

Ceredigion Circuit

Charity Registration Number 1188313

Trustee's Annual Report, Year Ending 31 August 2023

Registered address: St Paul Methodist Centre, Queens Road, Aberystwyth, SY23 2NN

www.ceredigionmethodists.org.uk

Objectives and Activities

The Ceredigion Circuit is part of the Wales Synod in the Methodist Church in Britain. The Circuit supports the mission and outreach of Methodist Churches and communities in Aberystwyth, Lampeter and the surrounding area.

As part of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, we are governed by the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976), adopted 20 Sep 1932 as amended by statutory instrument dated 14 Jun 2017. These documents include the charitable objectives:

“The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the Union the advancement of:

- (A) the Christian Faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;
- (B) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, Local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;
- (C) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;
- (D) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.”

For the Ceredigion Circuit, our mission statement is “To have a living relationship with God through worship, to encourage one another to grow as Christians, to live the Good News of Jesus and to share God's unconditional love for everyone.”

Working with the churches in the Circuit, this includes the following benefits for the public:

- Providing public worship, led by ordained preachers and lay preachers in the Circuit.
- Being available for marriages, christenings, and funerals, by arrangement.
- Running church groups that help people from the community to join in as they feel able, including prayer groups, Bible study, a Pay as you Feel café, coffee mornings, art groups, guardian and toddler groups, and additional activities aimed at students and disadvantaged groups.
- Making church buildings available for community, charity and commercial lettings.

Achievements and Performance

During the 2022/2023 financial year (FY) the circuit continued to provide for services and groups meeting in churches, the manse and in members' homes, as well as providing weekly online services on YouTube.

The circuit and its churches continued the work, emphasised in the 2021/22 report, targeted at students, the poor, those self-identifying as neuro-diverse, and those from the LGBTQ+ communities. In 2022/23 we received confirmation that we would receive £20K per year for the next three financial years to support this work with the appointment of a lay missionary (£10K from the Synod Advance Fund; £10K from Synod block grant for Methodist Action on Poverty and Justice).

In addition, the 2022/23 FY saw the start of a baby and toddler group based in St Paul's, *Baby Boogie Aberystwyth*; the development of our *Messy Church* provision to *Lighthouse Stay & Play*; the registration of both our churches with the national *Warm Hub Network* and the *Connect Ceredigion's Warm Spaces* project; and the publication of our new bilingual website (<https://www.ceredigionmethodists.org.uk/cy/community>).

Financial Review

Our accounts are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis and are independently examined. The report for the 2022/2023 financial year is at the end of this report. As of 31st August 2023, the Circuit had receipts of £99,406, payments of £85,989, and total funds remaining of £188,493; thus total funds remaining represent c. 220% of the payments for 2022/2023. This greatly exceeds our policy to retain reserves sufficient to fund up to 50% of our annual expenditure. However, we have allocated significant expenditure for the 2023/24 FY as we look to expand our work with disadvantaged groups, and to reduce the carbon footprint of our buildings.

The Circuit has one part-time member of staff, which is a Circuit PA. The person helps to support the work of the Superintendent Minister. A lay missionary will be appointed in the 2023/24 FY.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Circuit's governance is established by policies from the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The Circuit has a leadership team, comprised of the Chair (Superintendent Minister), Treasurer, Circuit Stewards and Meeting Secretary. All of the leadership team are trustees. The leadership team oversees general management of the Circuit and it is responsible to the Circuit Meeting (which includes all trustees).

The Circuit Meeting occurs in the Autumn and Spring as a minimum for formal decision making. Other Circuit Meetings are arranged when appropriate.

Trustees

Our typical time to change roles in the Circuit is late August and Early September. Those changes are recorded at the Circuit Meeting in September.

- Rev'd Felicity Jane Jepson-Randall (Chair)
- Ruth Gooding (Secretary)
- Rev'd David Jones
- Rev'd Peter Edwin Barber
- Rev'd Phillip Alun Poynor
- Arnold Smith
- Charlene Mary Crampin
- David Henry Crimes
- Dionne Sherwood
- Elizabeth Edwards
- Glyn Jenkins
- Heather Phillips
- Jean Millest-Baker
- Julia Ann Christine Jenkins
- Kathryn Anne Wright
- Michael Jonathan Gooding (Treasurer)
- Susan Peterson
- Barbara Jill Barber

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature: Jepson Randall

Full name: Rev'd Felicity Jane Jepson-Randall

Position: Chair

Date: 17 June 2024

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Ceredigion	Circuit
-------------------	---------

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2023**

Wales Synod Cymru	District	Circuit no	2/10
-------------------	----------	------------	------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1188313

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**

N/A

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Ministers:

Rev'd Felicity Jepson-Randall

Circuit Stewards:

Liz Edwards
David Crimes
Dionne Sherwood
Michael Gooding

Treasurer:

Michael Gooding

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Ceredigion

Circuit

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		74,827			74,827	74,827
a3	Capital receipts						104,282
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		1,778	3,327		5,104	681
a5	Grants		14,000			14,000	4,000
a6	Other receipts		5,475			5,475	8,814
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		96,079.34	3,326.60		99,405.94 (a8)	192,604

SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		50,713			50,713	46,467
b3	Manse Costs		8,032			8,032	19,675
b4	Administration etc		1,640	303		1,943	1,420
b5	District Assessment		18,944	2,817		21,761	19,942
b6	Grants & donations						4,000
b7							
b8	Other payments		3,539			3,539	23,280
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		82,868.38	3,120.24		85,988.62 (b9)	114,784

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	13,211	206		13,417	77,819
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		68,732	106,343		175,075 (c6)	97,256
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	81,943	106,550		188,493	175,075
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	81,943	106,550		188,493 (c8)	175,075 (c6)

SECTION D						
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations					
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)					
	99,406 (a8)	85,989 (b9)	13,417	(c7)	175,075 (c6)	188,493 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT					
	99,406	85,989	13,417		175,075 (x)	188,493 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS			

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	9,936	26,903
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	58,796	55,040
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	106,343	106,550
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	175,075 (c6)	188,493 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	175,075 (x)	188,493 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board


f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

Name of Circuit: Ceredigion Circuit No: 2/10

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer  Date 9/4/24

Name and address of treasurer: Michael Gooding, Treetops, Cau Melyn

Aberystwyth Post Code: SY23 2HA

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 23 April 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev. FELICITY JEPSON-RANDALL Date 23/4/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Ceredigion Circuit

Charity Number: 1188313

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Ceredigion Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 2 to 3 As the Circuit's trustees, 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 Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit: Ceredigion Circuit..... No: 2/10

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 (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I ~~have~~/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner ROBERT JOHN GRAY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner F.C.A. (I.C.A.E.W)

Name of firm (where appropriate) PJE ADDIT. SERVICES LTD

Address 23 COLLEGE STREET, LAMPETER

..... WALES Post Code SA48 7DY

Date 2 APRIL 2024

* delete or circle as appropriate

Ceredigion Circuit • Accounts for year ending 31st August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

Format of the accounts

The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

Reserves Policy

The Circuit's Reserves Policy is that it should have an amount that is approximately equal to six-months of expenditure. Following guidance from the District Finance Officer in 2017, the Circuit meeting agreed that it would be willing to lower the Reserves Policy in order to release funds for use.

The reserves at year end on 31st August 2023 were £188,493 with a total expenditure of £85,989. This is more than needed for the Reserves Policy. This is partly a consequence of the money following the sale of the properties (Manse Wesley, Ty Canol and Penparcau Building) in previous years.

The remaining money from the property sales is £106,550, which is held in a TMCP Model Trust fund. The remaining money, £81,943, is held in the HSBC account and the CFB deposit account.

Assessment from the churches

The Circuit has received payments from the two churches in the circuit, at the same rates as in the previous year.

	2022/2023	2021/2022
St Paul's Methodist Church, Aberystwyth	61,031	61,031
St Thomas' Methodist Church, Lampeter	13,796	13,796

District grants

There is an annual grant of £4,000 from Wales Synod to contribute towards our activities with students in the Circuit. There is a further grant of £10,000 from Wales Synod which arrived towards the end of the financial year; to contribute to a Lay Missioner project (starting in September 2023) to further our work with disadvantaged groups in Aberystwyth and Lampeter.