

Trustees Annual Report 2023

Charity name: Friends of the Anglican Church in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa

Registered charity number: 1139834

Address: 82, Lindon Drive, Alvaston, Derby, DE24 0LN

Trustees:

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
Christopher John Haywood	Chair	
Darrell Dale Hannah		
Christina Dorothy Foyle Bailey		
William Poole	Treasurer	
Sally Margaret Lynch	Minutes	

Structure and management:

The charity is constituted as a trust with a trust deed of 15th December 2010 as the governing document.

Trustees meet at least once per year to agree broad strategy, review finances and reserves policies, and decide on any grants to be made but kept informed through email correspondence throughout the year.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

Trustees are appointed for a five year term of office by resolution of the existing trustees. New trustees are sourced through the personal networks of the trustees and patron; they then meet one of the existing trustees to assess suitability and appropriate checks are carried out, after which they attend a board meeting at which they are appointed, if all trustees and the candidates agree this is appropriate.

Activities and Objectives:

Our key objectives are:

To advance the Christian religion in the Anglican Episcopal Area of the Horn of Africa (the "Area"), by providing support to the Anglican Church in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa,

In partnership with the Anglican Church in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa to relieve poverty, suffering and financial hardship, distress and ill health amongst people living in the Area, including refugees and displaced people.

A number of activities are conducted to achieve these objectives:

Grant applications are assessed in context with the above objectives and approved when it is considered that a significant proportion of the request is in line with one or more of the objectives.

Regular communication is made in order to understand situations, needs and processes with reviews, as required, of factors that influence grant requests.

Appropriate assessment is made of financial factors, such as exchange rates and potential partnerships with other similar charities that support activities in the region.

Achievements and Performance - Grant Support:

The new Diocese

A major change took place in 2023 to the structure of the Anglican Church in the Horn of Africa with the formation of two new Dioceses – the Diocese of Gambella and the Diocese of the Horn of Africa.

The Trustees were delighted to congratulate Archdeacon Jeremiah Maet and Reverend Canon Martin Reeks-Williams on their appointment as Diocesan Bishops to the Diocese of Gambella and the Diocese of the Horn of Africa respectively along with Bishop Anthony Ball as Diocesan Bishop of North Africa.

The General Synod, held in December, was an important milestone in the development of the new Dioceses and the FACE Trustees approved grants of £6,000 to each Diocese to enable church clergy representatives to attend the Synod.

The Synod covered a wide range of topics including the Church Handbook, Governance, safeguarding and Anglican identity along with models of ministry. Reports were received on: St Frumentius & BUILD, the Boys Brigade & Youth Ministry, Mothers' Union projects, the EDEN & Water project and Reconciliation work.

St. Matthew's Addis Ababa

At various times throughout 2023, grant requests were received from St. Matthew's church in Addis Ababa as follows:

Grants totalling £12,227 to St. Matthew's have been used for the general running of the church, £200 to support the Breakfast Club and £572 for the Community Library. As in previous years, this support has been important as Ethiopia recovers from the civil unrest and manages the effects of high inflation rates.

At the year-end St Matthew's reported the following:

St. Matthew's Anglican Church had an excellent year in 2023, under the leadership of Rev. Canon (subsequently Bishop) Martin Reakes-Williams as our rector. It was the first full year of his Rectorship, a year of dramatic improvement in the situation of the church. 2023 saw return of attendance at the church to pre-COVID levels, and continued regular ministry of word, sacrament and deed in the congregational context. Our children's ministry is thriving, with many young families attending. We continue to carry out ministries to the surrounding community, including a feeding program for poor children ("The St. Matthew's Breakfast Club") and operating a community library at which over one

hundred school children from the community study for their exams. With the lifting of COVID restrictions, normal operations in all our ministries have resumed. The end of 2023 also saw restoration of giving to sufficient levels to cover church operations, at least for now, including these mercy ministries.

We are extremely grateful to FACE for providing grants to St. Matthew's to cover the gap in church operations expenses during the 2020-2023 COVID-19 pandemic/pandemic response, Ethiopian Civil War, and interregnum period which enabled the church to be restored to a flourishing level as it is today. We hope to focus on deferred maintenance issues now.

The Mothers Union

The Mothers Union (MU) work with the Literacy and Eagle projects in the Gambella region continued during 2023. Although no further grants were required, the MU continued to provide progress reports on the projects and it was encouraging and challenging to read the following:

In Itang, the literacy circle continues to be the centre of MU life with members now celebrating they can read and write in their mother tongue of Nuer. They are enjoying singing songs from a song book rather than, just using their memory and being encouraged to lead prayers in church and reading from the bible. Some learners have now become lay readers and have been asked to preach in church. Something they never ever imagined and has given them a huge sense of pride. The MU and church is therefore really flourishing in the parish.

In Makot the MU are doing their best to work together on their farm but with the cost of living and the erratic weather, they have found that hunger has also been a distraction with many members having to focus on searching for something to help them get food for their families. They have also found that their lack of having a priest in the community has been challenging and many of the members have decided to meet with Itang for fellowship and having a sense of a church community.

Before they had been very reliant on food from UNHCR which has now been reduced. This has led to more MU members and their families having to search for food. The agriculture they have started has been a huge encouragement but they have also been plagued by thieves who have stolen some of the food they were growing due to the reduction of food aid. Some community members have also moved to Gambella in search for work so they can feed their children. The Eagle [project] is an encouragement but they are finding their daily lives a challenge so are grateful for the fellowship that MU and their Eagle work provide.

Other activities during the year included the following:

As in 2022, the trustees continued to work hard as a team to maintain the activities of the charity. The Board of Trustees met on 1 occasion and is in regular email contact. Good contact was maintained with St. Matthew's Vicar and Parochial Church Council. The support and encouragement of our patron, Bishop Andrew Proud during the year has been much appreciated.

We have also maintained our communication with the Friends of the Anglican Province of Alexandria (FAPA) and the Jerusalem and Middle East Church Association (JMECA).

An essential element of the activities of the Friends of the Anglican Church in Ethiopia is prayer support for the church in the country and this has been enhanced by periodic reports from St Matthew's in Addis Ababa and the church in Gambella and specific prayer requests. Information received is shared with our donors both on the web site and through newsletters.

Financial Review:

At 31st December 2023 we held cash at the bank of £47,086 (43,055 in 2022). Within this figure is an amount of £13,748 which is separately restricted to support the work of St Matthew's Church in Addis Ababa. The trustees have adopted a policy to retain all funds for this purpose in reserves unless grant requests, within the charitable objectives of FACE, are made by St Matthew's which the trustees consider it appropriate to fund.

Apart from the above, our policy on reserves is to hold at least £10,000 of unrestricted funds at any time to enable the Charity to respond to emergency requests for grants to the Anglican Church in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa, eg: food emergencies.

In normal times, an upper limit on unrestricted reserves has been set at £20,000 at the end of any financial year. Apart from funds held for St Matthew's Church, we have not deemed it prudent to make grants until we can be certain that they are applied as required by our statement on public benefit, at the end of 2023, we retained £25,077 (£23,425 in 2022) in unrestricted funds. We are ready therefore to continue to apply funds in excess of our reserves as and when the needs of the people in the area are truly identified.

Our main sources of income are both restricted and unrestricted donations from individuals, churches and other charitable trusts including in response to specific appeals. We have to date received no funds from central or local government in the UK or any other country.

Expenditure in furtherance of our objectives has been in the form of grants made to the Anglican Church in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa or specific Anglican churches within that area, e.g. St Matthew's Church in Addis Ababa.

As a very small charity we do not have many written policies, but financial matters are reviewed and management accounts produced at every trustees meeting. A Statement of Financial Affairs (SOFA) report is produced monthly. We annually review our financial controls against the checklist provided by the Charity Commission. We have also adopted an ethical fundraising policy to guide our fundraising activity.

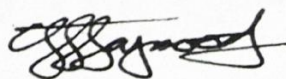
Custodian Trustee Funds:

Not applicable.

Declaration: The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s):



Full name(s):

Reverend Christopher John Haywood

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc):

Chair

Date of Approval:

26-09-2024

Financial Statements:

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of the Anglican Church in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa			1139834	CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	1st January 2023	To	31st December 2023	

Section A Receipts and payments

A1 Receipts	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
Voluntary Receipts	7413	18840		26253	33346
Interest income	576			576	126
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	7990	18840	0	26830	33472

A2 Asset and investment sales

See Table

				0	
				0	

Sub total

--	--	--	--	--	--

Total receipts

7990	18840	0	26830	33472
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A3 Payments

Charitable Activities Costs (giving)	11790	15460		27250	36521
Governance Costs				0	
Administration Costs	520	346		866	835
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
Sub total	12310	15806	0	28116	37356

A2 Asset and investment purchases (see table)

				0	
				0	
Sub total				0	

Total payments

12310	15806	0	28116	37356
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Net of receipts/payments

-4320	3034	0	-1287	-3884
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A5 Transfers between funds

			0	
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A6 Cash funds last year end

23426	19630		43055	46939
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Cash funds this year end

19106	22663	0	41769	43055
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Section B Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
B1 Cash Funds			
Cash funds	19,106	22,663	

Total cash funds **19106** **22663** **0**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
B2 Other monetary assets			

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

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charities own use				

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

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

Signature



Print name

W Poole (Trustee and Treasurer)

Date of approval

20/09/2024

Trustees Annual Report 2023

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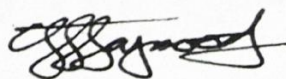
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Not applicable.

Declaration: The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s):



Full name(s):

Reverend Christopher John Haywood

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc):

Chair

Date of Approval:

26-09-2024

Financial Statements:

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	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charities own use				

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

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

Signature



Print name

W Poole (Trustee and Treasurer)

Date of approval

20/09/2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Friends of the Anglican Church in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1139834

Set out on pages

1 and 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

20 September 2024

Name:

Roger Priestnall

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

None

Address:

3 Cox Green Court

Littleover

Derby. DE23 3TB

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.