



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

The MBE for volunteer groups

Care Committee



Board of Trustees

**Christian CARE
Association**

**Annual Report
2018 - 19**

TREASURER'S REPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	2019	2018
	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
Income		
Legacies/In Memoria	-	1,899
External Grants	4,765	12,000
Donations	18,113	15,604
Fund-Raising Appeals	237	498
Interest Received	1,394	1,105
Gift Aid	1,676	924
	-----	-----
Total Income	26,185	32,030
Expenditure	(34,144)	(37,416)
	-----	-----
Net Incoming Unrestricted Funds	(7,959)	(5,386)
	=====	=====
RESTRICTED FUNDS		
Income		
External Grants	-	4,200
Donations	1,980	836
	-----	-----
	1,980	5,036
Expenditure	(1,855)	(5,133)
	-----	-----
Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Restricted Funds	125	(97)
	=====	=====
Management and Administration	(5,485)	(5,648)
	-----	-----
NET INCOMING/ (OUTGOING) FUNDS	(13,319)	(11,131)
Total Funds brought forward	167,989	179,120
	-----	-----
Total Funds carried forward	154,670	167,989
	=====	=====

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS		
Short Term		
Investments	135,734	135,000
Cash at Bank	17,239	30,178
Debtors and prepayments	1,819	2,841
	-----	-----
	154,792	168,019
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Sundry Creditors	(122)	(30)
	-----	-----
	154,670	167,989
	-----	-----
	154,670	167,989
	=====	=====
FUNDS		
General Fund	154,670	167,989
	-----	-----
	154,670	167,989
	=====	=====

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This is an extract from the full accounts available at the Annual General Meeting on 13 November 2019 or by application to the Chair or Honorary Secretary.

In the year to 31 March 2019, the charity's total income was £28,165 (£37,066 in 2018). Therefore the charity's income in 2019 was nearly £9,000 below that of 2018, a decrease of 24%. This was largely due to the end of the grant from the City Bridge Trust and the end of support from one of our long-term and very generous donors. We are very fortunate that legacies in prior years have given us some cushion to enable us to continue to support our clients and we do have controls and procedures in place to ensure that our support only goes to the most needy.

The charity's expenditure in 2019 was £41,484 (£48,197 in 2018). Spending on Family Support was £17,642 (£18,257 in 2018) and that specifically geared towards children, such as school meals, school uniform and outings in the summer holidays, was £2,591 (£4,800 in 2018). The costs of the Furniture Project of £7,622 (£10,829 in 2018) cover running a van, renting two garages for storage as well as buying items which cannot be provided through donations.

I would like to record our great appreciation of those people and organisations that regularly support our work, as well as of first time donors. At 31 March 2019, the funds of the charity were £154,670 (£167,989 in 2018). The Board of Trustees considers that the level of reserves is sufficient to enable us to continue our current level of support. However, in order not to dip into our reserves too significantly, we continue to look for new sources of income to take the place of those which have benefitted us in the past.

Ann Thimont

Honorary Treasurer

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY VISIT TO LITTLEHAMPTON



An annual seaside outing to Littlehampton has become a tradition in Christian CARE, starting in 1969, just two years after the charity began. That year Peggie Hunt, a member of St. Mary's Merton and a senior member of staff at Wimbledon High School, learnt about CCA and invited Bert Hyde, our Founder, to meet some of her sixth formers. Soon they were involved in befriending and taking children out on a Saturday to help stressed parents. It was the students who initially suggested an outing to the seaside to which the Executive Committee responded quickly to make it official, deciding on Littlehampton as the destination, organising the coach and selecting the children to invite. Some of the Committee and students went as helpers. They spent the day on the beach and the culmination of the afternoon was high tea in a harbourside café. Every year since then, up to and including 2017, students from Wimbledon High School helped as group leaders on the outing. This outing has continued to be one of the most important activities for our children, deprived of so much that their peers enjoy. However in 2018 it was changed in nature to include whole families. It was felt that the parents would also benefit from the opportunity of family time sharing the good experience away from stressful situations at home and because often the parents had not been to the sea before.

Last year was a great success so the new format was continued this year.

We chose 11 families comprising 13 adults and 27 children (ages ranging from 9 months to 15 years). Three children had significant disabilities and one required a wheelchair. The journey to Littlehampton was in a well-equipped coach with a particularly helpful driver. En route we stopped as usual near Box Hill for refreshments, including delicious homemade cookies, and so that the children could run around and use the toilets. On arriving at Littlehampton we set up a gazebo for shade and a windbreak for changing into swimwear on the ideal area of grass adjacent to the promenade, with safe access to the beach. After eating their picnic lunches a very happy afternoon was spent with the children and their parents enjoying paddling or swimming - our strong swimmers watching over them in the sea. Some children, a little nervous of the sea, played happily on the beach building sand castles and collecting shells and pebbles. A lot of fun was also had at the local funfair where tickets for rides had been purchased in advance by CCA. The dodgems were definitely the most popular attraction with the parents proving that it was not only the children who can be dare devil drivers! All of these joyful experiences were in lovely warm sunshine with a perfect slight breeze.



Tea on the grass was provided by CCA including birthday cake for two year old twins who were the stars of the day, running about so happily, enjoying freedom away from the restrictions of the one room with a leaking ceiling which is their home. It was their older brother whose tribute just put the seal on a special day: 'This has been the best day of my life', he said. Afterwards we all travelled back in the coach with the children watching a DVD, they and their parents having had a very enjoyable outing.



The Association is very grateful to Clare Gray who organised the whole event with administrative efficiency and was supported on the day by seven other CCA volunteers including the majority of our Coordinators and three trained First Aiders. It was Clare who also provided her delicious cookies at Box Hill!

Ann Phillips, Trustee

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends

This past year has seen a change in how Christian CARE has been organised. At the AGM in 2019 it was agreed to revise the constitution and disband the Executive Committee. In its place we appointed a CARE Committee which oversees the day to day work of the organisation and a Board of Trustees whose role it is to be responsible for deciding the focus and strategy of the charity and ensuring it can meet its long and short term objectives.

It has been a year of transition, a year when as Trustees we have worked out how best we can support the CARE Coordinators in the vital work which they do supporting people who are facing challenges in their lives. The Board has met six times over the past year. We are very grateful to Gillian Thick who, in her role as CARE Coordinator, has attended the meetings and given us a detailed report of the work of the Coordinators and ensured that we have been kept aware of the day to day activities of the charity.

The present Trustees are committed to ensuring that Christian CARE is able to be as effective as it can in support of those in need. As I write this letter, our country is preparing to leave the European Union – or is it? The past three years of uncertainty about this process have had an effect on the day to day running of the country. So much time taken up with BREXIT has commanded the time of the Government and the press. Other issues, such as housing and support for the vulnerable have not been in the news headlines. At Christian CARE we do our best to support those who at times feel they have been forgotten.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all members of the CARE Committee for the work which they do. Gillian, Anita, Barbara, Nick, Sue and Sylvia respond where there is a need for support, whether this is practical or emotional. They, together with a team of people committed to befriending, shopping, caring for the children or moving furniture is centred on helping others. It has been wonderful to welcome Cresso Scarlett as Christian CARE Office Coordinator this year. Cresso, together with Michael, our Office Administrator has ensured that the charity runs smoothly and that visitors and callers are welcomed with friendliness and a smile. A big thank you to both of them.

It has been good to welcome recently new volunteers who are keen to start working with Christian CARE; these include Mary, Eunice, Rima, Sheela, Graham and Paul. Support comes from across Merton and we thank God for the commitment of our shoppers, befrienders, Furniture Project and children's workers and all those who make donations.

I would also like to thank Barbara Clayton. Barbara has been a faithful shopper for Christian CARE over the past ten years helping a number of different families. In spite of orthopaedic surgery Barbara continued to shop for and help families in need. I am very pleased that Anita Harlock was able to thank Barbara publicly on behalf of Christian CARE at the Churches Together in Merton Park United Service in May.

Since the last AGM we have heard of the death of two people who supported Christian CARE. Liam Harnett began as a befriender in the 1990s and became a key member of the Furniture Project. Liam also served as Honorary Treasurer on the Executive Committee from 1998-2005. Doris Cathie died in the summer. Doris supported Christian CARE over many years, helping out at Christmas parties,

on trips to Littlehampton, making regular donations as well as getting friends involved. She was a member of the Executive Committee from 1979 to 1984. Gillian has written that it was Doris's 'gentle, caring nature which made her a much-valued volunteer for Christian CARE.' We give thanks for the lives and commitment to Christian CARE of both Liam and Doris.

John 15:12 says 'My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you'. We look to the future with this in mind and with hope.

I commend the work of Christian CARE to your prayers.

Yours sincerely



Jane Savill
Chair

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT 31 MARCH 2019

Jane Savill Chair

Pat Spencer Hon. Secretary

Ann Thimont Hon. Treasurer

John Golden

The Revd Tom Kavanagh, CBE

Dr. Ann Phillips

CARE COMMITTEE

Gillian Thick CARE Coordinator

Coordinators:

Baby & Household Project **Barbara Moreland**

Befrienders **Sylvia Baxter**

Children's Activities **Sue Boyd**

Family Support **Anita Harlock**

Furniture Project **Nick Wolff**

Office **Cresso Scarlett**