

South Street Free Church

Registered Charity Number 1182375

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

South Street Free Church
For the year ended 30 June 2024

CONTENTS

Church Information	1
Trustees Report	2
Independent Examiners Report	3
Receipts & Payments Account	4
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6

CHURCH INFORMATION

Trustees

David Batchelor (Chair)	
Anthony Thompson	
Rachel Wells	Resigned 31 March 2024
Bruce Elkington	Appointed 4 August 2024

Charity number

1182375

Address

South Street Free Church
21 South Street
Eastbourne
BN21 4UP

Independent Examiner

Colin Dadswell FCA FCCA DChA
Caladine Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Report of the trustees

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their annual report and accounts for the year ended 30 June 2024.

1 Objectives and activities

The objectives of the CIO are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs primarily (but not exclusively) in Eastbourne.

2 Structure, governance and management

South Street Free Church is a CIO governed by its Constitution registered with the Charity Commission on the 7 March 2019.

The trustees who served during the year were:

David Batchelor (Chair)
Anthony Thompson
Rachel Wells (resigned 31 March 2024)

The Church is run by the trustees. New trustees are appointed from the elders and deacons of the Church, in accordance with section 15 of our Constitution.

3 Review of Activities

This year our church has continued its regular ministry of public worship on Sundays, morning & evening, continuing to live stream this online across the whole year.

Up to the end of March, David Knight continued to work full-time as Evangelist, and his activities included running the weekly Tuesday morning study group that used resources provided free-of-charge from Ligonier Ministries (both regular church attendees and outsiders frequently came along to these times and benefitted from them), running a Christian chaplaincy at the Stagecoach employees' base, taking school assemblies in the Haven Primary School, running the Friday evening Football club (much enjoyed by both Christians and non-Christians), and keeping our free-resources table in the foyer well-stocked for visitors and regulars to benefit from.

Our church's women's group (which since February has been renamed to Refresh) which is open to women both who are regular church attendees and those who are not, has met 7 times across the year, and been an encouragement and benefit to those that have attended, on themes such as keeping your balance, and hope amidst anxiety.

During this year the pastor took a 3-month sabbatical (August to October inclusive) which was a very helpful time for him and Elaine to refresh and recharge. During that time they visited the Popileascos (the missionary family that our church supports in Moldova), hopefully encouraging them and seeing their situation first-hand. Shortly after this visit, the Popileasco family visited us in Eastbourne for a couple of weeks from the end of January into early February. Apart from David & Elaine's visit to Moldova, this was the first time the church met Vasiliu and their daughter Damaris (and, for some in the church, the first time they met Ewelina).

During the year we continued our monthly Zoom prayer times for the Popileascos to join us from Moldova, and expanded it to include two pastors regularly joining us, one of a church in Cornwall and the other of a church in India, whom we seek to support in prayer. We have also continued our weekly Tuesday-evening prayer meeting, in which we pray both for our own needs as a church and for the needs of others, locally and internationally.

Report of the Trustees (continued)

3 Review of Activities (continued)

Our outreach to the community with the Good News of Jesus has continued weekly throughout the year, and also included particular focussed campaigns during the town's Airbourne Air Show in August and the Little Christmas street event in early December.

Monthly services at two local care homes have continued across the year, aiming to take the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ to their elderly residents.

The church has continued running its annual 'Shoe Bags' project, in which it prepares and sends packages of Christmas gifts to children in Sierra Leone who would otherwise receive no Christmas presents.

We have also continued our regular support of the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team (who seek to prevent suicides at Beachy Head), the Sierra Leone Mission, PARCHE (who coordinate teams taking Christian services in Eastbourne's care homes), SASRA (who seek to minister the Christian Good News amongst the armed forces), Care Sri Lanka, the Slavic Gospel Association (who work in Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Far East Russia), and the Barnabas Fund (who support persecuted Christians across the world).

In summary, we thank the God and Father of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, for all that He has enabled us to do in His service over the course of this year. We trust in Him, and seek to please Him depending on His Spirit, and we look to Him to provide for us to continue to do His work over the coming year. May Christ's name be honoured and glorified through us.

4 Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Church should undertake.

5 Financial review

These financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. There was a net deficit on funds for the year of £18,525 (2023: deficit of £23,246) leaving a balance on cash funds of £30,853 at 30 June 2024 (2023: £49,378).

The Church has a reserve policy of ensuring at least three months of annual expenditure is held in reserve, in order for the church to be able to meet its financial commitments to its paid employees (i.e. its pastor and its evangelist, though the latter has now finished his employment at the church as of the end of March 2024).

6 Risk Management

The trustees continually consider the major risks to which the Church is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to these risks.

On behalf of the Trustees



David Batchelor

Pastor

Date: 16/9/2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of South Street Free Church CIO

I report to the trustees of the church on my examination of the accounts of South Street Free Church ('the CIO') for the period ended 30 June 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Colin Dadswell FCA FCCA DChA
Caladine Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Chantry House, 22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne, BN21 1BF

Date: 23/9/2024

Receipts and Payments Account

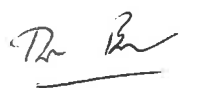
	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2024</u> £	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2023</u> £
<u>Receipts</u>						
Gifts and donations	48,114	21,224	69,338	47,641	20,408	68,049
Gift Aid tax repayments	8,023	3,296	11,319	8,520	3,601	12,121
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest received	795	-	795	557	-	557
Total receipts	56,932	24,520	81,452	56,718	24,009	80,727
<u>Payments</u>						
Missionary Fund Tithe	-	5,898	5,898	-	5,442	5,442
Gifts/Grants	156	3,630	3,786	310	1,296	1,606
Training	30	-	30	210	-	210
Salaries and wages	34,050	19,080	53,130	30,884	22,642	53,526
Pension contributions	3,358	719	4,077	6,114	2,054	8,168
Ministerial pulpit supplies	3,663	-	3,663	1,265	-	1,265
Conference costs	715	-	715	985	-	985
Travel expenses	80	-	80	-	-	-
Subsistence costs	-	110	110	-	100	100
Heat & Light	6,790	-	6,790	4,981	-	4,981
Water S & W	295	-	295	84	-	84
Insurances	1,363	-	1,363	1,313	-	1,313
Caretaking and cleaning	1,560	-	1,560	1,636	-	1,636
Building repairs & maintenance	2,427	662	3,089	8,131	-	8,131
Stationery	-	-	-	110	-	110
Telephone/Fax/Email	689	-	689	630	81	711
Website and IT costs	912	-	912	811	-	811
Publicity costs	33	-	33	30	-	30
Missionary and evangelism	336	9,467	9,803	1,761	10,264	12,025
Equipment purchases & repairs	1,424	-	1,424	860	-	860
Catering costs	261	-	261	269	-	269
Sunday School/Youth Work	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	1,135	42	1,177	489	230	719
Accountancy	936	-	936	912	-	912
Bank charges	156	-	156	79	-	79
Total payments	60,369	39,608	99,977	61,864	42,109	103,973
Net receipts/(payments)	(3,437)	(15,088)	(18,525)	(5,146)	(18,100)	(23,246)
Cash funds at 1 July 2023	25,540	23,838	49,378	30,686	41,938	72,624
Cash funds at 30 June 2024	22,103	8,750	30,853	25,540	23,838	49,378

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

<u>Cash funds</u>	2024	2023
	£	£
CAF Current Account 00011621	8,134	10,761
CAF Deposit Account 00088691	22,719	38,617
	<u>30,853</u>	<u>49,378</u>
<u>Other monetary assets</u>		
Gift Aid tax reclaim due	5,022	5,764
<u>Non monetary assets</u>		
Freehold Property - 21 South Street Held by The Countess of Huntingdon Connexion	-	-
Fixtures and Equipment (At Insurance Valuation)	27,773	27,773
<u>Liabilities</u>		
PAYE and Pension Creditors	738	778
Independent Examination Fee	984	936
	<u>1,722</u>	<u>1,714</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 16/09/2024 and signed on its behalf by

David Batchelor
Pastor


16/9/2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Accounting Policies

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

2 Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives, unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

3 Trustees

Donations from trustees, and persons connected to them, were £15,010 during the year (2023: £14,471). David Batchelor received a salary of £34,157 (2023: £30,833) and pension contributions of £3,358 (2023: £6,114), in his role as Pastor of the Church.

4 Related Party Transactions

Relatives of trustee David Batchelor received payments for caretaking and cleaning during the year. J Batchelor £Nil (2023 £800) and G Batchelor received £1,560 (2023: £790).

5 Restricted Funds

	Movement in funds						
	Balance at 1 July 2022	Receipts	Payments	Balance at 30 June 2023	Receipts	Payments	Balance at 30 June 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Missionary	80	410	(490)	-	385	(135)	250
Tithe	1,097	5,713	(5,442)	1,368	6,096	(5,898)	1,566
MEF	33,826	6,210	(24,696)	15,340	5,451	(20,009)	782
Shoe Bags	610	975	(714)	871	757	(1,067)	561
SLM	810	2,601	(1,956)	1,455	3,846	(3,235)	2,066
Other	341	460	(230)	571	325	(692)	204
Ewelina	3,419	7,400	(8,400)	2,419	7,380	(8,400)	1,399
Social	1,755	240	(181)	1,814	280	(172)	1,922
	41,938	24,009	(42,109)	23,838	24,520	(39,608)	8,750

Missionary Fund - donations for various Missionary causes.

Tithe Fund - one tenth of General fund offerings to be given away to worthwhile causes.

Ministry Expansion Fund (MEF) - to employ an evangelist.

Shoe Bags - a fund to send shoe bags with toys and clothing to Sierra Leone each year.

Sierra Leone Mission (SLM) - missionary work of the Countess of Huntingdon Connexion.

Other - this fund relates to special offerings.

Ewelina - to fund the support of a Church Missionary worker.

Social - used to support people who come to the Church seeking food or other support.