



## Maelor Mission Area

### Trustees' Annual Report 2024

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statement for 2024.

(Abbreviations used: CinW=Church in Wales, DBF=Diocesan Board of Finance, HMRC=Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs, MA=Mission Area, MAC=Mission Area Conference, MAE=Mission Area Executive )

#### **Structure, Governance and Management:**

Maelor Mission Area is a group of seven Church communities in the Wrexham area of north Wales, working together for a common purpose in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Four orphaned Churchyards are also included in the MA.

The MAC sets the strategic direction of the MA, which is a charitable organisation registered with the Charity Commission, and also HMRC. It complies with Charity Law, the Constitution of the Church in Wales, and the Diocesan Decree.

The members of the MAC, who are bound by the Constitution, are Charity Trustees, holding the assets of the MA on trust for the MA. The MAC is composed of Ex-officio members as set out in the Church in Wales Constitution (includes clergy), Elected members as elected at the Annual Vestry Meeting following the recommendation of the Church Congregational meeting, and Co-opted members (invited on).

The MAE has day to day responsibility for the MA, under the leadership of the MA Leader, and is accountable to the MAC.

#### **Activities and Objectives:**

The Trustees are cognisant of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, and are satisfied that the activities of the MA provide a benefit to the public.

The MA focus is on planning mission together; mission to its own members, to its communities (including 6 Church Aided Schools, 2 LA Primary Schools and 1 Secondary School) and to the wider world, as it seeks to spread the Bible's message of Jesus, and develop people's knowledge and trust in Him. In so doing, the MA aims to become a more sustainable, resilient and vibrant Christian community.

A variety of activities are normally provided across the MA for both the benefit of Church members, and for the benefit of members of the public. Sunday services, clergy and lay led, are central to Church life and are open to the whole community. They are advertised by various means including



the Mission Area Magazine, Facebook, and outside Church buildings. Some mid-week Study/Discussion is offered and most Church buildings are normally open to the public each day. The MA seeks to respond to people's spiritual needs at times of great importance and change in their lives e.g. baptisms, weddings and funerals. These encounters provide good opportunity for building positive and long lasting relationships, and play an invaluable role in mission.

Much of the work of the MA is carried out by a large number of volunteers, in addition to the clergy.

### **Achievements and Performance:**

Like other areas of the UK, regular attendance at Sunday services within the MA has been impacted by many things including generational changes and busier schedules. Between 2019 and 2024 average Sunday attendance across the MA's Churches fell 25% from 148 to 110 and the viability of some Churches will no doubt be impacted should that rate of decline continue.

The annual Share payment is a sum that the MA pays to the Diocese. A new formula was implemented in 2024 resulting in c.90% of the Share (i.e. £95k) reflecting the cost of the provision of clergy. The combined impact of inflation increasing the Share payment, and reducing attendance, will make retention of clergy levels more challenging in the future.

The MA does not however primarily measure its success by numbers, but in less tangible ways like the growth of individuals in their Christian faith, and the opportunities to share the Christian Gospel within our communities. The MA is not therefore despondent, but looks to demonstrate, confidently and joyfully, Christ's assurance to be courageous through taking positive action through investing in families, children and young people, life events, supporting the less able, and fit for purpose buildings.

While there were challenges, there was much to celebrate. Events in the Christian calendar were capitalised on, and coffee mornings and other social events were held in order to share the love of Christ and to serve and connect with local communities. Over the year some really good acts of worship were enjoyed, as individual Churches, and united for special events. Christmas attendance was up in all the MA's Churches. Almost 3,000 adults and children came into the MA's Churches during the Christmas period and, even accounting for some attending more than one service, that is an excellent result for a MA within a rural area of modest (c.8,500) population.

In April 2023 the Diocese launched the CinW Membership App, and in 2024 the MA regularly achieved 86% completion, capturing data to more accurately and consistently measure the people and activities taking place across the MA.

Over a quarter of the MA's Churches had no warden or people to fill traditional 'Church' roles. Such gaps forced these Churches to look at the tasks and create a new form of Team Ministry without formal titles. As a result many more folk are coming forward to take responsibility and offer their gifts to enable the Church to be relevant in the community.

An excellent and supportive clergy team was formed in the year consisting of 1.5 stipendiary clergy, plus 3 non-stipendiary clergy with permission to officiate. Together with Lay Readers and Worship Leaders, a range of services is offered each month in every Church.

Relationships with Schools continued in 2024. Christian mission with youngsters is particularly important in these times to address social issues, and a nationwide decline in Christian identity.

MA Churches must be welcoming and hospitable to all, and the MA treats Safeguarding very seriously and ensures that appropriate cover is in place. No safeguarding issue arose in the year.



## **Financial Review:**

The MA is incredibly grateful for all the donations received in 2024 from its congregations and other supporters.

The receipts and payments for the year, and the assets and liabilities at the year end, are shown in the statements of account, which accompany this report. The numbers reflect the seven live Churches, and the MA's Central Funds which include the four stand-alone Churchyards..

Overall, the net movement in Funds was a surplus of income over expenditure of £33k. One Church was responsible for £30k of this surplus, and three Churches made a loss in the year.

Total Receipts at £237k were up £11k on the previous year which can be explained by Legacy Gifts £7k + sale of shares £4.5k.

Planned Giving was down £3k but Loose Collections was up £4k on the prior year.

Money Raising at £52k portrayed some excellent effort and netted £46k after costs, which was similar to 2023.

Parish Share, which enables the Diocese to fund the provision of clergy and support services, at £108k was the largest expense. The MA is grateful to the DBF for the financial relief given against clerical cost. As the MA paid its 2024 Share in full by 31 December, a pay-out from the Discount Scheme of 6% of the 2024 Share, equalling £6.5k, was received by the Mission Area in January 2025.

'Maintenance of Churches' expenditure of £55k includes utility costs, insurance premiums, repairs & maintenance, and grass cutting. 'Maintenance of other properties' of £5k was primarily Churchyard expenses not booked elsewhere.

The MA's Central accounts include a number of restricted funds to ensure money is spent appropriately. £4.9k was transferred from the Endowment Fund to the Diocese as it related to St John's Church building which is no longer part of the MA. Of the £112k Carried Forward as at 31 December 2024 only £10K was available for discretionary spend.

Total Funds Carried Forward as at 31 December 2024 were £765k. £345k of this sum is Unrestricted and currently considered sufficient to meet fluctuations in receipts, future needs, contingency and risk.

There is a wide variation in wealth across the seven Churches and financial robustness is a key indicator for the Trustees regarding future sustainability.

In order to be fit for purpose in this 21st century some of the Churches will be investing funds in their buildings through a process of alteration/reordering to improve functionality, aesthetics, and accessibility while respecting the building's history and significance.

Church attendance is challenging and congregations are ageing. This, together with competition from other worthwhile charitable organisations makes the economic outlook of the MA demanding.





## Administrative Information:

Maelor Mission Area's Charity Registration Number is 1175121.

### Contact Information:-

Address: The Rectory  
4 Sundorne  
Overton-On-Dee  
Wrexham, LL13 0EB

MA Administrator: Telephone: 07467 927690  
email: maelor.maa@churchinwales.org.uk

Trustees are generally appointed at the (annual) MA Vestry meeting. The Trustees who have served in the year are:-

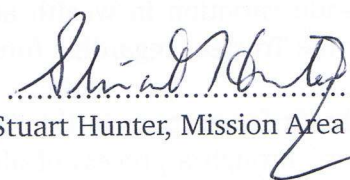
Charles Barnett  
Jennifer Bellis from April 2024  
Vanessa Brodie  
Deryl Crocombe from October 2024  
Fiona Churton  
Rev Jeremy Dussek  
Elizabeth Hanmer - MA Warden  
Paul Honick  
Stuart Hunter - MA Treasurer  
Rev Canon Sue Huyton - MA Leader to September 2024  
Huw Jones  
Joanne Kember to April 2024  
Sandra Manley

Elsbeth Nicholls to April 2024  
Rev Marcus Pipe from September 2024  
Liisa Richardson to April 2024  
Stuart Richardson from April 2024  
Viv Richardson from from April 2024  
Michael Vellacott  
Edward Wardle to April 2024  
Paul Whittaker - {MA Warden/Lay Chair/MA  
{Leader from September '24

## Declaration:

The trustees declare that they have approved the above report on 7th May 2025. It is signed on their behalf by:-

  
Paul Whittaker, Mission Area Leader

  
Stuart Hunter, Mission Area Treasurer



ESGOBAETH LLANELWY  
TYFU FFYDD • DOD Â GOBAITH • DANGOS CARIAD  
GROW FAITH • BRING HOPE • DEMONSTRATE LOVE  
DIOCESE OF ST ASAPH



**Notes to the financial statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purpose, including when the Mission Area Conference agrees to set aside funds for a particular restricted purpose.

**Maelor Mission Area**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Maelor Mission Area**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Maelor Mission Area (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**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').

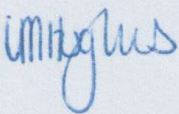
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.



Lorraine Hughes FMAAT  
M D Coxe & Co Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
25 Grosvenor Road  
Wrexham  
LL11 1BT

Date:

7<sup>th</sup> April 2025



**Maelor Mission Area**  
**Annual Report**  
**For the year ended 31st December 2024**

			Unrestricted Funds	Res / End Funds	Total Funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts	Donations and legacies	Planned giving	49,295	9,579	58,874	62,227
		Loose collections	23,865	381	24,246	19,871
		Donations	14,247	3,446	17,692	20,749
		For mission	545	-	545	468
		Tax refunds - Gift Aid	9,275	2,614	11,890	13,972
		Tax refunds - GASDS	5,414	-	5,414	5,159
		Legacy gifts	6,000	1,000	7,000	-
		Grants	4,000	17,738	21,738	25,530
	Charitable activities	Fees	10,250	16,336	26,586	22,820
	Other trading activities	Money raising	22,415	29,328	51,744	48,084
	Investments	Investment income	6,069	718	6,787	6,561
	Other income	Other incoming resources	4,500	-	4,500	466
Total receipts			155,875	81,140	237,015	225,907
Payments	Charitable expenses	Parish share	107,793	-	107,793	90,602
		Parochial expenses of clerics	5,411	-	5,411	3,503
		Maintenance of services	10,750	30	10,780	7,235
		General parish expenses	4,104	4,557	8,661	6,038
		Maintenance of churches	40,549	14,001	54,550	55,918
		Maintenance of other properties	2,144	2,700	4,844	1,825
		Exceptional expenditure	-	662	662	61,214
		Mission: parish	1,151	2,468	3,618	3,877
		Mission: home/world	2,673	-	2,673	3,047
				-	-	
	Raising funds	Cost of money raising	4,089	1,591	5,680	3,620
Total payments			178,663	26,010	204,673	236,878
Net receipts / payments			(22,788)	55,130	32,343	(10,971)
Gross transfers between funds			5,877	(5,877)	-	-
Excess of receipts over payments before other gains and losses			(16,911)	49,253	32,343	(10,971)
Gains and losses on investments			(1,538)	2,133	595	4,078
Net movement in funds			(18,449)	51,387	32,938	(6,893)
Total funds brought forward			363,756	368,236	731,992	738,885
Total funds carried forward			345,307	419,623	764,930	731,992

Treasurers Name:.....*STUART HUNTER*

Treasurers Signature:.....*Stuart Hunter*

Date:.....*13 APRIL 2025*



Maelor Misson Area

Balance sheet  
As at: 31 December 2024

	As at 31/12/2024 £	As at 31/12/2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Investments	100,664	102,202
	<u>100,664</u>	<u>102,202</u>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Stocks and work in progress	800	500
Debtors	3,437	2,240
Investments	33,412	36,657
Cash at bank and in hand	632,449	593,399
	<u>670,098</u>	<u>632,796</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	5,831	3,005
	<u>5,831</u>	<u>3,005</u>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>	<u>664,266</u>	<u>629,790</u>
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>	<u>764,930</u>	<u>731,992</u>
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
Unrestricted - General fund	342,653	362,008
<b>Designated</b>		
Designated - Friends of St Dunawd's	2,583	1,674
Designated - Bells	35	35
Designated - Warm Space	36	39
<b>Restricted</b>		
Restricted - Agency collection	1,457	-
Restricted - Administrator	5,502	7,309
Restricted - Bettisfield Churchyard	9,754	8,252
Restricted - Hanmer Project Work	76,326	37,768
Restricted - Magazine Fund	4,074	3,967
Restricted - Churchyard maintenance fund	10,395	9,360
Restricted - Toilet and Kitchen Project	20,710	20,710
Restricted - Tallarn Green	12,471	11,890
Restricted - Worthenbury Building	21,974	21,233
Restricted - Worthenbury Churchyard	8,634	8,744
Restricted - Churchyard	6,198	6,198
Restricted - Revaluation reserves	-	(39)
Restricted - Church Building Fund	-	991
Restricted - churchyard	10,605	11,490
Restricted - NS&I bells	-	-
Restricted - church yard	18,945	18,017
Restricted - Stonework / Tower Repairs	3,441	3,441
Restricted - Myra Jenkins Fabric Fund	17,938	17,090
Restricted - Peel Chapel, Overton	5,000	-
Restricted - Quinquennial Repair Fund	1,648	1,648
Restricted - Cleaning	-	-
Restricted - Churchyard Maintenance Fund	30,026	29,158
Restricted - Eyton Closure	-	649
Restricted - Church Fabric	-	-
Restricted - Friends of St Mary's fund	120,276	106,368
Restricted - Graveyard Maintenance	-	-
Restricted - Graveyard and other restricted account	-	-
Restricted - Share Rebate	956	7,453
<b>Endowment</b>		
Endowment - Bettisfield Churchyard Endowment Fund	33,293	36,538
Endowment - Eden Tree Endowment Fund	-	-
	<u>764,930</u>	<u>731,992</u>
<b>Funds of the church</b>	<u>764,930</u>	<u>731,992</u>



**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	111,732	909	34,758	-	147,399	147,976
Income from charitable activities	10,250	-	16,336	-	26,586	22,820
Other trading activities	22,415	-	34,249	(4,921)	51,744	48,084
Investments	6,069	-	718	-	6,787	6,561
Other income	4,500	-	-	-	4,500	466
<b>Total income</b>	<b>154,966</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>86,062</b>	<b>- 4,921</b>	<b>237,015</b>	<b>225,907</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	4,089	-	1,591	-	5,680	3,620
Expenditure on charitable activities	174,572	2	24,419	-	198,993	233,258
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>178,660</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26,010</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>204,673</b>	<b>236,878</b>
Gross transfers between funds - in	11,033	-	5,210	-	16,244	19,756
Gross transfers between funds - out	(5,156)	-	(11,087)	-	(16,244)	(19,756)
Gains / losses on investment assets	(1,538)	-	457	1,676	595	4,078
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(19,356)</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>54,631</b>	<b>(3,245)</b>	<b>32,938</b>	<b>(6,893)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>362,007</b>	<b>1,749</b>	<b>331,698</b>	<b>36,538</b>	<b>731,992</b>	<b>738,885</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>342,651</b>	<b>2,656</b>	<b>386,329</b>	<b>33,293</b>	<b>764,929</b>	<b>731,992</b>
<b>Represented by</b>						
Unrestricted						
General fund	342,653	-	-	-	342,653	362,007
Designated						
Bells	-	35	-	-	35	35
Friends of St Dunawd's	-	2,583	-	-	2,583	1,675
Warm Space	-	36	-	-	36	39
Restricted						
Administrator	-	-	5,502	-	5,502	7,309
Agency collection	-	-	1,457	-	1,457	-
Bettisfield Churchyard	-	-	9,754	-	9,754	8,252
Church Building Fund	-	-	-	-	-	991
Church Yard	-	-	35,748	-	35,748	35,705
Churchyard Maintenance Fund	-	-	40,421	-	40,421	38,518
Eyton Closure	-	-	-	-	-	649
Friends of St Mary's fund	-	-	120,276	-	120,276	106,368
Hanmer Project Work	-	-	76,326	-	76,326	37,768
Magazine Fund	-	-	4,074	-	4,074	3,967
Myra Jenkins Fabric Fund	-	-	17,938	-	17,938	17,090
Peel Chapel	-	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Quinquennial Repair Fund	-	-	1,648	-	1,648	1,648
Revaluation reserves	-	-	-	-	-	(39)
Share Rebate	-	-	956	-	956	7,453
Stonework / Tower Repairs	-	-	3,441	-	3,441	3,441
Tallarn Green	-	-	12,471	-	12,471	11,890
Toilet and Kitchen Project	-	-	20,710	-	20,710	20,710
Worthenbury Building	-	-	21,974	-	21,974	21,233
Worthenbury Churchyard	-	-	8,634	-	8,634	8,744
Endowment						
Bettisfield Churchyard Endowment Fund	-	-	-	33,293	33,293	36,538