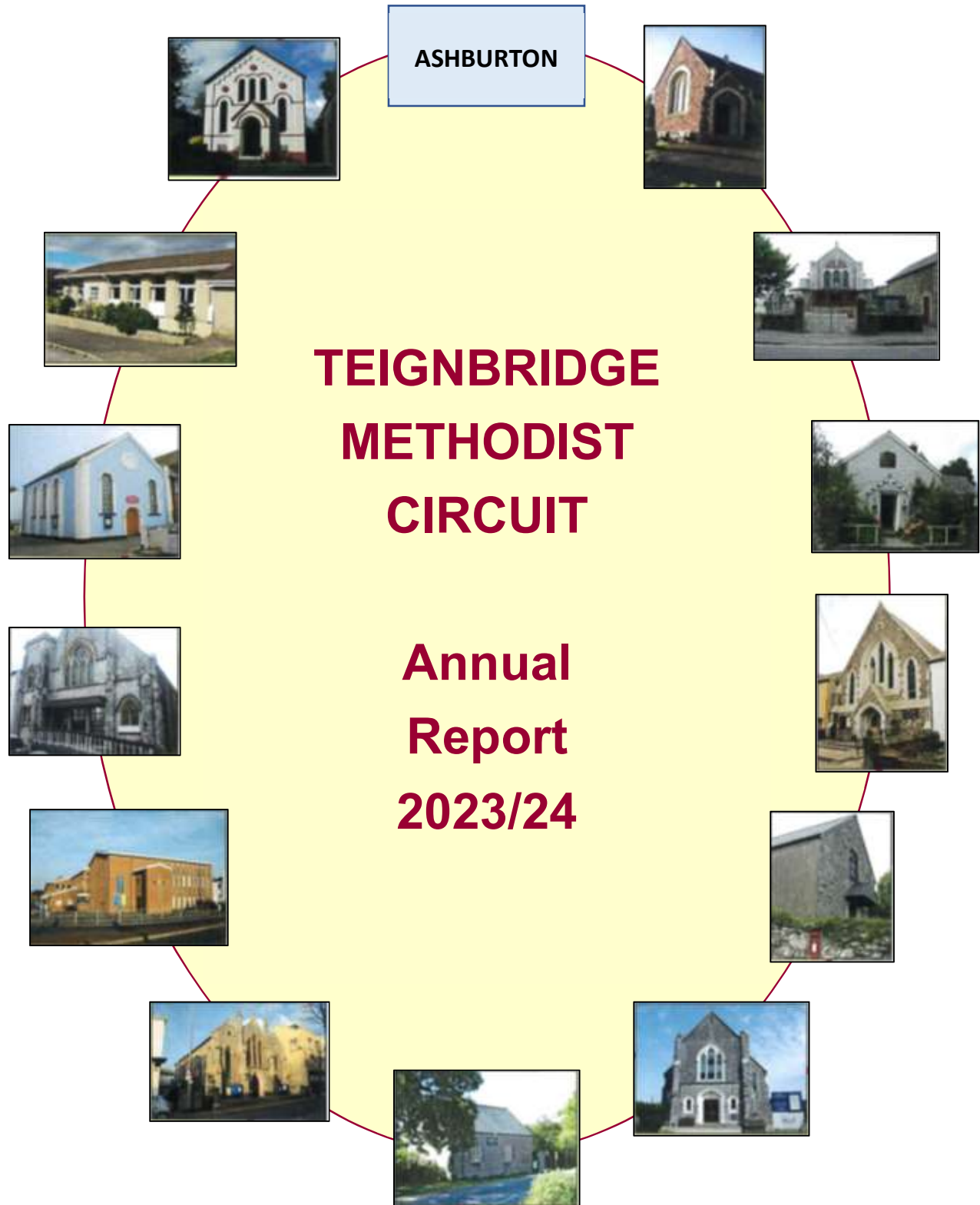




Plymouth & Exeter District
of the Methodist Church



Teignbridge Methodist Circuit – 2023/24



The Teignbridge Methodist Circuit comprises twelve Church Councils, of which Ashburton covers more than one location. The Churches are arranged in four sections as follows:

- **Moorland:** Ashburton, Bovey Tracey, Buckfast and South Brent Methodist Churches
- **Newton Abbot:** The Avenue Church (Methodist with United Reformed) and Shaldon Road Methodist Church.
- **Coastal:** Bishopsteignton, Dawlish, Shaldon and Teignmouth Methodist Churches.
- **Totnes:** Ipplepen and Totnes Methodist Churches

Circuit Leadership Team:

Paid ministers (ordained and lay), with pastoral responsibility/charge during 2023-24

- Rev. Kevin Hooke
- Rev. Gill Daniel
- Ms Sharon Hurlow
- Ms. Sara Crouch, Local Lay Pastor (in Training)

Circuit Stewards

- Mr. John Harrison
- Mr. Andrew Parsons
- Ms Carol Hughes
- Rev Paul Weir

Circuit Pastoral Worker: Mrs Sharon Canning

Circuit Administrator: Ms Kay Fice

Supernumerary Ministers: In total there are six supernumerary (retired) ministers in the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit, four of whom regularly preach in the circuit's churches.

Trustees —2023/24

'Trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows'

Maria	Alsop
Denys	Bament
Marianne	Barrett Rogers
Michael	Barrett Rogers
Helen Appointed 1/9/2024	Bell
Sheila Margaret	Bendall
Malcolm John	Benton
Anne	Berridge
Jane Appointed 1/3/2025	Billing
Jennifer	Bonner
Christian	Canning
Sharon	Canning
Vincent	Canning
Sara Appointed 1/9/2024	Crouch
Gill	Daniel
Rosemarie	Dungey
Jill	Elliott
Kay	Fice
Jean	Francis
Ann Appointed 1/4/2024	Golpin
Gillian	Hardy
Stephen John	Harris
John	Harrison
Jane	Holmes

Kevin Peter	Hooke
Sharon Ann	Hurlow
Alan	Johnston
Duncan	Knight
Stephen Paul	Major
Agnes	McFeat
Alexander Wright	McFeat
Carol Ann	Morgan
Andrew Russell	Parsons
Arthur Appointed 1/9/2024	Pengelly
Nicola	Quaintance
Rosemary	Quin
Jean	Sabine
Andrew David	Sinden
Edward	Stephenson
Tricia	Stephenson
Patsy	Tidball
Margaret	Vosper
Serena	Walcot
John	Walton
Paul	Weir
Anne-Marie	Whiting

Objectives and Activities

We understand that we are not engaging in our mission, but rather participating in God's mission to all people, in partnership with others and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

We also understand that mission is all that we are sent to do by Christ. It includes not only evangelism but also service to our communities, pursuit of social justice and concern for the environment. We are to be signs of and sharers in the Kingdom of God and its values.

We understand that we live with the tensions of being both an inherited church and a 'discipleship movement shaped for mission' and that we need to work creatively with the opportunities and challenges this brings.

As a Circuit we believe that it is therefore our responsibility:

- To manage our resources strategically and prayerfully, to maximise their effectiveness;
- To support the churches in fulfilling their own mission strategies and objectives.

To do so we will:

- Conduct periodic Circuit Reviews to determine the greatest opportunities for growth and outreach
- Maintain appropriate levels of ordained and lay staffing, seeking grant funding as necessary, and deploying them in line with the identified opportunities for growth
- Maintain a balanced Circuit Budget
- Develop appropriate strategic ecumenical partnerships at Circuit level
- Foster Circuit identity and cohesion through Circuit Services and the sharing of information
- Work in partnership with neighbouring Circuits to use resources and expertise efficiently and effectively
- Encourage and support differing expressions of worship alongside traditional forms
- Group churches in ways which encourage the most effective partnerships between them for mission
- Encourage churches to work closely with their own ecumenical partners
- Provide Circuit opportunities for growth in discipleship and missional understanding
- Develop and maintain relationships with other services and organisations serving the wellbeing of our communities

Achievements and Performance —2023/24

During the year 2023-24 Teignbridge Methodist Circuit continued to provide ministerial leadership to its churches. It gave a significant grant as a partner in the ROC project at Dawlish and one smaller donation to support Ivybridge YFC.

During the course of the year Buckfastleigh Chapel was sold, and in line with Circuit policy, the monies from it were allocated to the continuing mission of its Church Council and will be used to provide financial support the Church and mission at Buckfast Chapel.

The Circuit Leadership Team looked at the accounts of the individual churches over the winter of 2023-24, which confirmed that although the Circuit was maintaining a balanced budget, this was putting an increasing pressure on local Church finances. The Circuit meeting decided to request that each church also review its own mission statement for submission during the course of the year, so that the Circuit's own strategy for mission, and the use of its resources, could be made more effective. In addition, the Circuit entered the stationing process for a part-time minister for the Coastal Section from September 2024, recognising that in the long term this would help alleviate the financial pressures, and was successfully matched with Rev. Helen Bell.

During the year, the Circuit maintained the weekly Sunday Zoom service, which has become embedded as part of the Circuit's life and witness, enabling a number of people to attend worship at times when they cannot get to a church building. It also maintained its Circuit plan, allocating Local Arrangement services as equitably as possible across the churches (recognising that some already take responsibility for parts of their worshipping life), and encouraging the skills of local church members in organising and taking part in Local Arrangements. The Circuit is also encouraged by the positive and developing ecumenical connections in many places, but particularly at Ashburton, (where the Methodist and Anglican Churches continue to support both a family mission development worker and an admin/IT post) and at Bishopsteignton and Ipplepen (where there is shared worship with the Anglicans at least monthly) .

The Circuit has also managed its properties, both those used for Manses and one that is rented out. It continues to use the revenue from the latter to support its ongoing activities. The Circuit continued to take seriously its responsibilities in safeguarding and GDPR matters and to support its Churches to do the same. The Circuit continues to review its Safeguarding policy annually in line with the changing requirements and guidance of the Methodist Church, engages in an annual Safeguarding audit, and supports its local Churches in several ways:

- providing templates for their own policies,
- overseeing DBS and training records,
- offering templates for role descriptions,
- the availability of the Circuit Safeguarding Officer for advice.

In line with Methodist requirements, all those leading worship on the Circuit plan (worship leaders and preachers) have undertaken advanced safeguarding training (either through the

Methodist Church or at an equivalent level in the case of some of our regular visitors from our partner denominations).

Public Benefit

Throughout the year 2023/24 the Trustees of the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have acted accordingly. They are committed to continue to do so in the future.

Plans for the Future

The Circuit will seek to support those churches as they develop projects for which capital reserve money has been earmarked —such as the building works at Buckfast Chapel. A new Presbyter will join the Circuit next year focusing on the life of the Church in our Coastal Section. It will continue with its missional planning for the future and will review with the Churches the assessment levels in the light of changing memberships and circumstances. It will continue to encourage Churches to engage with their local communities and keep an overview of the needs of the area.

Designated Funds

The proceeds of the Sale of Scoriton Church building and Buckfastleigh Church building have been passed to the Circuit. As the Methodist Church at Buckfastleigh did not close these funds are included in the Circuit accounts as being designated funds for the use of Buckfastleigh church. Buckfastleigh Methodist Church is now referred to as Buckfast Methodist Church. A designated column has been added into the SOFA and Balance Sheet.

Reserves Policy

Our Reserves Policy is to maintain a General Fund value sufficient:

- To hold a reserve for the maintenance of our team of presbyteral ministers of £90,800 to pay for the stipends of two such presbyters, including on-costs.
- To hold a reserve for our property maintenance of £ 50,000 for the four manses and a fifth residential property owned by the Circuit.
- We hold a reserve of 50% to cover other running costs, which in the year to 31st August 2024 amounted to £ 57,900

The reserves at year end were set at £ 198,700



Kevin P. Hooke, Superintendent Minister
15th June 2025

Teignbridge Methodist Circuit

Circuit No 24/28

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Designated	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Donations and legacies	4	140				140	1,664
Income from monetary investments		10,370	6,179	9,180	811	26,540	15,945
Income from investment properties	5	26,598				26,598	10,170
Assessments on Churches		212,415				212,415	230,659
Refund on purchase of 4 Jacks Close		0				0	290
Loan Repayment				16,077		16,077	0
Grants received						0	0
Other charitable income	6	3,777				3,777	4,014
Sale of Scoriton Church						0	70,580
Sale of Buckfastleigh Methodist Church			162,982			162,982	0
Miscellaneous Income		23				23	0
Total income		253,323	169,161	25,257	811	448,551	333,322
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	7	44,009	16,077		9,400	69,486	42,740
Salaries and associated costs	8	162,111				162,111	175,297
Property expenses	9	42,319				42,319	23,891
Connexional funds & model trust levy to DAF		3,760	2,429	6,975		13,164	10,349
District Assessment & Levy		53,560				53,560	44,426
TMCP Levy			41,193			41,193	10,116
Office expenses	10	4,277	175	503		4,955	5,403
Other outgoings	11	14,379				14,379	6,857
Independent Examiner's Fee		600				600	600
Total charitable expenditure		325,015	59,874	7,479	9,400	401,767	319,679
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
Gains/(losses) on investment properties		21,750					25,000
Net income/(expenditure)		(49,942)	109,287	17,778	(8,589)	68,534	38,643
Transfers between funds	16	43,073	61,491	(104,564)		0	0
Other gains/(losses)							
Net movement in funds		(6,869)	170,778	(86,786)	(8,589)	68,534	38,643
Total funds brought forward		1,588,352	0	238,084	22,900	1,849,337	1,810,694
Total funds carried forward		1,581,483	170,778	151,298	14,311	1,917,871	1,849,337

Teignbridge Methodist Circuit

Circuit No 24/28

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

		Notes	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Designated)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2023/24 £	Totals 2022/23 £
Fixed Assets								
Circuit Manses & Equipment	12		1,008,296				1,008,296	1,008,296
Investment properties	13		346,750				346,750	325,000
Investments							0	
Total fixed assets			1,355,046		0	0	1,355,046	1,333,296
Current Assets								
Debtors			13,612				13,612	10,078
Loans by the Circuit							0	16,077
Investments with TMCP				156,886	165,190		322,076	238,084
Central Finance Board Deposits			219,575			14,311	233,887	267,926
Cash at Bank and in hand			29,951				29,951	17,898
Total current assets			263,139	156,886	165,190	14,311	599,526	550,063
Current liabilities								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)			36,701				36,701	34,021
Grants payable within 2024/5							0	0
Total current liabilities			36,701	0	0	0	36,701	34,021
Net current assets/liabilities			226,438	156,886	165,190	14,311	562,825	516,041
Total assets less current liabilities			1,581,484	156,886	165,190	14,311	1,917,871	1,849,337
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)								
Grants payable after 2024/5							0	
Loans to the Circuit							0	
							0	
Net assets			1,581,484	156,886	165,190	14,311	1,917,871	1,849,337
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)			1,581,484				1,581,484	1,422,214
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)					165,190		165,190	71,945
Designated Funds			0	156,886			156,886	332,278
Total Unrestricted Funds			1,581,484		165,190		1,746,675	1,826,437
Restricted Funds	14					14,311	14,311	22,900
Endowment Funds							0	0
Total Funds			1,581,484	156,886	165,190	14,311	1,917,871	1,849,337

Signed
Circuit Treasurer

J Harrison



John Harrison

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit. Charity number 1134246

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31st August 2024, as set out on pages 7 – 13.

Responsibilities and basis of the 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 Charity'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

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT).

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

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- The accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the 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 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 these accounts to be reached.

Clare Lillington FMAAT

Raddon Station Hill
Chudleigh
Newton Abbot
TQ13 0EE
Dated: 12th June 2025

Teignbridge Methodist Circuit

Circuit No 24/28

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2023

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2015 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102—the Charities SORP (FRS102) (2019).

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted; the Circuit Model Trust Fund, which has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as Unrestricted and Restricted Funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are no Endowment Funds.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at fair value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis, to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make payment.

VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

4 Donations & Legacies	2024	2023
Donations including gift aid	140	1,414
Gift for repairs to Church	0	0
Collection	0	0
Gift Aid Received	0	250
	140	1,664

5	Income from investment properties	2024	2023
	4 Jacks Close	15,348	0
	46 Kingsdown Crescent	9,950	9,600
	Ilseington Graveyard	1,300	570
		26,598	10,170

6 Other charitable income	2024	2023
Publications	17	64
Connexional Funds	3,760	3,950
	3,777	4,014

7 Grants & Donations	2024	2023
ROC Dawlish Project	12,000	12000
Buckfastleigh Methodist Church	30,869	30000
Plymouth & Exeter District benevolent fund	140	140
Ivybridge Youth For Christ	1,000	600
	44,009	42,740

8	Paid employees	2024	2023
	Staff costs incurred during the year were:		
	Gross salaries and benefits in kind - Ministers	75,024	113,745
	- Other people	77,895	49,951
	Travelling Expenses	9,192	11,601
		162,111	175,297

No employee was paid at a rate of more than £ 60,000 per annum

	2024	2023
Average number of full time equivalent employees	4.7	5

9 Property Expenses

	2024	2023
Water rates	1,763	1,785
Council Tax	9,287	8,838
Manse	25,773	7,887
Insurance	4,228	3,920
Building surveys	0	0
Church repairs	0	0
Let properties	1,269	1,460
	42,319	23,891

10 Office Expenses

	2024	2023
Telephone	3,031	2,936
Printing	584	584
Publications	182	895.5
Wages charges	480	480
TMCP Charges	679	507.24
	4,955	5,403

11 Other outgoings

	2024	2023
Supernumerary fees	2,114	2575
Non Employee travel expenses	1,249	1237
Training	907	695
Ilsington graveyard	720	450
Miscellaneous	1,304	1474
Stationing	7,438	0
Apprentice levy	648	637
	14,379	7,068

12 Tangible Fixed Assets Cost

Manse	31/08/2023	Add/Disp	31/08/2024
35 Valley Close	130,000		130,000
135 Churchfields Drive	325,000		325,000
12 Moorlands Close	75,000		75,000
4 Jacks Close	478,296		478,296
	1,008,296		1,008,296

13 Investment Property

	Fair Value 31/8/2022	Fair Value 31/8/2023	Revaluation	Fair Value 31/8/2024
Dawlish	300,000	325,000	0	346,750
	300,000	325,000	0	346,750

14 Restricted Funds

The only restricted Fund is the Corbyn Fund

	As at 31/08/2023	Interest Allocated	Funds Expended	As at 31/08/2024
Corbyn Fund	22,900	811	9,400	14,311

15 Payments to Trustees

All of the paid employees are also trustees. There are 3 Presbyters, 1 lay minister, 1 lay pastoral assistant (part time), and 1 administrator (part time) whose cost is shared with a Circuit Church. Some supernumerary Ministers are also trustees who receive fees for taking services. No trustee is paid for services rendered in the capacity of a trustee. Expenses payments are made to trustees to reimburse expenditure incurred on behalf of the circuit

	2024 £	2024 Number of Trustees	2023 £	2023 Number of Trustees
Supernumerary fees	1,014	4	1250	3
Travel	9,624	8	14,234	10
Other	4,503	4	772	5
	<u>15,141</u>		<u>16,256</u>	

16 Transfers

A column was added to the SOFA this year to show designated funds for Buckfast Methodist Church. At the end of 2022-23 designated funds were included in the balance sheet. The Funds designated for Buckfast at the beginning of the year were £ 61491. A transfer between the TMCP unrestricted and TMCP designated columns in the SOFA has been included.

17 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At 31st August 2023 there are no capital commitments (Nil)
No contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023 (Nil)

18 Fees for Examination of Accounts

	2024	2023
Examiners Fees	600	600