



## Kensington Temple manages donations more efficiently with DK Software

*Charity uses DK's Donations module to better manage donations and ensures efficient monthly financial reporting*

Kensington Temple belongs to the Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance (a registered charity) and is a growing community of people from over 119 different nations. It also heads one of Elim's 10 'regions' known as London City Church, which is headquartered in West London and has approximately 45 satellite churches within the M25 area.

The church has an annual income of approximately £6 million, of which £4 million is donated incomes and £2 million is generated or 'earned'. With around 110 staff, and a finance team of 10 located in West London, Kensington Temple had implemented Sage and then Access Accounts software to help manage financial transaction across 20 departments and over 60 cost-centres. In addition, donations are analysed across over 300 funds and appeals, with Gift Aid recoveries alone averaging £500,000 a year.

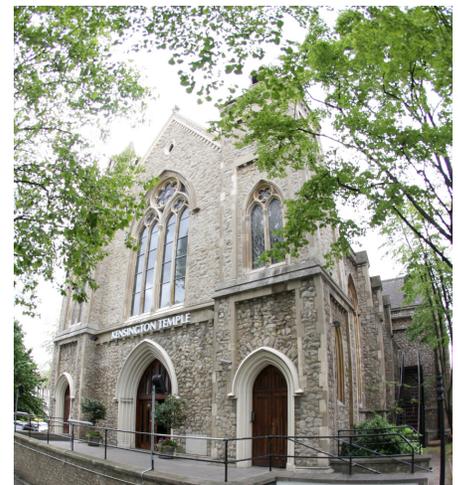
### Consolidation and reporting

One of the biggest challenges facing the organisation was the consolidation and reporting of monthly and annual financials. Jeremy Busk, Finance Manager, takes up the story:

*“DK is enabling us to save on resources in these challenging economic times. Each month our accounts team simply ‘run’ the accounts and assemble a pack of over 60 pages of analysis covering all of our cost centres. This gives us great visibility across all of our operations.”*

*Colin Dye, Senior Minister*

“The monthly reporting of financials was an extensive ‘preparation’ exercise, requiring the use of a third-party reporting tool, and was taking three full-time employees at least three days to complete. There was also limited integration with our bespoke database of donors,



so many transactions had to be posted manually to our accounts package.”

Kensington Temple was introduced to DK Business Solutions from DK Software in 2004, and could see immediately that there was the potential to automate many of its financial transactions, from donations to general ledger, in one easy-to-use system.

DK Business Solutions provides not-for-profit organisations such as Kensington Temple with the ability to manage all aspects of fundraising and donations, from supporter



registration, to Gift Aid declarations and reporting.

“One of the key drivers for changing our system was that we were simply not happy with our reporting process,” said Jeremy Busk. “It was too slow, and we couldn’t produce the types of analysis and reports required by senior management. There was also a real need to migrate to a single solution to ensure complete integration across our various cost centres.”

### Donations Module

Gift-Aid declarations are a real challenge for charities such as Kensington Temple, especially in today’s tough economic climate.

The ‘Donations’ module in DK Business Solutions integrates with other modules for a seamless transition of information. This not only saves time by eliminating duplication of data entry, but also meets the stringent requirements of charities by providing an array of fully integrated and efficient accounting and reporting/analysis capabilities.

Once the decision had been made to go with DK in October 2004, things started to move very quickly. In fact, the church was up and running within six weeks with the Accounts Payable, General Ledger and Donations modules. It was able to quickly and easily migrate some £30million-worth of donation history.

Diana McIlvenna, in charge of Accounts Payable, said: “We were able to import a huge database of donors, including their history and any additional relevant documents. We are also able to link people who are both supporters and customers who purchase things from the church and we can search the history of transactions in just seconds.”

She added: “BACS payment runs used to take a whole day, now with DK it takes just 30 seconds to export a file into a format that the bank requires and send it. DK gives us the freedom to decide who to pay and when, so it gives us much more flexibility in terms of the organisation’s cash flow.

“The system also automatically produces remittances ready to be mailed, or it will search for email addresses if suppliers have a preference for receiving remittances electronically. We’re very happy with the payments side.”

### Easy to use

Ease of use is a prime advantage of DK. “You don’t need to be particularly skilled with formulas,” added Jeremy Busk. “In fact, if you can use Microsoft Excel, you can use DK. It’s very quick, you can segment the data in any format in any way you wish and output management reports in the format required. This is something that took us ages before.”

He added: “DK is strong on manipulation. We have a multitude of cost centres, from cinemas to bookshops, and we can easily track expenditure or cash flow within each cost centre behind the scenes, and just press ‘run’ to get the reports we need. It’s a joy.”

Senior Minister Colin Dye concluded: “DK is enabling us to save on resources in these challenging economic times. Accurate management reporting is absolutely crucial to the way we run the charity. Each month our accounts team simply ‘run’ the accounts over the course of just a half-day and assemble a pack of over 60 pages of analysis covering all of our cost centres. This gives us great visibility across all our operations.”



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