

**Friends of St Cross Hospital Winchester**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024**



**Friends of St Cross Hospital  
Winchester**

*Celebrate its Past – Support its Future*

# Annual Report and Financial Statements.

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Charity No. 1143173**

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# Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the period ended 31 December 2024

## **The Hospital of St Cross**

Described by Simon Jenkins as “England’s oldest and most perfect almshouse” the Hospital continues to provide charitable support and a home for up to 25 Brothers. The complex of buildings comprises a fine Norman Church, the accommodation wing, and the halls and supporting rooms, all set in tranquil gardens.

The Hospital is famous for its unique and ancient tradition of the Wayfarer’s Dole. All visitors can receive a drink of beer and some bread reflecting ancient times when travelling pilgrims and merchants received this sustenance when they passed by.

The Hospital is open to visitors 363 days of the year. In the summertime refreshments are available in the Hundred Men’s Hall, on the site where the “hundred men” were fed each day.

## **Reference and administrative details**

### **Charity registration number**

1143173

### **Address**

c/o Porter's Lodge, Hospital of St Cross, Winchester, SO23 9SD

### **Trustees**

Susan Woodward  
John Pringle (Chair)  
Philippa Billington  
Stephen Shuttleworth  
Gillian Rushton  
Robin Goater (Treasurer, Resigned 11.7.24)  
Jonathan Sleath  
Clare MacDonnell  
Fiona Goodman  
Felicity Pennycook  
Marion Carr  
Lesley Loughridge  
Jonathan Portal (appointed 1.4.24)  
Anthony Gaster (Treasurer, Appointed 11.7.24)

### **Bankers**

Co-Operative Bank plc  
CCLA Investment Management Limited

### **Independent examiner**

Data Developments

# Report of the Trustees

## Structure, governance and management

### Governing document

The Charity is governed by its Constitution.

### Trustees

In accordance with the Constitution new Trustees may be appointed from the membership. Nominations proposed and seconded by members must be received by the Trustees at least fourteen days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. Elections take into account personal competence, specialist skills and local availability. Trustees serve for a term of three years after which period they are eligible for re-election. The Constitution specifies that two Trustees must also be Trustees of the Hospital of St Cross.

### Trustee training

New Trustees are inducted into the working of the Charity and the Hospital of St Cross by other Trustees, the Master of St Cross and the Clerk to the Trustees of the Hospital.

### Organisational management

The Trustees meet as a Board at least four times a year to determine the general policy of the Charity and review its overall management and control, for which they are legally responsible. The Board delegates to three committees, the Marketing Committee, the Finance and Administration Committee and the Nominations Committee, the detailed running of the Charity. The part-time Administrator and the volunteer Treasurer manage the day-to-day administration of the membership and finance.

### Organisational relationship

The Charity works closely with the Trustees and management of the Hospital of St Cross.

### Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of risk of the Charity's operations and considered the risks faced in each area. In the opinion of the Trustees the Charity has established resources and review systems which, under normal circumstances, should allow these risks to be mitigated to an acceptable level in its day-to-day operations.

### Objects

The Charity's objects are:

- i. to preserve for the benefit of the public the historical, architectural and constructional heritage of the Hospital, by the provision of funding to maintain and improve the buildings and grounds within the Hospital precinct.
- ii. for the public benefit to advance education in the historical, architectural and constructional heritage of the Hospital, in particular but not exclusively, by the provision of lectures, visits and open days.

The principal means by which the Charity aims to achieve these objectives is by soliciting memberships in order to raise funds for preservation and maintenance and organising events to advance knowledge and appreciation of the Hospital of St Cross and other subjects.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

# Report of the Trustees

## Achievements

During the year a total of 56 new Friends Memberships were added. However, deaths and non-renewals totalled 42 so that there was a net gain of 14 memberships. This brought the total number of Memberships at the end of the year to 509 and individual Friends to 766.

During 2024 seventeen events were organised, including six lectures and three lunches. We continue to seek different events to benefit our Friends and encourage new memberships.

Communication with our Friends was maintained through our annual reports and monthly eBulletins. Social Media ensured that news about the Hospital and community happenings was available to Friends.

A grant corresponding to the surplus achieved in 2023 of £17,000 was made to the Hospital. This was a further contribution to fund the installation of the stair lift between the Old Kitchen and the passage to the Brethren's Hall.

During the year two new Trustees joined the Friends Board and one resigned bringing the total to thirteen. The Board together with the part-time Administrator and a Brother's representative met quarterly during the year.

## Future Plans

We will continue to seek new memberships and promote our activities, keeping in touch with our Friends with regular monthly communications.

Together with the Hospital initial ideas have been discussed for celebrating the 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Hospital in 2032.

To secure smooth succession we continue to seek new Trustees to take forward the work of your charity. If you would like to be involved please contact the Chairman.

## Financial Review

Despite not holding a Summer Party we were able to maintain a grant of £17,000 and add a small amount to our reserves.

Total income was £37,103 (2023 £42,744). After total expenses of £17,451 (2023 £18,022), the operating surplus was £19,652 (2023 £24,722).

Our reserves now stand at £61,628, so we are in a strong position to continue supporting the Hospital with annual grants and also consider special arrangements in their 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary year 2032.

## Investment and reserves policy

### Investment Policy

Funds surplus to current requirements are transferred to the CCLA Charities Deposit Fund to benefit from a higher rate of interest.

### Allocation of Funds and Reserves policy

Funds from net incoming resources each year will be allocated by the Board of Trustees to projects identified by the Trustees of the Hospital. A proportion of the net income may be retained as a reserve against major projects or emergency requests from the Hospital.

### **Trustees' responsibilities for the financial statements**

Charity law in the United Kingdom requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting policies and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity, and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the Charity and to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees confirm that they have followed these charity law requirements in the year under consideration.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES



John Pringle  
Chairman

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Friends of St Cross Hospital Winchester

I report on the financial statements of Friends of St Cross Hospital Winchester for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 7-12.

## **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, have been prepared for and only for the Charity's Trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

## **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## **Independent Examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, which is complete, no matters have come to my attention which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of Friends of St Cross Hospital Winchester in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Friends of St Cross Hospital Winchester

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



Data Developments,  
First Floor,  
The Chubb Building,  
Fryer Street,  
Wolverhampton,  
WV1 1HT

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## Principal accounting policies

### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 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) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Friends of St Cross Hospital Winchester 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.

The principal accounting policies are set out below.

### Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern. The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties on the charity's ability to continue its activities for the foreseeable future.



## **Income**

### **Subscriptions**

Annual subscriptions are recognised in full in the year in which they are received.

Term subscriptions of 5 and 10 years are amortised over the relevant period with a full year recognised in the year of receipt.

Life subscriptions are amortised over a period of 15 years with a full year recognised in the year of receipt. Gift Aid income tax recoveries are recognised in the year in which they are claimed.

### **Other voluntary income**

Donations and other revenues are recognised in full in the year of receipt. Sponsorship income is recognised in the year in which the sponsored event(s) takes place.

### **Investment income**

Interest and other investment income is accounted for when received.

## **Resources expended**

Costs of Charitable activities include support costs associated with the management of the Charity.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the Charity and its compliance with regulations and good practice.

Grants payable are recognised in the balance sheet as a liability once the grant has been notified to the recipient and is unconditional.

## Statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds	
		2024	2023
		£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>			
Voluntary income	1	21,450	21,235
Activities for generating funds	2	11,862	17,957
Investment income	3	3,791	3,552
Grants received		-	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>37,103</b>	<b>42,744</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>			
<i>Costs of generating funds:</i>			
Costs of fund raising events		4,460	6,958
<i>Charitable activities:</i>			
Grants to the Hospital of St Cross		17,000	17,000
Support costs	4	12,991	11,064
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>34,451</b>	<b>35,022</b>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year</b>		<b>2,652</b>	<b>7,722</b>
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<b>58,976</b>	<b>51,254</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<b>61,628</b>	<b>58,976</b>

## Balance sheet

		2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investments	5	<u>72,943</u>	<u>68,152</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	6	859	1,493
Cash at bank and in hand		2,730	4,280
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors	7	(1,720)	(250)
Deferred income	8	<u>(13,184)</u>	<u>(14,699)</u>
<b>Net current liabilities</b>		<u>( 14,904)</u>	<u>(9,176)</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u><u>61,628</u></u>	<u><u>58,976</u></u>
<b>Representing:</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u><u>61,628</u></u>	<u><u>58,976</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on



Tony Gaster - Treasurer

## Notes to the financial statements

### 1 Voluntary income

	2024 £	2023 £
Subscriptions	15,808	15,125
Gift Aid recoveries	3,085	3,097
Donations	1,057	1,513
Sponsorship	1,500	1,500
	<u>21,450</u>	<u>21,235</u>

### 2 Activities for generating funds

	2024 £	2023 £
Events	11,262	17,557
Advertising	600	400
	<u>11,862</u>	<u>17,957</u>

### 3 Investment income

	2024 £	2023 £
Interest on bank deposits	<u>3,791</u>	<u>3,552</u>

### 4 Support costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Printing, postage, stationery etc	3,286	3,121
IT costs	783	836
Professional fees	7,964	6,300
Insurance	245	234
Training	463	323
Governance costs (independent examination)	250	250
	<u>12,991</u>	<u>11,064</u>

The Charity has no employees. The Trustees received reimbursement of expenses totalling £nil (2023: £nil).

<b>5</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	COIF Charities Deposit Fund		
	At 1 January 2024	<b>68,152</b>	65,600
	Interest received	<b>3,791</b>	3,552
	Net transfer of funds	<b>1,000</b>	(1,000)
	At 31 December 2024	<b>72,943</b>	68,152
<b>6</b>	<b>Debtors</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Gift aid claimed	<b>859</b>	1,493
		<b>859</b>	1,493
<b>7</b>	<b>Creditors</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Independent Examination	<b>250</b>	250
	Tickets sold in advance	<b>1470</b>	-
		<b>1,720</b>	250
<b>8</b>	<b>Deferred Income</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	At 1 January 2024	<b>14,699</b>	16,420
	Resources deferred during the year	<b>2,687</b>	2,577
	Amounts released from previous years	<b>(4,202)</b>	(4,298)
	Deferred income at 31 December 2024	<b>13,184</b>	14,699

**9** **Related Parties**

There have been no related party transactions during the year (2023: £nil).

## Prior Year Comparative

### Statement of financial activities - 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds	
		2023	2022
		£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>			
Voluntary income	1	21,235	21,405
Activities for generating funds	2	17,957	18,903
Investment income	3	3,552	179
Grants received		-	500
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>42,744</b>	<b>40,987</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>			
<i>Costs of generating funds:</i>			
Costs of fund raising events		6,958	7,016
<i>Charitable activities:</i>			
Grants to the Hospital of St Cross		17,000	15,000
Support costs	4	11,064	11,266
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>35,022</b>	<b>33,282</b>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year</b>		<b>7,722</b>	<b>7,705</b>
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<b>51,254</b>	<b>43,549</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<b>58,976</b>	<b>51,254</b>