

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	0.76 (B)	1.26
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.

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.