

APPENDIX 1



Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	Oct	2023	To	30	Sep	2024

Reference and administration details

Charity name	St Thomas' Episcopal Church, Aboyne
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number	SC001755
Charity's principal address	St Thomas' Episcopal Church, Aboyne
	c/o Tanardale, 52 Barclay Park, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire
	Postcode AB34 5JF

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Rev Canon Vittoria Hancock	Rector		Appointed by Bishop of Aberdeen & Orkney
2	Michael Bruce	Patron		Hereditary
3	Anne Harper	Lay Representative		AGM Attendees
4	Lesley Thomas	Alternate Lay Representative		"
5	Sue Burgess	Treasurer		"
6	Warren Burgess	People's Warden		"
7	Katherine Rider	Vestry Member		"
8	Sheila Maxwell	Vestry Member		"
9	Carol Simmons	Vestry Member		"
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Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

St Thomas' foundation stone was laid in 1907 & the church was consecrated in 1909 under the patronage of George Coats Esquire, later the 1st Baron Glentanar.
A Constitution delineates the Trustees, the Church Officers & their responsibilities & the make up of the Vestry.
St Thomas' is subject to the Canon Law of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

All members of the Vestry have accepted responsibility as Trustees. Apart from the three principal Trustees, the others are appointed by those members of the congregation attending the Annual General Meeting of the Church.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

The purpose of the charity is to finance, jointly, with St Kentigern's Ballater, the upkeep of a Rector &, unilaterally, to maintain the fabric & fittings of St Thomas' Church, Aboyne, a Grade 1 listed building. This is with the aim of providing spiritual succour & support to those members of the Anglican communion who live within the village of Aboyne & its environs & to support such others, individuals & groups of any denomination, as may approach it or be brought to its notice from time to time.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

During the year, through Planned Giving, General Collections, Special Collections, Donations, Fund Raising Events, Wedding & Funeral Fees, Investment Income & Grants, the Charity raised £51,576 to finance its charitable purposes.

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Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

Several special church events were held during the year including a Harvest service, a Service of Nine Lessons & Carols, an Epiphany Carol-a-long, Candlemas and an Ecumenical Easter vigil.

1. Worship, Prayer, Study and Holiness of Life – we continued with the weekly services offering a variety of forms of worship, reflecting the diverse interests of the congregation. Music within the church has continued and the choir have enjoyed Choral evensong and an Evening of Praise. Several members took part in a Songs of Praise recording. The Lent Course offered a chance to reflect on our spiritual journeys.
2. Communication – Remote communication methods continue to be important. The weekly email, Facebook, noticeboards and the Tattler magazine contributed to regular communication with members and the community. We now record services and they are available on our YouTube channel.
3. Community Involvement. Mid-week communion attracts a small group and is followed by soul soup lunch available to any visitors or community members. The quiet area within the graveyard was further developed with the help of the local After School Club. Aboyne Festival held a couple of musical events in the church. We hold monthly Hot Chocolate Walks open to all to local places of interest.

Contributions were made to Cyrenians (£100), Brechin Flood Appeal (£400), Aberlour (£57) and Aberdeen Street Pastors (£1252) as well as food donations to the local Foodbank.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The vestry has adopted a policy of trying to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves such that, in the event of a significant drop in income, the church would be able to maintain its current level of activities for a reasonable period until replacement funding is obtained.

All reserve funds are held in a Fund and Share account which is actively managed to provide a good return on investments and easy access if required to finance the activities of the charity.

Details of any deficit

Donated facilities and services (if any)

None

APPENDIX 1**Other optional information****Declaration**