



OneBodyOneFaith

Treasurer's Report 2023

With the risk of writing in the manner of Groundhog Day, may I first place on record my gratitude to my colleague, Katie Marsh, as I present a summary of and comment on the accounts. Without Katie, we would not know where we are and she ably assists the Board in establishing its future direction. Thank you, Katie.

I must also recognise the excellent contribution of our executive director, Luke Dowding, whose return from a well-earned sabbatical was most welcome. Luke challenges us and enables your Board to see more clearly the immediate issues of concern.

Our membership has not been immune from the privations of inflation and we have lost several contributors due to the understandable need to tighten belts. If this is a year within the seven year period of famine, I am struggling to recall the seven years of feast which should have preceded this time.

The last year has yet again shown the value of your charity's membership model and I would encourage all of you to recruit new members to a cause which I strongly believe is winning the argument and changing minds. Specifically, our offer to the young provides access to a range of resources at a bargain price.

Once again, we have been graced with legacies that have enabled us to step out onto the international field and develop partnerships with similar-minded organisations while retaining the reserves so necessary in all times. I would particularly like to note the funds provided by Malcolm King and John Goodwin Green. Their memories will endure as we continue their struggle.

At the date of writing this report, your cash resources stand at c. £176,000, though I know that Luke and your Board have plans to expend a small, but meaningful, part of this sum on more than worthy efforts to extend our reach to all of the LGBT+ population with events such as April's Remembrance one example of the effect your charity can have when we raise our banner.

Last year, I thanked Peter Leonard for his service to us all. I must admit to a degree of trepidation as your new co-chairs assumed their roles: how would the co-chair 'ensemble' work and would they tolerate an aging grinch for a treasurer?

I cannot answer the second arm of my question but I am delighted to place on record my recognition of how well Andrea and Jarel have dovetailed their skills to produce and lead a dynamic and energetic Board, with your new members showing great commitment. While I am sure Peter has provided his wise counsel, his best service was to allow the new team to forge ahead. I well remember chairing AGMs with my predecessor sitting in the front row each year.

As always, I am happy to field questions

David Owen
Treasurer