



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1st	May	2022		30	April	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name The Friends of St Mildred's Tenterden Kent

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1159264

Charity's principal address	14 Eastwell Meadows,	
	Tenterden,	
	Kent	
	Postcode	TN30 6QR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Roy Isworth			
2	Jeremy Cooper	Chairman	Elected 28-10-2020	
3	Jill Clark	Secretary	Elected 03-01-23	
4	Malcolm Kneller	Treasurer	Elected 20-10-2019	
5	Tim Monckton	Chairman	Retired chair 28-10-2020	
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

	Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution and By-Laws
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Constitution and By-Laws
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Trustees have been assisted in the general running of the charity by a Committee of members. The members on the Committee and not trustees for this financial year were Linda Fennell, Barbara Frikstad, Tim Lee, Tim Monckton, Tony Pearlman, Roger Graham and David Roome

The Trustees would like to thank the members of the Committee for their support during the year.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Friends are established to advance the restoration, preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement and beautification of the Grade 1 Listed Building, the Parish Church of St Mildred, Tenterden in the Diocese of Canterbury and of the monuments, fittings, fixtures, stained glass, furniture, ornaments and chattels in the church and churchyard belonging to the Church.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Arrange and provide for or join in arranging and providing for the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures and classes and concerts and recitals and events

Raise funds by any lawful means and through any lawful activity and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscriptions.

Collect and disseminate information on all matters affecting the objects. Cause to be written and printed or otherwise circulated, gratuitously or otherwise, such papers, books, periodicals, pamphlets or other documentation or films, websites or recorded tapes (whether audio or visual or both) as shall further the objects.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Make grants or gifts of other property to the clergy, Churchwardens and Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Mildred Tenterden exclusively for the purpose of the said objects, and generally assist those responsible for the care and maintenance of the church.

Invest the monies of the charity not immediately required for the said objects in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit, subject nevertheless of such conditions (if any) as may for the time being be imposed or required by law.

Do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said objects.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This has been another successful year for the Friends of St Mildred's Church. But the year has also been touched by sadness, as a few loyal Friends have sadly passed away. Of particular significance to the world of FOSM was the death of Peter Sienesi, the founder and inspiration behind FOSM when it was first established in 2014. Peter was our first Chairman from 2014-17, but he continued to support us generously in inestimable ways thereafter behind the scenes. He was always proud of what FOSM had achieved, and rightly so. We miss him very much. The other loss of particular significance to FOSM was the sudden and unexpected death of Committee Member Tony Pearlman, a charming and resourceful member of our team with particular front of house skills that proved invaluable at FOSM events. Our condolences we send once more to the family and friends of Peter and Tony.

On a happier note, I can report that we now have a strong and enterprising Committee of 10 members whose collective skills and experience are proving extremely valuable to the running of the charity. But we are always on the lookout to welcome new Committee members including from November 2024 a new Chairman when I reach the point of statutory retirement.

FOSM finances are in good shape as is apparent from the report of the Honorary Treasurer. We have taken the decision to place some of our reserves in a fixed term interest bearing account with the Charity Bank, to take advantage of the current high interest rates. This will not affect our ability to respond in a timely fashion to requests for further funding from the PCC, as and when they arrive.

To this end we have recently presented the PCC with a cheque for £22,500 as a grant towards the repair and maintenance of the North Aisle Roof. We hope to be in a similar position to assist in the same process for the South Aisle Roof when the PCC are ready to proceed.

We continue to raise funds from 3 separate sources, each of which accounts for about one third of our annual income: Friends' subscriptions, donations (including legacies), and events. As a consequence, I am pleased to report that we are well on target to reach our goal of having raised since 2014 a total of £200,000 towards the repair and maintenance of St Mildred's Church, by the end of 2024.

Our events programme over the past year has been a great success, with a series of very high quality concerts provided by musicians both from the world of jazz and classical music. We

organized 2 great cabaret style evenings of jazz complete with candlelit tables and pay bar. We were hugely entertained by old favourites, the Kate Daniels Sextet and the Benoit Viellefon Hot Club Jazz Band. Both events filled the church with music that was joyful, moving, emotional and fun in a variety of different ways. To balance this we welcomed back our Artists in Residence - the Bukolika Piano Trio - for their final concert, followed by a recital from the wonderful young Lithuanian pianist of prodigious talent, Ignas Macknikas, this event being sponsored by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust.

Jeremy Cooper
December 2023

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	None
Details of any funds materially in deficit	None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);• how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;• investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.	<p>This charity's main income is through Subscriptions, Donations, Planned music events, Grants, and social gatherings.</p> <p>Since the creation of this charity, it has made grants totaling £79k to St Mildred's church for: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Roof repairs.2. Repairs to stained glass windows and stonework.3. Improvements to lightning protection.

Section F


Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full name(s)	Malcolm Harry Kneller	
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee / Treasurer	
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Date	4 th January 2024
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