

**Charity Number: 280315**

**THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

# **THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**

## **LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

<b>Trustees</b>	Edward Downes Rev Andrew Bennison (Resigned 3 March 2024) Susan Clay (Resigned 1 November 2024)
<b>Charity number</b>	280315
<b>Principal address and registered office</b>	St Mary De Haura Parish Office 1 New Road Shoreham-By-Sea BN43 6RA
<b>Independent Examiners</b>	TC Group The Courtyard Shoreham Road Upper Beeding Steyning West Sussex BN44 3TN
<b>Bankers</b>	HSBC Bank PLC 1/3 Warwick St Worthing BN11 3DE

**THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**  
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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# **THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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The trustees present their annual report, together with the financial statements for The Friends of St Mary's Church for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **Aims and Purposes as a Charity**

The Friends of St Mary's is a registered charitable trust, governed, administered and determined by the Trust Deed of April 1981. Its purpose is to carry out fundraising in order to assist with the funding of works associated with the maintenance and ongoing restoration to our Grade 1 listed church.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

In setting the objectives The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The main activities undertaken by the charity to further its charitable purpose for public benefit in 2024 were:

- providing for necessary maintenance and repairs to the fabric of the church.
- engaging in fundraising activities to provide funds for this core charitable purpose.

#### **Maintenance and Repairs**

The 2023 Quinquennial Inspection identified necessary works to the external stonework on the South and East walls of the South Aisle, on the pinnacles of the Flying Buttress on the South wall of the South Aisle and internal repairs to the stonework on the East wall of the Nave and the west wall of the tower. Grants were sought successfully from the National Churches Trust and the Wolfson Foundation of £8k and £5k respectively. The Trustees were extremely grateful to both bodies. Together with £16k repurposed from a bequest – with Charity Commission approval- a total of £29,000 was received towards the repairs.

The Friends continue to support the Parochial Church Council by covering all maintenance costs for the church.

The Burial Ground Management System now forms part of the Eco Church Working Party, and work continues on maintaining and updating the important information held by the system.

The PCC is responsible for the maintenance of the Medieval Ruined Nave, a scheduled ancient monument.

# **THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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#### **Social and Community Events**

Our numbers have continued to increase this year and the majority of membership payments are being made by Standing Order which cuts down on the amount of administration for everyone.

On average the monthly Farmers' Market coffee mornings held in the church raised over £100 each month. Apart from selling a variety of homemade cakes and drinks we also sold aprons, bags and books, Friends memorabilia, craft items and plants.

The Friends took part in the Art Festival again, welcoming visitors and selling artists' greetings cards and Friends memorabilia. The income from this was a boost to our funds.

In June one of our members held a coffee morning from her home and the proceeds from this shared between Asfasic, a charity that represents and helps children and young people affected by speech, language and communication needs, and the Friends.

In September we again took part in Ride and Stride and with team numbers doubling this year, we were able to raise much needed funds for the Friends and for the Sussex Historic Churches Trust.

A Friends Festival Day was reintroduced this year after a few years break, as a way of saying thank you to our membership for continuing to support our work by supporting everything which has happened during the year. After the usual coffee morning where visitors were invited to climb up the tower to the ringing floor, ploughman's lunches were offered to thirty- three people.

After lunch guest speakers, Cat and Eric Presley, gave an illustrated talk on Sussex Under the Sea, and helped us to understand how by, changing methods of fishing and by re - kelping the ocean, marine life has thrived and increased in Sussex Bay. Members of the local community were invited to attend the presentation.

A second Heritage lecture was held in September. Geoffrey Mead spoke to a group of Friends and members of the community on Rye Harbour - A Special Place. This was a most informative and enjoyable evening.

Despite somewhat inclement weather Prosecco on the Roof took place again at the home of two of our members. Money raised during this very popular evening was kindly donated to the Friends.

The Christmas Tree Festival this year was a remarkable success with thirty five trees entered and the need to introduce a waiting list as the event has gained in popularity. We welcomed St. Nicolas and St. Mary's school singers for the first time, and several amateur musicians and groups provided some excellent musical entertainment. Over a thousand people visited the event over the weekend. The money raised will be used for the upkeep of the church building. The winning tree entry this year was Transition Town Shoreham.

Tours of the church begun in May and continued until September. These were popular and enjoyed by local people and holiday makers. Money raised will be used for the upkeep of the church building.

# **THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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Membership remains at £10 for individual membership for a year and £15.00 for a household. All monies are used for the upkeep of the church building which being over nine hundred years old is a challenge.

#### **Finance**

##### **Expenditure**

The largest expenditure in 2024 was for the South Transept Stonework repairs and inside stonework in the church entrance. This cost £41,397 and was part of the 2023 Quinquennial Review. We had grants of £29,000 to offset the cost of this work. Other expenditure included £2,394 for Organ repairs, £1,509 for Boiler repairs, £4,788 for Lighting and £2,507 for Architect and Audit fees.

##### **Income**

Subscriptions of just under £2,900, Donations of £3,488, General sales, Farmer's Market days and Friends activities raised £7,360. The Arts Festival and Christmas Tree Festival raised £7,556. Under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPW) £7,948 of VAT was reclaimed, Gift Aid of £644 was received together with 2 years of Ride and Stride totalling £697 with Church tours £351.

We had a very generous Bequest of £55,796 which gave us an overall surplus of £60,257. Without this the surplus would have been £4,461.

The charity therefore records an overall surplus for the year of £60,257, compared with a surplus of £8,268 in 2023.

##### **Reserves Policy**

The unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees and the reserves policy was amended in 2019 to reflect the call on funds to be transferred to the PCC to progress the redevelopment initially of the church, and subsequently of the hall premises. In the light of these circumstances the Trustees agreed that there should be a reduction in the contingency funds to £20,000 within the reserves to meet any essential maintenance that may arise. Free reserves totalled £133,116 at 31 December 2024 (2023: £72,859).

# **THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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#### **Structure, governance and management of the charity**

The Trustees as set out in the Trust Deed are the Vicar and Churchwardens of the Parish Church of St Mary de Haura New Shoreham, who are responsible to the PCC.

The Trustees in 2024 were the Reverend Andrew Bennison (until 10th March 2024) Churchwardens Sue Clay (Until November 2024) and Edward Downes.

The Trustees have powers to appoint the following officials:

- Treasurer.
- Secretary.
- Chairman of the Friends Committee.
- Any other officials that the Trustees may consider to be important in support of the work of the Trust.

The Treasurer of the Friends is Mr Phil Crompton and the Secretary is Mrs Jayne Crompton. Together with the Trustees and other members of the Friends Committee they meet on a regular basis.

The Committee is elected from the membership of the members at the Annual General meeting of the Friends of St Mary's.

Legislation determining the constitution and workings of the Friends:

- The Incumbents and Churchwardens Trust's Measure of 1964
- The Parochial Church Council's (Powers) Measure 1956.

The Vicar and Churchwardens report at each meeting of the PCC on the Fabric, any works that should be agreed, the Friends being asked to meet the costs involved dependent of the state of the finances of the Friends. The PCC is the employer and party to any contracts which may be formulated. The Friends will if possible and should circumstances allow, assist with the funding of works associated with the maintenance and ongoing restoration to our Grade 1 listed church.

#### **Trustees-Ex Officio.**

Incumbent (Vacant)  
Mr Edward Downes

Vicar, Trustee and Chair of the Committee  
Churchwarden and Trustee

#### **Executive Officers:**

Mr Philip Crompton  
Mrs Jayne Crompton

Treasurer  
Secretary

#### **Elected member:**

Mr Ian Tompkin  
Mrs Sarah Hadwen

This Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by the Churchwarden

Edward Downes



Dated 11/9/25

# **THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**

The trustees/executive committee are required by law of England and Wales to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and the financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these 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 accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees/Executive Committee are responsible for keeping accounting records which 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. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



# THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Friends of St Mary's Church Shoreham-by-Sea for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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:

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

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

TC Group

Mark Cummins FCCA FCIE  
for and on behalf of TC Group  
The Courtyard  
Shoreham Road  
Upper Beeding  
Steyning  
West Sussex  
BN44 3TN

Dated: 13 May 2025

# THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>	<b>4</b>		
Donations and legacies		100,199	15,977
Other trading activities		16,668	7,938
Investments		2,388	1,501
<b>Total income</b>		<b>119,255</b>	<b>25,416</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	<b>5</b>		
Charitable activities		55,257	13,380
Fundraising and festival costs		3,081	3,188
Other expenditure		660	580
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>58,998</b>	<b>17,148</b>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<b>60,257</b>	<b>8,268</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
Total funds brought forward		72,859	64,591
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>133,116</b>	<b>72,859</b>

All income and expenditure in current and prior year were unrestricted.  
All activities are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these accounts.

# THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	9	2,974		2,974	
Cash at bank and in hand		131,342		70,995	
		<u>134,316</u>		<u>73,969</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	<u>(1,200)</u>		<u>(1,110)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>133,116</u>		<u>72,859</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>133,116</u>		<u>72,859</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u><u>133,116</u></u>		<u><u>72,859</u></u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Unrestricted funds			<u>133,116</u>		<u>72,859</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<u><u>133,116</u></u>		<u><u>72,859</u></u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 11/9/25



Edward Downes - Churchwarden

Charity number: 280315

# THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### 1 Legal Status

The Charity is an unincorporated charitable trust registered in England and Wales, further details can be found on the front cover of these accounts.

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities.

The functional currency of the church is pounds sterling. Items in the accounts are rounded to the nearest pound.

##### 2.2 Funds accounting

Funds held by the Trust are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for ordinary purposes.

##### 2.3 Income

All income is accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

##### Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding, is received by the PCC and the charity becomes entitled to the income.

##### Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised as entitlement of the funds are transferred to the charity, irrespective of date of receipt

##### Investment income

Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

# THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### **2 Accounting Policies** (continued)

##### **2.4 Expenditure**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross of VAT.

##### **2.5 Debtors**

Amounts owing to the charity at 31 December are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

##### **2.6 Cash Flow Statement**

In accordance with Section 7 of FRS 102 the charity is claiming exemption from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on account of its size.

##### **2.7 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments. The Trustees seek to use short term deposits where possible to maximise the return on monies held at the bank and to manage cash flow.

##### **2.8 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.

##### **2.9 Trustee remuneration**

All the trustees donate their time spent running the charity on a voluntary basis and do not receive any remuneration for their work.

##### **2.10 Estimates and judgements**

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed by trustees on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised.

The trustees do not consider that there are any critical estimates or areas of judgement that need to be brought to the attention of the readers of the financial statements.

**THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**3 Comparative Funds Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	<b>Total Funds 2023 £</b>
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>	
Donations and legacies	15,977
Other trading activities	7,938
Investments	1,501
<b>Total income</b>	<b>25,416</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	
Charitable activities	13,380
Fundraising	3,188
Other expenditure	580
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>17,148</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>8,268</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>	
Total funds brought forward	64,591
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>72,859</b>

# THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

<b>4</b>	<b>Analysis of income and endowments:</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Donations	<b>100,119</b>	<b>15,977</b>
	<b>Donations and legacies</b>	<b>100,119</b>	<b>15,977</b>
	Festival income	<b>2,319</b>	<b>5,806</b>
	Other	<b>14,349</b>	<b>2,132</b>
	<b>Other trading activities</b>	<b>16,668</b>	<b>7,938</b>
	Interest receivable	<b>2,388</b>	<b>1,501</b>
	<b>Investments</b>	<b>2,388</b>	<b>1,501</b>
	<b>Total income</b>	<b>119,255</b>	<b>25,416</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Analysis of expenditure on:</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Architect fees	<b>1,307</b>	<b>1,684</b>
	Repairs and maintenance	<b>52,750</b>	<b>10,526</b>
	Support costs (note 7)	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,170</b>
	<b>Charitable activities</b>	<b>55,257</b>	<b>13,380</b>
	Festival costs	<b>1,164</b>	<b>921</b>
	Fundraising activities	<b>1,917</b>	<b>2,267</b>
	<b>Fundraising and festival costs</b>	<b>3,081</b>	<b>3,188</b>
	Other	<b>660</b>	<b>580</b>
	<b>Other expenditure</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>580</b>
	<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>58,998</b>	<b>17,148</b>

# THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### 6 Staff costs

No staff were employed by the charity during the current or prior year.

#### 7 Support costs (including Governance costs)

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Independent examination	1,200	1,110
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,110</u>

#### 8 Trustees:

Trustees did not receive any remuneration for their role as trustee, or any expenditure reimbursements during 2024 or 2023.

#### 9 Debtors

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
PCC Hymn book loan	2,974	2,974
	<u>2,974</u>	<u>2,974</u>

#### 10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Accruals	1,200	1,110
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,110</u>

#### 11 Control

The charity is under the control of the Trustees.

#### 12 Taxation

As a charity, The Friends of St Mary's Church Shoreham by Sea is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

#### 13 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in 2024 or 2023.