

# ACC ANNUAL REVIEW 2023



# 01

## **SOWING AND REAPING IN 2023**

In 2023 we continued to invest in the development of the services provided by us as an organisation and more widely in the work of counselling and pastoral care. We believe that what we have been sowing over the last few years and continue to do will bring benefits to ACC as an organisation that serves the church and the profession, but we have also seen benefits being reaped for our members, for members of the public and for the communities that we live in and care for.

## **WEBSITE AND DATABASE**

Throughout 2023 we continued to “sow” both financially and in time in the development of a new website and database. We had hoped that this would be completed by the end of the year, but delays meant that we did not “go-live” until Spring 2024. We believe that it will reap the benefits of being a significant improvement to the information and services that we are able to provide for members, clients and members of the public. We believe that the new website showcases the organisation and our members in a more contemporary and progressive frame - whilst offering a warm, inclusive and confident space for anyone looking for knowledge, understanding and support.

# 02

## PASTORAL CARE TRAINING

In addition to reaping the benefits of delivering the training that we developed in 2022: "Foundations in Pastoral Care", "Guidelines for Good Practice in Pastoral Care", "Caring for Ourselves", and "Developing Quality Relationships in Churches and Communities", we have been able to further sow by developing new training, including a six-session course "Building Blocks in Pastoral Care" and training modules on specific pastoral topics, including "Pastoral Accompaniment at the End of Life" and "Setting Up and Running a Pastoral Team". We know these training are delivering what is most wanted by those involved in the ministry of pastoral care, focused on how to care well for people and accompany them through the whole range of life struggles and complexities. We are heartened by the feedback we have had which consistently rated all training as being of both excellent in training standards and 'spot-on' in terms of relevance to the ministry of pastoral care/accompaniment.

## ONLINE EVENTS

In addition to pastoral care training, we continued to sow and grow our portfolio of CPD events, retreats and forums. CPD events included "The Wellbeing Zone" "Working with Sex and Pornography Addiction", "Internalised Other Interviewing", "Externalising the Problem" and "Supporting and managing the risk of individuals who are self-harming or experiencing suicidal ideation".

Our Members Forums continue to be popular and this year included "Working with Children and Young People", "Record Keeping and Note Taking", "SCoPEd Q&A", "Becoming an Inclusive Therapist", "CYP - Working with Parents and Carers", "Counsellor Support Groups", "Professional Wills", "NICE Guideline on Self-harm" and "Pastoral Care and LGBT+".

# 03

## ACCORD JOURNAL

In Summer 2023 we successfully redesigned and moved ACC journal to an online publication, which has reaped quality, environmental and financial benefits. We were delighted to have appointed Claire Musters as the new editor of accord in December 2023.

## MEMBER GROUPS

ACC continues to facilitate specific support groups for members: Ethnic Tapestry, Children and Young People's (CYP) Group, Couples Counsellor Group and Counsellors who are Church Ministers/Leaders Group. We also launched counsellor support groups - with many and various ways for our members to connect with one another. ACC reaps the benefits of these groups as they contribute to our work and development, and our members reap the benefits of the support and fellowship of colleagues.

## NHS COUNSELLING SERVICE

After 3 years, the counselling service established in 2020 in response to the pandemic, closed in 2023 due to funding from the NHS ceasing. The service provided counselling to over 400 NHS staff and 130 bereaved individuals through approximately 2,500 counselling sessions. It has also raised awareness of ACC within the NHS and the importance of faith in the well-being of individuals. Our thanks to everyone who sowed into the lives of so many people, by being involved in this service, many of whom initially gave their time and skills on a voluntary basis. We pray that the clients of this service may reap the on-going benefits.



# 04

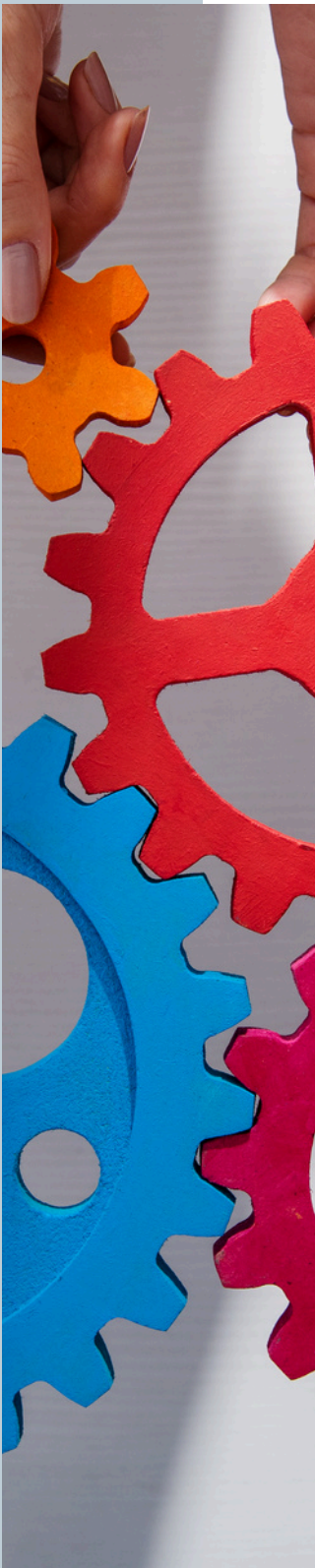
## THE WIDER PROFESSION

We continue to sow into the wider world of counselling and pastoral care through our involvement in various professional groups and coalitions.

**The Coalition for Inclusion and Anti-Oppressive Practice** launched its Anti-oppressive and Anti-racist Practice Toolkit for Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psychology Training Providers. The 'Race is Complicated' toolkit has been distributed to all ACC members, including our training organisations.

**Scope of Practice and Education (SCoPEd)** partnership continued to work collaboratively on the SCoPEd Framework which was formally adopted by ACC. SCoPEd provides a means of setting standards across the profession, protecting clients from unsafe or unethical practice and providing members with resources and support to practise well. It is also a way for ACC and the wider profession to engage effectively with and to demonstrate the value of counselling and psychotherapy to employers, commissioners and government as well as improving the understanding of counselling for the public and potential clients.

ACC continued to "sow" by active participation in the **PSA Accredited Registers Collaborative**, the **MoU on Conversion Therapy Group**, **Climate Crisis Coalition**, the **NHS England Psychological Professions Group**, and the **Spirituality, Health, and Wellbeing in NHS & Social Care Wales (SHaW) Group**.



# 05

## OUR TEAM

Stephen Poxon, our accord editor, stepped down in 2023, but we welcomed Claire Musters as our new editor. Claire has vast experience in working with Christian publications.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Sarah Meredith from our staff team, but welcomed Andrew Walker. We are also delighted that Gillian Stuart has been appointed ACC Registrar and Sarah Palmer as Deputy Registrar.

Sadly, Jim McRae stepped down from the Board, but we welcomed Leroy Harley, who was co-opted in 2023.

## SOWING AND REAPING IN 2024

We will continue to be involved in all on-going activities providing services and support to our members, the public and the wider profession and in addition we will specifically be “sowing” through:

- Completing the redevelopment of ACC’s website and database
- Delivering the National Conference, with the first SCoPEd column B ‘top up’ training in the UK
- Reviewing of ACC’s Memorandum and Articles of Association
- Continued work on ACC’s Complaint Policy and Code of Ethics and Practice
- Further development of Pastoral Care training with additional modular courses
- Commencing work on the development of new membership streams

Our thanks also go to everyone who has and continues to “sow” into the work of ACC - our members, our staff, board, pastoral care team, membership groups, accreditation team, complaint panel members and the many people who provide their skills, time and expertise in so many ways. The commitment of so many continues to amaze us and we thank God for their generosity, service and for all that they have sown and for all that has been reaped as a result.

# 06

We give thanks to God, from whom all that we have comes, for His provision, guidance and care for ACC, its members and the many people who reap benefit from their work. Every blessing and much thanks for your support. As it is written in 2 Corinthians 9:9 -14:

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‘They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.’

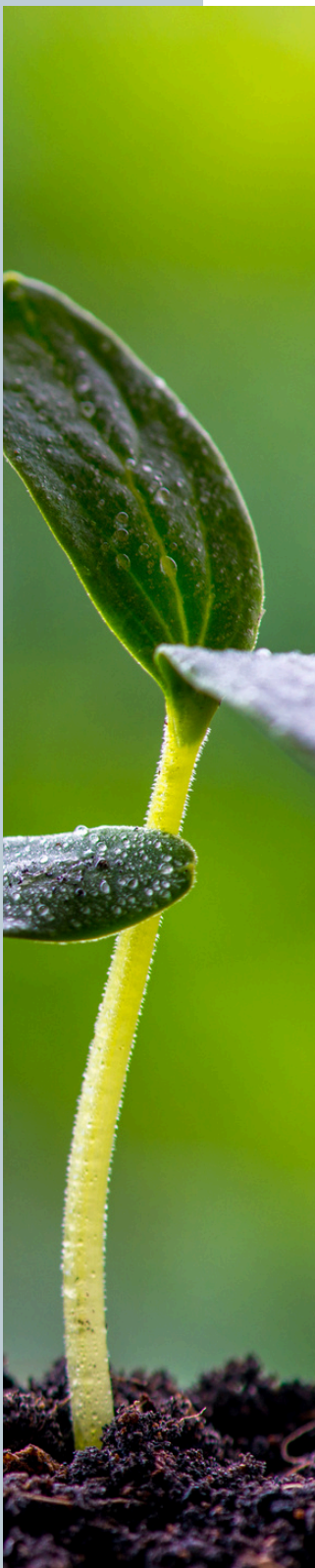
Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

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**Sue Monckton-Rickett**

Chair of Association of Christians in Counselling  
and Linked Professions



# 07

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Accounts for 2023 show overall a reduced unrestricted deficit of £17,839 for the year, compared with an unrestricted deficit last year of £63,951.

This resulted in the General Funds decreasing from £123,701 to £120,287 after a transfer of £14,425 from the Restricted Funds.

The main reason for the unrestricted deficit was expenditure of £21,950 on a new website and database which was implemented in 2024. The comparison of income and expenditure with the previous year is significantly affected by the biennial national conference which last took place in 2022 and will be held again in September 2024. This means that both income and expenditure are significantly reduced compared to the previous year.

Unrestricted income decreased by £68,049 mainly due to the following:

- Conference income was down from £88,219 to £4,920 due to the biennial national conference being held in 2022 and not 2023, however the online conference provided some income.
- An increase in subscriptions of £7,836 due to the 5% increase in fees.
- A significant increase in training fees and levies of £15,801 from online CPD events held throughout the year.
- A decrease in fees from the pastoral care training of £6,537, due to a reduction in the the number of training delivered, whilst the new training were being piloted and a transition was made from the old to new courses.
- Advertising through the accord journal reduced by £1,988.
- Fees from organisational members reduced by £1,367.
- Bank interest increased by £1,087.



## FINANCIAL REVIEW (CONT...)

Unrestricted expenditure decreased by £114,161 mainly due to the following:

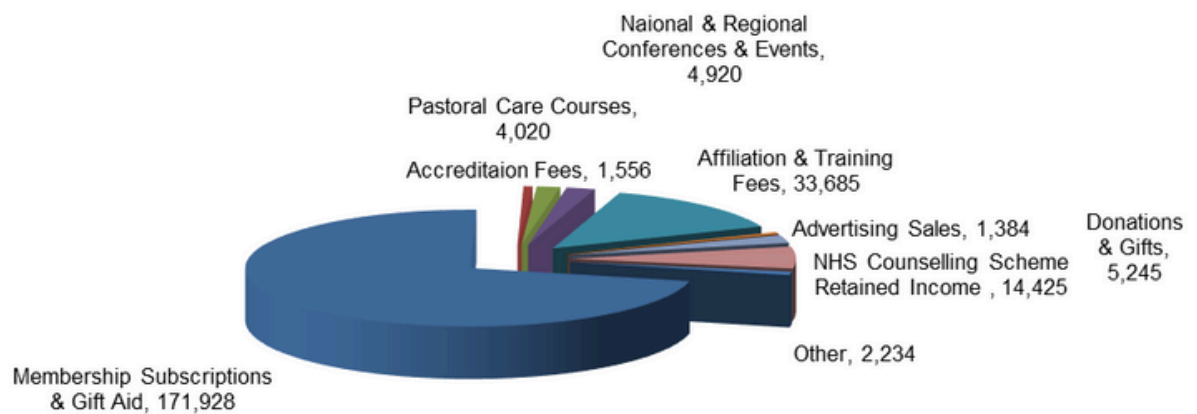
- A large decrease in Conference costs of £70,082, due to the biennial conference being held in 2022 but not 2023.
- A decrease in website and database development of £13,320 with further costs in 2024.
- An overall increase in Executive Allowance and staff salaries of £9,313 reflecting the 5% increase in pay.
- A significant decrease of £15,219 in the costs of the accord quarterly publication which went on-line from the second quarterly edition.
- A reduction of £6,542 in Pastoral Care training delivery with new material being developed with the aid of grant monies.
- Other training increased by £3,333.
- The costs of registration with the PSA increased by £4,255.
- A reduction of £1,095 in bank charges due to less transactions with no biennial conference this year.

There is budgeted to be a deficit in 2024, with the need to complete the investment of our infrastructure project so that we are equipped for potential growth and new membership categories along with improvements to the ACC website to promote membership connection and interaction. Progress on these developments is reviewed regularly by the ACC Board to ensure they will meet the needs of the organisation in the most cost effective and timely manner.

We give thanks to all those who have supported us financially through membership, gifts and providing free services that we would otherwise have to pay for and we of course give thanks to God for his provision.

**Peter Roberts**  
Finance Director

## ACC Analysis of General Fund Revenue 2023



## ACC Analysis of General Fund Expenditure 2023



The Association of Christians in Counselling and Linked Professions Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023			
	General Fund (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total Funds (£)
<b>Income &amp; Endowments from</b>			
Donations and Legacies	20,422	11,300	31,722
Charitable Activities	201,680	0	201,680
Other Trading Activities	1,384	0	1,384
Interest Income	1,485	0	1,485
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>224,972</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>236,272</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Raising Funds	7,961	0	7,961
Charitable Activities	234,850	66,012	300,862
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>242,811</b>	<b>66,012</b>	<b>308,823</b>
Net Income/(Expenditure)	-17,839	-54,712	-72,551
Transfer Between Funds	14,425	-14,425	0
Net Movement in Funds	-3,414	-69,137	-72,551
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>			
Total Funds brought forward	123,701	73,931	197,632
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>120,287</b>	<b>4,794</b>	<b>125,081</b>

The Association of Christians in Counselling and Linked Professions Balance Sheet at 31 December 2023		
	Total Funds (£)	Prior Year Funds (£)
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Intangible Assets	0	0
Tangible Assets	0	0
Investments	0	0
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>	0	0
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	21,622	67,643
Cash at bank and in-hand	129,863	157,306
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	151,485	224,949
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors: amount falling due within one year	26,404	27,317
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS OR LIABILITIES</b>	125,081	197,632
<b>The Funds of the Charity</b>		
Restricted income funds	4,794	73,931
Unrestricted income funds	120,287	123,702
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>	125,081	197,632