

East Vale Ministry Area

Registered Charity 1200840

Examined Accounts and Annual Report 31 December 2024



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TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Our Mission Statement

We are eight churches, united in serving the communities of the East Vale, sharing our faith in the love of Jesus. The link to the website is <https://eastvalechurches.org.uk>

Missional Aims of our Ministry Area

To develop a worship pattern which incorporates the needs of our communities, building on our successful online worship and Morning Prayer.

To expand the outreach and engagement with our schools in the Ministry Area and the young people in our communities.

To build on excellent ecumenical links across the Ministry Area.

To recognise and address the needs of our rural communities, especially in respect of loneliness and isolation across all age groups.

To encourage and further develop our lay leadership, particularly in the strategic leadership team in the Ministry Area.

Introduction

This document has been written in consultation with all the EVMA churches.

St Bride – St Brides Super Ely

St Nicholas – St Nicholas

St Cadoc – Pendoylan

St Peter – Peterston-Super- Ely

St Dunwyd – Welsh St Donats

St Cadoc – Llancafarn

St Mary – Bonvilston

St Illtyd – Llantrithyd

Each of these churches has produced its own Annual Report to present to its own congregation at the Annual Congregational Meetings.

The EVMA is also responsible for the churchyard at St George's, the church itself having closed a few years ago. The clergy endeavour to maintain close links with the community of St George's and a group sang carols around the village just before Christmas.

2024 East Vale Ministry Area Leadership Team (MAC)/Trustees

Canon Martyn Davies, EVMA Leader; *Rev Michael John*, Part time Priest; *Rev. Peter Watson*, Part time Priest; *Rev. Amanda Thomas*, self-supporting Assistant Curate; *Alex Rees* (Church Warden – Rector's appointment); *Delyth Hurley* (Church Warden – People's appointment); *Judith Roberts* (Secretary); *Anna Cory* (Treasurer); *Lynne Mordecai*; *Diana Powell*; *Katherine Kemp*; *Jane Warner*; *Alan Meredith*; *Gethin Rowlands*; *Martyn Evans*; *Judith Morris* (Church representatives).

Each Church's MAC representatives are elected at the respective Congregational Meetings. The People's Warden is proposed and elected at the Annual Vestry as are the officers.

(names in italics are members of the Ministry Area Leadership Team)

The MAC meets regularly approximately quarterly with a meeting of the MALT in between. Meetings of the Church Committees are received by the MAC and any issues concerning the EVMA as a body are discussed.

Our Charity Commission reference number is 1200840.

Outreach

A newsletter is prepared weekly with the times of all church services and the allocated officiating priest and includes links to the website and the live-streamed services from St. Peter's. It also includes details of forthcoming events in the various churches and communities, sometimes photographs of interest, contact details for the clergy and safeguarding officer, etc. This is circulated to the church coordinators who then distribute it by e-mail to their congregation and other interested parties or by hard copies to those who are not on e-mail. The newsletter is also uploaded to the website along with the clergy rota.

Most of our church porches act as places to deposit items donated to the Food Bank by the congregation as well as members of the local communities. The results of the regular collections and the items urgently required are made known via social media. This is perceived by many to be a "Church-led" initiative which improves the visibility and standing of the church in the local community.

Other charities have also benefitted from local church initiatives such as Lent Lunches, coffee mornings, gift days, concerts, cheese and wine evenings etc.

The Sunday Service at St Peter's is live-streamed and can be accessed by anyone with the link on the newsletter. Weddings, funeral and baptisms can also be live streamed on request. We have ascertained that a great many people access the church service by this means every week. The link to access it is <https://ipcamlive.com/stpeterspeterstonsely>.

Church Services

Each Church normally has a Eucharist Service every Sunday (St Mary's, Bonvilston has a family Service on the first Sunday of the month and Holy Eucharist on the third Sunday). St Peter's, Peterston-super-Ely has introduced an evening or afternoon (in winter months) choral service, usually on the last Sunday of the month where one in three services is Choral Evensong.

A mid-week Holy Eucharist is held every Wednesday at noon in St Peter's with an average attendance of 8.

In Lent there is an additional noon Eucharist at Llancarfan.

Usually, on the fifth Sunday of the month there is just one service in the EVMA at 10.30, with each church hosting the service in turn. This service is popular and usually attended by around 35 people. At this Eucharist one of the clergy or laity is usually interviewed.

The Clergy

We are grateful for the support, both in practical and pastoral terms, of our excellent clergy team. We are also fortunate to have been allocated Rachel Petley for the duration of her three-year training as an Ordinand. Rachel will remain with us as an Assistant Curate from June 2025.

Children's Ministry

The clergy are regularly involved in school worship sessions with our Church in Wales primary schools (St Nicholas, Pendoylan and Peterston-super-Ely). "Open the Book" is now a regular fixture in all three schools involving the dramatization of Bible stories, with a Team including clergy and lay people. There is also a family worship service based in Pendoylan school every half term.

"Experience Easter" was once again held for the older children in our primary schools with the help of volunteers as well as clergy and was very well received.

"Life Path" was held for the second year in Llancarfan in June, involving year 5 children from all our church schools in exploring the lives of monks. This will be repeated in 2025.

Nevertheless, it has been difficult to engage families in the regular worship and life of the church outside the school day.

However, the schools now visit their local churches on a regular basis for worship and/or special occasions such as Remembrance Services, to which parents are invited.

Certain special services, such as the Pet Blessing Service at St Peter's and Crib services, are well attended but have not resulted in any firm commitment by families to regular worship.

It is hoped to continue these events, moving around different churches in the EVMA, varying the themes and formats so as to engage with as many families as possible.

Other Events

Second Tuesday Together. On the second Tuesday of each month a coffee morning is held at Bonvilston Reading Rooms beginning at 10.30am. There is regular attendance by clergy as well as a committed group of parishioners who enjoy the far-ranging conversation and cake. Rev Amanda is the contact person for this and lifts can be organised. In August an outing was arranged to Penarth Pier which was very much enjoyed and bears repeating in 2025.



Regular attendees at Second Tuesday Together enjoying their outing to Penarth Pier where they enjoyed coffee and enormous toasted teacakes.

Discussion groups take place on some Monday evenings at the homes of various participants. Discussions are sometimes based on courses recommended by the Diocese or, more recently, have focussed on a particular topic or book of interest. There are 14 members of the group, and anyone is welcome to join at any time. Please contact Rev Amanda for more information.

God in the Garden



At Pentecost, an event took place at the home of Rhian and Peter to celebrate the Church's Birthday, with crafts, worship and cake! This event is taking place again on Pentecost Sunday 2025.

The Electoral Roll

The total number on the Electoral Roll for the EVMA is 163 with the numbers for each church as follows:

St Dunwyd, WSD 15
St Cadoc's, Llanccarfan 30
St Illtyd's, Llantrithyd 11
St Bride's 14
St Cadoc's Pendoylan 14
St Nicholas 18
St Mary's Bonvilston 10
St Peter's, Peterston-super-Ely 51

Church Buildings and Faculties applied for

Bonvilston Church - to carry out the works specified in their Quinquennial Inspection and to replace existing heating system

St Illtyds Church - for tower repairs (list B application)

St Brides Church - for new boiler

St Nicholas Church – toilets, new heating system etc; and to dismantle lychgate; to replace existing gates in churchyard with replicas, resurfacing pathway & provision of outside lighting.

EVMA Financial Report for 2024

The consolidated accounts for 2024 show total unrestricted income of £153,971 and costs of £156,620. Unrestricted income of £8,000 and unrestricted costs of £84 have been designated by EVMA. This meant that at the end of the year there was an overall deficit of £2,649. There was a variation across the churches with St Peters and St Marys and St Donats showing surpluses for the year but all the other churches recording a deficit.

It is good to see significant levels of planned giving across the churches and the resulting Gift Aid tax rebates.

Our biggest cost was the Fairer Share payment to the diocese towards the cost of our clergy of £84,004 which is 53% of our total expenditure from unrestricted funds. The other most significant costs were electricity of £12,353, church maintenance and repairs of £5,736 and church insurance of £6,970.

At the end of the year the total unrestricted reserves were £289,095, £8,498 being designated, which is a healthy position. However again the position varies across the churches with some having quite low levels of restricted reserves. It is also important to remember that we all have old buildings which require periodic costly maintenance which could quickly deplete those reserves.

Approved by order of the board of Trustees on 16 Sept 25 and signed and its behalf by:

Anna Cory (Treasurer)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF EAST VALE MINISTRY AREA 2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of East Vale Ministry Area

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of East Vale Ministry Area ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

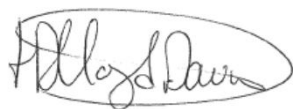
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Henry Lloyd Davies

Bevan Buckland LLP
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Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: 16th September 2025

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Unrestricted (Designated) Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	Prior Year Total Funds £
Receipts:						
Donations and legacies	103,894	8,000	39,109	-	151,003	104,722
Receipts from charitable activities	6,794	-	3,241	-	10,035	12,334
Other trading activities	23,093	-	-	-	23,093	26,202
Investments	12,090	-	2,046	-	14,136	8,477
Other receipts	100	-	4,406	-	4,506	-
Total receipts	145,971	8,000	48,802	-	202,773	151,735
Payments:						
Raising funds	1,283	-	-	-	1,283	2,861
Payments on charitable activities	155,253	84	63,228	-	218,566	155,885
Other payments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	156,536	84	63,228	-	219,849	158,746
Net receipts / (payments) resources before transfer	(10,565)	7,916	(14,426)	-	(17,075)	(7,011)
Transfers:						
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	-	20	-	20	89,211
Gross transfers between funds – out	-	-	(20)	-	(20)	(89,211)
Other recognised gains / losses:						
Gains/losses on investment assets	1,442	-	678	-	2,120	2,968
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	(9,123)	7,916	(13,748)	-	(14,955)	(4,043)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	289,720	582	231,679	-	521,981	526,024
Total funds carried forward	280,597	8,498	217,931	-	507,026	521,981

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Unrestricted (Designated) Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	At 31/12/2024 £	At 31/12/2023 £
Current assets						
Debtors	-	-	21	-	21	20
Investments	26,319	-	63,696	-	90,015	104,929
Cash at Bank and in Hand	254,278	8,498	154,214	-	416,990	417,031
	280,597	8,498	217,931	-	507,026	521,981
Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total assets less liabilities	280,597	8,498	217,931	-	507,026	521,981
Represented by:						
<u>Unrestricted</u>						
General Fund	280,597	-	-	-	280,597	289,720
<u>Designated</u>						
Bonvilston 100 Club	-	477	-	-	477	477
St Nicholas Appeal	-	(84)	-	-	(84)	-
St Nicholas Enhanced Entrance	-	8,000	-	-	8,000	-
St Georges Churchyards	-	105	-	-	105	105
<u>Restricted</u>						
Bonvilston Chancel Repair Fund	-	-	1,460	-	1,460	1,460
Bonvilston Churchyard	-	-	164	-	164	164
Bonvilston Special Purposes	-	-	5,099	-	5,099	5,099
Bonvilston Tower	-	-	21,305	-	21,305	21,305
Children's Fund	-	-	122	-	122	567
Diocesan Grant	-	-	1,761	-	1,761	1,761
Incumbent's Fund	-	-	1,108	-	1,108	1,108
Friends of St Illtyd's	-	-	320	-	320	-
PSE Organ Fund	-	-	2,940	-	2,940	2,940
Pendoylan Bells	-	-	16,499	-	16,499	15,862
Pendoylan Chancel Repair Fund	-	-	9,417	-	9,417	8,729
Restoration Project	-	-	43,634	-	43,634	43,634
Simon Gibson Trust	-	-	38,371	-	38,371	33,371
St Brides Churchyard	-	-	(593)	-	(593)	(1,626)
St Nicholas Appeal	-	-	51,901	-	51,901	74,410
St Nicholas Churchyard	-	-	2,459	-	2,459	1,855
St Nicholas Enhanced Entrance	-	-	832	-	832	-
St Georges Churchyard	-	-	1,009	-	1,009	941
WSD Chancel Repair Fund	-	-	3,011	-	3,011	2,770
WSD Churchyard	-	-	17,112	-	17,112	17,329
Funds Total	280,597	8,498	217,931	-	507,026	521,981