

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BUNGAY

England & Wales · Charity number 287155

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1983-06-29

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

Contact

Address 20 Southend Road
Bungay
Suffolk
NR35 1DN

Phone 07714165430

Email stephengwent@hotmail.co.uk

Website stmaryschurchbungay.co.uk

Activities

Objects: (1) TO SAFEGUARD THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING OF ST MARY'S CHURCH AFORESAID. (2) TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH BY USING THE CHURCH FOR SERVICES ON OCCASIONS.

Activities: Conservation of the church building by holding various fundraising events and functions.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Norfolk
- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£27,074	£26,346	-	-
2023-12-31	£24,928	£23,910	-	-
2022-12-31	£25,088	£26,432	-	-
2021-12-31	£32,588	£26,492	-	-
2020-12-31	£23,851	£25,940	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
BETTY JOAN WARNES		
BRIDGET READ		2020-09-14
David Brook		2026-02-03
Frances Charlotte Betts		2026-01-27
Judith Mary Burns-Thomson		2026-01-27
Keith Parker		2026-01-01
MARTIN EVANS		
MR JOHN WARNES		
Mark Walland		2020-09-14
Michael Theodorou		2026-01-31
Patricia Margaret de Clifford		2026-01-27
Rev Graham David Naylor		2026-01-27
STEPHEN WENT		2020-09-14
Sue Walland		2020-09-14

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BUNGAY

England & Wales - Charity number 287155

Accounts

The Friends of St Mary's Church, Bungay AGM
12th May 2025
Chairman's Report

St Mary's has continued to host a series of events throughout the last twelve months, which I will illustrate shortly in a Powerpoint presentation. These included the following:

- William Drew-Batty has continued with his programme of recitals on Thursdays, which draw good to reasonable audience numbers.
- We had performances in the church from Bungay Voices in June, followed a week later by a concert by The Mozart Orchestra, which was very well attended. The Mozart Orchestra have booked again for a concert this year on 7th June.
- In July, the Annual Prom Concert was held, led by Jason Collins and with the choir supported by Wensum Valley Brass.
- This was followed a week later by the Waveney Strings concert.
- August brought the Black Shuck Festival, with a well attended concert in the church on 2nd August. Later in the month, the Bungay Black Dog Arts Summer Exhibition was held.
- September saw the Bungay Folk Festival, followed by the excellent Fisher Theatre exhibition in October, which drew a good number of visitors.
- In November the annual Remembrance Day service was held in the church and was, as usual, well attended.
- In December, a number of concerts were held, including Jason Collins Christmas Concert, the South Norfolk Orchestra Concert, and the Castle Singers Christmas Concert.

Photos of a number of these events will be included in my presentation shortly.

During the course of the year, meetings have continued regarding the proposed installation of solar panels on the church. In October, a site

meeting was held, regarding where the panels would be installed. The south roof had been discounted as planners would not accept the panels being visible from St Mary's Street. As a result, the discussion centered on the panels being installed on the north roof, where they would not be visible from street level. This is, of course, subject to the required permissions being granted.

Turning to the day to day activities in the church, security remains an issue at times, as is the case with many other churches. The church is now routinely open from 9.00am – 4.00pm. Options are being considered regarding the installation of new CCTV cameras, running throughout each day, in order that perpetrators of damage or inappropriate behaviour can be identified and, if necessary, reported to the police with supporting recordings of those present at the time. This issue is by no means unique to St Mary's as other churches have the same issue with which to contend.

The activities and events held in the church are recognised by the Churches Conservation Trust as being 'above and beyond' what is staged in many other CCT managed churches, as well as recognising the financial support which the FOSM provides to the CCT, being income generated from bequest investments, and shared with the CCT, as shown in the annual accounts.

I should like to thank the FOSM committee members for enabling the church to be used for the various events, and for supporting the 'behind the scenes' activities such as stewarding events, exhibitions and concerts. I should also like to thank two individuals who have been involved in FOSM for many years. Firstly, my thanks to Brian Cloke, who has stood down as a committee member, after many years of active involvement. Equally, our thanks are due to Brian Moore, whose dedication to his role of looking after and maintaining the church is greatly appreciated by the committee. Thank you Brian!

In conclusion, I should mention that my wife and I are looking to relocate to Northumberland, to help support our eldest son and his wife, who currently have two pre-school sons, with a third due in the next couple of months. It will be a significant change, and one which we hadn't anticipated. It will mean me standing down from my involvement with St Mary's and my FOSM colleagues. I would like to take this opportunity to

thank my committee colleagues for their support and guidance while I have been the FOSM Chair and Treasurer.

Friends of St Mary's Church, Bungay

Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Receipts	2024	2023
Subscriptions and donations	512.06	535.00
Income from events	1,063.54	774.47
Retained event cash banked	252.83	175.00
Hire of church	2,957.50	2,757.50
Dividends & interest received – BB account	19,192.52	17,210.56
Dividends & interest received – General account	3,095.86	3,475.21
Total Receipts	27,074.31	24,927.74

Payments		
Donations to CCT	6,884.22	5,881.87
Church maintenance	8,869.12	9,617.49
Capital improvements	4,708.12	2,547.00
Fundraising costs	690.60	422.05
Insurance	2,369.24	2,162.89
Miscellaneous and admin	2,824.24	3,278.77
Total payments	26,345.54	23,910.07

Surplus/Deficit for the year		
Total receipts	27,074.31	24,927.74
Total payments	26,345.54	23,910.07
Surplus/deficit for the year	728.77	1,017.67

Wall safe cash received and banked	341.81	491.46
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Retained event cash
£261 retained as cash float

Friends of St Mary's Church, Bungay

Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Assets as at 31st December 2024	2024	2023
Lloyds Bank account	19,810.55 (B)	19,081.78
Share portfolio & broker BB account	477,229.01 (A)	475,859.31
Share portfolio and broker General account	85,449.51 (B)	82,377.18
Petty Cash	0.00 (B)	0.00
Retained cash	261.00 (B)	261.00
Total assets	582,750.07	577,579.27

Summary of assets as at 31st December 2024		
Bowerbank bequest assets	469,552.00 (A-C)	468,975.09
BB donation to be paid to the CCT for 2024	7,677.01 (C)	6,884.22
General account assets	105,521.06 (B)	101,719.96
Total assets as above	582,750.07	577,579.27

Note: The agreement between The Friends of St Mary's and the Churches Conservation Trust for the division of the dividends from the Bowerbank funds, was 60%/40% in favour of the Friends, and was for 10 years ending on 31st December 2018. It was agreed at the Friend's committee meeting on 6th July 2020 to continue apportioning dividend income on the same basis, and make payment to the CCT.

Bowerbank dividends and interest as per accounts		19,192.52	17,210.56
Retained by the Friends of St Mary's	60%	11,515.51	10,326.34
Due to CCT	40%	<u>7,677.01 (C)</u>	<u>6,884.22</u>
Total income as above		19,192.52	17,210.56

IAIN HUGGINS

Slade House
The Street
Earsham, Bungay
Suffolk
NR35 2TE
01986.894403
07884582699
irhuggins@aol.com

30.04.2025

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BUNGAY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31.12.2024 (as attached)

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept, and a comparison of the Accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Accounts, and seeking an explanation for any such items. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required of an Audit, and consequently, I do not express an opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that the accounting records required have not been kept, and to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached.



Iain Huggins A.I.B., A.C.I.I.

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BUNGAY

England & Wales - Charity number 287155

Accounts

Report to The Friends of St Mary's Annual General Meeting 2022

2022

The year was eventful for the Friends of St Mary's, with the church being utilised for the following:

- A series of regular recitals on Thursday lunchtimes, together with concerts and theatrical productions, including the Black Dog event in the church in August, which drew a large audience.
- Two exhibitions, including the 'Happy & Glorious' exhibition, and the 'Authors, Artists and Agriculture in The Waveney Valley' exhibition, both of which proved to be very popular.
- A display of All Hallows embroideries sadly coincided with the death of Her Majesty on 9th September, as a result of which a Book of Condolence was installed in the church.
- On 11th September, Bungay's Proclamation Service was held in St Mary's, and was attended by the Deputy Lieutenant of Suffolk, Joanna Spicer, along with the Mayor of Bungay, Tony Dawes, and the Town Reeve.
- A project to install solar panels on the roof of the church is under consideration – a major project, but one which would have a significant on the running costs borne by The Friends of St Mary's.

Receipts

- Our income in 2022 from investments totalled £17,903, compared to £18,596 in 2021. This reflects the impact of the economic situation last year.
- Subscriptions and donations were lower than in 2021, which is why we have mounted a campaign this year for more engagement with the membership of the Friends of St Mary's.
- The income from the hire of the church and income from events, compared to the previous year, is considerably higher. This is partly as a result of the income generated from the two large exhibitions, including book sales, but also reflects the return to use of the church for events, post Covid, and the income generated from a series of weekly recitals organised by William Drew-Batty.

Payments

- Our donations to the CCT were considerably higher, which is mainly due to a donation of £4,237 towards the costs of the extensive renovations to the exterior of the church, which were undertaken by the CCT in 2020/21.
- In addition, the maintenance costs incurred were some £2,195 more than the previous year, and £1,645 for capital improvements, including new lighting, the purchase of display boards for exhibitions, and an A-frame for the grand piano, enabling it to be moved for concerts, etc.
- Fundraising costs reflect payment for book sales at the exhibitions.

Assets

- The Friends total financial assets at the year end totalled £574,276, compared to £649,713 at the previous year end. This reflects the economic impact of external events in the year, not least the economic challenges resulting from the Ukrainian conflict, and the subsequent inflationary impact on the UK's economy.
- The value of the two Hargreaves Lansdown accounts today totalled £570,547 compared to £555,951 at 31st December.
- We are now due to pay our annual dividend share to the CCT, being 40% of the income on the Bowerbank Bequest assets. This amounts to £5,881.87 – so I seek your approval to make the payment to the CCT.

IAIN HUGGINS

Slade House
The Street
Earsham, Bungay
Suffolk
NR35 2TE
01986.894403
07884582699
irhuggins@aol.com

23.03.2023

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BUNGAY

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31.12.2022**

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept, and a comparison of the Accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Accounts, and seeking an explanation for any such items. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required of an Audit, and consequently, I do not express an opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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Iain Huggins A.I.B., A.C.I.I.

Friends of St Mary's Church, Bungay

Accounts for the year to 31st December 2022

Receipts	2022	2021
Subscriptions and donations	85.00	473.81
Donation for piano	0.00	1,600.00
Hire of church & income from events	7,100.15	695.45
Retained event cash banked*	0.00	1,158.00
Transfer from COIF deposit accounts	0	6,515.19
HL capital distribution	0	3,550.00
Dividends & interest received – BB account	14,704.68	15,298.42
Dividends & interest received – General account	<u>3,198.68</u>	<u>3,297.40</u>
Total receipts	25,088.51	32,588.27
Payments		
Donations to CCT	10,356.01	6,301.84
Return of donation for piano	0	1,600.00
Church maintenance	3,611.66	1,416.13
Capital improvements	5,214.58	3,569.40
Transfer to investments	0	9,550.00
Fundraising costs	2,164.35	46.86
Insurance	1,851.26	1,687.23
Miscellaneous and admin	<u>3,234.40</u>	<u>2,320.91</u>
Total payments	26,432.26	26,492.37
Surplus/Deficit for the year		
Total receipts	25,088.51	32,588.27
Total payments	<u>26,432.26</u>	<u>26,492.37</u>
Surplus/deficit for the year	-1,343.75	6,095.90
 Wall safe cash received and banked	 383.54	 181.80

*** Retained event cash**

£1,158.00 banked 14 Sep 2021

£261 retained as cash float

Friends of St Mary's Church, Bungay

Accounts for the year to 31st December 2022

Assets as at 31st December 2022	2022	2021
Lloyd's Bank account	18,064.11 (B)	19,407.86
Share portfolio & Broker BB account	475,354.25 (A)	541,482.50
Share portfolio & Broker General account	80,597.03 (B)	88,561.03
Petty Cash	0 (B)	0.76
Retained Cash	<u>261.00 (B)</u>	<u>261.00</u>
Total assets	574,276.39	649,713.15

Summary of assets as at December 2022

Bowerbank Bequest assets	469,472.38 (A-C)	535,363.13
BB donation due to CCT for 2022	5,881.87 (C)	6,119.37
General account assets	<u>98,922.14 (B)</u>	<u>108,230.65</u>
Total assets as above	574,276.39	649,713.15

Note: The agreement between the Friends and the Churches Conservation Trust for the division of the dividends of the Bowerbank funds, was 60%/40% in favour of the Friends, and was for 10 years ending on 31st December 2018. It was agreed at the Friend's committee meeting on 6th July 2020 to continue apportioning dividend income on the same basis, and make payment to the CCT.

BB dividends and interest as per accounts	14,704.68	15,298.42
Retained by the Friends	60% 8,822.81	9,179.05
Due to CCT	40% <u>5,881.87 (C)</u>	<u>6,119.37</u>
Total income as above	14,704.68	15,298.42

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01986.894403
07884582699
irhuggins@aol.com

23.03.2023

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BUNGAY

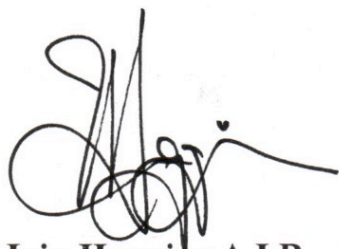
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.12.2022

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BUNGAY

England & Wales - Charity number 287155

Accounts

Chairman's report for 2021

It is with great relief that I can write this report knowing that "after COVID" we will be able to hold the Annual General meeting in Church and also that it is pretty certain the events, which have already been booked for 2022, will go ahead.

The major repair works were completed on time in March last year, and after a comprehensive cleaning programme by Brian and Daphne Moore, the church was restored to its normal high quality appearance; at the same time Mark and Sue Walland worked very hard to clean up the considerable mess, (the result of the major repair work on the West window) in the bell chamber and ringing platform.

The purchase of the Bechstein Grand Piano early in the year has enabled two series of Lunchtime Concerts to take place; staged by William Drew-Batty these events have attracted a new audience to the church. They have been well attended and the availability of a good piano ensures that the productions are always of a high quality. We have noticed that, with the opening of the new Community Centre, we are getting less bookings from small groups who previously had used the Bowerbank Room for committee meetings; apart from better parking facilities there is also internet connection in the Community Centre building - something we cannot offer in St. Mary's at this stage, but we do hope this facility may be available here soon.

You may all be aware that Eric King, husband of the late Joyce King, died recently at the age of 92; Roy Tricker, giving the eulogy, reminded us that Joyce who was vice chairman and then Chairman of the Friends' committee for 20 years, worked tirelessly for the church. She was faithfully supported all that time by Eric during a period when funds were short so "making ends meet" was a struggle; in spite of the lack of funds Joyce always managed to pay money to Redundant Churches Fund each year, generally about £300, often leaving a balance of less than £100 in the bank. At the AGM in 1985 Joyce was pleased to announce that, out of the 200 churches in the care of RCF at that time, the £300 donation placed St. Mary's 4th highest on the list. There have been four other chairmen during the remaining twenty years since St. Mary's was made redundant, and since 2008 the Bowerbank Bequest has made it much easier for us to improve the facilities in the church, enabling it to be used for exhibitions, plays, concerts and other events for the benefit and enjoyment of the population of Bungay; Kathleen Bowerbank would be pleased to know that her legacy has helped to make this possible, as she greatly loved the church.

Two most noticeable features of the Church which benefited from the repair works are the West Window, where the tracery has been replaced, and the priory ruins which was the most expensive part of the whole project. The West window, an important feature of the church tower, now attracts favourable comments from visitors; the ruins, which, had the repairs not been carried out, would have remained fenced off from the public, can now be used again for events such as the annual "Soirée in the Priory" and hopefully provide the backdrop for wedding photographs and other events, as has always been possible in the past.

I have really enjoyed my years on the "friends" committee going back to the early years as a committee member and more recently as Vice Chairman and Chairman.; Dennis Walker, our first chairman, rather optimistically suggested when he retired, that chairmen should stand down after five years; that this would be a mistake was proved by Joyce King who followed him and was a very successful chairman for fifteen years. I am certain that my shorter term has been successful only because of the interest in my plans from my committee members and I would like to thank them for their continued support. I am sure that my successor will be equally well supported and I hope he enjoys his time in the chair as much as I have..

John Warnes

Friends of St Mary's Church, Bungay

Accounts for the year to 31st December 2021

Receipts	2021	2020
Subscriptions and donations	473.81	241.69
Donation for piano	1,600.00	0.00
Hire of church & income from events	695.45	463.00
Retained event cash	1,158.00	0.00
Transfer from COIF deposit accounts	6,515.19	7,500.00
HL capital distribution	3,550.00	0.00
Dividends & interest received – BB account	15,298.42	13,062.11
Dividends & interest received – General account	<u>3,297.40</u>	<u>2,583.93</u>
Total receipts	32,588.27	23,850.73
Payments		
Donations to CCT	6,301.84	8,478.11
Return of donation for piano	1,600.00	0.00
Church maintenance	1,416.13	2,156.84
Capital improvements	3,569.40	11,568.55
Transfer to investments	9,550.00	0.00
Fundraising costs	46.86	50.50
Insurance	1,687.23	1,945.60
Professional fees	50.00	50.00
Miscellaneous and admin	<u>2,270.91</u>	<u>1,690.69</u>
Total payments	26,492.37	25,940.29
Surplus/Deficit for the year		
Total receipts	32,588.27	23,850.73
Total payments	<u>26,492.37</u>	<u>25,940.29</u>
Surplus/deficit for the year	6,095.90	(2,089.56)
Wall safe cash received and banked	181.80	190.17

Friends of St Mary's Church, Bungay

Accounts for the year to 31st December 2021

Assets as at 31st December 2021

	2021	2020
Lloyd's Bank account	19,407.86 (B)	13,311.96
COIF BB funds	0.00 (A)	1,432.60
COIF General funds	0.00 (B)	5,082.31
Share portfolio & Broker BB account	541,482.50 (A)	463,836.88
Share portfolio & Broker General account	88,561.03 (B)	83,001.85
Petty Cash	<u>0.76 (B)</u>	<u>1.26</u>
Total assets	649,452.15	566,666.86

Summary of assets as at December 2021

Bowerbank Bequest assets	535,363.13 (A-C)	460,044.64
BB donation due to CCT for 2021	6,119.37 (C)	5,224.84
General account assets	<u>107,969.65 (B)</u>	<u>101,397.38</u>
Total assets as above	649,452.15	566,666.86

Note: The agreement between the Friends and the Churches Conservation Trust for the division of the dividends of the Bowerbank funds, was 60%/40% in favour of the Friends, and was for 10 years ending on 31st December 2018. It was agreed at the Friend's committee meeting on 6th July 2020 to continue apportioning dividend income on the same basis, and make payment to the CCT.

BB dividends and interest as per accounts	15,298.42	13,062.11
Retained by the Friends	60% 9,179.05	7,837.27
Due to CCT	40% <u>6,119.37 (C)</u>	<u>5,224.84</u>
Total income as above	15,298.42	13,062.11

IAIN HUGGINS

Slade House
The Street
Earsham, Bungay
Suffolk
NR35 2TE
01986.894403
07884582699
irhuggins@aol.com

16.03.2022

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BUNGAY

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.12.2021**

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept, and a comparison of the Accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Accounts, and seeking an explanation for any such items. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required of an Audit, and consequently, I do not express an opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

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