

THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 SEPTEMBER 2024



**THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

TRUSTEES

Mrs Margaret Jones Pastoral secretary
Mrs Barbara Marlow
Mrs Laura Adams-Foskett
Mrs Cassandra Comforth
Mrs Pauline Norvall Chairman
Mrs Emma Golder
Mrs Susan Swanborough

TRUSTEE/TREASURER

Mrs Heather Graham

ADDRESS

c/o The Treasurer
Sunny Brae
Uttoxeter Road
Checkley
Stoke on Trent
ST10 4NB

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO.

509374

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Howsons
Chartered Accountants
Winton House
Stoke Road
Stoke on Trent
ST4 2RW

BANKERS

Lloyds Bank Plc
Lichfield Branch
22 Conduit Street
Lichfield
Staffs
WS13 6JS

**THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

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**THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
TRUSTEES REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Statutory Background

Section 162 of the Charities Act 2011 and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 made there under require the Trustees to prepare, in respect of each financial year, an annual report containing prescribed information and to submit such report to the Charity Commissioners, having attached to it the financial statement of accounts for such financial year. The Trustees also take account of the Charity Commissioners' Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014, in respect of making such report.

Reference and Administrative Information

The name of the charity is The Guild of St. Mary and St. Anne.

The charity's registration number is 509374.

The charity's principal address is c/o The Treasurer, Sunny Brae, Uttoxeter Road, Checkley, Stoke on Trent, ST10 4NB.

The Trustees who served the charity during the year were as follows:-

Mrs Laura Adams-Foskett	
Mrs Cassandra Comforth	
Mrs Emma Golder	
Mrs Heather Graham	Treasurer
Mrs Margaret (Meg) Jones	Pastoral secretary
Mrs Barbara Marlow	
Mrs Pauline Norvall	Chairman
Mrs Susan Swanborough	

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was established by a declaration of trust deed (The Guild of St. Mary & St. Anne Special Charitable Trust) dated 7 July 1979 and is an unincorporated association.

The power of appointing new Trustees is vested in the Trustees by ballot. Trustees are selected on the basis of their suitability to the charity and adequate training would be provided, if required.

A minimum of two formal Trustees' meetings are held each year. Requests for assistance are considered by the Trustees and grants are considered by Trustees on application. Decisions are undertaken by charity Trustees by majority vote.

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks that the Guild faces and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity are the advancement of education and the furtherance of religion at The Abbots Bromley School, Abbots Bromley, and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness of persons who are or have been ordained at the aforesaid School.

The objects will be reviewed at the appropriate time to reflect the closure of Abbots Bromley School.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Grant-making policy

The trustees ensure proper governance of the charity's grant making in three ways:

- Through grant-making principles which ensure that, even where there is donor or funding partner involvement, decisions are ultimately made by the trustees. In a situation where donors are involved, they are *recommending* grants, not *awarding* them.
- Through grant-making criteria which set out the activities the trustees wish to support in furtherance of the charity's objectives and the activities supported will be charitable in law.
- Through grant-making processes which set out how decisions are reached for awarding grants from different types of funds.

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TRUSTEES REPORT
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Grant making principles

- The board of trustees has ultimate collective responsibility for all grant-making decisions in line with the charitable purposes and any restrictions agreed with donors and funding partners.
- Trustees reserve the right to apply conditions to any grant.
- Trustees also reserve the right not to approve any recommendation or nomination if they (or those acting with their delegated authority) determine that the resulting grant would not be charitable, or would conflict with its policies or damage its reputation.

Trustees Expenses

Details of Trustees expenses paid are set out in note 4.

Amendments to Administration, Organisation, Structure & Reporting

No changes have been made in the year.

For the Public Benefit

The closure of The Abbots Bromley School has inevitably impacted on the operations of the alumni organisation connected with it, however, the unity between its former pupils has been sustained and the Guild as an independent charity is much valued by all its members and has a positive future supporting its members and preserving the history of the former school. Face to face meetings and reunions of former pupils, staff and governors of the former school continue to be organised throughout the world. The organisation celebrated its 140th anniversary in May 2024. A festival was held in St. Michael's Church, Abbots Bromley and at the former school site, courtesy of Friel Homes. Over 300 ex pupils attended the successful celebration and over £6,000 was raised. The Trustees and Circle Secretaries have continued to support all members and the Annual Leaflet is a significant part of the organisation's communication, as well as an increasing presence on social media. In excess of 100 leaflets have been provided for members who are in need, allowing them to keep in touch with the news from other members. The central focus of the charity is the pastoral support given to its members, when required, both emotionally and financially reflecting its Christian foundation.

Members are reminded that a central function of The Guild is to support and communicate with all its members and to assist those of our membership who are in need.

Achievements and Performance

The financial statements show an income of £40,853 (2023 - £27,848) and expenditure in the year totalled £41,586 (2023 - £44,957).

Financial Review

There is a surplus on restricted funds of £32,250 (2023 - £33,888) at the year end. Details of the nature and purpose of the restricted funds are set out in note 8.

The restricted Education Fund ceased on 30 September 2021.

The rates of interest on investments are minimal currently and Trustees have sought to attract the best interest available.

The principal source of funding for the charity is from external donations. The level of donations received determines the amount of grants provided in the year.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are responsible for administering funds in line with their budget and seeks to utilise available funds effectively. The organisation aims to re-generate funds promptly in accordance with their aims.

**THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
TRUSTEES REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

Plans for the future

The closure of Abbots School on 31 August 2019, will have an impact on the future charitable objectives of The Guild of St. Mary & St. Anne and these will be fully re-evaluated when the future of the school site is determined.

The Guild of St. Mary & St. Anne is an alumni organisation, the membership of which are former pupils of Abbots Bromley School (The School of S. Mary & S. Anne) and will continue as a charity.

The Trustees, executive committee and members will continue to uphold one of the central objectives of The Guild for "the relief of poverty, distress and sickness of persons who are or have been educated at Abbots Bromley school" and will continue to offer full support to its members, with a focus on the pastoral aspects of the organisation. The Guild will continue to develop ways to encourage relationships between its members and further develop a strategy to encourage the engagement with the younger members.

There are no other material transactions or significant developments, or important events of any consequence to the charity.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

Neither the charity nor any Trustee on its behalf holds any assets for another charity.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees


.....
Mrs Judith Norvall
Chairman

Date..... 21/1/25


.....
Mrs Heather Graham
Treasurer

Date..... 21/1/25

**THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principals in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 September 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 13.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act);

and

- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners' Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiners' Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - a) proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - b) accounts are prepared which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Rebecca Williams FCA

Howsons
Chartered Accountants
Winton House
Stoke Road
Stoke on Trent
ST4 2RW

Date: 21/1/25

THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

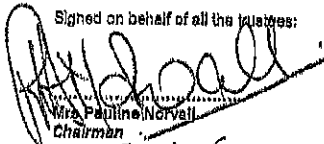
	Note	Unrestricted Designated Charitable Fund £	Restricted Income Fund £	Unrestricted General Revenue Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total Unrestricted And restricted 2023 £
Income	2					
Donations and legacies		9,651	362	4,825	14,838	20,232
Other trading activities		-	-	20,242	20,242	7,407
Investments		-	-	5,773	5,773	209
Other		-	-	-	-	-
Total Income		9,651	362	30,840	40,853	27,848
Expenditure	3					
Cost of raising funds		-	-	15,354	15,354	8,630
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
Grants made		-	2,000	-	2,000	379
Management and administrative costs		10,795	-	12,537	23,332	35,108
Governance costs		-	-	900	900	840
Cost of grant making		10,795	2,000	13,437	26,232	36,327
Total expenditure		10,795	2,000	28,791	41,586	44,957
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds before transfers		(1,144)	(1,638)	2,049	(733)	(17,109)
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,144)	(1,638)	2,049	(733)	(17,109)
Total funds brought forward		63,681	33,888	(1,105)	96,464	113,573
Total funds carried forward		62,537	32,250	944	95,731	96,464

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these financial statements


THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Designated Charitable Funds £	Restricted Income Fund £	Unrestricted General Revenue Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Current Assets						
Debtors	8	-	-	4,839	4,839	680
Stock		-	-	880	880	747
Cash at bank in hand		62,637	32,260	(3,376)	91,412	98,259
Total Current Assets		62,637	32,260	1,944	96,841	97,686
Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year	8	-	-	900	900	1,102
Net Current Assets		62,637	32,260	944	95,731	96,484
Net Assets		62,637	32,260	944	95,731	96,484
Funds of the charity						
Unrestricted Designated Charitable fund		62,637	-	-	62,637	63,881
General revenue fund		-	-	944	944	(1,105)
Restricted Income funds	8	-	32,260	-	32,260	33,888
Total funds		62,637	32,260	944	95,731	96,484

Signed on behalf of all the trustees:


Mrs Pauline Norvall
Chairman

Date 26/11/25


Mrs Heather Graham
Hon. Treasurer

Date 26/11/25

The notes on pages 8 to 13 form part of these financial statements

**THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

	Note	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Net cash flows from operating activities	9	<u>(9,876)</u>	<u>(16,188)</u>
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>			
Interest		5,773	209
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>5,773</u>	<u>209</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		<u>(4,103)</u>	<u>(15,979)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		96,259	112,238
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		<u>92,156</u>	<u>96,259</u>

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these financial statements

**THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

INCOME

Recognition of income

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when :

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Life subscriptions received are recognised in the SoFA in full in the year of receipt.

Income with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Income from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Investment income

This is included in the accounts when receivable and allocated to the General Revenue Fund.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and are subsequently measured at their settlement value.

THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

2 Analysis of Income

		2024	2023
		£	£
Donations and legacies	Donations	11,082	16,638
	Gift aid tax refund	2,469	1,759
	Annual subscriptions	177	213
	Life subscriptions & associate membership	1,110	1,622
		<u>14,838</u>	<u>20,232</u>
Other trading activities	Leaflets	6,344	5,652
	Sale of merchandise	303	1,755
	Events - Carols in the round	788	-
	Events - 140 year anniversary event	12,807	-
		<u>20,242</u>	<u>7,407</u>
Investments	Interest received	<u>5,773</u>	<u>209</u>
		<u>40,853</u>	<u>27,848</u>

THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

3 Analysis of expenditure

		2024	2023
		£	£
Cost of raising funds	Leaflets - printing and postage	5,873	6,195
	Merchandise costs	2,978	2,435
	140 year anniversary costs	6,503	-
		<u>15,354</u>	<u>8,630</u>
Charitable activities	Pastoral	2,000	379
		<u>2,000</u>	<u>379</u>
Management and administration	Management, administration and website	22,198	34,198
	Insurance	676	631
	Circle expenses	228	279
	Reunion/AGM expenses	230	-
		<u>23,332</u>	<u>35,108</u>
Governance costs	Independent examiners fees	900	840
		<u>41,586</u>	<u>44,957</u>

All Management and administration and Governance costs have been allocated to the charitable activity of grant making.

THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

4 Details of certain items of expenditure

Trustee expenses and remuneration

No remuneration was paid to the trustees in the year. The charity reimbursed expenses to 1 Trustee during the year (2023 - 1) amounting to £98 (2023 - £125). Expenses are reimbursed for postage and travel.

Employee remuneration

The Guild Development Manager is the only paid employee of the charity.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Guild Development Manager	<u>9,794</u>	<u>19,589</u>

Fees for examination of the accounts

Independent examiner's fees for reporting on accounts

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on accounts	<u>900</u>	<u>840</u>

5 Debtors

Other debtors
 Prepayments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	744	-
Prepayments	4,085	560
	<u>4,839</u>	<u>560</u>

6 Creditors

Accruals
 Tax and social security

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	900	840
Tax and social security	-	262
	<u>900</u>	<u>1,102</u>

7 Going concern

The closure of Abbots School on 31 August 2019, will have an impact on the future charitable objectives of The Guild of St. Mary & St. Anne and these will be fully re-evaluated when the future of the school site is determined.

The Guild of St. Mary & St. Anne is an alumni organisation, the membership of which are former pupils, staff and governors of Abbots Bromley School (The School of S. Mary & S. Anne) and will continue as a charity.

**THE GUILD OF ST. MARY AND ST. ANNE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

8 The Guild of St. Mary and St. Anne Special Charitable Trust

In 1979 the deeds stated the objects of the Trust as:

The advancement of education and the furtherance of religion at Abbots Bromley School for Girls, and the relief of poverty of those educated there.

To assist any charitable body or bodies financially or otherwise.

In 1999, after a vote by the members of the Guild, the Special Charitable Trust Fund was split equally between the Charitable Fund (unrestricted designated) and the Pastoral Fund (restricted).

Restricted Funds:

The Pastoral Fund (Formerly the Welfare Fund):

Object: To provide funds for the relief of poverty, distress and sickness of persons who have been educated at Abbots Bromley School (formerly known as the School of St. Mary and St. Anne). In particular (but without detracting from the generality of the foregoing) to assist members of the Guild or their dependents who are in the opinion of the Trustees in necessitous circumstances. As stated in the letter to members (February 1999) the Fund will be used to meet any requests for help, which the Trustees may receive from former pupils.

The Chapel Fund:

Object: To provide funds for use in the Chapel and for the furtherance of religion.

The Education Fund (formerly known as the Scholarship Fund):

Object: To provide funds for the advancement of education at Abbots Bromley School and for the relief of poverty, distress and sickness of persons who are educated at the aforesaid school. This fund ceased on 30 September 2021.

Unrestricted Designated Funds:

The Charitable Fund:

Object: To grant funds for any charitable purposes including the advancement of education and the furtherance of religion at Abbots Bromley School to assist any charitable body or bodies financially or otherwise and to "top up" any other funds should the need arise.

The Movements on the restricted funds are as follows

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Net movement £	Opening balance £	Closing balance £
Pastoral fund	362	(2,000)	-	(1,638)	13,647	12,009
Chapel fund	-	-	-	-	20,241	20,241
	<u>362</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,638)</u>	<u>33,888</u>	<u>32,250</u>

The Movements on the unrestricted funds are as follows

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Net movement £	Opening balance £	Closing balance £
Designated charitable fund	9,651	(10,795)	-	(1,144)	63,681	62,537
General revenue fund	30,840	(28,791)	-	2,049	(1,105)	944
	<u>40,491</u>	<u>(39,586)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>905</u>	<u>62,576</u>	<u>63,481</u>

9 Reconciliation of net movements in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds	(733)	(17,109)
Interest	(5,773)	(209)
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	(3,535)	466
Decrease / (increase) in stock	367	1,433
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(202)	(769)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(9,876)</u>	<u>(16,188)</u>