



## Minutes of Annual General Meeting held in Eleventh Church of Christ, Scientist, London on Saturday, 15 July 2017.

The meeting was also available online via [spirituality4.me/agm](http://spirituality4.me/agm)

### 1. Opening

The Chairman, John Lardge, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Margaret Perry, gave the opening readings from Hymn 64 (verse 2), The Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy, Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, and Miscellaneous Writings and Hymn 304 (verse 2). These were followed by silent prayer and the repetition of the Sixth Tenet.

### 2. Gratitude and Fruitage

A number of people shared inspiration and fruitage from their Reading Room work. This included the replay of a recent interview on BBC Radio Berkshire, reports from different locations and appreciation for live-streaming.

### 3. Online Christian Science Reading Room update

Kate Hattley, Librarian and Web Master of the Online CS Reading Room reported on highlights of recent activities.

- Spirituality4.me had more than 6,500 visitors last year, more than half coming for the first time.
- The most visitors in a single day was 167. This and other busy days were when CS lectures were being livestreamed through the site.
- Most visitors are using PCs/laptops to access the site but a growing number are visiting from phones and tablets.
- Total sales through the site in the last year were £8,350 with 2,135 visits to the shop during this same period.
- Books sold include: 46 Science and Healths, 37 Bibles, 43 biographies, 271 Hymnals.
- 62% of customers were individuals and 38% CS Reading Rooms.

### 4. Livestreaming

Kate and Edwin de Leon gave a progress report on the livestreaming of lectures.

- We are very grateful to those churches who have contributed specifically to the purchase of new equipment which is improving the quality and reliability of the streaming.

**Joint Christian Science Reading Room UK**  
c/o First Church of Christ, Scientist Reading, 52-54 King's Road, Reading RG1 3AA  
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Charity number: 1143776



- The total online audience for CS lectures stands at over 12,000 of which one-third watched live and two-thirds after the event (watched on our YouTube channel). In total we have had viewers from over 100 countries.
- The Joint CS Reading Room also offers to help with the promotion of these events via social media. The budget is set by the church and the JCSRR is keen to support the events including the prayerful preparation. Of course, each lecture is the responsibility of its sponsor(s) in accordance with the Church Manual.

## 5. Facebook

- The Joint CSRR has a presence on Facebook. This has been established and maintained by Margaret Perry.
- Our page has over 1,900 followers and we use it to promote our activities, Christian Science lectures and events and for sharing inspiration.

## 6. Google Adwords

- The JCSRR has started advertising on Google with the aim of helping individuals find their local Christian Science contact point; ie church, society or Reading Room. Our budget is £5 per day for the advertising.
- A special web page ([www.spirituality4.me/explore](http://www.spirituality4.me/explore)) has been created which links to search results in Google and tells people about Christian Science and with a map helps them access entries directly from The Christian Science Journal Directory.
- This activity is funded by money previously used for promotion on yell.com and we will welcome donations from branches to support the continuation of the activity.

There was a short break in the meeting and this was followed by a business session.

Two webinars which explain the live-streaming activity are planned for September 2017. (These can now be watched at [www.spirituality4.me/agm](http://www.spirituality4.me/agm).)

## 7. Business meeting

- Minutes of the last AGM held in July 2016, previously circulated and available on the web site, were approved and signed.
- Joanna Bowley, Treasurer, introduced and summarised the accounts for 2016. The main points were:
  - Income: £27,510
  - Expenditure: £44,705
  - Deficit: £17,195
  - Money in bank at year end: £57,024

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- Other assets: £50,289
- Liabilities: £2,588
- Income/expenditure from specific areas:
  - Online CSRR - £20,529 / £37,977
  - Live streaming - £5,970 / £4,235
  - General - £1,011 / £2,493
- The Chairman asked for a show of hands to accept the accounts. This was approved.
- Joanna gave a summary of figures for Jan to June 2017.
  - Receipts = £24,504
  - Expenditure = £30,676
- Church members were then asked to vote to support the re-election of the following trustees (all currently in office).
  - John Lardge
  - Joanna Bowley
  - Edwin de Leon
  - Soozie de Leon
  - Peter Mills
  - Brian Blandford
- These were all approved by church members present.

## 8. Church websites

'JCSRR offers a service of creating and maintaining Church Websites. So far it has developed sites for Third Church London ([www.thirdchurchlondon.co.uk/](http://www.thirdchurchlondon.co.uk/)), First Church High Wycombe and Maidenhead and First Church Exeter ([www.christianscienceexeter.co.uk/](http://www.christianscienceexeter.co.uk/)).

## 9. Social media

Margaret Perry outlined the proposed continued development of our social media presence with an emphasis on more native images and video, consistent content across Facebook and Twitter, integrating Instagram and encouraging more user engagement with content.

Two successful webinars had been organised in 2016 focusing on the metaphysics behind social media and how to use social media effectively and safely.'. These are still available to watch on [spirituality4.me/agm](http://spirituality4.me/agm).

## 10. Close

The meeting closed with a further sharing of fruitage – see [spirituality4.me/agm](http://spirituality4.me/agm) (videos).

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