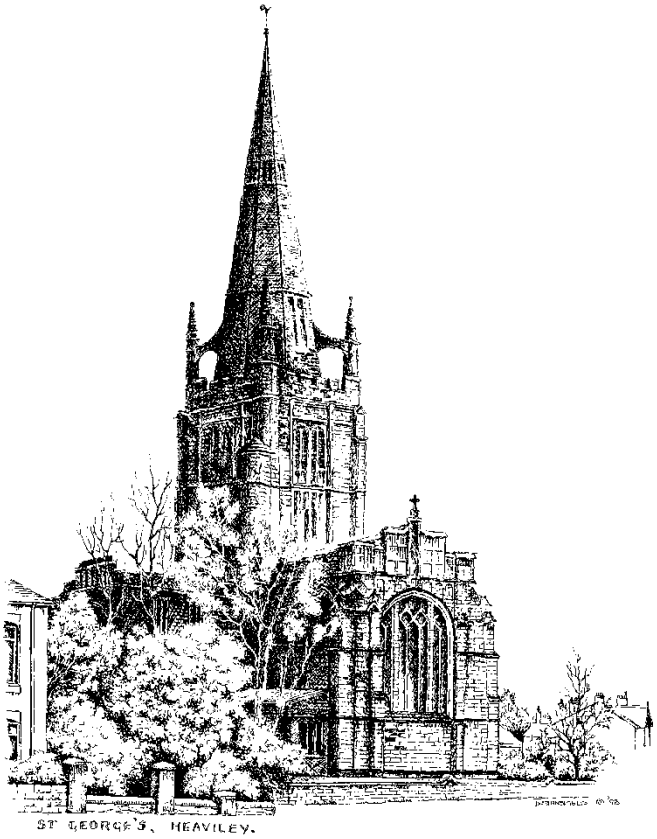
The Parish Church of St. George, Stockport.

REPORT and ACCOUNTS

of the

Parochial Church Council



presented to the

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 26th April 2026

2025

Administrative Information

The Parish of Stockport St George is located on Buxton Road, Heaviley, and the daughter church of St Gabriel is located at Clover Avenue, Adswood.
The parish is part of the Diocese of Chester within the Church of England.

PCC members who served during 2025 with future retirement dates in brackets are:

PCC Members from January to May 2025

Vicar:	Revd Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall	Chair (*to 31st March 2025)*
Associate Priest	Revd Dr Jenny McKay	*(Minister in secular employment)*
Curate	Rev Jane Crook	
Readers	Mr Peter Hall	(*Also Deanery Synod to 31st March 2025)*
	Mrs Rita Waters	(*Also Deanery Synod)*
	Dr Alan Brown	
Churchwardens	Dr Andrew Regan	*(Also Treasurer)*
	Mrs Hazel Jenkins	
Deanery Synod	Mrs Sue Cordingley (2026)	*Safeguarding Officer*

Elected members:

John Hardy	(2027)	
Louise Clark	(2027)	
Robert Mantle	(2027)	
Hannah Whitehouse	(2027)	
Marion McCall	(2026) to April 27th 2025	
Jennie Vandyes	(2026)	
Lilla Clark	(2026)	
Mr Tommy Bowden	(2025)	
Mrs Sue Burt	(2025)	*Deputy Warden Assistant PCC Secretary*
Mrs Lois Kelly	(2025)	*PCC Secretary*
Mr Philip Warner	(2025)	

***Independent Examiner*:** Mr Paul Clancy

PCC Members from May 2025

Chair		
Associate Priest	Revd Dr Jenny McKay	*(Minister in secular employment)*
Curate	Rev Jane Crook	
Readers	Dr Alan Brown	
	Mrs Rita Waters	(*Also Deanery Synod)*
Churchwardens	Dr Andrew Regan	*(Also Treasurer)*
	Mrs Hazel Jenkins	
Deanery Synod	Mrs Sue Cordingley (2026)	*Safeguarding Officer*

Elected members:

Peter Smith	(2028)	
Ieva Tsymbala	(2028)	
James Hibbert	(2028)	
David Davenport	(2028)	
John Hardy	(2027)	to July 2025
Louise Clark	(2027)	
Robert Mantle	(2027)	
Hannah Whitehouse	(2027)	
Jennie Vandyes	(2026)	to September 2025
Lilla Clark	(2026)	
Janet Neilson	(2026)	
Alan Brown	(2026)	

Structure and Governance

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a charity, registered with the Charity Commission, number 1134170.

This report covers the activities of the two churches and of St George's Church Stockport Preservation Trust. The Trust was constituted under a trust deed dated 1st August 1990. While legally a separate charity, the Trust is regarded by the Diocesan Authorities as a connected charity, consequently its transactions and dealings are included in the accounts of the PCC.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All members of the two churches are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and activities

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. This fulfils our public benefit requirement

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees and project groups, which meet between meetings of the PCC.

The project groups in 2025 were for the Christmas Tree Festival, the Grapevine editorial group, the Ministry team and the toilet restoration group.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

The full PCC met 7 times during 2025 with an average level of attendance of 75%

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

The average weekly attendance, at church, for St. George's was: NB last year's figures in italics

Evening Services	35	*38.2*
Early Communion	11	*11.6*
Parish Communion	110	*93.7*
Praise & Play	9	*25.0*
Wednesday Communion	23	*17.5*
Wednesday MP	10	*8.7*

The Electoral Roll total for St. George, Stockport PCC was 151 at the end of 2025.

Achievements and Performance

- Our Incumbent Revd Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall retired on 31st March 2025
- Peter Smith, Alan Brown, James Hibbert and Ieva Tsymbala were elected onto the PCC.
- The state of the pillar in the Parish Room continues to be monitored
- The roof over the bells was replaced.
- Exterior lights over the West Door, North Porch and Archdeacon's Door were installed.
- Chamber organ was installed in the side chapel and new curtains in the sanctuary.
- The Quinquennial Inspection was held in February
- The curate's house had a change of tenants in the middle of the year and maintenance work has continued.
- The toilets in the Parish rooms were refurbished and look much better.

Baptism Assistants Team

Brenda Swindells

The total number of baptisms for 2025 was 20. This includes four baptisms by Immersions done by Bishop Mark (Chester) and Elaine.

Bell Ringers

From the records we maintain in the tower it can be reported that the bells have been rung on ninety-five occasions during 2025. The majority of these were for Sunday services and our weekly Monday practices. We also rang on the evening of Thursday 8th May for the eightieth anniversary of VE Day as part of a national initiative. The bells were requested and rung for two weddings.

It is worth mentioning that all ten bells were rung on Christmas morning. Some of our regular members were away, but relatives and visitors made up the number. It is also of note that three members of the band were part of a band from the East Cheshire Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild of ringers that won the Guild annual ten-bell striking competition held at St Mary's Stockport in October.

Our learners have continued to make steady progress and are now able to join in the ringing for Sunday services.

There was an evening visit to the tower by the Trefoil Guild, and we were able to supervise two tower visits on Heritage Day in September. As usual it was the view from the parapet at the base of the spire that was the highlight on each occasion.

Andrew Mayes – Ringing Master

Bible Reading Fellowship

What a privilege we carry to be able to read the Bible whenever we wish!

The Bible reading fellowship started in one church over 100 years ago and now has readers across the world. At St. George's we have used the Bible reading notes for many years and continue to have a regular group of readers. There are many ways we can access our Bibles and this is a small way to have a "Thought for the Day" whilst being guided through Bible passages.

Messy Church also developed from this.

Janet Neilson

Church Choir

2025 proved to be another busy year for the Church Choir. Between January and December, the choir provided music for a total of 74 services at St George's.

The choir led the music for a number of notable services, including the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany Carol Services; the final service for our retiring Vicar, Reverend Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall; the Pet Blessing Service; the St Julien

Service, marking the 100th anniversary of the laying up of Cheshire Regiment Standards; the Battle of Britain Memorial Service; and the annual Celebration of Life Service for All Souls'.

On the first Sunday in April, St George's Choir joined forces with the choir of St Thomas' Church, Mellor for a Passiontide performance of John Stainer's *The Crucifixion*. The choir of around 70 voices performed the sacred work to a large and appreciative congregation at St George's, with donations from a retiring collection being shared between the two choirs. Aside from occasional donations made by individual choir members, this was the choir's only fundraising opportunity during the whole year — something which we would like to address going forward.

A number of away trips took place during the year, including our Summer Tour to Chester Cathedral from Thursday 21st to Sunday 24th August. There were two visits to Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Church in Derbyshire: firstly, to sing for a Festival Choral Evensong to celebrate their 800th anniversary in July; and then to provide a musical lead for their Carols by Candlelight Service in December.
I feel it is important for the choir to experience singing in cathedrals and other (often smaller) churches. It gives the choir an opportunity to perform to new groups of people and to gain experience from singing in different buildings and acoustics. These tours and visits make a valuable contribution to the reputation of St George's Church beyond the parish boundary as a worshipping community that values quality choral music. The fact that it is so well supported by the congregation on these away trips and tours, with some people travelling considerable distances to follow the choir, clearly shows that these trips are worthwhile ventures for all involved.

Over the course of the year, we have welcomed a number of new choir members — children as well as adults. We have also said goodbye to some choir members; however, membership figures have remained fairly consistent. The number of Junior Choristers remains impressively high for a parish church choir, and recruitment of new probationers has continued successfully over the course of the year.

The choir held its second *Be a Chorister for a Day* event in October 2025. This one-off event didn't prove as successful in bringing new children into the choir as the same event in 2024, but it is something we will continue to do in the future in the hope of further success.

As has been the case for a number of years, there is a definite need for targeted recruitment of altos and basses to the adult choir, and we will seek to address this in the near future.

As always, I am grateful to all choir members, chorister parents and guardians for their continued commitment to the choir. During the middle part of the year, there was a noticeable drop in the number of singers attending weekly services and rehearsals, which resulted in the need to divert from the planned repertoire on a number of occasions. However, I was pleased that attendance levels began to return to 'normal' as the year progressed towards its close.

Weekly choir activities wouldn't function as smoothly as they do without the support of a number of volunteers (including adult choir members and chorister parents) who give their time freely to sit in on Junior Choir rehearsals, lead Voice for Life workshops, and help to maintain the continuing work of the choir.
The significant musical contribution made by Roger Briscoe (Associate Director of Music) in assisting the Director of Music during the course of the year is to be commended. In addition, thanks must go to Hannah Whitehouse (Junior Choir Assistant) and Matthew Howling (Conducting Scholar) for their significant contributions to the choir.

In conclusion, the choir continues to provide a valuable and meaningful contribution to the musical and worshipping life of our church community.
James Hibbert Director of Music

Christmas Tree Festival

2025 proved to be yet another successful year for the Christmas Tree Festival. Yet again we had at least 70 illuminated trees in church providing a wonderful display. It was good to welcome some new organizations and groups as well as some of our regular exhibitors. Including all the visiting school children who mainly visit in the mornings before we are open to the public, we welcomed over 3,500 people through the doors. Our profit was like last year at £8,500 without raising our prices which means that the festival is accessible to all even if they have a limited income. We were pleased to welcome the Mayor of Stockport, Councillor Kerry Waters and the Mayoress Mrs. Wendy Nadin and spent an enjoyable afternoon listening to Cale Green Primary school choir and enjoying the trees. Other school and nursery choirs entertained us as well as Cheshire Community Choir. Father Christmas managed to pop in despite his busy schedule and saw many excited children.

Massive thanks are due to the whole team who helped, especially the caterers who were non-stop busy. We need a big rethink before next year's festival as we only had limited volunteers and certainly neither Peter Smith nor I can take on the lead roles for another year. So, if you feel you could offer help with the planning and running of the festival, please do come forward and have a word with me.

Hazel Jenkins

Garden Gnomes

One of the things which all regular gardeners are aware of is the weather, and this is especially true for those of us in our weekly tasks at St George's .

In our report for the last two years, we commented on the unusually high number of wet days which had limited our activities; and the high winds that had produced multitudes of twigs and a larger number of fallen branches than in previous years. There had also been abundant growth in the tree foliage resulting in large amounts of fallen leaves in the Autumn.
The same has been true for this current year, perhaps even more so. It seems to be the norm now, prompting us to revamp and extend the capacity of our compost heaps.
We continue to prune the lower growth on the Avenue trees and the general shrubbery as part of our remit, but this year have delegated the high-level pollarding to professional contractors. The work is scheduled to take place during the School February break.
On the horticultural front, we have appreciated the donations of plants and bulbs together with financial contributions which have enabled us to keep the gardens colourful and attractive for Church members and passers-by.
As always, as we move toward Springtime, there will be plenty to do. We would like to have additional members to our team, whether you are knowledgeable about plant and shrubs or just happy working outside on more basic taskssuch as weeding beds and pathways and clearing litter.
We operate between 9.30 am to about 12.30 pm on Tuesday mornings with a coffee break about 11am, and you will be made very welcome.

Walter Stead – Novice Gnome

Grapevine

The magazine is published in 10 monthly issues per year except for July/August and December/January when a combined issue is published. The monthly magazine is a 24-page full colour issue including the July/August issue, while the December/January issue was expanded to a 28-page issue. During 2025 the magazine published a range of articles related to our Christian mission, with some of the highlights being articles on the Cardboard Cathedral in Christchurch, New Zealand, our Burns Night supper, celebration of Elaine and Peter's ministry at St George's, and the Heritage Day event in September.

The magazine continues to include regular contributions from the Garden Gnomes, the Mothers' Union, and the Sunday Clubs as well as the monthly recipe provided by Pamela Ferguson. We have continued Chris Dawson's *Reflections on Meditation* as a monthly feature, which provides a series of insightful and reflective pieces on meditation and prayer. We have also introduced another

regular feature on the architecture and history of the church researched and written by Chris Dawson. Ann Stewardson has provided several interesting articles on local history. Kim Regan has written several insightful pieces on faith and spirituality and an epic three-parter on her time spent studying in Russia. The magazine has also included several features on environmental issues as part of our Eco Church mission.

Printing in full colour continues to provide opportunities to include attractive photo stories. These have included photo stories on the 'Be a Chorister for a Day' event in October, the 'Great Netflix Adventure, the pet service that took place in June, and the Clark's once in a lifetime cruise to Iceland. Other travel articles on Notre Dame, Sorrento, the Forest of Dean, and Cefalù have also been included.

The December/January edition included a centre page spread of 14 of the best photos from the year. The magazine incorporates photos from contributors as well as using copyright free photos from the Unsplash and Geograph® Britain and Ireland websites but with a clear acknowledgement of the photographers.

During 2025 we sadly included obituaries for Pat Wych and Gareth Jones.

The magazine committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month ahead of the publication of the magazine at the beginning of each month. We thank all our regular contributors without whom we would not be able to produce such a high-quality magazine each month. We also thank Angela Foulkes for her work with Andrew Regan undertaking final proofing of the magazine text ahead of the publication.

Andy Clark

Café Church and Taizé services

We have continued to enjoy a variety of services which have been held in both St George's and St Gabriel's churches.

Taizé style services are based on the world-wide services emanating from TAIZE in France. Ours were held on Monday of Holy week and also Remembrance Sunday. They were in the evening and gave an opportunity for rest and fellowship with meditation, repeated chanting, prayers and readings. They were led by piano, viola and recorder and supported by singers.

The Inspired Café church started by Elaine was continued by Revd. Jane Crook, our curate. An informal gathering with refreshments, conversations, readings, prayers and songs were held in St George's Lady Chapel and St Gabriel's. The atmosphere was relaxed, supportive and encouraging to try new worship songs and revisit favourite hymns and songs. A group of singers with piano accompaniment led

these afternoon services. At the Christmas Carols afternoon, we also welcomed our new friends who meet at St Gabriels on Sundays.

Do come and experience these!

Janet Neilson.

Helping Hands Initiative

Background

The Helping Hands initiative was commenced in the spring of 2025 with the objective of finding a better way to communicate the activities and groups of the Church to its community and to increase the community's engagement with those activities and groups.

Work program

The initial work focussed on developing a plan for the initiative, identifying all the groups and activities operating under the auspices of the Church and the leads for those groups. A database was established and each lead was asked to agree a short statement of its remit, activity and any aspiration for recruitment or participation. Contact details are provided for each group in case anyone is interested in knowing more or joining.

Logos and templates were developed and approved by the working group. Initially the work will be led by Liz Bailey but it is hoped over time that parish administration can support the initiative by authoring any necessary posters for the boards.

A notice board was repurposed to allow these statements to be displayed in the social area at the back of church. A second part of this board is used to highlight upcoming events, and groups or activities needing support. Events have included the cleaning events, Cabaret night and of course the Christmas Tree Festival. Requests have been made for volunteers to donate clothing, make prayer bears or donate items for events and Church use.

Outcomes to date

The initiative has had a limited degree of success.

<u>Raised awareness</u>

Church attendees have commented that they were unaware of some of the groups or activities that are now on display and initially there were conversations in the social area, though this has dwindled over time, despite refreshing the board content on a regular basis. Relocating the board during and after the tree festival has had an impact on engagement.

<u>Donations</u>

The board has had some impact on increasing donations, specifically of clothing and knitted prayer bears we offer. A stock of wool for these has been donated for when current stocks reduce.

Helping Hands

A good number of helpers were available for the Big Clean event. Participants commented that the board was helpful in reminding them of when it was and what time to be present. One individual commented that when things are announced in Church at the start of services it is easy to miss details or misremember them. Not everyone attending Church was aware of that they can be sent The Lance and space in that is often somewhat limited.

We have also had some new people becoming sides people and intercessors though whether this is directly due to the initiative or not has not been measured.

The need for a greater pool of volunteers to call on was acutely felt at Christmas when several key helpers were unfortunately not available.

Opportunities

The initiative will continue and will seek to;

1. Maintain and refresh the existing communications board
2. Look for ways to improve external communication through other communication channels e.g. Website and Facebook to reach those who do not regularly attend the Church but may be able to offer some help
3. Identify key individuals to engage with for particular needs or activities
4. Endeavour to proactively introduce a variety of activities to engage new Helpers

Liz Bailey

Lent Breakfasts

Although we followed the same format as in previous years, we tackled something more challenging: Tricky Topics, issues that perhaps we skip over when we encounter them in scripture. Topics that we may find too difficult, or which need more time than we tend to give them.

Jenny McKay kicked off the series by addressing the question, “Why is there Suffering?” In her talk and in the discussion which followed, we looked at the fact that, as human beings we are vulnerable and mortal, that some human beings inflict pain on others, and how our approach to suffering can increase or decrease it. We also asked what God's place was in all of this.

Tony Rablen, Spiritual Director for Cursillo, explored the existence of the Devil in our lives - Symbolic? Real? A fallen angel? A spirit? - in a talk wittily entitled The Devil If You Do and The Devil If You Don't.

Our third speaker was Jane Crook, at the time our Curate in Training here at St. George's. She gave us her thoughts on The Resurrection of the Body. Was our body reconstituted, or was it that our likeness, our identity, our uniqueness goes on? Or was it an idea of its time locked into the Apostles Creed?

Steve Torr, Rector of Eccleston and Pulford, was the last of our speakers. His topic was The Nature of Evil. He suggested that it was the opposite of love. In the talk and the discussion, we considered whether there is “an evil force out there” and whether, as newspaper reports often suggest, some people are intrinsically evil.

The last session was our usual Reflection and Discussion session, stimulated by what we had heard over the past four weeks.

Our lowest attendance was 13 and our highest was 22.

Our thanks go to our speakers for their stimulating talks, to Peter Smith and his team for setting up the Chapel and for all that they did to make breakfast such a pleasure and an integral part of the experience.

Chris Dawson

Linen Guild

The guild continue to maintain and launder the church's linen used at various services and when taking Home Communions. We are 5 members now but would welcome extra members, do get in touch if you are interested.
Pat Rigley

Mothers’ Union

2025 was a very successful year for the branch, we had 21 members and welcomed visitors at many of our meetings. The monthly meetings covered a very wide range of topics. With permission from Rev. Elaine and the church wardens we were able to have a close look at the silver vessels used during the services, learn about their functions, and see the white linen used alongside them.

One month we were taken along the canal when Howie Pickering came to tell us about his work as a Waterways Chaplain. Adrian Nottingham, a former Stockport Mayor, spoke on Renew Stockport. We were treated to a Musical afternoon with Hazel when we attempted, with varying degrees of success, to play the Hand Bells! Rev Jenny led us with our Easter thoughts. We heard of the history of 'Hearing Dogs' and how they and their users are trained.

Age UK came to give advice on the help that is available to us. In December as well as celebrating the Christmas story we celebrated the 90th birthdays of two of our members. Congratulations. We held two fund raising afternoon teas, one with cakes and sandwiches, the other with lots of strawberries, cream and cakes. As a result, we were able to send £360 to Chester for MU charities.

During the year we have continued to support the mission of the church with bibles for couples getting married in church, simple prayer books for baptisms, knitted toys for the Pre-school group and Praise and Play, and two chocolate hampers for the Christmas Tree Festival raffle.

We were sad during the year to say goodbye to Vicar Elaine who along with her husband Peter had decided to retire. She had been very supportive of MU all the time with us and we say thank you.

The branch welcomes visitors and new members.

Pat Rigley

Praise and Play

Praise and play started back in September saying goodbye to some valued members Andrea and Marion. We lost a few children off to new adventures at nursery and starting school. The first few weeks started slowly but as the weeks went on we gained lots of new little faces and parents and carers and kept some of the lovely children as well who have been coming a while. Some of these are newcomers who have seen us on our Face Book page or have been told about us by word of mouth. Some have come back to us with their second child. The children we have at the moment are aged up to two and a half.

We have done some wonderful themes one on weather and seasons telling lovely bible stories that the children could be part of acting it out and doing wonder crafts to go with them. We have done all about friends of Jesus and our currently working our way slowly through the Easter story. We have wonderful children who we are blessed to be able to teach all about Jesus through song, stories and play.

Many thanks to Sue, Tracey, Kim, Marrisa and Michelle for their hard work which makes the group possible each week.

Tracey Bennett and Sue Cordingley

Prayer Chain

A dedicated and anonymous group of members at St George's continues to receive prayer requests for those outside the parish or within who wish their request to be confidential.

With the departure of our vicar Elaine the number of requests diminished considerably, and it was considered time to make some changes.

Phoebe Macleod stepped down from being the coordinator and we are very grateful for all she did for the group, circulating requests and updating.

We have moved into a new phase (publicised in a recent Grapevine) and requests may now be made through a designated email prayerchainstg@gmail.com or by contacting Andrea Millington 07923 144559. All requests remain confidential within the group. Information may be found on the Helping Hands notice board.

Andrea Millington

Safeguarding

There have been two incidents since the last report in 2025. Both have been resolved after taking the relevant action. There have also been two verbal reports of concern which have not needed any direct action.

David Davenport has joined the Safeguarding Team. Since David has joined the team, he has been able to concentrate on completing the outstanding DBS applications. In addition to this David has focused on advising individuals on the relevant courses they need to complete and how to access them on the Diocese Website.

Dave is also working on new forms to be used within our church. There is now an incident form to be completed when incidents happen, that aren't covered by the forms in the Accident Book. He is also working on a Contact Form that needs to be completed by all volunteers and members of groups within the Church.

We will continue to keep everyone up to date with new information and continue to work to keep the safeguarding procedures up to date.

Sue Cordingley and Dave Davenport

St Gabriel's

I have continued to clear the gardens with helpers from the church, and added two rose bed borders, I have cleaned out the drains and applied covers to the holes to stop these blocking up. I have removed copious amounts of rubbish that accumulates under the hedges. The grass cutting and weeding has been done twice weekly. The trees we trimmed and shrubs we removed have started to return in a manageable amount. I have applied for a few grants but failed to get any as we need to change the electric input to 200 KW or phase 3. I have found a few companies that do grants for this just need to get quotes for this now. Then we can start the rest of the big heating jobs. The fence has not been repaired yet as the grants haven't been obtained. I am still trying.

Jackie Vandyes

St Gabriel's church building is used on a regular basis on both Saturdays and Sundays by the Stockport Pentecostal Church. We also hold services at least 4 times a year which maintains our status a festival church.

Singing Group

The Singing Group was relaunched towards the end of May 2025 and met for the first time since March 2020 to provide music for the Pentecost Café Church Service at 4:00pm on Sunday 8th June.

The number of congregation members who initially signed up at the relaunch of the Singing Group hasn't always matched the numbers at Services, however, we now have a fairly settled core of members who have led the singing at a number of Café Church and Taizé Services during the second half of the year. As well as leading the music at services in St George's the Singing Group also provided a musical lead at both the Harvest Festival Service and Community Carol Services at St Gabriel's, Adswood, during the latter months of 2025.

I'm grateful to Janet Neilson for agreeing to accompany the Singing Group and take on much of the administrative aspects of running such a group.

The Singing Group continues to provide a platform for public performance for members of the congregation who prefer a more relaxed and informal style of music making in Services. The Singing Group meets about an hour before each service to rehearse the music prior to the service starting. This model works well – rather than holding a midweek rehearsal and will continue into the future. In working like this it allows members to turn up and sing on the day without any need for further commitments during the days leading up to a Service.

The Singing Group is always on the lookout for new members so please speak to James or Janet if you would like to know more information.

James Hibbert Director of Music

Sunday Clubs

Sunday Clubs have continued as three groups, being those aged 6 and under, a Junior's group and another for those in year 6 and above. It has sometimes been necessary to amalgamate the groups due to low staffing levels or to complete certain activities. Some of the older members of the senior group are also members of the choir and we are coming to an age when they may choose to cease attending Sunday Clubs and remain in the choir for the whole service.

Children sitting with their families leave during the first hymn and the choristers leave after the Gloria. Where staffing allows, the youngest children use the small parish room and the two older groups both work in the larger room. It can be distracting to be in the same room, but we do not currently have enough staff to use two rooms. We have also held the youngest group in church which allows delivery with only one staff member.

We continue to welcome new choir children to Sunday Clubs who contribute well and enjoy Sunday Club. However, as the choristers leave the session earlier than the others, they are not always able to complete an activity to back up the bible story and discussion.

We now have a new Assistant Leader, but our staffing rota is still stretched as two Leaders are also members of the choir, so we are still looking to recruit further Leaders and Assistant Leaders (helpers). The commitment for Leaders is about 30-40 minutes to prepare a session using the published lectionary around once a month; helpers don't need to prepare, just turn up when it's their session.

Louise Clark

Associate Minister's Report

Following the retirement of our incumbent, Revd Canon Elaine Chegwin-Hall on 31st March 2025, it has been a very busy few months. I am grateful to the churchwardens, Ministry team and our curate, Revd Jane Crook, during this time. While I continue to enjoy immensely the experience of working in our friendly city church, I had many additional roles to combine on top of my fulltime job as a veterinarian this year. It is great credit to everyone that we have held virtually all the normal services during the vacancy with business as usual!

It was perhaps fortuitous that I changed jobs in October and was therefore on "gardening leave" for the months of July to September. This meant that I was able to take on additional responsibilities of management, chairing of the Ministry Team monthly meetings, and oversight of the planning of services. My church working agreement has gone far beyond the prescribed two Sundays per month and I continue supporting three Sundays per month during the current vacancy on top of general ministerial duties. I occasionally cantor for some of the Choral Evensongs and presented on "Why is there Suffering?" at the Lent Breakfast series.

The busy pace of our ministry has continued and rarely slowed during 2025, and it has been a real joy to engage in so many services and events and to meet so many amazing people.

A favourite service of mine was unsurprisingly the Annual June Animal Blessing Service in which we had the return of two lovely donkeys from a Wirral Sanctuary, and we look forward to another type of animal for the 2026 Service! I also continue to perform baptisms and have been the point contact for these and weddings during the vacancy. I was particularly pleased to baptise a beautiful little girl, Star, within our 10.15am Parish Communion Service on 16th November, a type of service we rarely do as most children are baptised after the Morning Service.

We continue to welcome new members to our church of all ages, and it is wonderful to see God at work in these people. Some are considering their vocations, and we also act as strong community for our Persian brothers and sisters. During our vacancy, a very big thanks must go to Revd Tony Rablen who has supported us particularly for our very well attended 10.00am Wednesday Holy Communion Services.

The Ministry team grew again with Mrs Val Gilchrist licensed to us in October as a Reader. Val has many years of experience from Norbury and we are delighted that she has joined the team. It has also been a great privilege to work with Revd Jane Crook in her final year of curacy and support her in that journey.

Some special services which deserve a particular mention include the choir's participation in services at Chester Cathedral during their August weekend residence. I am so proud of all they have achieved and the quality was astounding. They also sang Choral Matins at the Church Open Day in September and hosted another Chorister Day on 4th October.

The Advent and Christmas Carol services were beautiful as always and we were delighted that Bishop Sam celebrated and preached at our Christmas Day morning service at his own request.

The Christmas Tree Festival as always welcomed hundreds of people through the doors, along with those who sang or danced for us over the five days that the festival was open. We had so many delightful encounters and conversations with our visitors and guests.

Amidst all the joys, 2025 has been a particularly difficult year for me as the war in Gaza has continued and I have "walked the path" and mentored vets in Palestine. In church, we have prayed for one family regularly and at the time of writing the veterinarian, Dr A'aed, has been evacuated to Ireland, an immense achievement for which I feel very proud. It is always amazing to me how many people watch our livestreamed services from all over the globe and are comforted by them, and Dr A'aed's family certainly has been. Thank you to everyone who has supported this family during this difficult time.

Outside of St. George's, I continue to be a Minister in Secular Employment, now at Zoetis Laboratories. My social media profile as The Reverend Vet continues well with predominantly Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok presence. The main platform is Facebook which currently has over 18 000 followers.

It is certainly a busy and diverse role being Associate Minister at St George's. Thank you all for your partnership in the Gospel. And thank you to my husband, Dave, who has seen even less of me this year than usual! However, he has been occupied in the Parish Rooms Toilet Project for which we are all grateful!

With every blessing

Jenny

Financial Review for 2025

The PCC recorded an overall increase in funds of £6,831 over the year. PCC unrestricted funds increased by £9,606. The Fabric Fund decreased by £3,830 and St Gabriel's funds increased by £1,249. The Choir Legacy fund decreased by £551, the Fearn fund reduced by £15, the Preservation Trust by £100 and the Music Fund by £700.

St George's unrestricted funds

St George's unrestricted funds showed a surplus of £9,606. Overall income to unrestricted funds dropped from £180,439 last year to £146,570 this year. Total voluntary income, excluding legacies and grants, increased by £1,856 to £96,221. Income received from letting the church and parish rooms reduced by £13,382 to £19,439, but this decrease is accounted for by single large hire fee in 2024. Net income from fundraising events was £8,542, as a result of a very successful Christmas Tree Festival. The Grapevine magazine made a net loss of £523 after printing costs, and it is hoped that this can be overcome by increased income from advertisers. Unrestricted grants totalling £3,661 were received, the largest of which was £1,286 from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme, which, however, will cease at the end of March this year. Rental income from 30 Maple Close for the year amounted to £10,296, reduced slightly by a void period between tenants.

Overall unrestricted expenditure decreased by £7,160 to £136,964. Parish share costs increased by £2,261 to £77,605. Church energy costs decreased by £5,890 to £19,296, mainly as a result of a reduction in the unit price of gas. Expenditure on church maintenance increased by £729 to £4,588, with the largest cost (£3,384) being for cleaning of gutters and hoppers on the roof. Upkeep of services, including music and organ costs, was almost unchanged at £5,618. Expenditure on the Parish Rooms decreased slightly by £378 to £4,044.

During the vacancy, £1,354 has been spent on gardening and energy for the vicarage, and these costs have been almost completely reimbursed by the diocese.

No transfer was made during the year from St George's unrestricted funds to the Fabric Fund and it was not necessary to transfer back any funds in order to comply with our financial reserving policy.

Designated Funds

St Gabriel's funds

There was a surplus of £1,250 for the year, which is an increase of £134 on last year. Income for the year was £3,372, largely from rental income from a local

worship group. Total expenditure was £2,122, which was kept low by church maintenance and upkeep of the churchyard being carried out by volunteers. The reserves available in St Gabriel's funds now stand at £10,639.

Fabric Fund

The income for the year was £31,234, including a legacy of £10,000. The expenditure of £34,043 included two major items: just over £17,000 for the replacement of the internal roof over the bells, the cost of which was almost completely covered by grants and donations, and a little over £13,000 for the replacement of the toilets in the Parish Rooms. There was a decrease in the value of investments of £1,122 and the Fabric Fund currently stands at £ 197,587, representing a decrease for the year of £3,830.

Choir Legacy Fund

This fund was established in 2020 with a £5,000 bequest from Frank Gee, a former chorister. After expenditure of £500 to support the choir and a small revaluation loss of £51, the fund stands at £3,655.

St George's restricted funds

The PCC is grateful for the continuing support of the *Fearn Trust*, which provided a grant of £21,392 to cover the cost of insuring both St George's and St Gabriel's churches.

Music Fund

This fund was established to receive grants for musical activities. In 2025 income was nil and after expenditure was £700 on choral scholarships the balance of the fund is £5,122.

Choir Music Fund

This fund may be used to cover the cost of the replacement of choir music and has a balance of £152.

St George's Preservation Trust

Income for the year was nil. Expenditure this year comprised a grant to the Fabric Fund of £100, which has reduced the balance within the fund to £200. The Trustees have indicated their intention to pass the remaining balance to the Fabric Fund over the next two years.

Charitable giving

A total of £895 was used for charitable local relief in support of travel costs, funded by donations to the travel fund.

The following donations were made to charities from agency collections:

Donations of £115 from the annual Baby Memorial Service were shared between the Cradle Charity and the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society.

The sum of £805 was transferred directly to the Children's Society, from collections at the Christingle Services, donations for carol singing and a collection of small change.

A sponsored Swimathon event was held to raise funds for the roof over the bells, and 10% of the money raised (£90) was transferred to the organisers (Rotary Club/Lamplighter).

Reserves and Investment Policies

The PCC reviewed its reserving policy in 2017. It is the policy of St George's to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months general running costs and an additional three month's salaries. At least one half of its minimum reserve should be held in Unrestricted Funds. These reserves may be invested in funds which provide some protection against loss of value due to inflation. This may take the form of capital appreciation or income which can be re-invested.

Reserves will continue to be held in the PCC's accounts with CCLA Investment Managers which is the leading fund manager for the assets of the church, charities and local authorities. It has a policy of engaging only in ethical investments and is owned by its clients – through the Boards of Finance in the case of the Church of England. The CBF Church of England Investment Fund is used which is highly diversified and balanced across many sectors of investment and is actively managed to achieve long term capital growth and steady income.

As at 31st December 2025 it was not necessary for the PCC to transfer funds from the Fabric Fund to Unrestricted Funds in order to comply with this policy. Transfers may become necessary during 2026 if expenditure exceeds income.

It is also the policy to hold a reserve to cover the work for projects that have been identified as necessary. This reserve, which may be required at short notice, is to be held in secure funds that are not subject to capital risks. An income from these funds while desirable is not essential. The CBF Church of England Deposit Fund is used, which holds only funds with AAA rated organisations and is managed by CCLA. However, excess funds may also be invested in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund.

A number of potential projects have been identified by the PCC including:

St George's Church

Review of the lighting and sound systems in church

Repairs to the west window

Further investigations into the subsidence in the north east corner of the church, and any remedial actions required

Repointing of churchyard wall

Maintenance of masonry at roof level

Development of kitchen and toilet facilities, with changes to the internal porches

Parish Rooms

Redevelopment of the kitchen

The PCC believes that, at present, there are insufficient reserves available to cover all of these projects. Consequently, individual projects will commence only when adequate finance is available. During 2025, the internal roof over the bells was replaced and new toilets were installed in the Parish Rooms. Maintenance work on the external masonry of St George's Church will commence in 2026 with removal of flaking masonry at a high level.

The reserves policy for St Gabriel's church was reviewed in 2016 and was amended to match that of St George's, i.e. the equivalent of three months general running costs. Maintenance and improvements are being carried out with the help of a team of volunteers, and the reserves are considered to be adequate.

The reserves are held on deposit with the church's bankers, or with CCLA Investment Managers.

Dr Andrew Regan

10th February 2026

Approval

The annual report was approved by the Parochial Church Council on 25/03/2026 and signed on its behalf by: A. Regan

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Parochial Church Council of St George, Stockport

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St George, Stockport for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

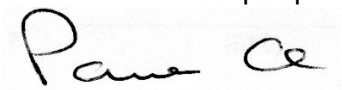
As the trustees of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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 10-4-2026

Paul Clancy, BA (Hons), ACA, MBA
19 Rosemoor Gardens
Appleton
Warrington
WA4 4RF.

Parochial Church Council of St George, Stockport
Charity number 1134170

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts							
Donations and legacies	6.a	99,882	27,694	21,392	-	148,968	155,820
Income from charitable activities	6.b	13,060	-	-	-	13,060	16,439
Other trading activities	6.c	21,225	2,735	-	-	23,960	39,052
Investments	6.d	12,402	4,177	-	-	16,579	14,964
Other income	6.e	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total income		**146,570**	**34,606**	**21,392**	**-**	**202,567**	**226,275**
Payments							
Raising funds	6.f	721	-	-	-	721	933
Expenditure on charitable activities	6.g	136,243	36,665	22,107	-	195,015	177,432
Other expenditure		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure		**136,964**	**36,665**	**22,107**	**-**	**195,736**	**178,365**
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		**9,606**	**(2,059)**	**(715)**	**-**	**6,831**	**47,910**
Transfers							
Gross transfers between funds - in	3, 4	-	1,100	-	-	1,100	40,100
Gross transfers between funds - out	3, 4	-	(1,000)	(100)	-	(1,100)	(40,100)
Other recognised gains / losses							
Gains/losses on investment assets	7.b	-	(1,173)	-	-	(1,173)	4,880
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		**9,606**	**(3,132)**	**(815)**	**-**	**5,658**	**52,790**
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward	3	**426,706**	**215,013**	**16,525**	**-**	**658,243**	**605,453**
Total funds carried forward	2	**436,312**	**211,881**	**15,709**	**-**	**663,902**	**658,243**

Parochial Church Council of St George, Stockport
Charity number 1134170

Balance Sheet

	Notes	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2025 £	At 31/12/2024 £
Fixed assets							
Tangible Assets	2, 7.a	344,035	-	-	-	344,035	344,587
Investments	2, 7.b	-	99,304	-	-	99,304	100,477
		344,035	**99,304**	**-**	**-**	**443,340**	**445,064**
Current assets							
Debtors	2, 8	15,470	-	1,323	-	16,792	17,379
Cash At Bank And In Hand	2	85,368	112,576	14,627	-	212,571	202,530
		100,838	**112,576**	**15,949**	**-**	**229,363**	**219,909**
Liabilities							
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year	2, 9	8,561	-	240	-	8,801	6,730
		8,561	**-**	**240**	**-**	**8,801**	**6,730**
Net current assets less current liabilities		**92,277**	**112,576**	**15,709**	**-**	**220,562**	**213,179**
Total assets less current liabilities		436,312	211,881	15,709	-	663,902	658,243
Liabilities							
		-	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Total net assets less liabilities		**436,312**	**211,881**	**15,709**	**-**	**663,902**	**658,243**
Represented by							
Unrestricted							
Unrestricted - General Fund	3	436,312	-	-	-	436,312	426,706

Parochial Church Council of St George, Stockport
Charity number 1134170

	Notes	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2025	At 31/12/2024
						£	£
Designated							
Designated - Choir (Legacy)	3	-	3,655	-	-	3,655	4,206
Designated - Fabric Fund	3	-	197,587	-	-	197,587	201,417
Designated - St Gabriel's	3	-	10,639	-	-	10,639	9,390
Restricted							
Restricted - Choir Music	3	-	-	152	-	152	152
Restricted - Fearn Trust Grants	3	-	-	10,236	-	10,236	10,251
Restricted - Music Fund	3	-	-	5,122	-	5,122	5,822
Restricted - Preservation Trust	3	-	-	200	-	200	300
Fund Totals		**436,312**	**211,881**	**15,709**	**-**	**663,902**	**658,243**

This Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2025, including the notes following, was approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by Dr Andrew Regan, PCC Vice Chair:

A. Regan

Date 25/03/2026

Parochial Church Council of St George, Stockport
Charity number 1134170

NOTES to the FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31st December 2025

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, current Church Accounting Regulations and Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102) together with the exemptions available to smaller charities under Section 1A. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the value of investment assets which are shown at market value.

They include all transactions for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

Restricted funds represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. They are only expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining at the end of each year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which the PCC has designated for a particular purpose, but the PCC retains the ability to use some or all of these funds for the general purposes of the PCC.

Income recognition

All income sources are accounted for gross. *Planned giving, collections and donations* are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. *Tax refunds* are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is recognised. *Grants and legacies* are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. *Dividends* are accounted for when due and payable. *Interest entitlements* are accounted for as they accrue. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the annual report.

Expenditure recognition

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. The parish share is accounted for when payable. Any parish share unpaid at 31st December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet. All *other expenditure* is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted gross.

Governance costs include any costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts and of any legal advice to the PCC on governance or constitutional matters.

Assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventories which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their anticipated useful economic life on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on *consecrated and benefice buildings*, or individual items under £1,000 or on the repair of movable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2001 is written off. The parish office printer is depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years. Other items of equipment with a purchase price over £1,000 used within church premises are depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years.

From 2023, no depreciation is provided on *freehold buildings* as the useful economic life of these assets exceeds 50 years and residual values are so high that potential depreciation would be immaterial. It is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. Resulting from regular impairment reviews, provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December.

The Parochial Church Council consider that there are no material uncertainties about the ability of St George's PCC to continue as a going concern.

2 Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Class and nominal code	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Last year
Fixed Asset - Investments						
6440: Investments	-	99,304	-	-	99,304	100,477
Total	**-**	**99,304**	**-**	**-**	**99,304**	**100,477**
Fixed Asset - Tangible Assets						
6430: Tangible fixed assets: property	342,728	-	-	-	342,728	342,728
6431: Office printer	1,307	-	-	-	1,307	1,859
Total	**344,035**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**344,035**	**344,587**
Current Asset - Cash At Bank And In Hand						
6501: Bank of Scotland current account	11,091	1,936	3,731	-	16,758	20,966
6502: NatWest current account	43,251	14,160	10,696	-	68,106	59,284
6503: Preservation Trust current account	-	-	200	-	200	300
6510: CCLA (CBF) deposit account	31,020	96,481	-	-	127,500	121,980
6520: Petty cash	7	-	-	-	7	-
Total	**85,368**	**112,576**	**14,627**	**-**	**212,571**	**202,530**
Current Asset - Debtors						
Z05: Accounts Receivable	15,470	-	1,323	-	16,792	17,379
Total	**15,470**	**-**	**1,323**	**-**	**16,792**	**17,379**
Liability - Agency Accounts						
6699: Agency collections	-	-	240	-	240	1,045
Total	**-**	**-**	**240**	**-**	**240**	**1,045**
Liability - Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year						
Z04: Accounts Payable	8,561	-	-	-	8,561	5,685
Total	**8,561**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**8,561**	**5,685**
Net total assets	**436,312**	**211,881**	**15,709**	**-**	**663,902**	**658,243**
Represented by						
General (Unrestricted)	436,312	-	-	-	436,312	426,706
Designated - Choir Legacy	-	3,655	-	-	3,655	4,206
Designated - Fabric	-	197,587	-	-	197,587	201,417
Designated - St Gabriel's	-	10,639	-	-	10,639	9,390
Restricted - Choir Music	-	-	152	-	152	152

Class and nominal code		General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Last year
Restricted - Fearn		-	-	10,236	-	10,236	10,251
Restricted - Music		-	-	5,122	-	5,122	5,822
Restricted - Preservation		-	-	200	-	200	300
	Total	**436,312**	**211,881**	**15,709**	**-**	**663,902**	**658,243**

3 Fund movement summary

Fund		Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/Losses	Journals	Closing
Choir Legacy								
Designated		4,206	-	500	-	(51)	-	3,655
	Sub-totals	**4,206**	**-**	**500**	**-**	**(51)**	**-**	**3,655**
Choir Music								
Restricted		152	-	-	-	-	-	152
	Sub-totals	**152**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**152**
Fabric								
Designated		201,417	31,234	34,043	100	(1,122)	-	197,587
	Sub-totals	**201,417**	**31,234**	**34,043**	**100**	**(1,122)**	**-**	**197,587**
Fearn								
Restricted		10,251	21,392	21,407	-	-	-	10,236
	Sub-totals	**10,251**	**21,392**	**21,407**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**10,236**
Music								
Restricted		5,822	-	700	-	-	-	5,122
	Sub-totals	**5,822**	**-**	**700**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**5,122**
Preservation								
Restricted		300	-	-	(100)	-	-	200
	Sub-totals	**300**	**-**	**-**	**(100)**	**-**	**-**	**200**
St Gabriel's								

Fund	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/Losses	Journals	Closing
Designated	9,390	3,372	2,122	-	-	-	10,639
Sub-totals	**9,390**	**3,372**	**2,122**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**10,639**
General							
Unrestricted	426,706	146,570	136,964	-	-	-	436,312
Sub-totals	**426,706**	**146,570**	**136,964**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**436,312**
Totals	**658,243**	**202,567**	**195,736**	**-**	**(1,173)**	**-**	**663,902**

4 Transfers Between Funds

An amount of £100 was transferred from the Preservation Trust to the Fabric Fund. This represents a grant made by the Preservation Trust to the PCC.

As the value of unrestricted funds was above the minimum required by our financial reserving policy, it was not necessary to transfer any funds from the Fabric Fund to unrestricted funds as at 31/12/2025 to meet the necessary minimum reserve.

5 Explanation of Funds:

Designated Funds

Designated Funds are fund set aside for a particular purpose. However, the PCC may resolve to use such funds for any other purpose.

The St Gabriel's Fund is used for all matters relating to St Gabriel's Church, and the PCC has given the St Gabriel's Committee limited financial authority over these finances.

The Fabric Fund holds monies set aside for the maintenance and repair of church buildings, including the Parish Rooms and the Curate's House. The PCC intend to make regular transfers into this fund from unrestricted income.

The Choir Legacy Fund was established in 2020 with a bequest from Frank Gee, a former choir member. It is intended to be used for the benefit of the choir.

Restricted Funds

St George's Church Preservation Trust was established under a trust deed in 1990. The objects include the restoration and repair of the fabric and contents of St George's church, the parish office, the parish rooms and other PCC property.

In 2025 the trustees made a grant of £100 from the Preservation Trust to the Fabric Fund, and have stated their intention to transfer the remaining amount over the coming years.

The Preservation Trust is considered to be a connected charity, consequently the transactions and balances have been included in these accounts, but are restricted funds.

The PCC Restricted Fund represents donations given and monies raised for specific objectives.

An annual grant from the Fearn Trust of £21,392 (2024: £19,864) was received to pay for insurance for St George's Church and St Gabriel's Church, including the cost of cover against acts of terrorism.

The Music Fund holds any grant income received in respect of musical activities. No further grant was received during 2025 (2024: £0) from the Pilling Trust to support our Choral Scholars.

6 Analysis of income and expenditure

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
RECEIPTS						
6.a Donations and legacies						
0101 - Standing orders: Gift Aid	50,913	-	-	-	50,913	46,196
0102 - Standing orders: non-Gift Aid	2,520	-	-	-	2,520	2,400
0110 - Weekly Envelopes: Gift Aid	8,999	-	-	-	8,999	7,025
0201 - Weekly envelopes	975	-	-	-	975	3,016
0202 - Gift Aid Envelopes	1,216	-	-	-	1,216	2,073
0301 - Plate collections: GASDS	7,248	30	-	-	7,278	7,047
0302 - Plate collections: non-GASDS	-	-	-	-	-	15
0303 - Baptisms: plate collections (GASDS)	497	-	-	-	497	576
0304 - Baptisms: Gift-Aid envelopes	99	-	-	-	99	202
0305 - Funerals: plate collections (GASDS)	-	-	-	-	-	805
0306 - Weddings: plate collections (GASDS)	-	-	-	-	-	36
0307 - Funerals: gift-aid envelopes	-	-	-	-	-	4
0308 - Funerals: plate collections (non-GASDS eligible)	-	-	-	-	-	355
0309 - Weddings: Gift-aid envelopes	20	-	-	-	20	-
0501 - Donations: other, gift aided	-	-	-	-	-	6,191
0502 - Donations for specific projects	-	8,036	-	-	8,036	982
0503 - Donations to travel fund	906	-	-	-	906	66
0520 - Donations: floodlighting, gift aided	245	-	-	-	245	120
0521 - Donations: floodlighting	90	-	-	-	90	10
0550 - Donations: other (GASDS)	1,765	-	-	-	1,765	1,168
0560 - Donations: other	2,199	220	-	-	2,419	3,107
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	18,529	-	-	-	18,529	18,489
0701 - Legacies	-	10,000	-	-	10,000	33,318
0802 - Non-recurring one-off grants	3,661	9,408	21,392	-	34,461	22,620
Donations and legacies Totals	**99,882**	**27,694**	**21,392**	**-**	**148,968**	**155,820**

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
6.b Income from charitable activities						
0901 - Fundraising: festivals	9,201	-	-	-	9,201	9,489
0902 - Fundraising: other	238	-	-	-	238	470
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	2,125	-	-	-	2,125	3,932
1102 - DoM fees	1,017	-	-	-	1,017	1,138
1106 - Church fees - other than statutory fees for weddings and funerals	479	-	-	-	479	1,410
Income from charitable activities Totals	**13,060**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**13,060**	**16,439**
6.c Other trading activities						
0910 - Sales of goods, etc	127	-	-	-	127	160
1240 - Parish Room lettings	10,236	-	-	-	10,236	10,477
1241 - Church letting	9,203	2,735	-	-	11,938	25,369
1250 - Magazine income - advertising	973	-	-	-	973	2,175
1260 - Parish magazine sales	687	-	-	-	687	871
Other trading activities Totals	**21,225**	**2,735**	**-**	**-**	**23,960**	**39,052**
6.d Investments						
1020 - Bank and building society interest	2,105	4,177	-	-	6,283	6,770
1030 - Rent from lands or buildings	10,296	-	-	-	10,296	8,194
Investments Totals	**12,402**	**4,177**	**-**	**-**	**16,579**	**14,964**
Receipts Grand totals	**146,570**	**34,606**	**21,392**	**-**	**202,567**	**226,275**
PAYMENTS						
6.f Raising funds						
1720 - Costs of printing envelopes	62	-	-	-	62	161
1730 - Costs of festivals & other events	659	-	-	-	659	773
Raising funds Totals	**721**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**721**	**933**
6.g Expenditure on charitable activities						
1840 - Giving - local relief	910	-	-	-	910	90
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	77,605	-	-	-	77,605	75,344
2001 - Assistant staff costs	11,728	-	-	-	11,728	12,966
2101 - Working expenses of incumbent	504	-	-	-	504	2,075
2120 - Council tax - vicarage	1,503	-	-	-	1,503	3,846

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
2130 - Curate's house maintenance	467	-	-	-	467	400
2131 - Curate's house - insurance	645	-	-	-	645	398
2132 - Curate's house - electricity and gas	(132)	-	-	-	(132)	273
2140 - Water - vicarage	144	-	-	-	144	646
2145 - Water - curate's house	55	-	-	-	55	-
2150 - Vicarage telephone and internet	425	-	-	-	425	495
2151 - Vicarage: maintenance	1,354	-	-	-	1,354	-
2202 - Children and young people	94	-	-	-	94	-
2301 - Church running - insurance	-	-	21,407	-	21,407	20,298
2310 - Church office - telephone	523	-	-	-	523	643
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	1,188	-	-	-	1,188	874
2321 - Other music costs	1,147	500	700	-	2,347	3,377
2330 - Church maintenance	4,588	3,840	-	-	8,428	11,126
2340 - Upkeep of services	3,283	-	-	-	3,283	2,151
2350 - Upkeep of churchyard	1,918	-	-	-	1,918	1,616
2360 - Administration	2,378	-	-	-	2,378	2,786
2401 - Church running - electricity	5,980	960	-	-	6,939	8,866
2410 - Church running - gas	13,316	-	-	-	13,316	17,987
2420 - Church running - water	392	169	-	-	561	410
2501 - Magazine expenses	2,183	-	-	-	2,183	2,502
2520 - Parish Room running - consumables	506	-	-	-	506	543
2530 - Parish Room running - electricity	300	-	-	-	300	300
2540 - Parish Room running - gas	2,374	-	-	-	2,374	2,678
2560 - Parish Room running - maintenance	864	-	-	-	864	4,632
2602 - Professional fees	-	703	-	-	703	-
2701 - Church major repairs - structure	-	17,111	-	-	17,111	-
2820 - Hall + major repairs - installation	-	13,382	-	-	13,382	-
2830 - Hall + interior and exterior decorating	-	-	-	-	-	108
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	**136,243**	**36,665**	**22,107**	**-**	**195,015**	**177,432**
Payments Grand totals	**136,964**	**36,665**	**22,107**	**-**	**195,736**	**178,365**

Staff costs

	2025	2024
Wages and salaries	11,728	12,966
National Insurance	-	-
Total:	**11,728**	12,966

During the year the PCC employed a Director of Music and a secretary at St George's, both on a part-time basis.

Payments to PCC members

James Hibbert was a PCC member from 27th April 2025. In 2025 the PCC paid him a salary as the Director of Music (including payment for weddings and funerals) of £8,628 (2024: £8,071) and paid £160 (2024: £160) towards his professional development.

7 Fixed Assets

7.a *Tangible fixed assets*	Freehold land and buildings 30 Maple Close	Office printer
	£	£
Cost or valuation		
At 01/01/2025	342,728	2,760
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31/12/2025	342,728	2,760
Depreciation		
At 01/01/2024	-	(901)
Charge for year	-	(552)
at 31/12/2025	-	(1,453)
Net Book Value		
At 31/12/2024	342,728	1,859
At 31/12/2025	342,728	1,307

The freehold land and buildings at the beginning of the year comprised the curate's house at 30 Maple Close, Stockport, purchased on 29th June 2023 for £316,798 plus costs of surveys and capitalised improvements, totalling £342,728 up to 31st December 2024. This property is not being depreciated (see Assets in Note 1 above).

Those meeting rooms owned by the PCC are integral parts of the school premises and were donated by the Founder in 1901. As such the rooms are deemed to have no value for the purposes of these accounts.

The copier/printer in the parish office was purchased on 15th May 2023 at a cost of £2,760, and is being depreciated linearly over five years.

7.b *Investment assets*

Movements in the year:	2025 Designated Choir legacy £	2025 Designated Fabric Fund £	2025 Designated Total £	2025 **All Funds £**	2024 All Funds £
Opening market value	4,206	96,271	100,477	**100,477**	95,597
Purchases at cost, less disposals at carrying value	(500)	500	-	**-**	-
Net gains/(losses) on disposals and annual revaluation	(51)	(1,122)	(1,173)	**(1,173)**	4,880
Closing market value	3,655	95,649	99,304	**99,304**	100,477

No investment assets were held in Unrestricted Funds or in Restricted Funds.

Holdings at 31 December in CBF Church of England Investment Fund Accumulation Units:

	2025	2024
Choir legacy	58.92	67.02
Fabric Fund	1542.00	1533.90
Total	1600.92	1600.92

8 Debtors

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**	Total Funds 2024 £
Income tax recoverable	12,805	-	**12,805**	13,338
Prepayments and accrued income	2,665	1,323	**3,988**	4,041
Other debtors	-	-	**-**	-
Total	15,470	1,323	**16,792**	17,379

9 Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**	Total Funds 2024 £
Accruals for utilities and other costs	6,596	-	**6,596**	5,285
Creditors for goods and services	1,965	-	**1,965**	400
Agency accounts	-	240	**240**	1,045
Total	8,561	240	**8,801**	6,730