



**L'ÉGLISE ANGLICANE DE TOUS LES SAINTS
DANS
L'HÉRAULT**

ALL SAINTS, HÉRAULT
(The English Church At Saint-Pargoire)

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS
OF THE CHAPLAINCY COUNCIL**

for the year ending 31st December 2022

Chaplain

Revd Roger Smith, 14 Rue du Parc, 34480, Autignac

Churchwardens

Patricia Bigot and Nigel Summersall

HonTreasurer

Graham Gardner

Secretary

Nigel Summersall

Bankers

La Banque Postale, Centre Financier, 13900 Marseille Cédex 20

Independent Examiner

Robert Wilson

Annual Report 2022

All Saints Hérault Chaplaincy Council (CC) has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church, spiritual, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has responsibility for compliance with French Association Law as well as the Canon Law of the Church of England. The chaplaincy is part of the Church of England Diocese in Europe and is a regularly constituted and registered Association Culturelle (Law of 1901) and Association Culturelle (Law of 1905) under French law.

Membership

Members of the Chaplaincy Council (CC) are appointed ex officio (Chaplaincy Clergy, Churchwardens and Synod Representatives) or directly elected to the Council by the Annual Chaplaincy Meeting. Further members may be co-opted by the CC, in accordance with Church Representation Rules.

Following the Annual Chaplaincy Meeting held on 20th March the CC comprised the following members:

Chaplain	Revd Roger Smith	
Wardens	Patricia Bigot Nigel Summersall	
Representatives on the Archdeaconry Synod	Julie Johnson Jim Mallett	until 2023 until 2023
Elected CC Members	John Gifford Phyl Mallett Sue Robinson Ian Thomas Jac Phillips Delia Smith Graham Gardner	until 2023 until 2023 until 2023 until 2025 until 2025 until 2024 until 2024

CC Officers (appointed by the Council, at the first meeting after the Annual Chaplaincy Meeting):

Chairman (ex-officio)	Revd Roger Smith
Vice-Chairman	Nigel Summersall
Secretary	Nigel Summersall
Minutes Secretary	Delia Smith
Treasurer	Graham Gardner assisted by Nigel Summersall
Electoral Roll Officer	Patricia Bigot
Safeguarding Officer & ID Checker	Steven Hopkins
Environment Link & Youth Officer	Post not filled
Website Manager/Publicity	Delia Smith
Social Events Organiser	Jac Philips & John Gifford
Music Team Liaison	Sue Robinson
Sidespeople	Trevor Jones, Steven Hopkins, Phyl Mallet, Jim Mallett

Standing Committee

This committee is required by Church law. Members are the clergy, the churchwardens and two other members of the CC. For 2022 these were Graham Gardner and Delia Smith. The Standing Committee

has power to transact the business of the CC between its meetings, subject to any discretion given by the Council. Given modern communications it is usually possible to consult all Council Members electronically before taking action on decisions required between meetings. In March 2022 the Standing Committee authorised the donation of €250 to the Croix Rouge for aid to Ukraine (before the establishment of the Bishop's Lent Appeal) and in September €250 to the World Food Programme for aid for the Pakistan floods.

Review of the year

The CC held four meetings during the year, of which the latter three were of the members elected at the 2022 Chaplaincy Meeting. The first and last of the meetings were held by Zoom.

In 2021 Roger's license as Chaplain had been extended by three years until September 2024. The succession issue looms ever closer. In this connection two developments give cause for hope:

- The increase in potential worship leaders, with Gwilym Richards as a priest and Jane Griffin as a Reader getting their Permission to Officiate with us and Kevin Conroy's Permit To Officiate as a priest in the Diocese of Europe well on its way (he is currently licensed in the Church of Ireland). All three are only part time in France.
- The project initiated by our Archdeacon, Ven. Peter Hooper, to pool clergy between All Saints, St Pargoire, St George's, Vernet-les-Bains and St Michael's in the Gard under a shared priest for all three. This project, which Council supports in principle, is still very much in its initial exploratory stages as outlined by Roger in his notice to the congregation in November.

As at 31st December 2022 there were 71 members on the Chaplaincy Electoral Roll, all of whom were full- or part-time residents in the Hérault.

Worship

This year, mercifully, we were spared the ravages of Covid as far as our worship patterns were concerned (however the Lent Lunches were not resumed, for prudence). All services were held in physical presence, including services of the day on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday (after which latter Communion by Extension was administered to Mary Pinnell at her home), and Christmas.

Despite continuing serious health issues and courses of treatment our Reader, Julie Johnson, was this year able to preach for us on four occasions and lead us in Morning Prayer on the 3rd Sunday after Trinity with Rev. Kevin Conroy preaching.

A welcome new feature was the live music interlude provided at three services by Ian Thomas (piano) and Tim Newitt (trumpet).

Bishop Robert laid on hands at the confirmation of Ellie Wilmot Hall on 28th April, a celebration which had had to be deferred from last year.

Once again this year it did not prove possible to schedule a service in the Chapelle de Notre Dame at Roquessels.

The annual December carol service was not resumed in view of the formalities now required by the Fontès incumbent, and Bernie Holmes' continuing health problems.

Harvest Festival this year was celebrated at Margon in the church of Saint Christophe, followed by a highly successful lunch and fund-raising raffle in the Salle des Fêtes which raised €375 for Restos du Cœur. This, sadly, was our only social gathering of the year.

The second service in October, because of the date clash with the Cancer Support walk, was deferred until 30th October: All Saints Sunday and hence our patronal festival.

Prayer Group

Jenny Morgan writes:

The prayer group continued to meet up regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10.30 am, except through Lent and the months of August and September when people were away on holiday. Generally, we met at Mont Rouge in Puimisson but this year we were able to use these facilities less often as the nuns and monks were welcoming other groups and hosting other events. However, then we used the little chapel of St. Giraud in Puissalicon.

The group consists usually of 7 people but occasionally our numbers increase when some non-residents in France arrive for holidays. We are always ready to welcome anyone interested in coming. We continue to pray for those in need within our church community, for the wider world and troubled areas and we have a time of reflection and silent prayer.

The podcasts which were put on the website in 2021 were eventually stopped by the middle of 2022 as they were rarely accessed by anyone.

Lent meetings

As in 2021 the Lent groups and lunches did not take place due to people still being concerned about meeting up in numbers and the risks of Covid infection. Instead, we continued with the same format as in 2021 by meeting up on Zoom and having a coffee together and an informal chat. Then there was a short, about 15 min, presentation given by a different member of the prayer group each week. This sometimes included Bible readings and short prayers. This was then followed up by further discussion and chat, influenced by what we had heard.

Wednesday Group

The Wednesday Group did not meet in 2022, but a WhatsApp Group still exists and there are contributions to it occasionally.

Synod Report

Jim Mallett writes:

The Synod was once again conducted by Zoom this year over three half days. Archdeacon Peter Hooper explained in his welcoming remarks that cost (estimated at €20,000 for a live meeting) had been a factor driving this in addition to Covid uncertainties. The focus of this year's synod was to be ecumenical partnerships.

In his presidential address Bishop Robert pointed to three challenges for the diocese in France: far more British people were leaving France than were coming, the impact of the war in Ukraine and the cost of living crisis.

On the positive side the Diocese had raised €350,000 for the Bishops' Fund for Ukraine, and response to the LLF course was significant. More generally the Church of England has set aside £400 million for growing the church of young people and is committed to being carbon zero in 8 years. Finally the Bishop reminded us that Jesus speaks words of peace and hope in troubled times.

Andrew Caspari, the Chief Operating Officer then talked to us about Diocesan finances: a £900,000 Common Fund for the overall growth, and the challenges for the future to which the Bishops had committed. 71% of Diocesan funding is contributed by the chaplaincies.

Grace Fagan-Stewart, the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, talked to us about Safeguarding recruitment policy changes for 2022.

Peter Hooper mentioned that there were to be changes to the 1905 Law concerning financial management and registration. Also the first modules of the Congregational Worship Leaders course should be available in autumn 2022.

The second session began with a talk by Père Miguel Desjardins, co-secretary CECEF. CEECF (Le Conseil d' Eglises Chretiennes en France) was founded in 1987 to promote consultation between Roman Catholic, Anglican and Orthodox Christians.

He gave us an outline of the Roman Catholic Church in France which consists of 94 self-governing dioceses. Challenges to be faced include the need to evangelise, to learn from Catholics abroad and to come to terms with ever diminishing numbers of believers (<50%) and priests. Overall, Père Miguel sees his mission is to persuade Catholics in France to be more ecumenical.

There then followed a talk by the Reverend John Murray, co-chair of the ARC, an organisation dedicated to helping protestants and Catholics to get to know each other. The ARC in France meets twice a year and has Protestant, Catholic and Episcopalian representatives. They have focused on areas of co-operation and sharing with the orders of morning and evening prayer and other daily offices. John pointed out that there were 7500 lay ministers in the UK but only 70 in France. However lay people play a much bigger part in running the parishes in France.

He spoke about synodality, the concept that decision-making is not just for priests but for all members of the church. Pope Francis is strongly in favour of this approach.

To finish the session, we separated into six breakout groups to consider collaboration with the Roman Catholic Church at local level.

Christian Krieger talked to us about the Reuilly Common Statement and Declaration of 2021 concerning ties between the French Protestant churches and the Anglican churches of Great Britain and Ireland and ongoing efforts to achieve unity above all in the preaching of the Gospel and the celebration of the Eucharist.

Just this year, 2022, Peter Hanson has been appointed to the first shared ministry post in Lyon for the Anglican Trinity Church and the Eglise Protestante Unie. Another shared ministry in Strasbourg is underway.

Other points made by Christian were;-

The group is considering how parishes with small congregations could share a priest. The group is also working on agreements with other, smaller denominations.

Safeguarding

Steven Hopkins writes:

This is my second annual report to the council since I took over the rôle of Safeguarding Officer from Jenny Morgan on 13th May, 2021.

Safeguarding concerns

At the time of the handover, the chaplaincy was aware of 5 members of the congregation who were considered vulnerable either because of age or health issues, but there was some uncertainty over whether such vulnerability was a safeguarding or pastoral concern.

The safeguarding conference organised by the diocesan safeguarding team on 9th October 2021 clarified that responsibilities for vulnerability due to age or health makes demands, in the first place, on the chaplaincy's resources to provide pastoral care rather than safeguarding. If such care is carried out in an *ad hoc* manner between friends, it should be monitored with safeguarding recommendations in mind. If the council puts more formal structures in place, then all people involved would need to go

through the safeguarding clearance procedures required at the time, such as police clearances and safeguarding training.

Currently, as a result of departures, there is only 1 member of the congregation considered vulnerable because of age/health. I am not aware of any formal chaplaincy safeguarding structures in place which require people to go through safeguarding clearance procedures, nor any need, for the moment, to set any up.

Safeguarding dashboard

The dashboard, to which Roger and I have access to modify, and to which The Churchwardens have access to view, is a tool which helps parishes to stay up to date with their administrative safeguarding obligations. I have sent the latest Policy and Action Plan to the council for attention and request the council to ensure, please, that the outstanding actions be carried out before the end of February, 2023.

Chaplaincy commitment to safeguarding

The commitment of the chaplaincy council to safeguarding has been fairly reflected this year in the prominence given to safeguarding information on the chaplaincy's website, on church notices, and at the entrance to the chapel.

Sadly, the congregation has shown itself unresponsive to encouragement to take the Basic Awareness training (C0), and some members of the chaplaincy council have yet to send me documentation of their own training to allow me to update the dashboard.

Link with Toliara

Carol Gardner reports regarding our Link with Toliara.

This year has seen the gradual development of our communications with the parish of Fenoarivo in the diocese of Toliara in Madagascar. This has been enhanced by an App which allows us to communicate directly with Rev Delphin who has taken over from Rev Jean Florent.

Rev Florent had to step down from his rôle in Fenoarivo because of medical issues. However we believe he is making progress supported by his wife and the local medical care. I noted in one of the recent Toliara News letters that Rev Jean Florent has been ordained.

The App has allowed Rev Razanazatovo Delphin Thessaloniane and us to communicate directly with Phyl, myself and Roger which has been very enlightening. He has sent us many pictures of the young congregations he has been baptising.

Recently Rev Delphin has sent us a video of himself in a boat on his way to carry out his duties in Fenoarivo which gives us further understanding of the geography of his parish.

I actually spoke to Rev Delphin around Christmas time which was a lovely surprise. He is generally very enthusiastic both in his Christian energy and aptitude with technology and he has promised to pray for us too!

This is a developing relationship and we continue to learn from each other.

Music Team

Susan Robinson writes:

The Music Team consists of four members of our congregation - Alison Kane, Carol Gardner, Sue Robinson and Ian Thomas, who was appointed during 2022 and has been given the responsibility for co-ordinating live music during some of our Church Services.

Alison, Carol and Sue continue to work as a team searching suitable hymns based on the prescribed readings for each service and meet regularly to discuss their choices before collating a list for Roger who

has the final say. Consideration is also given to the lists of 'favourite' hymns which have been provided by some members of the congregation.

During 2022, it was wonderful to have live music for the All Saints service, our Remembrance Day service and Christmas Eve service - our thanks go to Tim and Ian and we look forward to more contributions during 2023. Ellie has been approached to see if she would like to offer her voice for some live music, but is, understandably, busy with school studies.

If anyone has any thoughts or suggestions, please do not be afraid to put these forward, or if anyone has a favourite hymn that they would like us to use for services please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Music Team.

The Music Team would like to formally thank Nigel for his work in collating the music for each of our services - not always a straight forward task when verses are omitted.

Website and Communications

Roger Smith writes:

If you were visiting this area, or living here, and wanted to find a church to attend, I can think of several ways to find one.

The first way is to ask someone who might know, either first-hand, through 'someone who knows someone', or through social media. Good reports about how friendly, welcoming and supportive we are tend to get lost if someone reports a bad experience. That's another reason, apart from the obvious ones, why it's so important to love and care for each other, as Jesus says in John 13.34: 'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.'

A second way is through the website of the Church of England's Diocese in Europe. The information there had given wrong information about where we worship for some time, despite several efforts to get it changed. It was finally corrected at the end of 2021.

A third way for us to be found is through the Church of England's website, 'A Church Near You'. As I write, there were 3,300 views of our entry on 'A Church Near You' over the last year, which shows how important it is for the information on it to be accurate and up to date. Between us the webmaster, Delia Smith, and I endeavour to do this. 'A Church Near You' points to our own website for those wanting more information.

The final way is by finding our own website on-line, either through the Diocese in Europe's website, or 'A Church Near You', or by using a search engine like Google. The website therefore needs to have on it information about who we are, when services are, precisely where they are, and the webmaster, Delia Smith, does her best to achieve this.

The chaplaincy's website is there also to keep the congregation informed about what is happening, so everything relevant to that purpose can be found there, including notices of events, Council agendas and minutes. The website gets around 2,000 visits and 3,600 page views per year.

Ecumenical Activities

In this year recovery no formal ecumenical worship was programmed. Informally our relations with our brother churches remain most cordial and we hope for a resumption of the normal programme in 2023.

Temple: premises and chattels

In November we concluded (formal signature is outstanding) a new agreement with the Église Protestante for our use of the Temple at Saint-Pargoire. A significant term was the increase of our

quarterly upkeep contribution from €200 to €300: the first increase in many years and considered acceptable in view of general inflation and the extensive maintenance works undertaken this year.

The new sound system fully proved its worth this year. Roger has produced an instruction sheet for setting up and dismantling it and the Technical Team has been briefed and trained. A steel lockable cupboard (installed in the garage) was acquired for its storage and that of other chattels. The cost of the cupboard was €286. A new book-stand for the altar was also acquired.

All chattels are fully recorded in the inventory register.

The intention to acquire two further chalices when suitable ones can be identified stands.

Support for Charities

Charitable donations from unrestricted church funds are governed by the “tithes” guideline (10% of general fund income) to enable funds to be set aside for additional expenditure expected to arise when the time comes to appoint Roger’s successor. General fund income in 2022 amounted to €12,150 and it was agreed that €1,200 should be donated to charities. This sum was in addition to the €250 donation in March to the Croix Rouge for Ukraine and €250 in September to the World Food Programme (for the Pakistan floods disaster) from the Discretionary Fund.

Donations from unrestricted church funds

Institut Régional du Cancer de Montpellier	€400
Languedoc Solidarity With Refugees	€400
Bishop’s Advent Appeal	€400

Donations from the Discretionary Fund:

Croix Rouge Française – Ukraine Emergency	€250
World Food Programme – Pakistan Flood Relief	€250

Donations from restricted donations, collections and fund-raising:

Restricted Collection Croix Rouge Ukraine appeal	€205
Ordination Candidates Fund (Confirmation Service)	€140
Bishops Lent & Easter Appeal - Ukraine	€537
Bobbie’s Book Sales for Croix Rouge Ukraine appeal	€131

Planned Giving (France) and Gift Aid (UK) Schemes

Participation in our Planned Giving schemes was slightly down at €8,853 (2021: €9,194) due to departures etc. and this year planned giving represented 64% (2020: 87%) of total collections, themselves greatly boosted (+12%) by the generous restricted offerings to the Bishop’s Ukraine appeal in Lent. We now count a total of thirteen regular donors.

These figures again vividly illustrate our dependence on a handful of regular donors and provide a good reason to consider making one-off or regular donations by cheque or bank transfer, which would of course benefit from tax relief.

Financial Report

The salient features of the accounts presented here may be summarised as:

- As stated above collections were up 12% from 2021’s excellent figure and total income by 13%, excluding the Lent Lunch fundraising (16% if adjusted for this).
- Total expenditure at €6,812 was up by €1,363 (25%). Over half of this increase was accounted for by generous restricted charitable donations, the rest by increased Temple contributions and

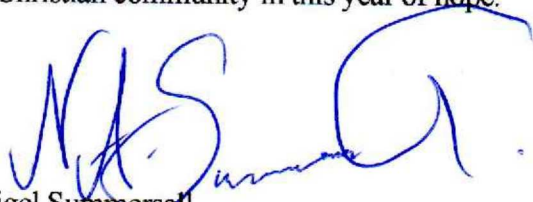
insurance, increased chaplain travel expense (all re-donated) and an exceptional payment to PicRights (definitely the last) due to an unintended infringement of copyright on the website.

- The monthly transfer of €500 to the Succession Fund was maintained throughout the year.
- Chaplaincy funds are held wholly in bank accounts (sterling funds are held on an account with Diocese). At year-end €36,148 (87% of the total) was held in an interest-bearing Livret A which earned interest of €462 in 2022. This savings account again requires to be topped up to provide more adequate cover for the Succession and Discretionary reserves which stand at €37,850. The balance is held on current accounts with La Banque Postale and with Diocese.
- The statement of receipts & payments analysed by class of fund (Unrestricted, Designated or Restricted) to/from which monies are paid is presented in a note to the accounts. We are also obliged to report to the Diocese in Europe in a standard format which corresponds to the main accounts presented herewith.
- We are indebted to Robert Wilson who this year took over the rôle of Independent Examiner of our records and has given us his clean certificate

Conclusion & Thanks

An almost normal year. Live services and prayer group continued uninterrupted. Zoom enabled Lent meditation and prayer together to be held. The Fontès carol service has sadly passed into history. Church finances continued healthy despite increased expenses. The visiting priests and Jane Griffin's Permission to Officiate provide a very welcome reinforcement to our resources. The Community of Chaplaincies project makes us focus on the ever closer date of Roger's retirement and the need to preserve the Church alive in this our chosen land. A sad reminder of human mortality was the news of Richard Acworth's death in October 2022. Richard was the initial priest of our community before it became a chaplaincy in its own right. Our thoughts go to his widow Carol.

As always, our thanks are due to all who contributed in so many ways to maintain and sustain our life as a Christian community in this year of hope.



Nigel Summersall
Vice-Chairman & Secretary to the Council

24th February, 2023



Reverend Roger Smith
Chairman of the Chaplaincy Church Council

24th February, 2023

ASSOCIATION L'ÉGLISE ANGLICANE DE TOUS LES SAINTS DANS L'HÉRAULT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2022

2021		INCOME		2022	
		Collections			
8,414.30		Planned	8,051.84		
779.28	9193.58	Sterling	804.60	8856.44	
<u>2,001.00</u>		Plate including restricted	<u>3699.35</u>		
	11,194.58	Total		<u>12555.79</u>	
		Fees, other donations			
130.00		Other donations (restricted)	295.00		
<u>130.00</u>	130.00	Total		295.00	
		Fund Raising Events			
290.00		Lent Lunches	0.00		
<u>290.00</u>	290.00	Total		<u>0.00</u>	
	143.55	Interest and Investment Income		<u>461.93</u>	
	<u>11,758.13</u>	TOTAL INCOME		<u>13,312.72</u>	
EXPENSES		Chaplain Accommodation & Expense			
324.30		Chaplain Expenses	736.84		
	324.30	Total		736.84	
		Charitable Giving			
500.00		Contingency fund	500.00		
707.90		Other inc restricted	1,052.64		
100.00		Fellow Churches	200.00		
<u>1,000.00</u>	2,307.90	Support for Charities	<u>1,200.00</u>		
		Total		2,952.64	
		Diocesan & Archdeaconry Quotas			
448.00		Diocesan & Archdeaconry Quota	453.68		
	448.00	Total		453.68	
		Exceptional Items			
0.00		PicRights	200.00		
<u>0.00</u>	0.00	Total		200.00	
		Upkeep of Church Fabric			
800.00		Upkeep of Temple	900.00		
295.45		Insurance	366.98		
<u>1,095.45</u>	1,095.45	Other Premises Cost	<u>15.75</u>		
		Total		1,282.73	
		Service and Admin costs			
78.00		Bank Charges & Legal	78.96		
25.84		Books etc for Congregation	91.58		
236.73		Printing and Consumables	309.90		
101.40		Publicity	150.65		
831.50		Other	582.39		
0.00		Exchange Adjustments and other	<u>-27.34</u>		
<u>1,273.47</u>	1,273.47	Total		<u>1,186.14</u>	
	<u>5,449.12</u>	TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>6,812.03</u>	
	<u>6,309.01</u>	SURPLUS or (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		<u>6,500.69</u>	

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022

2021	ASSETS	2022
35,025.09	Cash at Banks	41,615.73
-	Cash	<u>-</u>
89.95	Other Assets	
35,115.04	Total Assets	41,615.73
 LIABILITIES 		
28,806.03	Chaplaincy Account	
<u>6,309.01</u>	As at Jan 1st 2022	<u>35,115.04</u>
	Surplus (Deficit) for the year	<u>6,500.69</u>
35,115.04	Account as at 31st December	41,615.73
 This consists of 		
	Unrestricted Funds	3,765.73
	Restricted Funds	-
	Designated	<u>37,850.00</u>
	Total	<u><u>41,615.73</u></u>
35,115.04	Total Liabilities	41,615.73

ASSOCIATION L'ÉGLISE ANGLICANE DE TOUS LES SAINTS DANS L'HÉRAULT
SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FUNDS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	As at 1st January 2022	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Payments	Transfers between Funds	As At 31/12/22
Designated Funds					
Succession Planning Annual allocation to Contingency Fund	31,850.00			6,000.00	37,850.00
Contingency Fund: Croix Rouge Ukraine	-		250.00	500.00	
Contingency Fund:: World Food Programme: Pakistan Floods		250.00			-
	31,850.00	500.00		6,500.00	37,850.00
Restricted Funds					
Lent Collections; Ukraine		537.00	537.00		-
Collection Croix Rouge		205.00	205.00		-
Donations o/a PicRights Claim		150.00	150.00		-
Confirmation Service Collection		140.00	140.00		-
Book Sales for Ukraine		130.50	130.50		-
		1,162.50	1,162.50		-
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	3,265.00	12,150.50	5,149.50	-6,500.00	3,766.00
TOTALS	35,115.00	13,313.00	6,812.00		41,616.00

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15 February 2023

ASSOCIATION L'ÉGLISE ANGLICANE DE TOUS LES SAINTS (DANS L'HÉRAULT)

I have audited the books and records of the above Association for the year to 31st December 2022 and the accounts are in accordance with those books and records.


Robert Wilson,

Alignan -du- Vent