

Company No: 79323

CHURCH SOCIETY TRUST

(A Company Limited By Guarantee)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997



ALLIOTTS

Chartered Accountants

**CHURCH SOCIETY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited By Guarantee)**  
**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997**

The directors have pleasure in presenting the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st December 1997.

**OBJECTIVES**

The objects of Church Society Trust are defined by the Memorandum of Association of the Trust. They are to assist Church Society, a Registered Charity, in its activities. Up to 31 December 1995, Church Society Trust was required to manage a number of Financial Trusts either in its own right or on behalf of Church Society. These were set up either for the benefit of individual benefices or for specific objectives such as assisting in the training of clergy or providing holidays for children recuperating from illness or surgery.

In agreement with the Charity Commission, it was agreed that as from January 1996, the management of these Trusts would revert to Church Society. This left as the purpose of Church Society Trust, the exercise of the patronage rights owned by the Trust and representing the Society's interests in matters such as the protection of the patronage system, the suspension of livings and the training of ordinands and clergy.

The Trust has no assets in its own right. All its expenses are paid from the funds of Church Society. It is managed by a Board of Trustees (known as Directors) who are selected from the Members of the Trust. Members are appointed by the Directors subject to the approval of the Council of Church Society. The Directors meet monthly to conduct their business. In order to assist in filling vacancies, they keep a register of candidates who might be considered. Candidates are expected to support the doctrine and worship of the Church of England as set out in the 39 Articles of Religion and the Book of Common Prayer as adopted in 1662 and to uphold the supreme and exclusive sufficiency and authority of Holy Scripture as containing all things necessary for salvation.

**REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES**

The conditions reported last year as causing difficulty to the Trust still continued including:-

- a) A growing tendency by Bishops to suspend parishes, apparently without full justification. The only grounds for suspension are planned pastoral reorganisation but often no such plans appear to exist and the real reason seems to be financial.
- b) A failure by Parish Representatives to understand the role of the Patrons.
- c) Bishops appearing to overrule the wishes of both the parish and the Patrons in appointing people of their own choice.
- d) Difficulty in identifying suitable candidates, particularly for remote and downtown parishes.

**CHURCH SOCIETY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited By Guarantee)**  
**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997**

**REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES (Continued)**

In 1997 appointments were made to livings where Church Society Trust has a patronage interest as follows:-

\*\* BARTON SEAGRAVE w Warkton (Peterborough): The Revd Martin Perris, instituted 24.2.97

STREATHAM PARK, St Alban (Southwark): The Revd Anthony Everett instituted on 3.5.97

\*\* Heydon w GREAT CHISHILL, Little Chishill, Chrishall & Elmdon w Strethall (Chelmsford): The Revd John Simmons instituted on 16.6.97

CHADWELL ST MARY (Chelmsford): The Revd Nicholas Deane instituted on 9.9.97

\*\* Upper Nar Group: Litcham w Kempston, East & West Lexham, Mileham, BEESTON-NEXT-MILEHAM & Stanfield (Norwich): The Revd Jonathan Boston licensed on 25.9.97

\*\* Acle w Fishley & NORTH BURLINGHAM (Norwich): The Revd David Casson instituted on 30.9.97

\*\* ROUTH (York): The Revd David Bailey licensed as Priest-in-Charge 13.10.97 (also Vicar of Beverley Minster).

RYDE, ST JAMES (Portsmouth): The Revd James Leggett licensed as Minister of the Proprietary Chapel on 17.10.97

\*\* Glentworth Group: Glentworth, HEMSWELL, Harpswell, Blyborough and Willoughton (Lincoln): The Revd Mary Dawson (formerly Priest-in-Charge) instituted as Incumbent on 19.11.97

\*\* indicates that the appointment was not made by the Trust Directors.

In one parish of which the Trust is Patron, St Illogan (Truro), the Trust were unable to present a suitable candidate within the permitted period, partially due to circumstances outside its control. The right to appoint therefore reverted to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

A specially pleasing feature of the year was that, for the first time for some years, a meeting of Trust Members other than the Annual General Meeting was held in April. At this the Directors outlined their plans and asked the Members for their views as to how these might be implemented. There was a very useful exchange of ideas. The Directors have now formulated plans for closer support for Incumbents in Trust parishes and increased involvement by Trust Members in these activities. A further meeting will be held in 1998 to introduce this plan.

The Trust has become involved in finding candidates for 'House for Duty' positions, mainly among recently retired clergy.

A very useful report on the methods used by Church Society Trust in filling vacancies and carrying out its other activities had been compiled by a Working Party from Church Society led by Professor John Coekin. It contained a number of useful proposals which the Trust is proposing to implement in due course.

**CHURCH SOCIETY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited By Guarantee)**  
**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997**

**REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES (Continued)**

In addition to its patronage work, Church Society Trust is responsible for the ministry at two Proprietary Chapels, the Mariners Church in Gloucester and St James', Ryde, Christ Church, Düsseldorf and an Independent Church in Lancashire.

During 1997 the Trust suffered the loss of Canon John R Bournon who passed to his rest in November. John had been involved with the Trust since 1964 and had made an invaluable contribution. His wise counsel and consistent helpfulness are much missed.

Church Society Trust's staffing and financial costs are met by Church Society. Its only financial asset is a bank deposit of £1 loaned by Church Society.

**DIRECTORS**

The following were appointed directors of Church Society Trust by the Church Society Council and served for the period 1st January 1997 to the date of this report:

Rev'd Canon M W Walters (Chairman)	Rev'd T K Parkin (Vice Chairman)
Rev'd Dr M E Burkill	T J P Stevenson
Rev'd J A Cheeseman	Rev'd Canon D H Wheaton
Rev'd Dr P D Gardner	

**DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts, the directors are required to:


- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- follow applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and which enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**AUDITORS**

The auditors, Messrs Alliotts, will be proposed for re-appointment in accordance with section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

**Signed on behalf of the board**

  
**J M Lindock**  
Secretary

CHURCH SOCIETY TRUST  
(A Company Limited By Guarantee)  
REPORT OF THE AUDITORS  
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

Report of the auditors to the members of  
Church Society Trust

We have audited the accounts on pages 5 to 6, which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 6.

**Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors**

As described on page 3, the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of accounts. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts and to report our opinion to you.

**Basis of opinion**

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

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

**Opinion**

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31st December 1997 and of the surplus for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

**ALLIOTTS**  
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

10 College Road  
Harrow  
Middlesex  
HA1 1DA



28  
21 July 1998


CHURCH SOCIETY TRUST  
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BALANCE SHEET

31ST DECEMBER 1997

	Notes	£	1997 £	£	1996 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Bank & Short Term Deposits		1		1	
		<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	3	(1)		(1)	
		<u>(1)</u>		<u>(1)</u>	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			£ -		£ -
			<u>£ -</u>		<u>£ -</u>
<b>ACCUMULATED RESERVES</b>					
			£ -		£ -
			<u>£ -</u>		<u>£ -</u>

The accounts on pages 5 to 6 were approved by the Board on <sup>28</sup>~~21~~ July 1998 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Canon M.W. Walters (Chairman)



Rev'd T.K. Parkin (Vice Chairman)

)  
) Directors  
)  
)  
)

CHURCH SOCIETY TRUST  
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies are considered material in relation to the company's accounts.

a Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

1997                      1996

Staff Costs	£	-	£	-

There were no employees during the year apart from the directors.

The directors did not receive any remuneration in respect of their services to the company for the year ended 31st December 1997 (1996 £Nil).

3. CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

1997                      1996

£                                      £

Amounts owed to Church Society		1		1
	£	1	£	1

4. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

a Contingent Liabilities

The company had no material contingent liabilities at 31st December 1997 which have not been provided for in these accounts.