

Bonny Downs Baptist Church

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Bonny Downs Baptist Church

Charity Information	For the year ended 31 March 2021
Address for correspondence	Bonny Downs Baptist Church 18 Darwell Close East Ham London E6 6BT
Charity Registration No. :	1136987
Governing Document	Constitution adopted by the members on 31st January 2010 as amended on 2nd October 2011
Status	The church is a Registered Charity and a member of the Baptist Union
Ministers	David Mann Sally Mann
Trustees	David Mann Sally Mann Stacey Cordery Terrie Holmes (Deceased 17th July 2020) Angela Allgood Hannah Duthie (Resigned 23 July 2021) Philippa King (Appointed 6th January 2021)
Custodian Trustee	London Baptist Property Board Ltd
Bankers	London Baptist Property Board Ltd Barclays Bank Plc The Co-operative Bank Plc
Independent Examiner	Brian Dexter 172 Sandford Road East Ham London E6 3PX

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BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2021

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting their Report and Accounts for the year

Objects of the charity

Bonny Downs Mission was formed in 1908. In 1952 all deeds and conveyances were transferred to the London Baptist Property Board and the church became and remains Bonny Downs Baptist Church affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain. The policy and operating decisions of the church rest with the Trustees (Leadership Team) who are nominated and appointed by members of the church. The motivation of the church is to see 'Jesus changing lives and transforming our community.'

Our current minister is Sally Mann who is being supported by Community Chaplain Jonny Adams and Pastoral Leader Sarah Laing, Sarah is also our Church Office Manager & Treasurer. On 19th September 2021 Sarah was commissioned and we held a lovely celebration service within the Community Garden.

In 1998 Bonny Downs Baptist Church (BDBC) set up a separate charitable company called Bonny Downs Community Association (BDCA) to work in tandem with the church to fulfil more effectively its vision, both spiritual and practical. BDCA took on the lease from Newham Council of a shabby, neglected Community Centre close to the church. Church members worked hard to renovate the building now known as The Well Community Centre.

As a church we are proud of the work of this charity and the opportunities it affords for Christian witness and service. Many of our members remain involved on a day to day basis either as volunteers or in paid posts. In 2002, BDCA, again through the inspiration and vision of church members, took over responsibility for an overgrown nine-acre playing field locally. This is now a thriving Sports and Community centre with an excellent Pavilion facility. An area of the field has been nurtured into a Community Garden which provides opportunity for local people of many ethnic groups to come together to learn gardening skills, share recipes and grow produce for use in the community cafe at The Well as well as providing a space to organise and celebrate Interfaith events.

"The Bonny Downs Mission" was originally started at the beginning of the 20th century through Christian vision in response to the grim poverty that was evident in the area known as Bonny Downs. In this respect, the church, in conjunction with BDCA has come full circle and in June 2013 we saw the establishment within the church building of a Food Bank and community lunch which provides hot meals for up to 80 vulnerable local residents each week during the foodbank hours. Church members and those from the local community volunteer their time and donate food and money to help keep this valuable service running. During these sessions, Jonny leads reflective discussions in order to provide opportunities for people to hear about and discuss the Christian faith in a safe, non-judgemental environment.

In 2013, Bonny Downs Church members Angie, Matthew and Jonny played a key role in bringing together local Christian leaders across the borough to form the NEWway Project which was in response to the rising levels of homelessness in our area. By working together across denominational divides they launched an interchurch night shelter and advocacy service to support local rough sleepers throughout the coldest months of the year. Bonny Downs Church signed up to become one of the initial 7 host church venues during the pilot circuit and we have enjoyed serving as part of this project every winter since. Each year, our team of volunteers open the old church hall for one night per week and provide a safe welcoming place to sleep, a nutritious meal and friendly conversation for our 15 homeless guests.

The night shelter is also linked to NEWday, a project which meets for 5 days throughout the week in order to help the guests to move on. They offer a range of free daytime services (including free showers, laundry facilities, life skills workshops and employment support) to help their guests increase their resilience, health, independence and wellbeing.

We also spend time during the week at 'Family Hub', a support group for families met during lockdown who have NRPF. Each week families meet together within The Well - a safe place for them to get advice, participate in craft activities, prepare and cook lunch together and to generally 'share life'. As part of her Pastoral role Sarah spends her time here each week building relationships and offering to support & pray.

Bonny Downs is proud to be an officially inclusive Church and in February 2019 we became part of the 'Inclusive Church' which is a network of churches, groups and individuals uniting together around a shared vision:

"We believe in inclusive Church - church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."

Bonny Downs Church is also part of Red Letter Christians UK, finding ways to live out the words of Jesus. Staying true to the foundation of combining Jesus and justice, Red Letter Christians mobilises people into a movement of believers who live out Jesus' counter-cultural teachings. Our ministers, Dave and Sally are founding trustees of RLC UK and they have been spreading the word through local and national media.

In 2018 Sally published a book called 'Looking for Lydia' this includes Sally's and Dave's memoirs of over 20 years of church ministry in the East End of London and it recalls encounters with people who shaped how they began to understand the reach of the Gospel, the mission of the Church, and their own call as ministers. This book makes for an inspiring read and is available to buy on Amazon!

Urban Change Makers

We are also part of Change makers, an emerging leader's programme that seeks to empower a new generation of urban leaders. Members of our community were nominated as a group to join others around the country to shape their ideas for change in the areas of community building, community organising and community enterprise, we look forward to seeing what will develop within our community because of this.

During COVID

Due to the Pandemic we have had to look at finding different and creative ways of connecting and offering spiritual guidance, support and prayer to those within our Church and community and Lockdown saw the introduction of our Church Prayer Walk's with prayer stations placed around a 9 acre playing field and when permitted Creative Worship within the community garden.

We were delighted when 'Songs of Praise' visited to film both our walking Church and walking football, as part of this they interviewed some of those within our community who had started to attend and engage with us as a result of some of our midweek ministries, this was aired on 10th January 2021.

There were also a variety of online activities that were organised throughout lockdown on our Virtual worship Face Book page in order to help people connect and reflect:

- ☐ Online Worship prepared by a different church member each week with prayers, songs and a link to a sermon.
- ☐ Piano worship – online requests were taken by one of our church members to play peoples favourite worship songs
- ☐ Family Bedtime Stories at 7pm every weekday
- ☐ Sunday School with live tutorials for which we delivered craft packs to children in the local community so as children could do the activities at home
- ☐ Daily Bible Readings – Soul Food by Bear Grylls
- ☐ Morning Reflections - contemplative prayer on our virtual church Facebook page, using contemplative practices of dwelling in the word, examen prayers and centring prayer.

We also sent out weekly newsletters which included insights from those within our church and community who were helping to support our community through Covid-19 including, Doctors, Nurses, Carers, Cleaners, Community Workers, Shop Assistants, Delivery drivers, Teachers etc who all faced increased workloads in very difficult circumstances.

Throughout lockdown the Leadership team invested lots of time and energy in helping to support and work alongside Bonny Downs Community Association in order to distribute food parcels to those most in need within our community.

Bonny Downs Church

The original Bonny Downs Church building is currently used for Sunday worship by three churches: The Redeemed Church of God (African), the Bonny Downs Portuguese Fellowship and a Romanian Christian church. A discretionary rent is charged where appropriate. Bonny Downs Church Building is also hired out to a local charity called 'Skills Enterprise' for 4 days during the week,

Bonny Downs Church has a membership of 63 with an average congregation of 70 worshipping in The Well on a Sunday morning.

The church supports BDCA's three week Summer Holiday Scheme catering for up to 180 children per day for children aged 4 ½ to 14 and which provides an opportunity for our young people to take up work and training opportunities. This includes us leading start of the day talks in order to encourage and support our young leaders to be the best versions of themselves whilst at the same time providing opportunities for them to reflect, some of these young leaders have then gone on to help lead our Sunday School classes..

To nurture faith during the week, there are fellowship and support groups that meet regularly in order to discuss the word of God, provide opportunities for connection & friendship and to support mental health & wellbeing.

Bonny Downs also have a weekly choir that prior to Covid met fortnightly in the original Bonny Downs Church Building led by a singing tutor and talented pianist who also regularly plays the piano at Bonny Downs Church on a Sunday Morning. During Covid the Choir adapted to meet online and later within outdoor spaces. Our multicultural community choir was set up in order to bring people together to learn songs from around the world in a variety of languages in order to celebrate the unique diversity in the borough of Newham and encourage cross-cultural friendships.

Bonny Downs Church and BDCA work closely together in supporting the elderly within our community who attend the many social activities which take place within The Well Community centre, including a Coffee Morning, Lunch Club, Exercise and Dance classes, Bowls, Darts, an Art Group and an Advocacy service. Some of our members also volunteer as befrienders offering companionship and support to Elders within our community who would otherwise be socially isolated.

There is also a strong network of support beyond the social activities that occur within The Well and there are a number within Bonny Downs Church who are committed to pastoral visiting which includes anyone living locally with a need. Sarah feels passionate about helping to equip, encourage and grow others into pastoral roles and feels called to 'lead a cultural shift to equip us to be a community of pastors, caring for each other and our neighbourhood'.

We are always pleased to see people whom we visit in the community coming to join us for worship on a Sunday and it is always an added joy when they come to faith.

Bonny Downs Abbey

Bonny Downs Baptist Church is working with Bonny Downs Community Association and NEWway project to redevelop the old Bonny Downs Church Hall which although well used and much loved by local people is in an extremely poor state of repair. We want to redevelop it to create a useful and beautiful building 'Bonny Downs Abbey' that will benefit the community for years to come.

Our vision is for **Bonny Downs Abbey** to be an intentional community bringing together people from different backgrounds who are committed to sharing life with and supporting one another, united by a common goal of tackling poverty. A shared kitchen and lounge will facilitate communal living, where residents will regularly prepare and eat meals together. Everyone will help maintain the house and garden together, and work/volunteer in the neighbourhood. The resident community will be supported by people from the wider community who will join in weekly meals and regular times of reflection in the chapel. The residents will be a mix of community workers and people moving on from homelessness who have low support needs and would benefit greatly from a peaceful place to stay for 2-3 years so they can rebuild a new life. If this project proves to be viable, we will aim to complete it by mid/late 2024.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The church set aside 10% of its total receipts in a 'Giving Fund' in order to support other charitable organisations and to contribute to meeting other needs both locally and abroad.

We don't hold weekly money collections during the Sunday service, instead we encourage donors to make regular contributions through Stewardship.

In 2018, we started to focus each month on a different area of our Church life and ministry in order to highlight why the church needs regular giving & what we currently spend our money on with the hope that people will feel encouraged to consider their own giving to the Church, this way of giving has been temporarily paused throughout Covid but we hope to be able to return to this way of giving at some point in the future.

Income on our General Fund for the year amounted to £69,270 and £3,862 was transferred to the giving fund. Payments made from the Giving Fund in the year amounted to £5,359. There was a surplus for the year on the General Fund of £15,169 leaving a balance on General Fund at the end of the year of £70,631 to be carried forward. The trustees consider that this is a satisfactory position although recognise that the church needs to be looking for an increase in giving in the following year.

The Building Futures project, aiming to renew the old church building has received £32,919 during this year including Grants of £31,160 and bank interest of £145. Total spend from this fund was £25,286. Funds received for this project are held in separate bank and deposit accounts, the total balance on these accounts at the year end was amounted to £92,740.

The total income of the church for the year from all sources amounted to £113,594, a 54% increase on the previous year, driven by the restricted fund grant.

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £16,000 (which equates to about 3 months' of unrestricted expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £72,434 and the charity is complying with its reserves policy.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity Law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.


We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurances that:

- 1 The church is operating efficiently and effectively
- 2 Its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition
- 3 Financial information used within the church or for publication is reliable
- 4 The church complies with relevant laws and regulations

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on the 27th January 2022 by:

Stacey Cordery



Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report
To the Trustees of
Bonny Downs Baptist Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bonny Downs Baptist Church (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021 on pages 9 to 13 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements 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 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.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the financial statements. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements present a true and fair view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiners statement.

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:

- a) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- b) the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- c) the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 130 of the 2011 Act other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

BJ Dexter

Brian Dexter ACMA

January 2022

For and on behalf of:
A Thousand Hills Ltd
172 Sandford Road
LONDON
E6 3PX

BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2021.

		2021			2020		
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
Receipts							
Giving to the Church	2	48,545	1,614	50,159	39,245	3,227	42,473
Bank Interest		31	145	176	86	407	493
Hall Lettings		13,726		13,726	14,319		14,319
Other Receipts		6,999		6,999	5,262		5,262
Grants Received			42,535	42,535	-	11,375	11,375
Total Income		69,301	44,294	113,594	58,912	15,010	73,922
Payments							
Charitable Activities							
Church Costs		50,239	36,723	86,962	49,779	15,129	64,908
Grants paid		5,359	-	5,359	4,722	400	5,122
Total Payments		55,598	36,723	92,321	54,501	15,529	70,029
Net receipts/(Payments) before Transfers							
		13,703	7,571	21,274	4,412	- 519	3,892
Transfers between Funds							
		0	-	-	0	-	-
Net Movement In Funds							
		13,703	7,571	21,274	4,412	- 519	3,892
Balances 1st April 2020							
		56,923	89,119	146,042	52,511	89,638	142,149
Balances 31st March 2021							
		70,626	96,690	167,315	56,923	89,119	146,042

The notes on pages 11-13 form part of these accounts

BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

Statement of Assets and Liabilities 31st March 2021

1 Fixed Assets

The insurance re-instatement values of the assets owned by the church in 2021 were:

	£
Church building	487,495
Other equipment	38,778

2021	2020
£	£

2 Debtors

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid	-	-
Other debtors and prepayments	3,275	2,910
	<u>3,275</u>	<u>2,910</u>

3 Bank balances

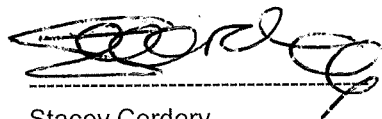
Bank operating accounts	63,044	49,239
Deposits	103,895	96,177
Petty cash	55	55
	<u>166,994</u>	<u>145,471</u>

4 Liabilities

Creditors	596	1,577
Accruals	300	250
	<u>896</u>	<u>1,827</u>

The notes on pages 11-13 form part of these accounts

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on the 27th of January 2022 by:



Stacey Cordery

BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Notes to the accounts

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
2 Giving to the Church						
Gift Aided Donations	23,733		23,733	20,433		20,433
Tax Recovered	4,358		4,358	3,912		3,912
Weekly offerings	420		420	1,225		1,225
Other regular Giving	17,017		17,017	11,946		11,946
Other gifts and donations	3,017	1,614	4,630	1,730	14,032	15,762
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
	48,545	1,614	50,159	39,245	14,032	53,848
3 Church Costs						
Staff Costs	31,246	11,375	42,621	28,587	12,006	40,594
Secondment costs	302		302	468		468
Ministers Expenses & Training	699		699	263		263
Teaching Aids	579		579	296		296
Youth and Childrens' Work	751	-	751	376	27	403
Loan payments	-		-	200		200
Professional Fees	636	25,286	25,922	1,018		1,018
Subscriptions	464		464	754		754
Church Activities	32	62	94	1,496	3,096	4,592
Other Expenses	113		113	37		37
Light, heat, water	5,321		5,321	4,414		4,414
Insurances	1,179		1,179	1,162		1,162
Bank Charges	-		-	43		43
Repairs and Maintenance	1,051		1,051	805		805
Equipment repairs and purchases	367		367	649		649
Hire of rooms	6,148		6,148	7,177		7,177
Computer costs	422		422	256		256
Post and Stationery	629		629	698		698
Governance costs	300		300	1,080		1,080
	50,239	36,723	86,962	49,779	15,129	64,908
4 Grants Paid						
Home Mission	-	-	-	-	400	400
Forgotten People project	1,180		1,180	1,293		1,293
Casa Haralul, Romania	800		800	880		880
Alternatives	-		-	100		100
Other < £500	3,379	-	3,379	2,449	-	2,449
	5,359	-	5,359	4,722	400	5,122

BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Notes to the accounts

6 Staff & Trustees

The charity has nil (2020: nil) full time equivalent employed staff and 5 part time employed staff (2020: 3) . Its activities are generally carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

Dave and Sally Mann received £20,186 (2020: £20,186) and £2,314 (2020: £2,314) respectively in their capacities as leaders of the church, and not as trustees.

7 Funds 2021

	Opening balance £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers in the year £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds:					
Building Futures Fund	85,107	32,919	-25,286		92,740
Art Festival (Inspiring People grant)	62		-62		0
Bursary Fund	275				275
Special Collection Fund	2,520				2,520
LBA Mission Partnership Funding	0	11,375	-11,375		0
BU Home Mission Fund	252				252
East Ham Voices Choir	632			0	632
Total restricted funds	88,849	44,294	-36,723	0	96,420
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	55,461	69,270	-50,239	-3,862	70,631
Giving fund	1,731		-5,359	3,862	234
Total unrestricted funds	57,193	69,270	-55,598	0	70,865
Total funds	146,042	113,564	-92,321	0	167,285

7 Funds 2020

	Opening balance £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers in the year £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds:					
Building Futures Fund	84,130	977			85,107
Art Festival (Inspiring People grant)	62				62
LGPS - Newham Council - Toddler group					
Christmas party	0	250	-250		0
Weapons	0	105	-105		0
Bursary Fund	275				275
Special Collection Fund	3,214	899	-1,593		2,520
LBA Mission Partnership Funding	632	11,375	-12,006		0
BU Home Mission Fund	652		-400		252
East Ham Voices Choir	404	1,403	-1,175	0	632
Total restricted funds	89,639	15,010	-15,529	0	89,119
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	50,252	58,912	-49,779	-3,924	55,461
Giving fund	2,529	0	-4,722	3,924	1,731
Total unrestricted funds	52,511	58,912	-54,501	0	56,923
Total funds	142,150	73,922	-70,030	0	146,042

BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Notes to the accounts

Details of Funds.

The Building Futures fund is set aside for the renewal of our ageing church building. The fund is also used to pay for support work and fundraising essential to this project.

The Art Festival fund was an Inspiring People grant from Newham Council to run an Arts Festival in the Church Hall as part of our Art & Soul project which was linked to the Building Futures project.

The Let's Get the Party Started (LGPS) grant was an Inspiring People grant from Newham Council to fund a Christmas party for the Cheeky Chimps Toddler Group which we are connected to.

The Children's Ministry fund was a special collection to help fund Sunday School anniversary prizes and Messy Mondays.

The Bursary fund was set up to help young people to fund long term training (over six months) in Christian ministry or mission.

The Special Collections fund is for special offerings dedicated to support chosen charities or organisations selected by the trustees and membership.

(BUHMF) Baptist Union Home Mission Fund was for specific building upgrade and repairs

East Ham Voices Choir was developed in order to bring people together and be a positive expression of a multicultural community.

The Great Get Together event, inspired by Jo Cox, received an Inspiring People grant in order to bring communities together and celebrate all that unites us.

The LBA Mission Partnership Funding was received to fund team salary costs in the year.