

THE FRIENDS OF WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1044663

Details

Other names	THE FRIENDS OF WALTHAM ABBEY, THE FRIENDS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1995-03-02
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Parish Office Abbey Church Centre Abbey Gardens Waltham Abbey EN9 1XQ
Phone	01992767873
Email	friends@walthamabbeychurch.co.uk
Website	www.walthamabbeychurch.co.uk/Friends/friends.htm

Activities

Objects: TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE FABRIC OF WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH AS A BUILDING OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE.

Activities: To maintain and enhance the fabric of Waltham Abbey Church, as a building of historical and architectural importance.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED IN PRACTICE THE PARISH CHURCH OF WALTHAM ABBEY
- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£42,741	£17,412	-	-
2023-12-31	£15,561	£10,225	-	-
2022-12-31	£13,461	£12,177	-	-
2021-12-31	£396,386	£6,043	-	-
2020-12-31	£2,781	£5,877	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
LAURA MACNEILL	Chair	2014-06-18
Christopher Theokli		2024-06-25
Colin Roy Anderson		2022-06-22
GEOFFREY MAIDMENT		2016-06-16
Jane Elizabeth Hudson		2024-06-25
LINDA MARY MURRELL		2011-10-29
Linda Anderson		2019-06-12
Lynda Ann Beggs		2025-07-08
MARGARET GILLETT		2016-06-21
Myra Purton		2018-05-24
Richard Jenkyn Walters		2009-05-19
Sarah Caroline Moores		2024-06-09
Valerie Olivia Davis		2021-09-21

THE FRIENDS OF WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1044663

Accounts

THE FRIENDS OF WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Objectives and Activities

The charity's objective is to maintain and enhance the fabric of Waltham Abbey Church, as a building of historical and architectural importance.

The charity raises income to further its purpose from members' annual subscriptions and from sales in the Visitor Centre that it operates in Waltham Abbey Church.

The income raised contributes to the public benefit by preserving and enhancing Waltham Abbey Church for the enjoyment of future generations.

A number of volunteers donate many hours in serving as Trustees and/or manning the Visitor Centre and we are very grateful to them for their willing service.

Achievements and Performance

The Abbey Church continues to be open only on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays, and so the Visitor Centre is only able to be open on those days. However, within these limitations, the Friends have continued to accrue substantial funds to promote the beauty and dignity of the church for its congregation and many visitors.

Financial Review

At 31 December 2024 the charity had £421,408.74 in the bank. The Friends were grateful to receive a generous bequest of £22,772 during 2024. The bequest income was transferred to a Saver Plus account where it accrues interest and is restricted in use for the charity's purpose. The charity's Current Account stood at £26,023, the bulk of which came from membership subscriptions and sales in the Visitor Centre. Membership of The Friends is open to all on payment of a minimum annual subscription of £5. A membership event during the year resulted in five new members being recruited.

During 2024 the Trustees undertook a review of the charity's financial controls and also produced policies on Investment and Reserves. The Trustees also agreed to adopt the Safeguarding policy and procedures of The Church of England, "Promoting a safer church", and to have due regard to the Church of England's five standards for safeguarding.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, an amended constitution adopted on 16 August 1994, as amended on 7 May 2003 and 26 May 2010, and is an unincorporated association.

Trustees are elected or re-elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in May. The District Church Council (DCC) of Waltham Abbey Church is entitled to appoint up to three additional trustees.

At 31st December 2024 the Trustees numbered twelve, comprising the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-Chair, five (of six possible) elected trustees and three appointed by Waltham Abbey Church DCC.

The Trustees oversee the work and activities of The Friends and review sales in the Visitor Centre, finance and membership. Some of the Trustees also volunteer in the Visitor Centre and can reflect the views of the volunteers at the Trustees' meetings. The Trustees all work in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration from the charity.

The Trustees work in collaboration with the Parochial Church Council of Waltham Abbey Church, from whom it rents its space within the church, to fulfil its charitable purpose.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name

The Friends of Waltham Abbey Church

Registered charity number

1044663

Charity's principal address

The Parish Office
Abbey Church Centre
Abbey Farmhouse
Abbey Gardens
Waltham Abbey
Essex
EN9 1XQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Mrs Laura MacNeill	Chair
Mr Colin Anderson	Vice-Chair
Mrs Linda Murrell	Treasurer
Mr Richard Walters	Secretary
Mrs Margaret Gillett	Membership Secretary
Mrs Valerie Davis	
Mrs Myra Purton	
Mr Geoffrey Maidment	
Mrs Caroline Moores	
Mr Chris Theokli	
Mrs Linda Anderson	Appointed by Waltham Abbey DCC
Mrs Jane Hudson	Appointed by Waltham Abbey DCC
Mrs Lynda Beggs	Appointed by Waltham Abbey DCC

Independent Examiner

Mrs Dorothy Perkins
13 Norman Close
Waltham Abbey
Essex
EN9 1PY

The Trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature: 

Full name: LAURA MACNEILL

Position (e.g., Chair, Secretary): CHAIR

Date: 1st October 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Friends of Waltham Abbey Church 1044663

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01-Jan-24	To	31-Dec-24
---------------------	-----------	----	-----------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Sales	11,147	-	-	11,147	9,385
Subscriptions	1,383	-	-	1,383	1,353
Donations	956	-	-	956	506
Legacy	-	22,772	-	22,772	-
Gift Aid Refund	271	-	-	271	259
Interest Savings A/C	6,083	-	-	6,083	3,924
Miscellaneous	129	-	-	129	134
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,969	22,772	-	42,741	15,561
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,969	22,772	-	42,741	15,561
A3 Payments					
Books, gifts etc for re-sale	7,525	-	-	7,525	4,941
Photocopying/postage/stationery	144	-	-	144	176
Waltham Abbey PCC	8,643	-	-	8,643	4,160
Insurance	917	-	-	917	865
Miscellaneous	183	-	-	183	83
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	17,412	-	-	17,412	10,225
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	17,412	-	-	17,412	10,225
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,557	22,772	-	25,329	5,336
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	2,557	22,772	-	25,329	5,336

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account	26,023	-	-
	Saver Plus Account	-	421,409	-
	Petty Cash	40	-	-
	Total cash funds	26,063	421,409	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK

B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Stock		-	10,855
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	LAURA MACNEILL	1st Oct 2025
	LINDA MURRELL	01/10/25

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

**Report to the trustees/members of The Friends of Waltham Abbey Church
Charity no: 1044663**

On the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trusts's accounts carried out under Charity Commission guidelines.

I have completed my examination and I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in any material respect accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act.

I have no concerns and have come across no matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 17 April 2025

Dorothy Elizabeth May Perkins
13 Norman Close
Waltham Abbey
Essex EN9 1PY

THE FRIENDS OF WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1044663

Accounts

THE FRIENDS OF WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Objectives and Activities

The charity's objective is to maintain and enhance the fabric of Waltham Abbey Church, as a building of historical and architectural importance.

The charity raises income to further its purpose from members' annual subscriptions and from sales in the Visitor Centre that it operates in Waltham Abbey Church.

The income raised contributes to the public benefit by preserving and enhancing Waltham Abbey Church for the enjoyment of future generations.

Volunteers donate many hours in serving as Trustees and/or manning the Visitor Centre and we are very grateful to them for their willing service, especially in the difficult circumstances of this year.

Achievements and Performance

2021 was a difficult year for the charity because of the on-going effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, which made it impossible to predict patterns of on-going activity. Because of the closure of the Abbey Church, the Friends were unable to open the Visitor Centre until the relaxation of restrictions in May and then with reduced hours for the remainder of the year. However, within these limitations, the Friends have continued to accrue funds to promote the beauty and dignity of the church for its congregation and many visitors.

Financial Review

At 31 December 2021 the charity had £415,524.55 in the bank. This was because of unexpected and unprecedented bequest income of £390,366 received during the year. The bequest income was transferred to a Saver Plus account where it accrues interest and is restricted in use for the charity's purpose. The charity's Current Account stood at £25,118, the bulk of which came from membership subscriptions and sales in the Visitor Centre. Membership numbers have levelled out and a membership drive is planned for 2022 to increase income from that source. Reduced hours for the Visitor Centre continued into 2022 and could impact revenue from sales.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, an amended constitution adopted on 16 August 1994, as amended on 7 May 2003 and 26 May 2010, and is an unincorporated association.

Trustees are elected or re-elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in May. The District Church Council (DCC) of Waltham Abbey Church is entitled to appoint up to three additional trustees.

At 31st December 2021 the Trustees numbered eleven, comprising the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-Chair, five (of six possible) elected trustees and two (of up to three) appointed by Waltham Abbey Church DCC.

The Trustees oversee the work and activities of The Friends and review sales in the Visitor Centre, finance and membership. Some of the Trustees also volunteer in the Visitor Centre and can reflect the views of the volunteers at the Trustees' meetings. The Trustees all work in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration from the charity.

The Trustees work in collaboration with the Parochial Church Council of Waltham Abbey Church, from whom it rents its space within the church, to fulfil its charitable purpose.

Membership of The Friends is open to all on payment of a minimum annual subscription of £5.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name

The Friends of Waltham Abbey Church

Registered charity number

1044663

Charity's principal address

The Parish Office
Abbey Church Centre
Abbey Farmhouse
Abbey Gardens
Waltham Abbey
Essex
EN9 1XQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Mr Frank MacNeill	Chair
Mrs Laura MacNeill	Secretary
Mrs Linda Murrell	Treasurer
Mr Richard Walters	Vice-Chair
Mrs Margaret Gillett	Also Membership Secretary from November 2021
Mrs Myra Purton	
Mr Richard Purton	
Mr Geoffrey Maidment	
Ms Beverley Watkins	
Mrs Linda Anderson	Appointed by Waltham Abbey DCC
Mrs Valerie Davis	Appointed by Waltham Abbey DCC, from September 2021
Mr Colin Anderson	Co-opted in June 2022

Independent Examiner

Mrs Dorothy Perkins
13 Norman Close
Waltham Abbey
Essex
EN9 1PY

The Trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature: 

Full name: Frank Wilfrid MacNeill

Position (e.g., Chair, Secretary) CHAIR

Date: 8th October 2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Friends of Waltham Abbey Church	1044663
-------------------------------------	---------

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01-Jan-21	To	31-Dec-21
---------------------	-----------	----	-----------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Sales	3,687	-	-	3,687	1,390
Subscriptions	1,265	-	-	1,265	948
Donations	752	-	-	752	50
Legacy	390,240	-	-	390,240	-
Gift Aid refund	200	-	-	200	252
Inrerrest Savings A/C	127	-	-	127	-
Miscellaneous	115	-	-	115	141
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	396,386	-	-	396,386	2,781
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	396,386	-	-	396,386	2,781
A3 Payments					
Books, gifts etc for re-sale	1,310	-	-	1,310	1,232
Photocopying and postage	75	-	-	75	182
Rental - Waltham Abbey PCC	3,720	-	-	3,720	3,720
Insurance	751	-	-	751	688
Miscellaneous	187	-	-	187	55
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	6,043	-	-	6,043	5,877
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,043	-	-	6,043	5,877
Net of receipts/(payments)	390,343	-	-	390,343	- 3,096
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	25,181	-	-	25,181	-
Cash funds this year end	415,524	-	-	415,524	- 3,096

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Curent Account	25,118	-	-
	Saver Plus Account	390,366	-	-
	Petty Cash	40	-	-
	Total cash funds	415,524	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			


Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Stock		-	10,030
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	RICHARD WAZTGUS	9/10/22