

BALLYCROCHAN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

CHURCH IN IRELAND

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Ballycrochan Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
34a Silverbirch Road,
Bangor,
Co. Down.
Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105230)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were:

Rev. Mark Shaw	Robert Larke
Bill Aiken	Barry Lowry
John Armstrong	Jim Angela Martin Patterson
Florence Blair	Brian Payne
Michael Brackenridge	Evelyn Shaw
Brian Gartland	Tom Shaw
Maureen Greer	Isobel Walker
Tom Henry	Pat Woods
Billy Hyndman	

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev. Mark Shaw
Clerk of Session	Billy Hyndman
Treasurer	Isobel Walker

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mr Jack Crawford, FMAAC
8 Beverley Crescent
Newtownards
BT 23 7UN

BANKERS

First Trust
85 Main Street
Bangor

SOLICITORS

Elizabeth Warden
92 Bowtown Road
Newtownards
BT23 8SL.

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Sessions has delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote. Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are held each month, occasionally with the exception of July and August. To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant on its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation (requiring one third or more of the votes cast to be elected) or by the Kirk Session (requiring two thirds or more of the votes cast to be elected).

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery, which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Ballycrochan congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Ards Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of the congregation.

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of

business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion. Ballycrochan, a congregation of the Presbyterian Church, is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable its members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world. The congregation's mission is to love God, developing a family ethos and bless Bangor and beyond.

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation met for worship every Sunday and visitors were welcome to join. When we were unable to meet together, we conducted services and meetings on-line. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed on several occasions during the year and all those who had been baptized and who had made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ were admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation held regular Bible study meetings, both in person and on-line. In addition, when permitted, a wide range of organisations met. These included:

- Sunday Club
- Bible Class
- Parent and Toddlers
- Craft Class
- Boys' Brigade and Guides
- Wyldlife (January - June)
- Discipleship Groups and Men's Bible Study
- Presbyterian Women / Circle of Friends
- Children's Drop-In
- Messy Church
- Kids' Club
- Youth Fellowship

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation met for worship at least once per week on Sundays at 11am, and often on Sunday evenings at 7pm. When we were not able to meet in person, because of the pandemic, we conducted services on-line. Similarly, when members could not meet together for fellowship, to study the scriptures or for a time of prayer these were continued on-line.

On the 31st of December 2022 there were 164 communicant members and 235 families connected with the congregations. The average weekly attendance at morning worship, when we were able to meet in church, was approximately 100. During 2022 we continued to support our community through frequent emails, phone-calls, visits and the distribution of free food.

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who were unable to attend church due to sickness or age were visited on a regular basis by the minister, Elders or by one of the congregation's pastoral visiting team. This support was even more important during the pandemic when Elders contacted the members regularly and provided them with services such as doing shopping, collecting prescriptions etc.

Mission and outreach

- In January our new minister, Rev Mark Shaw was installed. This event engendered a great atmosphere of blessing, celebration and anticipation and his installation was well attended, both by the congregation and local dignitaries.
- The distribution of free food and food with a 'near to sell-by date' has continued, with food being collected from local supermarkets each Monday and distributed at the church on Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings.
- The church also continued to support Storehouse (a local charity which delivered free food to those in need). Food was donated by members of the congregation each Sunday and Monday and this was delivered to the central collection and distribution point, which was organised by Storehouse. This charity was also supported through the collection of financial donations at the church's Harvest Thanksgiving service.
- Unfortunately, the Church Weekend had to be cancelled, as a number of staff in the Hostel had contracted Covid. Instead, an 'in-house' event was held in May and the Youth Fellowship organised their own 'weekend' in the church halls.
- Bibles were presented to all P1 and Year 8 children in December.
- The process to employ a Family and Outreach worker was completed in August and Ben Cavan became not only a new member of staff but also a member of the church.
- In recognition of the problems associated with domestic abuse Ballycrochan Presbyterian Church agreed to act as a 'Safe Place' where abuse victims could be put in touch with those with specialist knowledge in this area. Mark Shaw, Renée McCracken and Tom Henry undertook on-line training to facilitate this ministry.
- A new Church Committee was elected in May. Karen Cardy became the Chair and Heather Lowry accepted the role of Congregational Secretary.
- The church's Annual General Meeting was held in May.
- A very successful event to celebrate the Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth was organised in June.
- For the first time since the on-set of Covid a CSSM outreach was held in conjunction with Ballycrochan Baptists and Silverbirch Evangelical Church. This took place in early August.
- Messy Church (once per term) and Friday evening Kids' Club (monthly) were re-introduced in the Autumn term.

- A 'Drop-In' centre for those at the upper stages of Primary School and the first years in secondary school was introduced. This operated on a weekly basis.
- Once again, the church was used as a hub for the Samaritan's Purse charity in November, when Christmas shoeboxes were collected and subsequently transported overseas.
- Tray bakes were delivered to the staff of both Kilmaine and Ballymagee Primary Schools as an acknowledgement of the work they did in the community.
- A very successful Christmas Tree event was held in the week before Christmas. This involved a large tree outside and a community carol event and an assortment of trees inside the church.

When possible, a number of weekly events were also organised for the members of the congregation and others. These included a parents and toddlers' group, Discipleship Groups and a Friday morning prayer group. In addition, the Walking Group organised regular events including a weekend away. There is also a very vibrant Playgroup under the auspices of the church. It meets daily and offers pre-school education.

The congregation supports the United Appeal for Mission, which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care. The congregation also contributed to the PCI annual World Development Appeal.

Presbytery

Our minister and one of the elders, Bill Aiken, represented Ballycrochan Presbyterian Church at the regular meetings of Presbytery. This provided an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The congregation was represented at the 2022 General Assembly, in Belfast, by Tom Henry.

Property

- A new gas metre and new time clocks were fitted in the church. New speakers for the sound system were purchased for the church.
- A major water leak was discovered in the sub-floor of the vestibule, resulting in substantial refurbishment.
- The cooker in the SPU has been replaced.
- In May Gary Davidson took on the role of Fire Warden.
- Numerous fund-raising events were held, ranging from Car Boot sales to soup lunches.
- A new power outlet was installed adjacent to the carpark in front of the church.

Organisations

Our buildings were well used by organisations throughout each week of the year:

Monday - The Boys Brigade – provides a range of activities each week, including life skills, marching and Bible study.

Tuesday – Parent and Toddlers A place where people from the local community could come with their children, interact with others, relax and socialize. In the evenings (Jan – June) Wyldlife offered activities for primary school children.

Wednesday – Women’s Badminton Club met weekly.

Wednesday/Thursday – Guides - provided a range of activities specifically catering for the interests of the girls. The Guides also organised and delivered a service in the church.

Wednesday/Thursday – Approximately 60 members of the congregation were involved in a number of Discipleship Group. These groups largely followed a curriculum that extended the preaching of the previous Sunday’s teaching by the minister.

Thursday The Bowling Club met in the church halls each Thursday. It catered mainly for the older members of the congregation and was viewed as a social rather than a competitive activity.

Friday – The Friday Morning Prayer Group met to pray particularly for the local community. Tea and coffee were provided.

On the last Friday of each month Kids’ Club offered primary school children an opportunity to meet, have fun and learn more about God. Between 30 and 40 children attended.

Sunday – During the weekly service a Bible Class and Sunday Club (with 15 members) met. The classes afforded the children an opportunity to learn more about God.

In addition, Monday – Friday, the Playgroup provided facilities for pre-school children, each morning.

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

The above benefits are delivered locally by the congregation and its members, or are facilitated through presbytery or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions including the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were xxx Freewill Offering contributors during 2022 donating a total of £ xxxx compared with £ xxx in 2021. Total Income of the congregation during the year (excluding organisations) was £ xxx compared to £159189 in 2021.


STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payment account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

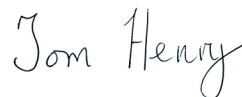
The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for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

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on xx th xx, 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Minister

x/x/23



Tom Henry

x/x/23

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BALLYCROCHAN
CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

This independent report is included with the attached financial report.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2019**

	Not e	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Endowme nt Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2					
Charitable activities	3					
Other trading activities	4					
Investment Income	5					
Other	6					
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
					--	
Sale of Investments						
Sale of fixed assets						
Loans Received						
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
					--	
Total Receipts						
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
					--	
Payments						
Raising funds	7					
Charitable activities	8					
Investment costs						
Other	9					
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
					--	
Purchase of Investments						
Purchase of fixed assets						

Loan Repayments						
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Payments					--	
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net receipts / (payments)						
Transfers between funds						
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net movement in funds					--	
Funds brought forward						
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds carried forward	12				--	
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
					==	

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2019**

As at 31 December 2019

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Endowme nt Funds	Total Funds 2018	Total Funds 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year					
Net movement in funds					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year					
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
				=	=
Bank & Cash Balances					
Bank Deposit Accounts					
Bank Current Accounts					
Cash in Hand					
				-----	-----
				=====	=====
				=	=

Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
• Church Premises					
• Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment					
• Vehicles					
Investments – Note 11					
Gift Aid receivable on donations					
Enter details of any other assets					
				-----	-----
				=====	=====
				=	=
Liabilities					
Loans					
Enter details of any other liabilities					
Other					
				-----	-----
				=====	=====
				=	=

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 13/10/20 and signed on its behalf by

[Name]

[Name]

[Date]

[Date]

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on

the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Recorded giving:					
Loose collections					
Donations and gifts					
Gift Aid					
Legacies and bequest					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
31 December 2019

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowmen t Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from charitable activities					
Fees from weddings and funerals					
Fundraising events					
Membership fees					
Grants					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowmen t Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises					
Trading income					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Endowmen t Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest					
General Investment Fund					
Rents investment properties					
Other investment income					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)
31 December 2019

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance claims					
Other income					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowmen t Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes					
Fundraising events					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Endowmen t Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments					
Presbytery fees					
Ministry and support staff costs					
Congregational running expenses					
Donations to Missions and charities					
Governance costs					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
				-	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
				-	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2019

9. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2018	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Investment properties expenses					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the Church premises situated at [address of property] and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery. These have an insurance value of £[enter amount at last renewal date].

11. INVESTMENTS

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation.

				2018	2019
				£	£
General Investment Fund					
Property					
Other investments					
				-----	-----
				-----	-----

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2019

12. FUND BALANCES

Fund	Balance at start	Receipts	Payments	Surplus / (Deficit)	Transfer	Balance at end
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted Funds						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Endowment Funds						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
[Name of Fund]						
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total						
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----