



John Wotherspoon is currently the Joint Area Secretary and Area Treasurer for the Mersey Valley in the North West and North East England Cluster. Professed in March 2009, he and his wife, Alison, took on the shared role of Area Secretaries later that year when the then ASs left the Area on retirement. They have both contributed to the running of the Area Team since that date. In 2010, John also took on the Area Treasurer role at the previous postholder's six year tenure was well completed and an alternative candidate felt unable to commit to the role at the time.

John has undertaken the treasurer's role for a number of charitable organisations in the past, notably a Scout District and a church within an Anglican Team Ministry. In each case it was necessary to undertake the day to day running of the accounts, then annually produce the return for assessment by the parent bodies (Scout County or Liverpool Diocese) and ultimately for the Charity Commissioners. He has used a number of computer software programs to undertake these works, namely Quicken and iBank. He is also well versed in the use of Excel spreadsheets which can usefully be used to assist interpretation of the financial data. He regularly uses on-line banking for both personal and other financial activities.

From previous treasurer roles, John has had experience in consolidating accounts from different sources and engaging with the Independent Examiner to ensure that these comply with the Charity Commissioners' requirements. He has prepared budgets, dealt with a number of national banks to arrange account signatories and as an existing Area Treasurer, understands the transfers of funds between province and Area bank accounts. As a former church treasurer, he is well aware of the needs for careful record keeping to administer a Gift Aid Scheme and would look to continue the good work commenced by John Reynolds, TSSF having changed to a more ethically minded (though admittedly currently troubled!) bank and working through updating members' standing orders and records.

John and Alison have followed a concurrent path from Enquirers to Professed Tertiaries, much to Alison's surprise! She first explored a called to TSSF, but 'Chasing the Wild Goose' convinced John that he too could follow this journey. Married for almost 38 years, they have two adult sons now living away from home. John now attends St Luke's, Great Crosby, where John is Mission Co-ordinator and a member of Deanery Synod, for his second three year term, and hence is also a member of the PCC. John is 66 years old, a Chartered Civil Engineer, who semi retired twelve months ago to work a three day week. His intentions are to fully retire in April 2015, giving him more time for engaging in voluntary work. The role of Provincial Treasurer is one that would use his abilities with accounts, spreadsheets and computing. Project focused throughout his career, this role would fulfill his motivation for 'being useful'!