

Churches Together in the Merseyside Region
(Formerly The Merseyside and Region Churches
Ecumenical Assembly)
(Charity no 519061)
Report and Accounts
For the Year to 31 December 2002

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION (CTMR)
(formerly The Merseyside And Region Churches Ecumenical Assembly)**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees Of CTMR

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2002, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act, and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anne P Morris FCA
Macfarlane + Co
Cunard Building
Water Street
Liverpool L3 1DS

December 2003

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION (CTMR)
(formerly MARCEA - The Merseyside And Region Churches Ecumenical Assembly)

65 Paradise Street, Liverpool L1 3BP

Annual Report for the Year ended 31 December 2002

The trustees present their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2002.

Principal Activities

MARCEA was established in 1986. It is governed by its constitution, which was adopted on 25 January 1986 and revised on various occasions. Following a review of MARCEA and the acceptance of a new policy document in September 2002, a revised constitution was adopted by the 35th MARCEA Assembly in April 2003 and ratified by the 36th MARCEA Assembly also in April 2003. Approval was given by the Charity Commission in May 2003. The name of the charity was changed to Churches Together in the Merseyside Region and the Management Council was specified as the body of charity trustees, responsible for the general control and management of the administration of the charity. CTMR is a registered charity, numbered 519061.

The principal activity of CTMR is the encouragement and support of the working together of Christian Churches within their respective ecclesiastical boundaries.

Objects of CTMR

The objects of CTMR, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are:

- (1) To draw the churches in membership of the Charity into a fuller understanding of the Gospel,
- (2) To promote the visible unity and mission of the Church at every level of Church life as an effective instrument of God's purpose for the local and wider community,
- (3) To encourage and enable the Churches to make decisions together where possible
- (4) To give expression to the common faith, baptism and devotion of Christians as they seek to apply the "Lund principle" - to do everything together except that which in conscience must be done separately.

Organisation

MARCEA comprised representatives of the affiliated denominations and of other bodies in association as determined by the Constitution. Separate committees and departments were established under the constitution to deal with various aspects of the Assembly's business. Under the new constitution adopted in 2003 general control and management of the administration of the Charity is exercised by the Management Council, which has power to appoint groups to act under its direction.

CARE is an agency of CTMR set up to educate and support the Churches in their work for racial justice.

SAS is an agency of CTMR set up to support asylum seekers. It became part of MARCEA (subsequently CTMR) on 1 January 2001.

Details of Activities

The bulk of CTMR's activities consist in co-ordinating the life of the major Christian denominations in the area by means of:

- establishing and developing joint projects;
- providing opportunities for joint meetings, study sessions, conferences, forums, assemblies;
- regular newsletters and mailings.

CARE's activities consist of:

- arranging conferences, meetings, educational INSET days and study days to raise matters of racial awareness;
- initiating and developing projects concerned with racial awareness.

Following a review of the work and financial basis of CARE, it was decided to wind up CARE as a separate organisation within MARCEA with effect from 4th April 2003. With the backing of the CARE Project Council, the Standing Committee of MARCEA resolved that the liabilities and assets of CARE should revert to MARCEA, and that a task group be set up for the purpose of enabling the churches to seek a new way of pursuing racial justice.

SAS's activities comprise largely the raising of funds for the provision of charitable support for asylum seekers and refugees in the area

- by relieving poverty and destitution;
- by contributing to projects promoting their well-being.

Policies

The (unrestricted) reserves are maintained to provide a financial cushion in the event of:

- any possible shortfall in the income from the major denominational contributors;
- redundancy payments becoming necessary.

Policy for grants

SAS makes weekly grants of £25 to asylum seekers deprived of statutory support.

Urban Fund

During 2002 the Merseyside Churches Urban Institute, which was closing down, transferred its funds of £15,488 to MARCEA to be used in line with the Institute's purpose of promoting discussion and research on urban issues. One grant of £1000, to support an Urban Mission & Theology Conference, was made from this fund during 2002.

Management

The Charity Commission confirmed that the Standing Committee of MARCEA was the trustee body of the charity. The new constitution makes it clear the Management Council of CTMR is now the trustee body.

The Standing Committee in 2002 was appointed in accordance with section E2 of the Constitution then in force, reproduced below.

MEMBERSHIP shall consist of:

- 1 The Chairperson, who will normally be a member of and nominated by the Church Leaders' Group for appointment by the Assembly. (John Taylor)*
- 2 One member appointed by the Church Leaders' Group from among their number. (Graham Cook)*
- 3 The Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Treasurer of the Assembly, appointed by the Assembly. The Speaker shall be ex-officio Deputy Chairperson of the Standing Committee. (Claire Davidson, Hilary Russell, Peter Owen)*
- 4 The Chairperson of each of the Departments, who may appoint a deputy in the event of unavoidable absence. (John Short, John Marsden, Philip Lodge, Vin Horton, Ultan Russell)*
- 5 The Ecumenical Officer, who shall serve as secretary of the committee. (Martyn Newman)*
- 6 One of the denominational Press Officers nominated by the Merseyside Churches' Media Service. (Peter Heneghan until his resignation)*
- 7 A representative from the Free Churches' Sector, appointed by the Sector. (Jacqui Griffiths until her resignation)*
- 8 One young person, or young people's representative, appointed by the denominational Youth Officers. (none appointed)*
- 9 Three additional members elected by the Assembly. (Rupert Hoare, Pat Billsborrow, Cynthia Dowdle)*
- 10 There shall be space for co-options, as appropriate, from the Assembly. (Ellie McKeown)*

The membership of the Standing Committee during 2002 was:

Revd Dr John Taylor (Chair)
Miss Claire Davidson (Deputy Chair)
Revd Martyn Newman (Secretary)
Dr Peter Owen (Treasurer)
Rev Graham Cook
Mrs Hilary Russell
Canon John Short
Mr Philip Lodge
Mr Ultan Russell
Mr Vin Horton
Rev Pat Billsborrow
Rev Cynthia Dowdle
Mr Peter Heneghan (resigned 19 July 2002)
Capt Jacqui Griffiths (resigned 12 December 2002)
Rt Rev Rupert Hoare
Ms Ellie McKeown
Mr John Marsden

The following have served as trustees during 2003:

Rev Martyn Newman - trusteeship terminated May 2003
Rev Pat Billsborrow - trusteeship terminated May 2003
Rev Canon Cynthia Dowdle - trusteeship terminated May 2003
Rt Rev Rupert Hoare - trusteeship terminated May 2003
Ms Ellie McKeown - trusteeship terminated May 2003
Rev Dr John Taylor - resigned August 2003
Miss Claire Davidson
Dr Peter Owen
Rev Graham Cook
Mrs Hilary Russell
Canon John Short

Mr Philip Lodge
Mr Ultan Russell
Mr Vin Horton
Mr John Marsden
Rev Philip Jump - appointed June 2003
Rt Rev James Jones - appointed June 2003
Rt Rev David Jennings - appointed June 2003
Rt Rev David Urquhart - appointed June 2003
Most Rev Patrick Kelly - appointed June 2003
Rt Rev Vincent Malone - appointed June 2003
Rt Rev Tom Williams - appointed June 2003
Rt Rev Brian Noble - appointed June 2003
Major Marion Drew - appointed June 2003
Mrs Linda Jones - appointed June 2003
Rev Dr Adrian Hezel - appointed June 2003
Mr Don Swift - appointed June 2003
Mr Ray Collings - appointed June 2003
Mr J Graham Raws - appointed June 2003
Rev James Booth - appointed September 2003
Rev Peter Robertson - appointed September 2003
Rev Melvyn Kelly - appointed December 2003

Secretary: Revd Martyn Newman

Bankers: HSBC plc
32 Rodney Street, Liverpool, L1 2TP

Solicitor: Roger Arden of Gamon & Arden
Church House, Hanover Street, Liverpool, L1 3DW

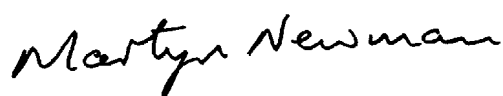
Independent Examiner: Miss Anne Morris, Macfarlane + Co,
Cunard Building, Water St, Liverpool, L3 1DS

Trustees' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Assembly and of the surplus or deficiency of the Assembly for the period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with statutory requirements, the Constitution of MARCEA and with SORP 2000.



Rev Martyn Newman
Secretary
2 December 2003

THE MERSEYSIDE AND REGION CHURCHES ECUMENICAL ASSEMBLY

Accounts for the Year to 31 December 2002

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2002

1 Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Revised 2000)' and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2000.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. No investments are held which are required to be valued at market value. Expenditure on equipment or other fixed assets is not capitalised but is charged to Revenue as incurred.

2 Funds

The Accumulation Fund represents the funds of MARCEA that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of MARCEA. Funds designated for a particular purpose by MARCEA are also unrestricted. (On this assumption £2,793 designated for Youth Pilgrimage is included in Creditors)

The Accounts include transactions, assets and liabilities for which MARCEA is responsible in law. The Accounts of CARE, SAS and Urban are included.

3 Incoming Resources

Contributions from the member Churches are accounted for in the year in which they are due. Donations from other bodies and Councils of Christian Churches are accounted for as received.

The Trading Income is payment for use of the office photocopier.

4 Direct Charitable Expenditure

Programme expenditure	3,825
SAS expenditure	23,575
Secretary's salary	18,603
Secretary's expenses	8,727
Wages	44,800
Urban Theology grant	<u>1,000</u>
	<u>£100,530</u>

SAS expenditure included grants to 159 individual asylum seekers deprived of any statutory support. These grants totalled £17,009.

The average number of employees during the year was three. No employee received emoluments above £50,000 during the year.

The 17 trustees received no expenses for services provided to the charity.

5 Other Expenditure

Office expenses	25,847
Committee expenses	<u>180</u>
	<u>£26,027</u>

The cost of independent examination was £441.

6 Deficit for the Year

The deficit for the year is £754, which leaves the total Fund carried forward at £80,582.

Dr Peter Owen
Hon Treasurer
2 December 2003

The Merseyside and Region Churches Ecumenical Assembly

Charity No 519061

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2002

	Note						
	1,2	MARCEA	CARE	SAS	URBAN	Total	2001
Current Assets		£	£	£	£	£	£
Debtors		4,238	2,222	0	0	6,460	11,676
Cash at bank and in hand		64,963	4,404	6,628	14,504	90,499	88,550
Current Liabilities							
Creditors		(7,895)	(8,482)	0	0	(16,377)	(5,436)
Net Current Assets/ Net Assets		<u>61,306</u>	<u>(1,856)</u>	<u>6,628</u>	<u>14,504</u>	<u>80,582</u>	<u>94,790</u>

Secretary

Hon Treasurer

Signed on behalf of all the trustees

2 December 2003

The Merseyside and Region Churches Ecumenical Assembly

Charity No 519061

Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 December 2002

	Note	MARCEA (unrestricted)	CARE (restricted)	SAS (restricted)	URBAN (designated)	Total	2001
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources	3						
From Member Churches		38,495	30,725	0	0	69,220	67,512
Transfer from Churches Urban Institute		0	0	0	15,488	15,488	0
Donations & Gifts		833	13,776	24,503	0	39,112	59,482
Bank Interest		1,657	8	12	16	1,693	2,463
Trading- Net Income		290	0	0	0	290	446
Total Incoming Resources		41,275	44,509	24,515	15,504	125,803	129,903
Resources Expended							
Direct Charitable Expenditure	4	31,154	44,800	23,576	1,000	100,530	97,323
Other Expenditure	5	6,689	19,255	83	0	26,027	22,769
Total Resources Expended		37,843	64,055	23,659	1,000	126,557	120,092
Net Income/(Outgoing Resources)	6	3,432	(19,546)	856	14,504	(754)	9,811
Balance brought forward at 1 January 2002		58,573	30,445	5,772	0	94,790	84,979
Correction of earlier years' errors		(699)	(12,755)	0	0	(13,454)	0
Balance carried forward at 31 December 2002		61,306	(1,856)	6,628	14,504	80,582	94,790