

**The Vincent Society (Trading as CMJ UK)**  
**Online Annual General Meeting**  
**2pm on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- 1 Opening prayer and welcome:** Wendy Scott (Chairman of Trustees) welcomed everyone to the first online AGM and John Brooks outlined Zoom instructions for voting later. Participants were welcomed to be from Israel, India, Scotland, Ireland and England. 79 devices tuned in.
- 2 Apologies:** Elaine Taylor, Martin Goldsmith, Philip Tarling, Janet Damary, Peter and Ann van de Kastale, Pam Williams, David Connolly, Rose Jenks, Liz Francis, Ann Campbell, Marjorie Webster and Heather Taylor.
- 3 Minutes of the Vincent Society AGM held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019:** Jean Herrick proposed that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, Alison Marchant seconded this, and these were accepted by online agreement.
- 4 Matters Arising:** None
- 5 Chairman's remarks:** Wendy presented a summary of the Trustees report that was with the 2019 accounts as shown on the CMJ website. Wendy remarked that:
  - The increasing use of the Bible Comes To Life Exhibition (BCTL) in 2019 has opened many opportunities.
  - The support of Messianic Fellowships in the UK is ongoing and a report on this will soon be made available.
  - CMJ was blessed during 2019 with several large legacies.
  - In February 2020, Trustees and Staff met to begin talks on succession planning.
  - Despite the COVID-19 restrictions, the staff have been busy. Some events have been postponed. There have been new opportunities for online deputations, prayer meetings and lectures have all been well attended. Thanks were expressed to John and Carol Brooks for making the Conference 2020 happen virtually which was a steep learning curve for them, done with enthusiasm.
  - Social media and web development have increased and been fruitful thanks to Philippa.
  - We hope to have short digital presentations related to BCTL which schools and churches could use.
  - The Youth ministry is expanding through our links with Youth For Christ (YFC) due Bob Goody's new post with them. There are 70 local ministry settings and over 1000 churches involved with YFC. It is hoped that the Youth conference will grow in number.
  - Alex Jacob has produced a study guide on "God's Unfailing Word", the Anglican Church's report on Jewish Ministry, which will be useful for Theology colleges and churches and is a challenge to re-examine scriptures concerning Israel.
  - There is close co-operation with CMJ Israel with Daryl Fenton, with blessings and support flowing both ways. Sadly, Linda Cohen was promoted to glory at the end of 2019. CMJ UK had a strong bond of friendship with her and she was full of warmth, graciousness, a sense of humour and feistiness.
  - Internationally, it is hoped that a team will be visiting Poland in 2021 to do evangelism, which will be a multi-national effort between CMJ's worldwide, led by Daryl Fenton.

- CMJ UK gives one third of live income to Israel, funding such from Reserves.
- This year has been difficult to negotiate but the Lord has sustained through the generosity with many responding. Please pray for continued guidance for Staff and Trustees.

**6 Financial Summary of 2019 Annual Accounts:** These are available on the CMJ website. Phil Harris (Chairman of Finance Committee) also reported that the finances show the goodness of God this year. Alone we can do little, but together so much. In 2018 there was a deficit of £75,000 but in 2019 there was a surplus of £218,000, which is a swing of £293,000.

Donations are down 6% (5% drop in 2018), Appeals are up by 52% which cancelled out the shortfall on donations. Legacies amounted to £368,000 in 2019 for which CMJ is so grateful. Restricted gifts were down by 59% (£32,710 less).

Proverbs says: "A generous soul will be made rich".

Expenditure was maintained in Evangelism and Youth. Expenditure increased by £30,000 which was mainly due to social media, website and database development.

The UK gift to Israel dropped by 22% owing to the reduced donations to CMJ.

However, the non-financial support remains in place, consisting of printing Israel's News and Views, holding the annual Spring Fair with Team UK at Christchurch, and Alex visiting Christchurch over the year. A loan of £200,000 was also given in 2020 towards the building work at the Alexander building at Christchurch.

£218,000 was added to our Reserves, totalling £1.8 million, but approx. 50% of this is not available to spend. There are 864 new followers on Facebook and Instagram (72% increase), Volunteers and Reps have continued their work and prayers have been ongoing, all counted as blessings.

A reminder was given that making a gift greater than £30 does not automatically make one a member. Specific instruction must be given to the CMJ office.

The accounts represent 1000's of donations and payment of 1000's of invoices which all fall on Alan and Marie to deal with and we are very grateful for all they do. Thanks also need to go to John Brooks, without whom I couldn't fulfil my role.

"The world of the generous gets larger and larger" Proverbs 11:24.

The online poll evidenced agreement to accept the accounts and trustees report.

**7 Appointment of Independent Examiners/Auditors for 2020:** Bostock White were duly appointed, with a 96% agreement by video vote.

**8 Election of Trustees to the Board:** There were 5 vacancies and 5 nominations, so all were welcomed to the Board of Trustees. Ralph Goldenberg was not standing again due to health issues and travelling and Alison Marchant due to her increasingly busy ministry opportunities. Grateful thanks were expressed for their godly council, loyalty, faithfulness and time given in the UK and Israel and they will be a continuing voice of CMJ. The Trustees re-standing were: Joy Sims, Rosa Blandford and Phil Harris, with Tim Butlin and Alison Davies being new appointments. There was 96% agreement for their appointments.

**9 CMJ Israel Financial update:** Daryl Fenton stated his gratitude for the support of the UK, particularly personal support from Alex Jacob, John Brooks and Robin Aldridge. He stated that people could send any questions they have regarding the financial statement to [director@cmjisrael.org](mailto:director@cmjisrael.org).

He also thanked the UK for the loan to the Alexander building project which has led to renovation of floors, walls and piping this year and electrics and hot-water exchangers

on the roof next year. Over this year, they have had a huge response for having local Israelis staying at the Guest houses has meant more opportunity to witness to them. Database subscribers have increased from 1,000 to 10,000. CMJ Israel has a wealth of resources which can be shared around the world using social media, including Aaron Eime's talks, the Days of Awe and Sukkot teaching. Daryl reminded people of the weekly live Sunday service online from Christchurch. Shoresh Tours will probably begin tours again next Pesach and the Christchurch Guest House re-opening by the end of November 2020.

Through the Lance Lambert Trust, they will be able put a Hebrew language programme on the website. The coffee shop and Heritage Centre will increase usage again.

The Guest House in Tel Aviv will resume next year (2021). The restoration project at Beit Immanuel has scheduled a structural engineer to repair the roof, open another room and work on the exterior. The rest of the interior, to include a coffee shop, will be done at a later time. Beit Bracha will reopen at the end of October and they have been cleaning and painting during lockdown. The local people are using the centre and they are in contact with local businesses.

Daryl has also had to be temporary Guest House manager at CC for a while and has been updating the management and re-designing the compound, possibly using the idea of recapturing the age of the British Mandate, with English cream teas being served, as Israeli's love history.

The AISJ (school) had 315 students in 2019 with 295 in 2020. It has been exceedingly difficult and stressful teaching students online. Gaining Visas are still difficult

The Mercy Fund is undertaking more and more outreach across the land.

Daryl said Israel is ready to help the UK churches with prayer and visits.

Many thanks were expressed to Daryl for his time, energy and vision.

- 10 Any Other Business:** Rufus Barnes proposed a vote of thanks to Wendy Scott for leading CMJ and the Trustees through a difficult period. She has led with humour and determination and CMJ is now in a strong position due to the Lord's provision and Wendy's guidance.

Alison Marchant thanked everyone for their interest in the "Festivals and Covenants" which is going ahead in November 2020 and asked for prayers for wisdom.

The meeting closed at 15.15