# The Swedenborg Society

2016 Two hundred and sixth Annual Report for the year 2015



Swedenborg House 20-21 Bloomsbury Way London WC1A 2TH 020 7405 7986

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Website: www.swedenborg.org.uk

Charity Registration Number 209172

The Swedenborg Society is a Private Company Limited by Guarantee without share capital, registration number 00209822.

The Society was established by Deed of Trust. The governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association (1963), copies of which may be obtained by members at 40p a copy on application to the Administrator.

The affairs of the Society are controlled by a Council, nominated and elected by members of the Society.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The Swedenborg Society provides for the continuation of the public knowledge of the works of Emanuel Swedenborg, the appreciation of Swedenborg's ideas and the influence of his works on later generations. We hold that Swedenborg's work and legacy will always remain of importance and we support work that is evidence of its continued relevance. As an institution in the service of society, and open to the public, we give home to a permanent collection of artefacts, a library, a bookroom, an exhibition space and meeting rooms. The Society offers a community to all who share these interests and, within its means, support for all those who seriously further those interests in research or interpretation.

# Bankers:

HSBC Bank plc, 210 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HD

#### Investment Managers:

Quilter Cheviot, One Kingsway, London WC2B 6AN

#### Solicitors:

Gordons Partnership LLP, Edgeborough House, Upper Edgeborough Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 2BJ

#### Auditors:

WMT Chartered Accountants, 45 Grosvenor Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 3AW

# Property Advisers:

Emmerson Barnett, Chartered Building Surveyors, Stanbrook Mead, Stanbrook, Thaxted, Essex CM6 2NQ

#### THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY

Report of the Council for the twelve months ended 31 December 2015.

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The stated aims of the Swedenborg Society are to provide for the continuation of the public knowledge of the works of Emanuel Swedenborg and the appreciation of Swedenborg's ideas and influence on later generations. A complete list of the Objects for which the Society was established is contained in the Society's Governing Document. A précis of the Society's primary charitable activities are as follows:

- (a) to print, publish, purchase, sell and distribute as grants, the literary remains of Emanuel Swedenborg.
- (b) to print, publish, purchase, sell and distribute as grants, biographies of Swedenborg and, with the consent of a General Meeting, literature in agreement with his writings.
- (c) to organize meetings, lectures, conferences and other functions as a means of directing attention to, and promoting interest in, the works of Swedenborg.
- (d) to encourage the study of the works of Swedenborg by maintaining a Reading Room, an Archive and Library.

Key strategies for the success of these aims include: giving books as grants to public and university libraries and other such organizations; organizing events, lectures, film screenings, seminars and exhibitions; developing links with academic organizations and not-for-profit and scholarly institutions; encouraging volunteers to participate in our activities, and encouraging the general public to a better understanding of Swedenborg and his works. Our Bookshop and premises are open to the public and we give home to a permanent collection of artefacts, archive, library, book room, exhibition space and meeting rooms. We offer a community to all who share these interests and, within its means, support for all those who seriously further those interests in research or interpretation.

#### STRATEGIC PLANNING

During 2014, the Council undertook a review of its primary activities and prepared a document to help with enhancing and furthering the stated aims above. The long-term aims of the document are to up-date, reorganize and improve the Society's administrative infrastructure and also to enhance and expand the Society's main charitable activities. During 2014, upgrades and enhancements

were made to the infrastructure of the building including the renovation of Swedenborg Hall, the David Wynter Room, the Gardiner Room, the Bookshop and other public areas of the building. The Society also appointed new book distributors, enhanced the profile of the Society's events and made ready a series of titles as e-books. The Society also reorganized it's staffing infrastructure. During 2015 this programme continued and included the upgrading and refurbishment of three of its offices (which it lets to commercial tenants), and research for the upgrading of its Governing Document. The next phase of the enhancement plan is to include:

- the completion of policy documents relating to applications for National Museum and National Archive status:
- the establishing of an International Peer Review Board and International Journal for Scholarly Studies;
- the implementation of improved storage systems for the Society's rare Archive and collection;
- · continued reassessment of the strategic use of the building;
- · the development of a scholarship programme for the funding of doctoral research;
- the development of a curatorial programme with touring exhibitions for establishing connections with universities and other academic organizations.

Much research and preparatory work has been undertaken regarding a planned application for National Museum and National Archive status. A successful application for National Museum and National Archive status will allow for greater institutional collaborations; it will allow the Society to apply for government grants; it will allow the Society to borrow artefacts and items from other public collections for display, and it will raise the public profile of the Swedenborg collection and the Swedenborg Society as an academic institution. In this way the Society aims to raise the public profile of Swedenborg House, the Society's collection and of Swedenborg himself.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Whenever possible the Society encourages volunteers to assist with the work and activities at Swedenborg House. Volunteers provide an important support for the continuation of our charitable activities and also an important framework for social networking and people investment. In publishing, the vital tasks provided by volunteers included translating, editing, research, copy-editing and proofreading. Much of this effort is provided by members of the Society's Advisory and Revision Board, who also play a crucial role in establishing a suitable forum for scholarly discussion and publishing strategy. (MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY AND REVISION board are listed on page 14). Crucial support is also given to the minding of the Society's Bookshop, which allows the Society to remain open to the public five days a week during normal working hours, and also during our many public events. Our team of dedicated VOLUNTEERS are listed on page 15.

#### **GRANT MAKING**

The Society has long maintained a policy of giving its publications as grants to libraries, universities and other public institutions both in the UK and overseas. The Society is also a member of an umbrella body called Swedenborg Publishers International which provides funding for translation and publishing projects around the world. The Society's Council is also currently reviewing and preparing an educational grant policy which aims to offer financial support for doctoral research.

### ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

#### PRINTING, PUBLISHING, TRANSLATING AND EDITING

During 2015 the Society published four books and has many more books in preparation. The books published in 2015 are as follows:

- A Descriptive Bibliography of the Works of Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772) vol. III, by Norman Ryder. Described recently as one of the most helpful and thoughtful research tools to be published by any Swedenborgian publisher at any time, the Bibliography is one of the Society's key long-term publishing projects. Volume III includes a description of editions and translations of the works of Swedenborg that were first published or composed between the years 1756-62. Work on volume IV of the Bibliography is progressing well.
- An Angel Speaks: Selected Poems, by Homero Aridjis. Homero Aridjis is a former
  Ambassador to the Netherlands, Switzerland and UNESCO, author of over 40 books, twice
  receiver of the Guggenheim Fellowship and serving as the President of PEN International,
  amongst many more accolades. The book stems from a reading given at Swedenborg
  Hall in 2012, and features an introduction from the Nobel Prize-winning writer J M G Le
  Clézio. It is the third volume of the Swedenborg Archive series.
- Imaginal Landscapes: reflections on the mystical visions of Jorge Luis Borges and Emanuel Swedenborg by William Rowlandson, Senior Lecturer in Hispanic Studies at the University of Kent. He is the author of Borges, Swedenborg and Mysticism (Peter Lang, 2013) and has published widely on Latin American cultural and political history including the history of Guantánamo Bay and Cuba during the War on Terror. This book also stems from a lecture given at Swedenborg Hall and it features a foreword by Gary Lachman.
- New Jerusalem: The Good City and the Good Society by Ken Worpole. This is a revised
  transcript of his talk at Swedenborg House on 27 November 2014. Ken Worpole is Emeritus
  Professor in the Cities Institute, London Metropolitan University, and a leading writer and
  expert on urban city design. He has published on numerous topics including architecture,
  landscape and contemporary culture.

Other books being made ready for the press include: David Dunér's Cosmology, Matter, Mathematics: Essays on Swedenborg's Natural Philosophy; Malcolm Peet's Medicine, Mysticism and Mythology: Garth Wilkinson, Swedenborg and Nineteenth-Century Esoteric

Culture; and John Haller's Distant Voices: Sketches of a Swedenborgian World View. Work has also started on volumes four and five of the Swedenborg Archive series. This is to include a collection of original letters and other documents by the influential Japanese Zen Buddhist scholar D T Suzuki (1870-1966) held in the Society's archive. These rare items were compiled during the first decades of the twentieth century, when Suzuki was commissioned by the Society to translate Swedenborg into Japanese. Volume five is to include a new edition of W B Yeats's essay, 'Swedenborg, Mediums and the Desolate Places'.

Important work continued on new translations of Swedenborg's works. Ken Ryder has completed his translation of Swedenborg's *Divine Love and Wisdom*. The work is now at its final editorial stage. The consultant for the title was Alan Lewin. Discussions are also underway for Ken Ryder to begin a new English translation of Swedenborg's *Divine Providence*. Translating and editorial work by John Elliott on several dual-language English and Latin editions was completed and awaiting publication for 2016. These works are:

- Doctrina Novae Hierosolymae de Domino / The Teaching of the New Jerusalem concerning the Lord.
- Doctrina Novae Hierosolymae de Scriptura Sacra / The Teaching of the New Jerusalem concerning Sacred Scripture;
- Doctrina Vitae pro Nova Hierosolymae ex praeceptis Decalogi / The Teaching for the New Jerusalem concerning Life;

Copy-editing and proofreading work on *Doctrina Novae Hierosolymae de Fide! The Teaching of the New Jerusalem concerning Faith* is underway. Robert Gill served as consultant on all of these titles

Under the guidance of Dr Jonathan S Rose, work continued with compiling and arranging additions and corrections to A Lexicon to the Latin Text of the Theological Writings of Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772), ed. Dr John Chadwick and Dr Jonathan S Rose. Discussions are underway regarding the preparation of online digital versions of the Lexicon and the multi-volume Descriptive Bibliography of the Works of Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772) by Norman Ryder.

#### **EVENTS**

2015 saw another successful year of lectures, film festivals and other public events. Nearly all occasions were fully booked, in advance, and in several cases reserve seating was needed. The overall programme attracted nearly 1000 new visitors to Swedenborg House, and the Society also took to the road and organized events at other locations.

The annual events calendar began with the Swedenborg Birthday Lecture on 24 January. Simon Schaffer, Professor of History of Science at the University of Cambridge and Fellow of the British Academy, discussed Swedenborg's contribution to an understanding and practical use of longitude, as well as his wider astronomical observation. Since 2010 Schaffer has been a principal investigator on a project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in partnership with the National Maritime Museum to study the history of the Board of Longitude.

On 19 March, William Rowlandson's book *Imaginal Landscapes* was launched. The book shows how Swedenborg influenced Borges, in particular his preoccupations with parallel existences, the infinite, and the mystery of language. William is a Senior Lecturer in Hispanic Studies at the University of Kent.

Shortly following, on 14 April, the Society's new President Homero Aridjis launched his new collection of poetry, *An Angel Speaks*. This and the previously mentioned book were both Swedenborg Society publications.

Summer events began with an international conference to commemorate the abolition of slavery entitled the 'International Carl Bernhard Wadström Conference on Human Rights and the Abolition of Slavery'. Talks were held in part at Swedenborg Hall and the conference was launched on the 2 June at the former Lord Mayor's residence, where the Swedish Ambassador, the Lord Mayor and a number of specialists in the field spoke. The talks were given by a number of authors published by the Society, in particular our friends from Sweden and America. Although attendance was low for the presentations at Swedenborg House attendees were enthusiastic. Recordings were made of the speeches.

July 8-11 the Swedenborg Film Festival was re-launched after two years of absence. Gareth Evans (Whitechapel Art Gallery) and Nora Foster (Frieze) curated the line-up of prolific Polish film-maker, Lech Majewski, and Scotland-based experimental film-maker Richard Ashrowan, in a three-day festival which also featured a programme highlighting the best entries from the festival's first five years. As with previous years, Swedenborg House was included in Open House London. Over 200 people came to see the society's newly refurbished Hall and to chat to staff and Society trustees. This took place on the 19 September.

17 October was a busy day for all Society employees with Stephen McNeilly and James Wilson representing the Society at the Purley Chase Centre in 'A Day with the Swedenborg Society'. Stephen spoke about the work of the Society and the planned future changes, canvassing the opinions of members of the audience. This was preceded by two talks by Swedenborg Society authors. First, Dr William Rowlandson spoke about his book *Imaginal Landscapes*. Second, Professor Malcolm Peet, a retired Consultant Psychiatrist and an Honorary Professor in the School of Health and Related Research at the University of Sheffield, spoke of his forthcoming book (to be published by the Swedenborg Society in 2016) entitled *Medicine*, *Mysticism and Mythology: Garth Wilkinson, Swedenborg, and Nineteenth-Century Esoteric Culture.* Meanwhile, on the same day back in London, Alex Murray, Maia Gaffney-Hyde and Rebecca Wells represented the Society at the All Tomorrow's Publishers Fair as part of the Literary Kitchen Festival, hosted at the Peckham Pelican, Camberwell.

As part of the Bloomsbury Festival on 23 October the Swedenborg Society hosted a very successful screening of Andrew Kötting's film By Our Selves. Starring Iain Sinclair and produced by Gareth Evans; both in attendance, the film charts the meanderings of 'peasant poet' John Clare. The event also launched the companion book to the film by the same name, By Our Selves, with special signed copies being available in the Bookshop.

Following shortly after, on 26 October the Society hosted a high-profile literary discussion, 'An Evening of Dreams: A Literary Round Table'. Speakers included: Chloe Aridjis, author of two critically acclaimed novels Book of Clouds (2009) and Asunder (2013); her father and Society President Homero Aridjis, widely considered Latin America's greatest living poet; Eva Hoffman, Polish American writer and academic who has been described by The Independent as 'One of our most lucid thinkers' and author of several books; Darian Leader, one of Britain's foremost psychoanalysts and an author who has popularized Lacanian ideas across works that have dealt with relationships and the sexes, madness, pharmaceuticals and the roles of art and artists; Tom McCarthy, novelist, critic and artist who has twice been shortlisted for the Booker Prize, for C (2010) and his most recent work Satin Island (2015); and Selina Mills, an awardwinning author, journalist and broadcaster. Selina was formerly a producer for BBC Radio 4's Today and World at One programmes, and she has written for The Observer, The Times, The Financial Times, The Daily Telegraph and The Spectator. The evening was a great success with a variety of attendees from varying fields. The event was also recorded.

On 8 November Ken Worpole's book *The New Jerusalem: the good city and the good Society* was launched at Clissold Park, Stoke Newington, a fitting venue, the house being the former residence of one of the Society's great benefactors in the nineteenth century, Augustus Clissold.

The final event of the year was held on 7 December. It was a 'deaf friendly' evening that involved a screening of the film *Dummy Jim* and the launch of a new edition of James Duthie's 1951 travel book upon which the film was based, *I Cycled into the Arctic Circle*. Duthie writes of how, in his travels through Sweden, he discovered Emanuel Swedenborg. The director of the film, Matt Hulse, was interviewed after the screening by Gareth Evans, with the proceedings being BSL / English interpreted.

# ARTIST RESIDENCY

Bridget Smith has been appointed as the Swedenborg Society's artist in residence for 2015-16. Bridget's practice involves documentary films and photography and has seen her work exhibited internationally, featuring in public collections in Austria, Spain, Mexico, USA and the UK (including the V&A and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art). Bridget has worked with the Swedenborg Society before, having participated in the 2010 bicentenary exhibition Fourteen Interventions and being an invited screening at the 2011 Swedenborg Short Film Festival with her film Killing Time. A photograph of Swedenborg Hall features in her 2007 book Society. She is represented by the Frith Street Gallery in London.

### BOOKSHOP AND DISTRIBUTION

2015 saw an increase in sales through the Swedenborg Society's Bookshop. This was due to increased attendance at Swedenborg Society events. Following our new distribution agreements from 2014, we are also pleased to note that Swedenborg Society titles continue to be stocked in a range of bookshops throughout the UK, including Foyles, Blackwell's, Daunt Books, Waterstones and a number of independent booksellers. During 2015 the Society also increased its distribution of grants, supplying copies of its publications to individuals and institutions throughout the world.

The comparative drop with 2014 of overall income from book sales occurs as a consequence of a large consignment of prepaid stock sent to the USA in 2014. This was part

of our distribution agreement with the Swedenborg Foundation of West Chester, USA. The new distribution agreement with Combined Book Services (of Tonbridge, Kent) also results in higher commission costs from sales outlets and marketing expenses. As part of our desire to have copies of Swedenborg's works as widely available as possible it was felt necessary to increase availability of our publishing stock through established sales outlets (and therefore increased costs), rather than seek to limit distribution by handling all book sales in-house.

Sales. The gross retail value of books sold was £12,360.93, compared with £18,204 in 2014. Counter sales in the shop were £4,991.85 (£4,343.28 in 2014).

Grants. Grants of books totaling £2,363.32 were made to individuals around the world.

|        | 2015               | 2014               |
|--------|--------------------|--------------------|
|        | Books and Booklets | Books and Booklets |
| Sales  | 1,872              | 2,482              |
| Grants | 198                | 16                 |
| Total  | 2,070              | 2,498              |

#### PUBLICITY

The Society's ongoing publicity strategy during 2015 continued to embrace a variety of media types and outlets. The digital mailing list and online newsletter continued to grow and at the end of the year reached a list of nearly 1,800 interested individuals. Continued use was made of the Society's social media, which has continued to grow throughout 2015, in accordance with the increased numbers of events, screenings and talks. The Society's Facebook page now has 1,891 followers (1,712 likes, 179 friends) but via its associated links, including Twitter (1,051 followers), postings can reach as many as 8,000 contacts. During 2015, the Swedenborg House blog attracted over 8,000 annual visits from 97 different countries worldwide. The aim is to continue developing the Society's online presence.

Ticketing for events is done using the website Eventbrite which is an efficient, well-known and easy-to-navigate site thus reducing the number of enquiries made directly to the admin@ swedenborg.org.uk email address. We are also developing a relationship with listings sites such as Art Licks and have posted a number of events (screenings, talks, etc.) with them—they have a devoted art following and advertise the event they list independently on Twitter as well as their website, therefore reaching a wider audience. For events that may have appealed to a younger or more academic audience, such as the 'Evening of Dreams' and the launch for An Angel Speaks, posters were circulated to London universities and institutions.

Plans have begun to be put in place for a specially tailored Museum and Archive blog. The aim is to write about selected objects within the Collection. A frequency of posts will set the ground for the transition of the Society into museum status. Discussion is also taking place in regards to producing a printed Swedenborg Society Review. Broadsheet in design, the publication would aim to complement Things Heard and Seen by subsuming the various

handouts that are available in the Bookshop and provide further space for the documentation of talks and events; as well as being another visual arts outlet, potentially in collaboration with the artist in residency programme and other commissioned artists.

As with previous years, the Society was open to visitors as part of Open House London on the afternoon of 19 September and welcomed around 200 visitors. Open House weekend offers a great opportunity for both friends of the Society and the general public alike to come and view the Society's beautiful Grade II listed headquarters in Bloomsbury. New poster display boards were installed on the railings at the front of Swedenborg House, to help raise awareness of Society events for the thousands of commuters and other visitors to our capital city passing every day.

On 17 October staff from the Swedenborg Society took part in the All Tomorrow's Publishers Fair as part of the Literary Kitchen Festival. This showcased the Society's publications to a wider literary and London-based audience and renewed and forged connections with fellow independent publishers such as Mark Pilkington of Strange Attractor Press.

P L Johnson edited a further two issues of the Society's newsletter *Things Heard and Seen* which is posted to all members and is available free of charge in the Bookshop. Continued use was made of print and online listings including *Time Out* and *All In London*. As with previous years the Society made good use of external websites to publicize Swedenborg House events. Continued use was also made of more conventional publicity methods including printed invitations and printed flyers, posted to the press and selected individuals.

# THE SWEDENBORG COLLECTION, ARCHIVE AND LIBRARY

Work continued during 2015 in the very important task of entering data about the Society's collection, Archive and Library onto its online catalogue. At the end of 2015, over 9400 items have been recorded, with the major achievement this year being the completion of listing the pamphlets section (S4). The pamphlets section comprises nearly 4000 items and although there is considerable duplication of titles in this figure, it remains one of the Library's unique holdings with a significant amount of the material that has been recorded therein not appearing on any other library catalogues in the world. It is a feat that will be of great benefit to both the Society and the researchers who will visit it for years to come. A great deal of gratitude is expressed to assistant librarian, Alex Murray, who has overseen this, at times, gruelling task. Work has now begun on cataloguing the next section of the Archive, section F 'Swedenborg Society matters', which documents the working history of the Society. The online catalogue can be viewed at: <a href="http://swedenborg.libertyasp.co.uk/library">http://swedenborg.libertyasp.co.uk/library</a> or from links on the Swedenborg Society's website.

In early spring 2015 a dehumidifier was purchased and installed into the archive to ensure that humidity levels remain stable and at the recommended levels for archive storage.

In the summer of 2015 the Society was donated a cabinet and several hundred books, as well as boxes of manuscript material and minute books from the Greenhill Church. The books once formed part of the library of the Cross Street, Hatton Garden congregation, one of the earliest formed congregations of the General Conference of the New Church, and, as such, constitute an important historical collection illustrating what committed adherents of Swedenborg were reading

(alongside Swedenborg) at the end of the eighteenth century and beginning of the nineteenth century. A full appraisal and cataloguing of this wealth of material will take place in due course.

Ahead of applications for museum status, steps have been taken to establish what items from the Society's Library and Archives should be considered to form part of the museum collection.

#### **PREMISES**

The Swedenborg Society's premises at 20-21 Bloomsbury Way remain an essential component of the Society's ongoing charitable activities and investment income. Following the 2014 refurbishments to Swedenborg Hall, the David Wynter Room, the F A Gardiner Room, the Bookshop and the Stairwell, further refurbishments were undertaken during 2015 to three of the offices leased to tenants and their associated common areas. The restoration work included rewiring, redecorating and relighting the offices on the ground, second and third floors, and much work was undertaken upgrading the toilets and kitchenettes. New intercom and alarm systems were also installed, allowing both greater security and access. By the end of the year all three of the restored office suites had been let at increased rates to new tenants: Akeso & Co., a consultancy firm, on the ground floor, taking a 5-year lease with a 2.5 year break clause; the Embassy of Haiti on the second floor, taking a 10-year lease with a 5-year break clause; and Lambert and Associates, a fashion office, on the third floor, taking a 5-year lease with a 2.5 year break clause.

As noted in the Finance Section of this report a large portion of the Society's funds were needed to complete the work during 2015, but this in turn has allowed the Society to substantially increase the rental income which is to be used to support our primary charitable activities. Continued refurbishment works are planned for 2016. Repair work is scheduled for the first and third floor offices; the residential flat at the top of the building; and the flat roofs above Swedenborg Hall. A survey is planned to assess the water pipes and plumbing. In preparation for our forthcoming application for National Archive and National Museum status, extensions are also planned for the Society's Strongroom and Archive.

Following the asbestos inspection of the building by Adams Environmental Ltd in 2014, Romford Group Environmental Services Limited were instructed to remove asbestos from the Hall, Basement, Boiler Room, Offices and Common Areas. Swedenborg House was also given a comprehensive Fire, Health and Safety Risk Assessment. A new boiler flue was installed. During 2015 all renovation work has been completed on time and within budget.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

14 new members were enrolled during the year. The deaths of 18 members and 6 membership cancellations were reported to the Society. The total membership for 2015 was 720 members.

The deaths of the following members were recorded:

| Mr Maurice Stevenson | Dorset, UK | Life |
|----------------------|------------|------|
| Mr Bryan Brown       | Surrey, UK | Life |
| Mrs Elizabeth Brooks | Surrey, UK | Life |

Mr Oliver Odhner Bryn Athyn, USA Annual Mrs D Taylor Bryn Athyn, USA Annual Mr Sean Evans Colchester, UK Life Mr Geoffrey L Price Cheshire, UK Life Mr V Proctor Shropshire, UK Life Revd C J Skinner Life Melbourne, Australia

Ambassador Leif Leifland Stockholm, Sweden Life (Honorary)
Mr Alan Duckworth Lancashire, UK Life
Mr Guy de Moubray Suffolk, UK Life
Mrs Nancy Dawson London, UK Life

Mr E T Chrysell Kent, UK Life (Honorary)

Mrs I A ArnoldQueensland, AustraliaLifeRevd C HaslerKent, UKLifeMr Norman BrownGlasgow, UKLifeMr John DowningLancashire, UKLife

### The following membership cancellations were recorded:

Ms Patricia Poskitt Fakenham, UK Annual Mr David Brooks Surrey, UK Annual Mr Masumi Ichiba Life Agatuma-Gun, Japan Mr Claude Robin La Teste De Buch, France Life Isle of Lewis, UK Mr Christopher Fraser Life Mrs Nellie Thomas Life Lancashire, UK

# The following were enrolled as Annual Members:

Mr Nicholas Usherwood London, UK Mr Fabi Waisbort London, UK Mr David O Chapman London, UK Ms Sylvie Doizelet Saint Leger, France Ms Juliet Rose London, UK Ms Gerry Martis London, UK Mr James McMurray Antrim, UK Mr William Eddie Edinburgh, UK Mr Kevin Boyle London, UK Miss Jade Wilford London, UK Mr John Pritchard Yorkshire, UK Mr Luken Potts Pennsylvania, USA

The following were enrolled as Life Members:

Mr Frits Bot The Netherlands
Revd Thomas Noack Zurich, Switzerland

|                       | 2015  | 2014 |
|-----------------------|-------|------|
| Honorary Life Members | 9     | 11   |
| Life Members          | 496   | 512  |
| Annual Members        | · 215 | 207  |

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

During 2015 several indicators were used by the Council to review and assess the Society's charitable performance. These include: annual staff reviews, annual reviews of income and expenditure in relation to the budget; annual reviews of books sold and distributed, end of year reviews of foot traffic and visitors to Society events; and periodic reviews by the Society's various subcommittees on the performance of the Library and Archive, Publishing, Events and the Building. The Council also provides a comprehensive account of the Society's activities in its end of year Annual Report. Total incoming resources for the year amounted to £305,956 (£377,769 in 2014). Voluntary income was £26,255. Investment income was £211,997 (£218,778 in 2014). Income from the hire of rooms was £52,658 (£48,347 in 2014) and book sales were £15,046 (£18,204 in 2014). Total resources expended were £446,678 (£330,954 in 2014), giving a loss for the year of £66,258. The total value of the investment portfolio at 31 December 2015 was £4,757,433 (£4,775,743 at the end of 2014).

The Society's investment objective is to produce a balance between immediate income to support current projects and longer-term capital appreciation. This is achieved through a diversified portfolio with a medium-risk profile, comprising a mixture of equities and fixed interest stocks with a ratio of 75% equities and 25% fixed interest. It is considered that this objective was achieved during the year. The Society has no specific investment policy but follows risk-based guidelines on asset allocation common to charitable organization of our size. The Society's investments are managed by Quilter Cheviot who update the Council on a monthly basis and the Society's Finance Subcommittee undertake a case by case approach in reviewing companies included on the investment portfolio.

As previously mentioned, by far the largest single extra-ordinary expense during 2015 involved the refurbishment of the office spaces at 21 Bloomsbury Way. The Council felt these expenses were more than justified in that it will lead to a significant raise of income for the Society over the coming five years. It was also felt important that the building should undergo such necessary renovations because the building provides a vital source of income and it also provides the means by which we can operate as a Library, Archive, Bookshop and event space. For this reason also the Council have agreed to have an annual Fire, Health and Safety Risk Assessment.

The Council have given consideration to the major risks to which the Society is exposed and have satisfied themselves that systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks. The Council have identified the following items as the principle risks facing the Society: damage to, and loss of earning from the building, economic risk from falling investments and the sudden loss of key individuals and specialized skills. Its approach to these risks are as follows: much work has been done to minimize risks to the building, including the introduction of a systematic annual

fire risk assessment, the installation of new alarm and intercom systems, electrical renovation work and pat testing and asbestos removal. A fuller list of items can see under the item PREMISES. With regard to the investments, and as mentioned above, the Society's Finance Subcommittee keep a constant review of the performance of funds. On the issue of staff and the risk of loss of skills, the Society is working hard to encourage and support a continued forum for the translation of Swedenborg's Latin, so necessary for the Society's long-term publishing programme. It has also recently reorganized the staff infrastructure to better facilitate better continuity planning of key skills among key personnel. During 2015 there were no significant factors within or outside of the Society's control that have affected the Society's achievements.

#### RESERVES POLICY

At 31 December 2015 total unrestricted funds amounted to £14,110,854 and of this £1,472,752 related to the general fund. Of the Society's declared objectives, the work of translation, revision and publication, and other related activities, are regarded with the highest priority. Here, however, finance is not the only restriction. Human resources, in the form of capable, specialized translators, editors, archivists and consultants are vital to the Society's progress. Much of this work is long-term in character, and therefore justifies a designated reserve of 70% of the Society's current investment portfolio to ensure the continuity of operations. These designated funds are shown on the balance sheet under the heading of 'Capital Investment Reserve' and amounted to £3,330,203 at 31 December 2015.

Part of the Society's income arises from property. The Society owns its freehold premises, in the heart of our capital city, which provides facilities for its activities (as well as rooms for hire available to others), together with office space, which is commercially let. Both the income and associated expenses vary widely, and here again justify a specific reserve. In total the property and property revaluation reserve amount to £9,065,499. In addition a designated fund has been established in relation to the value of the Library. This amounted to £242,500.

Another part of the Society's income, albeit unpredictable, comes from gifts and legacies. In the absence of specific restrictions, it had been past practice to add these to our general fund to provide sufficient investment income. The Council would seek to continue this practice, but recognizes its duty to apply the resulting increased income to further the Society's charitable objects. The Council's policy, therefore, is to keep the operating surplus/deficit within +/-5% of annual income averaged over three years. For the purpose of calculation, any gifts or legacies are excluded. These would be added to the Society's reserves to generate additional income for the future. This policy is reviewed at intervals of not more than three years.

# GIFTS AND LEGACIES

The Council acknowledges with thanks gifts and legacies received as follows:

# Gifts

| Revd Robert Junge    | £658.94 |
|----------------------|---------|
| Mrs Margaret Punter  | £1,000  |
| Mr & Mrs Takco Satoh | £538.02 |

 Berrylands Charitable Trust
 £1,000

 Anonymous
 £3,000

 £6,196.96

 Legacies

 Revd Christopher Jackson (balance)
 £10,049.55

 £10,049.55

### **FUTURE PLANNING**

During 2015, much time and energy was spent reviewing and updating the Objects for which the Society was established and its Articles of Association. The Society's Governing Document was last updated in 1963. Professional advice was sought from Bates Wells Braithwaite, who are specialist Charity Law Solicitors. Announcements of the need to update the Governing Document were made at the 2014 Annual General Meeting. A further consultation meeting with the membership was held on 17 October at the Purley Chase Centre. It was agreed that the Objects and Articles of the Society were to be expanded and redefined so as to allow the Society to better implement the primary aims as presented on page 1 of this Annual Report. In addition to our previous Objects, the Society is now also seeking additional powers for establishing and maintaining an archive; establishing and maintaining a museum; developing institutional, academic and cultural links across the world; hosting residencies; seeking to influence public opinion and governmental policy; and, awarding scholarships and grants for educational purposes. It is also proposed that we establish greater flexibility in our Articles of Association for utilizing digital technology in relation to Trustee meetings and decision making. It is intended that this will substantially broaden and strengthen our primary charitable activities. Completion of the updated Governing Document is expected for the end of 2016.

# STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

#### GOVERNANCE

The Society is run by a Board of Trustees called the Council. The Council delegates the day-to-day running of the Society to its Executive Director and takes advice from a number of subcommittees, including a Finance Subcommittee, a Building Subcommittee, a Library and Archive Subcommittee, a Staff Subcommittee, a Membership Subcommittee and the Advisory and Revision Board. All paid-up members of the Society are eligible for election to the Council, which is the Society's decision-making body, in accordance with the procedures set out in the Articles of Association. The Council has the power to fill casual vacancies by co-option. New members of the Council are given copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and are advised by the Chairperson and Executive Director of their duties as company directors and charity trustees. Council decisions are taken by majority vote. Members of the subcommittees are elected by the Council. New candidates for the Council, following an informal interview/

meeting with the Chairperson and Council, are invited to attend a preliminary Council meeting and are given a copy of the Society's Annual Report, the Minutes of three previous Council meetings and a copy of the Charity Commission's 'Essential Trustee' guide. During 2015 the Council also began preparations for a Trustee Handbook which aims to include comprehensive details of Trustee inductions; Trustee training; Trustee decision making; Trustee meeting protocols; and other such items as given as best practice from the Charity Commission.

#### 2015 COUNCIL ELECTION

Mr Homero Aridjis, former Mexican Ambassador to the Netherlands and Switzerland was elected President and Mr John Cunningham, a long-standing member of the Council and Chairman of the Council from 1993 to 2006, was elected Vice-President of the Society for the year 2015/16 at the Annual General Meeting held on 26 June. At the same meeting Mr Alec Morley was elected as Hon. Treasurer for the same period. Mr Patrick Leonard Johnson, Mr David Lorimer and Mr Anders Hallengren were retired by rotation under Article 32. Mr Patrick Leonard Johnson offered himself for re-election and was duly elected as an ordinary member of the Council. No new nominations for election to the Council were received.

#### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

David Lister, FRCS (Chairperson); Mr Homero Aridjis (President); Mr John Cunningham, FCII (Vice-President); Mr Alec Morley, MA (Hon. Treasurer); Revd F C Elphick, MDiv; Mr Michael Hiller; Mr P L Johnson; Mr Nigel Sutton; Ms Jane Lee; Revd Alan Cowley; Mr Howard W Turner. Members of the Council are also directors of the company.

# MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY AND REVISION BOARD

David Lister, FRCS (Chairman); Mr James Wilson, BA (Secretary); Revd G Applegren; Mrs Josephine Appelgren, MA; Revd John Elliott, BA, BD; Revd F C Elphick, MDiv; Revd Robert Gill; Revd Alan Lewin; Mr Stephen McNeilly, MA; Mr Kenneth Ryder, MA; Revd Norman Ryder; Revd Alan Cowley; Mr Alex Murray, BA.

#### STAFF

Stephen McNeilly continued in his role as Executive Director and James Wilson continued his role of Assistant Editor and Librarian. Rebecca Wells completed her six-month trial period and continued in her role as Administrator and Alex Murray, Assistant Librarian, continued in his post throughout the year. Victor Coles FCA kept the Society's books and helped to prepare the Annual Accounts. Gusztav Varga continued as Concierge/Doorman on a one-year contract. Maia Gaffney-Hyde completed her internship at the Society during August (having previously been a volunteer) and has since been employed by the Society on a part-time basis helping with publicity, events and publishing projects. Renate Tarasovska has been employed (through the agency of Ruta Suce) to clean the Society's offices and communal areas. In April we bid a sad farewell to our Property Manager Eoin McMahon and his wife Patricia, who retired after working for the Society for over 25 years, during which they took great care not

only of the building, but all those inside it, staff, trustees, tenants, contractors and visitors alike. We thank the McMahons for their wonderful service and wish them well in their new ventures abroad

The pay structure at Swedenborg House is decided by the Council and follows recommendations of Ashworth Black, Market Review specialists, and are in line with charitable sector wages for the South-East and London area.

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

As well as paid staff the Society received the valuable help of a number of volunteers. John Cunningham continued to attend regularly at Swedenborg House, giving valuable service in the Bookshop to relieve staff members. His help throughout the building has been greatly appreciated. As with previous years David Lister, in his role as Chairperson, continued to attend on a weekly basis, giving invaluable support to the Executive Director. Both Michael Turoa and Maia Gaffney-Hyde helped in the Bookshop and at public events. The displays in the Bookshop, in particular, being vastly improved. Reka Kulcsar (from Drayton Manor High School) and Paniz Nobahari (from Queen Elizabeth Girls School) undertook work placements and gained experience with bookshop assistance, sales transactions, library cataloguing and answering general enquiries. Their help was much appreciated. Towards the end of 2015 the Society also received valuable help from Charlotte Schelling and Bill Thompson in the Bookshop and at many of our public events. In the area of publishing Alan Lewin and Robert Gill have provided much needed expertise as consultants. As mentioned at the beginning of this Report, the continuing work of Norman Ryder and John Elliott-which includes translating, editing, compiling, proofreading, transcribing, researching and writing-has provided the Society with irreplaceable expertise and knowledge. The work of all our volunteers is greatly appreciated and valued by the Society.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

The general provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 are such that it is incumbent upon the Council of the Society to exercise a duty of carc to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of their employees at work by maintaining safe plant; safe systems of work; safe premises; ensuring safe access to and egress from the premises and maintain a safe working environment without risks and with adequate facilities and arrangements for staff welfare, also ensuring adequate instruction, training and supervision. The Swedenborg Society is also bound by the Act to ensure the safety, while on its premises, of all persons, employees, contractors, visitors either working or otherwise using the facilities there.

During 2015 the Society undertook a comprehensive Fire and Safety risk inspection of the premises, during which all members of staff received certificates for having attended a Fire and Safety awareness course. The Council have determined to review its Fire, Health and Safety policies annually. Stephen McNeilly, Gusztav Varga, Rebecca Wells and James Wilson all attended first aid training courses run by St John Ambulance, gaining certificates.

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

In order to complete the diverse range of its activities, the Society relies upon the following professional services. The Society's accounts are audited by WMT Chartered Accountants (45 Grosvenor Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 3AW) and its investment portfolio is managed by Duncan Gwyther of Quilter Cheviot (1 Kingsway, London WC2B 6AN). Legal advice is provided by John Austin of Gordons Partnership LLP (Edgeborough House, Upper Edgeborough Road, Guildford, Surrey, GUI 2BJ) and Bates Wells Braithwaite (10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1BE) have given advice regarding the upgrading of the Governing Document. Roy Emmerson of Emmerson Barnett (Chartered Building Surveyors, Stanbrook Mead, Stanbrook, Thaxted, Essex CM6 2NQ) advises on the Society's property and building programme and Hudsons Property (24 Charlotte Street, London, W1T 2ND) are instructed to manage our tenants and advise on property valuations. Bill Osment Services project-manage the Society's ongoing building refurbishment works. Peter Pinney (MIFSM GIFireE) guides and advises the Society on its Fire Risk Assessments. Ongoing repairs, upgrades and renewal of the Society's alarm and Security systems are provided by Ace Security. Periodic checks to the buildings fire safety equipment is provided by Elite Fires. IT support is given by Bell ICT. The Society continues to bank with HSBC Bank plc, 210 High Holborn, London WC1 V 7HD.

#### **COMPANY MATTERS**

This report represents a Directors' Report as required by section 417 of the Companies Act 2006. In its preparation the Council has taken advantage of the exemption available to small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

# PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Society has complied with the duty imposed by section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The Council considers that, having regard to its translating and publishing programme, its Bookshop, its programme of lectures and events (which are open to the public) and to the publicity given through the website, leaflets and press releases, the Society is acting for the public benefit in pursuance of its aims and objects as set out at the front of the report.

### CONCLUSION

You will see the first section of the narrative account of our Annual Report is entitled Objectives and Activities. The Swedenborg Society, founded in 1810, was incorporated as a limited company in 1925 around the time we moved into these premises and built the Hall. The Memorandum and Articles of Association were last revised in 1963 when the Objectives of the Society were agreed upon. Our Governing Document will be updated by the end of this year, modernizing the Objectives and including other important areas of interest, such as Museum Status and National Archive Status. Our Auditors WMT have been very helpful in updating our structure in line with the demands of the Charity Commission, which seem to grow year by year.

An enormous amount of work has gone into refurbishing and redecorating our premises both in number 20 Bloomsbury Way, where we are at present and number 21, next door, the

three floors of which are in the process of being rented out as commercial office space which will lead to a welcome increase in income.

The Society's publishing and translation work, from Latin into modern English work, the original 1810 aim of the Society, as well now much collateral activity, has been busy. Work has continued on the computerisation of the archives making an on-line catalogue available, an enormous task, being undertaken especially by Alex Murray, our Assistant Librarian. James Wilson, our Librarian and Assistant Editor, has also undertaken much excellent work and has achieved exceptional results through-out the year. The Society's deep thanks are however due to all the staff, permanent and temporary, as outlined in the pages of this report.

Having said that, thanks are due especially to Steve McNeilly, who has helped to collate and write the narrative section of this report to which I as Chairperson add this grateful summary. His real interest is publishing but over the last year has turned his mind to estate agency, finances, painting and decorating, heating plumbing, electrical wiring, and general administration with great effect. We call him Steve. One would hesitate to call Swedenborg anything so familiar as that but considering Steve's activities reminds me that Swedenborg was a human being with something very interesting to say about the human condition and how the ultimates, as he call them, of this life correspond in a simple way to the mind boggling intricacies of the spiritual world, to which this Society aims to draw attention. However, if the brain was small enough to understand itself, it would be too small to understand itself or the spiritual world.

Dr David Lister, FRCS, Chairman of the Council Stephen McNeilly, MA, Executive Director

# THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY: A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The members of the charity's Council (whose members are also directors of The Swedenborg Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Council's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Council is required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- · observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- · make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material
  departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that
  the charitable company will continue in business.

The Council is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Council is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Council has taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit
  information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Council is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

By Order of the Council

David Lister, FRCS Chairman of the Council

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY: A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

We have audited the financial statements of The Swedenborg Society for the year ended 31 December 2015 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activity, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes numbered 1 to 23. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

# Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Report of the Council to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

#### Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY: A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2015 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a strategic report or in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report.

# WILL

Elizabeth Irvine (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of WMT

2nd Floor 45 Grosvenor Road StAlbans Hertfordshire ALI3AW

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

23 June 2016

# THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

|   |       | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | Total<br>2015 | Total<br>2014 |
|---|-------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|   | Notes | £                     | £                  | £             | £             |
| Income  | ŀ     |                       |                    |               |               |
| Donations and legacies  | 6     | 26,255                | -                  | 26,255        | 92,440        |
| Charitable activities:  |       |                       |                    |               |               |
| Book sales  |       | 15,046                | -                  | 15,046        | 18,204        |
| Other trading activities - hire income  |       | 52,658                |                    | 52,658        | 48,347        |
| Investments   | 7     | 211,441               | 556                | 211,997       | 218,778       |
| Total   |       | 305,400               | 556                | 305,956       | 377,769       |
| Expenditure   | 1     |                       |                    |               |               |
| Raising funds:  |       |                       |                    |               |               |
| Cost of generating voluntary income   |       | 13,481                | -                  | 13,481        | 12,584        |
| Fundraising trading and other costs   | 8     | 44,591                | -                  | 44,591        | 31,094        |
| Investment management costs   | 9     | 40,217                | 67                 | 40,284        | 24,613        |
| Charitable activities   | 10    | 348,322               |                    | 348,322       | 262,683       |
| Total   |       | 446,611               | 67                 | 446.678       | 330,954       |
| Net gains/(losses) on investments   |       |                       |                    |               |               |
| Realized gains/(losses) on investments  |       | 24,212                |                    | 24,412        | (54,872)      |
| Unrealized gains/(losses) on invest-  |       |                       |                    |               |               |
| ment assets   | 14    | 50,698                | (446)              | 50,252        | 114,370       |
|   |       | 74,910                | (446)              | 74,464        | 59,498        |
| Net income/(expenditure) before transfers                                     |       | (66,301)              | 43                 | (66,258)      | 106,313       |
| Transfers between funds   | -     | 489                   | (489)              | -             |               |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources<br>before other recognized gains and losses |       | (65,812)              | (446)              | (66,258)      | 106,313       |
| Gain on revaluation of heritage assets  | 12    | 202,500               | •                  | 202,500       | -             |
| Net movement in funds   |       | 136,688               | (446)              | 136,242       | 106,313       |
| Fund balances at 1 January 2015   |       | 13,974,166            | 13,821             | 13,987,987    | 13,881,674    |
| Fund balances at 31 December 2015   | •     | 14,110,854            | 13,375             | 14,124,229    | 13,987,987    |

The notes numbered 1 to 23 form part of these financial statements

# THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

|                                       | Notes | 2        | 2015       |          | 014        |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----------|------------|----------|------------|
|                                       |       | £        | £          | £        | £          |
| Fixed Assets                          |       |          |            |          |            |
| Tangible assets                       | 1,12  |          | 4,522,202  |          | 4,508,171  |
| Heritage assets                       | 12    |          | 242,500    |          | 40,000     |
| Investment property                   | 13    |          | 4,529,137  |          | 4,529,137  |
| Investments                           | 14    |          | 4,757,433  |          | 4,775,743  |
|                                       |       |          | 14,051,272 |          | 13,853,051 |
| Current Assets                        |       |          |            |          |            |
| Stocks                                |       | 100      |            | 100      |            |
| Debtors                               | 15    | 63,751   |            | 81,378   |            |
| Cash at bank and in hand              |       | 106,469  |            | 124,210  |            |
|                                       |       | 170,320  |            | 205,688  |            |
| Creditors                             |       |          |            |          |            |
| Amounts falling due within one year   | 16    | (97,363) |            | (70,752) |            |
| Net Current Assets                    |       |          | 72,957     |          | 134,936    |
| Net Assets                            |       |          | 14,124,229 |          | 13,987,987 |
| The funds of the charity              |       |          |            |          |            |
| Endowment funds                       | 17    |          | 13,375     |          | 13,821     |
| Unrestricted income funds             |       |          |            |          |            |
| General fund                          |       |          | 1,472,752  |          | 4,868,767  |
| Property reserve                      | 18    |          | 95,000     |          | 95,000     |
| Freehold property revaluation reserve | 19    |          | 8,970,499  |          | 8,970,499  |
| Heritage asset revaluation reserve    | 19    |          | 242,400    |          | 39,900     |
| Capital investment reserve            | 18    |          | 3,330,203  |          | -          |
| Total Funds                           | 20    |          | 14,124,229 |          | 13,987,987 |

Under the Companies Act 2006 s454, on a voluntary basis the Trustees can amend these financial statements if they subsequently prove to be defective.

Approved by the Council on 23 June 2016 and signed on its behalf by A Morley
Member of Council

The notes numbered 1 to 23 form part of these financial statements
Charity Registration No: 209172
Company Registration No: 00209822

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# THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

|  | Total<br>2015 | Total<br>2014 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | £             | £             |
| Cash used in operating activities  |               |               |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities                                    | (219,780)     | (100,793)     |
| Cash flows from investing activities:  |               |               |
| Dividends, interest and rents from investments   | 211,997       | 218,778       |
| Purchase of fixed assets   | (28,267)      | (36,767)      |
| Acquisition cost of investments  | (229,940)     | (393,279)     |
| Disposal proceeds of investments   | 248,249       | 245,729       |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities                                    | 202,039       | 34,461        |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year  | (17,741)      | (66,332)      |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January   | 124,210       | 190,542       |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December   | 106,469       | . 124,210     |
| Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities: |               |               |
| Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per the SOFA)                                | (66,258)      | 106,313       |
| Depreciation charges   | 14,236        | 13,416        |
| Dividends, interest and rents from investments   | (211,997)     | (218,778)     |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors   | 17,628        | (17,283)      |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors   | 26,611        | 15,539        |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities                                    | (219,780)     | (100,793)     |
| Analysis of cash and cash equivalents  |               |               |
| Cash in hand   | 106,469       | 124,210       |
| Total cash and cash equivalents  | 106,469       | 124,210       |

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Swedenborg Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### b) Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

Under FRS 102, the proportion of the freehold property held by The Swedenborg Society to earn rentals has been classified as an investment property. This property has been valued at the reporting date by discounting the rent receivable over a fixed period of 50 years. The element of the freehold property occupied by the charity has also been revalued on a similar basis. No other restatements were required. In accordance with the requirements of FRS 102 a reconciliation of opening balances is provided.

#### Reconciliation of funds and balances

|   | £          | £          |
|---|------------|------------|
| Fund balances as previously stated                | 7,006,674  | 7,112,987  |
| Revaluation of freehold property - tangible asset | 2,345,863  | 2,345,863  |
| Revaluation of investment property                | 4,529,137  | 4,529,137  |
| Fund balances as restated                         | 13,881,674 | 13,987,987 |

c) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees are of the view that there is no concern over the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

d) Income

Income is recognized when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Investment income, comprising income from rent, service charges, dividends and interest, is accounted for on a receivable basis.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalized and notification has been made by the executors to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Income received in advance of room hire or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

#### e) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be reliably measured by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank

#### f) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the Trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Endowment funds are donations given to the charity to be held as capital, where the Trustees have discretionary power to use the funds as income.

# g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognized once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- costs of raising funds comprise a proportion of the property costs and their associated support costs.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes property, shop and publication costs with associated support costs.
- investment management costs comprise investment management fees and professional fees.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### h) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs, with the exception of payroll costs, have been allocated between the cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities based on estimated floor space as follows:

Charitable activities 77.1% Trading costs 22.9%

Payroll costs have been allocated based on the estimated time spent by support staff as follows:

Costs of generating voluntary income 50% Charitable activities 50%

#### i) Fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalized at costs and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic life on a straight line basis as follows:

Fixtures and fittings 7% - straight line Office equipment 50% - straight line.

The freehold land and property is held at a valuation prepared by the directors. This valuation is considered by the directors on an annual basis to determine whether there has been any impairment in the value of the property. No depreciation is charged in relation to the property as the directors consider that any depreciation charge would be immaterial after taking into account the estimated residual value of the property.

#### j) Heritage assets

The Society holds an extensive library and archive relating to the life and works of Emanuel Swedenborg, held primarily for the purposes of transferring knowledge and promoting culture. This collection is considered to be a heritage asset and is stated in the balance sheet at an attributed value on the insured value based on a valuation performed by Bernard Quaritch Limited. The asset is not depreciated as it is considered to have an indefinite life. Material additions, through purchase or donation, to the library will be capitalized at their fair value.

#### k) Investment property

The proportion by floor area of the freehold property, Swedenborg House, that is rented out to tenants is classified as investment property.

The investment property is held at a valuation, determined by reference to the discounted rental return of the property for the next 50 years.

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### 1) Investments

Investments are held at market value.

#### m) Stock

Stocks of books, printed sheets and papers are included in the accounts at a nominal value of £100, based on significant uncertainties with regards to the realizable value of the books held. Disposal proceeds and acquisition costs are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are received/paid.

#### n) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognized at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

#### o) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account

# p) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognized where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognized at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

#### q) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognized at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

#### r) Transition to FRS 102

The opening balances at the date of transition have been restated (see note 1b) due to the reclassification of part of the freehold property as an investment property and the revaluation of the whole property. No subsequent restatement of items has been required in making the transition to FRS 102. The transition date was 1 January 2014.

s) Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty. The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for revenue and expenses during the year. The nature of estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that could have an impact on the financial statements relate to the valuation of the freehold property, as included in fixed assets and investment property, and the valuation of the heritage assets. Note 13 describes the factors considered in the valuation of the property and note 12 gives details of the external valuation of the heritage assets.

#### 2. LEGAL STATUS OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to  $\pounds 5$ .

#### 3. CORPORATION TAXATION

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

### 4. NET SURPLUS OF THE PERIOD

|    | The net movement in funds for the period is stated after charging: Auditor's remuneration | 2015<br>£<br>4,750 | 2014<br>£<br>4,500 |
|----|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| 5. | EMPLOYEE INFORMATION  |                    |                    |
|    |   | 2015               | 2014               |
|    | Staff costs:  | £                  | £                  |
|    | Wages and salaries  | 178,939            | 174,914            |
|    | Social security costs   | 15,946             | 12,991             |
|    | Pension contributions   | 3,000              |                    |
|    | •   | 194,885            | 187,905            |

The average number of employees during the period was 6 (2014: 7). No employee earned in excess of £60,000 (2014: £nil).

No Council Member was remunerated during the year. Reimbursement of travel expenses of £2,661 (2014: £1,672) were made to 2 (2014: 2) Council Members during the year. Nothing was owed (2014: £Nil) to a Trustee at the year end for reimbursement of expenses incurred. There are no other related party transactions which require disclosure in the accounts.

The key management personnel of the Society comprise the Trustees and the Executive Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Society were £48,500 (2014: £40,738).

| 6. | INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES |        |        |
|----|------------------------------------|--------|--------|
|    |                                    | 2015   | 2014   |
|    |                                    | £      | £      |
|    | Donations                          | 4,594  | 3,066  |
|    | Gifts                              | 9,407  | 7,172  |
|    | Subscriptions                      | 1,939  | 2,059  |
|    | Legacies                           | 10,050 | 80,073 |
|    | Miscellaneous Income               | 265    | 70     |
|    |                                    | 26,255 | 92,440 |

The Society benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its volunteers, details of which are given in our annual report. In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic benefit contribution of general volunteers is not recognized in the accounts.

The Society received donations from Council Members and other related parties in the year of £30 (2014: £350).

# 7. INVESTMENT INCOME

|    |                                      | 2015    | 2014    |
|----|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
|    |                                      | £       | £       |
|    | Rent Income                          | 41,387  | 57,684  |
|    | Service Charges                      | 16,048  | 20,607  |
|    | Investment Income: Interest          | 195     | 304     |
|    | Dividends                            | 154,367 | 140,183 |
|    |                                      | 211,997 | 218,778 |
| 8. | FUNDRAISING, TRADING AND OTHER COSTS |         |         |
|    |                                      | 2015    | 2014    |
|    |                                      | £       | £       |
|    | Wages and salaries                   | 9,651   | 11,049  |
|    | Property costs                       | 28,033  | 15,406  |
|    | Administration                       | 3,647   | 1,567   |
|    | Depreciation                         | 3,260   | _3,072  |
|    |                                      | 44,591  | 31,094  |
| 9. | INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS          |         |         |
|    |                                      | 2015    | 2014    |
|    |                                      | £       | £       |
|    | Portfolio management                 | 23,937  | 23,586  |
|    | Lease renewals                       | 15,766  | -       |
|    | Property repairs and maintenance     | 581     | • -     |
|    | Other                                |         | 1,027   |
|    |                                      | 40,284  | 24,613  |

| ). CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES               |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|
|  | 2015    | 2014    |
|  | £       | £       |
| Lectures and meetings                  | 6,444   | 3,852   |
| Publishing and distribution:           |         |         |
| Printing and binding                   | 70,848  | 45,420  |
| Books purchased for resale             | 1,396   | 1,321   |
| Revision and translation               | 34,013  | 44,330  |
| Property, shop and stock room expenses | 172,131 | 121,829 |
| Events                                 | 9,413   | 008,1   |
| Library expenses                       | 27,120  | 19,174  |
| Online catalogue costs                 | 1,893   | 1,073   |
| Governance costs                       | 25,064  | 23,884  |
|  | 348,322 | 262,683 |

As outlined in the accounting policies, relevant expenses are apportioned between charitable activities and other costs based on utilization of floor space.

Included in governance costs is £4,725 (2014: £4,500) in respect of audit fees and £1,500 (2014: £ Nil) paid to the auditors in respect of accountancy.

Included in total expenditure is £68,628 of exceptional expenditure relating to the refurbishment of Swedenborg House.

# 11. SUPPORT COSTS

|                                      | 2015    | 2014    |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                      | £       | £       |
| Premises                             |         |         |
| Repairs and maintenance              | 68,628  | 8,357   |
| Building works                       | 21,461  | 27,586  |
| Office operating costs               | 62,486  | 51,589  |
| Support staff salaries               | 42,145  | 48,249  |
| Office salaries                      | 24,961  | 22,710  |
| Audit fees                           | 4,750   | 4,500   |
| Accountancy services                 | 12,362  | 11,446  |
|                                      | 236,793 | 174,437 |
| Allocation of support costs:         |         |         |
| Costs of generating voluntary income | 12,480  | 11,355  |
| Fundraising, trading and other costs | 44,591  | 31,094  |
| Expenditure on Charitable Activities | 179,722 | 131,988 |
| •                                    | 236,793 | 174,437 |

# 11. SUPPORT COSTS (CONTINUED)

Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities.

Costs, with the exception of payroll, have been apportioned between charitable activities and fundraising costs based on estimated floor space as outlined in the acounting policies. Payroll costs relating to support staff have been apportioned equally between costs of generating voluntary income and expenditure on charitable activities.

#### 12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|                                 | Freehold<br>Land and<br>Buildings | Fixtures,<br>Fittings and<br>Equipment | Total     |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Cost / valuation                | £                                 | £                                      | £         |
| At 1 January 2015               | 4,470,863                         | 69,915                                 | 4,540,778 |
| Additions                       |                                   | 28,267                                 | 28,267    |
| At 31 December 2015             | 4,470,863                         | 98,182                                 | 4,569,045 |
| Depreciation                    |                                   |  |           |
| At 1 January 2015               | -                                 | 32,607                                 | 32,607    |
| Charge for the year             | ·                                 | 14,236                                 | 14,236    |
| At 31 December 2015             | -                                 | 46,843                                 | 46,843    |
| Net book value                  |                                   |  | ,         |
| At 31 December 2015             | 4,470,873                         | 51,339                                 | 4,522,202 |
| At 31 December 2014             | 2,125,000                         | 37,308                                 | 2,162,308 |
| FRS 102 adjustment              | 2,345,863                         | <u>-</u> _                             | 2,345,863 |
| As restated at 31 December 2014 | 4,470,863                         | .37,308                                | 4,508,171 |
|                                 |                                   |  |           |

All assets are held for the benefit of the charity.

The freehold property has been measured on 1 January 2014 at its fair value, and as permitted by FRS 102, that fair value will be used as its deemed cost as at the date of transition to FRS 102.

The comparable amount under the historical cost basis for land and buildings is immaterial due to the age of the asset and its small original cost.

### 12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

#### TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - HERITAGE ASSETS

|                                 | Heritage Assets |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cost                            | £               |
| At I January 2015               | 40,000          |
| Revaluation                     | 202,500         |
| At 31 December 2015             | 242,500         |
| Net book value                  |                 |
| At 31 December 2015             | 242,500         |
| At 31 December 2014             | 40,000          |
| FRS 102 adjustment              | -               |
| As restated at 31 December 2014 | 40,000          |

The heritage assets relate to the library and archives. They are included in the financial statements at a valuation based on insurance value. In 2014, the valuation was based on an internal valuation. The historic cost was £100 and there were no transactions in respect of heritage assets during 2015 and the previous four reporting periods. In 2015, an external valuation was undertaken by Bernard Quaritch Limited, an independent antiquarian valuation experts who valued these assets at £242,500 for insurance purposes. The valuation is reviewed on a regular basis by the Society. The library was established in 1824 and provides an important resource for those researching Swedenborg. It has four main sections: The Swedenborg collection; the Archives; Collateral titles and Periodicals. The library is a research library and is open to members of the Society and non-members. Further details are provided in the Report of the Council. Full information is available on the Society's website www.swedenborg.org.uk/library.

The carrying value of the heritage assets under the historical cost basis would be immaterial due to the age and low cost of these assets.

# 13. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

| Valuation                            | 2015      | 2014      |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                      | £         | £         |
| At January 2015 and 31 December 2015 | 4,529,137 | 4.529.137 |

# 13. INVESTMENT PROPERTY (CONTINUED)

The fair value of the investment property as at 1 January 2014, the FRS 102 transition date, was calculated based on the rental return of the property for the next 50 years, discounted based on the average risk free investment return over the past 15 years. This present value has been compared to investment transactions in Bloomsbury in 2013-2015 for reasonableness. In the opinion of the Trustees, and based on the review of investment transactions over the period, there has been no significant change in the value of the investment property over the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015.

### 14. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

| 2015      | 2014   |
|-----------|--|
| £         | £  |
| 4,775,743 | 4,628,191  |
| (298,502) | (360,097)  |
| 229,940   | 393,279  |
| 4,707,181 | 4,661,373  |
| 50,252    | 114,370  |
| 4,757,433 | 4,775,743  |
| 3,714,931 | 3,709,882  |
|           | £ 4,775,743 (298,502) 229,940 4,707,181 50,252 4,757,433 |

The following investments comprised more than 5% of the investment fund at valuation at 31 December 2015:

| Mercantile Investment Trust    | £310,420 |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Findlay Park Llp American Fund | £268,687 |

| Analysis of investments held | 2015      | 2014      |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                              | £         | £         |
| Fixed interest - UK          | 594,813   | 574,511   |
| Fixed interest - Non UK      | 93,214    | 111,991   |
| Equities - UK                | 2,191,582 | 2,302,914 |
| Equities - Non UK            | 1,836,427 | 1,748,448 |
| Property fund                | 41,397    | 37,879    |
|                              | 4,757,433 | 4,775,743 |

Fixed asset investments represent financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure.

# 15. DEBTORS

|                                | 2015   | 2014   |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                                | £      | £      |
| Sale of books                  | 1,000  | 1,325  |
| Other debtors                  | 36,167 | 47,791 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 26,584 | 32,262 |
|                                | 63,751 | 81,378 |

| 16. | CREDITORS                         |          |          |
|-----|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|
|     |                                   | 2015     | 2014     |
|     |                                   | £        | £        |
|     | Trade creditors                   | 9,657    | 3,618    |
|     | Other creditors                   | 50,485   | 9,931    |
|     | Accruals and deferred income      | 37,221   | 57,203   |
|     |                                   | 97,363   | 70,752   |
|     | DEFERRED INCOME                   |          |          |
|     |                                   | 2015     | 2014     |
|     |                                   | £        | £        |
|     | Deferred income as at 1 January   | 31,468   | 16,322   |
|     | Released during the year          | (31,468) | (16,322) |
|     | Deferred during the year          | 27,907   | 31,468   |
|     | Deferred income as at 31 December | 27,907   | 31,468   |

Deferred income comprises advance bookings for the hire of rooms within Swedenborg House.

### 17. ENDOWMENTS

|                | Balances<br>1.1.15 |           |       | Gains and transfers | Balances<br>31.12.15 |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                | £                  | £         | £     | £                   |                      |
| Endowment fund | 13,821             | <u>43</u> | (489) | 13,375              |                      |

The permanent endowments comprise sundry capital gifts to the Society, the income from which is unrestricted.

### 18. DESIGNATED FUNDS

|   | Balances<br>1.1.15 | Net incoming resources | Gains<br>and transfers | Balances<br>31.12.15 |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| •   | £                  | £                      | £                      | £                    |
| Property reserve at 31 December           | 95,000             | (95,000)               | 95,000                 | 95,000               |
| Capital investment reserve at 31 December | -                  | -                      | 3,330,203              | 3,330,203            |

The property reserve is a fund designated for future exceptional expenditure required to maintain the property.

A new capital investment fund was set up during the year equivalent to 70% of the Society's current investment pontfolio. Much of the Charity's work is long-term in character, and therefore justifies this designated reserve to ensure the continuity of operations.

# THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

# 19. REVALUATION RESERVES

| Freehold property revaluation reserve     | 2015      | 2014      |
|---|-----------|-----------|
|   | £         | £         |
| As at 1 January                           | 8,970,499 | 2,095,499 |
| Restated per FRS 102                      | -         | 6,875,000 |
| Reserve at 31 December                    | 8,970,499 | 8,970,499 |
| Analysis of reserve                       |           |           |
| Tangible fixed asset - land and buildings | 4,456,017 | 4,456,017 |
| Investment property                       | 4,514,482 | 4,515,482 |
|   | 8,970,499 | 8,970,499 |

The fair value of the property as at 1 January 2014, the FRS 102 transition date, was assessed as explained in note 12. This has resulted in an adjustment to the revaluation reserve, as shown above.

| Heritage asset revaluation reserve | 2015    | 2014   |
|------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| -                                  | £       | £      |
| As at 1 January                    | 39,900  | 39,900 |
| Revaluation                        | 202,500 | -      |
|                                    | 242,400 | 39,900 |

The heritage assets were revaluaed in 2015, as detailed in note 12.

# 20. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | Total<br>Funds |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
|  | £                     | £                  | £              |
| Tangible fixed assets                        | 4,764,702             | •                  | 4,764,702      |
| Investment property                          | 4,529,137             |                    | 4,529,137      |
| Investments                                  | 4,744,058             | 13,375             | 4,757,433      |
| Current assets                               | 170,320               | -                  | 170,320        |
| Current liabilities                          | (97,363)              | -                  | (97,363)       |
| Total net assets                             | 14,110,854            | 13,375             | 14,124,229     |
| Unrealized gains/(losses) included in above: |                       |                    |                |
| On tangible fixed assets                     | 9,212,899             | -                  | 9,212,899      |
| On investment assets (see note below)        | 1,038,945             | 3,559              | 1,042,504      |

# THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

# 20. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

|     |  | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | Total<br>Funds     |
|-----|--|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|     |  | £                     | £                  | £                  |
|     | Reconciliation of movements in unreali       | zed gains on inves    | stment assets      |                    |
|     | Unrealized gains at 1 January 2015           | 1,061,858             | 4,005              | 1,065,863          |
|     | Net gains arising on revaluations in year    | 50,698                | (446)              | 50,252             |
|     | Gains realized on disposals                  | (73,611)              | _                  | (73,611)           |
|     | Unrealized gains at 31 December 2015         | 1,038,945             | 3,559              | 1,042,504          |
| 21. | FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS                        |                       |                    |                    |
|     | Financial assets that are debt instruments a | t amortized costs     | 2015<br>£          | 2014<br>£          |
|     | Debtors - Sale of books                      |                       | 000,1              | 1,325              |
|     | - Other debtors                              |                       | 31,592             | 47,791             |
|     | Cash at bank and in hand                     |                       | 106,469<br>136,061 | 124,210<br>173,326 |
|     | Financial liabilities measured at amortized  | costs                 |                    |                    |
|     | Trade creditors                              |                       | 9,657              | 3,618              |
|     | Other creditors                              |                       | 41,402             | 789                |
|     |  |                       | 51,059             | 4,407              |

## 22. GRANT COMMITMENTS

As at 31 December the charity had grant commitments of up to £10,000 (2014: £Nil) in relation to the Artist in Residency project. This project is expected to be completed and charged to the accounts in 2016.

# THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

# 23. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2014 (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

|   | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | Total<br>2014 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
|   | £                     | £                  | £             |
| Income  |                       |                    |               |
| Donations and legacies  | 92,440                | -                  | 92,440        |
| Charitable activities: book sales                                       | 18,204                | -                  | 18,204        |
| Other trading activities - hire income                                  | 48,347                | -                  | 48,347        |
| Investments   | 218,222               | 556                | 218,778       |
| Total   | 377,213               | 556                | 377,769       |
| Expenditure   |                       |                    |               |
| Raising funds:  |                       | •                  |               |
| Cost of generating voluntary income                                     | 12,564                | -                  | 12,564        |
| Fundraising trading and other costs                                     | 31,094                | -                  | 31,094        |
| Investment management costs   | 24,545                | 68                 | 24,613        |
| Charitable activities   | 262,683               | <u> </u>           | 262,683       |
| Total   | 330,886               | 68                 | 330,954       |
| Net gains/(losses) on investments                                       |                       |                    |               |
| Realized (losses) on investments  | (54,872)              |                    | (54,872)      |
| Unrealized gains/(losses) on investment ass                             | cts 112,662           | 1,708              | 114,370       |
|   | 57,790                | 1,708              | 59,498        |
| Net income (expenditure) before transfers                               | 104,117               | 2,196              | 106,313       |
| Transfers between funds   | 488                   | (488)              | •             |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before of recognized gains and losses | ner 104,605           | 1,708              | 106,313       |
| Net movement in funds   | _1.04,605             | 1,708              | 106,313       |
| Fund balances at 1 January 2013 (restated for FRS 102)                  | 13 <i>86</i> 9,561    | 12,113             | 13,881,674    |
| Fund balances at 31 December 2014                                       | 13,974,166            | 13,821             | 13,987,987    |

# List of Members as at 31 December 2015

Honorary Life Members
Mr Lars Bergquist
Mr John Cunningham
Revd & Mrs John E Elliott
Mr P L Johnson
Revd Norman Ryder
Mr G Roland Smith
Mr Norman Turner
Miss Madeline G Waters

#### Α

- Acton, Rt Revd A, II, Pineville, SC, USA
- L Adams, Mrs A C, Lichfield Adams, Mr D V, Lichfield
- L Aghelmanesh, Mrs Jahan, London
- L Aibara, Mr H N, Bombay, India Aitken, Mr Alastair, London
- L Albery, Mr Oliver, Bromley
- L Alden, Revd Kenneth J, Lake Worth, FL, USA
- L Allaby, Mr M A G, Aylesbury Allais, Mrs B G, Edenglen, RSA Allen, Mrs H C, Essex
- L Allison, Mrs Annette, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA Amirani, Miss Giti, London Amos, Mr Patrick, Colchester Amos, Mrs Patrick, Colchester
- L Appelgren, Revd G, Bromma, Sweden
- L Appelgren, Mrs G, Bromma, Sweden
- L Ardill, Mrs R H, San Terenziano, Italy Arnold, Mr I A, Eight Mile Plains, QLD, Australia
- L Ashworth, Mrs J, Accrington
- L Asplundh, Mr E B, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Asplundh, Mrs EB, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Asplundh, Revd K H, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- Asplundh, Mrs K H, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA Asplundh, Mr Ned, Huntingdon Valley, PA, USA
  - Asplundh, Mrs Ned, Huntingdon Valley, PA, USA
- L Asplundh, Mr R H, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Asplundh, Mrs R H, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA Astbury, Mr Jake, Oxford Atherton, Mrs A D, Bournemouth Avelino, Ms Maria, The Hague, Netherlands
- L Azekawa, Mr Yoshiyuki, Paris, France

#### R

- L Bain, Mr Hugh, Glasgow
- L Bain, Mrs P N, Perth
- L Baker, Mr D M, Essendon
- L Baker, Dr Gregory, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Baker, Mr Peter, Barnsley
- L Baker, Mr R W, London
- L Balen-Linthuis, Mrs W S, The Hague, Netherlands
- Bambury, Mr L, Nottingham
- L Bank, Revd C, Shipley Baptiste, Mr T, London
- L Barshack, Mr Lior, Tel-Aviv, Israel
- L Barton, Mr D J, Ipswich
- L Barton, Ms Irina, Richmond, Surrey
- L Bateman, Mr Philip, Kenilworth, RSA
- L Batt, Mons F, Paris, France
- L Batt, Mme F, Paris, France
- L Baynes, Mrs Karin, Wells Bellinger, Miss J, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Benson, Mr A S, Accrington
- L. Benson, Mr J, Mt Tamborine, QLD, Australia
- L Benson, Mrs J, Mt Tamborine, QLD, Australia
- L Bentley, Mr Andrew, France Bentley, Dr Geoffrey, Derby
- Bentley, Mrs Barbara, Derby
- Berman, Dr David, Dublin, Ireland
- L Berridge, Mr A J, Deal
- L Berridge, Dr John C, Deal
- L Berridge, Mr R J, London
- L Berto, Mrs L C, Glenview, IL, USA
- L Bignell, Mrs Gail, Eastcote
- Biko, Thank-God Unodi, Abolga, Nigeria
  Rillington, Mrs T. Unner Woolhampton
- L Billington, Mrs T, Upper Woolhampton Birdseye, Mr D, Woodford Green
- L Black, Mr P, Manly, NSW, Australia
- L Blake, Ms Anita, Southall
- L Blanco-Roldan, Mrs Mercedes, Madrid, Spain

- L Böning, Mr J W, Haarlem, Netherlands
- L Boolsen, Revd G, Valby, Denmark
- L Boolsen, Mrs G, Valby, Denmark
- L Booth, Mrs PR, Bournemouth
- L Boothby, Mr Ambrose, Llandudno
- L Borelli, Mr L, Columbia, SC, USA
- L Bot, Mr Frits, The Netherlands
- L Bottomley, Mrs M, Wrexham Bowie, Mrs Anne, Perth Bowley, Mr W, Angaston, SA, Australia Bowley, Mrs W, Angaston, SA, Australia
- L Bown, Revd C D, Kelvin, RSA Bowyer, Mr C, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA Bowyer, Mrs C, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Boyd, Mrs M L, North Perth, WA, Australia Boyle, Mr Kevin, London
- L Boyes, Mrs J, Carseldine, QLD, Australia Boysen, Mr Joseph, London
- L Braam, Mr A, Etobicoke, ONT, Canada
- L Bradfield, Mr T M, Etobicoke, ONT, Canada
- I. Bradshaw, Mrs W. Preston
- L Branston, Mrs Virginia, New York, NY, USA
- L Bray, Mr Ted, Kettering L Braybrook, Mr Mark, Basingstoke Breadon, Revd John, Windsor
- L Brigg, Miss Joyce, Clitheroe
- L Brinch, Mrs J L, Forest Row
- L Britton, Mr D, Colchester Britton, Mrs Elizabeth, Stroud Brock, Mr C I, Goolwa, SA, Australia
- L Brock, Dr E J, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Brock, Mrs E J, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
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- L Brown, Revd Helen, Addlestone Brown, Mrs K T, Pretoria, Transvaal, RSA
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- L Brown, Mrs Lach, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
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- L Bruell, Mrs A R, Felsted
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- L Buckley, Mr Michael N, Brighton
- L Bula, Mr L A, Bexhill-on-Sea
- L Burl, Mr Wilfred, Erina, NSW, Australia
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- L Burniston, Mr Mark, Witney
- L Burnley, Mrs J, Bradford
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- L Buss, Rt Revd P M, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Buss, Mrs P M, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA

- L Butler, Mr Raymond, Newton Stewart
- L Bylund, Mr G, Hagerston, Sweden Byrne, Revd Esther, Alexandria, Dunbartonshire

#### C

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- L Clark, Miss Hazelle, London
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- L Cooper, Mr G M, Mitchellville, MD, USA
- L Cooper, Mrs G M, Mitchellville, MD, USA
- L Cooper, Mr Kent, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA Cooper, Mrs Kent, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA
- L Cooper, Miss Primrose, Uckfield
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  - Cowley, Mr J, Weltevreden Park, Transvaal, RSA

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- L Danjoux, Mr J L, Mauritius
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  - Duckworth, Revd Julian, Roseville, NSW, Australia
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- L Friend, Mrs Susan, Wembley Friend, Mr Eric, Chorley
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- L Hindley, Mr M J, Brightlingsea Hiroki, Mr Hamasaki, Kagoshima City, Japan
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- L Huggins, Mrs W, Churchtown
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- L Janssens-Klassen, Mrs A J, Baarle-Nassau, Netherlands
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- L Jungé, Mr J F, Bryn Athyn, PA, USA Jungé, Mrs Mark, Glenview, IL, USA
- L Jungé, Revd R S, Kempton, PA, USA

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  - Kratimenos, Dr Marysia, London
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- L Kuhn, Ms Elizabeth, London Kuphal, Mr G S, Brightlingsea Kuusirati, Mr Jyrki, Oulu, Finland

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- L Laidlaw, Mrs Suzy, Huntingdon Valley, PA, USA

Laidlaw, Mr Neil, Edinburgh Laidlaw, Mrs Helen, Edinburgh

Laing, Mrs Winnie, Johnstone

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- L Lewin, Mrs Diane, Whitefield
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- L Lyons, Ms Celia, London

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- L Murata, Mr Kentaro, Tokyo, Japan
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- L Newton, Mr John, London
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- L Nicholls, Mrs F B, Littleover
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- L. Nuotio, Mr Asko, Pori, Finland
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- L Parker, Mrs R M, Etobicoke, ONT, Canada
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- L Pulsford, Mrs Mary, Chester
- L Punter, Mrs Margaret, Churt

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- L Ramsay, Mrs A, Woodhead-by-Fyvie
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- L Smith, Ms D C, Tucson, AZ, USA

- Smith, Ms Judith, Hinsdale, IL, USA
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  - Spracklin, Ms Dorothy, Shelton, WA, USA
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- L Synnestvedt, Mr Richard, Bryn Athyn, PA,
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- (c) Organizing meetings, lectures and other functions as a means of directing attention to, and promoting interest in, the works of Swedenborg.
- (d) Encouraging the study of the works of Swedenborg by maintaining a Reading Room and Library.
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