

# FRIENDS OF GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH CHURCH



Registered Charity No: 1067435  
[www.missendenchurch.org.uk/friends](http://www.missendenchurch.org.uk/friends)

**Fundraising for restoration & repairs to this historic church**

## 2024 Annual Report

**2024 was a very successful and enjoyable fundraising year!**

**Events.** We held three happy fundraising Talk & Tea events which were very well attended and have become valued community gatherings:

- **“John Hampden the Patriot”** by Dr Beth Rogers on 20<sup>th</sup> April.
- **“Life in Her Hands”** by Professor Dame Averil Mansfield DBE FRCS FRCP on 15<sup>th</sup> June.
- **“Ukraine, Russia and European Tensions”** by Paula Kitching, one of our Trustees, on 21<sup>st</sup> September.

We also participated in:

- **Church School** Farmers’ Markets and their Christmas Fair in November.
- **Cream Teas** on Sunday afternoons at the Parish Church from May to the end of September.
- **Christmas Tree Festival** over two days. The theme for our tree was “Robins”. Maurice Taylor’s five splendid large wooden church models were displayed in the Lady Chapel, representing the building’s development from its foundation in AD 1133. Maurice is a founding member of our charity.

**Income.** The incredible support from our members and other kind supporters raised £21,049 in 2024. The committee is most grateful and will be able to give the PCC further grants for fabric repairs to our much-loved Parish Church. The charity’s balance was £99,388 on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

**Grants.** Two grants were made in 2024 to the PCC for the usual gutter/downpipe cleaning. We await a grant request from the PCC for several necessary repairs to the church tower: our “Save the Tower” fundraising campaign!

**Nick Moss**, our Treasurer writes:

During 2024 Gift Aid reclaims were submitted for 2022 and 2023; these sums have been received and we are now up-to-date. As you are aware, there were not any significant calls on the charity’s funds during 2024 so we have continued to build up balances in interest-bearing accounts, as the Accounts’ summary shows. Funds are transferred from the TSB account to our 200-day notice account on a regular basis. My thanks to all who contribute through their subscriptions and with participation in the charity’s activities.

**Preserves.** A total of £7,549 was raised from the sale of Jams, some cakes and gifts. There were Tabletop sales at our Talks (£486), at the Church Cream Teas (£2,086), the Snowdrop Festival in February (£277); the 2-day Christmas Tree Festival (£1,362), Library Tabletop sales (£1,227), three Sunday Village Markets (£454) and at the Church School’s three Farmers’ Markets and Christmas Fair (£372). There were many other purchases by various people. All the sales and the many kind contributions of fruit, sugar and re-cycled jam jars are greatly appreciated.

**Membership.** Sadly, several founding and other members died or moved away in 2024. We are most grateful for their kind support and contributions over the years. Eleven new members joined last year and are warmly welcomed. Membership was 140 at the end of 2024. We warmly welcome new members to help further our fundraising efforts: there is strength in numbers!

**The Committee**, a “Merrie Bande”, works hard and contributes to our fundraising work in so many ways. Nick Moss took over from Nevil Coulson as Treasurer at the AGM in May and we welcomed Lucy Wilson to the Committee in November.

***Our charity remit is to ensure that our much-loved, sacred and historic Parish Church continues to be a vital centre for Christian worship and many community activities.***

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**The Vicar writes:**

When one looks back on the past year, it is quite staggering to see what the Friends of Great Missenden Church undertake on an annual basis, in order to raise the much-needed funds for the upkeep of the fabric our very special Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul.

Naturally, that hard work would be impossible without the dedicated members who serve on the committee, and those who help at the many functions, whether it be for the various talks and events which the Friends organise and host or manning a stall at various other festivals and market days. To them I would like to express not only my own sincere thanks, but the thanks of the entire parish. Without the support of the Friends, it would be virtually impossible to maintain our much-loved Sacred Space that our Parish Church is to us.

I would particularly like to express a special word of the thanks to our Honorary Chairman, Vivienne Davis, without whom we would be a ship without a rudder. Vivienne’s passion for the work of the Friends is infectious. She certainly leads by example; one only has to see her in action on the jam making front to appreciate just how much work she puts into the running of the committee and the Friends as a whole. Thank you so very much, Vivienne, your hard work and enthusiasm is an example to us all.

I would like to wish the Friends every success for the year ahead, as we continue to spread the Good News of the Gospel through the preservation of our Parish Church.

God bless you all.

The Revd Malcolm Chalmers – Vicar of Great Missenden with Ballinger and Little Hampden.

**Trustees/Committee members:**

Hon Chairman: Vivienne Davis; Hon Treasurer: Nick Moss;  
The Revd. Malcolm Chalmers; Ann Biscoe-Taylor; Jill Burton, Avril Cobham,  
Di Denney; Paula Kitching; Jill Pateman; Esther Rose and Lucy Wilson.

**Vivienne Davis**  
**3rd May 2025**