Ecclesiological Society Annual Accounts, 2024

Table 1: Income and Expenditure Account			
Figures rounded to nearest pound			
	2024	**2023**	**Notes**
Income			
Subscriptions and gifts	13,928	11,313	1
Life Members subscriptions	1,000	0	2
Surplus/(loss) from conference(s)	-384	659	3
Surplus/(loss) from other events (apart from AGM)	514	-373	4
Copyright payments	87	84	5
Interest and dividends	1,745	1,611	6
Total income	**16,890**	**13,294**	
Expenses			
Ecclesiology Today, conference series, inserts, post etc	7,878	19,299	7
Church Crawler, inserts, post etc	2,681	2,396	8
Net cost of AGM	0	1,497	9
Fees for dealing with direct debits for subscriptions	0	17	
Admin, sundry & general post	1,623	895	10
Website redevelopment	0	570	
Publicity (including website maintenance)	648	1,149	
Total expenses	**12,830**	**26,477**	
Surplus of income over expenses	**4,060**	**-13,183**	11

Notes

1. No gifts were received in 2024; and there was a gift of £100 in 2023. The total for subscriptions is net of a handling fee to GoCardless (which collects direct debits on the Society's behalf) of £172.

2. The Life Members Fund is a notional reserve maintained within the Society's net financial assets to account for the lump sum payment made by life members. The reserve is increased annually by reference to interest earned in the CBF CofE Deposit Fund, and a sum is drawn from it annually at the discretion of the Council and allocated to income in lieu of annual membership subscriptions. The Society closed life memberships in 2022. See also Table 4.

3. The income for the conference is shown net of Eventbrite's fees of £294 in 2024 and £447 in 2023.

4. The income for other paid events is shown net of Eventbrite's fees of £278 in 2024 and £207 in 2023.

5. These are payments from Publishers' Licensing Services for copying by students and others of our publications.

6. £1,078 of interest earnings in 2024 is accounted for by the Society's holding in the Church Board of Finance, Church of England Short Duration Bond (see Table 2: Balance Sheet).

7. In 2024, we published one set of conference proceedings (*Last Rites: Funerals and Funeral Monuments*) and *Ecclesiology Today* 63; the invoices relating to *Ecclesiology Today* 63 were not received until January 2025 and therefore appear on the Balance Sheet as a cash liability in 2024. In 2023, there were two editions of *Ecclesiology Today* (61 and 62), and one set of conference proceedings (*The Lay Experience of the Medieval Cathedral*).

8. In both years, two editions of *Church Crawler* were published.

9. The AGM is normally a free event, associated with a free Annual Lecture open to everyone. The 2024 AGM was held online and the associated cost was borne by a member. The 2023 AGM was a hybrid event (both in person and online) and incurred cost for the venue and catering. (See Note 2.)

10. These costs include travel costs of Council members (though some business is now done partly or wholly online). As well as general post, they include the costs of one-off mailings to members when papers need to be sent when no publication is ready to take them as inserts. They include some website costs and letters to members who have not moved their subscriptions to Direct Debits and have not updated their Standing Orders.

11. The surplus for 2024 is partly the result of accounting practices. Invoices for expenses incurred in 2024 were not received until 2025. If these had been received in 2024, the Society would have made a loss of £4,168. (See Note 7 above and Table 2 below.)

TABLE 2: BALANCE SHEET			
Figures rounded to nearest pound			
	31-Dec-2024	**31-Dec-2023**	**Notes**
FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Investments at market value (as below)	42,974	41,715	
CBF CofE Deposit Fund	14,072	12,329	
Cash at bank and in hand	4,280	1,988	
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS	**61,326**	**56,032**	
CASH LIABILITIES			
Expenses incurred, not yet paid	**8,228**	**2,662**	1
SURPLUS OF FINANCIAL ASSETS OVER CASH LIABILITIES			
Net financial assets (surplus)	**53,098**	**53,370**	2

Notes

1. £7,778 of the figure for 2024 represents the cost of designing, printing and posting *Ecclesiology Today* 63.

2. The change in this surplus correctly does not equal the net income (loss) for the year for a number of accounting reasons (e.g. includes change in market value, and liabilities and accrued income have been revalued).

TABLE 3: INVESTMENTS		
Figures rounded to the nearest pound	**Unbound Group PLC (formerly Electra) ordinary shares**	**CBF CofE Short Duration Bond**
Value at 1 January 2024	1	**41,714**
Interest/dividend reinvested	0	1,078
Capital withdrawn	0	1,078
Market price movement	0	1,259
Value at 31 December 2024	**1**	**45,129**

TABLE 4: LIFE MEMBERS FUND	
Figures rounded to the nearest pound	
Value at 1 January 2024	14,100
Interest earned	761
Drawdown & credited as income	1,000
Value at 31 December 2024	**13,861**