



Ardal Weinidogaeth
Bro Gwydyr
Ministry Area



Addoli Duw
Worshipping God



Tyfu'r Eglwys
Growing the Church



Caru'r Byd
Loving the World

Adroddiad Festri Blynnyddol
25ain Mis Mehefin 2025
25th June

Annual Vestry Report

Rhif Elusen / Charity Number 1181120

Yn yr adroddiad hwn: // In this report:

- *Edrych ymlaen // Looking forward*
- *Addoli Duw // Worshipping God*
- *Tyfu'r Eglwys // Growing the Church*
- *Caru'r Byd // Loving the World*
- *Cenhadaeth // Mission*
- *Adeiladau // Buildings*
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Dolwyddelan Churchyard Summer 2024

The Annual Vestry Report focusses on the work in our Ministry Area of Bro Gwydyr within the three elements of our Diocesan vision and charitable objectives:

Worshipping God. Growing the Church. Loving the World.

We know not where we will be from one year to the next, and with the current political situation around the world one wonders if it is even possible to say where we shall be one week to the next. Any yet, 'Ry'n yma o hyd'. Or 'There go I, but for the grace of God'. I began a recent sermon with words attributed to GK Chesterton: 'Angels can fly because they take themselves lightly'. Clever use of words for the 'messengers' of God with that double meaning in 'lightly'. I wonder whether we might take heart from such a saying for our life together as Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area? Perhaps in a few ways: taking ourselves lightly, rather than being 'flighty as Angels'; Light footed on this earth? Or - Not being overly concerned with trivial matters might be another way to suggest it. Some things might simply need a 'light touch' rather than pages of planing. The emphasis here would be letting go, at least a little, of our control and allowing God's timing to take the front seat. Sitting lightly with God might be another lesson to learn from Chesterton's cheeky phrase. I remarked to a friend the other day that it would be much easier to be Quakers - far fewer words - but I'd miss the music of course. We don't need complicated prayers, but we do need to sit lightly with them, not asking so much as waiting. An obvious way to take this phrase would be for ourselves, not

taking ourselves too seriously. The old Yiddish joke suggests that in order to make God laugh one only need tell God our plans! I've certainly learnt a great deal from studying again that through our wealth of Theology the greatest thinkers, those whose insights have lasted the test of time, were those who were not weighed down with too much concern for 'getting it right', so much. Rather, they were concerned to be able to say something of which they felt conviction and something which felt right and appropriate for their time. Even those whose ideas have come and gone, some of whom history regards as heretics, had not set out to get it wrong or to say something that would be regarded as heretical, they were simply engaged in the pursuit for appropriate language and understanding of the divine life. Thankfully we're not engaged in quite the same level of theological working out that those of the early centuries after Jesus' death and resurrection were. We do though have to pay serious attention to our own witness to the reality of God's plans working out in our midst. Looking back over the year 2024 many of the things we've been involved within Bro Gwydyr have been 'joining in'. This collaborative way of witnessing to God in our communities can be far more messy and unpredictable, but also reactive to opportunities and people. This work needs a commitment to allow God's plan to 'unfold'. It also needs a robust organisation behind it. - That's you, as the people of Bro Gwydyr, who have been part of this, and for the many times that you have offered your time, talents and creativity, my heartfelt thanks. *Stuart*



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Celebration seems the appropriate word for much of work in worshipping God. Early in 2024 we recorded a service of '*BBC Radio Wales Celebration*' from the Island Reach vessel moored in Conwy. Though unsure of a date for departure to Madagascar at that time, it was a true celebration of the work achieved. Little did we know then that the boat would be a feature through the year in pilgrimage trips aiming for, but not quite reaching the Island of Enlli.

Opportunities for gathered worship in our area have continued Sunday by Sunday, and faithful weekday prayer opportunities are much appreciated and very important. Thanks to the dedicated teams in each community Some highlights this year were the Candlemas celebration in Dolgarrog. A 24hr prayer event in Llanrhychwyn. The St. Gwyddelan's day folk celebration. Beer and Hymns. All Saints and Souls event with Lanterns and beautiful Cello music.

The huge Angel Lantern created for the All souls event was destined for the Trefriw Christmas Carols and Tree Lighting night, however, the storm cancelled almost every event that weekend. She returned for Midnight Mass! We did manage to celebrate the 'Light up a Life' event with St. David's Hospice at the Garden centre in Betws-y-Coed. The community Christmas Carol service in Betws-y-Coed took a different form this year as 'Baban Betws' took over the morning service following the work with the local school and decorations made during the warm hubs.



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Tyfu'r Eglwys
Growing the
Church



Caru'r Byd
Loving the World

Growing the Church includes all work to increase the reach of Bro Gwydyr into our communities. A wide variety of events took place in 2024 including the work to secure the UKSPF grant to create a community garden in Dolgarrog so that this space can be used for events and a much requested growing space for the community.

Other opportunities in our Ministry Area have included more traditional events such tabletop sales *Penmachno* The Lenten lunches every Wednesday in *Betws-y-Coed* The popular Open Gardens event in Dolwyddelan. Supporting the Caru Betws Summer Festival 2024 which included the 'Bells' community consultation and a return of our popular 'Ceilidh' events.

New connections and links were created supporting Caffi Dotti in Trefriw. Working with Debbie Baxter and local groups for the Art Competition and exhibition in *Betws-y-Coed*. Open Doors took a very different direction this year with a Dance Collective using the church as their inspiration, they offered an evening of their work. This led to a further evening with Dance and local band VRi. A Session at Caerdroia 'Step into Nature' with Louise Cook was warmly received supporting people from a wide area.



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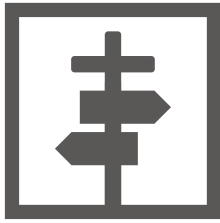
Our work in Loving the World includes all of our commitments to sustainable living which often go unnoticed. All churches in Bro Gwydyr continue to use renewable electricity and green gas contracts. Our telephone and internet systems are with the Phone Coop to be as ethical as possible.

The churchyard in *Dolwyddelan* continues to be maintained as a natural space with minimal intervention. Members of Dolwyddelan church community were instrumental in the refurbishment of the *Cwt Hers* in the graveyard 'Bryn y Bedd'.

A new burial of ashes area was agreed with the *Penmachno* Community Council who care for the churchyard. The first burial of ashes took place this year.

The UKSPF project in *Dolgarrog* took an ecological turn due to the presence of Bats in the (old) Belfry which was falling down. This was eventually removed to prepare the space for the new garden.

Funds were raised across the Ministry Area for our Easter offering in 2024 which paid for an operating table for the Island Reach vessel. Finally in September we were able to wave off Jeremy and the intrepid crew on the boat's journey to Madagascar where she will be an immense blessing to the people of that Island.



***Cenhadaeth
Mission***



***Adeiladau
Buildings***



***Cyllid
Finance***

Our new Mission Plan has been accepted by the Ministry Area Council.

For the next five years, our Local Church goals will be:

Encourage each other to gather for prayer and discipleship as the basis for all we do.

Caring for people, offering opportunities to promote healing and nurturing, and helping to develop and sustain supportive networks in our communities.

Making our worship services as accessible to all as is possible, and offering a pattern of 'gatherings' with a wide appeal.

Engaging with and communicating what we are doing, to our local communities in ways that are accessible to all.

Promoting low-carbon, sustainable lifestyles, and aiming for Gold ECO award for all our churches

Continuing with ongoing building maintenance as per our EZRA reports. Both keeping the buildings safe for the future and open where possible, in collaboration with local communities.

Raising funds through small and large fundraising / grant funded opportunities to do things we must do, and things we want to do.

To meet these goals, individual churches will:

Ensure that there are opportunities locally for communal prayer and discipleship. Commit to a regular corporate prayer practise and offer discipleship opportunities.

Hold congregational meetings to create and review their local version of the plan based on the goals above. The plan can grow and evolve through a process of trial and error, year on year.

Engage with local communities, or use recent local community plans that have included community consultation, to understand local activities, needs and preferences. Use this information to determine which of the goals above are a priority and what actions, would help best meet local needs. Then act and build local community engagement and participation.

Publicise information about the Church so that it reaches the local communities. This would include regular updates on church notice boards.

Provide two brief updates a year to the MAC on activities undertaken and progress towards goals identified in each local community.



*Cenhadaeth
Mission*



**Adeiladau
Buildings**



*Cyllid
Finance*

Thanks are due to Diocesan property advisor Paul Skeet who has helped to provide Faculty approval for the guttering works at Penmachno, also to aiding the preparation of grant applications to the National Churches Trust 'Cherish' Grant scheme. As per the terms of this grant we acknowledge 'a big thank you to the National Lottery Heritage Fund and to the National Lottery players who have helped to make Cherish possible.' Further works to the roof in Llanrhychwyn were prepared during this year made possible by a grant from the WG Roberts Fund. This work began towards the end of the year replacing a large slipped coping stone, repointing and replacing lead work.

Faculty permission was also granted this year for the replacement of the windows, flooring and electrics in Dolgarrog Church.

The project to receive a ring of eight bells took a step closer to reality this year as the Faculty was granted for their removal from Porthmadog funded by the Keltec Trust, Also for their installation to St. Mary's Betws-y-Coed. The bells arrived at the hall in St. Mary's at the beginning of October.

**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting 2024, Sunday 5 May
St Gwyddelan's Church, Dolwyddelan**

Attendance: Stuart Elliott, Diana Pierce, Ruth Houston, Deirdre Southgate, Sarah & Phil Baskerville, Emma Richardson, Cathy & Richard Griffin, Jim Boughton, Susan Welsh, Ann Williams, Ann Dwyer, Nita Scrase, Keith Wadcock, Pam Burton, Sue Thompson, Richard & Rachel Parsons, Ann Jones, Amanda & Gareth Stirzaker, Susan Bosworth, Abigail Henderson (Secretary)

Welcome

Apologies: Anne Jones, Maggie & Nick Freeman, Marian Horton, Bill & Carrie Clarke, Mariette Lawrance, Digby Wilding, Helen & Glynne Jones, Alistair Minton, Carrie White, Wil Edwards, Liz Green, Rachael Evans

Minutes

NS proposed minutes from 2023 as correct, JB seconded, all in favour.

Approval of Annual Report

RH proposed to receive the Annual Report as a true reflection of the church year, SL seconded - all in favour.

Election of Wardens and Ministry Area Council Members

Ministry Area Warden

Carrie White

Local Wardens (nominated and confirmed)

Nita Scrase – BYC

Ann Dwyer - BYC

Ann Jones - Dolgarrog

Digby Wilding – Dolgarrog

Rachel Parsons – Penmachno

Richard Parsons – Penmachno

Sue Layland – Dolwyddelan

KW proposed the wardens, DP seconded - all in favour.

Those nominated as Ministry Area Council Members

Stuart Elliott - Chair

Diana Pierce – BYC

Nita Scrase – BYC

Ann Dwyer – BYC

Susan Welsh - BYC

Ann Jones - Dolgarrog

Digby Wilding – Dolgarrog

Sue Layland - Dolwyddelan

Bill Clarke – Dolwyddelan

Keith Wadcock – Penmachno

Sue Thompson – Penmachno

Rachel Parsons – Penmachno

Richard Parsons – Penmachno

Pam Burton - Penmachno

Carrie White – Ministry Area Warden

Abigail Henderson - Secretary

JB proposed, RH seconded the appointment of the Ministry Area Council members. All in favour.

DP not standing for warden role this year, many thanks for all the work she has done over the years, since Father Clive was vicar. Presented and thanked with gifts (including a large chocolate cake).

Ardal Weinidogaeth Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area

Accounts for the Year Ended
31 December 2024



Registered charity number 1181120

Ardal Gweinidogaeth Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area
Registered Charity number 1181120
Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("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 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 giving me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.
3. The accounts did 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....
Owain Ap Elfed FCCA
on behalf of Williams Denton Cyf
Chartered Certified Accountants / Registered Auditors

Glaslyn
Ffordd Y Parc
Parc Menai
Bangor
Gwynedd LL57 4FE

Date:




Ardal Gweinidogaeth Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area
Registered Charity number 1181120
Statement of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 December 2024
Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Donations and legacies					
Planned Giving	17,232	-	-	17,232	14,455
Loose Collections	13,685	-	-	13,685	5,382
Legacy Gifts Received	5,000	-	-	5,000	-
Donations	14,665	-	-	14,665	15,081
For Mission	3,095	-	-	3,095	2,753
Tax Refunds - Gift Aid	2,248	29	-	2,277	3,417
Grants	60,596	16,780	-	77,376	20,349
Income from charitable activities					
Fees	2,849	194	-	3,043	3,410
Income from Trading Activities					
Fund Raising	63,791	-	-	63,791	72,150
Income from Investments					
Investment Income	4,609	-	59	4,668	6,729
Other Income					
Other Incoming Resources	3,070	-	-	3,070	-
Total Receipts	190,841	17,003	59	207,902	143,726
Payments					
Raising funds					
Costs of Raising Funds	5,800	-	-	5,800	6,400
Charitable Activities					
Parochial Expenses of Clerics	4,534	-	-	4,534	2,079
General Parish Expenses	13,834	-	-	13,834	14,511
Maintenance of Churches	20,309	8,390	-	28,699	20,468
Maintenance of Other Property	15,446	134	-	15,580	16,281
Other Ministry Support	641	177	-	818	167
Mission:Parish	435	-	-	435	5,236
Maintenance of Services	3,990	-	-	3,990	6,113
Mission:Home/World	107,668	-	-	107,668	20,288
Parish Share	65,200	-	-	65,200	65,000
Other Expenditure					
Capital Payments	-	-	-	-	3,345
Total Payments	237,855	8,701	-	246,556	159,887
Net Receipts/(Payments) for the Year	(47,014)	8,302	59	(38,653)	(16,162)
Cash at Bank at 1 January 2024	37,273	28,507	-	65,780	81,942
Transfers Between Funds	24,314	(24,314)	-	-	-
Cash at Bank at 31 December 2024	14,573	12,495	59	27,127	65,780

In accordance with the terms of engagement of Williams Denton Cyf, we approve the accounts for the period ended 31 December 2024 which comprise Receipts and Payments Account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. We acknowledge our responsibility for the accounts, including the appropriateness of the accounting basis, and for providing Williams Denton Cyf with all information and explanations necessary for their compilation.

Signed: 

Signed: 

Trustee Name Stuart Elliott
Chair

Trustee Name Susan Thompson
Bro Gwydyr Treasurer

Date: 24/10/2025

Date: 24 October 2025

Ardal Gweinidogaeth Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area

Registered Charity number 1181120

Statement of Assets and Liabilities For The Year Ended 31 December 2024

Cash Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Bank Accounts					
Bro Gwydyr Current Account	(225)	9,287	-	9,062	10,872
Bro Gwydyr - Car Park Account	6,816	40	-	6,856	11,845
AG Bro Gwydyr MA Current Account	(2,962)	3,050	59	146	35,130
Bro Gwydyr - Deposit Account	10,951	-	-	10,951	7,823
PT3718 Cash Account	(8)	119	-	111	111
Dolwyddelan Current Account	-	-	-	-	-
Betws y Coed Churchyard Account	-	-	-	-	-
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-	-
Total Cash Funds	14,573	12,495	59	27,127	65,780
BDT Bro Gwydyr General	1,305	-	-	1,305	19,510
BDT St Rhychwyn Fabric Fund	688	-	-	688	655
BDT Churchyard RES	3,185	-	-	3,185	3,031
Mrs Dorothy Brenndd Legacy	4,126	-	-	4,126	3,912
CCLA COIF St Gwyddelans Church	9,589	-	-	9,589	9,304
Miss E M Evans Legacy	-	822	2,449	3,271	3,102
Arfon Roberts Bequest	2,265	4,783	25,717	32,765	31,064
Fabric Fund Shares	227	776	3,658	4,660	4,418
Fabric Fund Income Accumulation Shares	1,698	11,602	-	13,300	12,222
Rev'd Thomas Richard Hughes Legacy	-	-	-	-	-
Ms Mnnie S Chorley	-	-	-	-	-
Total Investment Assets	23,082	17,983	31,824	72,889	87,217
Total Assets	37,655	30,478	31,882	100,016	152,997
Liabilities					
Agency Collections	182	191	-	373	550
Total Liabilities	182	191	-	373	550
Total Net Assets	37,474	30,286	31,882	99,642	152,446

Ardal Gweinidogaeth Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area
Registered Charity number 1181120

Notes

1. The financial statements of the Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments Basis in line with Charity Commission guidance.

2. Grants Received

The Grants Received during the accounting period are as follows:

Conwy County Borough Council	£60,096
Shepherd & Weddeburn Hobart	£500
WG Roberts Grant	<u>£16,780</u>
Total	£77,376

3. Diocesan Share

In 2024 the amount of the ministry area donation paid (Diocesan Share) was £65,200 as agreed with the Diocesan. (£65,000 in 2023)

4. The purpose of the restricted funds are as follows:

Churchyard Fund

The Churchyard fund was set up to use money from burials at the Church grounds for churchyard maintenance

Fabric Fund

The fabric fund was set up to restrict grant money received for building maintenance.

Bro Gwydyr Restricted Fund

The Bro Gwydyr restricted fund was originally set up to restrict fund for specific purposes, however as of this year the funds are unrestricted.

Car Park Fund

The Car Park Fund relates to monies from the car park revenue spent on the car park maintenance, is now available to use for the whole ministry area.

Stripe Funds

The Stripe fund relates to historical monies received via Stripe, which is now available for the whole ministry area.

Revaluation Reserves

This fund relates to historical revaluations of investments which are now unrestricted.

Ardal Gweinidogaeth Bro Gwydyr Ministry Area
Registered Charity number 1181120
Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2024
 Restricted Funds Movements

Restricted Funds Movements	Opening Balance 01/01/2024	Net Movement in Receipts and Payments	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Closing Balance 31/12/2024
Bro Gwydyr Restricted Fund	951	(177)	(774)	-	-
Churchyard Fund	8,577	60	734	-	9,372
Fabric Fund	12,496	8,419	-	-	20,915
Car Park Fund	23,474	-	(23,474)	-	-
Stripe funds	39	-	(39)	-	-
Revaluation reserves	3,220	-	(3,220)	-	-
Totals	48,758	8,302	(26,773)	-	30,286

Cwrdd Blynyddol Festri
2025
Annual Vestry Meeting
AGENDA

Croeso
Welcome

Ymddiheuriadau
Apologies

Cofnodion y cyfarfod diwethaf (2024)
Minutes of the last meeting (2024)

Adroddiad y Flwyddyn 2024
2024 Year Report

Etholiad Wardeiniaid
Election of Wardens
Etholiad Aelodau'r MAC
Election of MAC Members

Enwebiad archwiliwr yr cyfrifon
Nomination of examiner of accounts