

The Fraternity of the Friends of Saint Albans Abbey

Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 December 2022

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Charity registration number	253909
Address for Correspondence	The Fraternity of the Friends of Saint Albans Abbey Cathedral and Abbey Church of Saint Alban Sumpter Yard Saint Albans Hertfordshire AL1 1BY
Independent Examiner	James Foskett Cansdales Audit LLP St Mary's Court The Broadway Old Amersham Bucks HP7 0UT
Bankers	National Westminster Bank 10 St Peter's Street Saint Albans Hertfordshire AL1 3LY
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Website	https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/friends

The Fraternity of the Friends of Saint Albans Abbey

Trustees' Annual Report

Year Ended 31 December 2022

The trustees present their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published in October 2019

Trustees of the charity

The members of the Council of The Fraternity of the Friends of Saint Albans Abbey are the charity's trustees. The trustees who served during 2022 were:

Chair: The Very Reverend Jo Kelly-Moore, Dean of Saint Albans	Michael Graham
Vice-Chair: David Skidmore	Moir Gray
Treasurer: Robert Raine	Susan Hawkins
Mary Butcher	Ailsa Herbert
Judith Card	Hazel Ireson
Liz Fotheringham	Julia Low
Helen Francis	Sally Pearson
	Anne Stockley (<i>from 15th February</i>)

Objectives and activities

The charity's objective is the support of Saint Albans Cathedral and the promotion of its dignity, traditions and influence. The charity's activities, particularly its publications, exhibitions and members' events, help to link its members and a wider audience to the life and work of the Cathedral. Through its grants the charity gives practical and financial support to projects agreed with the Cathedral Chapter, which enhance the Cathedral and its engagement with the community.

A strong membership base is fundamental to the charity's ability to achieve its objective of supporting the Cathedral. To this end the trustees continue to organise and promote activities which will appeal to the charity's members and, whenever possible, more widely. We produce a range of publications to make the stories of Alban, Britain's first saint, and of the Cathedral and Abbey Church more widely known in an accessible way. Our publications include books, guidebooks, information leaflets, postcards and Christmas cards. We seek high quality, both in content and design, at an affordable price.

Following an approach from the Cathedral Chapter, the trustees reaffirmed during the year their wish to support the priorities of the Cathedral, in particular by enhancing through financial grants and other support what the Cathedral was able to achieve with its own resources and fundraising. The trustees regard it as important that members of the charity are able to see the difference that their donations make to the Cathedral building and its precincts, and to its life and work.

Since 2019, the charity has used the working name *The Friends of Saint Albans Cathedral* for consistency with the self-styling used by the Chapter of the Cathedral and Abbey Church of Saint Alban.

Public benefit statement

The charity's support of the Cathedral – the oldest site of continuous Christian worship in Britain - helps to preserve and enhance a unique historic building and promotes an appreciation of its significance locally, nationally and internationally.

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Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

By the end of 2022 the charity's activities had largely recovered from the impact of coronavirus. Our events, publications and membership work all increased during the year.

The trustees express their thanks to the many who organise and manage the charity and its activities, with their time and talent freely given.

Grants

Grants to Saint Albans Cathedral (£68,357) were higher than in 2021 (£40,871).

The major grant during the year was towards the revised layout and landscaping of Sumpter Yard, the main entrance to the Cathedral. The landscaping, which was completed during the year, has been well received and is a wonderful complement to the new Welcome Centre opened in 2019, to which the charity also made a substantial contribution.

During the building of the Welcome Centre the remains of Abbot John of Wheathampstead, who died in 1465, were discovered. In 2022 they were re-interred in the vault in the Shrine Chapel in the Cathedral next to the coffin of Duke Humphrey of Gloucester, Abbot John's contemporary and friend. The inscription in the chapel marking the reinterment was paid for by a grant from the charity.

The charity made further grants during the year towards the work by the Cathedral archaeologist, Professor Martin Biddle, recording the finds during the building of the Cathedral's Chapter House in the 1970s. The trustees look forward to the publication of the work.

The annual pilgrimage at Albantide was able to be on a much more extensive basis than the previous two years which were severely impacted by coronavirus. The charity made a grant of £6000 towards its costs.

By agreement with the Cathedral Chapter, a wreath was laid on behalf of the Friends before a memorial service in the Cathedral for Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Publications

Overall the charity's publications have continued to produce a significant in-year cash surplus which can be spent on our charitable objects, or service the publications business. In 2022 it was £11,912, (2021: £12,326).

2022 saw a particularly strong recovery in sales of Friends' books and postcards following a sharp decline during the Covid-19 pandemic. They were £13,183, a two-thirds increase on 2021.

We were delighted to publish a new book, St Albans and the Tudor Reformations, by Professor James G. Clark, who is well known to the Friends. 174 copies were sold in the six months since it was published, an excellent result. Other publications which sold particularly well were the books on the shrines of St Alban and St Amphibalus and the ever popular Matthew Paris.

We were also pleased to produce a Highlights Guide in Ukrainian as part of the Cathedral's ministry of welcome. We also published a short leaflet on the Wallingford Clock.

There were two areas where the performance was disappointing. The Wall Paintings book is not selling as well as we had hoped and we will review its marketing. Christmas cards also had a poor year, with only 860 packs sold, just over 50 % of the number available. In 2021 we sold 1819 packs. The recession and postal strikes no doubt were contributory factors, but this result is still less than expected.

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Two issues of The Alban Link were produced. It has become the custom for the Spring Link to be shorter in order to accommodate the charity's Annual General Meeting papers in the mailing without paying excessive postage costs. The Autumn edition remains at 32 pages.

New stock control procedures have improved stock management.

We are grateful that the Cathedral continues to provide secure storage for the charity's stock of publications. The condition of the stock there is regularly monitored; there has been no deterioration.

Events

Events organised by the charity are of two sorts. First those aimed largely at existing members but also open to the wider public, should there be capacity. Charges are made for these events to cover their costs. Secondly, events for which no charge is made, which are designed to promote the charity. Despite some setbacks pre-pandemic levels of activity were largely achieved:

- In March a talk by Dr Jasmine Allen, Director of the Stained Glass Museum in Ely looked at the glass in St Albans Cathedral in the context of the overall history of stained glass in this country. The talk, co-sponsored with the Cathedral's Adult Learning Centre, was attended by over 70 people in person or on-line.
- For the first time since 2020 our Friends' Day in May was enjoyed in person. The Annual General Meeting was followed by a talk by Dean Jo Kelly-Moore, attending her first meeting as chair of the charity. This was followed by afternoon tea in the Offa Room, and concluded with Choral Evensong in the Cathedral. Numbers were limited to 50, but a small additional number joined us online for the Annual General Meeting and talk.
- The 2020 outing to Lichfield Cathedral and the National Memorial Arboretum, which had been postponed because of Covid, was rescheduled for July but was once again postponed because of the red heat warning. In September 28 members were at last able to enjoy a visit to these two remarkable places.
- The rescheduled visit to the Globe Theatre and Southwark Cathedral planned for September was again postponed because of a rail strike, and will be rearranged for next year.
- In November one of our members, Barbara Foster, gave a talk about her remarkable 2000 mile pilgrimage around 42 Anglican cathedrals, raising money for charity. The exhibition of Peter Marlow's photographs of cathedrals provided a valuable complement to the talk which was enjoyed by 35 members.

Membership

During 2022 we were able to begin to re-connect with as many as possible of our current and hopefully, future Friends.

At the end of the year the charity had 1055 members through 380 individual, 281 joint and 76 Life subscribers. There were 28 new subscriptions, 17 individual, nine joint and two individual Life memberships. The number of online joiners dropped slightly during the year in favour of people applying via our leaflet. There were 28 discontinued memberships through resignation or non-payment. 17 members died. We are always sad to lose our Friends but remain encouraged by the steady number of people who want to join us.

To promote the charity and encourage new members, the team produced membership leaflets and publicity, including, a page in the Cathedral's summer What's On Guide and contributions to The Alban Link magazine. The team organised a stand at the St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society Exhibition in September which resulted in new signings.

In June we welcomed many of our Lifetime Members for a special evening as part of the Cathedral's celebrations of the re-designed and re-ordered Sumpter Yard. Tours of the area were led by our Patron, Lady

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Verulam and garden designer, Bella Stuart Smith both of whom played a significant role in the success of the project. The tours were followed by a lively reception hosted by the Dean.

Also in June, the Friends were a strong presence during Albantide with a stall in the Cathedral precincts and costumed staff for the Cathedral's Tudor themed events. Friends served drinks in the South Transept between the 9.30 am and 11.15 am Sunday services.

In September, we held our New Members Evening 2022. Twenty new members attended a reception in the Welcome Centre hosted by the Dean followed by a tour of the Cathedral led by Stephen De Silva, an experienced Cathedral Guide, and former vice-chair of the charity. The Dean led short prayers at the end of the tour in the Shrine of St Alban.

Throughout 2022 we have reviewed and updated the Friends website. Anyone browsing the site or wishing to join us should now find it easier to navigate. In November we asked six Friends to be interviewed in conjunction with the Cathedral development department to talk about why they joined the Friends and their experience thereafter. This short, impressive video is now on the Cathedral website.

In December priority booking for the Cathedral's Lessons and Carols services 2022 moved entirely online. Help was on hand for those members experiencing difficulties with this method. Following the combined morning services on Monday, 26 December, a small team of Friends served festive drinks as part of the Cathedral's welcome and to encourage post-Christmas and New Year visitors to support our work.

Financial review

Performance in 2022

The charity's assets were £528,685 at the end of 2022, a reduction of £45,976 (2021: £574,661). There were no legacies during the year and income dropped to £52,549 (2021: £405,458). This is in line with recent usual levels eg £59,301 in 2019, the last full year before the coronavirus pandemic. Expenditure increased to £92,112 from £56,636 in 2021.

Income from subscribing members, other donations and the associated gift aid (£28,040) was down by 9% (2021: £30,731).

There was not quite a return to pre-pandemic levels of events activity, with postponements and rearrangements that affected the financial performance. There was an increase in events funded by the charity, following the hiatus caused by the pandemic, to welcome two year's new members and re-engage life members. Income from paid events increased to £3077, (2021: £1657) whereas expenditure, covering both paid and unpaid events, rose to £3674, including some expenses for an event now postponed to 2023, (2021: £891). Administrative costs reduced by £788 to £3686.

Financial support to Saint Albans Cathedral in 2021 was £68,357, a large increase (£27,486) over 2021. The major expenditure on the redevelopment and landscaping of Sumpter Yard was £50,043.

Publications continued its recovery from the pandemic. Income was £16,467 up by £1253. The value of the charity's stock of publications decreased by £9993 net of sales costs and new stock. Although stock costing £6559 was sold during the year the value of the remaining inventory was reduced by £7895 reflecting the poor sales performance of some stock.

The charity has not yet received the final part of the legacy from Miss Rosemary Armstrong. This depends on the sale of her former property, which the executors say is difficult in the current market. The trustees will decide once the remainder of the legacy is received whether to add it to the capital invested for income or to retain it to support grants to the Cathedral in the near term.

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The trustees continue to maintain a reserve of £20,000 against the risk of a catastrophic fall in the charity's income.

Towards the end of the year the charity opened an account with SumUp, who provide card transaction services, including card readers, for small businesses. We are now able to receive (and request) payments by credit and debit card, which will be most useful in support of sales at events. The system has been tested successfully. We continue to have a PayPal account, which also allows online payments by credit and debit card. Both arrangements require the payment of modest fees per transaction, but are necessary to our operating successfully in an increasingly cashless environment.

Investment Review

During the year the trustees completed the review of the investment policy, prompted by the significant legacies received by the charity in 2021. To assist with this, the trustees appointed John Thornton of Cansdales Ltd, a company separate from the charity's accounts examiner, to act as our independent financial advisor. His services have been subsequently retained to assist the trustees with the regular management of investments.

Following the review, the charity's approach to managing its money has been redeveloped.

- The charity continues a long held current account at Nat West bank, as well as PayPal and SumUp accounts to enable its day to day operations.
- There is a next-day notice deposit account to hold the charity's emergency reserve, and other monies beyond what may be needed for current needs. This is currently long held in the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund, and the income is retained in the account. This account does not however have Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) protection.
- Monies that are expected to be granted to the Cathedral at some point in the following five years are held in deposit accounts at longer notice, where again the income is retained in the account.
- The remainder of the charity's money has been invested with the intention of increasing the income available annually for grants to the Cathedral, whilst at the same time protecting the value of the capital. The income from these investments is paid into the charity's current account to be immediately available.

For its longer notice deposits, the charity has opened an account with the Charities Aid Foundation Charity Deposit Platform, which is provided by Flagstone Investment Management (Flagstone). This allows money to be easily invested in a range of banks, which have FSCS protection, to achieve the best balance between competitive interest rates, financial security and timely and efficient access and transfer. To provide the service Flagstone charge an annual fee currently 0.25% of the holdings to operate the account.

The trustees decided to retain £100,000 from the recent legacies on deposit so as to be available for grants to the Cathedral, in addition to our expected annual income, over the next five years.

To achieve the charity's long-term investment objectives, the trustees purchased £50,000 more of income shares in the Church of England Investment Fund with CCLA, and placed £250,000 with Charles Stanley and Company Limited, who now act as a discretionary fund manager on the charity's behalf.

Charles Stanley were appointed following a competitive process run by the trustees with the support of our independent financial advisor. The trustees have asked the discretionary fund manager to follow the ethical investment policy published by the Church of England.

The trustees investment objective agreed with Charles Stanley is to produce a balance between capital growth and income. The income requirement should not erode the potential to maintain the capital value of the portfolio in real terms. The investment decisions will usually have an equity bias, but fixed interest stocks may be included to meet any income requirement.

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The trustees have agreed to categorisation as a medium-high risk investor. Within the long term objective of achieving annual income of 3% after inflation and protecting the real value of the capital invested, the trustees are comfortable with the risk of sustained periods of poorer performance in search of the desired higher longer term returns. The funds managed by Charles Stanley have not yet all been invested in the markets. At 31 December 2022 the make-up and value of the portfolio held by Charles Stanley was as follows, representing a loss during the year of £463.24:

%	Asset Class	£
8.67	Fixed income	21647
25.39	UK Equity	63361
21.64	International Equity	54005
2.43	Property	6069
7.42	Alternatives	18526
34.44	Cash	85929
100	Total	249,537

Charles Stanley report regularly on the performance of the charity's portfolio both against the objectives set by the trustees and the market generally. Our independent financial adviser supports us with a review of that performance.

There has not yet been a full year's experience of income from the charity's new and increased investments. Income from investments in 2022 was £4964.86 (2021, £1056.08)

Independent examiner

It is good practice from time to time to consider appointing a different independent examiner of the charity's financial statements. Accordingly the trustees approached two other accountancy firms during the year, besides Cansdales Audit LLP who have been the charity's examiner since 2017. Cansdales have performed throughout to the satisfaction of the trustees and continue to offer their service at a competitive fee. The trustees therefore were pleased to reappoint James Foskett of Cansdales to be the independent examiner of the charity's financial statements for 2022.

Plans for future periods

Grants

The trustees have informed the Cathedral Chapter about the charity's new investments and the intention that the amount regularly available to support the Cathedral and its work should increase. The trustees will also consider proposals from the Chapter to use the portion of the legacies received in 2021 which are available for the near term needs of the Cathedral.

During 2023 the trustees' support for the Albantide pilgrimage and the flying of flags from the Cathedral tower will continue.

Publications

The Publications group will review the marketing of slow selling items and reconsider our Christmas card offer. We will also consider new publications, both books and leaflets, in areas where a gap has been identified.

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Year Ended 31 December 2022

Events

A talk by Adrian Waddingham author of *Breakspear*, a study of the only English Pope, is scheduled for March. On Friends' Day in May the speaker will be Lida Cardoso Kindersley, the stone inscription carver, who will talk about her work both in our Cathedral and around the world. The Bishop of Saint Albans has kindly agreed to open his garden at Abbey Gate House to the Friends. In September a trip to Canterbury Cathedral will include a guided tour of the Cathedral and the many garden areas around it.

Membership

The trustees are keen to reach out to potential members through different means. During 2023 we will examine how to

- increase our reach into churches and communities across the Diocese of Saint Albans.
- Engage visitors who come to the Cathedral, including how to improve our permanent presence in the building, currently leaflets and a poster,

We will continue to ask members for whom we have no email address to get in touch during 2023. We appreciate that not everyone wants to communicate with us by email and that personal contact is often the preferred option, but we are alert to rising administrative costs and our carbon footprint.

Structure, governance and management

The Fraternity of the Friends of Saint Albans Abbey is a registered unincorporated charity governed by a constitution, revised in 2000 and amended in 2013, 2017 and 2018. The charity is a membership organisation. Minimum annual subscriptions remain £20 for individuals and £25 for a joint membership, which is available to any two people at the same address. Life membership is a minimum of £400 for an individual and £500 for joint membership. Members are encouraged to subscribe more than the minimum amount. Subscribers who do not pay the minimum are not entitled to a vote at the charity's Annual General Meeting.

The charity is run by a Council elected from amongst the membership for four-year terms at the Annual General Meeting. There may be between ten and twenty such members: currently there are eleven. In addition the Dean of Saint Albans is, *ex officio*, the chair of the Council. A vice-chair and treasurer are appointed each year at the Annual General Meeting from among the membership and are also members of the Council. The members of the Council are the trustees of the charity.

The Council usually meets four times a year. The trustees now again meet in person with the lifting of coronavirus restrictions but, building on the success of online meetings during the pandemic, also enable virtual attendance to maximise participation.

The Council has appointed sub-committees to supervise its work on publications and events. These are led by Ailsa Herbert and Sally Pearson respectively. One of the trustees is responsible for membership matters, currently Hazel Ireson, who leads a membership team. She and the Treasurer are assisted by a paid assistant, Christine Blackie. Volunteers, largely the Council members, carry out other administrative tasks for the charity.

The Council approaches its responsibilities mindful of best practice and the guidance of the Charity Commission. In 2022 it again reviewed the charity's management, including its major risks. The most significant risk remains a reduction in membership income, which receives constant attention. The Council also issued revised financial controls reflecting the re-organised investment arrangements put in place during the year. The Council has established a conflicts of interest policy and a register of members' interests.

A working group of three trustees, the vice-chair, treasurer and Anne Stockley, examined the charity's constitution in line with the Council's wish to ensure that the charity's governing document be brought up to date and be fully fit for purpose. The intention was to follow the latest Charity Commission model for an

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Year Ended 31 December 2022

unincorporated association, whilst retaining the charity's existing objects and essential structure. The Council has considered a report from the working group and received the approval of the Charity Commission to amend those parts of the constitution over which the Commission has a veto. All changes to the constitution will require the agreement of a general meeting of the charity's members.

The Council conducted a review of the charity's insurances during the year. The current practice is that the charity is covered by the Cathedral's insurance policy with Ecclesiastical Insurance Group. The Council recognised that it is the trustees' own responsibility to arrange adequate insurance for the charity's needs but, following discussion with the Cathedral, welcomed the continuation of the present practice which adequately covers the charity's needs.

The Council holds data in compliance with the 2018 General Data Protection Regulation. A privacy policy, based on compliant models, is published on the charity's website. Personal data is kept on secure premises and servers, with access restricted to only those trustees and their assistant with immediate responsibility for membership matters

No trustee receives any remuneration for their work. Trustees continue on occasion to pre-fund the charity's activities, for example making arrangements for events and meeting postage costs, for which they are then refunded. In 2022 there were repayments to six trustees totalling £2391. All such payments are made against receipts.

Trustees' responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

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Trustees' Annual Report

Year Ended 31 December 2022

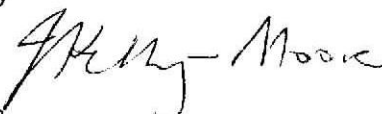
Disclosure of information to the independent examiners

We, the trustees of the charity who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements as set out on page 13 each confirm, so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant information of which the charity's independent examiner is unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as trustees in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by

Date: 21 February
2023



The Very Reverend Jo Kelly-Moore,
Dean of Saint Albans, Chair of the Trustees

The Fraternity of the Friends of Saint Albans Abbey

Independent Examiner's Report

Year Ended 31 December 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 12 to 20.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an independent examiner's 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our independent examination, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed by



James Foscett FCA DChA

Date:

3 March 2023

Cansdales Audit LLP
St Mary's Court
The Broadway
Old Amersham
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HP7 0UT

The Fraternity of the Friends of Saint Albans Abbey

Statement of Financial Activities

Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	3	28039.72	387,531.14
Publications	4	16467.48	15213.76
Events	5	3076.82	1656.87
Investments and deposits	6	4964.86	1056.08
Total income		52548.88	405,457.85
Expenditure on:			
Support to Saint Albans Cathedral	7	68356.73	40871.22
Administration	8	2785.61	4473.67
Other	9	20069.62	11290.62
Total expenditure		91211.96	56635.51
Net income / (expenditure)		(39563.08)	348,822.33
Net Gains/(Losses) on investments		(6413.15)	4718.88
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward		574661.17	221,119.96
Total funds carried forward		528684.94	574,661.17

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities and are unrestricted.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

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Balance Sheet

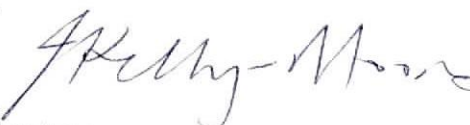
Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Stocks	12	15584.68	25577.45
Debtors	13	5981.39	10067.60
Cash at bank and in hand	14	102120.01	503,436.75
Investments	15	406292.33	37705.48
Total		529978.40	576,787.27
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(1293.46)	(2126.10)
Net current assets		528684.94	574,661.17
Charity Funds			
Unrestricted funds	17	528684.94	574,661.17
Total charity funds		528684.94	574,661.17

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 21 February 2023.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by

The Very Reverend Jo Kelly-Moore,
Dean of Saint Albans, Chair of the Trustees



Date: 21 February 2023

The notes on pages 14 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

Charity registration number: 253909

Notes to the Accounts

Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

The Fraternity of the Friends of Saint Albans Abbey is a charity registered in England and Wales, registration number 253909. The charity's objects are to provide support to Saint Albans Cathedral in particular by providing a network to link members to the life and work of the Cathedral and by giving practical and financial support to projects which enhance the Cathedral and its precincts and which are endorsed by the Chapter of the Cathedral. The Charity publishes books about the Cathedral, postcards and Christmas cards, which reference the Cathedral, and organises events, which promote the Cathedral and its network of supporters.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

(b) Funds

All of the charity's funds are unrestricted funds, available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

(c) Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Gift aid income is recognised when a qualifying donation has been received supported by the donor's completed request for a claim to be made.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102).

For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received. At this point income is recognised. Should a legacy be notified to the charity but it not be possible to measure the amount expected to be distributed, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed.

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Publications income is from the sale of books and cards produced by the charity and is recognised when an order has been fulfilled. Events income is principally from events organised for subscribing members and interested members of the public. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Investment income is interest paid quarterly on the charity's deposit account with CCLA and income from the charity's investment in the Church of England Investment fund.

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Expenditure on support to Saint Albans Cathedral;
- Administration, which includes the governance and management costs of the charity.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the categories above, principally the cost of publications and organising events.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Grants payable to Saint Albans Cathedral are within the charitable objectives. They are accrued when the conditions relating to the grant have been fulfilled. Expenditure on publications, which are about the life and history of Saint Albans Cathedral, is within the charitable objectives. The Council's policy is to produce publications with the intention of their costs being covered by sales and any surplus being added to the charity's unrestricted funds.

(e) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Losses arising from impairment of stocks are recognised in expenditure.

(f) Stocks

The charities stock of publications for sale is valued at the lower of its cost price or expected sale price. Publications that are not expected to sell within five years are valued at nil and are available for disposal.

(g) Investments

Investments are initially measured at transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net gains/(losses) for the year. Income from the charity's investments in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund, the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and the Charles Stanley Managed Portfolio is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Income from Flagstone Deposit Accounts is retained within them and is recognised in net gains/(losses) for the year. Transaction costs are recognised in net gains/(losses) for the year.

(h) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

(i) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The

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anticipated income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

2 Income

Income received via the charity's PayPal and SumUp accounts, which enable online and card payments, is shown net of the fees paid on the transactions. In 2022 income via Paypal was £137.40 gross offset by transaction fees of £2.92 and via SumUp (all test donations) was £17.00 offset by 29p transaction fees.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	2022 £	2021 £
Subscribing members	21093.95	23160.10
Donations	2344.11	2738.00
Legacies	-	356,800.00
Gift Aid	4601.66	4833.04
Total	28039.72	387,531.14

All income from donations and legacies was attributable to unrestricted funds.

In 2022 those who were trustees at the time of donation gave £610.00 before any additional gift aid claim; (2021: £605).

In 2022 subscribing members from outside the United Kingdom paid £1130.00; (2021: £245.00).

Legacies were received during 2021 from the estates of Rosemary Armstrong, John Cadisch, Pamela Kitchen, Martin Fletcher and Douglas Leonard Martin. Miss Armstrong's executors have estimated that there may be around £60,000 more to be received by the charity when her estate is finally settled.

4 Analysis of publications income and expenditure

	2022 £	2021 £
Income		
Books and postcards	13183.43	7859.57
Christmas cards	3284.05	7354.19
Total	16467.48	15213.76
Expenditure		
Cost of stock sold	6559.14	6487.94
Reduction in stock value	7895.03	2041.10
Handling	94.33	126.92
Total	14548.50	8655.96

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5 Analysis of events income and expenditure in 2022

	Income	Expenditure
	£	£
Jasmine Allen talk on stained glass	625.12	403.44
Lichfield and National Memorial Arboretum Visit	1635.20	1480.10
Barbara Foster talk	325.60	-
Life Members evening*	-	698.84
New Members evening*	-	286.20
Pilgrimage Day refreshments*	-	164.70
Friends' Day talk	490.90	227.70
Globe Theatre visit – postponed to 2023	-	413.00
Total	3076.82	3673.98

No charges were made for events marked *.

6 Income from investments and deposits

	2022	2021
	£	£
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	2139.01	99.19
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	2081.10	956.89
Charles Stanley managed portfolio	744.75	-
Total	4964.86	1056.08

Income from investments is all attributed to unrestricted funds.

7 Analysis of expenditure supporting Saint Albans Cathedral in 2022

	Grant funding to Saint Albans Cathedral
	£
Albantide Pilgrimage 2022	6000.00
Sumpter Yard Landscaping	50042.53
Inscription for Abbot John of Wheathampstead's reinterment	6549.20
Chapter House Archaeology report	5640.00
Wreath in memory of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II	125.00
Total	68356.73

All expenditure supporting the Cathedral was on projects where the Chapter of Saint Albans Cathedral had agreed a request for support and all consisted of grants made directly to the Cathedral. All grants were made from unrestricted funds. (2021: £40871.22).

Notes to the Accounts

8 Analysis of expenditure on administration

	Note	2022	2021
Governance	10	1100.00	1694.00
Secretarial services		1885.00	1610.00
Office costs and bank charges		700.61	1169.67
Total		3685.61	4473.67

Expenditure of £23.78 (2021: £50.20) on gifts and hospitality is included in office costs.

9 Analysis of other expenditure

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Publications costs	4	14548.50	8655.96
Production of <i>The Alban Link</i>		1847.14	1743.67
Events	5	3673.98	890.99
Total		20069.62	11290.62

10 Governance costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent financial advice on investments	200.00	800.00
Independent Examiner's fee and costs	900.00	894.00
Total	1100.00	1694.00

11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2021: nil).

No trustees' expenses were reimbursed in 2022 (2021: nil). Six trustees were reimbursed for expenditure totalling £2390.98 incurred on behalf of the charity (2021: 3, £256.91).

12 Stocks

All stocks held are finished goods: publications for sale, valued at 31 December 2022 at £15,584.68 (2021: £25,577.45). Stock values include a 5% reduction to reflect the uncertainty in stocktaking. The estimate of the value of stock includes depreciation of £7895.03 (2021 £2041.10). This reflects the sales performance of some stock.

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13 Debtors and Prepayments

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	410.24	5382.32
Gift Aid claims	4334.28	4635.28
Subscriptions	235.00	50.00
Donations	60.00	-
Events	325.60	-
Investments and deposits	616.27	
Total	6597.66	10067.60

14 Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December

	2022 £	2021 £
Nat West current account	55133.58	73835.35
PayPal account	13.06	13.06
CCLA deposit account	46973.37	429,588.34
Total	102,120.01	503,436.75

15 Investments at 31 December

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	15(i)	82121.01	37705.48
Charles Stanley Managed Portfolio	15(ii)	249536.76	-
Flagstone Deposit Accounts	15(iii)	75250.83	-
Total		406,908.60	37705.48

- i) 1610.1 shares in the Church of England Investment Fund at CCLA were purchased on 20 February 2018 at a cost of £26,000. A further 2114.6 shares were purchased on 8 March 2022 at a cost of £50,000. The net asset or mid market value for each share on 31 December 2022 was 2066.14p, resulting in a loss during the year of £5584.47. Income from the investment is paid into the charity's current account – see note 6.
- ii) £250,000 was transferred on 31 August 2022 to Charles Stanley & Co Ltd to be managed at their discretion subject to the trustee's investment objectives and other instructions. They are in the process of making investments as market conditions develop. Income from the investment is paid into the charity's current account – see note 6.

Movements in the value of the investment from 31 August to 31 December are shown in the table below. Income not yet distributed is recognised as a debtor in the Statement of Financial Activities.

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Opening Value £	Income distributed £	Charles Stanley fees and charges £	Income not yet distributed £	Market Movement £	Closing Value £
250,000.00	(128.48)	(339.78)	616.27	(611.27)	249,536.76

- iii) On 2 August 2022 £75,000 was invested with the Charities Aid Foundation Charity Deposit Platform, which is provided by Flagstone Investment Management. At 31 December 2022 £75,078.12 was held in a 3 month notice account with full Financial Services Compensation Protection at Santander International and £172.71 in the Flagstone Holding Account from which Flagstone's fees are paid. Interest added to the accounts is retained within the deposits.

	Opening Value (3 August 2022) £	Interest added £	Management fees £	Added to holding account £	Closing Values £
Deposit Accounts	74,812.50	313.03			75,078.12
Holding Account	187.50		(62.20)	47.41	172.71
Total	75,000.00	313.03	(62.20)	47.41	75,250.83

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Office costs and bank charges	93.46	156.10
Governance	900.00	1700.00
Secretarial services	300.00	270.00
Total	1293.46	2126.10

17 Fund descriptions

The funds held by the charity are all unrestricted and may be spent on the charity's objects at the discretion of the trustees.

There are two designated funds:

- A donation of £500 received in 2016 has been designated to contribute to the revision of an explanatory booklet about texts written in Latin in Saint Albans Cathedral.
- Two donations were received in 2022 amounting to £200 to be used for landscaping the Cathedral precincts. This amount still available after grants made in 2022 is £157.47.

Money designated in the charity's unrestricted funds to complete the Cathedral Archaeologist's book on the excavation of the Chapter House site in the 1970s has been spent following the grants made to the Cathedral in support of this work in 2021 (£1380) and 2022 (£5640).

18 Related Party Transactions

There was a payment of £45.44 to the spouse of a trustee, reimbursing expenses incurred on catering at an event organised by the charity. There were no related party transactions in 2021.