

# Annual Report and Accounts

**For year 2024**



# EQUIPES NOTRE DAME GREAT BRITAIN

Registered Charity 1044902 .

Annual Report for the year to 31 December 2024

## Legal and administrative information

The official name of the charity is Equipés Notre Dame, Great Britain, and the registered charity number is 1044902. The Official name reflects the involvement in, and links with, the world wide movement for Christian married couples.

The registered address of the charity is 5 Petrebrook, Chelmer Village, Chelmsford, CM2 6QJ. The charity is part of an international movement based in Paris.

The governing document of the charity is the Declaration of Trust made on the first day of August 1994, and amended on 31 August, 2018. This Declaration of Trust restricts the charity from undertaking any substantial trading activity as part of raising funds. In addition, no trustee shall acquire an interest in property belonging to the charity.

The charity's banker is National Westminster Bank Plc. There are no Regional Treasurers or regional bank accounts any longer.

Equipés Notre Dame (Great Britain) is administered by up to eight trustees: the Regional Couples and the GB Treasurers, who meet regularly on line. The main planning and co-ordination of the activities of and for the Teams of Great Britain are carried out at the meetings of the Regional Couples, which are normally held at the same time as the Trustees' meeting.

We continue normally to meet by Zoom. Meetings for a morning are held at roughly 8 – 10 week intervals. In 2024, we met on Saturdays 13 January, 16 March, 11 May, 24 October and 23 November. We also had an in person meeting on 2 July.

During 2024 the Trustees were Chris and Dominique Thompson (Treasurer Couple), Paul and Janet Deboo (Central Regional Couple), David and Joanne Harries (Northern Regional Couple) and Peter and Yvonne Newman (Southern Regional Couple). The Newmans retired at the end of the year and have not yet been replaced.

## Aims and organisation

The object of the charity, as stated in the Declaration of Trust, is the advancement of religion in accordance with the tenets of the Christian faith in particular by the promotion of Christian marriage, family life and the spiritual development of husband and wife.

The Teams in Great Britain are part of the world-wide international movement for Christian married couples, Equipés Notre-Dame, led by an International Leading Team, (Equipe Responsable Internationale (ERI)). The three geographic Regions of Teams in Great Britain, Northern, Central and Southern, form the Province of Great Britain. The Province is part of the Transatlantic Super Region, along with Ireland, South Africa, Zambia, Malawi and Ghana. Each of the Regions of Great Britain has a Regional Couple and is further divided into sectors led by a Sector Couple or Sector Team. The Charity has only voluntary staff.

The principal activity of the charity is to support the monthly meetings of 79 Teams around Great Britain. Monthly Team Meetings are the centre point of the movement, and enable couples to eat together, pray together, and share their joys and sorrows in a caring atmosphere.

The other supporting activities of the charity are:

- The production of a quarterly Regional Newsletter sent to each team couple;
- Other events such as retreats, Gatherings and training sessions;
- Co-ordination and planning, carried out by the Regional Couples and Sector Couples;
- Promotional activities to aid the expansion of the movement;
- Production of literature for use in the Team Meetings and for expansion;
- Adoption and maintenance of the various policies regulating processes and activities;
- Contacts and joint activities with the wider movement around the world.

## Review of progress and activities in 2024

### Normal activities

During the year, 79 Teams had 286 couples and 40 widows and widowers in membership together with 40 spiritual counsellors or advisors. There were also 19 unattached couples. Many Teams resumed meetings in person after covid, others have continued meeting on line. All were kept in touch via the Newsletters.

Northern and Southern Regions held Gatherings (the Northern one on two sites) for Teams couples in their Regions. Central Region is planning one for February 2025.

The Marriage Masterclasses, organised by Teams Ireland, have continued to be available on Facebook.

The monthly Virtual Teams meetings on Zoom have been continued, though with reduced numbers.

The production and distribution of the quarterly newsletter for Equipes Notre Dame (Province of Great Britain) continued. The website is being maintained and developed and work continues to keep the content up to date. We are also looking for ways to expand our social media presence in ways which will be accessible to our target audience.

### Expansion

Personal contact and parish promotion has restarted, but continued to be difficult this year. Contact has been maintained with Bishops in Dioceses where the movement has the capacity to develop and it is hoped that this will start to yield benefits when we can meet again. In common with many organisations, recruiting new, and particularly young, members has become more difficult. However, an information day took place in North London, and this is likely to be repeated. A new Team has been commissioned in Nottingham and a Team in Cambridge has completed piloting but would like to recruit more couples before being commissioned.

### International

A significant part of our expenditure is a contribution to the International movement, which supports Regions with more limited resources and pays for meetings of the Transatlantic Super Region Team, costs incurred by the Super Region Responsible Couple and the cost of a Super Regional Newsletter.

### Review of financial activities and affairs

In 2024 the charity had a turnover of £16,420 (total expenditure) up from £15,569 in 2023 (excluding the re-Gathering, an increase of 6%). We an operating deficit of £1,690, compared with a surplus of £325 in 2023. The charity depends on contributions from Team couples to support its activities. In 2024 these amounted to £11,841 8% lower than in 2023 (£12,772). The reason for this is not apparent, but likely to be partly due to the delayed effect of the loss of some Teams over and after covid, and the deaths of some long standing members, not yet offset by recent expansion. Expenditure continues to be low but part of this is due to limited expansion work, though some public relations work is scheduled for 2025.

The contribution to the Super Region was £12,000. There was no expenditure on fundraising.

The reserves of £24,000 seem adequate, though reduced. Income and expenditure both increased slightly in 2024, excluding the effect of the re-Gathering. The situation always needs to be kept under review; in particular the number of Gift Aided contributions is much reduced. The Treasurers will take action to draw, this, and the general financial situation, to the attention of Teams couples.

The Solidarity Fund stands at £1,269, including Gift Aid received which is available to support members participation in Teams events.

Signed

Date

For and on behalf of the Trustees

## EQUIPES NOTRE DAME, GREAT BRITAIN

Registered Charity 1044902

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED****31 DECEMBER 2024**

## Income

	2024	2023
<b>Income</b>		
Contributions from Team Couples:	11,841	12,772
Regathering		12,587
Bank Interest	233	192
Solidarity Fund		1,957
Regional events	57	
Refund from HMRC	3,045	2,605
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>15,176</b>	<b>30,112</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Regions</b>		
Regional Couples' expenses	100	220
<b>Province</b>		
Administration		118
Newsletter	2,654	2,117
Publicity and expansion	1,087	207
Insurance and licenses	454	456
Payment to Transatlantic SR/ERL	12,000	12,000
Solidarity Fund payments		414
Regathering		17,098
	<b>16,195</b>	<b>32,409</b>
<b>Other Expenditure</b>		
Independent Examiner's Fees	125	125
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>16,420</b>	<b>32,754</b>
Excess/(Deficit) of Receipts over Expenditure	(1,244)	(2,642)
Transfer to Solidarity Fund	446	1,957
Transfer from Solidarity Fund		1,634
Excess/(Deficit) of Receipts over Expenditure	(1,690)	(2,966)

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	2023	2022
Surplus brought forward	25,385	28,351
Plus surplus/(deficit) for year	(1,690)	(2,966)
Surplus at 31 December	<b>23,695</b>	<b>25,385</b>
Cash and Bank Deposits		
Province of GB Bank Current Account	9,577	10,628
Province of GB Bank Capital Deposit	16,278	16,046
Cash and Bank Deposits (Current Assets)	25,855	26,674
Less creditors	891	466
Less Solidarity Fund	1,269	823
	<b>23,695</b>	<b>25,385</b>

**Non monetary assets** include printed promotional material, banners and display boards

These Accounts were approved by the Trustees on

For and on behalf of the Trustees

## MEMORANDUM ACCOUNTS

### Solidarity Fund

Balance brought forward	823	500
Gift Aid	446	1,957
	1,269	2,457
Payments		1,634
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>823</b>

### Accounting policies

The Financial Statements are agreed on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting of Charities issued by the Charity Commission. Expenditure is accrued to the financial year it applies to whilst interest and income is included when received.

The only current liabilities recognised are cheques outstanding and the Solidarity Fund. Current assets are not recognised until the cash is received.

### Monetary Assets

The Province operates a current bank account and a capital account. The capital account earns a small amount of interest and holds cash which is not expected to be paid out in the near future. Regions no longer hold bank accounts. The Provincial Treasurers act as Treasurers to the Regions.

Annual contributions should be sent to the Provincial Treasurers and are banked centrally. Regions collect income relating to events which they organize and this is banked in the Province account, and recorded as Regional activity income.

### Non monetary assets

Purchases are charged to the receipts and payments at the time of purchase. They are not held in the Accounts at a valuation unless they are held for sale or income generation. Currently there are no assets of this nature.