

Summary Information Return 2012 (Online)



Summary Information Return 2012

This return is intended to comprise a summary of key information contained in the Trustees' Annual Report and accounts and in other documents.

All this information will be made public - P

WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF BRITAIN

Charity number: 1077961

Financial period end: 31 August 2012

Submitted on 21 March 2013

This online version of the form shows the information you have entered through Annual Return 2011 Online and has been designed to make it easier for charities to print.

This Summary Information Return was submitted online by MR DAVID CARPENTER on 21 March 2013. You do not need to send us a signed copy.

Question 1 - The charity's aims

What are your charity's aims?

To advance the Christian religion as practised by the body of Christian persons known as Jehovah's Witnesses by:

1. Preaching the gospel of God's Kingdom under Jesus Christ to all nations as a witness to the name, word and supremacy of the Almighty God Jehovah;
2. Producing and distributing Bibles and other religious literature in any medium and educating the public in respect thereof;
3. Promoting religious worship;
4. Promoting the Christian missionary work;
5. Advancing religious education.

Question 2 - Who benefits?

Who benefits from your charity's work?

Persons residing in the United Kingdom and elsewhere, both Jehovah's Witnesses and the wider public.

How do you respond to their needs and how do they influence the charity's development?

By printing and distributing, without charge, Bibles and Bible study aids which offer practical advice on improving one's life spiritually, morally, and socially. By supporting congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses in Britain, and associations of Jehovah's Witnesses in developing countries, with their spiritual and material welfare.

All who care for the work of the charity are members of local congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses and so have direct knowledge of the needs of those in their local community. Input is also received from charitable associations of Jehovah's Witnesses in other lands. This knowledge and information is reflected in the nature and content of the Bible study aids and assistance that are made available.

Question 3 - The charity's strategy

What are the key elements of your charity's medium to long term strategy?

1. To provide adequate facilities, and to update equipment, so as to enable the efficient and effective printing and distributing of Bibles and Bible study aids.
2. To reach more communities in the United Kingdom and the world by the translation and printing in local languages of Bible study aids.
3. To promote the building of places of worship in local communities in the United Kingdom and developing nations of the world.

How does your charity measure the success of the strategy?

By the way persons in local communities, both in the United Kingdom and overseas, are helped spiritually, morally, mentally, and physically as a result of the work of the charity.

Question 4 - The charity's objectives and achievements

What were your charity's main annual objectives and were they achieved?

Objective	Achievement
The printing and distribution, both in the United Kingdom and overseas, of Bibles and Bible-based literature in several languages.	During the year over 329 million Bible-based publications were printed. Literature in 228 languages was sent to 112 countries. The total value of literature donated overseas exceeded £3,000,000.
Promoting and funding the construction of places of worship in developing countries, and assisting associations of Jehovah's Witnesses overseas to promote the aims and activities of the charity.	Over £22,000,000 was sent overseas to assist with the construction of places of worship, running of administrative facilities and missionary activity.
Supporting congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses and others in connection with their spiritual and moral welfare in the United Kingdom and overseas.	Worldwide Jehovah's Witnesses spent over 1,748 million hours helping in the community, over 22 million of which were devoted to helping others here in the United Kingdom. This was made possible, in part, through the activities of the charity.

Question 5 - The charity's income and spending

What were your charity's most significant activities during the year and how much did it spend on them?

Charitable activities	£ 000s
Production of literature and magazines.	12,074
Promoting Christian missionary work.	1,163
Donating to further religious education overseas.	26,100
Explanatory comments	
The costs of producing literature and magazines include £3,676,000 support costs.	

What were your charity's three main fundraising activities in the year and how much did each generate and cost?

Fundraising activity	Income generated £ 000s	Cost of activity £ 000s
The charity does not engage in fundraising.	0	0

Question 6 - The charity's financial health

How would you describe your charity's financial health at the end of the period?

Good. Total income received during the year was higher than the previous year. Additionally, reserves on hand at the end of the year were equivalent to 5 months average expenditure. We are confident that the donor base will continue to support the activities of the charity.

Question 7 - The next year

How will the overall performance last year affect your charity's medium to long term strategy?

The donations received, and activities and aims accomplished, provide a solid basis for confidence that the charity can continue to work in line with its current strategy.

What are your charity's main objectives for next year?

To increase the printing and distribution of Bibles and Bible study aids to meet the growing demand for these.

To continue promoting and funding both the construction of places of worship in developing lands, and the activities of local associations of Jehovah's Witnesses overseas as they promote the objects and activities of the charity.

To continue advancing the activity of Jehovah's Witnesses in the United Kingdom, as they work in the local community assisting persons spiritually and morally.

Question 8 - The charity's governance

How does your charity ensure that its governance arrangements are appropriate and effective?

The charity's trustees have key managerial roles at the charity headquarters. They meet weekly and are in regular contact each day. Training is arranged as part of the meetings when charity policies are discussed. This is supplemented by periodic training provided by the charity's auditors. Due to their day-to-day involvement in the affairs of the charity, the trustees are able to ensure that the governance arrangements continue to be appropriate and effective.

Question 9 - Further details

Further details on all the answers given in this Summary Information Return can be obtained from:

The official website of Jehovah's Witnesses: www.jw.org

The annual Yearbook of Jehovah's Witnesses

The Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity.

Declaration

This Summary Information Return was submitted online by MR DAVID CARPENTER on 21 March 2013, telephone number 02089062211.

MR DAVID CARPENTER certified online that:

- the information provided was correct
- it had been or would be brought to the attention of all the trustees

Those who give answers that they know are untrue or misleading may be committing an offence.

Contact details

Address

The Charity Commission
PO Box 1329
Liverpool
L69 3DY

Telephone

0845 3000 218

Textphone

0845 3000 219

Email

enquiries@charitycommission.gsi.gov.uk

Web

www.charitycommission.gov.uk