

Com **THE WIDOWS, ORPHANS AND DEPENDANTS SOCIETY
OF THE CHURCH IN WALES**
(A company limited by guarantee)

**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Company Number: 257884
Charity Number: 503271

**The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales
(A company limited by guarantee)**

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

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The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

Trustees of the Society and Professional Advisors

Trustees of the Society

The Venerable J S Williams (Chair)
The Right Reverend D P Davies (Vice Chair)
The Venerable A S Grimwood
The Reverend C A Owen
The Reverend K I Warrington
Mrs R H Crawford
Mr N C P Griffin
Mrs G B Knight
Mr P E Lea

Honorary Secretary and Accountant

Mrs Louise Davies BSc, FCA, DChA

Registered Office

2 Callaghan Square, Cardiff, CF10 5BT

Independent Examiner

Mr Simon Jones FCA, c/o 2 Callaghan Square, Cardiff, CF10 5BT

Bankers

Lloyds Bank, 4th Floor, St William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff, CF10 5BH

The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

Ninety-Third Annual Report

The Trustees have great pleasure in presenting their ninety-third Annual Report together with the Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023 and the Balance Sheet as at that date. This report has been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP 2015) and complies with applicable law.

Status of the Society

The Society is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. The liability of each trustee is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.

The Society is governed by its Memorandum of Association.

Membership

The Trustees consist of two representatives from each diocese and are elected triennially by each of the Diocesan Boards of Finance.

The names of the Trustees who served the Society during the year and who are also directors of the Society, are given on page 1.

Objectives and Activities

The main object of the Society is to provide financial assistance to widow(er)s, orphans and dependants of deceased clergy who have previously served in the ministry of the Church in Wales. Any grants made by the Society are in addition to other financial assistance they might receive from the Representative Body, by way of pension, or from charitable sources. The Society maintains close contact with the six diocesan committees, whose members have a more personal relationship with those in their care and are aware of individual needs.

Each year the Society set minimum income levels for widow(er)s, dependants and orphans for which each diocesan committee should aim to achieve. For the year ended 31 December 2023, these levels were set at £19,105 for widow(er)s and dependants and £3,237 for orphans.

The Trustees have general powers of investment, and there are no restrictions imposed in the way in which the Society can operate other than those set out in the Trustee Act 2000.

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Financial Review

During the year a total of £146,327 (2022: £136,698) was paid by way of grants to widow(er)s, orphans and dependants. The Statement of Financial Activities shows net outgoing resources on Unrestricted Funds of £9,574 (2022: £15,683), and £nil (2022: £nil) on the Special Trusts.

Ninety-Third Annual Report (continued)

During 2023, the Society's Unrestricted Funds assets increased from £631,291 to £683,094 and the Special Trusts assets increased from £601,907 to £661,026.

The Trustees consider the financial position of the Society to be satisfactory.

Risk Management

A key element in the care and diligence expected of the Trustees is to assess the risks affecting the company as carefully and comprehensively as possible. This obligation includes careful consideration and assessment of risks affecting the company's assets, its financial position, and its results. The Trustees have in place a risk management system to permanently cover significant risks (ensuring suitable assessment of the risks), providing reports to the Trustees as appropriate, in order to ensure that risks are taken into account in the context of all relevant decisions. Factors carefully examined and assessed include for example, the impact of incoming resources expected to be provided by the Diocesan Societies in future periods, and the effect this is likely to have on the minimum income levels for widow(er)s, orphans and dependants.

Reserves Policy

The Society is dependent upon the six Diocesan Boards of Finance ("DBFs") who make up the shortfall between the Society's total annual income and the annual grants awarded to widow(er)s, orphans and dependants, which on average are approximately £100,000 per annum.

In the event that support from the DBF's was not forthcoming, the Trustees consider that they would need a period of around 7 years to investigate alternative sources of funds. In that period, they would wish to continue the work of the Society if possible.

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In 2021 the Trustees pledged to utilise some the reserves of the Society, and in 2021 increased the support to dioceses from £20,000 to £30,500 to assist with the grant payments to beneficiaries. This level of support was maintained in 2022 and 2023.

Accordingly, the Trustees believe that the most appropriate level of general fund reserves is in the region of £630,000.

Ninety-Third Annual Report (continued)

Acknowledgements

The Society wishes to record its appreciation for the continuing financial support it receives from the Representative Body, the Diocesan Boards of Finance, clergy, parishes and individuals throughout the Province. The Secretary will gladly provide further information to anyone wishing to make regular contributions to the Society.

Responsibilities of the Trustees of the Society

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

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- 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business, in which case there should be supporting assumptions or qualifications as necessary.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Ninety-Third Annual Report (continued)

Independent Examiner

As the Society is a small company that qualifies for audit exemption under the Companies Act 2006, and the charitable company is eligible for independent examination under the Charities Act 2011, the Trustees have opted for an independent examination of the accounts instead of an audit. The independent examiner, Mr Simon Jones, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

By order of the Widows, Orphans and Dependents Society of the Church in Wales

Louise Davies

Honorary Secretary and Accountant
11 April 2024

The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Company (and its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for an independent examination. I report in respect of my examination of the Company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination, I have followed all the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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:

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; and
- the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (FRS 102).

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.

Mr Simon Jones FCA

The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

2 Callaghan Square, Cardiff, CF10 5BT

11 April 2024

The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended

31 December 2023

The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

	Note	General Funds £	Special Trusts £	Total 2023 £	General Funds £	Special Trusts £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies		2,658	2,142	4,800	2,693	2,448	5,141
Investments		19,631	18,908	38,539	20,141	13,812	33,953
Bank Interest		179	-	179	110	-	110
Diocesan Contributions		93,235	-	93,235	81,944	-	81,944
Total Income		115,703	21,050	136,753	104,888	16,260	121,148
Expenditure on							
Charitable activities	4	125,277	21,050	146,327	120,571	16,260	136,831
Total Expenditure		125,277	21,050	146,327	120,571	16,260	136,831
Net expenditure before		(9,574)	-	(9,574)	(15,683)	-	(15,683)
Investment gains)
Net (losses) / gains on investments		61,377	59,119	120,496	(91,597)	(299,334)	(390,931)
Net movement in funds		51,803	59,119	110,922	(107,280)	(299,334)	(406,614)
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-	(15,000)	15,000	-
Total funds brought forward		631,291	601,907	1,233,198	753,571	886,241	1,639,812
Total Funds carried forward		683,094	661,026	1,344,120	631,291	601,907	1,233,198

The net incoming resources arise wholly from continuing operations and there were no operations acquired nor disposed of during

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the year.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the statement of total recognised gains and losses required by FRS 3.

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above. The loss for the year for Companies Act purposes comprises the net outgoing resources for the year of £9,574 (2022: £15,683) plus realised losses on investments of £nil (2022: £267,454) and was £9,574 (2022: £283,137).

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Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	General Funds £	Special Trusts £	Total 2023 £	General Funds £	Special Trusts £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets							
COIF Investment Fund	5	686,268	661,026	1,347,294	624,891	601,907	1,226,798
		<u>686,268</u>	<u>661,026</u>	<u>1,347,294</u>	<u>624,891</u>	<u>601,907</u>	<u>1,226,798</u>
Current assets							
Debtors	6	4,688	-	4,688	10	-	10
Cash at bank and in hand		21,232	-	21,232	14,868	-	14,868
		<u>25,920</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,920</u>	<u>14,878</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,878</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	29,094	-	29,094	8,478	-	8,478
		<u>(3,174)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,174)</u>	<u>6,400</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,400</u>
Net current (liabilities)/ assets							
Net Assets		<u>683,094</u>	<u>611,026</u>	<u>1,344,120</u>	<u>631,291</u>	<u>601,907</u>	<u>1,233,198</u>
Represented by:							
Funds		322,076	126,642	448,718	331,650	126,642	458,292
Revaluation Reserve		361,018	534,384	895,402	299,641	475,265	774,906
Total Funds	8	<u>683,094</u>	<u>661,026</u>	<u>1,344,120</u>	<u>631,291</u>	<u>601,907</u>	<u>1,233,198</u>

For the year to 31 December 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The Trustees have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the

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requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 13 were approved by the Trustees on 11 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

The Venerable J S Williams

Mr P E Lea

Trustees

The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

Notes to the financial statements as at 31 December 2023

1. Status of the Society

The Society is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. The liability of each trustee is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.

2. Accounting Policies

a. Basis of preparation

The Society has adopted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the Society's activities. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investment assets and are in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP 2015), the Companies Act 2006 and applicable accounting standards (FRS 102). The principle accounting policies adopted, which have been applied consistently, are set out below: -

b. Incoming resources

Interest income is fully accrued; dividends and donations are credited on the date of receipt.

c. Resources expended

Grants assigned to beneficiaries are included in the Statement of Financial Activities based on the annual grant approved and paid.

d. Investments

Investments are stated at market value based on middle prices at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

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e. Funds held by the Society are: -

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Special trusts - these are funds that can only be used for a particular restricted purpose within the objects of the Society.

Notes to the financial statements as at 31 December 2023 (continued)

3. Administrative Expenses

All administrative expenses of the Society are met by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. No remuneration or expenses to Trustees or to the Independent Examiner was charged in arriving at net incoming resources.

4. Charitable Expenditure

The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

	2023 £	2022 £
Grants assigned to Beneficiaries:		
St Asaph	36,601	33,646
Bangor	4,000	-
St Davids	32,572	35,450
Llandaff	31,874	9,508
Monmouth	25,708	23,408
Swansea and Brecon	15,123	11,686
	<u>145,93</u>	<u>113,69</u>
One-off Cost of Living Grants	8	8
	-	23,000
Total Grants		
90 th Anniversary Celebration Costs	<u>145,93</u>	<u>136,69</u>
	8	8
	389	133
	<u>146,32</u>	<u>136,83</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>

Grants were made to 227 individual beneficiaries in 2023 (2022: 230).

Notes to the financial statements as at 31 December 2023 (continued)

5. COIF Investments

The Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales

	General Funds £	Special Trusts £	Total 2023 £	General Funds £	Special Trusts £	Total 2022 £
Market value at 1 January 2023	624,891	601,907	1,226,798	760,480	211,092	971,572
Additions	-	-	-	-	422,700	422,700
Disposals	-	-	-	(43,992)	-	(43,992)
Net (decrease) / increase on revaluation	61,377	59,1119	120,496	(91,597)	(31,885)	(123,482)
Market value at 31 December 2023	<u>686,268</u>	<u>661,026</u>	<u>1,347,294</u>	<u>624,891</u>	<u>601,907</u>	<u>1,226,798</u>
Historical cost at 31 December 2023	<u>340,821</u>	<u>533,003</u>	<u>873,824</u>	<u>363,244</u>	<u>110,303</u>	<u>473,547</u>
Number of units	<u>227,995.92</u>	<u>219,610.00</u>	<u>447,605.92</u>	242,995.92	67,450.17	310,446.09

The COIF Investments are held in the COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund.

6. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Accrued interest and income	<u>4,688</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>4,688</u>	<u>10</u>

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Notes to the financial statements as at 31 December 2023 (continued)

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Balances due to Diocesan Committees	<u>29,094</u>	<u>8,478</u>

8. Special Trust Funds

	2023 £	2022 £
St Asaph	335	306
Bangor	6,201	5,645
St Davids	899	819
Llandaff	652,923	594,528
Swansea and Brecon	668	609
	<u>661,0</u>	<u>601,90</u>
	<u>26</u>	<u>7</u>

The Special Trust Funds represent legacies and bequests made to the Provincial Society where the income is to be used for the benefit of the widow(er)s, orphans and dependants of deceased clergy in a specific diocese within the Province.

9. Transactions with Related Parties

During the year Mr P Lea, the Venerable J S Williams and Mr N C P Griffin were members of both the Widows, Orphans and Dependants Society of the Church in Wales, and the Representative Body of the Church in Wales.

The Representative Body met the administrative expenses of the Society.