

CHURCH SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 249574

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [00213142](#)

Registered 1967-02-07

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Ground Floor
Centre Block
Hille Business Estate
132 St Albans Road
Watford
UK

Phone 01923255410

Email admin@churchsociety.org

Website www.churchsociety.org

Activities

Objects: TO MAINTAIN THE DOCTRINE AND WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AS SET FORTH IN THE 39 ARTICLES OF RELIGION AND THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER AS REVIEWED AND ADOPTED IN 1662 AND TO RUN SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS. (FOR FULLER DETAILS SEE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION AS ALTERED BY SPECIAL RESOLUTION DATED 12TH JULY 1966).

Activities: Upholding the doctrine of the Church of England and assisting clergy, parishes, schools and the like in their work and mission.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£327,118	£288,507	-	-
2023-12-31	£319,260	£304,442	-	-
2022-12-31	£270,881	£285,082	-	-
2021-12-31	£301,032	£270,648	-	-
2020-12-31	£232,542	£264,580	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Amanda Robbie		2015-06-06
REVEREND DOCTOR JAMES THOMAS HUGHES		2017-05-13
Rev Andrew Paul John Towner		2018-05-12
Rev CHRISTOPHER RICHARD HARGAVE KILGOUR		2013-08-22
Rev Christopher Pierce		2024-08-28
Rev Dr Robert Speight Munro		2018-05-12
Rev Edward John Gerald Keene		2023-08-30
Rev Michael Hayden		2021-09-01
Rev Nigel Atkinson		2024-08-28
Rev Stephen Short		2024-08-28
The Reverend Doctor Jason David Ward		2018-07-03

Linked charities

- BIRCHINGTON CONVALESCENT BENEFIT FUND (249574-1)
- ST LUKES, LEAMINGTON SPA (MRS FISHER) (249574-10)
- ST LUKES, LEAMINGTON SPA (COLEMAN) (249574-11)
- F M BEYNON TRUST (249574-12)
- ST JOHN'S CHURCH, WALTHAMSTOW (249574-13)
- HOLY TRINITY CHURCH HOVE TRUST (249574-14)
- THE CHARITY IN CONNECTION WITH CHURCH SOCIETY AND GLOUCESTER MARINERS CHURCH (249574-15)
- THE CHARITY IN CONNECTION WITH CHURCH SOCIETY AND GLOUCESTER MARINERS HALL (249574-16)
- THE DUSSELDORF CHAPLAINCY (249574-17)
- THE CHARITY OF THE WILL OF JOSEPH WILLIAM HANSON IN CONNECTION WITH CHURCH SOCIETY (249574-18)
- THE CHARITY IN CONNECTION WITH CHRIST CHURCH LEAMINGTON SPA (249574-19)
- GIRLING TRUST (249574-2)
- THE CHARITY IN CONNECTION WITH ST FAITH'S MAIDSTONE (249574-20)
- THE CHARITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHAPEL OF ST JAMES RYDE (249574-21)
- THE CHURCH SOCIETY TRUST ENDOWMENT FUND (249574-22)
- THE CHARITY IN CONNECTION WITH PENRHYN HALL WALTHAMSTOW (249574-23)
- THE CHARITY OF EDWARD ALLEN BEYNON IN CONNECTION WITH CHURCH SOCIETY (249574-24)
- THE AMALGAMATED ORDINATION AND TRAINING FUND (249574-25)
- PADDOCK WOOD PAROCHIAL HALL TRUST (249574-26)
- THE WILLIAM NEWTON TRUST (249574-27)
- THE LUCY THOMAS TRUST (249574-3)
- DEAN WACE MEMORIAL FUND (249574-4)
- LUTHER MEMORIAL HOME (LUTHER ANNUITIES) (249574-5)
- H C WELLS FOR AUGMENTATION OF LIVING (249574-6)
- G R BRIGSTOCKE TRUST (249574-7)
- HANSON BEQUEST, CHRIST CHURCH, SURBITON HILL TRUST, BACUP ST SAVIOUR'S ENDOWMENT FUND, OULTON LOWESTOFT TRUST AND CHARITY OF H H BOLTON (249574-8)
- EMMANUEL CHURCH TRUST (249574-9)

CHURCH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 249574

Accounts

Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Church Society
(A company limited by guarantee)

Company No 213142
Charity Registration No 249574

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Contents

Trustees' and directors' report	1 - 6
Independent auditor's report	7 - 9
Statement of financial activities	10
Income and expenditure account	11
Balance sheet	12
Notes to the financial statements	13 - 25

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Council members	The Revd N Atkinson (from 28 August 2024) The Revd C J Brixton (until 11 November 2024) The Revd P T Darlington The Revd M E Davy (until 28 August 2024) The Revd M Hayden The Revd Dr J Hughes Mrs R C Hunt (until 28 August 2024) The Revd E J G Keene The Revd C R H Kilgour The Revd Dr R S Munro The Revd C Pierce (from 28 August 2024) Mrs A Robbie The Revd S Short (from 28 August 2024) The Revd A P J Towner (Chairman) The Revd Dr J D Ward
Director	The Revd Dr Lee Gatiss
Charity number	249574
Company number	213142
Registered office	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE
Auditors	Xeinadin Audit Limited 5 Robin Hood Lane Sutton Surrey SM1 2SW
Principal address	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc London Fleet Street Branch 1 Fleet Street London EC4Y 1BD Barclays Bank plc 62/64 High Street Watford WD17 2BT
Solicitors	Edward Connor Solicitors 10 The Point Market Harborough LE16 7QU

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2024

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

Charity's objectives

Church Society is a registered charity. Its objectives are set out in the Company's governing document, the Memorandum of Association. The charity constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The overall purpose of the Society is to maintain the character of the Church of England as a reformed and national Church witnessing to and seeking to serve the entire nation for the benefit of all. In particular by;

- upholding the supremacy, sufficiency and authority of Scripture;
- equipping and encouraging parochial clergy and lay people in their ministries;
- supporting local churches;
- administering and holding funds and properties with local and national benefits;
- contending for the reformed worship and doctrine of the 39 Articles and Book of Common Prayer;
- uniting all who share these principles;
- promoting friendship with all churches which accept the supreme authority of God's word written;
- opposing all practices which are contrary to reformed doctrine;
- taking all manner of action, including legal and political, to pursue these objectives.

Church Society is working towards these objectives through publishing, parish support, campaigning and administering trusts. Wherever possible this is done in consultation and co-operation with other groups and organisations. In carrying out activities the directors confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and believe that Church Society provides benefit to the public in a variety of ways. These are described in the sections under activities and achievements and under managed funds.

Through its allied company, Church Society Trust, the Society is involved in the patronage work of the Church of England. The Trust is responsible for 131 Livings, many of which are on a shared basis.

Church Society manages a number of financial trusts with various objectives including:

- supporting the training and education of ordinands and clergy;
- Christian work in various parishes or locations subject to certain conditions

Through other trusts the Society owns various properties on behalf of others, in particular 2 Proprietary Chapels (one in Germany) and an Independent Evangelical Church. It acts as holding trustees and appoints some of the trustees for one Church, one Hall and a school. A further trust supports accommodation for staff.

Structure, governance, and management

The key management personnel of the Society are the Council (the Trustees), The Director Revd Dr Lee Gatiss and the Associate Director Dr Ros Clarke. They are in charge of directing and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Council consists of up to 15 people elected annually by the members of the Society. Up to 5 additional Council members can be co-opted as required. New trustees are provided with guidance on their responsibilities.

The trustees give of their time freely and did not receive any remuneration in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in Note 7 to the financial statements. The pay of staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with average earnings, though the Director's stipend is pegged to that of an incumbent in the Diocese of St Albans. The Church Society will continue to benchmark staff benefits against staff performing similar roles in similar charities.

The Global Anglican Editorial Board and Church Society Trust Directors operate largely as committees of the Council. In addition, there is a finance committee. The Council must approve appointments of Church Society Trust Members and the membership of certain other charitable trusts.

Two full-time and three part-time members of staff were employed throughout the year and their work was greatly assisted by three part-time regional directors (two from April 2024), each enabled to do this work through the support of their churches. Other volunteers also assist in many areas and their efforts are much appreciated. The Society is an association of members who share a common vision and members do much of the work of the Society.

Activities and achievements

During the course of 2024, Church Society continued to be vibrantly alive and actively involved in fulfilling its primary objectives of promoting what the King's Coronation Oath referred to as "the true profession of the gospel... the Protestant Reformed religion", which is the foundation of the Church of England, as the established church. This included supporting

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2024

individuals, parishes, and other organisations working along these lines, and in challenging and opposing teaching and actions which run counter to this faith, both within the national church and society more widely.

We are a fellowship contending to reform and renew the Church of England in biblical faith. We aim to contend in various ways through publishing and prayerful partnership.

Publishing

Publishing and resourcing takes many forms as we seek to equip God's people to live God's word. We have a website at www.churchsociety.org and an active social media presence on Facebook and X (formerly Twitter), as well as using platforms such as SoundCloud and YouTube to publish our resources. We publish a quarterly glossy magazine for our members called *Crossway* (edited by Kirsten Birkett) which this year featured articles by quite a number of contributors on a range of issues, spiritual, political, practical, and pastoral. We also produce a quarterly theological journal called *The Global Anglican* (editor: Archbishop Peter Jensen), which features an editorial, a range of in-depth articles on biblical, theological, historical, and pastoral topics, as well as a large number of book reviews (edited by Marc Lloyd). This year we launched a cheaper digital subscription alongside the print journal, in the hope of reaching more readers, particularly in the majority world. An article by Professor Andrew Atherstone on the Anglican Communion was also shared freely online as a timely contribution to debates in global Anglicanism.

Our blog explored a number of issues and featured book reviews and even a specially-written collect for the UK General Election. We especially interacted with recent proposals from the House of Bishops about Prayers of Love and Faith. A particularly popular post from Lee Gatiss responded to the Bishop of Oxford's criticism of *The Alliance*. In November, Lee Gatiss and Ros Clarke wrote an open letter to Justin Welby, calling on him to resign as Archbishop of Canterbury, which was quoted on the front page of *The Daily Telegraph*.

Our regular podcast is available on various platforms (Spotify, Apple, SoundCloud etc) and in 2024 discussed a huge range of topics with a number of guests and regular presenters, from Church of England politics and General Synod, the duties of church membership, the ministry of women in the church, interviews with authors about recent books (including several with writers of the Hodder Bible Commentaries), revival, and Bible talks. We also added a number of videos to our YouTube channel, including an in-depth exploration by Lee Gatiss of the Reformed tradition in the Church of England between 1662 and the evangelical revival, as well as his New Year's Message "O Joy!". We were delighted to continue our partnership with the St Antholin Charity Lectureship by livestreaming (on Facebook) this year's lecture "Evangelicals before Evangelicalism" by Rachel Ciano from Sydney Missionary and Bible College, and then putting the lecture and live question time on our YouTube channel and website.

We published a number of books throughout the year. *Reforming Church: How God is at Work in Revitalisation Ministry* by our Regional Director, George Crowder is a book about revitalising churches in the Church of England emanating from our Network of Revitalisation Ministries (NoRM). Written with insight, humour and a depth of experience, it gives the highs and lows of revitalisation ministry as well as sage advice about bringing a church ministry to life. *Class and the Evangelical Church in England* by our Publications Manager, Kirsten Birkett, looks at why evangelical churches are not reaching the working class, and how to fix this, while also taking a wider look at what class means in England and why churches are failing to minister to all classes effectively.

In May we produced two smaller books or tracts. Lee Gatiss's *Courage, Persistence, Joy* unpacks what the Bible says on those themes and applies to them to the hearts of those worshipping and working in the Church of England today. We also produced a booklet on *The Thirty-nine Articles*. This useful little booklet contains the text of the 39 Articles, the foundational doctrinal statement of what Anglicans believe, as well as added notes where appropriate to indicate Bible references and explain who certain people referenced in the Articles are. A brief explanation of each one, in modern English, has also been included for those less familiar with 16th century language along with an introduction by Lee Gatiss. We also refreshed the cover and text of our timely book, *Gospel Flourishing in a Time of Confusion*. In November, we also published *A Month with the Messiah: Reflections on Handel's Masterpiece*, which invites readers on a journey of spiritual reflection, exploring the hope, redemption, and joy that Handel's music captures so vividly. Thirty contributors (musicians, professors, theologians, pastors, and students) bring a unique perspective, drawing from their rich backgrounds to shed light on how the passages in the libretto of *Messiah* resonate in today's world.

2024 was our most successful year of publishing this century so far in terms of volume and sales.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2024

As well as publishing resources, we also help to equip God's people to live God's word through the Priscilla programme, an online training course for women led by Ros Clarke and Kirsten Birkett in conjunction with Union School of Theology.

Prayerful Partnership

Church Society describes itself as a fellowship contending to reform and renew the Church of England in biblical faith, and fellowship is not a lonely pursuit. We are happy to be in partnership with other organisations working in the same sorts of areas, such as the Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC) of which Church Society was a founding member, the Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion (EFAC), the Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON) to which we have sent delegates, The Alliance, and Affinity.

A particularly important partnership for us is that with the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, who is himself a vice chairman of the Church Society Council. During 2024 he hosted 18 regional conferences all over England, and our staff drove thousands of miles to attend these and to speak at them (as well as showcasing Church Society resources). Once the roadshow was over, we made talks from these valuable conferences available online on our website.

In the current climate in the Church of England, it is increasingly important for churches to be able to clearly identify themselves as faithful to the Bible, faithful to historic Anglicanism, and faithful on the most pressing issues of the day, including matters of gender and sexuality. Identifying as a Church Society Partner Church is an easy way for churches to make that public commitment, and to know that they are doing so as part of a wider fellowship of churches across the country. Our growing number of Partner Churches commit to praying for the Church Society fellowship and to making a financial donation towards the work of Church Society. They will have access to a dedicated section of the website packed with resources for churches to use, inserts for their church notice sheets, various free resources and discounts, and can call on the Church Society staff for advice and support.

Our Network of Revitalisation Ministries (NoRM) hosts a series of regular webinars to connect, encourage and equip people in this ministry. Revitalisation ministry can be challenging and isolating, but God is calling more and more people to do it. A supportive WhatsApp group and newsletters also help resource this group, as well as a mentoring scheme overseen by our Regional Director, Tony Cannon.

The annual Fellowship of Word & Spirit (FWS) conference in February was on the theme of revival. Sessions were led by Simon Vibert, Andrew Atherstone, Bob Evans, Eddie Scrase-Field, and Lee Gatiss on this theme and the conference was well attended and enjoyed. As always in August, we hosted the Junior Anglican Evangelical Conference (JAEC) for those considering, training for, or involved in the early stages of ministry in the Church of England. This year we looked at the topic of Commitment (to Christ, to truth, to the congregation, and to the Church of England) with Keith Sinclair, Paul Darlington, Lee Gatiss, Mark Burkill, Michael Hayden, and Greg Prior, as well as having a range of seminars on ministry topics from Lee Gatiss, Ian Somasundram, Eleanor Hayden, Corinne Brixton, Lis Goddard, and Ros Clarke. The talks from both of these excellent conferences were later made available online. At our AGM held during JAEC we heard encouraging talks and reports from our Vice Chairman, Finance Committee and our Director, and welcomed newly-elected members of the Church Society Council: Nigel Atkinson, Chris Pierce, and Steve Short.

During 2024 we sent out regular fortnightly email newsletters to keep in touch with our fellowship, and advertised clerical vacancies on our website and on social media as well as a booklet for churches which are in vacancies and looking for a new vicar. Our faithful pray-ers joined us on the first Thursday of each month to pray for the church, the world, Church Society, and each other. Our daily prayer diary is emailed to members, featured in Crossway, and pushed out to many through PrayerMate, Facebook, X, and an online prayer group, and we owe great thanks to Guy Thorburn for continuing to put together an edifying daily reflection on the Bible along with our prayer requests. This is a crucial part of our strategy to reform and renew the church — to pray. Unless the Lord builds the house, the labourers labour in vain (Psalm 127).

In December, we again had a Books For Christmas partnership with Equipping Pastors Worldwide, through which we sent Church Society resources to pastors and others in the majority world.

During the year, the Director was also busy fostering partnerships by preaching at Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Holy Trinity Springfield, Christ Church Cambridge, Christ Church Wharton, a weekend away for St Nicholas Stevenage, St John's Wimborne, St John's Over, Holy Trinity Oswestry, St Botolph's Barton Seagrave, Terrington St Clements, St Peter's Anglican Church in Souderton Pennsylvania, and Princeton Anglican Church in Princeton New Jersey. As well as speaking at JAEC, FWS, NoRM, and Ebbsfleet conferences he spoke at Little Hill Church near Leicester, the Bishop Jewel Society in Oxford and a John Owen conference in Belfast as well as lecturing at the Cornhill Training Course in London and

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2024

preaching for an ordination service and clergy retreat in Santiago, Chile. He's been developing a new video teaching course based on the creed which had a trial run at a church in Norfolk. The Society also benefits financially from his work as series editor of the Hodder Bible Commentary (Hodder) and the Complete Works of John Owen (Crossway), and he represented the Society on various councils such as CEEC, The Alliance, Affinity, and the Bishop of Ebbsfleet's Council.

To continue encouraging solid scholarship from evangelicals, Church Society, through the Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund, also financially supported those studying and writing. The Dean Wace Scholarship is designed to be awarded to evangelicals within the Church of England who are seeking funding for masters and doctoral level courses (MPhil, ThM, MTh, DMin, PhD etc) in theology and related disciplines (church history, biblical counselling, etc). The Bishop Ryle Bursary is for ministers seeking funding for specific writing projects, sabbatical training proposals, and such like, as well as ordinands seeking an additional year of study below masters level. Church Society also makes annual Mary Vere Grants, through the Mary Vere Fund, towards the cost of women training for non-ordained ministry in the Church of England.

People can partner in our work by praying with us, donating financially, and by becoming a member. A church can join us by becoming a Partner Church. In such uncertain and difficult times, it is more important than ever to express our gospel partnership with those who are near us and those who are far away. We hope that the fellowship that is Church Society will continue to equip people to be part of this for many years to come.

We owe a great debt of thanks to all our staff, the Council, the Finance Committee, the editorial board of The Global Anglican, and many volunteers who help us in various ways throughout the year. To God be the glory, great things he has done!

Financial Review

The assets under the control of the Society fall into two broad categories: those used directly in facilitating the work of the Society itself, and those that are administered by the Society for the benefit of others (managed funds).

There are three funds which relate directly to the Society's own work. The General fund, which is unrestricted and the General Endowment Fund and Dean Wace Memorial Endowment Fund.

Within unrestricted income, donations remained stable during 2024 whilst fees and other income had an increase of £26,630. This was mainly due to the management fees in regards to the Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust (charity number 1203365) referred to in Note 7. Expenditure decreased by 6%, to £251,706 over the year despite a similar level of activity. There was a smaller gain on investments at £11,299, compared to last year's net gain of £32,700. However overall, there was a net income of £919, which resulted in a net positive movement of funds of £50,085.

The year 2024 has been an overall positive market for investments, although there was just one area where a loss was noted. As a result, the majority of the listed investments have increased in value over the year, but valuations remained stable in the fixed assets for charity's own use. Restricted funds had a significant net gain of £61,888 on investments and the endowment funds noted another strong net gain of £39,845.

At 31 December 2024 the total reserves under the control of the charity were £3,537,625. Of these reserves, £1,860,958 are held as endowment funds and £1,166,052 as restricted funds and are therefore not available for the general purposes of the charity. £3,395,310 of the total reserves are held in tangible fixed assets or fixed asset investments. The remaining general reserves of £510,615 are within the stated policy of sufficient reserves to cover operations for three years ahead.

Managed Funds

Most of the managed funds are subsidiary charities for which the Council acts as Trustees. In each case a trust deed or scheme sets the parameters within which the fund is to be used. A brief description of each can be found on page 21 of the accounts. Several funds consist solely of freehold properties including churches, houses or halls. Because many of these are long-standing funds, issues have from time to time arisen in relation thereto as to their proper application and the Society has been undertaking a gradual programme of clarifying the precise nature of each trust.

The Council has no authority to expend permanent endowment funds but is under an obligation to make attempts to expend the income from those trusts. Therefore, the endowment reserves are invested, where appropriate, in order to provide income to fulfil the relevant funds' purposes. The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed by the Finance Committee. Other funds contain capital that the Council can spend should they so choose. In most cases the decision has been made not to spend capital unless there is a pressing reason to do so. Wherever capital is spent the Council must act within the terms of the Trust. In many instances the trusts were established with very clear terms as to how they should be used. The Council is very aware of the need to honour this in making grants or payments today. The same principals are used

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2024

for the income from the funds. Where the Restricted Funds have a significant level of assets these may be invested to provide income to be applied in increasing cash reserves for future use and cash reserves that are actively used each year in line with the relevant funds' purposes. Where the assets of a restricted fund are less significant these are monitored unless and until the cash reserves are sufficient to make the application thereof feasible.

The administration of these funds can be a significant burden, in particular where the trust deed has theological restrictions, which have to be assessed, and where properties are involved. A list of the grants made from funds can be found on page 15 In line with common practice the Society charges an administration fee against managed funds which is the lesser of 1.5% on the balance of invested funds at the start of the year or 50% of the income of the fund.

The Finance Committee continued to monitor the investment situation during the course of the year, with funds invested mainly with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited. The Finance Committee keeps under review the balance between such investments and investment in property, seeking at all time to maintain a proper balance. Financial decisions are the responsibility of the Council but the Finance Committee, which includes experience in a range of financial areas, advises them in this.

Statement on risks

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

The trustees consider that the principal risk facing the Society is a reduction in the income of the Society in the form of membership subscriptions, and donations and other giving. This is sought to be addressed by a regular review of the number of members and subscription levels and the level of donations, and by various initiatives designed to attract new members and to encourage giving to the Society, and the holding of significant reserves to cover deficiencies in any year.

Another significant risk is that of the loss of key personnel and staff. This is sought to be addressed by seeking to ensure that suitably committed and motivated personnel and staff are employed, that they are sufficiently supported in their roles, and that we have systems in place to recruit new staff in the event of departures or resignations.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of trustees'/directors' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Church Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

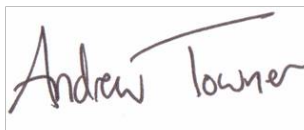
So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make them aware of any audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

Xeinadin Audit Limited have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors and a resolution proposing their re-appointment will be put to the forthcoming annual general meeting.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees
and signed on their behalf by



Revd A P J Towner
Trustee

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Church Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included with the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees' (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to employment and financial reporting legislation and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by making enquiries of management, considering the internal controls in place and discussion amongst the engagement team. We determined that the principal risks were related to the allocation of transactions related to restricted funds and valuation of freehold and investment properties.

In response to the risks identified we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- testing the allocation of transactions to restricted funds
- reviewing Trustees and Finance meeting minutes
- evaluating the charity's internal controls
- challenging significant accounting estimates such as valuation of investment property

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and regulations made under that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Richard Haffenden MA(Cantab) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Xeinadin Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Dated:

Church Society
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2023 Total £
Income from:									
Donations and legacies									
Donations		128,373	4,750	-	133,123	126,822	4,485	-	131,307
Legacies		4,844	-	-	4,844	35,000	-	-	35,000
Other trading activities									
Rent receivable		-	200	-	200	-	200	-	200
Fees and other income		36,709	-	-	36,709	10,079	-	-	10,079
Investments	2	44,956	80,842	-	125,798	45,302	74,761	-	120,063
Charitable activities									
Subscriptions, publications and conferences		26,444	-	-	26,444	22,611	-	-	22,611
Total income		241,326	85,792	-	327,118	239,814	79,446	-	319,260
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds:									
Fundraising and publicity		81	-	-	81	606	-	-	606
Rental property costs		7,423	16,677	-	24,100	12,916	20,990	-	33,906
Charitable activities:									
Grant funding of activities	6	250	15,119	5,000	20,369	250	16,040	-	16,290
Activities undertaken directly	3	193,003	5	-	193,008	202,808	-	-	202,808
Support costs		50,949	-	-	50,949	50,832	-	-	50,832
Total expenditure		251,706	31,801	5,000	288,507	267,412	37,030	-	304,442
Net gains/(losses) on investments		11,299	61,888	39,845	113,032	32,700	(5,132)	49,672	77,240
Net income		919	115,879	34,845	151,643	5,102	37,284	49,672	92,058
Gross transfers between funds	4	49,166	(49,166)	-	-	46,770	(46,770)	-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets for charity's own use		-	-	-	-	(1,209)	-	(20,522)	(21,731)
Net movement in funds		50,085	66,713	34,845	151,643	50,663	(9,486)	29,150	70,327
Reconciliation of funds									
Balance at 1 January 2024		460,530	1,099,339	1,826,113	3,385,982	409,867	1,108,825	1,796,963	3,315,655
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2024		510,615	1,166,052	1,860,958	3,537,625	460,530	1,099,339	1,826,113	3,385,982

The notes on pages 13 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

All operations are continuing operations.

Church Society
Summary Income and expenditure account
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income	201,320	199,197
Gains/(losses) on investments	113,032	77,240
Interest and investment income	125,798	120,063
Gross income in the reporting period	440,150	396,500
Expenditure	286,595	302,689
Depreciation	1,912	1,753
Total expenditure in the reporting period	288,507	304,442
Net income for the year	151,643	92,058

Statement of Comprehensive income
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income for the year	151,643	92,058
Other comprehensive income		
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets	-	(21,731)
Total comprehensive income for the year	151,643	70,327

Church Society
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		732,931		725,979
Investments	9		<u>2,662,379</u>		<u>2,513,898</u>
			3,395,310		3,239,877
Current assets					
Stocks	10	6,107		6,725	
Debtors	11	60,890		74,428	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>102,116</u>		<u>1,716,279</u>	
		169,113		1,797,432	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(26,798)</u>		<u>(1,651,327)</u>	
Net current assets			142,315		146,105
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>3,537,625</u>		<u>3,385,982</u>
Net Assets			<u><u>3,537,625</u></u>		<u><u>3,385,982</u></u>
Funds					
Endowment funds	13		1,860,958		1,826,113
Restricted funds	14		1,166,052		1,099,339
Unrestricted funds			510,615		460,530
			<u>3,537,625</u>		<u>3,385,982</u>

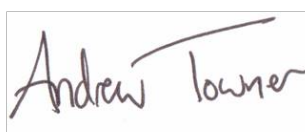
Included in the fund balances above are revaluation reserves of £412,605 in Endowment funds, £246,205 in Restricted funds and £73,971 in Unrestricted Funds.

The notes on pages 13 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on behalf by:

and were signed on its



Revd A P J Towner
Chairman

Company No. 213142

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting policies

The following accounting policies are considered material in relation to the charitable company's financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with 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) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102). The financial statements are drawn up on the historical cost basis of accounting, as modified by the revaluation of investment properties and other investments. The accounts are all prepared in sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

SORP Update Bulletin 1 has been applied in regards to the exemption of a cash flow statement.

Church Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. It is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England with registered office at Hille Business Estate, 132 St Albans Road, Watford, WD24 4AE.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Society's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.2 Classification of funds

Permanent endowments represent those funds where the capital is required to be retained but the income from those funds can be spent for the benefit of Church Society or others subject in certain cases to specific restrictions contained in the original endowment.

Restricted funds represent the accumulated income of managed funds whose use is restricted to specific purposes according to the terms on which the funds were received.

The unrestricted fund represents income which may be spent generally for furthering the religious and charitable work of Church Society.

1.3 Depreciation of tangible assets

Freehold properties are recorded at value and all other tangible assets are recorded at cost less depreciation and any impairment.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets, except freehold property, at annual rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 33% on a straight line basis

No depreciation is provided on freehold properties. It is the policy of the Society to maintain these at least to their current standard and to charge the Statement of Financial Activities the cost of maintenance as incurred. The useful economic lives and residual values are reviewed at the end of each year.

1.4 Investments

Investments are included at fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

1.5 Investment Properties

Investment properties are included at the trustees estimate of fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investment properties are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

1.6 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Provision is made for obsolete, slow-moving or effective stock where appropriate.

1.7 Debtors

Prepayments are included at the amount prepaid and debtors are included at the settlement amount due.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit.

1.9 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.11 Income

Donations and legacies are accounted for once the charity has entitlement to the income, this is when it is probable the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends, interest and rental income are recognised gross when the charity has entitlement to the income.

Charitable activities and other trading activities

Income from these sources is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income. If subscriptions are received in advance of the period to which they relate they are deferred to the next period.

1.12 Expenditure

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, discounted to present value for longer term liabilities. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Raising funds

These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and maintaining investment properties.

Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Society in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those of an indirect nature necessary to support them. They also include governance costs which comprise costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

Grants

Grants are included at the amounts paid from the funds during the year.

1.13 Intangible income

The contribution to the administration of Church Society supplied in the form of voluntary services is acknowledged with gratitude but not recognised in these financial statements.

1.14 Pension costs

Defined benefit scheme – This is a multi-employer scheme and the pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity in the year.

Defined contribution scheme – The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity during the year.

1.15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2. Investment Income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Investment properties	92,927	79,748
Common investment funds	32,762	40,312
Cash deposits	<u>109</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>125,798</u>	<u>120,063</u>

3. Grants Paid

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund		
Scholarships	4,000	2,750
Book grants	<u>5</u>	<u>86</u>
	<u>4,005</u>	<u>2,836</u>
General Fund		
Contribution to St Faith's, Maidstone	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
Mary Vere Fund		
Scholarships	<u>1,600</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Gloucester Mariners Residents		
Contribution to Gloucester Mariners Residents	<u>5,000</u>	-
Paddock Wood Parochial Hall Trust		
Contribution to Paddock Wood Church	<u>9,514</u>	<u>11,204</u>
	<u>20,369</u>	<u>16,290</u>

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

4 Transfer of restricted funds

During the year Church Society applies a management fee policy to the funds which are generating a sufficient level of income. This contributes towards the administration costs of the funds. In addition, where Church Society is carrying out work along the same purpose of the funds a transfer may be approved by the Finance Committee.

5 Operating leases

The charity is committed to the following payments under operating leases:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Not later than one year	5,638	14,220
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	5,255
	<u>5,638</u>	<u>19,475</u>

Lease payments charged to expenditure in the year	<u>16,320</u>	<u>16,320</u>
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6 Charitable activities

	Staff costs	Depreciation	Other costs	Total	Total
	£	£	£	2024	2023
				£	£
Grant funding of activities	-	-	20,369	20,369	16,290
Activities undertaken directly	102,249	1,912	88,847	193,008	202,808
Support costs	36,355	-	14,594	50,949	50,832
	<u>138,604</u>	<u>1,912</u>	<u>123,810</u>	<u>264,326</u>	<u>269,930</u>

Other costs - Activities undertaken directly

	2024	2023
	£	£
Establishment and property	28,671	25,730
Publications	26,396	31,733
Meetings and conferences	8,619	7,583
Other staff costs	20,277	32,326
Miscellaneous	4,884	10,037
	<u>88,847</u>	<u>107,409</u>

Other costs - Support costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Professional and management fees	2,950	3,483
Meetings and conferences	2,825	5,476
Governance Costs		
Professional and management fees	-	-
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	5,660	5,846
Trustee Travel Expenses	3,159	2,631
	<u>14,594</u>	<u>17,436</u>

Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	121,019	110,981
Social security costs	5,400	4,092
Pension costs (see note 17)	12,185	11,969
	<u>138,604</u>	<u>127,042</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the year was 5 (2023: 5). No employee earned more than £60,000.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

7 Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

Council Members receive no remuneration for their services. Their travelling expenses are reimbursed in respect of expenses incurred on either Church Society or Church Society Trust business. In the year ended 31 December 2024, 10 Council Members claimed reimbursement of travelling expenses totalling £3,159 (2023: £2,631). The total value of donations without conditions received from trustees was £533 (2023: £663).

The charitable company does not have indemnity insurance to protect it from loss arising from neglect or defaults of its trustees, employees or agents or to indemnify the trustees or officers against the consequences of any neglect or The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £73,975 (2023: £69,699).

In 2021 an interest free loan of £6,000 was agreed between a key member of management and Church Society. As at 31 December 2024 the loan was outstanding was £1,900.

Church Society became the sole trustee of the Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust (charity number 1203365) on 12 December 2023. During 2024, Church Society charged management fees of £20,439, of which £12,193 were owed to Church Society at year end (Note 11).

8 Tangible fixed assets

	<i>Freehold property – held for charitable purposes</i> £	<i>Fixtures fittings and equipment</i> £	<i>Total</i> £
Cost or valuation			
As at 1 January 2024	724,122	17,262	741,384
Additions	-	8,864	8,864
Disposals	-	(5,855)	(5,855)
Revaluation	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2024	<u>724,122</u>	<u>20,271</u>	<u>744,393</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
As at 1 January 2024	-	15,405	15,405
Provision for the year	-	1,912	1,912
Eliminated on disposals	-	(5,855)	(5,855)
As at 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>11,462</u>	<u>11,462</u>
Net book value			
As at 31 December 2024	<u>724,122</u>	<u>8,809</u>	<u>732,931</u>
As at 31 December 2023	<u>724,122</u>	<u>1,857</u>	<u>725,979</u>

Freehold property consists of one property which has a value which was based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2024. The historical cost of this property is £708,101.

The following properties have all been shown in the balance sheet at a notional amount of £1,000. In each case, the property is an asset of an endowment fund and its sale is subject to significant restrictions or is not permitted under any circumstances.

Not inalienable – expendable endowment

Lightbowne Evangelical Church
 Gloucester Mariners Hall
 St Andrews, Montserrat
 Wigan St Catharine, Recreation Ground

Not inalienable – permanent endowment

Gloucester Mariners Church

Inalienable – permanent endowment

Penrhyn Hall, Walthamstow
 Old Hill Hall

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

9 Fixed asset investments	<i>Investment Properties</i> £	<i>Listed Investments</i> £	<i>Cash Investments</i> £	<i>Total</i> £
Cost or valuation				
Valuation at 1 January 2024	1,405,378	1,095,320	13,200	2,513,898
Additions	-	15,900	29,555	45,455
Disposals	-	(10,107)	-	(10,107)
Revaluation	102,500	10,633	-	113,133
Market valuation at 31 December	<u>1,507,878</u>	<u>1,111,746</u>	<u>42,755</u>	<u>2,662,379</u>
Historic cost	<u>1,007,868</u>	<u>894,996</u>	<u>42,755</u>	<u>1,945,619</u>

Commercial Road, Paddock Wood had a formal valuation by Ibbett Mosely Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2018 for £25,000.

The remaining investment properties all have a value based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2024.

Listed investments are investments placed with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited.

10 Stocks	2024	2023
	£	£
Publications for resale	6,107	6,725
	<u>6,107</u>	<u>6,725</u>
11 Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	9,191	7,444
Other debtors	51,699	66,984
	<u>60,890</u>	<u>74,428</u>
12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,771	691
Deferred income	9,797	2,332
Accruals	13,230	28,345
Other Creditors	-	1,619,959
	<u>26,798</u>	<u>1,651,327</u>

The balance in other creditors in 2023 relates to the funds received in respect of the Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust that were paid out to that charity in January 2024. See Note 23.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

13 Movement on Endowment funds

	<i>Movement in funds</i>					<i>Balance 31 December 2024</i>
	<i>Balance 1 January 2024</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/ (losses) on revaluation</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds						
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	77,451	-	-	-	1,301	78,752
Brighton Emmanuel	309,811	-	-	-	12,927	322,738
Dean Wace Memorial	937,767	-	-	-	4,522	942,289
General Fund	372,260	-	-	-	20,164	392,424
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	71,428	-	-	-	1,822	73,250
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	1,771,717	-	-	-	40,736	1,812,453
Expendable endowment funds						
Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,571	-	-	-	78	2,649
Gloucester Mariners Residence	22,825	-	(5,000)	-	(969)	16,856
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	54,396	-	(5,000)	-	(891)	48,505
	1,826,113	-	(5,000)	-	39,845	1,860,958
	<i>Balance 1 January 2023</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/ (losses) on revaluation</i>	<i>Balance 31 December 2023</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds						
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	72,013	-	-	-	5,438	77,451
Brighton Emmanuel	296,849	-	-	-	12,962	309,811
Dean Wace Memorial	940,581	-	-	-	(2,814)	937,767
General Fund	362,418	-	-	-	9,842	372,260
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	65,776	-	-	-	5,652	71,428
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	1,740,637	-	-	-	31,080	1,771,717
Expendable endowment funds						
Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,367	-	-	-	204	2,571
Gloucester Mariners Residence	24,959	-	-	-	(2,134)	22,825
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	56,326	-	-	-	(1,930)	54,396
	1,796,963	-	-	-	29,150	1,826,113

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

14 Movement on Restricted funds

	<i>Movement in funds</i>					<i>Balance 31 December 2024</i>
	<i>Balance 1 January 2024</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/(losses) on revaluation</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	884,394	53,858	(16,842)	(37,017)	68,713	953,106
Birchington Convalescent Fund	4,662	2,216	-	(1,034)	-	5,844
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	19,318	17,634	(3,845)	(8,132)	(662)	24,313
Düsseldorf	612	86	-	(33)	-	665
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	526	619	-	(242)	-	903
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	5,529	2,093	-	(929)	-	6,693
Mary Vere Fund	13,777	4,305	(1,600)	-	-	16,482
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	127,674	3,762	(9,514)	(1,306)	(5,271)	115,345
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	27,607	800	-	(270)	(1,231)	26,906
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	9,035	248	-	(120)	201	9,364
Walthamstow, St John Fund	6,205	171	-	(83)	138	6,431
	1,099,339	85,792	(31,801)	(49,166)	61,888	1,166,052

	<i>Movement in funds</i>					<i>Balance 31 December 2023</i>
	<i>Balance 1 January 2023</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/(losses) on revaluation</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	876,488	51,978	(17,258)	(34,709)	7,895	884,394
Birchington Convalescent Fund	3,601	2,070	-	(1,009)	-	4,662
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	20,020	15,603	(6,568)	(8,453)	(1,284)	19,318
Düsseldorf	580	66	-	(34)	-	612
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	213	484	-	(171)	-	526
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	4,614	1,864	-	(949)	-	5,529
Mary Vere Fund	11,953	3,824	(2,000)	-	-	13,777
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	147,987	2,612	(11,204)	(1,080)	(10,641)	127,674
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	29,622	540	-	(171)	(2,384)	27,607
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	8,150	240	-	(115)	760	9,035
Walthamstow, St John Fund	5,597	165	-	(79)	522	6,205
	1,108,825	79,446	(37,030)	(46,770)	(5,132)	1,099,339

15 Net assets held by funds

	<i>Balance 31 December 2024</i>			
	<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>Endowment funds</i>	<i>Total funds</i>
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	8,809	-	724,122	732,931
Fixed asset investments	393,998	1,134,444	1,133,937	2,662,379
Net current assets	107,808	31,608	2,899	142,315
	510,615	1,166,052	1,860,958	3,537,625

	<i>Balance 31 December 2023</i>			
	<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>Endowment funds</i>	<i>Total funds</i>
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,857	-	724,122	725,979
Fixed asset investments	352,499	1,063,002	1,098,397	2,513,898
Net current assets	106,174	36,337	3,594	146,105
	460,530	1,099,339	1,826,113	3,385,982

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

16. Purpose of funds

Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund	To assist with and promote the educational and training needs of those persons who are, or are training to become, ministers in the established Church of England who subscribe to the conservative, evangelical tradition.
E A Beynon Fund	For the general purposes of the National Church League which in 1950 merged with Church Association to become Church Society. On 31 st December 2022 the balance of the fund has been transferred to General Funds in line with the purpose of the fund.
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	To make grants to enable poor children and in default of poor children other poor persons to obtain convalescent treatment after illness.
Brighton, Emmanuel Church	To maintain Christian and missionary work on Scriptural Protestant and Evangelical lines so far as practicable in the Brighton and Hove area and subject thereto elsewhere.
Dean Wace Memorial Fund	To provide land and buildings for Church Society and income for the Society's general purposes.
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	To pay for the expenses of Christ Church, Düsseldorf in relation to both the upkeep of buildings and the employment of staff.
General Fund	For the general purposes of Church Society
Gloucester Mariners Residence	To provide a residence for the chaplain of the Mariner's Chapel or to provide for the general work of the Mariners Chapel.
Leamington Spa, Christ Church	For the augmentation of the stipend of the Incumbent of St Mark's, Leamington Spa, so long as the doctrine and worship in the parish of St Mark's are evangelical in character.
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room	Subject to the appointment of a vicar within 10 years of the sale of the Parish Room and to such vicar maintaining and carrying on a protestant reformed tradition, to provide funds for the Church and otherwise for the general purposes of Church Society. On 31 st December 2022 the balance of the fund has been transferred to General Funds in line with the purpose of the fund.
Mary Vere Fund	Its aim is to assist with and promote the educational and training needs of women who are in, or are training for, non-ordained ministry in the established Church of England who subscribe to the conservative, evangelical tradition.
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	To provide funds for evangelical purposes in or in connection with the parish of St. Andrew's Paddock Wood.
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	To further the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ryde.
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	To permit the Penrhyn Hall to be used under the direction and control of the vicar of St. John's Walthamstow so long as it is used consistently with evangelical principles.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

Walthamstow, St John

To support any work within the parish of St. John's Walthamstow, either being part of church activities or in support of charities operating within the parish.

Freeholds held on behalf of Churches or other charities.

Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester, Gloucester Mariners Hall, Hollabury Mission Hall Poughill, Cornwall, St Andrews, Montserrat, Old Hill Hall, St Catharine's Recreation Ground, Wigan.

17. Pension Schemes

Church Society participates in two pension schemes administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the scheme separately from those of Church Society and other participating employers.

(a) The Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

Church Society participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. The Defined Benefits Scheme
2. The Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
 - a. A deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
 - b. A cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable (2024: £2,338, 2023: £2,265).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £34.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2025, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 2.7% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2024. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation is due at 31 December 2025.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £8.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

(b) The Church of England Funded Pension Scheme (CEFPS)

Church Society participates in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme for stipendiary clergy, a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Responsible Bodies.

Each participating Responsible Body in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme pays contributions at a common contribution rate applied to pensionable stipends.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. It is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific Responsible Body, and this means contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year which were £6,731 in 2024 (2023: £7,051), plus any figures arising from contributions in respect of the Scheme's deficit (see below). The 2021 valuation showed the Scheme to be fully funded and as such in 2024, following the valuation results being agreed, the deficit contributions paid were £0 (2023: £0).

A valuation of the Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent Scheme valuation completed was carried out at as 31 December 2021. The 2021 valuation revealed a surplus of £560m, based on assets of £2,720m and a funding target of £2,160m, assessed using the following assumptions:

- An average discount rate of 2.7% p.a.;
- RPI inflation of 3.6% p.a. (and pension increases consistent with this);
- CPIH inflation in line with RPI less 0.8% pre 2030 moving to RPI with no adjustment from 2030 onwards;
- Increase in pensionable stipends in line with CPIH;
- Mortality in accordance with 90% of the S3NA tables, with allowance for improvements in mortality rates from 2013 in line with the CMI2020 extended model with a long-term annual rate of improvement of 1.5%, a smoothing parameter of 7, an initial addition to mortality improvements of 0.5% pa and an allowance for 2020 data of 0% (i.e. w2020 = 0%)

Following finalisation of the 31 December 2021 valuation, deficit contributions ceased with effect from 1 January 2023, since the Scheme was fully funded.

The deficit recovery contributions under the recovery plan in force at each 31 December were as follows:

	% of pensionable stipends
31 December 2021	7.1% payable from January 2021 to December 2022
31 December 2022	Nil
31 December 2023	Nil
31 December 2024	Nil

An interim reduction to deficit contributions to 3.2% of pensionable stipends was made with effect from April 2022, and remained in place until December 2022.

For senior office holders, pensionable stipends are adjusted in the calculations by a multiple, as set out in the Scheme's rules.

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. However, as there are no agreed deficit recovery payments from 1 January 2023 onwards, the balance sheet liability as at 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2024 is nil. The movement in the balance sheet liability over 2023 and over 2024 is set out in the table below.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
Balance sheet liability at 1 January	0	0
Deficit contribution paid	0	0
Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)	0	0
Remaining change to the balance sheet liability* (recognised in SoFA)	0	0
Balance sheet liability at 31 December	0	0

* Comprises change in agreed deficit recovery plan, and change in discount rate and assumptions between year-ends.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another Responsible Body fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of that Responsible Body's pension liabilities.

(c) NEST Pension Scheme

Church Society participates in a defined contribution scheme run by NEST. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are £3,117 (2023: £2,641).

18. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

The charitable company had no material capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31 December 2024. (2023: £nil).

19. Luckley-Oakfield School Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints the Trustees of the Luckley-Oakfield School Trust, which owns a school near Wokingham. In the event of the Trust being wound up the assets would revert to Church Society for educational purposes.

20. Ryde, St James

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Ryde, St James Trust. The Trust owns the Church and a house in Ryde, Isle of Wight, which are held by Church Society on their behalf.

21. Hollabury Mission Hall Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Hollabury Mission Hall Trust. The Trust owns the Hollabury Mission Hall, Poughill, Bude, which is held by Church Society on their behalf.

22. Black Chapel

Church Society is the sole trustee of The Black Chapel Charities (charity number 262667). Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as the combined income of all the charities under the control of Church Society is below the threshold at which group accounts are required. At the end of the financial year Black Chapel had reserves of £769,339. Its income was £21,157 and expenditure £11,766 resulting in a surplus of £9,391.

23. Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust

Church Society became the sole trustee of the Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust (charity number 1203365) on 12 December 2023. Its purpose is to provide income to benefit the Daily Prayer Union Trust Limited (charity number: 284857). Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as the combined income of all the charities under the control of Church Society is below the threshold at which group accounts are required. During 2024, Church Society charged management fees of £20,439, of which £12,193 were owed to Church Society at year end (Note 11). The Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust accounts have a year-

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

end of 30 June 2024. At this date, it had total reserves of £1,633,542. In its latest reporting period, between 10 May 2023 and 30 June 2024 its total income was £56,431, split between £53,221 for restricted funds and £3,210 for endowment funds. In regards to expenditure, £53,221 was spent in regards to restricted funds, which were grants to the Daily Prayer Union Trust Limited and £31,780 in regards to endowment expenses. Therefore, its total expenditure was £85,001.

On 26th November 2024, Church Society agreed to start the process to merge the Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust into its own accounts where it will be accounted for as an endowment fund.

CHURCH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 249574

Accounts

Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Church Society
(A company limited by guarantee)

Company No 213142
Charity Registration No 249574

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Contents

Trustees' and directors' report	1 - 5
Independent auditor's report	6 - 8
Statement of financial activities	9
Income and expenditure account	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 24

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Council members	The Revd N T Atkinson (until 30 August 2023) The Revd C J Brixton (from 30 August 2023) The Revd Dr M E Burkill (until 30 August 2023) The Revd P T Darlington The Revd M E Davy The Revd M Hayden The Revd Dr J Hughes Mrs R C Hunt The Revd E J G Keene (from 30 August 2023) The Revd C R H Kilgour The Revd Dr R S Munro Mrs A Robbie The Revd A P J Towner (Chairman) The Revd Dr J D Ward
Director	The Revd Dr Lee Gatiss
Charity number	249574
Company number	213142
Registered office	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE
Auditors	Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet 5 Robin Hood Lane Sutton Surrey SM1 2SW
Principal address	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc London Fleet Street Branch 1 Fleet Street London EC4Y 1BD Barclays Bank plc 62/64 High Street Watford WD17 2BT
Solicitors	Edward Conor Solicitors 10 The Point Market Harborough LE16 7QU

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2023

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

Charity's objectives

Church Society is a registered charity. Its objectives are set out in the Company's governing document, the Memorandum of Association. The charity constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The overall purpose of the Society is to maintain the character of the Church of England as a reformed and national Church witnessing to and seeking to serve the entire nation for the benefit of all. In particular by;

- upholding the supremacy, sufficiency and authority of Scripture;
- equipping and encouraging parochial clergy and lay people in their ministries;
- supporting local churches;
- administering and holding funds and properties with local and national benefits;
- contending for the reformed worship and doctrine of the 39 Articles and Book of Common Prayer;
- uniting all who share these principles;
- promoting friendship with all churches which accept the supreme authority of God's word written;
- opposing all practices which are contrary to reformed doctrine;
- taking all manner of action, including legal and political, to pursue these objectives.

Church Society is working towards these objectives through publishing, parish support, campaigning and administering trusts. Wherever possible this is done in consultation and co-operation with other groups and organisations. In carrying out activities the directors confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and believe that Church Society provides benefit to the public in a variety of ways. These are described in the sections under activities and achievements and under managed funds.

Through its allied company, Church Society Trust, the Society is involved in the patronage work of the Church of England. The Trust is responsible for 127 Livings, many of which are on a shared basis.

Church Society manages a number of financial trusts with various objectives including:

- supporting the training and education of ordinands and clergy;
- Christian work in various parishes or locations subject to certain conditions

Through other trusts the Society owns various properties on behalf of others, in particular 2 Proprietary Chapels (one in Germany) and an Independent Evangelical Church. It acts as holding trustees and appoints some of the trustees for one Church, one Hall and a school. A further trust supports accommodation for staff.

Structure, governance, and management

The key management personnel of the Society are the Council (the Trustees), The Director Revd Dr Lee Gatiss and the Associate Director Dr Ros Clarke. They are in charge of directing and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Council consists of up to 15 people elected annually by the members of the Society. Up to 5 additional Council members can be co-opted as required. New trustees are provided with guidance on their responsibilities.

The trustees give of their time freely and did not receive any remuneration in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in Note 7 to the financial statements. The pay of staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with average earnings, though the Director's stipend is pegged to that of an incumbent in the Diocese of St Albans. The Church Society will continue to benchmark staff benefits against staff performing similar roles in similar charities.

The Global Anglican Editorial Board and Church Society Trust Directors operate largely as committees of the Council. In addition, there is a finance committee. The Council must approve appointments of Church Society Trust Members and the membership of certain other charitable trusts.

Two full-time and three part-time members of staff were employed throughout the year and their work was greatly assisted by three part-time regional directors, each enabled to do this work through the support of their churches. Other volunteers also assist in many areas and their efforts are much appreciated. The Society is an association of members who share a common vision and members do much of the work of the Society.

Activities and achievements

During the course of the year, Church Society continued to be actively involved in fulfilling its primary objectives of promoting what the King's Coronation Oath referred to as "the true profession of the gospel... the Protestant Reformed religion", which is the foundation of the Church of England, as the established church. This included supporting individuals,

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2023

parishes, and other organisations working along these lines, and in challenging and opposing teaching and actions which run counter to this faith, both within the national church and society more widely.

Lee Gatiss began the year with a stirring charge on video to us to Persist! Through a difficult year for the Church of England and many of us personally, it was an important charge to remember. Keeping going, despite discouragements, opposition, hardships and uncertainty, is what we are called to. Later in January, the House of Bishops published the first draft of the Prayers of Love and Faith, to which Lee initially responded with seven clear points outlining the problems, and later with a more detailed look at the hypocrisy of the bishops. The annual residential meeting of the CEEC also took place in January, attended by Lee Gatiss, Ros Clarke, George Crowder and various members of the Church Society Council. It was a crucial meeting setting the tone for much of the ongoing work of CEEC and its member organisations in response to the Prayers of Love and Faith over the course of the year.

Our podcast series of Heresy Half-Hours continued equipping listeners to recognise some of the most common kinds of false teaching in the church, both in history and in their contemporary forms. We also welcomed Church Society members to a series of informal Zoom coffee hours to talk about their concerns and help people understand what was happening. Our faithful pray-ers joined us on the first Thursday of each month to pray for the church, the world, Church Society, and each other.

February saw the first of three meetings of General Synod, and the first debate about the Prayers of Love and Faith. Many Church Society members made strong contributions to the group discussions as well as speeches in the chamber. There was a tangible sense of unity amongst all the evangelicals on Synod, and attempts were made through legal challenges, petitions and other technical matters to prevent the Prayers of Love and Faith being adopted without a full debate under the appropriate canon laws. The votes throughout were close, and the final vote was lost by a small margin of 11 in the House of Laity. One of our podcast episodes covers the events of this week: "What happened at General Synod?"

During Synod, the Fellowship of Word and Spirit Conference took place, ironically on the theme of Leadership Reset. Their prayers, along with those of other Church Society members and beyond were a huge support and encouragement to those contending in Church House that week. Lent began in February and with it, our series of reflections on some of the Anglican collects. Contributions from an international group of authors informed our prayers for the church for sixty days, ending with the GAFCON meeting in April. The contributions were later collected together into a new book, *Gathering Our Prayers Together*.

Kirsten Birkett wrote an insightful and challenging series of blog posts in March on the issue of class in the evangelical church. Amongst a range of podcasts, the episode introducing Rob Munro as the newly installed Bishop of Ebbsfleet stood out. We continued to speak out against the Prayers of Love and Faith with blogposts such as: *Paying attention to the power of the bishops*; *When is a wedding not a wedding?*; *Marriage and Holy Matrimony*; *Hold on!*

The fourth GAFCON conference took place in Kigali, Rwanda during April. Lee Gatiss attended, representing Church Society, and was able to make many useful contacts. The issue of *The Global Anglican* which had been commissioned with the conference in mind was particularly well-received. We were delighted to expand Kirsten Birkett's work with Church Society to become our Publications Manager. Kirsty edits *The Global Anglican*, as well as *Crossway*, and is involved in our book publications as well.

We began the summer season of the podcast with an introduction to the Anglican Communion and an episode from GAFCON. Lee Gatiss introduced and commented on the Kigali Commitment. In May and June, the Bishop of Ebbsfleet held a series of Regional Conferences which all had Church Society involvement and input. The Church Society staff valued these opportunities to meet many of our members in person around the country. It was good to hear the questions and concerns people had about the situation in the Church of England and be involved in those discussions about appropriate actions to take.

The series on Class and the Evangelical Church concluded, and we also published resources to help understand what was happening at the King's coronation, as well as a collect for the king. Numbers of Church Society Partner Churches continued to grow throughout the year and we were glad to launch a new Partner Church resources section of the website. The audio archive from Reform is located here, along with all sorts of useful downloads for parish life, and the digital back catalogue of *Crossway*. In May, we also made a substantial submission to the various working groups tasked with implementing the Prayers of Love and Faith.

General Synod met again in July. Although no formal time was given to the Prayers of Love and Faith, many questions were asked and there was an informal session for information on the progress made, such as it was. The whole meeting was fraught, not only around the Prayers of Love and Faith, but also due to the disbanding of the Independent Safeguarding Board, questions about transparency and honesty, and lack of trust. Our podcast reviewed these developments.

As always in August, we hosted the Junior Anglican Evangelical Conference. We were delighted to have our largest number of delegates for some time at this year's conference, representing a wide range of training institutions and dioceses. It was

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2023

a sobering time as we considered the reality of ministry in the Church of England today but an exciting one as we met so many men and women determined to serve God in hard times and hard places. The talks from this year's conference were made available online. At our AGM we heard encouraging reports from our Finance Committee and our Director, and welcomed new members of the Church Society Council: Corinne Brixton and Edward Keene.

September saw the beginning of a new academic year and the highest number of students on the Priscilla Programme for some time. A new podcast miniseries on the Church of England proved extremely useful to many listeners:

- What is the Church of England?
- The crisis in the Church of England
- How to change the Church of England
- The Doctrine of the Church of England
- What is happening now in the Church of England?

In early October, Lee Gatiss and Chris Moore (whose Church Society job is now Director of Wider Church Engagement) attended a meeting of 'LLF Stakeholders', to explain what would be needed by way of pastoral guidance and provision. The House of Bishops published their plan for the process by which they would commend the prayers. 12 of the bishops who had been present at the House of Bishops publicly stated their disagreement with the majority document. Church Society published a number of responses critiquing the plan and giving direction to our response.

Lee Gatiss and Ros Clarke attended a meeting with the Archbishop of Canterbury and representatives of the Alliance organisations. Once again we had the opportunity to express some of our very serious concerns about the Prayers of Love and Faith, and the bishops' proposals to implement them. Lee's social media comments on the meeting stirred up media interest, because the Archbishop had asked attendees if he should resign and Lee and Ros had both indicated that he should.

By the time that General Synod met in November, it was clear that some of the bishops wanted to push further ahead than the plans outlined in October, apparently against the legal advice which had been received by the House of Bishops. Once again the debate was long and complex, with every vote finely balanced. The final, amended motion committed the bishops to continuing progress in implementing the Prayers of Love and Faith, both as prayers to be used within a normal service and as standalone services of blessing. This was carried by a majority of just four votes in the House of Laity. All three houses were much closer than they had been in February.

Throughout the year, the Network of Revitalisation Ministries (NoRM) has grown, with bimonthly webinars and other networking. The meeting in November was opened to those in non-revitalisation work, to hear a report from Synod and discuss the implications.

On the blog, we published a counter to the claim that evangelicals are espousing a doctrine of works with respect to same-sex relationships and an encouragement to keep contending. The St Antholin Lecture on same-sex love in the Puritan world (published on our YouTube channel and website) was a fascinating demonstration that this is not a new issue. Our latest Church Society book came out in November, *Under Christ's Orders*, in which the distinct roles of bishops, presbyters, deacons and lay people are set out. In December, we launched the Books For Christmas partnership with Equipping Pastors Worldwide, to send Church Society resources to pastors and others in the majority world.

To continue encouraging solid scholarship in all these areas, Church Society also financially supported those studying and writing. The Dean Wace Scholarship is designed to be awarded to evangelicals within the Church of England who are seeking funding for masters and doctoral level courses (MPhil, ThM, MTh, DMin, PhD etc) in theology and related disciplines (church history, biblical counselling, etc). The Bishop Ryle Bursary is for ministers seeking funding for specific writing projects, sabbatical training proposals, and such like, as well as ordinands seeking an additional year of study below masters level. Church Society also makes annual Mary Vere Grants towards the cost of women training for non-ordained ministry in the Church of England.

People can partner in our work by praying with us, donating financially, and by becoming a member. A church can join us by becoming a Partner Church. In such uncertain and difficult times, it is more important than ever to express our gospel partnership with those who are near us and those who are far away. We hope that the fellowship that is Church Society will continue to equip people to be part of this.

Financial Review

The assets under the control of the Society fall into two broad categories: those used directly in facilitating the work of the Society itself, and those that are administered by the Society for the benefit of others (managed funds).

There are three funds which relate directly to the Society's own work. The General fund, which is unrestricted and the General Endowment Fund and Dean Wace Memorial Endowment Fund.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2023

Within unrestricted income, donations increased 17% to £126,822 during 2023 and legacies by £34,140. Expenditure also increased, but by 13% compared to 2022. This was mainly due to strong levels of inflation impacting costs and an expansion of Church Society's activities. Overall, the result was a net income of £5,102. In addition, there was a £32,700 gain on investments and after taking account of gross transfers and a small loss on revaluation of fixed assets for own use, this resulted in a net positive movement of funds of £50,663.

The year 2023 has been a more positive market for investments than that noted in 2022, although there was a mix of gains and losses within the portfolio. As a result, the majority of the listed investments have increased in value over the year, but a decrease was noted in the fixed assets for charity's own use. Restricted funds had a net loss of £5,132 on investments and the endowment funds noted a net gain of £49,672.

On 12 December 2023, Church Society became the Trustee of the Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust (charity number 1203365). The Trust's purpose is to provide income to benefit the Daily Prayer Union Trust Limited. On 13 December its funds of £1,619,959 were transferred to the Church Society and held within its bank account at year end, waiting on investment, which occurred the new year. Therefore, at year end, a significant creditor was noted of £1,619,959.

At 31 December 2023 the total reserves under the control of the charity were £3,385,982. Of these reserves, £1,826,113 are held as endowment funds and £1,099,339 as restricted funds and are therefore not available for the general purposes of the charity. £3,239,877 of the total reserves are held in tangible fixed assets or fixed asset investments. The remaining general reserves of £460,530 are within the stated policy of sufficient reserves to cover operations for three years ahead.

Managed Funds

Most of the managed funds are subsidiary charities for which the Council acts as Trustees (or sometimes as joint Trustees). In each case a trust deed or scheme sets the parameters within which the fund is to be used. A brief description of each can be found on page 20 of the accounts. Several funds consist solely of freehold properties including churches, houses or halls. Because many of these are long-standing funds, issues have from time to time arisen in relation thereto as to their proper application and the Society has been undertaking a gradual programme of clarifying the precise nature of each trust.

The Council has no authority to expend permanent endowment funds but is under an obligation to make attempts to expend the income from those trusts. Therefore, the endowment reserves are invested, where appropriate, in order to provide income to fulfil the relevant funds' purposes. The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed by the Finance Committee. Other funds contain capital that the Council can spend should they so choose. In most cases the decision has been made not to spend capital unless there is a pressing reason to do so. Wherever capital is spent the Council must act within the terms of the Trust. In many instances the trusts were established with very clear terms as to how they should be used. The Council is very aware of the need to honour this in making grants or payments today. The same principals are used for the income from the funds. Where the Restricted Funds have a significant level of assets these may be invested to provide income to be applied in increasing cash reserves for future use and cash reserves that are actively used each year in line with the relevant funds' purposes. Where the assets of a restricted fund are less significant these are monitored unless and until the cash reserves are sufficient to make the application thereof feasible.

The administration of these funds can be a significant burden, in particular where the trust deed has theological restrictions, which have to be assessed, and where properties are involved. A list of the grants made from funds can be found on page 14. In line with common practice the Society charges an administration fee against managed funds which is the lesser of 1.5% on the balance of invested funds at the start of the year or 50% of the income of the fund.

The Finance Committee continued to monitor the investment situation during the course of the year, with funds invested mainly with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited. The Finance Committee keeps under review the balance between such investments and investment in property, seeking at all time to maintain a proper balance. Financial decisions are the responsibility of the Council but the Finance Committee, which includes experience in a range of financial areas, advises them in this.

Statement on risks

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

The trustees consider that the principal risk facing the Society is a reduction in the income of the Society in the form of membership subscriptions, and donations and other giving. This is sought to be addressed by a regular review of the number of members and subscription levels and the level of donations, and by various initiatives designed to attract new members and to encourage giving to the Society, and the holding of significant reserves to cover deficiencies in any year.

Another significant risk is that of the loss of key personnel and staff. This is sought to be addressed by seeking to ensure that suitably committed and motivated personnel and staff are employed, that they are sufficiently supported in their roles, and that we have systems in place to recruit new staff in the event of departures or resignations.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2023

Statement of trustees'/directors' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Church Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make them aware of any audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

Jacob, Cavenagh and Skeet have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors and a resolution proposing their re-appointment will be put to the forthcoming annual general meeting.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees 24/05/2024
and signed on their behalf by

Andrew Towner

Revd A P J Towner
Trustee

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Church Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included with the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees' (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to employment and financial reporting legislation and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by making enquiries of management, considering the internal controls in place and discussion amongst the engagement team. We determined that the principal risks were related to the allocation of transactions related to restricted funds and valuation of freehold and investment properties.

In response to the risks identified we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

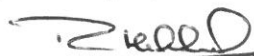
- testing the allocation of transactions to restricted funds
- reviewing Trustees and Finance meeting minutes
- evaluating the charity's internal controls
- challenging significant accounting estimates such as valuation of investment property

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and regulations made under that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Richard Haffenden MA(Cantab) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet

Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Dated: 3 June 2024

Church Society
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2022 Total £
Income from:									
Donations and legacies									
Donations		126,822	4,485	-	131,307	108,338	13,283	-	121,621
Legacies		35,000	-	-	35,000	860	-	-	860
Other trading activities									
Rent receivable		-	200	-	200	-	200	-	200
Fees and other income		10,079	-	-	10,079	12,566	-	-	12,566
Investments	2	45,302	74,761	-	120,063	47,286	70,036	-	117,322
Charitable activities									
Subscriptions, publications and conferences		22,611	-	-	22,611	18,312	-	-	18,312
Total income		239,814	79,446	-	319,260	187,362	83,519	-	270,881
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds:									
Fundraising and publicity		606	-	-	606	377	110	-	487
Rental property costs		12,916	20,990	-	33,906	7,021	15,662	-	22,683
Charitable activities:									
Grant funding of activities	6	250	16,040	-	16,290	250	33,488	-	33,738
Activities undertaken directly	3	202,808	-	-	202,808	177,748	-	-	177,748
Support costs		50,832	-	-	50,832	50,426	-	-	50,426
Total expenditure		267,412	37,030	-	304,442	235,822	49,260	-	285,082
Net gains/(losses) on investments		32,700	(5,132)	49,672	77,240	(29,308)	(33,195)	(152,739)	(215,242)
Net income/(expenditure)		5,102	37,284	49,672	92,058	(77,768)	1,064	(152,739)	(229,443)
Gross transfers between funds	4	46,770	(46,770)	-	-	54,174	(54,174)	-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets for charity's own use		(1,209)	-	(20,522)	(21,731)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		50,663	(9,486)	29,150	70,327	(23,594)	(53,110)	(152,739)	(229,443)
Reconciliation of funds									
Balance at 1 January 2023		409,867	1,108,825	1,796,963	3,315,655	433,461	1,161,935	1,949,702	3,545,098
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2023		460,530	1,099,339	1,826,113	3,385,982	409,867	1,108,825	1,796,963	3,315,655

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

All operations are continuing operations.

Church Society
Summary Income and expenditure account
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income	199,197	153,559
Gains/(losses) on investments	77,240	(215,242)
Interest and investment income	120,063	117,322
Gross income in the reporting period	396,500	55,639
Expenditure	302,689	284,030
Depreciation	1,753	1,052
Total expenditure in the reporting period	304,442	285,082
Net income for the year	92,058	(229,443)

Statement of Comprehensive income
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income for the year	92,058	(229,443)
Other comprehensive income		
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets	(21,731)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	70,327	(229,443)

**Church Society
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2023**

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		725,979		749,463
Investments	9		<u>2,513,898</u>		<u>2,631,658</u>
			3,239,877		3,381,121
Current assets					
Stocks	10	6,725		9,098	
Debtors	11	74,428		24,811	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,716,279</u>		<u>142,587</u>	
		1,797,432		176,496	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(1,651,327)</u>		<u>(42,372)</u>	
Net current assets			146,105		134,124
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>3,385,982</u>		<u>3,515,245</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13		-		(199,590)
Provision for liabilities	18		-		-
Net Assets			<u><u>3,385,982</u></u>		<u><u>3,315,655</u></u>
Funds					
Endowment funds	14		1,826,113		1,796,963
Restricted funds	15		1,099,339		1,108,825
Unrestricted funds			460,530		409,867
			<u>3,385,982</u>		<u>3,315,655</u>

Included in the fund balances above are revaluation reserves of £375,443 in Endowment funds, £180,260 in Restricted funds and £66,289 in Unrestricted Funds.

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 24/05/2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Towner

Revd A P J Towner
Chairman

Company No. 213142

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting policies

The following accounting policies are considered material in relation to the charitable company's financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with 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) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102). The financial statements are drawn up on the historical cost basis of accounting, as modified by the revaluation of investment properties and other investments. The accounts are all prepared in sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

SORP Update Bulletin 1 has been applied in regards to the exemption of a cash flow statement.

Church Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. It is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England with registered office at Hille Business Estate, 132 St Albans Road, Watford, WD24 4AE.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Society's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.2 Classification of funds

Permanent endowments represent those funds where the capital is required to be retained but the income from those funds can be spent for the benefit of Church Society or others subject in certain cases to specific restrictions contained in the original endowment.

Restricted funds represent the accumulated income of managed funds whose use is restricted to specific purposes according to the terms on which the funds were received.

The unrestricted fund represents income which may be spent generally for furthering the religious and charitable work of Church Society.

1.3 Depreciation of tangible assets

Freehold properties are recorded at value and all other tangible assets are recorded at cost less depreciation and any impairment.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets, except freehold property, at annual rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 33% on a straight line basis

No depreciation is provided on freehold properties. It is the policy of the Society to maintain these at least to their current standard and to charge the Statement of Financial Activities the cost of maintenance as incurred. The useful economic lives and residual values are reviewed at the end of each year.

1.4 Investments

Investments are included at fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

1.5 Investment Properties

Investment properties are included at the trustees estimate of fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investment properties are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

1.6 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Provision is made for obsolete, slow-moving or effective stock where appropriate.

1.7 Debtors

Prepayments are included at the amount prepaid and debtors are included at the settlement amount due.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit.

1.9 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.11 Income

Donations and legacies are accounted for once the charity has entitlement to the income, this is when it is probable the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends, interest and rental income are recognised gross when the charity has entitlement to the income.

Charitable activities and other trading activities

Income from these sources is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income. If subscriptions are received in advance of the period to which they relate they are deferred to the next period.

1.12 Expenditure

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, discounted to present value for longer term liabilities. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Raising funds

These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and maintaining investment properties.

Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Society in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those of an indirect nature necessary to support them. They also include governance costs which comprise costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

Grants

Grants are included at the amounts paid from the funds during the year.

1.13 Intangible income

The contribution to the administration of Church Society supplied in the form of voluntary services is acknowledged with gratitude but not recognised in these financial statements.

1.14 Pension costs

Defined benefit scheme – This is a multi-employer scheme and the pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity in the year.

Defined contribution scheme – The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity during the year.

1.15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2. Investment Income

	2023 £	2022 £
Investment properties	79,748	83,297
Common investment funds	40,312	34,023
Cash deposits	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>120,063</u>	<u>117,322</u>

3. Grants Paid

	2023 £	2022 £
Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund		
Scholarships	2,750	4,500
Book grants	<u>86</u>	<u>500</u>
	2,836	5,000
General Fund		
Contribution to St Faith's, Maidstone	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
Mary Vere Fund		
Scholarships	<u>2,000</u>	<u>500</u>
Gloucester Mariners Hall		
Contribution to Gloucester Mariners Hall	<u>-</u>	<u>228</u>
Paddock Wood Parochial Hall Trust		
Contribution to Paddock Wood Church	<u>11,204</u>	<u>27,760</u>
	<u>16,290</u>	<u>33,738</u>

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

4 Transfer of restricted funds

During the year Church Society applies a management fee policy to the funds which are generating a sufficient level of income. This contributes towards the administration costs of the funds. In addition, where Church Society is carrying out work along the same purpose of the funds a transfer may be approved by the Finance Committee.

5 Operating leases

The charity is committed to the following payments under operating leases:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Not later than one year	14,220	7,320
Later than one year and not later than five years	5,255	-
	<u>19,475</u>	<u>7,320</u>
Lease payments charged to expenditure in the year	<u>16,320</u>	<u>16,320</u>

6 Charitable activities

	Staff costs	Depreciation	Other costs	Total	Total
	£	£	£	2023	2022
				£	£
Grant funding of activities			16,290	16,290	33,738
Activities undertaken directly	93,646	1,753	107,409	202,808	177,748
Support costs	33,396		17,436	50,832	50,426
	<u>127,042</u>	<u>1,753</u>	<u>141,135</u>	<u>269,930</u>	<u>261,912</u>

Other costs - Activities undertaken directly

	2023	2022
	£	£
Establishment and property	25,730	25,776
Publications	31,733	24,738
Meetings and conferences	7,583	7,191
Other staff costs	32,326	38,636
Miscellaneous	10,037	4,121
	<u>107,409</u>	<u>100,462</u>

Other costs - Support costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Professional and management fees	3,483	300
Meetings and conferences	5,476	2,628
Governance Costs		
Professional and management fees	-	10,080
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	5,846	4,980
Trustee Travel Expenses	2,631	1,538
	<u>17,436</u>	<u>19,526</u>

Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	110,981	93,637
Social security costs	4,092	2,667
Pension costs (see note 18)	11,969	10,830
	<u>127,042</u>	<u>107,134</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the year was 5 (2022: 5). No employee earned more than £60,000.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

7 Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

Council Members receive no remuneration for their services. Their travelling expenses are reimbursed in respect of expenses incurred on either Church Society or Church Society Trust business. In the year ended 31 December 2023, 11 Council Members claimed reimbursement of travelling expenses totalling £2,631 (2022: £1,538). The total value of donations without conditions received from trustees was £663 (2022: £2,291).

The charitable company does not have indemnity insurance to protect it from loss arising from neglect or defaults of its trustees, employees or agents or to indemnify the trustees or officers against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £69,699 (2022: £66,009).

In 2021 an interest free loan of £6,000 was agreed between a key member of management and Church Society. As at 31 December 2023 the loan was outstanding was £3,100. There was also a purchase of books from a key member of management by Church Society for £23.

As at 31 December 2023 there was a creditor with Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust (charity number 1203365) for £1,619,959 due to its funds currently being held with Church Society's bank account. Church Society is the sole trustee of the charity.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	<i>Freehold property – held for charitable purposes</i> £	<i>Fixtures fittings and equipment</i> £	<i>Total</i> £
Cost or valuation			
As at 1 January 2023	745,853	17,321	763,174
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(59)	(59)
Revaluation	(21,731)	-	(21,731)
As at 31 December 2023	<u>724,122</u>	<u>17,262</u>	<u>741,384</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
As at 1 January 2023	-	13,711	13,711
Provision for the year	-	1,753	1,753
Eliminated on disposals	-	(59)	(59)
As at 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>15,405</u>	<u>15,405</u>
Net book value			
As at 31 December 2023	<u>724,122</u>	<u>1,857</u>	<u>725,979</u>
As at 31 December 2022	<u>745,853</u>	<u>3,610</u>	<u>749,463</u>

Freehold property consists of one property which has a value which was based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2023. The historical cost of this property is £708,101.

The following properties have all been shown in the balance sheet at a notional amount of £1,000. In each case, the property is an asset of an endowment fund and its sale is subject to significant restrictions or is not permitted under any circumstances.

Not inalienable – expendable endowment

Lightbowne Evangelical Church
 Gloucester Mariners Hall
 St Andrews, Montserrat
 Wigan St Catharine, Recreation Ground

Not inalienable – permanent endowment

Gloucester Mariners Church

Inalienable – permanent endowment

Penrhyn Hall, Walthamstow
 Old Hill Hall

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

9 Fixed asset investments	<i>Investment Properties</i>	<i>Listed Investments</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
Valuation at 1 January 2023	1,381,147	1,250,511	2,631,658
Additions	-	13,200	13,200
Disposals	-	(201,443)	(201,443)
Revaluation	24,231	46,252	70,483
Market valuation at 31 December	<u>1,405,378</u>	<u>1,108,520</u>	<u>2,513,898</u>
Historic cost	<u>1,007,868</u>	<u>900,059</u>	<u>1,907,927</u>

Commercial Road, Paddock Wood had a formal valuation by Ibbett Mosely Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2018 for £25,000.

The remaining investment properties all have a value based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2023.

Listed investments are investments placed with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited.

10 Stocks	2023	2022
	£	£
Publications for resale	<u>6,725</u>	<u>9,098</u>
11 Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Prepayments	7,444	6,870
Other debtors	66,984	17,941
	<u>74,428</u>	<u>24,811</u>
12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	691	3,580
Deferred income	2,332	1,928
Accruals	28,345	32,867
Other Creditors	1,619,959	-
Mortgage liability	-	3,997
	<u>1,651,327</u>	<u>42,372</u>
13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Mortgage liability	-	4,203
Due within 1 - 2 years	-	13,954
Due within 2 - 5 years	-	181,433
Due in more than 5 years	-	199,590

The mortgage liability was paid off in installments during the year.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

14 Movement on Endowment funds

	<i>Movement in funds</i>					<i>Balance 31 December 2023</i>
	<i>Balance 1 January 2023</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/ (losses) on revaluation</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds						
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	72,013	-	-	-	5,438	77,451
Brighton Emmanuel	296,849	-	-	-	12,962	309,811
Dean Wace Memorial	940,581	-	-	-	(2,814)	937,767
General Fund	362,418	-	-	-	9,842	372,260
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	65,776	-	-	-	5,652	71,428
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>1,740,637</u>	-	-	-	<u>31,080</u>	<u>1,771,717</u>

Expendable endowment funds

Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,367	-	-	-	204	2,571
Gloucester Mariners Residence	24,959	-	-	-	(2,134)	22,825
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>56,326</u>	-	-	-	<u>(1,930)</u>	<u>54,396</u>
	<u>1,796,963</u>	-	-	-	<u>29,150</u>	<u>1,826,113</u>

	<i>Movement in funds</i>					<i>Balance 31 December 2022</i>
	<i>Balance 1 January 2022</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/ (losses) on revaluation</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds						
E A Beynon Fund	177,908	-	-	(165,000)	(12,908)	-
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	80,247	-	-	-	(8,234)	72,013
Brighton Emmanuel	318,082	-	-	-	(21,233)	296,849
Dean Wace Memorial	1,027,370	-	-	-	(86,789)	940,581
General Fund	-	-	-	362,418	-	362,418
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	75,483	-	-	-	(9,707)	65,776
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room	212,288	-	-	(197,418)	(14,870)	-
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>1,894,378</u>	-	-	-	<u>(153,741)</u>	<u>1,740,637</u>

Expendable endowment funds

Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,758	-	-	-	(391)	2,367
Gloucester Mariners Residence	23,566	-	-	-	1,393	24,959
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>55,324</u>	-	-	-	<u>1,002</u>	<u>56,326</u>
	<u>1,949,702</u>	-	-	-	<u>(152,739)</u>	<u>1,796,963</u>

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

15 Movement on Restricted funds

	<i>Movement in funds</i>					<i>Balance 31 December 2023</i>
	<i>Balance 1 January 2023</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/(losses) on revaluation</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	876,488	51,978	(17,258)	(34,709)	7,895	884,394
Birchington Convalescent Fund	3,601	2,070	-	(1,009)	-	4,662
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	20,020	15,603	(6,568)	(8,453)	(1,284)	19,318
Düsseldorf	580	66	-	(34)	-	612
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	213	484	-	(171)	-	526
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	4,614	1,864	-	(949)	-	5,529
Mary Vere Fund	11,953	3,824	(2,000)	-	-	13,777
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	147,987	2,612	(11,204)	(1,080)	(10,641)	127,674
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	29,622	540	-	(171)	(2,384)	27,607
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	8,150	240	-	(115)	760	9,035
Walthamstow, St John Fund	5,597	165	-	(79)	522	6,205
	1,108,825	79,446	(37,030)	(46,770)	(5,132)	1,099,339

	<i>Movement in funds</i>					<i>Balance 31 December 2022</i>
	<i>Balance 1 January 2022</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/(losses) on revaluation</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	920,405	49,336	(17,603)	(34,692)	(40,958)	876,488
Birchington Convalescent Fund	2,559	2,018	-	(976)	-	3,601
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	17,196	14,404	(3,059)	(8,521)	-	20,020
Düsseldorf	546	67	-	(33)	-	580
Gloucester, Mariners Hall	228	-	(228)	-	-	-
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	(130)	343	-	-	-	213
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	3,665	1,899	-	(950)	-	4,614
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room Fund	7,490	-	-	(7,490)	-	-
Mary Vere Fund	-	12,563	(610)	-	-	11,953
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	166,838	2,160	(27,760)	(1,254)	8,003	147,987
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	27,986	341	-	(93)	1,388	29,622
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	8,962	230	-	(98)	(944)	8,150
Walthamstow, St John Fund	6,190	158	-	(67)	(684)	5,597
	1,161,935	83,519	(49,260)	(54,174)	(33,195)	1,108,825

16 Net assets held by funds

	<i>Balance 31 December 2023</i>			
	<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>Endowment funds</i>	<i>Total funds</i>
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,857	-	724,122	725,979
Fixed asset investments	352,499	1,063,002	1,098,397	2,513,898
Net current assets	106,174	36,337	3,594	146,105
Long Term Liabilities	-	-	-	-
	460,530	1,099,339	1,826,113	3,385,982
	<i>Balance 31 December 2022</i>			
	<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>Endowment funds</i>	<i>Total funds</i>
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	225,238	-	524,225	749,463
Fixed asset investments	306,880	1,054,934	1,269,844	2,631,658
Net current assets	77,339	53,891	2,894	134,124
Long Term Liabilities	(199,590)	-	-	(199,590)
	409,867	1,108,825	1,796,963	3,315,655

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

17. Purpose of funds

Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund	To assist with and promote the educational and training needs of those persons who are, or are training to become, ministers in the established Church of England who subscribe to the conservative, evangelical tradition.
E A Beynon Fund	For the general purposes of the National Church League which in 1950 merged with Church Association to become Church Society. On 31 st December 2022 the balance of the fund has been transferred to General Funds in line with the purpose of the fund.
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	To make grants to enable poor children and in default of poor children other poor persons to obtain convalescent treatment after illness.
Brighton, Emmanuel Church	To maintain Christian and missionary work on Scriptural Protestant and Evangelical lines so far as practicable in the Brighton and Hove area and subject thereto elsewhere.
Dean Wace Memorial Fund	To provide land and buildings for Church Society and income for the Society's general purposes.
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	To pay for the expenses of Christ Church, Düsseldorf in relation to both the upkeep of buildings and the employment of staff.
General Fund	For the general purposes of Church Society
Gloucester Mariners Residence	To provide a residence for the chaplain of the Mariner's Chapel or to provide for the general work of the Mariners Chapel.
Leamington Spa, Christ Church	For the augmentation of the stipend of the Incumbent of St Mark's, Leamington Spa, so long as the doctrine and worship in the parish of St Mark's are evangelical in character.
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room	Subject to the appointment of a vicar within 10 years of the sale of the Parish Room and to such vicar maintaining and carrying on a protestant reformed tradition, to provide funds for the Church and otherwise for the general purposes of Church Society. On 31 st December 2022 the balance of the fund has been transferred to General Funds in line with the purpose of the fund.
Mary Vere Fund	Its aim is to assist with and promote the educational and training needs of women who are in, or are training for, non-ordained ministry in the established Church of England who subscribe to the conservative, evangelical tradition.
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	To provide funds for evangelical purposes in or in connection with the parish of St. Andrew's Paddock Wood.
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	To further the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ryde.
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	To permit the Penrhyn Hall to be used under the direction and control of the vicar of St. John's Walthamstow so long as it is used consistently with evangelical principles.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

Walthamstow, St John

To support any work within the parish of St. John's Walthamstow, either being part of church activities or in support of charities operating within the parish.

Freeholds held on behalf of Churches or other charities.

Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester, Gloucester Mariners Hall, Hollabury Mission Hall Poughill, Cornwall, St Andrews, Montserrat, Old Hill Hall, St Catharine's Recreation Ground, Wigan.

18. Pension Schemes

Church Society participates in two pension schemes administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the scheme separately from those of Church Society and other participating employers.

(a) The Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

Church Society participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. The Defined Benefits Scheme
2. The Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
 - a. A deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
 - b. A cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable (2023: £2,265, 2022: £2,086).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2019.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2024, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 5% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2023. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the 2019 valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation date is due 31 December 2022. Calculations are currently under way.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

(b) The Church of England Funded Pension Scheme (CEFPS)

Church Society participates in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme for stipendiary clergy, a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Responsible Bodies.

Each participating Responsible Body in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme pays contributions at a common contribution rate applied to pensionable stipends.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. It is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific Responsible Body, and this means contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year which were £7,051 in 2023 (2022: £8,266), plus any figures arising from contributions in respect of the Scheme's deficit (see below). The 2021 valuation showed the scheme to be fully funded and as such in 2023, following the valuation results being agreed, the deficit contributions paid were £0 (2022: £1,000).

A valuation of the Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent Scheme valuation completed was carried out at as 31 December 2021. The 2021 valuation revealed a surplus of £560m, based on assets of £2,720m and a funding target of £2,160m, assessed using the following assumptions:

- An average discount rate of 2.7% p.a.;
- RPI inflation of 3.6% p.a. (and pension increases consistent with this);
- CPIH inflation in line with RPI less 0.8% pre 2030 moving to RPI with no adjustment from 2030 onwards;
- Increase in pensionable stipends in line with CPIH;
- Mortality in accordance with 90% of the S3NA tables, with allowance for improvements in mortality rates from 2013 in line with the CMI2020 extended model with a long-term annual rate of improvement of 1.5%, a smoothing parameter of 7, an initial addition to mortality improvements of 0.5% pa and an allowance for 2020 data of 0% (i.e. w2020 = 0%)

Following finalisation of the 31 December 2021 valuation, deficit contributions ceased with effect from 1 January 2023, since the Scheme was fully funded.

The deficit recovery contributions under the recovery plan in force at each 31 December were as follows:

	% of pensionable stipends
31 December 2021	7.1% payable from January 2021 to December 2022
31 December 2022	Nil
31 December 2023	Nil

An interim reduction to deficit contributions to 3.2% of pensionable stipends was made with effect from April 2022, and remained in place until December 2022.

For senior office holders, pensionable stipends are adjusted in the calculations by a multiple, as set out in the Scheme's rules.

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. However, as there are no agreed deficit recovery payments from 1 January 2023 onwards, the balance sheet liability as at 31 December 2022 is nil. The movement in the balance sheet liability over 2022 and over 2023 is set out in the table below.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
Balance sheet liability at 1 January	0	2,000
Deficit contribution paid	0	(1,000)
Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)	0	0
Remaining change to the balance sheet liability* (recognised in SoFA)	0	(1,000)
Balance sheet liability at 31 December	0	0

* Comprises change in agreed deficit recovery plan, and change in discount rate and assumptions between year-ends.

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions. No assumptions are needed for December 2022 as there are no agreed deficit recovery payments going forward. No price inflation assumption was needed for December 2021 since pensionable stipends for the remainder of the recovery plan were already known.

	December 2023	December 2022	December 2021
Discount rate	n/a	n/a	0.0% pa
Price inflation	n/a	n/a	n/a
Increase to total pensionable payroll	n/a	n/a	-1.5% pa

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another Responsible Body fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of that Responsible Body's pension liabilities.

(c) NEST Pension Scheme

Church Society participates in a defined contribution scheme run by NEST. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are £2,641 (2022: £1,491).

19. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

The charitable company had no material capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31 December 2023. (2022: £nil).

20. Luckley-Oakfield School Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints the Trustees of the Luckley-Oakfield School Trust, which owns a school near Wokingham. In the event of the Trust being wound up the assets would revert to Church Society for educational purposes.

21. Ryde, St James

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Ryde, St James Trust. The Trust owns the Church and a house in Ryde, Isle of Wight, which are held by Church Society on their behalf.

22. Hollabury Mission Hall Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Hollabury Mission Hall Trust. The Trust owns the Hollabury Mission Hall, Poughill, Bude, which is held by Church Society on their behalf.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

23. Black Chapel

Church Society is the sole trustee of Black Chapel (charity number 262667). Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as the combined income of all the charities under the control of Church Society is below the threshold at which group accounts are required. At the end of the financial year Black Chapel had reserves of £743,089. Its income was £19,400 and expenditure £9,746 resulting in a surplus of £9,654.

24. Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust

Church Society became the sole trustee of the Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust (charity number 1203365) on 12 December 2023. Its purpose is to provide income to benefit the Daily Prayer Union Trust Limited (charity number: 284857). Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as the combined income of all the charities under the control of Church Society is below the threshold at which group accounts are required. At the end of the financial year, Sir Edgar Stroud Plummer Charitable Trust had reserves of £1,619,959, which are noted in Church Society's creditors as the cash was held in Church Society's bank account at year end (Note 12). Its income and expenditure from the 12 December to 31 December 2023 was £nil.

CHURCH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 249574

Accounts

Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

**Church Society
(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Company No 213142
Charity Registration No 249574**

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Contents

Trustees' and directors' report	1 - 5
Independent auditor's report	6 - 8
Statement of financial activities	9
Income and expenditure account	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 23

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Council members	The Revd N T Atkinson The Revd Dr M E Burkill The Revd P T Darlington The Revd M E Davy The Revd Mr J Eggertsen (until 28 th June 2022) The Revd M Hayden The Revd Dr J Hughes Mrs R C Hunt The Revd C R H Kilgour The Revd Dr R S Munro Mrs A Robbie The Revd A P J Towner (Chairman) The Revd Dr J D Ward The Revd Dr T Woolford (until 31 st August 2022)
Director	The Revd Dr Lee Gatiss
Charity number	249574
Company number	213142
Registered office	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE
Auditors	Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet 5 Robin Hood Lane Sutton Surrey SM1 2SW
Principal address	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Bankers

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
London Fleet Street Branch
1 Fleet Street
London
EC4Y 1BD

Barclays Bank plc
62/64 High Street
Watford
WD17 2BT

Solicitors

Monro Wright & Wasbrough LLP
7-8 Great James Street
London
WC1N 3DF

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2022

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

Charity's objectives

Church Society is a registered charity. Its objectives are set out in the Company's governing document, the Memorandum of Association. The charity constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The overall purpose of the Society is to maintain the character of the Church of England as a reformed and national Church witnessing to and seeking to serve the entire nation for the benefit of all. In particular by;

- upholding the supremacy, sufficiency and authority of Scripture;
- equipping and encouraging parochial clergy and lay people in their ministries;
- supporting local churches;
- administering and holding funds and properties with local and national benefits;
- contending for the reformed worship and doctrine of the 39 Articles and Book of Common Prayer;
- uniting all who share these principles;
- promoting friendship with all churches which accept the supreme authority of God's word written;
- opposing all practices which are contrary to reformed doctrine;
- taking all manner of action, including legal and political, to pursue these objectives.

Church Society is working towards these objectives through publishing, parish support, campaigning and administering trusts. Wherever possible this is done in consultation and co-operation with other groups and organisations. In carrying out activities the directors confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and believe that Church Society provides benefit to the public in a variety of ways. These are described in the sections under activities and achievements and under managed funds.

Through its allied company, Church Society Trust, the Society is involved in the patronage work of the Church of England. The Trust is responsible for 127 Livings, many of which are on a shared basis.

Church Society manages a number of financial trusts with various objectives including:

- supporting the training and education of ordinands and clergy;
- Christian work in various parishes or locations subject to certain conditions

Through other trusts the Society owns various properties on behalf of others, in particular 2 Proprietary Chapels (one in Germany) and an Independent Evangelical Church. It acts as holding trustees and appoints some of the trustees for one Church, one Hall and a school. A further trust supports accommodation for staff.

Structure, governance, and management

The key management personnel of the Society are the Council (the Trustees), The Director Revd Dr Lee Gatiss and the Associate Director Dr Ros Clarke. They are in charge of directing and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Council consists of up to 15 people elected annually by the members of the Society. Up to 5 additional Council members can be co-opted as required. New trustees are provided with guidance on their responsibilities.

The trustees give of their time freely and did not receive any remuneration in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in Note 7 to the financial statements. The pay of staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with average earnings, though the Director's stipend is pegged to that of an incumbent in the Diocese of St Albans. The Church Society will continue to benchmark staff benefits against staff performing similar roles in similar charities.

The Global Anglican Editorial Board and Church Society Trust Directors operate largely as committees of the Council. In addition, there is a finance committee. The Council must approve appointments of Church Society Trust Members and the membership of certain other charitable trusts.

Two full-time and three part-time members of staff were employed throughout the year and their work was greatly assisted by three part-time regional directors, each enabled to do this work through the support of their churches. Other volunteers also assist in many areas and their efforts are much appreciated. The Society is an association of members who share a common vision and members do much of the work of the Society.

Activities and achievements

During the course of the year, Church Society continued to be actively involved in fulfilling its primary objectives of promoting what the Queen's Coronation Oath referred to as "the true profession of the gospel... the Protestant Reformed religion", which is the foundation of the Church of England, as the established religion of the United Kingdom. This included

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2022

supporting individuals, parishes, and other organisations working along these lines, and in challenging and opposing teaching and actions which run counter to this faith, both within the national church and society more widely.

Conferences

Our annual Junior Anglican Evangelical Conference (JAEC) was held at Kings Park Conference Centre in Northampton from 30th August to 1st September 2022, with the title *The Household of God*. Around thirty of us gathered to hear keynote speakers Rob Munro, Lee Gatiss, Mel Lacy, Ros Clarke, and Bishop Richard Jackson speak on the ministry of bishops, presbyters, deacons, and laity. There were also a range of seminars including *Why Stay in the Church of England?* (George Crowder), *Young People in the Household* (Mel Lacy), *Serving as Ministers in the Household* (Andy Greenhough), and *Serving Joyfully as Children in the Household* (Tony Cannon). The work of the conference also continues daily in an online network of nearly 400 members via Facebook. The Church Society AGM was held on 1st September during JAEC, and Lee Gatiss spoke on "Post-Truth Post-Lambeth".

The Regional Directors (George Crowder, Chris Moore, and Tony Cannon) also organised and spoke at a number of webinars, as part of our Network of Revitalisation Ministries (NoRM). They have established contact with around 150 ministers and lay people working in often difficult turnaround ministries across the country, and built up a network for support and encouragement via webinars, an email newsletter, and a WhatsApp group, which we hope to continue resourcing over the next few years.

During Lent we also ran a series of videos called *The Challenges of Global Anglicanism* featuring input from Peter Jensen, Samuel Morrison, Felix Orji, Kara Hartley, Kirsten Birkett, and Henry Scriven. This culminated in a "Prayer Meeting for Global Anglicanism" at which Lee Gatiss, Foley Beach, and Kanishka Raffel spoke, and many joined us online via Zoom to pray.

Resources

Our aim is to equip God's people to live God's word, as a fellowship contending to reform and renew the Church of England in biblical faith. One of our key strategies for doing this is by resourcing local churches and Christians through our publishing ministry, which includes print media, online resources, and audio-visual resources, as well as an email newsletter every fortnight and daily prayers. Many of the sessions in our conferences are recorded and made available online via SoundCloud, Vimeo, and YouTube, along with other occasional talks (e.g. "Ways Forward on Same-Sex Marriage in Church" and "Take Courage" by Lee Gatiss, "Complementarianism in our Churches" by Kirsten Birkett, and "True Complementarianism" by Ros Clarke), and weekly resources such as "Lee on the Lectionary" videos. Our podcast (both video and audio versions) is a regular feature online with many issues such as prayer, Anglicanism, leadership lessons, visible differentiation, preaching, evangelism, and Living in Love and Faith (LLF) discussed by a wide range of guests. We also have daily prayer tweets and Facebook posts (also available on PrayerMate), and other social media engagement.

Throughout the year we also published responses and resources relating to issues in the Church of England, such as a full scale response to *Listening with Love and Faith* (a Church of England report as part of LLF) and various blogposts on aspects of LLF such as pastoral accommodation. We continued to engage with *Living in Love and Faith* (on which we now have a large number of audio, visual, and written resources to assist churches and individuals engage on the topics covered in it). We also covered "leadership lessons" and "leadership reset" in a series of posts, climate change, the ongoing use of the Book of Common Prayer, and offered a special collect at the time of Her Late Majesty's death.

We continue to publish our quarterly members magazine, *Crossway*, edited by Ros Clarke. During the year, *Crossway* looked at issues as diverse as what it means to be human, church revitalisation, climate change and care for God's world, Church of England governance and structures, faith in a time of war, the Lambeth Conference, and the ministry of Rod Thomas as Bishop of Maidstone.

We also continued to publish *The Global Anglican* theology journal (with Archbishop Peter Jensen as Editor and Kirsten Birkett as Managing Editor). Each issue aims to promote the faith of the Holy Scriptures and such teachings of the ancient Fathers and Councils of the Church as are agreeable to those Scriptures. In particular such doctrine is to be found in the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, *The Book of Common Prayer*, and the Ordinal, in line with the doctrinal position of Church Society. *The Global Anglican* is committed to excellence in upholding high academic standards in its articles, book reviews, and editorial. It is an ecclesiastical journal that aims to speak to the pastoral needs of the contemporary church, and to equip ministers, students, and lay people to persuade others of the eternal truths of our faith in Jesus Christ and the need for them to be applied today for the renewal of the church and the conversion of the world.

To continue encouraging solid scholarship in all these areas, Church Society also financially supported those studying and writing. The Dean Wace Scholarship is designed to be awarded to evangelicals within the Church of England who are seeking funding for masters and doctoral level courses (MPhil, ThM, MTh, DMin, PhD etc) in theology and related disciplines (church history, biblical counselling, etc). The Bishop Ryle Bursary is for ministers seeking funding for specific writing projects, sabbatical training proposals, and such like, as well as ordinands seeking an additional year of study below masters level.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2022

Our Associate Director, Dr Ros Clarke continues to run the Priscilla Programme, our online training course for women in a partnership between Church Society and Union School of Theology. The programme is designed for women who are involved in a local church, and would like to be better equipped to serve in ministries such as Sunday schools, youth groups, pastoral visiting, or leading Bible studies. It covers Old Testament, New Testament, Doctrine, Evangelism & Apologetics, Church History, and Ethics & Pastoral Care, with weekly seminars online. 55 students have taken at least one module of the course so far, and there are currently 7 students in three seminar groups, including one overseas student.

Dr Clarke also continued as the Leader of the Co-Workers network for complementarian women in Anglican ministry in the UK, under the auspices of the Bishop of Maidstone. The network offers online groups, opportunities for mentoring, and chances to share experiences and information about training and employment opportunities for women. There will also be the opportunity to join occasional discussions and online seminars on relevant subjects. As complementarians, we believe that men and women are intended by God to serve alongside one another in ministry, complementing each other with their different gifts and opportunities. Together, men and women form the full complement of God's people. Without the ministry of gifted, trained and equipped women, the whole church is the poorer. However, many women serving in complementarian churches struggle with lack of appropriate training and support. It is not always easy to find like-minded women in similar situations who can offer wisdom and experience. For women in the early stages of ministry it can be particularly hard to find suitable opportunities for training and employment. So the goal of this network is to help each woman find the information, resources, and peer group support that will help her ministry flourish and the whole church to grow.

Even today, many women struggle to access formal theological education but are nonetheless committed to study and to service within the church. In order to support such women, Church Society also makes annual Mary Vere Grants towards the cost of their training for non-ordained ministry in the Church of England. Women are, of course, also welcome to apply for the Bishop Ryle and Dean Wace awards where eligible.

In August 2022 we published a new book, *Living in Mercy and Grace: Life and Ministry in Hard Times*. This features chapters by Lee Gatiss, Chris Moore, Martin Davy, Kirsten Birkett, Helen Thorne, and James Newcome looking at patience, humility, perseverance, gentleness, and care of the flock. We also published a new and expanded edition of *Fight Valiantly: Contending for the Faith against False Teaching in the Church* by Lee Gatiss, with additional material and a new cover. Most of our books are now also available not only via Amazon and on Kindle, but in other ebook formats too (pdf, ePub).

As well as their work in NoRM, we are immensely grateful for the time given by our Regional Directors in visiting and encouraging clergy and other individuals and churches, especially those going through difficult situations. They help to build our sense of being a "fellowship" contending together for the reform and renewal of the Church of England, as well as being a great source of wisdom and experience, developing our connections with people and churches on the ground throughout the whole country.

In addition, Lee Gatiss spoke on various subjects at churches in Cambridge, Barton Seagrave, Fordham, Wembdon, Hailsham, Bradfield Southend and Stanford Dingley, as well as at a fringe event at General Synod in London, and at regional conferences with the Bishop of Maidstone all over the country. He spoke at webinars for wives of ministers in revitalisation parishes, to the FIEC staff team, for a class at the Evangelical Theological College of Asia, a retreat for the Anglican Diocese of the Living Word, Colchester Castle, Lichfield DEF, Union School of Theology, and on *Issues Facing Anglicans Today* at Oak Hill. He represented the Society at Affinity, CEEC, Oak Hill's "Is Church of England Ministry for me?" event, a meeting of the LLF Next Steps Group at Lambeth Palace, and other gatherings including on the Bishop of Maidstone's Advisory Group. He also appeared on various podcasts to speak about Church of England affairs. His editorial work on *The Complete Works of John Owen* (published by Crossway) and *The Hodder Bible Commentary* (Hodder & Stoughton) continues to bring in money for the Society, as well as making valuable contributions to historical, theological, and biblical scholarship and expanding our network of connections.

During the year, Sophie Barker continued as our Finance Manager (having been promoted from Finance Assistant). David Meager continued to work diligently and cheerfully behind the scenes as our full time Administrator. We are extremely thankful for their gifts and service to us as a Society, which help us keep things running smoothly and effectively, alongside a wealth of volunteers who help in the office (with technology, mailings etc) and on our various committees (especially Council, Finance Committee, and the Global Anglican Editorial Board). We continued throughout the year to hold a regular monthly online prayer meeting, which is well attended by both clergy and lay members of the Society. Guy Thorburn who helps put together our daily prayer diary does sterling work ensuring that everything we do is covered in prayer. For the Bible's priority in all our contending for the faith is this: "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people" (1 Timothy 2:1).

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2022

Financial Review

The assets under the control of the Society fall into two broad categories: those used directly in facilitating the work of the Society itself, and those that are administered by the Society for the benefit of others (managed funds).

There are three funds which relate directly to the Society's own work. The General fund, which is unrestricted and the General Endowment Fund and Dean Wace Memorial Endowment Fund.

Within unrestricted income, Donations and Legacies decreased during 2022 mainly due to a significant legacy in 2021. Total expenditure increased modestly compared to 2021 mainly due to strong levels of inflation impacting costs and a greater level of publications in the year. Overall, the result was a £23,594 decrease in unrestricted funds, mainly driven by a £29,308 net loss on investments.

The year 2022 has seen a significantly challenging market for investments which has been seen more keenly due to a strong performance at the end of 2021. As a result, both property and listed investments have decreased in value over the year. As a result, restricted funds had a net loss of £33,195 on investments and the endowment funds noted a net loss of £152,739.

At 31 December 2022 the total reserves under the control of the charity were £3,315,655. Of these reserves, £1,796,963 are held as endowment funds and £1,108,825 as restricted funds and are therefore not available for the general purposes of the charity. £3,381,121 of the total reserves are held in tangible fixed assets or fixed asset investments. The remaining general reserves of £409,867 are within the stated policy of sufficient reserves to cover operations for three years ahead.

Managed Funds

Most of the managed funds are subsidiary charities for which the Council acts as Trustees (or sometimes as joint Trustees). In each case a trust deed or scheme sets the parameters within which the fund is to be used. A brief description of each can be found on page 19 of the accounts. On 31st December 2022, a new General Fund Endowment was set up in which the assets of E A Beynon and Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room have been transferred as the purpose of the funds are now in alignment. Several funds consist solely of freehold properties including churches, houses or halls. Because many of these are long-standing funds, issues have from time to time arisen in relation thereto as to their proper application and the Society has been undertaking a gradual programme of clarifying the precise nature of each trust.

The Council has no authority to expend permanent endowment funds but is under an obligation to make attempts to expend the income from those trusts. Therefore, the endowment reserves are invested, where appropriate, in order to provide income to fulfil the relevant funds' purposes. The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed by the Finance Committee. Other funds contain capital that the Council can spend should they so choose. In most cases the decision has been made not to spend capital unless there is a pressing reason to do so. Wherever capital is spent the Council must act within the terms of the Trust. In many instances the trusts were established with very clear terms as to how they should be used. The Council is very aware of the need to honour this in making grants or payments today. The same principals are used for the income from the funds. Where the Restricted Funds have a significant level of assets these may be invested to provide income to be applied in increasing cash reserves for future use and cash reserves that are actively used each year in line with the relevant funds' purposes. Where the assets of a restricted fund are less significant these are monitored unless and until the cash reserves are sufficient to make the application thereof feasible.

The administration of these funds can be a significant burden, in particular where the trust deed has theological restrictions, which have to be assessed, and where properties are involved. A list of the grants made from funds can be found on page 13.

In line with common practice the Society charges an administration fee against managed funds which is the lesser of 1.5% on the balance of invested funds at the start of the year or 50% of the income of the fund.

The Finance Committee continued to monitor the investment situation during the course of the year, with funds invested mainly with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited. The Finance Committee keeps under review the balance between such investments and investment in property, seeking at all time to maintain a proper balance. Financial decisions are the responsibility of the Council but the Finance Committee, which includes experience in a range of financial areas, advises them in this.

Statement on risks

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

The trustees consider that the principal risk facing the Society is a reduction in the income of the Society in the form of membership subscriptions, and donations and other giving. This is sought to be addressed by a regular review of the number of members and subscription levels and the level of donations, and by various initiatives designed to attract new members and to encourage giving to the Society, and the holding of significant reserves to cover deficiencies in any year.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2022

Another significant risk is that of the loss of key personnel and staff. This is sought to be addressed by seeking to ensure that suitably committed and motivated personnel and staff are employed, that they are sufficiently supported in their roles, and that we have systems in place to recruit new staff in the event of departures or resignations.

Statement of trustees'/directors' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Church Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

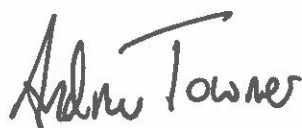
So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make them aware of any audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

Jacob, Cavenagh and Skeet have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors and a resolution proposing their re-appointment will be put to the forthcoming annual general meeting.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees
and signed on their behalf by



Revd A P J Towner
Trustee

23/05/2023

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Church Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included with the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees' (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to employment and financial reporting legislation and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by making enquiries of management, considering the internal controls in place and discussion amongst the engagement team. We determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries and valuation of freehold and investment properties.

In response to the risks identified we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- identifying and testing journal entries
- reviewing Trustees and Finance meeting minutes
- evaluating the charity's internal controls
- challenging significant accounting estimates such as valuation of investment property

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and regulations made under that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Richard Haffenden MA(Cantab) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Dated: 26 MAY 2023

Church Society
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2021 Total £
Income from:									
<i>Donations and legacies</i>		109,198	13,283	-	122,481	142,280	765	-	143,045
<i>Other trading activities:</i>									
Rent receivable		-	200	-	200	-	200	-	200
Fees and other income		12,566	-	-	12,566	23,812	-	-	23,812
<i>Investments</i>	2	47,286	70,036	-	117,322	35,525	75,034	-	110,559
<i>Charitable activities</i>									
Subscriptions, publications and conferences		18,312	-	-	18,312	23,416	-	-	23,416
Total income		187,362	83,519	-	270,881	225,033	75,999	-	301,032
Expenditure on:									
<i>Raising funds:</i>									
Fundraising and publicity		377	110	-	487	-	-	-	-
Rental property costs		7,021	15,662	-	22,683	5,866	15,671	-	21,537
<i>Charitable activities:</i>									
Grant funding of activities	3	250	33,488	-	33,738	-	27,826	-	27,826
Activities undertaken directly		177,748	-	-	177,748	175,882	1,120	-	177,002
Support costs		50,426	-	-	50,426	44,283	-	-	44,283
Total expenditure	6	235,822	49,260	-	285,082	226,031	44,617	-	270,648
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(29,308)	(33,195)	(152,739)	(215,242)	17,669	49,959	102,732	170,360
Net (expenditure)/income		(77,766)	1,064	(152,739)	(229,443)	16,671	81,341	102,732	200,744
Gross transfers between funds	4	54,174	(54,174)	-	-	54,713	(54,713)	-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets for charity's own use		-	-	-	-	23,886	-	19,576	43,462
Net movement in funds		(23,594)	(53,110)	(152,739)	(229,443)	95,270	26,628	122,308	244,206
Reconciliation of funds									
Balance at 1 January 2022		433,461	1,161,935	1,949,702	3,545,098	338,191	1,135,307	1,827,394	3,300,892
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2022		409,867	1,108,825	1,796,963	3,315,655	433,461	1,161,935	1,949,702	3,545,098

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

All operations are continuing operations.

Church Society
Summary Income and expenditure account
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Income	153,559	190,473
Gains/(losses) on investments	(215,242)	170,360
Interest and investment income	117,322	110,559
Gross income in the reporting period	55,639	471,392
Expenditure	284,030	269,978
Depreciation	1,052	670
Total expenditure in the reporting period	285,082	270,648
Net income for the year	(229,443)	200,744

Statement of Comprehensive income
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income for the year	(229,443)	200,744
Other comprehensive income		
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets	-	43,462
Total comprehensive income for the year	(229,443)	244,206

**Church Society
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2022**

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		749,463		748,102
Investments	9		<u>2,631,658</u>		<u>2,855,673</u>
			3,381,121		3,603,775
Current assets					
Stocks	10	9,098		10,418	
Debtors	11	24,811		22,493	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>142,587</u>		<u>358,311</u>	
		176,496		391,222	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(42,372)</u>		<u>(35,258)</u>	
Net current assets			134,124		355,964
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>3,515,245</u>		<u>3,959,739</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13		(199,590)		(412,641)
Provision for liabilities	18		-		(2,000)
Net Assets			<u><u>3,315,655</u></u>		<u><u>3,545,098</u></u>
Funds					
Endowment funds	14		1,796,963		1,949,702
Restricted funds	15		1,108,825		1,161,935
Unrestricted funds			409,867		433,461
			<u>3,315,655</u>		<u>3,545,098</u>

Included in the fund balances above are revaluation reserves of £388,272 in Endowment funds, £248,549 in Restricted funds and £40,035 in Unrestricted Funds.

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 23/05 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



Revd A P J Towner
Chairman

Company No. 213142

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting policies

The following accounting policies are considered material in relation to the charitable company's financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with 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) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102). The financial statements are drawn up on the historical cost basis of accounting, as modified by the revaluation of investment properties and other investments. The accounts are all prepared in sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

SORP Update Bulletin 1 has been applied in regards to the exemption of a cash flow statement.

Church Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. It is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England with registered office at Hille Business Estate, 132 St Albans Road, Watford, WD24 4AE.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Society's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.2 Classification of funds

Permanent endowments represent those funds where the capital is required to be retained but the income from those funds can be spent for the benefit of Church Society or others subject in certain cases to specific restrictions contained in the original endowment.

Restricted funds represent the accumulated income of managed funds whose use is restricted to specific purposes according to the terms on which the funds were received.

The unrestricted fund represents income which may be spent generally for furthering the religious and charitable work of Church Society.

1.3 Depreciation of tangible assets

Tangible assets are recorded at cost less depreciation and any impairment.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets, except freehold property, at annual rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 33% on a straight line basis

No depreciation is provided on freehold properties. It is the policy of the Society to maintain these at least to their current standard and to charge the Statement of Financial Activities the cost of maintenance as incurred. In the opinion of the Council, the depreciation charge is not material because the residual value is not materially different from the carrying amount of the asset. The useful economic lives and residual values are reviewed at the end of each year.

1.4 Investments

Investments are included at fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2022

1.5 Investment Properties

Investment properties are included at the trustees estimate of fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investment properties are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

1.6 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Provision is made for obsolete, slow-moving or effective stock where appropriate.

1.7 Debtors

Prepayments are included at the amount prepaid and debtors are included at the settlement amount due.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit.

1.9 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10 Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.11 Income

Donations and legacies are accounted for once the charity has entitlement to the income, this is when it is probable the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends, interest and rental income are recognised gross when the charity has entitlement to the income.

Charitable activities and other trading activities

Income from these sources is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income. If subscriptions are received in advance of the period to which they relate they are deferred to the next period.

1.12 Expenditure

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, discounted to present value for longer term liabilities. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Raising funds

These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and maintaining investment properties.

Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Society in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those of an indirect nature necessary to support them. They also include governance costs which comprise costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2022

Grants

Grants are included at the amounts paid from the funds during the year.

1.13 Intangible income

The contribution to the administration of Church Society supplied in the form of voluntary services is acknowledged with gratitude but not recognised in these financial statements.

1.14 Pension costs

Defined benefit scheme – This is a multi-employer scheme and the pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity in the year.

Defined contribution scheme – The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity during the year.

1.15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2. Investment Income

	2022	2021
	£	£
Investment properties	83,298	78,446
Common investment funds	34,032	32,095
Cash deposits	<u>2</u>	<u>18</u>
	<u>117,322</u>	<u>110,559</u>

3. Grants Paid

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund		
Scholarships	4,500	1,500
Book grants	<u>500</u>	<u>497</u>
	5,000	1,997
General Fund		
Contribution to St Faith's, Maidstone	<u>250</u>	<u>-</u>
Maidstone St. Faiths Parish Room		
Contribution to St. Faith's, Maidstone	<u>-</u>	<u>250</u>
Mary Vere Fund		
Scholarships	<u>500</u>	<u>-</u>
Gloucester Mariners Hall		
Contribution to Gloucester Mariners Hall	<u>228</u>	<u>-</u>
Paddock Wood Parochial Hall Trust		
Contribution to Paddock Wood Church	<u>27,760</u>	<u>25,579</u>
	<u>33,738</u>	<u>27,826</u>

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

4 Transfer of restricted funds

During the year Church Society applies a management fee policy to the funds which are generating a sufficient level of income. This contributes towards the administration costs of the funds. In addition, where Church Society is carrying out work along the same purpose of the funds a transfer may be approved by the Finance Committee.

5 Operating leases

	2022 £	2021 £
The charity is committed to the following payments under operating leases:		
Not later than one year	7,320	14,170
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	4,991
	<u>7,320</u>	<u>19,161</u>
Lease payments charged to expenditure in the year	<u>16,320</u>	<u>16,020</u>

6 Charitable activities

	Staff costs £	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grant funding of activities	-	-	33,738	33,738	27,826
Activities undertaken directly	76,234	1,052	100,462	177,748	177,002
Support costs	30,900	-	19,526	50,426	44,283
	<u>107,134</u>	<u>1,052</u>	<u>153,726</u>	<u>261,912</u>	<u>249,111</u>

Other costs - Activities undertaken directly

	2022 £	2021 £
Establishment and property	25,776	30,268
Publications	24,738	20,939
Meetings and conferences	7,191	9,707
Other staff costs	38,636	38,457
Miscellaneous	4,121	5,587
	<u>100,462</u>	<u>104,958</u>

Other costs - Support costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Professional and management fees	300	5,422
Meetings and conferences	2,628	426
Governance Costs		
Professional and management fees	10,080	-
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	4,980	4,770
Trustee Travel Expenses	1,538	947
	<u>19,526</u>	<u>11,565</u>

Staff costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	93,637	89,484
Social security costs	2,667	3,149
Pension costs (see note 18)	10,830	11,459
	<u>107,134</u>	<u>104,092</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the year was 5 (2021: 5). No employee earned more than £60,000.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

7 Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

Council Members receive no remuneration for their services. Their travelling expenses are reimbursed in respect of expenses incurred on either Church Society or Church Society Trust business. In the year ended 31 December 2022, 11 Council Members claimed reimbursement of travelling expenses totalling £1,538 (2021: £947). The total value of donations without conditions received from trustees was £2,291 (2021: £717).

The charitable company does not have indemnity insurance to protect it from loss arising from neglect or defaults of its trustees, employees or agents or to indemnify the trustees or officers against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £66,009 (2021: £68,804).

In 2021 an interest free loan of £6,000 was agreed between a key member of management and Church Society. As at 31 December 2022 the loan was outstanding was £4,300.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	<i>Freehold property – held for charitable purposes</i> £	<i>Fixtures fittings and equipment</i> £	<i>Total</i> £
Cost or valuation			
As at 1 January 2022	745,853	15,807	761,660
Additions	-	2,413	2,413
Disposals	-	(899)	(899)
Revaluation	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2022	<u>745,853</u>	<u>17,321</u>	<u>763,174</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
As at 1 January 2022	-	13,558	13,558
Provision for the year	-	1,052	1,052
Eliminated on disposals	-	(899)	(899)
As at 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>13,711</u>	<u>13,711</u>
Net book value			
As at 31 December 2022	<u>745,853</u>	<u>3,610</u>	<u>749,463</u>
As at 31 December 2021	<u>745,853</u>	<u>2,249</u>	<u>748,102</u>

Freehold property consists of one property which has a value which was based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2022.

The following properties have all been shown in the balance sheet at a notional amount of £1,000. In each case, the property is an asset of an endowment fund and its sale is subject to significant restrictions or is not permitted under any circumstances.

Not inalienable – expendable endowment

Lightbowne Evangelical Church

Gloucester Mariners Hall

St Andrews, Montserrat

Wigan St Catharine, Recreation Ground

Not inalienable – permanent endowment

Gloucester Mariners Church

Inalienable – permanent endowment

Penrhyn Hall, Walthamstow

Old Hill Hall

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

9 Fixed asset investments	<i>Investment Properties</i>	<i>Listed Investments</i>	<i>Total</i>
		£	£
Cost or valuation			
Valuation at 1 January 2022	1,456,147	1,399,526	2,855,673
Additions	-	201,000	201,000
Disposals	-	(242,397)	(242,397)
Revaluation	(75,000)	(107,618)	(182,618)
Market valuation at 31 December	<u>1,381,147</u>	<u>1,250,511</u>	<u>2,631,658</u>
Historic cost	<u>1,007,868</u>	<u>1,009,569</u>	<u>2,017,437</u>

Commercial Road, Paddock Wood had a formal valuation by Ibbett Mosely Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2018 for £25,000.

The remaining investment properties all have a value based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2022.

Listed investments are investments placed with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited.

10 Stocks	2022	2021
	£	£
Publications for resale	<u>9,098</u>	<u>10,418</u>
11 Debtors	2022	2021
	£	£
Prepayments	6,870	8,968
Other debtors	17,941	13,525
	<u>24,811</u>	<u>22,493</u>
12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,580	9,582
Deferred income	1,928	4,076
Accruals	32,867	12,033
Mortgage liability	3,997	9,567
	<u>42,372</u>	<u>35,258</u>
13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2022	2021
	£	£
Mortgage liability		
Due within 1 - 2 years	4,203	9,877
Due within 2 - 5 years	13,954	31,763
Due in more than 5 years	181,433	371,001
	<u>199,590</u>	<u>412,641</u>

The mortgage liability is secured by a fixed and floating charge over Cranmer House, which had a carrying value of £850,000 at the balance sheet date. During the year a repayment of £212,000 was made. Interest on the bank loan is variable and in February 2023 at 5.65%. The mortgage is repayable over the period until February 2049.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

14 Movement on Endowment funds

	<i>Balance 1</i>	<i>Movement in funds</i>				<i>Balance 31</i>
	<i>January 2022</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/ (losses) on revaluation</i>	<i>December 2022</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds						
E A Beynon Fund	177,908	-	-	(165,000)	(12,908)	-
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	80,247	-	-	-	(8,234)	72,013
Brighton Emmanuel	318,082	-	-	-	(21,233)	296,849
Dean Wace Memorial	1,027,370	-	-	-	(86,789)	940,581
General Fund	-	-	-	362,418	-	362,418
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	75,483	-	-	-	(9,707)	65,776
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room	212,288	-	-	(197,418)	(14,870)	-
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	1,894,378	-	-	-	(153,741)	1,740,637
Expendable endowment funds						
Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,758	-	-	-	(391)	2,367
Gloucester Mariners Residence	23,566	-	-	-	1,393	24,959
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	55,324	-	-	-	1,002	56,326
	1,949,702	-	-	-	(152,739)	1,796,963
Balance 31 December 2021						
	<i>Balance 1</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/ (losses) on revaluation</i>	<i>Balance 31</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds						
E A Beynon Fund	175,138	-	-	-	2,770	177,908
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	70,612	-	-	-	9,635	80,247
Brighton Emmanuel	312,772	-	-	-	5,310	318,082
Dean Wace Memorial	933,816	-	-	-	93,554	1,027,370
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	68,056	-	-	-	7,427	75,483
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room	208,891	-	-	-	3,397	212,288
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	1,772,285	-	-	-	122,093	1,894,378
Expendable endowment funds						
Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,543	-	-	-	215	2,758
Gloucester Mariners Residence	23,566	-	-	-	-	23,566
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	55,109	-	-	-	215	55,324
	1,827,394	-	-	-	122,308	1,949,702

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

15 Movement on Restricted funds

	Movement in funds					Balance 31 December 2022 £
	Balance 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains/(losses) on revaluation £	
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	920,405	49,336	(17,603)	(34,692)	(40,958)	876,488
Birchington Convalescent Fund	2,559	2,018	-	(976)	-	3,601
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	17,196	14,404	(3,059)	(8,521)	-	20,020
Düsseldorf	546	67	-	(33)	-	580
Gloucester, Mariners Hall	228	-	(228)	-	-	-
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	(130)	343	-	-	-	213
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	3,665	1,899	-	(950)	-	4,614
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room Fund	7,490	-	-	(7,490)	-	-
Mary Vera Fund	-	12,563	(610)	-	-	11,953
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	168,838	2,160	(27,760)	(1,254)	8,003	147,987
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	27,986	341	-	(93)	1,388	29,622
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	8,962	230	-	(98)	(944)	8,150
Walthamstow, St John Fund	6,190	158	-	(67)	(684)	5,597
	1,161,935	83,519	(49,260)	(54,174)	(33,195)	1,108,825

	Movement in funds					Balance 31 December 2021 £
	Balance 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains/(losses) on revaluation £	
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	887,918	47,743	(12,462)	(35,280)	32,486	920,405
Birchington Convalescent Fund	1,638	1,952	-	(1,031)	-	2,559
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	17,111	12,651	(3,978)	(8,588)	-	17,196
Düsseldorf	515	66	-	(35)	-	546
Gloucester, Mariners Hall	228	-	-	-	-	228
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	(130)	-	-	-	-	(130)
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	2,813	1,901	-	(1,049)	-	3,665
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room Fund	8,187	8,663	(2,538)	(6,822)	-	7,490
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	176,898	2,509	(25,639)	(1,610)	14,680	166,838
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	26,739	183	-	(106)	1,170	27,986
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	7,918	196	-	(114)	962	8,962
Walthamstow, St John Fund	5,472	135	-	(78)	681	6,190
	1,135,307	75,999	(44,617)	(54,713)	49,959	1,161,935

16 Net assets held by funds

	Balance 31 December 2022			
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	225,238	-	524,225	749,463
Fixed asset investments	306,880	1,054,934	1,269,844	2,631,658
Net current assets	77,339	53,891	2,894	134,124
Long Term Liabilities	(199,590)	-	-	(199,590)
Provision for liabilities	-	-	-	-
	409,867	1,108,825	1,796,963	3,315,655

	Balance 31 December 2021			
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	408,317	-	339,785	748,102
Fixed asset investments	189,748	1,083,587	1,582,338	2,855,673
Net current assets	250,037	78,348	27,579	355,964
Long Term Liabilities	(412,641)	-	-	(412,641)
Provision for liabilities	(2,000)	-	-	(2,000)
	433,461	1,161,935	1,949,702	3,545,098

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2022

17. Purpose of funds

Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund	To assist with and promote the educational and training needs of those persons who are, or are training to become, ministers in the established Church of England who subscribe to the conservative, evangelical tradition.
E A Beynon Fund	For the general purposes of the National Church League which in 1950 merged with Church Association to become Church Society. On 31 st December 2022 the balance of the fund has been transferred to General Funds in line with the purpose of the fund.
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	To make grants to enable poor children and in default of poor children other poor persons to obtain convalescent treatment after illness.
Brighton, Emmanuel Church	To maintain Christian and missionary work on Scriptural Protestant and Evangelical lines so far as practicable in the Brighton and Hove area and subject thereto elsewhere.
Dean Wace Memorial Fund	To provide land and buildings for Church Society and income for the Society's general purposes.
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	To pay for the expenses of Christ Church, Düsseldorf in relation to both the upkeep of buildings and the employment of staff.
General Fund	For the general purposes of Church Society
Gloucester Mariners Residence	To provide a residence for the chaplain of the Mariner's Chapel or to provide for the general work of the Mariners Chapel.
Leamington Spa, Christ Church	For the augmentation of the stipend of the Incumbent of St Mark's, Leamington Spa, so long as the doctrine and worship in the parish of St Mark's are evangelical in character.
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room	Subject to the appointment of a vicar within 10 years of the sale of the Parish Room and to such vicar maintaining and carrying on a protestant reformed tradition, to provide funds for the Church and otherwise for the general purposes of Church Society. On 31 st December 2022 the balance of the fund has been transferred to General Funds in line with the purpose of the fund.
Mary Vere Fund	This is a new fund which started in 2022. Its aim is to assist with and promote the educational and training needs of women who are in, or are training for, non-ordained ministry in the established Church of England who subscribe to the conservative, evangelical tradition.
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	To provide funds for evangelical purposes in or in connection with the parish of St. Andrew's Paddock Wood.
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	To further the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ryde.
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	To permit the Penrhyn Hall to be used under the direction and control of the vicar of St. John's Walthamstow so long as it is used consistently with evangelical principles.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2022

Walthamstow, St John

To support any work within the parish of St. John's Walthamstow, either being part of church activities or in support of charities operating within the parish.

Freeholds held on behalf of Churches or other charities.

Lightbourne Evangelical Church, Manchester, Gloucester Mariners Hall, Hollabury Mission Hall Poughill, Cornwall, St Andrews, Montserrat, Old Hill Hall, St Catharine's Recreation Ground, Wigan.

18. Pension Schemes

Church Society participates in two pension schemes administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the scheme separately from those of Church Society and other participating employers.

(a) The Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

Church Society participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. The Defined Benefits Scheme
2. The Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
 - a. A deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
 - b. A cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable (2022: £2,086, 2021: £2,020).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2019. The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 10.1% following improvements in the funding position over 2022. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2022

(b) The Church of England Funded Pension Scheme (CEFPS)

Church Society participates in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme for stipendiary clergy, a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Responsible Bodies.

Each participating Responsible Body in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme pays contributions at a common contribution rate applied to pensionable stipends.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This means it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific Responsible Body, and this means contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year (2022: £8,266, 2021: £7,956), plus the figures highlighted in the table below as being recognised in the SoFA, giving a total charge of £7,266 for 2022 (2021: £7,956).

A valuation of the Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent Scheme valuation completed was carried out at as 31 December 2021. The 2021 valuation revealed a surplus of £560m, based on assets of £2,720m and a funding target of £2,160m, assessed using the following assumptions:

- An average discount rate of 2.7% p.a.;
- RPI inflation of 3.6% p.a. (and pension increases consistent with this);
- CPIH inflation in line with RPI less 0.8% pre 2030 moving to RPI with no adjustment from 2030 onwards;
- Increase in pensionable stipends in line with CPIH;
- Mortality in accordance with 90% of the S3NA tables, with allowance for improvements in mortality rates in line with the CMI2020 extended model with a long term annual rate of improvement of 1.5%, a smoothing parameter of 7, an initial addition to mortality improvements of 0.5% pa and an allowance for 2020 data of 0% (i.e. w2020 = 0%)

Following the 31 December 2018 valuation, a recovery plan was put in place until 31 December 2022 and the deficit recovery contributions (as a percentage of pensionable stipends) were as set out in the table below. An interim reduction to deficit contributions to 3.2% of pensionable stipends was made with effect from 1 April 2022. Following finalisation of the 31 December 2021 valuation, deficit contributions ceased with effect from 1 January 2023, since the Scheme was in surplus.

As at 31 December 2020 and 31 December 2021 the deficit recovery contributions under the recovery plan in force were as set out in the table below. For senior office holders, pensionable stipends are adjusted in the calculations by a multiple, as set out in the Scheme's rules.

% of pensionable stipends	January 2018 to December 2020	January 2021 to December 2022
Deficit repair contributions	11.9%	7.1%

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. However, as there are no agreed deficit recovery payments from 1 January 2023 onwards, the balance sheet liability as at 31 December 2022 is nil. The movement in the balance sheet liability over 2021 and over 2022 is set out in the table below.

	2022	2021
Balance sheet liability at 1 January	2,000	4,000
Deficit contribution paid	(1,000)	(2,000)
Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)	0	0
Remaining change to the balance sheet liability* (recognised in SoFA)	(1,000)	0
Balance sheet liability at 31 December	0	2,000

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2022

* Comprises change in agreed deficit recovery plan, and change in discount rate and assumptions between year-ends.

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions. No assumptions are needed for December 2022 as there are no agreed deficit recovery payments going forward. No price inflation assumption was needed for December 2021 since pensionable stipends for the remainder of the recovery plan were already known.

	December 2022	December 2021	December 2020
Discount rate	n/a	0.0% pa	0.2% pa
Price inflation	n/a	n/a	3.1% pa
Increase to total pensionable payroll	n/a	-1.5% pa	1.6% pa

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another Responsible Body fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of that Responsible Body's pension liabilities.

(c) NEST Pension Scheme

Church Society participates in a defined contribution scheme run by NEST. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are £1,491 (2021: £1,384).

19. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

The charitable company had no material capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31 December 2022. (2021: £nil).

20. Luckley-Oakfield School Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints the Trustees of the Luckley-Oakfield School Trust, which owns a school near Wokingham. In the event of the Trust being wound up the assets would revert to Church Society for educational purposes.

21. Ryde, St James

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Ryde, St James Trust. The Trust owns the Church and a house in Ryde, Isle of Wight, which are held by Church Society on their behalf.

22. Hollabury Mission Hall Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Hollabury Mission Hall Trust. The Trust owns the Hollabury Mission Hall, Poughill, Bude, which is held by Church Society on their behalf.

23. Black Chapel

The charity is now the sole trustee of Black Chapel (charity number 262667). Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as the combined income of the two charities is below the threshold at which group accounts are required. At the end of the financial year Black Chapel had reserves of £680,507. Its income was £19,371 and expenditure £9,017 resulting in a surplus of £10,354.

CHURCH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 249574

Accounts

Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

**Church Society
(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Company No 213142
Charity Registration No 249574**

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Contents

Trustees' and directors' report	1 - 5
Independent auditor's report	6 - 8
Statement of financial activities	9
Income and expenditure account	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 23

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Council members	The Revd N T Atkinson The Revd Dr M E Burkill The Revd Dr A V Cinnamond (until 1 st September 2021) The Revd P T Darlington The Revd M E Davy (from 1 st September 2021) The Revd Mr J Eggertsen The Revd R W Farr (until 1 st September 2021) The Revd M Hayden (from 1 st September 2021) The Revd Dr J Hughes Mrs R C Hunt The Revd C R H Kilgour Mr N Lobo (until 30 th March 2021) The Revd Dr R S Munro Mrs A Robbie The Revd A P J Towner (Chairman) The Revd Dr J D Ward The Revd R A R Weekes (until 30 th March 2021) The Revd Dr T Woolford
Director	The Revd Dr Lee Gatiss
Charity number	249574
Company number	213142
Registered office	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE
Auditors	Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet 5 Robin Hood Lane Sutton Surrey SM1 2SW
Principal address	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Bankers

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
London Fleet Street Branch
1 Fleet Street
London
EC4Y 1BD

Barclays Bank plc
62/64 High Street
Watford
WD17 2BT

Solicitors

Monro Wright & Wasbrough LLP
7-8 Great James Street
London
WC1N 3DF

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2021

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

Charity's objectives

Church Society is a registered charity. Its objectives are set out in the Company's governing document, the Memorandum of Association. The charity constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The overall purpose of the Society is to maintain the character of the Church of England as a reformed and national Church witnessing to and seeking to serve the entire nation for the benefit of all. In particular by:

- upholding the supremacy, sufficiency and authority of Scripture;
- equipping and encouraging parochial clergy and lay people in their ministries;
- supporting local churches;
- administering and holding funds and properties with local and national benefits;
- contending for the reformed worship and doctrine of the 39 Articles and Book of Common Prayer;
- uniting all who share these principles;
- promoting friendship with all churches which accept the supreme authority of God's word written;
- opposing all practices which are contrary to reformed doctrine;
- taking all manner of action, including legal and political, to pursue these objectives.

Church Society is working towards these objectives through publishing, parish support, campaigning and administering trusts. Wherever possible this is done in consultation and co-operation with other groups and organisations. In carrying out activities the directors confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and believe that Church Society provides benefit to the public in a variety of ways. These are described in the sections under activities and achievements and under managed funds.

Through its allied company, Church Society Trust, the Society is involved in the patronage work of the Church of England. The Trust is responsible for 126 Livings, many of which are on a shared basis.

Church Society manages a number of financial trusts with various objectives including:

- supporting the training and education of ordinands and clergy;
- Christian work in various parishes or locations subject to certain conditions

Through other trusts the Society owns various properties on behalf of others, in particular 2 Proprietary Chapels (one in Germany) and an Independent Evangelical Church. It acts as holding trustees and appoints some of the trustees for one Church, one Hall and a school. A further trust supports accommodation for staff.

Structure, governance and management

The key management personnel of the Society are the Council (the Trustees), The Director Revd Dr Lee Gatiss and the Associate Director Dr Ros Clarke. They are in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Council consists of up to 15 people elected annually by the members of the Society. Up to 5 additional Council members can be co-opted as required and in 2021, there was one co-opted member of the Council. New trustees are provided with guidance on their responsibilities.

The trustees give of their time freely and did not receive any remuneration in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in Note 7 to the financial statements. The pay of staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. Salaries were kept at their current levels throughout the year. The Church Society will continue to benchmark staff benefits against staff performing similar roles in similar charities.

The Global Anglican Editorial Board and Church Society Trust Directors operate largely as committees of the Council. In addition, there is a finance committee. The Council must approve appointments of Church Society Trust Members and the membership of certain other charitable trusts.

Two full-time and two part-time members of staff were employed throughout the year, and their work was greatly assisted by three part-time regional directors and a part-time theological consultant, each enabled to do this work through the generous support of their churches. Other volunteers also assist in many areas and their efforts are much appreciated. The Society is an association of members who share a common vision and members do much of the work of the Society.

Activities and achievements

During the course of the year, Church Society continued to be actively involved in fulfilling its primary objectives of promoting what the Queen's Coronation Oath refers to as "the true profession of the gospel... the Protestant Reformed religion", which is the foundation of the Church of England, as the established religion of the United Kingdom. This included

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2021

supporting individuals, parishes, and other organisations working along these lines, and in challenging and opposing teaching and actions which run counter to this faith, both within the national church and society more widely.

Conferences

Our annual Junior Anglican Evangelical Conference (JAEC) was held at Kings Park Conference Centre in Northampton from 31st August to 2nd September 2021, with the title *Living in Mercy and Grace: Life and Ministry in Hard Times*. Thirty-six of us gathered to hear keynote speakers Chris Moore, Martin Davy, Lee Gatiss, Kirsten Birkett, Helen Thorne, and Bishop James Newcome speak on patience, humility, perseverance, gentleness, and leadership. There were also a range of seminars on Ministry and Mental Health (Helen Thorne), Grace in Evangelism (John McGinley), Tenderness in Death (Tony Cannon), Care for a Hurting Church (Jason Ward), Serving in the Church of England (Andy Greenhough), and Pastoring as an Incumbent (Martin Davy). The work of the conference also continues daily in an online network of nearly 400 members via Facebook, and there are occasional webinars (such as one with Kate Wharton on Singleness in Ministry). The Church Society AGM was held on 1st September during JAEC for the first time.

Our 2021 Fellowship of Word and Spirit conference was also held at Kings Park this year, from 11th to 13th October. Thirty one people gathered under the banner of *Refresh: Renewing our Passion for Godliness*. There were talks on Ephesians (Mark Lucas), the Keswick Convention and its holiness movement (Phillip Sowerbutts), Godliness in the Body (Martin Davie), Godliness in the Online World (Ros Clarke), and a panel discussion on Godliness in the Church of England. It was good to be able to meet again in person for these conferences (despite remaining Covid restrictions keeping some away) after having been online-only during 2021.

The Regional Directors (George Crowder, Chris Moore, and Tony Cannon) also organised and spoke at a number of webinars on the ministry of church revitalisation. They have established contact with over 100 ministers working in often difficult turnaround ministries across the country, and built up a network for support and encouragement which we hope to continue resourcing over the next few years.

Resources

Our aim is to equip God's people to live God's word, as a fellowship contending to reform and renew the Church of England in biblical faith. One of our key strategies for doing this is by resourcing local churches and Christians through our publishing ministry, which includes print media, online resources, and audio-visual resources, as well as an email newsletter every fortnight. Many of the sessions in our conferences are recorded and made available online via SoundCloud, Vimeo, and YouTube, along with other occasional talks (e.g. "The Engine of the English Reformation" by Lee Gatiss, or "Understanding Marriage", and "Understanding Sexuality" by Kirsten Birkett), and weekly resources such as "Lee on the Lectionary" videos. Our podcast (both video and audio versions) is a regular feature online with many issues such as church schools, General Synod, Living in Love and Faith, complementarian women in ministry, and racism discussed by a wide range of guests. We also have daily prayer tweets and Facebook posts (also available on PrayerMate), and other social media engagement.

Throughout the year we also published responses and resources relating to issues in the Church of England, such as the benefits of long term ministry, revitalisation, protecting the flock from wolves, and growing the church (in light of a survey we ran on the benefits or otherwise of uniting benefices, and of non-parish projects). We continued to engage with Living in Love and Faith (on which we now have a large number of audio, visual, and written resources to assist churches and individuals engage on the topics covered in it). We also made available online book reviews, a number of "summer sermons" on Ephesians to help parishes without much ministry cover in July-August, and a series of short talks and discussion questions called *You Are Not Your Own* (on meaning, identity, sin, obedience, bodies, sex, and marriage). We also published a response to the 31:8 lessons learned review into Emmanuel Wimbledon, and indeed worked carefully through the wider recommendations of that report in our weekly staff meetings.

We continue to publish our quarterly members magazine, *Crossway*, edited by Ros Clarke. During the year, *Crossway* looked at issues as diverse as class, racism, scandals in the church, ordination selection, singleness and sexuality, depression, violence against women, gender transition, and the Anglican Homilies. We also continued to publish *The Global Anglican theology journal* (with Archbishop Peter Jensen as Editor). Each issue aims to promote the faith of the Holy Scriptures and such teachings of the ancient Fathers and Councils of the Church as are agreeable to those Scriptures. In particular such doctrine is to be found in the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, The Book of Common Prayer, and the Ordinal, in line with the doctrinal position of Church Society. The *Global Anglican* is committed to excellence in upholding high academic standards in its articles, book reviews, and editorial. It is an ecclesiastical journal that aims to speak to the pastoral needs of the contemporary church, and to equip ministers, students, and lay people to persuade others of the eternal truths of our faith in Jesus Christ and the need for them to be applied today for the renewal of the church and the conversion of the world. This year's Global Anglican Essay Prize, which particularly seeks to encourage younger scholars, saw entries from several countries around the Anglican Communion, with essays from Chile, Kenya, and the UK especially commended.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2021

Our Associate Director, Dr Ros Clarke continues to run the Priscilla Programme, our online training course for women in a partnership between Church Society and Union School of Theology. The programme is designed for women who are involved in a local church, and would like to be better equipped to serve in ministries such as Sunday schools, youth groups, pastoral visiting, or leading Bible studies. It covers Old Testament, New Testament, Doctrine, Evangelism & Apologetics, Church History, and Ethics & Pastoral Care, with weekly seminars online. 46 students have taken at least one module of the course so far, and there are currently 9 students in two seminar groups, including two overseas students.

Dr Clarke also began the Co-Workers network for complementarian women in Anglican ministry in the UK, under the auspices of the Bishop of Maidstone. The network will offer online groups, opportunities for mentoring, and chances to share experiences and information about training and employment opportunities for women. There will also be the opportunity to join occasional discussions and online seminars on relevant subjects. As complementarians, we believe that men and women are intended by God to serve alongside one another in ministry, complementing each other with their different gifts and opportunities. Together, men and women form the full complement of God's people. Without the ministry of gifted, trained and equipped women, the whole church is the poorer. However, many women serving in complementarian churches struggle with lack of appropriate training and support. It is not always easy to find like-minded women in similar situations who can offer wisdom and experience. For women in the early stages of ministry it can be particularly hard to find suitable opportunities for training and employment. So the goal of this new network is to help each woman find the information, resources, and peer group support that will help her ministry flourish and the whole church to grow.

In February we published *The Blessed Life: Reflections on the Beatitudes, the Fruit of the Spirit, the Seven Deadly Sins, and Jesus's Words from the Cross*. This devotional book features contributions from a great cast of Anglican men and women from five continents — those who minister as archbishops, bishops, parish clergy, theological educators, college or prison chaplains, and in various other ministries as gifted lay people. With Bible passages, prayers, and questions for reflection in each short chapter, it would make an ideal Lent book or devotional guide at any time of year. Throughout Lent, Director Lee Gatiss preached through his updated-English version of the 1547 Anglican Homilies on our website and YouTube channel. He then edited these into a new book, which was published in September in hardback, paperback, and digital ebook formats as *The First Book of Homilies: The Church of England's Official Sermons in Modern English*.

Partnerships

We are immensely grateful for the time given by our Regional Directors in visiting and encouraging clergy and other individuals and churches, especially those going through difficult situations. They help to build our sense of being a "fellowship" contending together for the reform and renewal of the Church of England, as well as being a great source of wisdom and experience, developing our connections with people and churches on the ground throughout the whole country.

In addition, Lee Gatiss spoke at events for Oak Hill Theological College, the Church of England Evangelical Council's annual meeting, diocesan and regional groups in Ely, Sussex, Chelmsford, Guildford, St Albans, Chelmsford, Lichfield, and the North West, as well as local churches in Little Heath, Frogmore, Felsted, Wolverhampton, Hailsham and elsewhere, not to mention Pembroke College, Cambridge, the Bishop Jewel Society in Oxford, the Union School of Theology Research Conference, and various online interviews. He represented the Society at Affinity, Lausanne Europe, and other gatherings, and attended conferences such as the Church as a Refuge conference with Diane Langberg and others.

During the year, Sophie Barker again took up the reins as Finance Assistant, and we were very grateful to Marion Mason who covered for her maternity leave. David Meager continued to work diligently and cheerfully behind the scenes as our full time Administrator. We are extremely thankful for their gifts and service to us as a Society, which help us keep things running smoothly and effectively, alongside a wealth of volunteers who help in the office (with technology, mailings etc) and on our various committees (especially Council, Finance Committee, and the Global Anglican Editorial Board). We continued throughout the year to hold a regular online prayer meeting, which is well attended by both clergy and lay members of the Society. Guy Thorburn who helps put together our daily prayer diary does sterling work ensuring that everything we do is covered in prayer. For "unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain" (Psalm 127:1).

Financial Review

The assets under the control of the Society fall into two broad categories: those used directly in facilitating the work of the Society itself, and those that are administered by the Society for the benefit of others (managed funds).

There are three funds which relate directly to the Society's own work. The General fund, which is unrestricted and the Beynon and Dean Wace Memorial funds which are permanent endowments.

Within unrestricted income, Donations and Legacies increased during 2021 due to a variety of factors, including an increase in the membership rates at the beginning of the year and a legacy. Total expenditure increased modestly compared to 2020 as an ease in Covid restrictions allowed travel and events during the latter half of the year. Overall, the result was a £95,270 increase in unrestricted funds, of which £23,886 related to a gain on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2021

Both property and listed investments have performed well during the year. As a result, restricted funds had a net gain of £49,959 on investments and the endowment funds noted another significant gain of £102,732. The unrestricted funds also gained £17,669.

At 31 December 2021 the total reserves under the control of the charity were £3,545,098. Of these reserves, £1,949,702 are held as endowment funds and £1,161,935 as restricted funds and are therefore not available for the general purposes of the charity. £3,603,775 of the total reserves are held in tangible fixed assets or fixed asset investments. The remaining general reserves of £433,461 are within the stated policy of sufficient reserves to cover operations for three years ahead.

Managed Funds

Most of the managed funds are subsidiary charities for which the Council acts as Trustees (or sometimes as joint Trustees). In each case a trust deed or scheme sets the parameters within which the fund is to be used. A brief description of each can be found on page 19 of the accounts. Several funds consist solely of freehold properties including churches, houses or halls. Because many of these are long-standing funds, issues have from time to time arisen in relation thereto as to their proper application and the Society has been undertaking a gradual programme of clarifying the precise nature of each trust.

The Council has no authority to expend permanent endowment funds but is under an obligation to make attempts to expend the income from those trusts. Therefore, the endowment reserves are invested, where appropriate, in order to provide income to fulfil the relevant funds' purposes. The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed by the Finance Committee. Other funds contain capital that the Council can spend should they so choose. In most cases the decision has been made not to spend capital unless there is a pressing reason to do so. Wherever capital is spent the Council must act within the terms of the Trust. In many instances the trusts were established with very clear terms as to how they should be used. The Council is very aware of the need to honour this in making grants or payments today. The same principals are used for the income from the funds. Where the Restricted Funds have a significant level of assets these may be invested to provide income to be applied in increasing cash reserves for future use and cash reserves that are actively used each year in line with the relevant funds' purposes. Where the assets of a restricted fund are less significant these are monitored unless and until the cash reserves are sufficient to make the application thereof feasible.

The administration of these funds can be a significant burden, in particular where the trust deed has theological restrictions, which have to be assessed, and where properties are involved. The Council has taken steps to reduce this burden in particular by setting up two of the trusts as separate charities much as happened with Luckley Oakfield School forty years ago. There is a possibility of doing this for others. A list of the grants made from funds can be found on page 13. In line with common practice the Society charges an administration fee against managed funds which is the lesser of 1.5% on the balance of invested funds at the start of the year or 50% of the income of the fund.

The Finance Committee continued to monitor the investment situation during the course of the year, with funds invested mainly with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited. The Finance Committee keeps under review the balance between such investments and investment in property, seeking at all time to maintain a proper balance. Financial decisions are the responsibility of the Council but the Finance Committee, which includes experience in a range of financial areas, advises them in this.

Statement on risks

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

The trustees consider that the principal risk facing the Society is a reduction in the income of the Society in the form of membership subscriptions, and donations and other giving. This is sought to be addressed by a regular review of the number of members and subscription levels and the level of donations, and by various initiatives designed to attract new members and to encourage giving to the Society, and the holding of significant reserves to cover deficiencies in any year.

Another significant risk is that of the loss of key personnel and staff. This is sought to be addressed by seeking to ensure that suitably committed and motivated personnel and staff are employed, that they are sufficiently supported in their roles, and that we have systems in place to recruit new staff in the event of departures or resignations.

Statement of trustees'/directors' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Church Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2021

income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

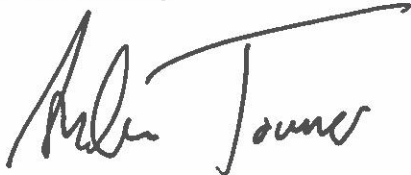
So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make them aware of any audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

Jacob, Cavenagh and Skeet have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors and a resolution proposing their re-appointment will be put to the forthcoming annual general meeting.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees
and signed on their behalf by



Revd A P J Towner
Trustee

24 May 2022

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Church Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included with the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees' (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to employment and financial reporting legislation and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Church Society

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by making enquiries of management, considering the internal controls in place and discussion amongst the engagement team. We determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries and valuation of freehold and investment properties.

In response to the risks identified we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- identifying and testing journal entries
- reviewing Trustees and Finance meeting minutes
- evaluating the charity's internal controls
- challenging significant accounting estimates such as valuation of investment property

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and regulations made under that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Richard Haffenden MA(Cantab) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Dated: 9 June 2022

Church Society
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2020 Total £
Income from:									
<i>Donations and legacies</i>		142,280	765	-	143,045	92,428	3,166	-	95,595
<i>Other trading activities:</i>									
Rent receivable		-	200	-	200	-	200	-	200
Fees and other income		23,812	-	-	23,812	6,230	-	-	6,230
<i>Investments</i>	2	35,525	75,034	-	110,559	35,233	77,282	-	112,515
<i>Charitable activities</i>									
Subscriptions, publications and conferences		23,416	-	-	23,416	18,002	-	-	18,002
Total income		225,033	75,999	-	301,032	151,894	80,648	-	232,542
Expenditure on:									
<i>Raising funds:</i>									
Fundraising and publicity		-	-	-	-	17	-	-	17
Rental property costs		5,866	15,671	-	21,537	5,303	15,482	-	20,785
<i>Charitable activities:</i>									
Grant funding of activities	3	-	27,826	-	27,826	-	30,086	-	30,086
Activities undertaken directly		175,882	1,120	-	177,002	168,977	1,413	-	171,390
Support costs		44,283	-	-	44,283	42,302	-	-	42,302
Total expenditure	6	226,031	44,617	-	270,648	217,599	46,981	-	284,580
Net gains/(losses) on investments		17,669	49,859	102,732	170,360	15,844	104,380	183,943	304,167
Net income/(expenditure)		16,671	81,341	102,732	200,744	(49,861)	138,047	183,943	272,129
Gross transfers between funds	4	54,713	(54,713)	-	-	41,983	(41,983)	-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets for charity's own use		23,886	-	19,576	43,462	35,830	-	29,363	65,193
Net movement in funds		95,270	26,628	122,308	244,206	27,952	96,064	213,306	337,322
Reconciliation of funds									
Balance at 1 January 2021		338,191	1,135,307	1,827,394	3,300,892	310,239	1,039,243	1,614,088	2,963,670
Balance carried forward at 31 December 2021		433,461	1,161,935	1,949,702	3,545,088	338,191	1,135,307	1,827,394	3,300,892

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

All operations are continuing operations.

Church Society
Summary Income and expenditure account
For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Income	190,473	120,027
Gains/(losses) on investments	170,360	304,167
Interest and investment income	110,558	112,515
Gross income in the reporting period	471,392	536,709
Expenditure	269,978	263,520
Depreciation	670	1,060
Total expenditure in the reporting period	270,648	264,580
Net income for the year	200,744	272,129

Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income for the year	200,744	272,129
Other comprehensive income		
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets	43,462	65,193
Total comprehensive income for the year	244,206	337,322

**Church Society
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2021**

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		748,102		703,689
Investments	9		<u>2,855,673</u>		<u>2,685,315</u>
			3,603,775		3,389,004
Current assets					
Stocks	10	10,418		9,132	
Debtors	11	22,493		13,381	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>358,311</u>		<u>352,749</u>	
		391,222		375,262	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(35,258)</u>		<u>(37,804)</u>	
Net current assets			355,964		337,458
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>3,959,739</u>		<u>3,726,462</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13		(412,641)		(421,570)
Provision for liabilities	18		(2,000)		(4,000)
Net Assets			<u><u>3,545,098</u></u>		<u><u>3,300,892</u></u>
Funds					
Endowment funds	14		1,849,702		1,627,394
Restricted funds	15		1,161,935		1,135,307
Unrestricted funds			433,461		338,191
			<u><u>3,545,098</u></u>		<u><u>3,300,892</u></u>

Included in the fund balances above are revaluation reserves of £510,614 in Endowment funds, £281,744 in Restricted funds and £89,343 in Unrestricted Funds.

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 May 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



Revd A P J Towner
Chairman

Company No. 213142

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting policies

The following accounting policies are considered material in relation to the charitable company's financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with 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) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102). The financial statements are drawn up on the historical cost basis of accounting, as modified by the revaluation of investment properties and other investments. The accounts are all prepared in sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

SORP Update Bulletin 1 has been applied in regards to the exemption of a cash flow statement.

Church Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. It is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England with registered office at Hille Business Estate, 132 St Albans Road, Watford, WD24 4AE.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties regarding the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. In reaching that conclusion the trustees have considered the ongoing impact of COVID -19 on activities and cash flows for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Church Society has a broad range of income sources such as membership subscriptions, donations, management fees and internal grants along with various investments both in properties and listed investments. This helps provide resilience in income during on-going external factors such as COVID-19. During the previous lockdowns expenditure decreased due to the limit on travel and more on-line focus in carrying out the Charities' objectives. Despite a challenging external environment, reserves have increased over the last two years.

1.2 Classification of funds

Permanent endowments represent those funds where the capital is required to be retained but the income from those funds can be spent for the benefit of Church Society or others subject in certain cases to specific restrictions contained in the original endowment.

Restricted funds represent the accumulated income of managed funds whose use is restricted to specific purposes according to the terms on which the funds were received.

The unrestricted fund represents income which may be spent generally for furthering the religious and charitable work of Church Society.

1.3 Depreciation of tangible assets

Tangible assets are recorded at cost less depreciation and any impairment.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets, except freehold property, at annual rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 33% on a straight line basis

No depreciation is provided on freehold properties. It is the policy of the Society to maintain these at least to their current standard and to charge the Statement of Financial Activities the cost of maintenance as incurred. In the opinion of the Council, the depreciation charge is not material because the residual value is not materially different from the carrying amount of the asset. The useful economic lives and residual values are reviewed at the end of each year.

1.4 Investments

Investments are included at fair value at the balance sheet date.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2021

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

1.5 Investment Properties

Investment properties are included at the trustees estimate of fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investment properties are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

1.6 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Provision is made for obsolete, slow-moving or effective stock where appropriate.

1.7 Debtors

Prepayments are included at the amount prepaid and debtors are included at the settlement amount due.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit.

1.9 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10 Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.11 Income

Donations and legacies are accounted for once the charity has entitlement to the income, this is when it is probable the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends, interest and rental income are recognised gross when the charity has entitlement to the income.

Charitable activities and other trading activities

Income from these sources is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income. If subscriptions are received in advance of the period to which they relate they are deferred to the next period.

1.12 Expenditure

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, discounted to present value for longer term liabilities. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Raising funds

These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and maintaining investment properties.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2021

Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Society in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those of an indirect nature necessary to support them. They also include governance costs which comprise costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.

Grants

Grants are included at the amounts paid from the funds during the year.

1.13 Intangible Income

The contribution to the administration of Church Society supplied in the form of voluntary services is acknowledged with gratitude but not recognised in these financial statements.

1.14 Pension costs

Defined benefit scheme – This is a multi-employer scheme and the pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity in the year.

Defined contribution scheme – The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity during the year.

1.15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2. Investment Income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Investment properties	78,446	81,180
Common investment funds	32,095	31,215
Cash deposits	<u>18</u>	<u>120</u>
	<u>110,559</u>	<u>112,515</u>

3. Grants Paid

	2021	2020
	£	£
Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund		
Scholarships	1,500	5,000
Book grants	<u>497</u>	<u>500</u>
	<u>1,997</u>	<u>5,500</u>
Maldstone St Faith Parish Room		
Contribution to St Faith's, Maldstone	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
Paddock Wood Parochial Hall Trust		
Contribution to Paddock Wood Church	<u>25,579</u>	<u>24,336</u>
	<u>27,826</u>	<u>30,086</u>

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

4 Transfer of restricted funds

During the year Church Society applies a management fee policy to the funds which are generating a sufficient level of income. This contributes towards the administration costs of the funds. In addition, where Church Society is carrying out work along the same purpose of the funds a transfer may be approved by the Finance Committee.

5 Operating leases

The charity is committed to the following payments under operating leases:

	2021 £	2020 £
Not later than one year	14,170	14,170
Later than one year and not later than five years	4,991	18,791
	<u>19,161</u>	<u>32,961</u>
Lease payments charged to expenditure in the year	<u>16,020</u>	<u>14,897</u>

6 Charitable activities

	<i>Staff costs</i> £	<i>Depreciation</i> £	<i>Other costs</i> £	<i>Total</i> 2021 £	<i>Total</i> 2020 £
Grant funding of activities	-	-	27,826	27,826	30,086
Activities undertaken directly	71,374	670	104,958	177,002	171,390
Support costs	32,718	-	-	32,718	42,302
	<u>104,092</u>	<u>670</u>	<u>132,784</u>	<u>237,546</u>	<u>243,778</u>

Other costs - Activities undertaken directly

	2021 £	2020 £
Establishment and property	30,268	31,368
Publications	20,939	24,371
Meetings and conferences	9,707	3,750
Other staff costs	38,457	37,408
Miscellaneous	5,587	4,279
	<u>104,958</u>	<u>101,176</u>

Other costs - Support costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Professional and management fees	5,422	3,864
Meetings and conferences	426	2,188
Governance Costs		
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	4,770	4,792
Trustee Travel Expenses	947	-
	<u>11,565</u>	<u>10,844</u>

Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	89,484	86,566
Social security costs	3,149	3,094
Pension costs (see note 18)	11,459	10,952
	<u>104,092</u>	<u>100,612</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the year was 5 (2020: 4.5). No employee earned more than £80,000.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

7 Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

Council Members receive no remuneration for their services. Their travelling expenses are reimbursed in respect of expenses incurred on either Church Society or Church Society Trust business. In the year ended 31 December 2021, 2 Council Members claimed reimbursement of travelling expenses totalling £947 (2020: £772). The total value of donations without conditions received from trustees was £717 (2020: £1,660).

The charitable company does not have indemnity insurance to protect it from loss arising from neglect or defaults of its trustees, employees or agents or to indemnify the trustees or officers against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £68,804 (2020: £65,378).

During the year an interest free loan of £6,000 was agreed between a key member of management and Church Society. As at 31 December 2021 the loan was outstanding was £5,500.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	<i>Freehold property – held for charitable purposes</i> £	<i>Fixtures fittings and equipment</i> £	<i>Total</i> £
Cost or valuation			
As at 1 January 2021	702,391	14,186	716,577
Additions	-	1,621	1,621
Disposals	-	-	-
Revaluation	43,462	-	43,462
As at 31 December 2021	<u>745,853</u>	<u>15,807</u>	<u>761,660</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
As at 1 January 2021	-	12,888	12,888
Provision for the year	-	670	670
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>13,558</u>	<u>13,558</u>
Net book value			
As at 31 December 2021	<u>745,853</u>	<u>2,249</u>	<u>748,102</u>
As at 31 December 2020	<u>702,391</u>	<u>1,298</u>	<u>703,689</u>

Freehold property consists of one property which has a value which was based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2021.

The following properties have all been shown in the balance sheet at a notional amount of £1,000. In each case, the property is an asset of an endowment fund and its sale is subject to significant restrictions or is not permitted under any circumstances.

Not inalienable – expendable endowment

Lightbowne Evangelical Church

Gloucester Mariners Hall

St Andrews, Montserrat

Wigan St Catharine, Recreation Ground

Not inalienable – permanent endowment

Gloucester Mariners Church

Inalienable – permanent endowment

Penrhyn Hall, Walthamstow

Old Hill Hall

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

9 Fixed asset investments	<i>Investment Properties</i>	<i>Listed Investment s</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
Valuation at 1 January 2021	1,429,609	1,255,706	2,685,315
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
Revaluation	26,538	143,820	170,358
Market valuation at 31 December	<u>1,456,147</u>	<u>1,399,526</u>	<u>2,855,673</u>
Historic cost	<u>1,007,868</u>	<u>1,020,589</u>	<u>2,028,437</u>

Commercial Road, Paddock Wood had a formal valuation by Ibbett Mosely Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2018 for £25,000.

The remaining investment properties all have a value based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2021.

Listed investments are investments placed with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited.

10 Stocks	2021	2020
	£	£
Publications for resale	<u>10,418</u>	<u>9,132</u>
11 Debtors	2021	2020
	£	£
Prepayments	8,968	8,281
Other debtors	13,525	5,100
	<u>22,493</u>	<u>13,381</u>
12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	9,582	4,285
Deferred income	4,076	5,043
Accruals	12,033	20,024
Mortgage liability	9,587	8,472
	<u>35,258</u>	<u>37,804</u>
13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2021	2020
	£	£
Mortgage liability		
Due within 1 - 2 years	9,877	8,839
Due within 2 - 5 years	31,763	28,831
Due in more than 5 years	371,001	383,900
	<u>412,641</u>	<u>421,570</u>

The mortgage liability is secured by a fixed and floating charge over Cranmer House, which had a carrying value of £850,000 at the balance sheet date. Interest on the bank loan was payable at 4.25%. This decreased to 3.45% from March 2022 and increased to 3.70% from June 2022. The mortgage is repayable over the period until February 2049.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

14 Movement on Endowment funds

	<i>Movement in funds</i>					<i>Balance 31 December 2021</i>
	<i>Balance 1 January 2021</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/ (losses) on revaluation</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds						
E A Beynon Fund	175,138	-	-	-	2,770	177,908
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	70,812	-	-	-	9,835	80,247
Brighton Emmanuel	312,772	-	-	-	5,310	318,082
Dean Wace Memorial	933,818	-	-	-	83,554	1,027,370
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	68,058	-	-	-	7,427	75,483
Maldstone, St Faith Parish Room	208,891	-	-	-	3,397	212,288
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	1,772,285	-	-	-	122,093	1,894,378
Expendable endowment funds						
Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,543	-	-	-	215	2,758
Gloucester Mariners Residence	23,568	-	-	-	-	23,568
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	55,109	-	-	-	215	55,324
	1,827,394	-	-	-	122,308	1,949,702
Balance 31 December 2020						
	<i>Balance 1 January 2020</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Gains/ (losses) on revaluation</i>	<i>Balance 31 December 2020</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds						
E A Beynon Fund	148,204	-	-	-	26,934	175,138
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	85,852	-	-	-	4,960	70,812
Brighton Emmanuel	258,581	-	-	-	54,191	312,772
Dean Wace Memorial	847,798	-	-	-	86,020	933,818
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	60,732	-	-	-	7,324	68,058
Maldstone, St Faith Parish Room	175,308	-	-	-	33,585	208,891
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	1,559,271	-	-	-	213,014	1,772,285
Expendable endowment funds						
Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,251	-	-	-	282	2,543
Gloucester Mariners Residence	23,568	-	-	-	-	23,568
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	54,817	-	-	-	282	55,109
	1,814,088	-	-	-	213,308	1,827,394

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

15 Movement on Restricted funds

	Balance 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Movement in funds		Gains/(losses) on revaluation £	Balance 31 December 2021 £
			Expenditure £	Transfers £		
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	887,918	47,743	(12,462)	(35,280)	32,486	920,405
Birchington Convalescent Fund	1,638	1,952	-	(1,031)	-	2,559
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	17,111	12,651	(3,978)	(8,588)	-	17,196
Düsseldorf	515	66	-	(35)	-	546
Gloucester, Mariners Hall	228	-	-	-	-	228
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	(130)	-	-	-	-	(130)
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	2,813	1,901	-	(1,049)	-	3,665
Maldstone, St Faith Parish Room Fund	8,187	8,663	(2,538)	(6,822)	-	7,490
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	176,898	2,509	(25,639)	(1,610)	14,680	166,838
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	26,739	183	-	(106)	1,170	27,986
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	7,918	196	-	(114)	962	8,962
Walthamstow, St John Fund	5,472	135	-	(78)	661	6,190
	1,135,307	75,999	(44,617)	(54,713)	49,959	1,161,935

	Balance 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Movement in funds		Gains/(losses) on revaluation £	Balance 31 December 2020 £
			Expenditure £	Transfers £		
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	791,558	51,051	(15,756)	(27,159)	88,224	887,918
Birchington Convalescent Fund	194	1,885	-	(441)	-	1,638
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	13,728	13,786	(4,171)	(6,232)	-	17,111
Düsseldorf	446	69	-	-	-	515
Gloucester, Mariners Hall	228	-	-	-	-	228
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	(130)	21	(21)	-	-	(130)
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	1,270	1,939	-	(396)	-	2,813
Maldstone, St Faith Parish Room Fund	6,908	9,107	(2,637)	(5,191)	-	8,187
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	167,046	2,285	(24,383)	(2,338)	14,288	176,898
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	25,531	175	(13)	(83)	1,139	26,739
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	7,380	196	-	(79)	421	7,918
Walthamstow, St John Fund	5,084	134	-	(54)	308	5,472
	1,039,243	80,648	(46,961)	(41,983)	104,380	1,135,307

16 Net assets held by funds

Balance 31 December 2021	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	408,317	-	339,785	748,102
Fixed asset investments	189,748	1,083,687	1,582,338	2,855,673
Net current assets	250,037	78,348	27,579	355,964
Long Term Liabilities	(412,641)	-	-	(412,641)
Provision for liabilities	(2,000)	-	-	(2,000)
	433,461	1,161,935	1,949,702	3,545,098

Balance 31 December 2020	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	383,480	-	320,209	703,689
Fixed asset investments	172,080	1,033,628	1,479,607	2,685,315
Net current assets	208,201	101,679	27,578	337,458
Long Term Liabilities	(421,570)	-	-	(421,570)
Provision for liabilities	(4,000)	-	-	(4,000)
	338,191	1,135,307	1,827,394	3,300,892

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2021

17. Purpose of funds

Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund	To assist with and promote the educational and training needs of those persons who are, or are training to become, ministers in the established Church of England who subscribe to the conservative, evangelical tradition.
E A Beynon Fund	For the general purposes of the National Church League which in 1950 merged with Church Association to become Church Society.
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	To make grants to enable poor children and in default of poor children other poor persons to obtain convalescent treatment after illness.
Brighton, Emmanuel Church	To maintain Christian and missionary work on Scriptural Protestant and Evangelical lines so far as practicable in the Brighton and Hove area and subject thereto elsewhere.
Dean Wace Memorial Fund	To provide land and buildings for Church Society and income for the Society's general purposes.
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	To pay for the expenses of Christ Church, Düsseldorf in relation to both the upkeep of buildings and the employment of staff.
Gloucester Mariners Residence	To provide a residence for the chaplain of the Mariner's Chapel or to provide for the general work of the Mariners Chapel.
Leamington Spa, Christ Church	For the augmentation of the stipend of the Incumbent of St Mark's, Leamington Spa, so long as the doctrine and worship in the parish of St Mark's are evangelical in character.
Maldstone, St Faith Parish Room	Subject to the appointment of a vicar within 10 years of the sale of the Parish Room and to such vicar maintaining and carrying on a protestant reformed tradition, to provide funds for the Church and otherwise for the general purposes of Church Society.
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	To provide funds for evangelical purposes in or in connection with the parish of St. Andrew's Paddock Wood.
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	To further the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ryde.
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	To permit the Penrhyn Hall to be used under the direction and control of the vicar of St. John's Walthamstow so long as it is used consistently with evangelical principles.
Walthamstow, St John	To support any work within the parish of St. John's Walthamstow, either being part of church activities or in support of charities operating within the parish.
Freeholds held on behalf of Churches or other charities.	Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester, Gloucester Mariners Hall, Hollabury Mission Hall Poughill, Cornwall, St Andrews, Montserrat, Old Hill Hall, St Catharine's Recreation Ground, Wigan.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2021

18. Pension Schemes

Church Society participates in two pension schemes administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the scheme separately from those of Church Society and other participating employers.

(a) The Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

Church Society participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. The Defined Benefits Scheme
2. The Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
 - a. A deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
 - b. A cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable (2021: £2,020, 2020: £2,010).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2019. The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 3% following improvements in the funding position over 2021. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

(b) The Church of England Funded Pension Scheme (CEFPS)

Church Society participates in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme for stipendiary clergy, a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Responsible Bodies.

Each participating Responsible Body in the scheme pays contributions at a common contribution rate applied to pensionable stipends.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2021

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This means it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific Responsible Body, and this means contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year (2021: £7,956, 2020: £6,760), plus the figures highlighted in the table below as being recognised in the SoFA, giving a total charge of £7,956 for 2021 (2020: £7,760).

A valuation of the Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent Scheme valuation completed was carried out at as 31 December 2018. The 2018 valuation revealed a deficit of £50m, based on assets of £1,818m and a funding target of £1,868m, assessed using the following assumptions:

- An average discount rate of 3.2% p.a.;
- RPI inflation of 3.4% p.a. (and pension increases consistent with this);
- Increase in pensionable stipends of 3.4% p.a.;
- Mortality in accordance with 95% of the S3NA_VL tables, with allowance for improvements in mortality rates in line with the CMI2018 extended model with a long term annual rate of improvement of 1.5%, a smoothing parameter⁷ of 7 and an initial addition to mortality improvements of 0.5% pa.

Following the 31 December 2018 valuation, a recovery plan was put in place until 31 December 2022 and the deficit recovery contributions (as a percentage of pensionable stipends) are as set out in the table below.

% of pensionable stipends	January 2018 to December 2020	January 2021 to December 2022
Deficit repair contributions	11.9%	7.1%

As at 31 December 2019, 31 December 2020 and 31 December 2021 the deficit recovery contributions under the recovery plan in force were as set out in the above table.

For senior office holders, pensionable stipends are adjusted in the calculations by a multiple, as set out in the Scheme's rules.

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. The movement in the balance sheet liability over 2020 and over 2021 is set out in the table below.

	2021	2020
Balance sheet liability at 1 January	4,000	6,000
Deficit contribution paid	(2,000)	(3,000)
Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)	0	0
Remaining change to the balance sheet liability* (recognised in SoFA)	0	1,000
Balance sheet liability at 31 December	2,000	4,000

* Comprises change in agreed deficit recovery plan, and change in discount rate and assumptions between year-ends.

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions. In general, these are set by reference to the duration of the deficit recovery payments but as at 31 December 2021, under accounting rules the payments are not discounted since the remaining recovery plan is less than 12 months. No price inflation assumption is needed since pensionable stipends for the remainder of the recovery plan are already known.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2021

	December 2021	December 2020	December 2019
Discount rate	0.0%	0.2%	1.1% pa
Price inflation	n/a	3.1%	2.8% pa
Increase to total pensionable payroll	-1.5%	1.6%	1.3% pa

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another Responsible Body fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of that Responsible Body's pension liabilities.

(c) NEST Pension Scheme

Church Society participates in a defined contribution scheme run by NEST. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are £1,384 (2020: £1,377).

19. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

The charitable company had no material capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31 December 2021. (2020: £nil).

20. Luckley-Oakfield School Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints the Trustees of the Luckley-Oakfield School Trust, which owns a school near Wokingham. In the event of the Trust being wound up the assets would revert to Church Society for educational purposes.

21. Ryde, St James

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Ryde, St James Trust. The Trust owns the Church and a house in Ryde, Isle of Wight, which are held by Church Society on their behalf.

22. Hollabury Mission Hall Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Hollabury Mission Hall Trust. The Trust owns the Hollabury Mission Hall, Poughill, Bude, which is held by Church Society on their behalf.

23. Black Chapel

The charity is now the sole trustee of Black Chapel (charity number 262667). Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as the combined income of the two charities is below the threshold at which group accounts are required. At the end of the financial year Black Chapel had reserves of £752,287. Its income was £18,742 and expenditure £10,285 resulting in a surplus of £8,457.

CHURCH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 249574

Accounts

Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

**Church Society
(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Company No 213142
Charity Registration No 249574**



Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Contents

Trustees' and directors' report	1 - 6
Independent auditor's report	7 - 8
Statement of financial activities	9
Income and expenditure account	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 24

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Council members	The Revd N T Atkinson The Revd Dr M E Burkill Mr P M Cawson QC (until 20 November 2020) The Revd Dr A V Cinnamon The Revd P T Darlington Mr J Eggertsen The Revd R W Farr The Revd Dr J Hughes Mrs R C Hunt The Revd C R H Kilgour Mr Niv Lobo (from 11 August 2020) The Revd R S Munro Mrs A Robbie The Revd W Taylor (until 8 October 2020) The Revd A P J Towner (Chairman) The Revd Dr J D Ward The Revd R A R Weekes The Revd T Woolford
Director	The Revd Dr Lee Gatiss
Charity number	249574
Company number	213142
Registered office	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE
Auditors	Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet 5 Robin Hood Lane Sutton Surrey SM1 2SW
Principal address	Hille Business Estate 132 St Albans Road Watford WD24 4AE

Church Society

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Bankers

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
London Fleet Street Branch
1 Fleet Street
London
EC4Y 1BD

Barclays Bank plc
62/64 High Street
Watford
WD17 2BT

Solicitors

Monro Wright & Wasbrough LLP
7-8 Great James Street
London
WC1N 3DF

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2020

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

Charity's objectives

Church Society is a registered charity. Its objectives are set out in the Company's governing document, the Memorandum of Association. The charity constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The overall purpose of the Society is to maintain the character of the Church of England as a reformed and national Church witnessing to and seeking to serve the entire nation for the benefit of all. In particular by;

- upholding the supremacy, sufficiency and authority of Scripture;
- equipping and encouraging parochial clergy and lay people in their ministries;
- supporting local churches;
- administering and holding funds and properties with local and national benefits;
- contending for the reformed worship and doctrine of the 39 Articles and Book of Common Prayer;
- uniting all who share these principles;
- promoting friendship with all churches which accept the supreme authority of God's word written;
- opposing all practices which are contrary to reformed doctrine;
- taking all manner of action, including legal and political, to pursue these objectives.

Church Society is working towards these objectives through publishing, parish support, campaigning and administering trusts. Wherever possible this is done in consultation and co-operation with other groups and organisations. In carrying out activities the directors confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and believe that Church Society provides benefit to the public in a variety of ways. These are described in the sections under activities and achievements and under managed funds.

Through its allied company, Church Society Trust, the Society is involved in the patronage work of the Church of England. The Trust is responsible for 125 Livings, many of which are on a shared basis.

Church Society manages a number of financial trusts with various objectives including:

- supporting the training and education of ordinands and clergy;
- Christian work in various parishes or locations subject to certain conditions

Through other trusts the Society owns various properties on behalf of others, in particular 2 Proprietary Chapels (one in Germany) and an Independent Evangelical Church. It acts as holding trustees and appoints some of the trustees for one Church, one Hall and a school. A further trust provides offices for the Society and accommodation for staff.

The key management personnel of the Society are the Council (the Trustees), The Director Revd Dr Lee Gatiss and the Associate Director Dr Ros Clarke. They are in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. The Council consists of up to 15 people elected annually by the members of the Society. Up to 5 additional members Council members can be co-opted as required and in 2020, there were two co-opted members of the Council. New trustees are provided with guidance on their responsibilities.

The trustees give of their time freely and did not receive any remuneration in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in Note 7 to the financial statements. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. Members of staff received small salary increases in April 2020 that are broadly in line with wage inflation. The Church Society will continue to benchmark staff benefits against staff performing similar roles in similar charities.

The Churchman Editorial Board and Church Society Trust Directors operate largely as committees of the Council. In addition, there is a finance committee. The Council must approve appointments of Church Society Trust Members and the membership of certain other charitable trusts.

Two full-time and two part-time members of staff were employed throughout the year, and their work was greatly assisted by three part-time regional directors, each enabled to do this work through the generous support of their churches. Other volunteers also assist in many areas and their efforts are much appreciated. The Society is an association of members who share a common vision and members do much of the work of the Society.

Activities and achievements

During the course of the year, Church Society continued to be actively involved in fulfilling its primary objectives of promoting what the Queen's Coronation Oath refers to as "the true profession of the gospel... the Protestant Reformed religion", which is the backbone of the Church of England, as the established religion of the United Kingdom. This included supporting individuals, parishes, and other organisations working along these lines, and in challenging and opposing teaching and actions which run counter to this faith, both within the national church and society more widely.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2020

Conferences

Our 2020 Fellowship Conference, featuring keynote talks from R. Kent Hughes, was held from 3rd-5th February at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick. The focus this year was on "Preaching to the Heart", including expositions of Acts from Jason Ward, and seminars with historical perspectives on preaching applied to contemporary situations from Bishop Wallace Benn, Simon Vibert, and Andrew Towner. At the Fellowship Conference, we foster a forum for debate, sharing ideas and encouraging one another in ministry. Each session is rooted in clear teaching, but includes substantial time for interaction, application and deepening our appreciation of it. We are committed to reformed theology and its application to the whole of life, but are ready to encourage and help each other wrestle with its challenges. We are a genuine fellowship, with plenty of time given for spiritual encouragement and prayer, for cultivating friendships old and new, and for resting from the usual frantic pace of ministry. We hope this conference will be a time of real spiritual and physical refreshment for both clergy and lay people.

In collaboration with the Bishop of Maidstone, we intended to hold a series of regional conferences during 2020. As it turned out, we were only able to run one of these, in Manchester on March 3rd, but it was very well attended. Lee Gatiss and Rob Munro spoke about episcopacy in principle and in practice, and Lee published a further paper on "Evangelicals and their Bishops on the Bishop of Maidstone's website." There was also a panel discussion and time for questions with Rod Thomas joining the speakers. Lee's talk "Episcopacy and Evangelical Leadership" from the day was shared on our website and Soundcloud account, and gathered much interest.

Plans for our annual conference had to be re-thought because of the coronavirus pandemic, but we were able to hold our AGM in August via Zoom. Similarly, the pandemic affected the Junior Anglican Evangelical Conference (JAEC) on "Anglican Essentials" which moved online. This enabled even more delegates than before to join us for an extended programme beginning in July with a pastoral charge from Lee Gatiss on Titus 2 and a series of seminars throughout August on liturgy, ordination, curacy, all-age services, and ministry and family life. On September 1st and 2nd there were then further talks on "Faithful Ecclesiology" (James Hughes), "Rich Liturgy" (Mark Smith), and "Deep Spirituality" (Mark Pickles), as well as a Bible exposition from Bishop Graham Tomlin on Daniel 6 and Daniel 9. Further workshops on episcopacy, laity, local partnerships, and the daily office were held online in the autumn.

Resources

Our aim is to equip God's people to live God's word, as a fellowship contending to reform and renew the Church of England in biblical faith. One of our key strategies for doing this is by resourcing local churches and Christians through our publishing ministry, which includes print media, online resources, and audio-visual resources, as well as an email newsletter every fortnight. Many of the sessions in our conferences are recorded and made available online via SoundCloud, Vimeo, and YouTube, along with other occasional talks (e.g. "Is the Bible Dangerous?", "Pleasing the Impassible God", and "The Anglican Doctrine of the Church") and weekly resources such as "Lee on the Lectionary" videos. Our podcast (both video and audio versions) is a regular feature online with many issues from abortion, racism, and cancel culture, to sleep, Christian journalism, and mental health issues discussed by a wide range of guests, as well as our daily prayer tweets and Facebook posts and other social media engagement.

Throughout the year we also published responses and resources relating to issues in the Church of England, such as the "Pastoral statement" from the House of Bishop regarding civil partnerships in January 2020, and the Living in Love and Faith resources which were released in November. Lee Gatiss and Kirsty Birkett (who joined us as a Theological Consultant in the autumn) engaged with this new material on identity, sexuality, relationships, and marriage in a series of videos, podcasts, and blogposts. We also had articles covering topical issues such as mental health, abuse, rest, technology, long-term ministry, class, catechisms, and plagues. We even published a Spanish translation of Lee Gatiss's posts on the Anglican doctrine of the Church, Una congregación de hombres fieles, which was of interest to Anglicans in other parts of the global communion.

We continue to publish our quarterly members magazine, Crossway, edited by Ros Clarke. During the year, Crossway looked at issues as diverse as church education, and creating healthy Christian cultures (with Justin Humphreys of the safeguarding organisation 31:8); the Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion (with Peter Walker), training for gospel ministry in Singapore, and producing Anglican materials for Chile; the theology of church, sacraments, ordination and episcopacy; and racism, with articles from Church Society members Niv Lobo, Oyin Oladipo, Ro Mody, Martin Davy, and Aneal Appadoo for example, about their experience of racism in the UK and the Church of England.

This year, we changed the name of our international journal of Anglican theology from Churchman (which some have felt is an archaic and obsolete word) to The Global Anglican. Lee Gatiss and Ros Clarke (assistant editor) were joined by Archbishop Peter Jensen (the editor), Bishop Samuel Morrison from Chile, and Bishop Alfred Olwa from Uganda in a live online launch event for this in September. Each issue aims to promote the faith of the Holy Scriptures and such teachings of the ancient Fathers and Councils of the Church as are agreeable to the said Scriptures. In particular such doctrine is to be found in the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, The Book of Common Prayer, and the Ordinal, in line with the doctrinal position of Church Society. The Global Anglican is a journal committed to excellence in upholding high academic standards in its articles, book reviews, and editorial. It is an ecclesiastical journal that aims to speak to the

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2020

pastoral needs of the contemporary church, and to equip ministers, students, and lay people to persuade others of the eternal truths of our faith in Jesus Christ and the need for them to be applied today for the renewal of the church and the conversion of the world. As Andrew Atherstone (the chair of the editorial board) said at the time:

"Today there are 41 provinces in the Anglican Communion, with the recent inaugurations of the Episcopal Church of Sudan in 2017, Iglesia Anglicana de Chile in 2018, and Alexandria in 2020. This global trend continues to gather pace. Meanwhile, many vibrant new expressions of Anglicanism have begun to flourish outside the structures of the old Communion. It is no longer sufficient to be a merely parochial, or even provincial, Anglican. Anglicanism is a truly global movement. In keeping with these new realities, our new name is not just The Anglican, but The Global Anglican."

Extracts from the journal were published on our blog during the year, and the first newly-named edition of The Global Anglican was made free to download in its entirety.

Ros Clarke also continues to run the Priscilla Programme, our online training course for women in a partnership between Church Society and Union School of Theology. The programme is designed for women who are involved in a local church, and would like to be better equipped to serve in ministries such as Sunday schools, youth groups, pastoral visiting, or leading Bible studies. It covers Old Testament, New Testament, Doctrine, Evangelism & Apologetics, Church History, and Ethics & Pastoral Care, with weekly seminars online. 33 students have taken at least one module of the course so far, and there are currently 19 students in four seminar groups, including two overseas students.

Our Supporter Church scheme launched during the year and is beginning to gain member churches. We also had a series of blogposts from George Crowder, our regional director for the North, on issues surrounding gospel partnership. A series of articles on the blog looked at issues surrounding Coronavirus and Communion (Marc Lloyd). Lee Gatiss produced a number of "corona-tide" prayers and collects which were widely shared on social media and used in a number of churches during the year.

An updated edition of our book *Building for the Gospel* by Julia Cameron was published in January. This "handbook for the visionary and the terrified" aims to equip those who are undertaking building projects in their churches. In June, we also published *Walk This Way: Guided Reflections on Christian Faith, Life, and Prayer for Individuals and Groups* by Ash Carter, Ros Clarke, and Lee Gatiss, which takes the reader through the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, as well as looking at the sacraments and the church. We also published some resources called *How to be a Christian on the PrayerMate app* and for distribution via email. This was a series of daily written devotionals, based on the Anglican Homilies. Each day there was a suggested Bible passage, followed by a devotional thought, a couple of questions to consider, and a prayer. Topics included: how to forgive, how to please God, how to love, how to have hope, how to disagree, and many more.

Lockdown!

During the lockdowns imposed by the government to cope with the coronavirus pandemic, we published daily videos with Bible readings and prayers (both in March-May and also throughout Advent) as well as writing some specific prayers and collects for this time of sickness and worry. We also made available a series of video sermons by Lee Gatiss, Rod Thomas, Mark Wallace, Wallace Benn, and George Crowder based on the Anglican lectionary readings, for churches to download and use in their own online or Zoom offerings, for use in the summer, the autumn, and at Christmas (and the two weeks afterwards). Hard-pressed vicars and especially smaller churches were very grateful for this provision, which helped support and encourage their ministries during a very difficult time. Lee Gatiss also preached live or on video for various churches and groups around the country during the year, and Ros Clarke led many issues of the podcast which also addressed issues which arose during the pandemic (e.g. lockdown weddings, "the NHS religion", and home education). We also began a weekly online prayer meeting via Zoom which has been a great blessing in terms of fellowship and encouragement as well as prayer.

Staff

As well as playing a full part in meetings of the Council, Finance Committee, CST Directors' meetings, and the Global Anglican editorial board, the Director also represented the Society in other groups such as the Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC) and Affinity. He is also a member of the Latimer Trust Theological Workgroup and the Bishop of Maidstone's advisory group, and lectured at Union School of Theology on church history as well as helping to launch a module there on Anglican Theology and Practice. During 2020 he was also a regular columnist with *Evangelicals Now* as well as publishing longer articles in *Evangelical Quarterly*, *TableTalk*, *Foundations*, and *The Global Anglican*, and a chapter in a Greek publication by the Hellenic Historical Evangelical Archive, called *Οικογένεια Leeves: The Leeves Family: Serving the Evangelical and the Catholic Church in Greece 1789-1905*.

Our work has been enhanced this year not just by Regional Director George Crowder in the North, who also contributed regularly to our website and to The Church of England Newspaper, but also by the addition of two new regional Directors, Tony Cannon and Chris Moore. Mark Wallace left his role as our Regional Director for the South in the autumn, to take up a new part-time position as Senior Chaplain to the Bishop of Maidstone, after much fruitful service with Church Society. We are immensely grateful for the time given by our Regional Directors in visiting and encouraging

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2020

clergy and other individuals and churches, especially those going through difficult situations. They help to build our sense of being a "fellowship" contending together for the reform and renewal of the Church of England, as well as being a great source of wisdom and experience, developing our connections with people and churches on the ground throughout the whole country.

As can be seen from much of the report above, Ros Clarke, our Associate Director, has played an integral part of almost all our work over the last year, overseeing our online presence, the Priscilla Programme, The Global Anglican, and much more. She had an article in the very first Global Anglican, and has contributed in a huge number of ways to the ministry of the Society over the last twelve months, and was using Zoom well before the lockdowns made this fashionable!

During the year, Marion Mason joined us as Finance Assistant while Sophie Barker was on maternity leave, and David Meager continued to work diligently and cheerfully behind the scenes as our full time Administrator. We are extremely thankful for their gifts and service to us as a Society, which help us keep things running smoothly and effectively, alongside a wealth of volunteers who help in the office and on our committees. Guy Thorburn who helps put together our daily prayer diary does sterling work ensuring that everything we do is covered in prayer. For "unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain" (Psalm 127:1).

Financial Review

The assets under the control of the Society fall into two broad categories: those used directly in facilitating the work of the Society itself, and those that are administered by the Society for the benefit of others (managed funds).

There are three funds which relate directly to the Society's own work. The General fund, which is unrestricted and the Beynon and Dean Wace Memorial funds which are permanent endowments.

Within unrestricted income, Donations and Legacies have fallen during 2020 due to the 2019 receipt of a significant legacy, mainly accounted for in 2018, but also partly in 2019. Total expenditure also decreased, partly due to a reduction in travel expenses and postponement of events due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Overall, the result was a £27,952 increase in unrestricted funds, of which £35,830 related to a gain on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use.

Due to an improved property market compared to the end of 2019, the property portfolio valuation saw significant gains in the year along with gains also within the listed investments. As a result, restricted funds had a net gain of £104,380 on investments and the endowment funds noted a significant gain of £183,943. The unrestricted funds also gained £15,844.

At 31 December 2020 the total reserves under the control of the charity were £3,300,892. Of these reserves, £1,827,394 are held as endowment funds and £1,135,307 as restricted funds and are therefore not available for the general purposes of the charity. £3,389,004 of the total reserves are held in tangible fixed assets or fixed asset investments. The remaining general reserves of £338,191 are within the stated policy of sufficient reserves to cover operations for three years ahead.

Managed Funds

Most of the managed funds are subsidiary charities for which the Council acts as Trustees (or sometimes as joint Trustees). In each case a trust deed or scheme sets the parameters within which the fund is to be used. A brief description of each can be found on page 21 of the accounts. Several funds consist solely of freehold properties including churches, houses or halls. Because many of these are long-standing funds, issues have from time to time arisen in relation thereto as to their proper application and the Society has been undertaking a gradual programme of clarifying the precise nature of each trust.

The Council has no authority to expend permanent endowment funds but is under an obligation to make attempts to expend the income from those trusts. Therefore, the endowment reserves are invested, where appropriate, in order to provide income to fulfil the relevant funds' purposes. The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed by the Finance Committee. Other funds contain capital that the Council can spend should they so choose. In most cases the decision has been made not to spend capital unless there is a pressing reason to do so. Wherever capital is spent the Council must act within the terms of the Trust. In many instances the trusts were established with very clear terms as to how they should be used. The Council is very aware of the need to honour this in making grants or payments today. The same principals are used for the income from the funds. Where the Restricted Funds have a significant level of assets these may be invested to provide income to be applied in increasing cash reserves for future use and cash reserves that are actively used each year in line with the relevant funds' purposes. Where the assets of a restricted fund are less significant these are monitored unless and until the cash reserves are sufficient to make the application thereof feasible.

The administration of these funds can be a significant burden, in particular where the trust deed has theological restrictions, which have to be assessed, and where properties are involved. The Council has taken steps to reduce this burden in particular by setting up two of the trusts as separate charities much as happened with Luckley Oakfield School forty years ago. There is a possibility of doing this for others. A list of the grants made from funds can be found on page 14.

In line with common practice the Society charges an administration fee against managed funds which is the lesser of 1.5% on the balance of invested funds at the start of the year or 50% of the income of the fund.

Church Society

Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2020

The Finance Committee continued to monitor the investment situation during the course of the year, with funds invested mainly with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited. The Finance Committee keeps under review the balance between such investments and investment in property, seeking at all time to maintain a proper balance. Financial decisions are the responsibility of the Council but the Finance Committee, which includes experience in a range of financial areas, advises them in this.

Statement on risks

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

The trustees consider that the principal risk facing the Society is a reduction in the income of the Society in the form of membership subscriptions, and donations and other giving. This is sought to be addressed by a regular review of the number of members and subscription levels and the level of donations, and by various initiatives designed to attract new members and to encourage giving to the Society, and the holding of significant reserves to cover deficiencies in any year.

Another significant risk is that of the loss of key personnel and staff. This is sought to be addressed by seeking to ensure that suitably committed and motivated personnel and staff are employed, that they are sufficiently supported in their roles, and that we have systems in place to recruit new staff in the event of departures or resignations.

Statement of trustees'/directors' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Church Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make them aware of any audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Church Society

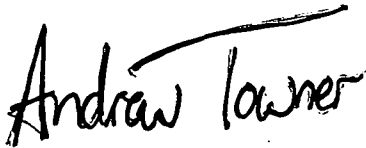
Trustees' and directors' report For the year ended 31 December 2020

Auditors

Jacob, Cavenagh and Skeet have expressed their willingness to continue as auditors and a resolution proposing their re-appointment will be put to the forthcoming annual general meeting.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees
and signed on their behalf by



Revd A P J Towner

Trustee

12 June 2021

July

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Church Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included with the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Independent auditor's report to the members on the audited financial statements of Church Society (continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees' (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the company, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to financial reporting and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by making enquiries of management, considering the internal controls in place and discussion amongst the engagement team. We determined that the principal risks were related to management bias in accounting estimates, valuation of freehold and investment properties and management override of controls.

In response to the risks identified we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

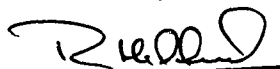
- challenging significant accounting estimates such as valuation of investment property,
- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation,
- evaluating the charity's internal controls
- reviewing Trustees and Finance meeting minutes,
- identifying and testing journal entries.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and regulations made under that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Richard Haffenden MA(Cantab) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Dated: 30 July 2021

Church Society
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2020 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2019 Total £
Income from:									
<i>Donations and legacies</i>		92,429	3,166	-	95,595	142,284	720	-	143,004
<i>Other trading activities:</i>									
Rent receivable		-	200	-	200	-	200	-	200
Fees and other income		6,230	-	-	6,230	13,695	3,875	-	17,370
<i>Investments</i>	2	35,233	77,282	-	112,515	29,275	76,557	-	105,832
<i>Charitable activities</i>									
Subscriptions, publications and conferences		18,002	-	-	18,002	22,117	3,552	-	25,669
Total income		151,894	80,648	-	232,542	207,371	84,704	-	292,075
Expenditure on:									
<i>Raising funds:</i>									
Fundraising and publicity		17	-	-	17	667	-	-	667
Rental property costs		5,303	15,482	-	20,785	6,390	17,641	-	24,031
<i>Charitable activities:</i>									
Grant funding of activities	3	-	30,086	-	30,086	750	27,920	19,026	47,696
Activities undertaken directly		169,977	1,413	-	171,390	171,142	7,451	-	178,593
Support costs		42,302	-	-	42,302	45,227	-	-	45,227
Total expenditure		217,599	46,981	-	264,580	224,176	53,012	19,026	296,214
Net gains/(losses) on investments		15,844	104,380	183,943	304,167	(1,779)	(17,404)	36,433	17,250
Net (expenditure)/income		(49,661)	138,047	183,943	272,129	(18,584)	14,288	17,407	13,111
Gross transfers between funds	4	41,983	(41,983)	-	-	50,223	(50,223)	-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets for charity's own use		35,830	-	29,363	65,193	(42,763)	-	(34,521)	(7,284)
Net movement in funds		27,952	96,064	213,306	337,322	(11,124)	(35,935)	(17,114)	(64,173)
Reconciliation of funds									
Balance at 1 January 2020		310,239	1,039,243	1,614,088	2,963,570	321,363	1,075,178	1,631,202	3,027,743
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2020		338,191	1,135,307	1,827,394	3,300,892	310,239	1,039,243	1,614,088	2,963,570

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

All operations are continuing operations.

Church Society
Summary Income and expenditure account
For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income	120,027	186,243
Gains/(losses) on investments	304,167	17,250
Interest and investment income	112,515	105,832
Gross income in the reporting period	<u>536,709</u>	<u>309,325</u>
Expenditure	263,520	293,633
Depreciation	1,060	2,581
Total expenditure in the reporting period	<u>264,580</u>	<u>296,214</u>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	<u>272,129</u>	<u>13,111</u>

Statement of Comprehensive income
For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	272,129	13,111
Other comprehensive income		
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets	65,193	(77,284)
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>337,322</u>	<u>(64,173)</u>

**Church Society
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2020**

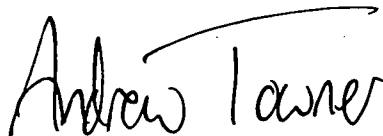
	Notes	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		703,689		638,221
Investments	9		<u>2,685,315</u>		<u>2,351,147</u>
			3,389,004		2,989,368
Current assets					
Stocks	10	9,132		7,616	
Debtors	11	13,381		23,173	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>352,749</u>		<u>412,450</u>	
		375,262		443,239	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(37,804)</u>		<u>(33,101)</u>	
Net current assets			337,458		410,138
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>3,726,462</u>		<u>3,399,506</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13		(421,570)		(429,936)
Provision for liabilities	22		(4,000)		(6,000)
Net Assets			<u><u>3,300,892</u></u>		<u><u>2,963,570</u></u>
Funds					
Endowment funds	14		1,827,394		1,614,088
Restricted funds	15		1,135,307		1,039,243
Unrestricted funds	16		338,191		310,239
			<u><u>3,300,892</u></u>		<u><u>2,963,570</u></u>

Included in the fund balances above are revaluation reserves of £409,312 in Endowment funds, £233,923 in Restricted funds and £51,674 in Unrestricted Funds.

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 12th July 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



Revd A P J Towner
Chairman

Company No. 213142

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies

The following accounting policies are considered material in relation to the charitable company's financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with 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) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102). The financial statements are drawn up on the historical cost basis of accounting, as modified by the revaluation of investment properties and other investments. The accounts are all prepared in sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

SORP Update Bulletin 1 has been applied in regards to the exemption of a cash flow statement.

Church Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. It is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England with registered office at Hille Business Estate, 132 St Albans Road, Watford, WD24 4AE.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Society's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.2 Classification of funds

Permanent endowments represent those funds where the capital is required to be retained but the income from those funds can be spent for the benefit of Church Society or others subject in certain cases to specific restrictions contained in the original endowment.

Restricted funds represent the accumulated income of managed funds whose use is restricted to specific purposes according to the terms on which the funds were received.

General fund represents unrestricted income which may be spent generally for furthering the religious and charitable work of Church Society.

1.3 Depreciation of tangible assets

Tangible assets are recorded at cost less depreciation and any impairment.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets, except freehold property, at annual rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 33% on a straight line basis

No depreciation is provided on freehold properties. It is the policy of the Society to maintain these at least to their current standard and to charge the Statement of Financial Activities the cost of maintenance as incurred. In the opinion of the Council, the depreciation charge is not material because the residual value is not materially different from the carrying amount of the asset. The useful economic lives and residual values are reviewed at the end of each year.

1.4 Investments

Investments are included at fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

1.5 Investment Properties

Investment properties are included at the trustees estimate of fair value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investment properties are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and market value at the start of the year, or subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market value during the year and are charged or credited to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

1.6 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Provision is made for obsolete, slow-moving or effective stock where appropriate.

1.7 Debtors

Prepayments are included at the amount prepaid and debtors are included at the settlement amount due.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit.

1.9 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.11 Income

Donations and legacies are accounted for once the charity has entitlement to the income, this is when it is probable the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Dividends, interest and rental income are recognised gross when the charity has entitlement to the income.

Charitable activities and other trading activities

Income from these sources is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income. If subscriptions are received in advance of the period to which they relate they are deferred to the next period.

1.12 Expenditure

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, discounted to present value for longer term liabilities. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Raising funds

These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and maintaining investment properties.

Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Society in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those of an indirect nature necessary to support them. They also include governance costs which comprise costs

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.

Grants

Grants are included at the amounts paid from the funds during the year.

Allocation of costs

Wherever applicable, costs associated with relevant training are charged to the Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund. Likewise, wherever applicable, costs associated with patronage work are charged to the Patronage Fund.

1.13 Intangible income

The contribution to the administration of Church Society supplied in the form of voluntary services is acknowledged with gratitude but not recognised in these financial statements.

1.14 Pension costs

Defined benefit scheme – This is a multi-employer scheme and the pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity in the year.

Defined contribution scheme – The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity during the year.

1.15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2. Investment Income

	2020	2019
	£	£
Investment properties	81,180	76,039
Common investment funds	31,215	29,069
Cash deposits	<u>120</u>	<u>724</u>
	<u>112,515</u>	<u>105,832</u>

3. Grants Paid

	2020	2019
	£	£
General Funds		
Grant to Church of England Evangelical Council	<u>0</u>	<u>750</u>
Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund		
Scholarships	5,000	2,750
Book grants	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
	5,500	3,250
Gloucester Mariners Housing Fund		
Contribution to Gloucester Mariners Church	<u>0</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Maidstone St Faith Parish Room		
Contribution to St Faith's, Maidstone	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
Paddock Wood Parochial Hall Trust		
Contribution to Paddock Wood Church	<u>24,336</u>	<u>23,446</u>
	<u>30,086</u>	<u>47,696</u>

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

4 Transfer of restricted funds

During the year Church Society applies a management fee policy to the funds which are generating a sufficient level of income. This contributes towards the administration costs of the funds. In addition, where Church Society is carrying out work along the same purpose of the funds a transfer may be approved by the Finance Committee.

5 Operating leases

	2020	2019
	£	£
The charity is committed to the following payments under operating leases:		
Not later than one year	14,170	4,374
Later than one year and not later than five years	18,791	-
	<u>32,961</u>	<u>4,374</u>
Lease payments charged to expenditure in the year	<u>14,897</u>	<u>13,020</u>

6 Charitable activities

	Staff costs	Depreciation	Other costs	Total	Total
	£	£	£	2020	2019
				£	£
Grant funding of activities	-	-	30,086	30,086	47,696
Activities undertaken directly	69,154	1,060	101,176	171,390	178,593
Support costs	31,458	-	10,844	42,302	45,227
	<u>100,612</u>	<u>1,060</u>	<u>142,106</u>	<u>243,778</u>	<u>271,516</u>

Other costs - Activities undertaken directly

	2020	2019
	£	£
Establishment and property	31,368	24,958
Publications	24,371	31,815
Meetings and conferences	3,750	10,346
Professional and management fees	-	-
Other staff costs	37,408	42,223
Miscellaneous	4,279	6,882
	<u>101,176</u>	<u>116,224</u>

Other costs - Support costs

	2020	2019
	£	£
Professional and management fees	3,864	6,942
Governance costs	-	-
Meetings and conferences	2,188	4,050
Auditors' remuneration - audit services	4,792	4,574
	<u>10,844</u>	<u>15,566</u>

Staff costs

	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	86,566	85,615
Social security costs	3,094	3,954
Pension costs (see note 19)	10,952	(120)
	<u>100,612</u>	<u>89,449</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the year was 4.5 (2019: 5). No employee earned more than £60,000.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

7 Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

Council Members receive no remuneration for their services. Their travelling expenses are reimbursed in respect of expenses incurred on either Church Society or Church Society Trust business. In the year ended 31 December 2020, 5 Council Members claimed reimbursement of travelling expenses totalling £772 (2019: £3,028). The total value of donations without conditions received from trustees was £1,660 (2019: £3,966).

The charitable company does not have indemnity insurance to protect it from loss arising from neglect or defaults of its trustees, employees or agents or to indemnify the trustees or officers against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £65,378 (2019: £66,704).

8 Tangible fixed assets

	<i>Freehold property – held for charitable purposes</i>	<i>Fixtures fittings and equipment</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
As at 1 January 2020	637,198	12,851	650,049
Additions	-	1,335	1,335
Disposals	-	-	-
Revaluation	65,193	-	65,193
As at 31 December 2020	<u>702,391</u>	<u>14,186</u>	<u>716,577</u>
depreciation			
As at 1 January 2020	-	11,828	11,828
Provision for the year	-	1,060	1,060
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>12,888</u>	<u>12,888</u>
Net book value			
As at 31 December 2020	<u>702,391</u>	<u>1,298</u>	<u>703,689</u>
As at 31 December 2019	<u>637,198</u>	<u>1,023</u>	<u>638,221</u>

The following properties have all been shown in the balance sheet at a notional amount of £1,000. In each case, the property is an asset of an endowment fund and its sale is subject to significant restrictions or is not permitted under any circumstances.

Not inalienable – expendable endowment

Lightbowne Evangelical Church

Gloucester Mariners Hall

St Andrews, Montserrat

Wigan St Catharine, Recreation Ground

Not inalienable – permanent endowment

Gloucester Mariners

Inalienable – permanent endowment

Penrhyn Hall, Walthamstow

Old Hill Hall

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

9 Fixed asset investments

	<i>Investment Properties</i>	<i>Listed Investments</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
Valuation at 1 January 2020	1,244,802	1,106,345	2,351,147
Additions	-	30,000	30,000
Disposals	-	-	-
Revaluation	184,807	119,361	304,168
Market valuation at 31 December 2020	<u>1,429,609</u>	<u>1,255,706</u>	<u>2,685,315</u>
Historic cost	<u>1,007,868</u>	<u>1,020,569</u>	<u>2,028,437</u>

Commercial Road, Paddock Wood had a formal valuation by Ibbett Mosely Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2018 for £25,000.

The remaining investment properties all have a value based on a professional valuation obtained through letting agents as at 31 December 2020.

Listed investments are investments placed with Ruffer LLP and CCLA Investment Management Limited.

10 Stocks	2020	2019
	£	£
Publications for resale	<u>9,132</u>	<u>7,616</u>
11 Debtors	2020	2019
	£	£
Prepayments	8,281	5,812
Other debtors	<u>5,100</u>	<u>17,361</u>
	<u>13,381</u>	<u>23,173</u>
12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2020	2019
	£	£
Other creditors	4,265	2,204
Deferred income	5,043	7,802
Accruals	20,024	15,026
Mortgage liability	<u>8,472</u>	<u>8,069</u>
	<u>37,804</u>	<u>33,101</u>
13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2020	2019
	£	£
Mortgage liability		
Due within 1 - 2 years	8,839	8,472
Due within 2 - 5 years	28,831	27,633
Due in more than 5 years	<u>383,900</u>	<u>393,831</u>
	<u>421,570</u>	<u>429,936</u>

The mortgage liability is secured by a fixed and floating charge over Cranmer House, which had a carrying value of £800,000 at the balance sheet date. Interest on the bank loan is payable at 4.25%. The mortgage is repayable over the period until February 2049.

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

14 Movement on Endowment funds	Movement in funds					Movement in funds					
	Balance 1 January 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ (losses) on revaluation	Balance 31 December 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ (losses) on revaluation	Balance 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment funds											
E A Beynon Fund	151,357	-	-	-	(3,153)	148,204	-	-	-	26,934	175,138
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	61,572	-	-	-	4,080	65,652	-	-	-	4,960	70,612
Brighton Emmanuel	266,943	-	-	-	(8,362)	258,581	-	-	-	54,191	312,772
Dean Wace Memorial	836,860	-	-	-	10,936	847,796	-	-	-	86,020	933,816
Gloucester Mariners Church	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Leamington Spa, Christchurch	58,797	-	-	-	1,935	60,732	-	-	-	7,324	68,056
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room	179,711	-	-	-	(4,405)	175,306	-	-	-	33,585	208,891
Old Hill Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Walthamstow, Panthyn Hall Trust	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>1,558,240</u>	-	-	-	<u>1,031</u>	<u>1,559,271</u>	-	-	-	<u>213,014</u>	<u>1,772,285</u>
Expendable endowment funds											
Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Gloucester Mariners Hall	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
St Andrews, Montserrat	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	2,290	-	-	-	(39)	2,251	-	-	-	292	2,543
Gloucester Mariners Residence	41,672	-	(19,026)	-	920	23,566	-	-	-	-	23,566
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Wigan Recreation Ground	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>72,962</u>	-	<u>(19,026)</u>	-	<u>881</u>	<u>54,817</u>	-	-	-	<u>292</u>	<u>55,109</u>
	<u>1,631,202</u>	-	<u>(19,026)</u>	-	<u>1,912</u>	<u>1,614,088</u>	-	-	-	<u>213,306</u>	<u>1,827,394</u>

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

15 Movement on Restricted funds

	Movement in funds					Movement in funds					Balance 31 December 2020 £
	Balance 1 January 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains/ (losses) on revaluation £	Balance 31 December 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains/ (losses) on revaluation £	
Amalg. Ord. and Training Fund	827,875	44,137	(15,992)	(30,420)	(34,042)	791,558	51,051	(15,756)	(27,159)	88,224	887,918
Birchington Convalescent Fund	(110)	1,058	-	(754)	-	194	1,885	-	(441)	-	1,638
Brighton Emmanuel Trust	10,839	13,744	(3,843)	(7,012)	-	13,728	13,786	(4,171)	(6,232)	-	17,111
Düsseldorf	460	-	-	(14)	-	446	69	-	-	-	515
Gloucester, Mariners Hall	228	-	-	-	-	228	-	-	-	-	228
Gloucester Mariners Residence Fund	971	371	(974)	(498)	-	(130)	21	(21)	-	-	(130)
JAEC	-	3,552	(6,332)	2,780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leamington Spa, Christchurch Fund	1,005	949	-	(684)	-	1,270	1,939	-	(396)	-	2,813
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room Fund	5,873	9,161	(2,425)	(5,701)	-	6,908	9,107	(2,637)	(5,191)	-	8,187
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust Fund	192,388	6,792	(23,446)	(3,127)	14,439	187,046	2,285	(24,383)	(2,338)	14,288	176,898
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	25,013	224	-	(240)	534	25,531	175	(13)	(93)	1,139	26,739
The Priscilla Fund	-	4,395	-	(4,395)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust fund	6,296	190	-	(93)	987	7,380	196	-	(79)	421	7,918
Walthamstow, St John Fund	4,340	131	-	(65)	678	5,084	134	-	(54)	308	5,472
	<u>1,075,178</u>	<u>84,704</u>	<u>(53,012)</u>	<u>(50,223)</u>	<u>(17,404)</u>	<u>1,039,243</u>	<u>80,648</u>	<u>(46,981)</u>	<u>(41,983)</u>	<u>104,380</u>	<u>1,135,307</u>

Church Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

16 **Movement on unrestricted funds**

	Movement in funds					Balance 31 December 2020
	Balance 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ (losses) on revaluation	
	£	£	£	£	£	
General Fund	289,008	131,444	(214,666)	41,983	51,674	299,443
Dean Wace Income	21,231	20,450	(2,933)	-	-	38,748
	<u>310,239</u>	<u>151,894</u>	<u>(217,599)</u>	<u>41,983</u>	<u>51,674</u>	<u>338,191</u>

	Movement in funds					Balance 31 December 2019
	Balance 1 January 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ (losses) on revaluation	
	£	£	£	£	£	
General Fund	313,665	191,074	(221,412)	50,223	(44,542)	289,008
Dean Wace Income	7,698	16,297	(2,764)	-	-	21,231
	<u>321,363</u>	<u>207,371</u>	<u>(224,176)</u>	<u>50,223</u>	<u>(44,542)</u>	<u>310,239</u>

17 **Net assets held by funds**

	Balance 31 December 2020			Total funds
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	
	£	£	£	
Tangible fixed assets	383,480	-	320,209	703,689
Fixed asset investments	172,080	1,033,628	1,479,607	2,685,315
Net current assets	208,201	101,679	27,578	337,458
Long Term Liabilities	(421,570)	-	-	(421,570)
Provision for liabilities	(4,000)	-	-	(4,000)
	<u>338,191</u>	<u>1,135,307</u>	<u>1,827,394</u>	<u>3,300,892</u>

	Balance 31 December 2019			Total funds
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	
	£	£	£	
Tangible fixed assets	347,375	-	290,846	638,221
Fixed asset investments	126,236	929,247	1,295,664	2,351,147
Net current assets	272,564	109,996	27,578	410,138
Long Term Liabilities	(429,936)	-	-	(429,936)
Provision for liabilities	(6,000)	-	-	(6,000)
	<u>310,239</u>	<u>1,039,243</u>	<u>1,614,088</u>	<u>2,963,570</u>

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

18. Purpose of funds

Amalgamated Ordination and Training Fund	To assist with and promote the educational and training needs of those persons who are, or are training to become, ministers in the established Church of England who subscribe to the conservative, evangelical tradition.
E A Beynon Fund	For the general purposes of the National Church League which in 1950 merged with Church Association to become Church Society.
Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund	To make grants to enable poor children and in default of poor children other poor persons to obtain convalescent treatment after illness.
Brighton, Emmanuel Church	To maintain Christian and missionary work on Scriptural Protestant and Evangelical lines so far as practicable in the Brighton and Hove area and subject thereto elsewhere.
Dean Wace Memorial Fund	To provide land and buildings for Church Society and income for the Society's general purposes.
Düsseldorf Chaplaincy	To pay for the expenses of Christ Church, Düsseldorf in relation to both the upkeep of buildings and the employment of staff.
Gloucester Mariners Residence	To provide a residence for the chaplain of the Mariner's Chapel or to provide for the general work of the Mariners Chapel.
JAEC fund	To provide for the holding of the annual Junior Anglican Evangelical Conference that the Society took over responsibility for organising in 2014. This fund is now accounted for within the unrestricted funds from 1 st January 2020.
Leamington Spa, Christ Church	For the augmentation of the stipend of the Incumbent of St Mark's, Leamington Spa, so long as the doctrine and worship in the parish of St Mark's are evangelical in character.
Maidstone, St Faith Parish Room	Subject to the appointment of a vicar within 10 years of the sale of the Parish Room and to such vicar maintaining and carrying on a protestant reformed tradition, to provide funds for the Church and otherwise for the general purposes of Church Society.
Paddock Wood Parochial Church Hall Trust	To provide funds for evangelical purposes in or in connection with the parish of St. Andrew's Paddock Wood.
Priscilla Fund	Established in 2018 to fund a new training course for women in local Bible-teaching ministries. This fund is now accounted for within the unrestricted funds from 1 st January 2020.
Ryde Ecclesiastical Charity	To further the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ryde.
Walthamstow, Penrhyn Hall Trust	To permit the Penrhyn Hall to be used under the direction and control of the vicar of St. John's Walthamstow so long as it is used consistently with evangelical principles.
Walthamstow, St John	To support any work within the parish of St. John's Walthamstow, either being part of church activities or in support of charities operating within the parish.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

Freeholds held on behalf of Churches or other charities.

Lightbowne Evangelical Church, Manchester, Gloucester Mariners Hall, Hollabury Mission Hall Poughill, Cornwall, St Andrews, Montserrat, Old Hill Hall, St Catharine's Recreation Ground, Wigan.

19. Pension Schemes

Church Society participates in two pension schemes administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the scheme separately from those of Church Society and other participating employers.

(a) The Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

Church Society participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Church Workers Pension Fund has a section known as the Defined Benefits Scheme, a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic and a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

The Pension Builder Scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund is made up of two sections, Pension Builder Classic and Pension Builder 2014, both of which are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension for members for payment from retirement, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Bonuses may also be declared, depending upon the investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum that members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. This account may have bonuses added by the Board before retirement. The bonuses depend on investment experience and other factors. There is no requirement for the Board to grant any bonuses. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable from members' Normal Pension Age.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable (2020: £2,010, 2019: £2,059).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent was carried out as at 31 December 2016. A valuation as at 31 December 2019 was under way as at 31 December 2020.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £14.2m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose not to grant a discretionary bonus, which will have acted to improve the funding position. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £1.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.

(b) The Church of England Funded Pension Scheme (CEFPS)

Church Society participates in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme for stipendiary clergy, a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Responsible Bodies.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

Each participating Responsible Body in the scheme pays contributions at a common contribution rate applied to pensionable stipends.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This means it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific Responsible Body, and this means contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year (2020: £6,760, 2019: £6,567), plus the figures highlighted in the table below as being recognised in the SoFA, giving a total charge of £7,760 for 2020 (2019: credit £3,433).

A valuation of the Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent Scheme valuation completed was carried out at as 31 December 2018. The 2018 valuation revealed a deficit of £50m, based on assets of £1,818m and a funding target of £1,868m, assessed using the following assumptions:

- An average discount rate of 3.2% p.a.;
- RPI inflation of 3.4% p.a. (and pension increases consistent with this);
- Increase in pensionable stipends of 3.4% p.a.;
- Mortality in accordance with 95% of the S3NA_VL tables, with allowance for improvements in mortality rates in line with the CMI2018 extended model with a long term annual rate of improvement of 1.5%, a smoothing parameter⁷ of 7 and an initial addition to mortality improvements of 0.5% pa.

Following the 31 December 2018 valuation, a recovery plan was put in place until 31 December 2022 and the deficit recovery contributions (as a percentage of pensionable stipends) are as set out in the table below.

% of pensionable stipends	January 2018 to December 2020	January 2021 to December 2022
Deficit repair contributions	11.9%	7.1%

As at 31 December 2018 the deficit recovery contributions under the recovery plan in force at that time were 11.9% of pensionable stipends until December 2025.

As at 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2020 the deficit recovery contributions under the recovery plan in force were set out in the above table.

For senior office holders, pensionable stipends are adjusted in the calculations by a multiple, as set out in the Scheme's rules.

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. The movement in the balance sheet liability over 2019 and over 2020 is set out in the table below.

	2020	2019
Balance sheet liability at 1 January	6,000	19,000
Deficit contribution paid	(3,000)	(3,000)
Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)	0	0
Remaining change to the balance sheet liability* (recognised in SoFA)	1,000	(10,000)
Balance sheet liability at 31 December	4,000	6,000

* Comprises change in agreed deficit recovery plan, and change in discount rate and assumptions between year-ends.

Church Society

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions set by reference to the duration of the deficit recovery payments:

	December 2020	December 2019	December 2018
Discount rate	0.2% pa	1.1% pa	2.1% pa
Price inflation	3.1% pa	2.8% pa	3.1% pa
Increase to total pensionable payroll	1.6% pa	1.3% pa	1.6% pa

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another Responsible Body fails, Church Society could become responsible for paying a share of that Responsible Body's pension liabilities.

(c) NEST Pension Scheme

Church Society participates in a defined contribution scheme run by NEST. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are £1,377 (2019: £1,254).

20. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

The charitable company had no material capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31 December 2020. (2019: £nil).

21. Luckley-Oakfield School Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints the Trustees of the Luckley-Oakfield School Trust, which owns a school near Wokingham. In the event of the Trust being wound up the assets would revert to Church Society for educational purposes.

22. Ryde, St James

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Ryde, St James Trust. The Trust owns the Church and a house in Ryde, Isle of Wight, which are held by Church Society on their behalf.

23. Hollabury Mission Hall Trust

The Council of Church Society appoints three of the five trustees of the Hollabury Mission Hall Trust. The Trust owns the Hollabury Mission Hall, Poughill, Bude, which is held by Church Society on their behalf.

24. Black Chapel

The charity is now the sole trustee of Black Chapel (charity number 262667). Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as the combined income of the two charities is below the threshold at which group accounts are required. At the end of the financial year Black Chapel had reserves of £683,820. Its income was £18,903 and expenditure £7,827 resulting in a surplus of £11,076.