

# **ANGLICAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024**

**CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 292594**

# **ANGLICAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

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# ANGLICAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

<b>WORKING NAME</b>	Marriage Encounter (Anglican Expression)
<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	292594
<b>START OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2023
<b>END OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
<b>TRUSTEES AT 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023</b>	Nick & Viv Drayton Malcolm & Margaret Harrison David & Liz Percival (Lay Executive couple) David & Ann Roberts Revd Ian & Jane Scott-Thompson (Chair couple)
<b>LEGAL STATUS</b>	Unincorporated Charity
<b>GOVERNING DOCUMENT</b>	Trust Deed dated 17 <sup>th</sup> June 1985 as amended by a Deed of Variation dated 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2003

### OBJECTS

To educate the public concerning the union of a man and a woman within the institution of marriage with particular reference to emotional, physical and sexual relationships and with a view to developing personal responsibilities and enriching family life to deepen such relationships through communication between marriage partners.

<b>CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS</b>	The Rectory Church Lane Marks Tey Colchester CO6 1LW	
<b>PRIMARY BANKERS</b>	Lloyds Bank PLC 25 Gresham Street London EC2V 7HN	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</b>	Norman Gillhespy FCA 4 Hopewell Close Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5PN	

## **ANGLICAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

The Trustees present their report on the financial statements of Anglican Marriage Encounter for the year ended 30 June 2024. The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and comply with the charity's Trust Deed and applicable law. This is a change from previous years when results were presented on a cash or receipts and payments basis. Comparative figures for 2023 have been restated on the accruals basis. The effect of changing basis is to convert the previously reported result for 2023 of surplus receipts £3,764 to an income deficit £921.

### **The charity**

Anglican Marriage Encounter is a registered charity governed by the Trust Deed made on 17 June 1985 as varied by a Deed of Variation dated 10 May 2003. It is registered with the Charity Commission under number 292594.

The Trustees have had due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The charity provides public benefit through the advancement of the education of engaged and married couples concerning the union of a man and a woman within the institution of marriage with particular reference to emotional, physical and sexual relationships and with a view to developing personal responsibilities and enriching family life to deepen such relationships through communication between marriage partners.

The charity pursues its aims primarily through providing teaching weekends, most of them residential, for married and engaged couples. Ongoing support is available after the weekends. The charity's weekend programmes are widely publicised through adverts, magazine articles, leaflets in public places such as churches, libraries and doctors surgeries, through the internet, radio and by word of mouth. The weekends are open to engaged or married couples whatever their financial circumstances or faith. There are no charges other than a modest booking fee which can also be waived where necessary. All other funding comes through voluntary donations. We encourage couples who have attended a weekend to pass on information to others, particularly those who might be unable to afford to pay for a comparable programme.

### **Trustees**

The Trustees who served during the year are given on page 3.

The Trustees met twice in the year, and dealt with necessary business by e-mail between meetings.

### **Selection and training of Trustees**

Trustees are appointed from couples who have experienced one or more of the charity's weekends and who can bring diverse experience from business, charity governance, church, and organisations supporting marriage. Relevant Charity Commission publications and guidance when issued, are circulated to Trustees with the opportunity for discussion during biannual business meetings.

### **Review of activities**

Six weekends had been planned for the year, of which one was cancelled (in an area where weekends have not been held for some time) for want of couples wishing to attend, and one added to meet demand.

Four Marriage Encounter weekends were held, attended by 34 couples (36 couples on 6 weekends in 2022/23), and two Engaged Encounter weekends attended by 14 couples (3 couples on 1 weekend in 2022/23). This shows a revival of interest in Engaged Encounter weekends which have been slow to recover since the Covid pandemic.

Donations declined despite more couples attending Weekends, with many couples facing financial pressure in their lives. Venue costs again increased significantly over the year. The net result was a deficit of £12,714 (deficit of £921 in 2022/23) which was deducted from Reserves. The Trustees are grateful that the

charity is financially secure and hope that weekend bookings will become more predictable and return to pre-Covid levels. The cost of cancelling a Weekend is significant. The Trustees continue to look for ways to revive activity, boost bookings and encourage volunteers. They have explored new ways of advertising weekends and reaching new audiences of couples including radio interviews and adverts.

Seven Weekends have been planned for the year to 30 June 2025.

The annual Team and Officers Day was held in Sutton Coldfield as in earlier years with good attendance. Community support to couples who have attended a weekend continues through a monthly email newsletter, Facebook groups, and small groups meeting online and in person.

Leadership succession and volunteer resources are an increasing concern.

The Trustees would like to record their gratitude to all the many volunteers who continue to serve the charity in so many ways. All of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

### **Reserves policy**

The Trustees have reviewed their policy for reserves in the light of recent and forecast deficits. Reserves of £96,754 are substantial relative to operating costs, but the present outlook is for further deficits and uncertainty about giving. We require sufficient reserves to be able to commit to provide weekends in good faith, without being dependent on any contribution the couples attending those weekends may make to the future activities of the organisation. The present substantial reserves allow the Trustees to continue operating the charity for at least the next two years without concerns about financial solvency.

### **Investment policy and returns**

Bank interest is the only investment income earned by the charity.

### **Risk management**

The Trustees are responsible for examining the major risks that the charity faces each financial year when reviewing its plans. The Trustees maintain a risk register which they review annually, whilst ensuring there are systems in place for monitoring and control, so as to mitigate any impact on the charity's activities.

The Trustees regularly review all policies and procedures.

### **Governance and internal control**

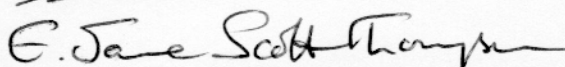
The Trustees delegate management of the charity's activities to the Lay Executive couple, who report to the Trustees at least twice a year.

There are no paid officers and all the administration is conducted from private homes.

Ian Scott-Thompson



Jane Scott-Thompson



Chair Couple

Date 26 / 9 / 2024

# **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Anglican Marriage Encounter (registered charity 292594)**

## **Responsibilities and basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended **30 June 2024** as set out on pages 7 to 9.

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

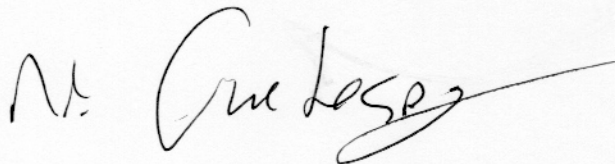
## **Independent examiner's statement**

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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


There has been a change in accounting basis from cash to accruals and this has been signposted on the face of the accounts.



Norman Gillhespy FCA  
4 Hopewell Close  
Shoreham-by-Sea  
BN43 5PN

Date

3/10/2024



# Anglican Marriage Encounter

## Income and Expenditure for the Year Ended 30th June 2024

Income	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Donations and Similar receipts	2a	33,270	-	33,270	36,131
Investment Income	2b	1,886	-	1,886	678
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>35,156</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,156</b>	<b>36,809</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure in Furtherance of Charitable Objectives	3a	45,491	-	45,491	34,864
Expenditure on Managing and Administering the Charity	3b	2,379	-	2,379	2,866
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>47,870</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,870</b>	<b>37,730</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>		<b>(12,714)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(12,714)</b>	<b>(921)</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Balances Brought Forward		109,468	720	110,188	111,109
<b>Balances Carried Forward</b>		<b>96,754</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>97,474</b>	<b>110,188</b>

Note These results are presented on an accruals basis. Results were previously presented on a cash basis, being a summary of the cash book receipts and payments, without adjustment for sums receivable or payable at the year end. Comparatives for 2023 have been restated on the accruals basis.



# Anglican Marriage Encounter

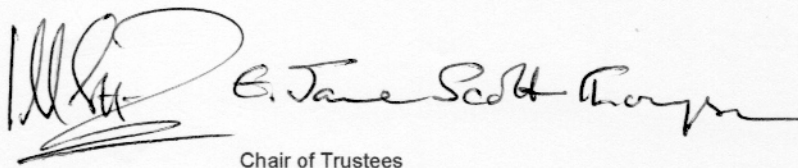
## Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash Funds			
Lloyds Bank		15,976	11,786
CAF Bank		46,588	65,747
Shawbrook Bank		30,000	30,000
PayPal		1,665	1,370
		<u>94,229</u>	<u>108,903</u>
Debtors and prepayments			
Deposits paid in advance for venues		1,800	1,880
Gift Aid claims		1,271	896
Donations in transit		1,419	-
		<u>4,491</u>	<u>2,776</u>
Creditors falling due in one year			
Travel expenses		825	1,091
Booking fees received in advance		420	400
		<u>1,245</u>	<u>1,491</u>
Net total assets		<u>97,474</u>	<u>110,188</u>
Represented by:			
General Funds		96,754	109,468
Restricted Funds	4	720	720
		<u>97,474</u>	<u>110,188</u>

Approved by the Trustees on

8 September 2024

Signed on their behalf

  
Chair of Trustees



# Anglican Marriage Encounter

## Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30th June 2024

### 1. Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis, and meet at least the minimum levels of accountability recommended by the Charity Commission.

<b>2. Receipts</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>a) Donations and Similar Receipts</b>				
Gifts & Donations	26,343		26,343	29,197
Gift Aid receivable	5,245		5,245	5,984
Booking Fees & other income	1,682		1,682	950
	<b>33,270</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,270</b>	<b>36,131</b>
<b>b) Investment Income</b>				
Bank Interest	1,886		1,886	678
	<b>1,886</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,886</b>	<b>678</b>

### 3. Payments

#### a) Expenditure in Furtherance of Charitable Objectives

##### Weekend Costs

Marriage Encounter	29,334		29,334	26,279
Engaged Encounter	9,832		9,832	3,819
Weekend reunions & community day	-		-	-
Leaflets, advertising, promotion	2,586		2,586	1,695
Encounter Magazine	2,790		2,790	2,686
	<b>44,542</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44,542</b>	<b>34,479</b>

##### Training and Development

Team & Officer Development	949		949	385
Team Deeper Weekend	-		-	-
	<b>949</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>385</b>

<b>Total</b>	<b>45,491</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>45,491</b>	<b>34,864</b>
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#### b) Expenditure on Managing and Administering the Charity

Meetings & travel	638		638	1,081
Communications & Support	882		882	929
Independent Examiner	-		-	-
Banking Services	422		422	419
Insurance	437		437	437
	<b>2,379</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,379</b>	<b>2,866</b>

### 4. Restricted Funds

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
To purchase banners for use at Weekends	720	720
	<b>720</b>	<b>720</b>

### 5. Trustees expenses

A total of £904 (2023 - £1,257) was paid to trustees to reimburse them for travel and other expenses on charity business.

### 6. Staff Costs and Numbers

The Charity employed no staff during this or the previous financial period.