Payne, Beryl	Charlotte	West, Jackie	
Peace, Ian	Shaw, David	West, Martin	
Peart, Ann	Shaw, Elizabeth	Whitell, Martin	
Pebody, Isabel	Short, Alison	Whitham, Margaret	
Pennington, Alan	Silk, Joyce	Wightman, Robert	
Percy, Annette	Silk, Philip	Wilcox, Ann	
Perry, Margaret	Simmons,	Wilkie, Chrissie	
Price, Derek	Josephine	Wilkins, Howard	
	Sinclair, Ann	Wilkinson, John	
Quest, Penelope	Skelton, Rachel	Williams, David	

Congregational Contributions

1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021

England (and Isle of Man)	Quota Members	£
Ainsworth	4	140
Altrincham	31	1,085
Ansdell (Lytham St Annes)	0	0
Ashton in Makerfield	44	1,540
Atherton	39	1,365
Bath	7	245
Belper	12	420
Billingshurst	8	280
Birmingham New Meeting	20	700
Birmingham Hollywood	66	2,415
Blackpool	10	350
Bolton Bank Street	30	1,050
Bolton Chorley New Road	9	315
Bolton Egerton	30	1,050
Boston	4	140
Bradford	17	595
Bridgwater	9	315
Bridport	13	455
Brighton	45	1,575
Bristol Brunswick	10	350
Bristol Frenchay	18	630
Bury	46	1,610
Bury St Edmunds	6	210
Cambridge	38	1,330
Chatham	8	280
Cheltenham and Gloucester	18	630
Chester	5	175
Chesterfield	6	210
Chorley	10	350
Cirencester	9	135
Coseley	0	0

Coventry	2	70
Cradley	0	0
Crewkerne	8	280
Croydon	20	700
Cullompton	6	210
Dean Row	55	1,925
Denton	10	350
Derby	3	105
Ditchling	15	525
Doncaster	17	595
Douglas (Isle of Man)	3	105
Dover	4	140
Dukinfield	30	600
Eccles	49	1,715
Evesham	19	665
Framlingham	10	350
Godalming	33	1,155
Great Hucklow	6	210
Great Yarmouth	5	175
Hale Barns	14	490
Hastings	12	420
Hinckley	34	1,190
Hindley	5	175
Horsham	24	840
Hull	18	630
Hyde Fellowship	2	70
Hyde Flowery Field	0	0
Hyde Gee Cross	0	0
Ipswich	34	1,190
Kendal	43	1,505
Kidderminster	25	875

Knutsford	47	1,645
Leeds	34	1,190
Leicester	28	980
Lewes	1	35
Lincoln	12	420
Liverpool Gateacre	12	420
Liverpool Sefton Park	19	380
Liverpool Toxteth	10	350
London Brixton	16	560
London Golders Green	39	1,365
London Hampstead	84	2,940
London Kensington	57	1,995
London Lewisham	6	210
London New Unity	81	2,835
London Stratford	5	175
Macclesfield	8	280
Maidstone	6	210
Manchester Chorlton	18	630
Manchester Cross Street	32	1,120
Manchester Gorton	3	105
Mansfield	31	1,085
New Mill	4	140
Newcastle under Lyme	18	630
Newcastle upon Tyne	16	560
Newport (Isle of Wight)	0	0
Northampton	5	175
Norwich	56	1,960
Nottingham	8	280
Oldbury	3	105
Oldham	12	420
Oxford	34	1,190
Padiham	36	1,260
Plymouth	30	1,050
Portsmouth	39	1,365
Rawtenstall	5	175
Richmond	34	1,190
Rivington	20	700

Rochdale	18	630
Scarborough	4	140
Sevenoaks	30	1,050
Sheffield Fulwood	34	1,190
Sheffield Norfolk St	55	1,925
Sheffield Stannington	20	700
Shelf	12	420
Shrewsbury	19	665
Sidmouth	4	140
Southampton	11	385
Southend	5	175
Southport	5	175
St Albans	0	0
Stalybridge	10	350
Stockton	15	525
Stourbridge	6	210
Styal	20	700
Taunton	13	455
Tenterden	9	315
Torquay	0	0
Trowbridge	6	210
Urmston	18	630
Wakefield	10	350
Warrington	15	525
Warwick	16	560
Watford	6	210
Whitby	6	210
Whitefield (Stand)	30	1,050
Wirral	20	700
Woodhall Spa	1	35
York	44	1,540

Scotland	No.	£
Aberdeen	16	560
Dundee	12	420
Edinburgh	70	2,450
Glasgow	38	1,330

Wales	No.	£
Aberdare	19	665
Alltyblaca *	2	0
Bangor	9	315
Cardiff	10	350
Cefn y Coed	14	490
Cellan *	1	0
Ciliau Aeron *	0	0
Cribyn *	3	0
Cwmsychbant *	3	0
Cwrtnewydd *	4	0
Felinfach *	1	0
Lampeter *	9	0
Llandysul *	3	0
Llanwnnen *	5	0
Nottage	4	140
Pontsian *	3	0
Prengwyn *	4	0
Swansea	7	245
Talgarreg *	6	0
Trebanos	15	525
Wick	4	140
Total:	2,671	£91,135

Notes on congregational contributions:

* No payment was received from churches in South Wales for this return. The churches in South Wales pay collectively via the District Treasurer. The contribution for each congregation is as notified to us. Membership numbers for each congregation have not been provided and we have therefore used a previous year's figures as an estimate.



the unitarians

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