

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
(Charity Registration No: 1132005)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31 AUGUST 2021

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1	Circuit Information
3	Trustees Annual Report
11	Statement of Financial Activities
13	Balance Sheet
15	Notes to the Accounts
25	Declarations
26	Independent Examiner's Report

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

CIRCUIT INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Address: Circuit Office, Elm Ridge Methodist Church, Carmel Road South,
Darlington DL3 8DJ

Examiner: Stephen Watson Gardner F.C.A. of King Hope, Chartered Accountants,
31 Victoria Road, Darlington DL1 5SB

Managing Trustees in the year ended 31 August 2021:-

Chair: Revd Tim Boocock (from 1 September 2020)

Secretary: Mrs Valerie Tooth

Circuit Staff: Revd Graham Cutler (from 1 September 2020) Presbyter
Revd Brian Hutton (from 1 September 2020) Presbyter

Resident in Circuit: *Revd Catherine Minor Hospital Chaplain

Circuit Stewards: Hazel Neasham
Simon Charters
Paul Kane (from 21 September 2020 to 21 June 2021)
Valerie Tooth (from 21 June 2021)
Cathryn Warden (from 21 June 2021)

Lay Employees: Morvyn Sanderson Children's and Young People's Worker
Emma Waldon Children's and Young People's Worker
*Lindy Lowis Admin/Communications
Edwin Hird Property and Finance
Lyn Cookson Pastoral Missioner & Safeguarding Officer
Chris Russell Pastoral Missioner

Church Representatives: Alison Banner Barton
*Joan Marwood Barton
Norma Krishnan Bondgate/Bondgate Management group
Glenys Drummond Bondgate/Bondgate Management group

Bondgate Church Society ceased to worship on 16 August 2020 but the building has remained in use by a number of non-church groups under the oversight of the Management Group.

Brian Cooper Cockerton
Robert Dean Cockerton
David Fairer Cockerton

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

CIRCUIT INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

**Church
Representatives
(Continued):**

Irene Taylor
 Susan Ashmore
 Ali Dinsdale
 Mary Everitt
 Ann Haley
 David Hall
 Richard McElheran
 Stephen Sutcliffe
 Sue Case
 Margaret Cuthbert
 Vanessa Simpson
 Barbara Carter
 Ann Thubron
 Cathryn Warden
 Jane Miller
 Hazel Neasham
 Andy Robinson
 Graham Bright
 Brian Russell
 Chris Russell

Cockerton
 Cockerton (from 23 July 2020)
 Elm Ridge
 Elm Ridge
 Elm Ridge (from 19 May 2021)
 Elm Ridge
 Elm Ridge (to 19 May 2021)
 Elm Ridge
 Harrowgate Hill
 Harrowgate Hill
 Harrowgate Hill
 Haughton
 Haughton
 Haughton
 Hurworth
 Hurworth
 Hurworth
 The Well
 The Well
 The Well

Other:

Revd John Bower
 Revd Selby White
 Margaret Wearmouth
 Josanne Hall
 David Hogg
 Karen Riley
 Brian Simpson
 Helen Hamilton
 Susan Jaleel
 Liz McAllister
 Cathryn Warden

Supernumerary Minister
 Supernumerary Minister
 Methodist Women in Britain
 Methodist Homes for the Aged
 Circuit Archivist
 Action for Children
 Secretary for Worship & Local Preachers (LWLP)
 LWLP Representative
 LWLP Representative (to 29 September 2020)
 Circuit Complaints Officer
 Manse Steward (to 21 June 2021) & GDPR Officer

**denotes a member of the Circuit Meeting who is not a trustee*

There are no Trustees holding title to any of the Circuit's property.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Introduction

Welcome to the Trustees Annual Report of Darlington Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021. Whilst primarily a financial report we hope to also provide insight into our aims and mission.

Public Benefit

The Darlington Methodist Circuit provides a seven-day week Christian ministry across Darlington and the surrounding area, through its network of staff, volunteers, members and premises. Its activities are open to the whole community. More details are provided under the paragraphs "Interconnexion for Mission, Mutual Encouragement and Help" and "Life of the Circuit".

The trustees have had due regard to the Charities Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Mission Statement

The Circuit Meeting's Statement of Purpose is: The Darlington Methodist Circuit exists to challenge and equip every Methodist community in the circuit to grow together in identity (who God calls us to be) and in mission (what God calls us to do). The Circuit's Mission is to be "Disciples Making Disciples" and has adopted a Mission Prayer summarising our aspirations:-

Our Father, heaven and earth are in your hands.
As we pray, may you embrace us,
as we praise, may we embrace you,
as we give, may you embrace our world,
as we go, may our world embrace you.
Because of Jesus, we are in your hands.
Break through into our lives
with the power of your Holy Spirit.
Make us into disciples who make disciples,
hungry for your kingdom to come here and now. Amen.

Aims

The purposes of the Methodist Church are the advancement of:-

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;
- b. any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;
- c. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution, subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Aims (Continued)

- d. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

The Darlington Methodist Circuit aims:

1. To provide varied, relevant and inclusive worship across the Circuit Churches.
2. To provide training to nurture faith in Christ, as well as to develop local preachers and leaders of worship, and to equip staff and volunteers with best practice, including pastoral care and safeguarding.
3. To increase awareness of and support voluntary charitable work in Darlington and around the UK and beyond.
4. To participate in ecumenical relationships, including Darlington Churches Together partnerships.
5. To continue to give active support to the wider Methodist District and Connexion.
6. To promote the exploration of sustainable futures for all the Churches in the Circuit

Organisation

The Darlington Methodist Circuit acts as an umbrella or resource body. The Circuit is the primary unit in which local churches express and experience their interconnexion in the Body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help.

It is in the Circuit that ministers are stationed and local preachers are trained and admitted and exercise their calling. The purposes of the Circuit include the effective deployment of the resources of ministry, which include people, property and finance, as they relate to the Methodist churches in the Circuit, to churches of other denominations and to participation in the life of the communities served by the Circuit, including local schools and colleges and in ecumenical work in the area.

In September 2017, the Superintendent had received a request from the Superintendent of the Barnard Castle and Teesdale Circuit about the possibility of opening a conversation about the two Circuits joining together. The Circuit agreed to discuss this possibility and a Joint Circuit Leadership Team was established. After much consideration in June 2019 both Circuits voted on the matter and the result was unanimous agreement to form a new Circuit by September 2021. The Methodist Church's Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) for the formal process for Circuit changes has been triggered.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Interconnexion for Mission, Mutual Encouragement and Help

In recent years, the Circuit has intentionally worked towards a stronger identity, encouraging church communities to be more circuit-minded, to support each other and to work better together.

The last year has been a challenging one due to the Covid situation. The Circuit team has been imaginative in the way that worship and pastoral care has been delivered. Throughout the year the Circuit Pastoral Missioners have continued to work across the Circuit by ensuring that they have maintained telephone contact when it has not been possible to visit in person, they have continued the training and support of pastoral visitors and reworked remote links with care and residential homes across the town. Relationships have been sustained with the elderly - as individuals and with their extended family and friends. All this is conducted whilst having consideration for the best Safeguarding and Covid secure practices. The Methodist course "Creating Safer Space" has been offered a number of times during the year. The restrictions that Covid 19 brought have required the Pastoral Missioners to rethink their work, this has seen more telephone contact, the continuation of the weekly Zoom meeting and deliveries of fish and chips and afternoon teas and activities to replace the usual Holiday at Home and Easter activities.

Hospitality projects across the Circuit continue to make effective links with local communities. The Mustard Tree café at Hurworth Methodist Church continues to flourish, including working with vulnerable young adults, offering vocational opportunities and providing resources for mental wellbeing to the local community. The community café at Haughton (Coffee@Haughton), run by volunteers, proved to be extremely popular and busy prior to Covid offering valuable opportunities for social interaction. The café has remained closed since the start of the Covid crisis. This is, in part, because some of the volunteers were in groups that were high risk and/or vulnerable but also because it would have been difficult to operate whilst complying with the Government restrictions. The relaxation of restrictions has meant that the café reopened in September 2021. Members of the Haughton Craft and Chat group have maintained regular contact with each other during Covid and organised various activities remotely. The group resumed in person in September 2021.

As Lockdown restrictions eased, Elm Ridge Church trialled a new "Take Away Coffee" facility with a group of volunteers. People were encouraged to venture down the drive, this proved to be a simple but effective way of communicating with the community. The best session had attracted a worthwhile number of people and the sessions now provide a regular service 10 am to 3 pm on Fridays and Saturdays. These sessions are encouraging people to explore the grounds. Both projects are facilitating conversations about the Church building and activities.

The society at The Well continued to thrive and had weekly prayer meetings and services that were on Facebook and in the garden area when that was permitted. Sunday Services are now meeting in person. A team of enthusiastic volunteers and the paid host ensured that the charity shop and the café continued to meet local need. Whilst the shop and the café had to close during periods of Lockdown, the baby bank has responded to requests from the community, statutory and voluntary services by operating a call and collect or deliver service. Following an award of a small grant they improved the shelving and storage.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Interconnexion for Mission, Mutual Encouragement and Help (Continued)

The Children and Young People's Workers (lay staff) continued to work remotely with both primary and secondary schools and ran Holiday Club via social media. Older children and youth kept in touch via social media during Lockdown but resumed meetings in person as soon as it became possible. Prior to Covid the lay staff, with the help of volunteers, provided free lunches ("Make Lunch") and craft sessions during school holidays. During Covid, "Make Lunch" was adapted, and the lay staff and volunteers provided prepared meals or bags of groceries to the families most in need. The weekly packs included a craft activity for each child in the family.

Regular worship was resumed in Barton, Cockerton, Elm Ridge, Haughton, Harrowgate Hill, Hurworth and The Well. When it was not possible to meet for worship, weekly services were recorded and broadcast on You Tube. Printed services were distributed for those who do not have access to computers and the internet. DVDs of the services were also made available. Sunday worship is supplemented by various fellowship and study groups and a number of churches host uniformed organisations. Many of our organisations had to stop meeting and put together their own arrangements to ensure that they maintained contact with their members.

Covid restrictions meant that regular activities were suspended and it is only in the last few months that activities are starting to resume. Two young people from One Opportunity North East have been tasked with providing technical support, one running social media and the other making podcasts and images for worship.

People

Two presbyters - Revd Tim Boocock and Revd Brian Hutton took up appointments on 1 September 2020 replacing two presbyters who had left the Darlington Circuit. On the same date, Revd Graham Cutler took up an appointment in the neighbouring Barnard Castle and Teesdale Circuit. Revd Tim Boocock was appointed Superintendent Minister over both circuits. The two circuits will merge on 1 September 2021.

The presbyters are supported by a team of Circuit Stewards and Lay Staff consisting of two Children's and Youth Workers (one full-time and one part-time), two Pastoral Missioners, a part-time Circuit Admin/Communications Officer and a part-time Finance and Property Officer.

Treasurer Responsibilities: These duties have been undertaken by the Circuit Treasurer, Simon Charters and the Circuit Finance and Property Officer, Edwin Hird.

Local Preachers: The Local Preachers from the Darlington Circuit have met regularly with the Local Preachers from Barnard Castle and Teesdale Circuit and shared an Awayday.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Safeguarding

A Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy is in place. Safeguarding training (in accordance with Methodist Connectional Policy) has been provided for those who had not completed the training or who were new to roles in the church. This continues to be an active area for work.

Property

Churches: There are seven active churches in the Darlington Circuit.

While the responsibility for the maintenance of the properties lies with the trustees of each church, the Circuit is responsible for arranging quinquennial inspections.

Manse: The Circuit now owns one manse and this is occupied by Revd Brian Hutton and his family. Ongoing repairs continue within the approved budget. A satisfactory independent inspection was undertaken by the Darlington District and found the manse to be in good condition.

Two manses at Barnes Road and Mowbray Drive were sold during the year. It is the intention to undertake a review and purchase a new manse in the coming year.

Pierremont Church building and site was sold in 2021-22. Bondgate Church and its extensive premises are being marketed.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Circuit and churches actively work towards compliance with GDPR. During the course of the year, the Circuit has held meetings with church representatives and the lay GDPR lead has supported a review of the Darlington District.

Life of the Circuit

Circuit Vision: We continue to develop our understanding of the circumstances of our local churches, with a particular concern due to financial and numerical decline. The Circuit Leadership has endeavoured to encourage the Circuit to fresh thinking about reaching out beyond the walls of the church to the local community, with a focus on inclusion.

When the country went into Lockdown, the circuit's pastoral missionaries had established a Fellowship Group which was held virtually using Zoom and continued on this basis throughout 2020-21. The weekly sessions were used for prayer, bible study and discussion. During the year Revd Tim Boocock led a study series on the theme "Holy Habits" and in spring 2021, Revd Brian Hutton started a weekly bible study studying The Lord's Prayer and Pentecost themes. Again, those study groups were held on a virtual basis using Zoom.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Life of the Circuit (Continued)

A new initiative that commenced in November 2020 was the introduction of a magazine called “The Teesside Worm” which includes news and articles from the Darlington Circuit and the Barnard Castle and Teesdale Circuit which is helping folk across the two circuits to “get to know each other” before the formal merger on 1 September 2021.

Every weekday morning, Revd Brian Hutton has shared a verbal message of encouragement via WhatsApp to those who register to receive it. These messages have been uplifting and very well received.

Due to Covid, Messy Church has not met this year. Similarly, the majority of activities in churches along with interdenominational work involving schools, uniformed and youth activities have not been active. The Circuit provides governors and chaplaincy for the Methodist Primary School at Melsonby. The Circuit continues to support the work of Darlington Area Churches’ Youth Ministry, including by a grant of £3,500. As has been explained Covid 19 restrictions have impacted on all of the above and we are looking forward to September when they will resume.

Governance

The Circuit is primarily governed by the rules and guidance of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (“CPD”) which is updated and approved annually by the Conference of the Methodist Church.

This document is available on the Methodist Church website: www.methodist.org.uk

New trustees are appointed primarily by the Circuit churches, in accordance with CPD. The number of trustees appointed by each church is commensurate with the size of the membership of the church. Guidance documents for new trustees are provided online at the Methodist Church website.

Appointments to lay posts within the Circuit are by proposal, seconder and vote within the Circuit Meeting, again in accordance with CPD.

Where a post is considered essential for the purpose of the Circuit, but no lay person is available, the Circuit has authority to employ a member of staff to carry out that post. The Circuit follows Methodist Church policy of providing at least the Living Wage. Actual salaries are determined in conjunction with the Methodist District, taking into account the tasks of the role.

All decisions of the Circuit, including employment of lay workers, are made at a Circuit Meeting, where all Trustees may vote. Circuit Meetings occur at least four times each year, more may be called if required. In the current connexional year, as a consequence of Covid-19, two meetings were held on a virtual basis, relying on email for all exchanges. All activities of the Circuit Meeting are also governed by CPD.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Financial Review

The annual accounts for the year 2020-21 are attached to this report.

At the close of the period, the Circuit held net current assets of £678,000 (2020: £390,000). All of these funds are unrestricted. However, of this amount, the figure of £168,000 is regarded as required to satisfy our Reserves Policy (see note below). Also, a total of £60,000 has been set aside for the development of mission now being pursued through The Well Methodist Church. It is also expected to purchase a new manse to replace the two that were sold during the year.

All of the funds held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB") are available for the purposes of the Circuit, however if any were to be requested for specific developments, for example, major property expenditure, these would be subject to a project review by the Methodist Church.

All of the Fixed Asset values are held in manses and may only be realised on sale. In 2020-21 a total of £176,694 levy was paid in respect of the sales of the Barnes Road and Mowbray Drive manses. Full financial details are given in notes BS1 and BS2.

The principal source of funds is through assessments levied on Circuit churches. This supports the costs of Presbyters and lay workers, who lead worship, provide pastoral and safeguarding services, and seek to extend God's Kingdom through mission. These funds also support an assessment paid to the Darlington Methodist District.

The Circuit has run a deficit of Income less Expenditure during the year, with budget approved by the Trustees, to pursue the purposes of the Circuit. The Circuit believes that any surplus funds, subject to its Risk and Reserves Policies, should be put to good use.

Whilst this cannot continue indefinitely, the Circuit continues to plan and budget its activities within the reasonable constraints of its balance sheet and Policies. This is reviewed annually as the budget is formed and agreed by the Trustees.

No professional advice was sought on any financial matters during the year.

On 1 September 2021 the Circuit amalgamated with Barnard Castle and Teesdale Circuit. Whilst no funds or transactions of that Circuit are included in these accounts, the £168,000 reserve noted does take into account the increased size of the combined Circuit.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Risk

The Circuit Meeting, acting as Trustees, have considered the key areas of risk to which the Circuit is subject and as part of our comprehensive insurance policy with Methodist Insurance, insurance is in place and is considered adequate to cover the range of known risks, including the manse portfolio, employers' liability, public liability and trustee indemnity.

Aside from the financial risks above, the key risk to the Circuit meeting its purpose lies in the provision of Presbyters and governance by the Methodist Church. Absence of such would severely hamper the work of the Circuit.

Reserves Policy

The Circuit Reserves Policy, agreed by the Trustees, seeks to ensure a minimum reserve equal to six months' operating costs. At August 2021 this is equivalent to £168,000.

The Circuit has adequate reserve funds to cover the planned deficit and this Reserves Policy has been approved by the trustees.

Investment Policy

The Circuit Investment Policy requires that funds held in excess of day-to-day needs are invested in the funds of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church via the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

This requirement has been met throughout the year.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES



Revd Graham Cutler
Trustee

Date 18 - MAY - 2022

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	General Fund (Unrest- ricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrest- ricted) £	Revaluation Reserve (Unrest- ricted) £	Total 2020-21 £	Total 2019-20 £
Income						
1	Donations and legacies	S1	355	-	355	1,224
2	Income from monetary investments	S2	140	986	1,126	3,235
3	Income from properties	S3	3,200	-	3,200	10,285
4	Assessments on Churches	S4	170,700	-	170,700	187,005
5	Capital receipts	S5	-	-	-	36,286
6	Grants received		-	-	-	-
7	Other charitable income	S6	150	-	150	166
8	Total income		174,545	986	175,531	238,201
Expenditure						
9	Grants and donations	S7	3,480	-	3,480	3,535
10	Salaries and associated costs	S8	143,673	-	143,673	136,490
11	Property expenses	S9	11,330	-	11,330	21,013
12	Connexional model trust levy	S10	-	5,390	5,390	11,887
13	District assessment and levy	S11	47,640	-	47,640	48,612
14	Costs of activities	S12	7,856	-	7,856	13,747
15	Costs of administration	S13	13,141	363	13,504	9,733
	Connexional Priority Levy					
	- property sales	S5/BS1	-	176,694	176,694	7,257
16	Other outgoings	S14	19,166	-	19,166	912
17	Total charitable expenditure		246,286	182,447	428,733	253,186
18	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-	-	-	-
19	Gains/(losses) on investment properties		-	-	-	-
20	Net income/(expenditure)		(71,741)	(181,461)	(253,202)	(14,985)
21	Transfers between funds		(199,192)	475,528	(276,336)	-
22	Other gains/(losses)	BS1	1,736	-	1,736	-
23	Net movement in funds		(269,197)	294,067	(251,466)	(14,985)
24	Total funds brought forward		526,140	261,567	1,204,770	1,219,755
25	Total funds carried forward		256,943	555,634	953,304	1,204,770

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Notes	General Fund (Unrest- ricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrest- ricted) £	Revaluation Reserve (Unrest- ricted) £	Total 2019-20 £
Income					
1 Donations and legacies	S1	1,224	-	-	1,224
2 Income from monetary investments	S2	706	2,529	-	3,235
3 Income from properties	S3	10,285	-	-	10,285
4 Assessments on Churches	S4	187,005	-	-	187,005
5 Capital receipts	S5	-	36,286	-	36,286
6 Grants received		-	-	-	-
7 Other charitable income	S6	166	-	-	166
8 Total income		199,386	38,815	-	238,201
Expenditure					
9 Grants and donations	S7	3,535	-	-	3,535
10 Salaries and associated costs	S8	136,490	-	-	136,490
11 Property expenses	S9	21,013	-	-	21,013
12 Connexional model trust levy	S10	-	11,887	-	11,887
13 District assessment and levy	S11	48,612	-	-	48,612
14 Costs of activities	S12	13,747	-	-	13,747
15 Costs of administration	S13	9,733	-	-	9,733
Connexial priority levy	S5	-	7,257	-	7,257
16 Other outgoings		314	598	-	912
17 Total charitable expenditure		233,444	19,742	-	253,186
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-	-	-	-
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		-	-	-	-
20 Net income/(expenditure)		(34,058)	19,073	-	(14,985)
21 Transfers between funds		56,426	(56,426)	-	-
22 Other gains/(losses)		-	-	-	-
23 Net movement in funds		22,368	(37,353)	-	(14,985)
24 Total funds brought forward		503,772	298,920	417,063	1,219,755
25 Total funds carried forward		526,140	261,567	417,063	1,204,770

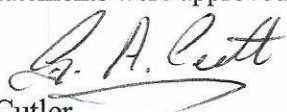
DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Total 2020-21 £	Total 2019-20 £
Fixed Assets					
Circuit manses and equipment	BS1/2	275,000	-	275,000	815,000
Investment properties		-	-	-	-
Investments		-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		275,000	-	275,000	815,000
Current Assets					
Debtors	BS3	11,355	-	11,355	11,584
Loans by the Circuit	BS3	-	-	-	80,000
Investments with TMCP	BS4	-	555,634	555,634	181,567
Central Finance Board deposits	BS4	110,594	-	110,594	136,872
Cash at bank and in hand	BS4	51,567	-	51,567	33,127
Total current assets		173,516	555,634	729,150	443,150
Current liabilities					
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS5	50,846	-	50,846	53,380
Grants payable within 2021-22		-	-	-	-
Total current liabilities		50,846	-	50,846	53,380
Net current assets		122,670	555,634	678,304	389,770
Total assets less current liabilities		397,670	555,634	953,304	1,204,770
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)		-	-	-	-
Grants payable after 2021-22		-	-	-	-
Loans to the circuit		-	-	-	-
Net assets		397,670	555,634	953,304	1,204,770
Funds of the Circuit					
General Fund (Unrestricted)		256,943	-	256,943	526,140
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		-	555,634	555,634	261,567
Revaluation Reserve		140,727	-	140,727	417,063
Total unrestricted funds		397,670	555,634	953,304	1,204,770
Restricted Funds		-	-	-	-
Endowment Funds		-	-	-	-
Total Funds		397,670	555,634	953,304	1,204,770

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on
signed by:



Rev Graham Cutler
Trustee

and were

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

	Notes	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Total 2019-20 £
Fixed Assets				
Circuit manses and equipment	BS1	815,000	-	815,000
Investment properties		-	-	-
Investments		-	-	-
Total fixed assets		815,000	-	815,000
Current Assets				
Debtors	BS3	11,584	-	11,584
Loans by the Circuit		-	80,000	80,000
Investments with TMCP	BS4	-	181,567	181,567
Central Finance Board deposits	BS4	136,872	-	136,872
Cash at bank and in hand	BS4	33,127	-	33,127
Total current assets		181,583	261,567	443,150
Current liabilities				
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS5	53,380	-	53,380
Grants payable within 2020-21		-	-	-
Total current liabilities		53,380	-	53,380
Net current assets		128,203	261,567	389,770
Total assets less current liabilities		943,203	261,567	1,204,770
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)		-	-	-
Grants payable after 2020-21		-	-	-
Loans to the circuit		-	-	-
Net assets		943,203	261,567	1,204,770
Funds of the Circuit				
General Fund (Unrestricted)		526,140	-	526,140
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		-	261,567	261,567
Revaluation Reserve		417,063	-	417,063
Total unrestricted funds		943,203	261,567	1,204,770
Restricted Funds		-	-	-
Endowment Funds		-	-	-
Total Funds		943,203	261,567	1,204,770

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note A1 - Accounting Framework and accounting policies

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (issued 16 July 2014) with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

ii. Public benefit entity

Darlington Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost, except that freehold properties are shown at valuation, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

iv Content

The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the Trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

vi Consolidation

The financial statements of the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated in these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the Circuit. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

viii Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and individually cost at least £1,000. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at valuation. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the Trustees consider the current residual fair value of the Manse buildings (on the assumption that they had reached the end of their useful economic life by the year end) to be not less than the carrying value. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note A1 - Accounting Framework and accounting policies (Continued)

ix VAT

As the Circuit is not VAT registered all input VAT is charged with the expenditure to which it relates.

Note A2 - Payments to Trustees

No payments are made to Trustees as remuneration for their work in that capacity.

The Presbyters of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit.

Remuneration was also paid to non-Presbyteral Trustees as follows for employment other than their position as Trustee at the same time as being a Trustee:-

	2021	2020
	£	£
Mrs M Sanderson	25,934	25,388
Mrs L C Russell	7,945	7,522
Mrs L Cookson	17,787	16,828
D Fairer	9,247	4,030
Mrs S Case	1,464	605
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	62,376	54,373
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Trustees are however, reimbursed for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The total amounts and number of Trustees were:-

	2021	2020
	£	£
Total paid	5,777	6,239
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Number of Trustees paid	7	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>

During the year, collections were taken in respect of a leaving gift for the following Trustees:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Revd Solomon Joseph	-	573
Revd Bill Mullally	-	708
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	1,081
	<hr/>	<hr/>

There were no other related party transactions to disclose.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note A3 - Independent examiner

An accrual had been made for the fee of the independent examiner of £2,550 including VAT. No additional charges were made for other services.

Note S1 - Donations and legacies

This comprises all free-will giving received by the Circuit as a contribution to its work.

Note S2 - Income from monetary investments

This is interest received on accounts held at the Methodist Central Finance Board ("CFB") and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP").

Note S3 - Income from properties

This includes rentals received in respect of 26 Barnes Road, Darlington, up to the point at which it was sold

Note S4 - Assessments on churches

Assessments levied upon the Circuit churches. Details are as follows:-

Church:	2020-21 £	2019-20 £
Barton	6,748	6,360
Bondgate	-	15,309
Cockerton	46,504	46,588
Elm Ridge	57,236	59,848
Harrowgate Hill	20,260	19,040
Haughton	14,808	14,588
Hurworth	11,620	11,820
Pierremont	-	4,484
The Well	13,524	8,968
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	170,700	187,005
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Note S5 - Capital receipts

The Circuit sold two manses in the year: 26 Barnes Road and 9 Mowbray Drive. The accounting for this is shown in other gains/losses and note BS1. The amount for 2019-20 includes the net sum received on the sale of North Cowton Church for £36,286 after expenses and the repayment of a grant to TMCP. The connexial priority levy on the sale of properties is included in expenditure.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note S6 - Other charitable income

This includes income received specifically as part of the activities of the Circuit and miscellaneous receipts.

Note S7 - Grants and donations

A donation of £3,480 was given to Darlington Area Churches Youth Ministry ("DACYM"), as approved by the Circuit Meeting (2019-20 £3,480).

Note S8 - Salaries and associated costs

Payroll is administered on the Circuit's behalf by a central Methodist department.

During the year, the Circuit was served by two full-time presbyters. The Circuit is also served by a number of Lay Workers covering Pastoral and Youth Missionary work, plus administrative support. The total costs consists of the following stated net of recoveries under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme:-

	2020-21	2019-20
	£	£
Presbyters and presbyteral support	72,878	68,325
Lay Workers	69,477	67,433
Apprenticeship levy	967	732
Life assurance	351	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total paid through Methodist Central Payroll	143,673	136,490
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Payroll costs are made up of:		
Stipends and salaries	123,771	111,398
Employers National Insurance Contributions	8,817	8,016
Employers pension contributions	16,355	16,344
Apprenticeship levy	967	732
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	(6,588)	-
Life assurance	351	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	143,673	136,490
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Note S9 - Property expenses

At the start of the year, the Circuit owned three properties. 26 Barnes Road was let for a short time before being sold in the year. 9 Mowbray Drive was also sold during the year. 20 Peterhouse Close was used as a manse for one of the Presbyters. The Circuit remained responsible for the redundant Pierremont Church.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note S9 - Property expenses (continued)

Details of the costs are given below:-

	2020-21	2019-20
	£	£
Council Tax - manses	3,305	4,168
Water Rates - manses	719	1,235
Insurance - manses	1,107	1,452
Utilities - empty manses	100	46
Manse maintenance and repairs	3,318	7,505
All costs - Northland	(54)	4,162
All costs - North Cowton	-	(1,058)
All costs - Pierremont	2,835	3,503
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11,330	21,013
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Note S10 - Connexional Model Trust Levy

This is applied annually to balances held in TMCP funds.

Note S11 - District Assessment Levy

This is paid annually to support the work of the Darlington Methodist District.

Note S12 - Costs of activities

This represents the costs of the primary purpose of the Circuit, excluding stipend and salary costs.

	2020-21	2019-20
	£	£
Presbyters	3,123	5,304
Pioneer Missioner	-	33
Pastoral Missioners	952	1,428
Youth Work	2,145	5,064
Preaching and worship	1,636	1,918
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7,856	13,747
	<hr/>	<hr/>

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note S13 - Costs of administration

This represents the costs of administering the circuit, excluding salary costs:-

	2020-21	2019-20
	£	£
Telephone and internet	530	575
Travel	77	33
Postage and stationery	1,199	1,188
Circuit communications, website and email administration	1,454	904
Independent examiner's fee	2,562	2,328
Other costs	849	636
Property and finance administration	4,182	4,069
Circuit equipment	2,651	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13,504	9,733
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The figure of £2,651 in Circuit equipment relates to the purchase of a safe.

Note S14 - Other outgoings

This primarily relates to the running costs of the Bondgate building since the society ceased to worship in August 2020.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note BS1 - Fixed Assets

At the start of the year, the Circuit owned three properties. 26 Barnes Road was let for a short time before being sold in the year. 9 Mowbray Drive was also sold in the year. 20 Peterhouse Close was used as a manse for one of the presbyters.

A full revaluation of the properties was conducted in 2016-17 enabling the individual values of the manses to be accounted for separately. The Trustees did not consider it necessary to conduct a revaluation in 2020-21, the figures being reflected in the revaluation figures below:-

Valuation -Manses	2020-21	2019-20
	£	£
Balance brought forward	815,000	815,000
Additions	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-
Disposals (-)	(540,000)	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance carried forward	275,000	815,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Accumulated depreciation		
Balance brought forward	-	-
Additions	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance carried forward	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
Carried forward	275,000	815,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Brought forward	815,000	815,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note BS1 - Fixed Assets (Continued)

The valuation of manses carried forward is made up of:-

	2020-21	2019-20
	£	£
26 Barnes Road	-	245,000
20 Peterhouse Close	275,000	275,000
9 Mowbray Drive	-	295,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	275,000	815,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Reconciliation of Disposals:

	Barnes Road	Mowbray Drive	Total
	£	£	£
Cost	119,625	144,039	263,664
Revaluation	125,375	150,961	276,336
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Valuation at 1 September 2020	245,000	295,000	540,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Sale proceeds	255,000	300,000	555,000
Costs of sale	6,346	6,918	13,264
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
CPF levy	248,654	293,082	541,736
	79,461	97,233	176,694
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net proceeds	169,193	195,849	365,042
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Gain before CPF levy	3,654	(1,918)	1,736
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Note BS2 - Contingent Liability

Although the financial effect of revaluation is shown in full above, a proportion of any receipt on sale of manses would be expected to become payable to the Methodist Church in the event that the manse is sold and not directly replaced.

The Methodist Connexional Priority Fund levy is currently charged at 20% of the first £100,000 and 40% of any excess over £100,000.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note BS2 - Contingent Liability (Continued)

In 2020-2021, these charges amount to:

	£
Barnes Road	79,461
Mowbray Drive	97,233
	<hr/>
	176,694
	<hr/>

In the event that the Circuit decides to purchase another manse to replace these in the next five years, the Connexion will return a proportionate amount of the levy. A similar liability would apply on a sale of the remaining manse property.

Note BS3 - Debtors and prepayments

	2020-21 £	2019-20 £
Pre-paid stipends for current year	9,024	3,134
Pre-paid apprenticeships levy	33	-
Pre-paid expenses of Pierremont sale	1,847	-
Payroll control	376	8,275
Admin fee charges to churches	-	165
Other	75	10
Loan to Barnard Castle and Teesdale Trust	-	80,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11,355	91,584
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The advance of £80,000 to Barnard Castle and Teesdale Circuit was to support their purchase of a new manse before the sale of their existing manse. This was repaid in November 2020.

Note BS4 - Details of cash funds

The CAF General Account is used for day to day expenses. The CFB accounts are the main current accounts held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and the TMCP accounts hold interest bearing deposit values.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT
Charitable Trust Registered No: 1132005

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note BS4 - Details of cash funds (continued)

Values held in each account are shown below:-

Unrestricted Fund Name	Opening Balance £	Income £	Expend- iture £	Transfers £	Closing Balance £
CAF General Account	33,127	110,829	62,389	(30,000)	51,567
CFB General Account	136,872	162,132	284,618	96,208	110,594
TMCP Model Trust Fund	157,804	622,642	182,400	(66,179)	531,867
TMCP Various Bequests	23,763	80	47	(29)	23,767
Total Cash Funds of the Circuit	351,566	895,683	529,454	-	717,795

Note BS5 - Liabilities under 1 year

Represents church assessments for 2021-22 received in the period, plus work done and staff expenses relating to the current year but unpaid at 31 August 2021:-

	2021 £	2020 £
Church assessments	46,491	42,663
Accrued expenditure	4,355	10,717
	50,846	53,380

Prepaid church assessments include £5,379 from Pathway (Middleton-in-Teesdale) and Staindrop churches as a result of the amalgamation of Darlington and Barnard Castle and Teesdale Methodist Circuits for 2021-22.

DARLINGTON METHODIST CIRCUIT

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

16/05/2022

Name of Treasurer

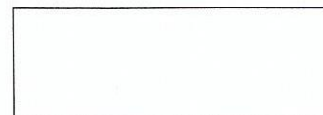
Simon Charters

Address


Meirion House, Tanygrisiau, Blaenau Ffestiniog LL41 3SU

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval

I confirm that the annual reports and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were, or will be* presented to the Circuit Meeting at its meeting on and were approved



Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

REV. GRAHAM A. CUTLER

Date:

31 - MAY - 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Darlington Circuit

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Darlington Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021, which are set out on pages 10 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- (2) the accounts did not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Name: Stephen Watson Gardner

Relevant professional qualification or
Member of professional body:

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales

Address: King Hope
31 Victoria Road
Darlington
DL1 5SB

Date: 23 MAY 2022