



THE FRIENDS OF ARMAGH CATHEDRAL

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31st December 2022

Charities Number: NIC100129

THE FRIENDS OF ARMAGH CATHEDRAL

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022

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THE FRIENDS OF ARMAGH CATHEDRAL

References and administrative details

Charity Name: The Friends of Armagh Cathedral
Charity Registration Number: NIC100129
Contact Address: c/o Armagh Robinson Library
43 Abbey Street
ARMAGH
BT61 7DY

Trustees

The Very Revd Shane Forster (*Chairman*)
Mrs Mary Caldwell (*Hon. Secretary*)
Mr David Hamilton (*Hon. Treasurer*)
Mr Brett Hannam (*Membership Secretary*)
Dr John Faulkner (*Joint Editor of 'Cathedra'*)
Dr Gill Faulkner (*Joint Editor of 'Cathedra'*)
Lady Sheil (*representing the Cathedral Chapter*)
Mrs Ann Cassidy
Mr Tommy Reddick
Mr Andrew White
Mrs Sylvia Phillips
Mr Robert Somerville
Mrs Fiona Cleland
Mr Donald Kerr
Mr Stephen Hartley (Died 22nd October 2022)

Principal Office-bearers

Chairman: The Very Revd Shane Forster, Dean of Armagh
Hon. Secretary: Mrs Mary Caldwell
Hon. Treasurer: Mr David Hamilton

Independent Examiner

Andrew Gilpin, ACCA
WHR Accountants Ltd
26 The Square
Moy
DUNGANNON
Co Tyrone
BT71 7SG

Bankers

Primary Account:

Bank of Ireland
Beresford House
11a Upper English Street
ARMAGH
BT61 7BH

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022

The trustees present the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2022

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objectives are

- (i) the advancement of religion, and
- (ii) the advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science.

The purposes of the Friends of Armagh Cathedral are:

- (i) bringing together in a fellowship of loyalty and devotion all who care for the ancient foundation of the Cathedral Church of St Patrick, Armagh and its continuing witness to the glory of God, and
- (ii) assisting in the maintenance and preservation of the Cathedral.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Activities in 2022

On Tuesday 24th May 2022, the Friends Annual General Meeting was held in St Patrick's Cathedral and was followed by a dinner in the Music Hall. The Guest speaker was the Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Revd John McDowell.

On Sunday 11th September 2022, the Friends Annual Service took place in St Patrick's Cathedral at 3.15pm. The preacher was the Very Reverend Gregory Dunstan, as the Dean had to attend, at short notice, the Proclamation of King Charles III at the Palace Demesne, due to the death of Queen Elizabeth II on the previous Thursday.

The Autumn Event was held in the Crozier Hall of St Mark's, Armagh, on Thursday 20th October 2022. The Guest Speaker was Mrs Eva Baxter who chosen subject was *'The Life and Times of Mrs Frances Cecil Alexander.'* The evening concluded with the singing of some of Mrs Alexanders more famous hymns and then supper was served.

The editorial team of Drs John and Gill Faulkner produced the Fifteenth issue of the Friends' magazine. After reviews of the life of the Cathedral, of the work of the Friends, and of the music of the Cathedral, this issue contained a special article on *'How Armagh played second fiddle to Drogheda for 500 years'* written by Canon W.E.C. Fleming. 'Cathedra' was distributed free-of-charge to all members of the Friends. Copies of 'Cathedra' were also made available at the Diocesan Synod and on the Cathedral website as well as being posted to members at a distance. 'Cathedra' conveys to members of the Diocese and to all those who are interested in church life on the Hill of Armagh, something of yearly activities of the Cathedral Church of Saint Patrick.

The Friends Christmas card this year featured a picture of the Christmas tree situated on the south side of the Cathedral beside the lectern. This proved to be a very popular card and sales were very good.

The Cathedral Shop is operated by members of the Cathedral staff and volunteers. In 2022, the Friends provided stock for the shop, which made a gross profit of £1.012.

Payments for admission to the Cathedral made through the shop's card reader were forwarded to the Cathedral Treasurer.

Benefits Provided

In the course of the year, the Friends continued their usual support of the Cathedral. They paid for the Cathedral's Wi-Fi broadband account. They also provided certain consumables, such as Advent and votive candles, candle oil and Communion wafers.

Financial Review

The Trustees of the Friends regard their funds as being available for the support of the Cathedral, in accordance with the purposes of the organization. They employ no staff, and, beyond the overheads of the organization, have no on-going liabilities to cover.

Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the resources for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the organization can continue its activities and that the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022 can be signed off as a going concern.

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

The Friends of Armagh Cathedral are governed by their own governing document, known as the Constitution. It was last revised at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 23rd April 2015, when the number of lay members to be elected at the AGM to the Management Committee each year was increased from one to three.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Management Committee (Trustees)

The Dean of Armagh, who is ex-officio Chairperson of the Committee, is appointed by the Archbishop of Armagh.

The Representative of the Cathedral Chapter is one of its members, appointed to the Chapter by the Archbishop of Armagh. The Chapter appoints its representative at one of its meetings, held approximately quarterly, when a vacancy occurs.

The Representative of the Cathedral Board is one of its members, usually but not necessarily one of its lay members, appointed at one of its meetings, held quarterly in the year.

The six lay members of the Friends, the Honorary Secretary, Membership Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer are elected for a two-year term at the annual general meeting of the Friends, half being elected in alternate years.

The Editor of 'Cathedra', being a member of the Friends, is a member of the committee by virtue of his or her office.

The Constitution of the Friends also allows for the co-option of up to four people, to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting, and without prejudice to their being co-opted again. In the case of the joint editorship of 'Cathedra' by Drs John and Gillian Faulkner, one of these is regarded as having been co-opted.

Pay and remuneration

No member of the Management Committee receives any remuneration for work on its behalf. Out-of-pocket expenses may be reclaimed on production of receipts, as arising.

Organisational Structure

The management of the Friends of Armagh Cathedral is vested in its Management Committee, constituted as above. The Management Committee is chaired by the Dean.

The Committee meets as required by the programme of activities. In the year 2022, the Management Committee met in person and online via zoom.

Compliance with Public Benefit

The Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the organization's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with income of less than £250,000 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the organization's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its assets and liabilities. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the organization and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee 1 *Shane Foster*

Trustee 2 *D Hamill*

Date *25/10/23*.....

Friends of Armagh Cathedral

Independent Examiner's Report to the Charity Trustees of Friends of Armagh Cathedral

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner:

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit, and is eligible for Independent Examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report:

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Andrew Gilpin ACCA
WHR Accountants Ltd
Independent Examiner
26 The Square
Moy
Dungannon
BT71 7SG


25/10/2023
Date

Friends of Armagh Cathedral


Statement of Receipts and Payments – Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Receipts				
Voluntary Receipts				
Donations and Gift Aid	-	537	537	325
Bank Interest	-	542	542	269
From Charitable Activities				
Fees and Subscriptions	-	2,406	2,406	2,390
Activities	-	4,804	4,804	1,677
Other	-	-	-	-
	-	8,289	8,289	4,661
Payments				
Cost of Charitable Activities				
Grants/Donations/Gifts	-	1,859	1,859	918
Governance Costs	-	1,465	1,465	997
Asset and investment purchase				
Purchase of Equipment				
	-	1,355	1,355	2,629
Total payments	-	4,679	4,679	4,544
Net receipts/(payments)	-	3,610	3,610	117
Transfers to/(from) funds	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	-	3,610	3,610	117
	-	3,610	3,610	117

Approved by the trustees on 25-04-2023 and signed on their behalf by:



 Shane Forster
 Trustee



 David Hamilton
 Trustee

Friends of Armagh Cathedral

Statement of Assets and Liabilities – Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Funds Reconciliation				
Cash at bank and in hand 31.12.21	-	26,769	26,769	26,652
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	-	3,610	3,610	117
Cash at bank and in hand 31.12.22	<u>-</u>	<u>30,379</u>	<u>30,379</u>	<u>26,769</u>
Bank and Cash Balances				
Bank Deposit Account			-	-
Bank Current Account			20,379	16,769
Investment			10,000	10,000
			<u>30,379</u>	<u>26,769</u>

Approved by the trustees on 25-04-2023

and signed on their behalf by:



Shane Forster
Trustee



David Hamilton
Trustee