



ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 31st December 2024

Registered charity number: 1061176

Principal address: Youell House, 1 Hill Top, Coventry CV1 5AB.

PATRONS : His Majesty's Lord Lieutenants of Warwickshire and the West Midlands

PRESIDENT : The Lord Bishop of Coventry

VICE-PRESIDENTS : Heather Wallace, Barry Greener, Barbara Mobbs,
Louise Campbell, Shirley Willis.

The charity trustees who manage the Charity:

Office	Name	Dates	<u>Appointing Body</u>
CHAIR	Martin R Williams	Jan-Dec 2024	
VICE-CHAIR	Phil Morris	Jan-Dec 2024	
TREASURER	William Howard	Jan-Dec 2024	Election
SECRETARY	Hamish Blair	Jan-Dec 2024	at the
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Jim Newton	Jan-Dec 2024	Annual
	Jane M L Williams	Jan-Dec 2024	
	Jane Edwards	Jan-Dec 2024	General
	Mandy Wooltorton	Jan-Dec 2024	
	Stuart Fielding	Jan-Oct 2024	Meeting
	David Porter	May-Dec 2024	After co-option
	Paul Warren	May-Dec 2024	After co-option
	Sandra Graham	May-Dec 2024	After co-option

Advisers

Type of advisor	Name and address
Independent examiner	M W Ridgway, 63 Warwick Road, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9UB
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc, 55 Corporation Street, Coventry CV1 1QJ

Structure, governance, and management

Description of the Charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution adopted on the 28 th September 1996 and revised 27 th September 2015
How the charity is constituted	An Association
Trustee selection method	Elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Additional governance issues

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	The Friends Council consists of an annually elected Chair not restricted to a specific term of office. The Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer are elected annually. Other Council members are elected at the AGM for a 3-year term of office, renewable for a further 3-year term before they must stand down. The Council meets a minimum of 4 times a year.
Relationship with any related parties	The Friends of Coventry Cathedral is an independent body but works closely with the staff and members of the Cathedral. The Chair meets with the Dean regularly.
Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them	There is a duty for the charity trustees to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to assess the impact of such risks. The Council's opinion is that risks for its various activities have been identified and appropriate action taken.

Objects and activities

SUMMARY of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	The objects of the Friends are to promote the restoration, maintenance, repair and improvement of the fabric, ornaments and furniture of the Cathedral Church of St Michael, Coventry and to maintain public worship and support the ministry of Coventry Cathedral within the diocese and internationally.
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<p>SUMMARY</p> <p>of the main activities</p> <p>in relation to</p> <p>these objects</p>	<p>MEMBERSHIP</p> <p>We aim to maintain and grow and sustain our annual and life membership.</p> <p>COMMUNICATION</p> <p>We communicate with members by means of our web site and a monthly email bulletin.</p> <p>EVENTS</p> <p>We promote events designed to engage members of the Friends with different aspects of life at the Cathedral, to enable members of the Friends to meet together and also to provide a source of new members and of fund raising.</p> <p>FUNDING</p> <p>The Friends makes grants towards projects and activities that meet our agreed funding guidelines. At the start of each year after Restricted, Designated and Annual Membership Funds are deducted, one half of the remaining balance is made available to fund projects in that year. Applications for funds must be approved by the Cathedral Chapter.</p>
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Achievements and performance

A SUMMARY of the main achievements of the charity during the year follows.

MEMBERSHIP

Friends Membership Numbers			
Year	Full annual	Full life	Total
2024	266	253	519
2023	283	249	532
2022	336	246	582
2021	355	245	600
2020	379	245	624
2019	394	246	640
2018	403	255	658
2017	383	239	622

COMMUNICATION

An illustrated monthly e-bulletin newsletter was distributed to members during 2024 and paper copies were made available upon request to those members who have no access to the internet, who are invited to contribute towards the postage costs . The Friends website was kept up to date so that through the year it always carried the current e-bulletin newsletter.

EVENTS in 2024

The Friends programme of repair to the nave chairs led by Phil Morris continued throughout the year. Chairs are repaired at an average cost of £15/£20 per chair. The retail price of a new Coventry Cathedral Chair is £550, so each chair that is repaired saves the Cathedral approximately £530. Really good value.

In February a film show of archive footage related to the Cathedral was well supported. Amongst the films we were privileged to view a documentary about the Cathedral Architect, Basil Spence, that had been produced in conjunction with the Spence Archive in Edinburgh and only previously broadcast on Scottish TV.

A “Friendly Monday” gathering in April met Bishop Ruth Worsley, the Acting Bishop of Coventry. It was fascinating to gain personal insights into the life of the Bishop, who spoke movingly of her Coventry experience.

An organised tour of “Charterhouse” in May was an opportunity for members to learn more about one of Coventry’s medieval jewels. This Carthusian monastery ended up in private hands at the dissolution of the monasteries, and it eventually became the family home of Col. Sir William Wyley by whose will it was left for use by the citizens of Coventry. There are strong links with the Cathedral for Col. Wyley not only served two terms as Mayor of Coventry, but he also served Coventry Cathedral as its Treasurer as well as Churchwarden.

For three weeks in June/July the Friends sponsored a well-supported exhibition in the Chapel of Industry of prints by Paul Catherall (see back page). The Lord Mayor attended the official opening. Paul spent his childhood in Coventry and was pleased to arrange a “*Meet The Artist*” event. In thanks he kindly donated a print of Coventry Cathedral.

Financial Review

The charity’s policy on reserves.

Our expectation is that funds raised should be expended as soon as possible on the objects of the Friends – the promotion of the worship, work, and fabric of Coventry Cathedral. The policy requirements of the Cathedral mean that the funds raised will not

necessarily be advanced on projects within each year. All funds will be used for our charitable objects over a reasonable time period.

The trustees have examined the Charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation. £5,000 is required for the working capital of the charity. Free reserves are invested for capital growth pending grant requests from the Cathedral Chapter. At the end of the year the free reserves totalled £171,244 which is £166,244 in excess of the working capital required.

During the year our priority has been to ensure that projects financed by the charity are carried out to a high standard and that they accord with the policy of the Cathedral Chapter. Each project is examined carefully to ensure that it falls within the definition of the charity's objects.

Financial Review

In the year 2024 income amounted to £14,480 (2023 £67,012) and expenditure totalled £12,583 (2023 £6,350) of which £7,972 (2023 £2868) was to gifts and donations resulting in a surplus of £5,703 (2023 £68,445). Our investments gained £3806 (2023 £7,783) in the year, resulting in an increase of funds of £5,703 (2023 £68,445). The total of funds carried forward was £182,450 of which £11,206 is for restricted purposes.

How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity.

In the previous financial year at an initial cost of £2568 the Friends acquired 3 original cartoons by John Hutton of a flying angel engraved on the west screen. The services of a specialist conservator have been arranged to remove the cartoons from their 1960s frames, to undertake any conservation work needed before reframing to the highest museum standards. That work has proceeded during 2024. The Friends Council has undertaken this project at an anticipated cost of approximately £20,000 so that this original work of art that relates to the foundation art of the building will be a true asset for the Cathedral.

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the Annual Report above.

SIGNED on behalf of the trustees on the

August 2025

Martin Royston Williams
Chair

William Howard
Treasurer

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the
trustees/ members
of

THE FRIENDS OF COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

On accounts for the
year ended

31st December 2024

Charity
no

1061176

Set out on pages

8 to 15

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2006 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.

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.

Signed



Date 3/7/2025

Name Michael Warren Ridgway ACMA

Address 63 Warwick Road

Wellesbourne

Warwick

CV35 9UB

Statement of financial activities 2024

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		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total this year	<i>Total last year</i>
	note				

Income

Donations and Legacies	3	8,728	619	9,347	64,202
Activities for Generating funds	3	66	0	66	2,269
Interest	3	5,067	0	5,067	541
Total Income		13,861	619	14,480	67,012

Expenditure

Costs of raising funds	4	3,911	700	4,611	3,462
Grants and Donations	4	6,404	1,568	7,972	2,868
Independent examination fees				0	0
Total Expenditure		10,315	2,268	12,583	6,350
Net income before transfers		3,546	(1,649)	1,897	60,662
transfers between funds		0	0		
Net Income before					
Investment gains		3,546	(1,649)	1,897	60,662
Net gains(losses) on investments	5	3,806		3,806	7,783
Net movement in funds		7,352	(1,649)	5,703	68,445
Total funds brought forward		163,892	12,855	176,747	108,302
Total funds carried forward		171,244	11,206	182,450	176,747

	note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total this year £	<i>Total last year</i> £
Fixed assets					
Investments	5	70,708		70,708	66,902
Total fixed assets		70,708		70,708	66,902
Current assets					
Stock of books for re-sale	6	0		-	3,319
Debtors	7	2,702		2,702	3,269
Short term deposits		96,754	11,206	107,960	99,995
Cash at bank and in hand		1,389		1,389	3,303
Total current assets		100,845	11,206	112,051	109,886
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(309)		(309)	(41)
Net current assets		100,536	11,206	111,742	109,845
Total assets less current liabilities		171,244	11,206	182,450	176,747

Registered Charity 1061176

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Basis of preparation**1.1 Basis of accounting**

These accounts 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 accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- and with

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 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 with

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 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year

1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

2. Accounting policies**INCOME****Recognition of income**

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

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

Income with related expenditure

Where income has related expenditure the incomes 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 income.

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.

Volunteer help

The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.

Trustees

No remuneration directly or indirectly out of the funds of the charity was paid or payable for the year to any trustee or to any person or persons known to be connected with any of them.

Investment income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

Registered Charity 1061176

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

2. Accounting policies continued

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.
Grants payable without performance conditions	These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.
Investments	Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.
Creditors	Creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts

3 Analysis of Income

Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total this year	<i>Total last year</i>
Membership subscriptions	5,074		5,074	6,691
Life Membership	824		824	835
Donations and gifts	943		943	343
Gift Aid	1,387		1,387	1,630
Donations for Cathedral vestments			0	1,831
Donations for Organ fund		20	20	315
Donations for choir		599	599	
Hutton Angel appeal				
Legacies	500		500	52,557
Total	8,728	619	9,347	64,202

Activities for generating funds

	unrestricted	restricted	total this year	<i>total last year</i>
Books				2,129
AMICI				80
Events				
Cards and photos	66		66	60
Miscellaneous				
Total	66	0	66	2,269

Interest

Interest from savings accounts	5,067	0	5,067	541
Total	5,067	0	5,067	541

4 Analysis of Expenditure

Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total this year	Total last year
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Costs of raising funds

Office and Stationery Costs	1113		1,113	1,676
Website costs	1454		1,454	1,382
Miscellaneous	242		242	
Bank Charges	85		85	85
Events and Concerts	987		987	
Photo sales	30		30	
Balloon Race for choir		700	700	39
Conference fees				300
Total	3,911	700	4,611	3,482

Grants and Donations

Cathedral chairs	3,085	0	3,085	
Cathedral Organ Fund				300
Hutton cartoons		1568	1,568	2,568
Stained Glass books	3,319		3,319	
Total	6,404	1,568	7,972	2,868
Total Expenditure	10,315	2,268	12,583	6,350

Trustees

No Trustee received any remuneration or expenses in either this year or the previous year

Independent examiner

No payments were made to the Independent Examiner.

5. Fixed assets investments

	£
Value at beginning of year	66,902
Additions	
net gain on revaluation	3,806
Value at end of year	70,708

Analysis of investments

Listed investments	70,708
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6. Stock	2024	2023
	£	£
Books for resale	-	3,319

7. Debtors	2,702	3,269
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Analysis of debtors

	Amounts due within one year		Amounts due later than one year	
	this year	last year	this year	last year
	£	£	£	£
Income Tax Repayment	2,702	3,269		
Other debtors				
Total	2,702	3,269		

8. Creditors

Analysis of creditors

	Amounts due within one year		Amounts due later than one year	
	this year	last year	this year	last year
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors				
other creditors	309	41		
Total	309	41		

9. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

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	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	interest	fund revaluation	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£		£
Unrestricted funds						
Total	163,892	8,794	10,315	5,067	3,806	171,244
Restricted funds						
Haigh Chapel	200					200.00
Music (inc. Amici)	8,716					8,716.00
Choir	41	599	700			(60.00)
Hutton angel appeal	2,052		1,568			484.00
Organ Fund	15	20				35.00
Cathedral Vestments Fund	1,831					1,831.00
Total	12,855	619	2,268	0	0	11,206
Total funds	176,747	9,413	12,583	5,067	3,806	182,450

The Hallowing Places fund was raised by Mary Barnes to provide visitors with information about the Hallowing Places in the Cathedral Ruins. It has been transferred to the unrestricted funds and used as part payment of the costs of the Cathedral Reflections publication and bookmark that both promoted the Hallowing Places.

The Haigh Chapel fund was given for the refurbishment of the Haigh Chapel in the Cathedral Ruin.

The Music (including Amici concerts) fund includes funds raised at AMICI concerts and other donations for Liturgical and Music use only.

The choir fund came from events held in support of Coventry Cathedral Choir.

The Hutton Angel Appeal is to conserve the John Hutton Angel cartoons of the Friends.

The Cathedral Vestments fund was raised by the Cathedral Needleworkers.

The Organ Fund was raised towards the Organ Restoration Fund Appeal.

There was £40 of gift aid for the balloon race account which will appear in the 2025 accounts.

SENT FROM

COVENTRY

PAUL CATHERALL



8 JUNE — 7 JULY 2024

An exhibition of linocuts celebrating
Coventry's post-war architecture

Meet the artist event and talk Saturday 15 June
from 2pm at The John Laing Centre

Sponsored by the Friends of Coventry Cathedral

Chapel of Industry
Coventry Cathedral

Open daily 11am — 4pm
Sundays 12pm — 4pm

paulcatherall.com