St Michael's Church Elmwood Road

Your local church

Annual Report 2025



Who we are

We are a Church family with a big heart for our local community.

We want to be a Church where everyone feels welcome and loved, where people find both joy and consolation.

We want to be a place where people learn and flourish and find out what it means to live a wholehearted life by following the ways of Jesus. And how we can all bring love, peace and healing to the world around us.

VICAR'S REPORT

Dear Friends

It has been a huge privilege to serve this wonderful church for another year. What an amazing group of people we all are – with so many gifts and so much kindness and generosity. Let's continue to keep our light shining – both as individuals and as a community.

Highlights of the year included many community events and get togethers. Our 2025 New Year Resolution was to hang out together more and we did that with events like a trip to Turner's House, a lunch at a lovely Chinese restaurant and a fabulous and spiritually uplifting Church Retreat.

Once again, there are many people to thank for helping with all we have been doing, especially our wonderful Churchwardens, Sue White and Gwen Page; our Associate Priest, Rev Gary Piper; our Licensed Lay Ministers, Sarah Tonks and Simon Wethered; our PCC Secretary, Sue Hardwick; and our excellent Treasurers, Jordan Hiebert and Chris Meissner. Staff members have also worked hard. We are grateful to Sue Riley and Chris Fegan, who worked as Administrators; to Jan Cunningham, our Music Director; and to Hansol Kim, our Worship and Youth Leader.



It was lovely to have another Street Party in Elmwood Road in September, and I would like to thank everyone who supported this event, which is so appreciated by our community.

We continue to pray for renewal of the Church and for the many needs of our world. Once again, it has been a huge personal privilege to serve as Vicar at St Michael's.

Thank you all for being such a great support.

Yours in Christ

Martine Oborne, Vicar

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership of the PCC

Name	Designation	Term Expires
Martine Oborne	Vicar	Ex-officio
Sarah Tonks	Lay Minister	Ex-officio
Simon Wethered	Lay Minister	Ex-officio
Susan White	Churchwarden & Lay Vice Chair	Ex-officio
Gwen Page *	Churchwarden	Ex-Officio
Sue Thackray	Deanery Synod Rep	Ex-officio
Vacancy	Deanery Synod Rep	Ex-officio
Vacancy	Deanery Synod Rep	Ex-officio
Sonia Cromey*	Member and Children's Champion from 2021	April 2026
Alejando Gomez *	Member	April 2026
Sue Hardwick *	Member and PCC Secretary	April 2026
Leo Arefi	Member	April 2027
Chris Fegan* (resigned 21 Jan 2026)	Member	April 2027
Alexis Meissner	Member	April 2027
Jordan Hiebert	Member	April 2028
Chris Meissner	Member and Treasurer	April 2028
Vacancy		April 2028
*members coming up for re-election or standing down		

The PCC works with the Vicar to discuss important plans for St Michael's and jointly to make strategic decisions. The PCC is responsible for the repair of the church building, the furniture, the equipment and anything that can be moved, as well as other property such as the Centre. It is also responsible for the financial affairs of the parish, and, with the Vicar, the PCC has responsibility for the type of services that are held.

St Michael's PCC has nine elected members, with three members elected each year. This year Chris Fegan resigned midterm and, with some members coming up to their three years, there are some vacancies on the PCC.

Our thanks go to those members who are finishing this year for their service and especially to Sonia Cromey who has been our Children's Champion for five years and has inspired big developments in our children's ministry – especially with our Sunday morning groups.

We have been delighted to welcome Chris Meissner as our new Treasurer, and he has settled in and his contributions are greatly valued. We are very grateful to our previous Treasurer, Jordan Hiebert, who served in this role for six years.

There have been some absences due to ill health resulting in space for new Deanery Synod representatives, who are ex-officio members. Other than the ex-officio officers, where continuity needs to be maintained, members are encouraged to have a break after they have served a term or two on the PCC.

The PCC has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, in relation to having due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

The Standing Committee (SC) is required by Canon Law. It is made up of members of the PCC (the Vicar, Churchwardens, Treasurer and Secretary) and its role is to set PCC agendas, as well as deal with urgent matters which it then brings to the PCC for approval.

The PCC meets in the church in the warmer months and online during the winter months, when the church can be cold in the evening. This arrangement seems to suit most members. The meetings are held on different nights of the week to fit in with people's different schedules. The PCC meetings begin with 15 minutes of Bible study and prayer and we aim to balance discussions between mission and business. In 2025 the PCC met six times as did the SC.

Although there have been many things to celebrate at PCC over the year, one area of concern has been St Michael's Centre and how to move forward after the nursery closed in August. The nursery closure has had a major impact on the church finances and there has been much discussion regarding the impact of this on our contribution to Common Fund. There continues to be ongoing discussion about this and how to improve giving in the parish.

Do please think and pray about serving as a member of the PCC. The Vicar will be happy to give you more information on what it entails. Elected members are expected to prioritise attending PCC meetings – the dates for the year are circulated well in advance.

If you have thoughts, ideas, concerns, please do share these with the Vicar, the churchwardens or a member of the PCC. If you would like to put forward items for PCC discussion, you should submit them to the Vicar or a member of the SC for consideration.

Sue Hardwick, Secretary



ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

The number of those on the Electoral Roll in April 2025 amounted to 138, significantly down from the 174 figure for the previous year. This decline reflects the fact that last year we carried out a full review of the Roll and a fall in numbers was therefore expected.

Comparisons are difficult but a possible one is last year against the first year of the previous cycle (see the table below)

2018	176
2019	128
2020	131
2021	143
2022	153
2023	163
2024	174
2025	138

On this basis numbers have been growing over the cycle. I will report on current numbers at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Ian Peacock, Electoral Roll Officer

WORSHIP REPORT

Sunday services at 9.30am and 11am have been well attended and we have been delighted to welcome many new people. Both the Choir, led by Jan, and the Band, led by Hansol, are huge blessings to us all.



We had a sermon series on 'The Bible Course' to help us get an overview of the whole Bible, how it fits together, and how it is a unified story that leads us to Jesus. During Lent, we had a sermon series called Lent in Plain Sight based around '10 Everyday Objects' and in Advent we had a sermon series on the book of Isaiah.

We welcomed two visiting preachers: Revd Zoe Phillips from the parish of Brentford; and Revd Shameela Jameelee who has Permission To Officiate in the Kensington Area.

We had two Messy Church services – Messy Easter in April and Messy Christmas in December. Thank you so much to Sarah Tonks who took the lead in making these happen, and for all who helped.

We had Mothering Sunday services in March; Harvest services in October; a Service of Remembrance for loved ones who have died in October; and a Remembrance Sunday service in November.

On Good Friday we joined with St Nicholas Chiswick and St Paul's Grove Park for a walk of witness in the local area. On Easter Day we had a dawn service by the river as well as Choir and Band led services on Easter Day.

And at Christmas we had a full range of services and events, including a fabulous and well attended Carol Service by candlelight.



We also had a lovely Crib Service on Christmas Eve.



We continued throughout the year to record services and upload them to our YouTube channel so that people can participate in worship online. Thank you Hansol for doing this and thank you to everyone who has helped us on the sound desk and behind the scenes with the tech.

Finally, huge thanks again to Rev Gary Piper for many excellent sermons and fascinating anecdotes on the vicissitudes of being a life-long supporter of both Jesus, and Fulham FC!

Martine Oborne, Vicar

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Our meditation sessions have continued on Wednesday evenings in Church. This is a wonderful opportunity to have a complete slowdown and spend about 20 minutes in silence, coming intentionally into the presence of God and waiting to hear God's voice.

Kathleen Birch

CHOIR REPORT

The trebles continued to work hard and make progress, with Maya, Jostan and Kennesaw being awarded their dark blue ribbons and Scott and Charlie their light blue ribbons during the year. In September Charlie moved to Spain with his family, when his father tenor Nick started a new job there, but we were very glad to see them back to sing over Christmas.

There were fewer shared choral events this year but a highlight was the Advent Carol service on 30 November which was held at St Michael's this year. We were joined by singers from St Nicholas and St Paul's churches for several Saturday morning practices as well as on the day and sang some rousing Advent music including Mendelssohn's Im Advent, And the Glory of the Lord from The Messiah and Barry Ferguson's People look East with a solo verse sung by our trebles.



A number of our adult choir members once again joined Zac Moxon and the Chiswick School choir for a performance of Mahler's Second Symphony in March. As a result of this and other community choral events the school was shortlisted for a TES Schools Award for community engagement.

The week before Christmas is always extremely busy but we managed to fit in carol singing round the streets of Grove Park with the support of the faithful collectors Ian, Ros, Sarah and Linda and were able to raise £450 for Save the Children. Mervyn very kindly hosted us again for much appreciated mince pies and mulled wine afterwards.



The service of nine lessons and carols took place on 22 December with a huge choir of over 30 singers, regular and returning. Maya sang the opening solo verse of Once in Royal beautifully, and we sang music ranging from Mendelssohn and Berlioz to twentieth-century composers John Rutter, Max Reger and Boris Ord. A special shout-out to Nicholas who read the Gospel reading from St John most movingly.

As always, we are keen to recruit new members and would particularly love to expand the trebles section. Children (from 7yrs up) don't need musical experience as long as they can read words fluently and enjoy singing. The RSCM Voice for Life programme provides an excellent musical training and singing in an all-age choir gives children a life-long love of singing and music. Adults of all voices are very welcome. We currently rehearse at 9.30am for trebles and 10am for adults on Saturday mornings; and at 9am before the 9.30am service on Sunday. If you would like to join us, please talk to Jan Cunningham, Director of Music, or any adult choir member, after the 9.30 Sunday service.

Jan Cunningham, Director of Music

BAND REPORT

Our band, which leads worship at our 11am service on Sundays, continues to grow, and we enjoy rehearsing together on Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 7pm. We prepare with prayer and a heart of unity, aiming to create a harmonious sound as one team. As we learn and practise new songs, it's been a joy for each member to worship and serve the church and community together as a band.

We have been excited to welcome Dasha Antonova, who helped with sound mixing and lyric slides during worship and also plays the violin. Our vision as a band is not limited to using only modern rock instruments—we want to explore and embrace a variety of instruments to enrich our worship. If anyone feels called to join, you are very welcome!

Hansol Kim, Worship Pastor

SIDESPEOPLE / WELCOMERS REPORT

Many thanks again this year for those who regularly give a friendly smile and warm welcome to people when they arrive for worship on Sunday mornings.

At the 9.30am service our thanks go to all those who served on the rota:

1st Sunday: Alison and Ros
2nd Sunday: Ian and Alexis
3rd Sunday: Ron and Dee*
4th Sunday: Ginny and Pierre
5th Sunday: Caroline and John

And thanks also to Sue White, who steps in if regulars get called to another task or can't do their usual Sunday.

At the 11am, our thanks go to regular welcomers who are Siew, Leo, Alexis and Eric – supported by Sue White.

If you think you could help with welcoming at either service, please let me or Sue White know.

*After a number of years of stalwart service, Ron and Dee are no longer able to get to Chiswick and have left a big hole in several areas of church life, not least being sidespeople/welcomers and helping with teas and coffees.

Linda Woods

HOUNSLOW DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

We had three Hounslow Deanery synod meetings in 2025.

The first, in February, was on 'cross cultural mission' at St Mary's Spring Grove. It was led by Rev Mark Poulson, lead trainer of interfaith awareness and community relations for the Church of England in London.

The second, in June, was on the Grow Course and was held at St Dunstan's in Fellltham, Churches were

encouraged to do this programme as a cohort together and St Michael's started the GROW course in November.

The third, in October, was on Safeguarding at St Nicholas, Chiswick and explored how we can support Parish Safeguarding Officers better.

Martine Oborne, Vicar

FABRIC REPORT

Last year saw the fund-raising event organized by Alexis and Chris to raise money for the repair of the church roof. Thank you so much to all those who contributed and to Alexis and Chris for organizing: the money was raised, the roof repaired and the rain kept out.

Thank you so much for all of those who arrange flowers in church - they always look so beautiful. Thank you to all those who tend and care for the gardens surrounding the church - those in the community as well as ourselves take pleasure in looking at and using the garden.



Thank you to Alison who washes and irons our tablecloths and linen regularly. And thank you to those who clean the brass and polish the sliver.

Thank you to Peter Wickstead who is always willing to do odd jobs and dump runs and for handling a legal title issue this year.

Thank you to those who serve refreshments after church services and make sure the kitchen is clean afterwards.

Thank you to Susan Chamberlin who is busy working on a new banner for us of St Michael.

And to Zion for helping with sacristan duties and ringing the bell on Sunday mornings.

If l have missed anybody out, please accept my apologies - l truly appreciate everything that everybody does for our Church and to the glory of God.

Sue White, Churchwarden

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT

Children's Church

We have Children's Church at both our Sunday services. Our mission statement is: to provide a safe place for children to make friends and learn about Jesus.

At the 9.30am service we have one group for Reception–Year 4. In 2025 we had one leader, Seula, who was supported by Kathryn, Alexis, Eric, Caroline, Sarah and Gary.

At the 11am service the age-range of our regular children has been steadily increasing so we now have two groups to enable age-appropriate teaching. The younger group is for Reception–Year 3 and the older group is for Year 4+. We will continue to keep these groups under review to ensure we

are meeting the needs of all our children. In 2025 our Leaders were Sarah, Gary, Alexis, Eric and myself. Helpers were Felix, Minjee, Jordan, Julia and Terry Ann.

Thank you so much to all Leaders and Helpers at both services.

We are in the process of recruiting additional Leaders and Helpers. Leaders plan the sessions following the sermon series and use a variety of online resources including Energize. Sessions include discussions, games, crafts and visits from Gary's puppet friends! Do take a look at the children's learning on the display boards in the Children's Aisle.

We also hold Messy Church services around key church festivals. In 2025 we held Messy Easter and Messy Christmas, which were well-attended by families from the congregation and the wider local community. We participated in a variety of craft activities, sang, heard Bible stories, and shared a meal together.

We would appreciate your prayers as we continue to grow our ministry, and for our children as they continue to learn about Jesus and develop their faith.

The Children's Ministry Team

Youth Clubs

We currently run two Christian-focused youth groups each week at the Church, serving different age groups and supporting young people in their faith and daily lives.

Our Tuesday Youth Club is for those aged 14 and above, and is led by Gary and me, with valuable support from Caroline, Seula and Dongyeon as volunteers. Our Thursday Youth Club is for young people aged 10 to 13, and is led by Hansol and Seula, with Dongyeon serving as a volunteer. Chloe Harvey also continues to support both groups during her university holidays, and we are very grateful for her ongoing involvement.

As the two groups are for different age ranges, they require different types of activities, discussion, and pastoral approach. This has meant shaping each group in a way that is appropriate for their stage of life and level of understanding, while keeping a clear Christian focus in both settings. We are thankful that both groups are going well, and that the young people are engaging positively.



Participating in a Pentefest celebration at Pentecost

Through Bible teaching, discussion, fellowship, and activities, both groups aim to provide a welcoming

space where young people can grow in faith, build friendships, and feel supported within a Christian community. We give thanks for the commitment of all those who serve in these ministries, and we pray that both groups will continue to grow and bear good fruit in the lives of the young people who attend.

Hansol Kim, Youth Minister



PASTORAL CARE AND OCCASIONAL OFFICES REPORT

Thank you so much to everyone who has helped with visiting the sick and housebound throughout the year.

There were eight baptisms – Leo Arefi and his and Say's children, Jostan and Kennesaw; Freddie and Bertie Fenby; Savannah Goldstone; and Sophia and Leela Coppola.

There was one memorial service and a thanksgiving service for the life of our dear sister Kanta Gomez.

Martine Oborne, Vicar

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We ran 'Café Together' lunches on first Wednesdays of the month, providing a hot meal and company for those who came along.



Alphabeats, our Wednesday morning Drop in for parents, carers and Under 5s, continues to be popular.

And our Community Cafe on Thursday mornings has also become popular. Thank you so much to Elaine Hughes and Alison Newbold for all the delicious cakes you have baked for us.



And thank you to Siew who arranged a fabulous lunch to celebrate Chinese New Year.





We had a fabulous Pancake Party in February – huge thanks to Sue White who cooked literally hundreds of pancakes – and all those who helped out on the day.

We had a wonderful Street Party in September, with live music, a free BBQ and lots of fun and games for all the family including pony rides. Thank you to everyone who helped raise the money for this event at the Auction we held in June. And for everyone who helped out on the day including Shady Grove and Kin Kelly. And Ron and Dee who served countless cups of tea.





In May we celebrated the 60th anniversary of VE Day with a fabulous cake made by Gwen.

And Siew also arranged a lovely trip to visit Turner's house in Twickenham.



And at Christmas, we did some carol singing around the streets of Grove Park.

Martine Oborne, Vicar

Alphabeats

Alphabeats, our Carers and Toddlers group, on Wednesday mornings continued to be very popular with local parents and carers, who enjoy the space in Church, the toys and each other's company. It's lovely to see so many of them joining us for the monthly Café Together community lunch and for Messy Church events.

Huge thanks to Rebekah and others who help with this group.

Sue White, Churchwarden

MORNING PRAYER AND BIBLE READING GROUPS REPORT

Midweek Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer and Bible Reading Groups have been well attended. Special thanks to Lesley and Elizabeth who have helped with leading these sessions.

Martine Oborne, Vicar

ECO CHURCH

We continued to support WildChiswick by hosting a number of events at St Michael's to promote awareness of our local wildlife. Thank you to Jo Gilbert for all you and your team do.

Martine Oborne, Vicar

CHURCH RETREAT

We had a wonderful Retreat at St Katharine's Parmoor in Frieth, Henley-on-Thames, and led by Revd Catherine Bond. Thanks to everyone who helped with this and for all the wonderful poetry.



Martine Oborne, Vicar

FUNDRAISING REPORT

In 2025, we raised nearly £14,000 for external charities and local community initiatives. Most notably:

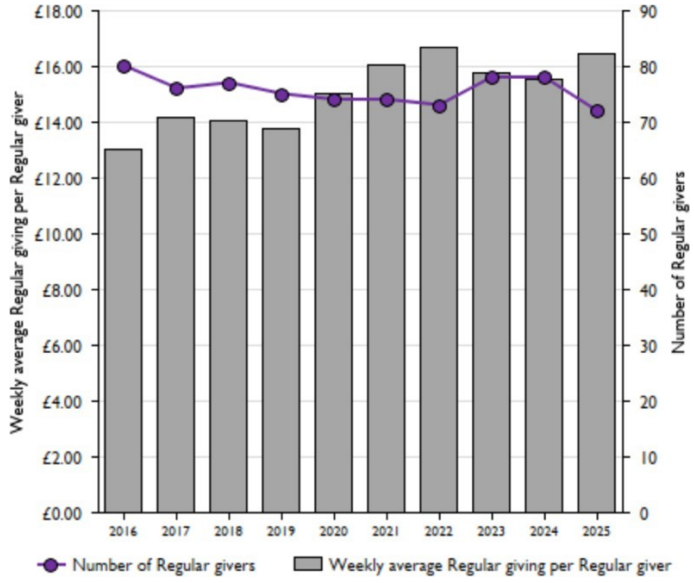
- We completed fundraising to fund 150 school uniforms for children in Cambodia and paid out £2,538
- Our auction and general fundraising for our annual community street party raised over £4,000 for this much appreciated event
- We successfully applied for and received a grant of £6,445 from the Hounslow Welfare Trust to support our Youth Ministry program in 2025 & 2026
- Christmas carolling in the local neighbourhood raised approximately £540 for Save the Children.

A big thank you to all who made financial contributions and participated in fundraising efforts!

Christopher Meissner, Treasurer

PLANNED GIVING REPORT

Thank you to all members of our planned giving scheme!



Regular donations allow the PCC to budget and execute on the church's financial plans with confidence. In 2025, the number of planned givers declined by 7% vs 2024: we had 72 individuals or families contributing to the scheme, with a big majority (over 90%) donating on a monthly or quarterly basis.

Total income from Planned Giving declined 2% to £61,500 vs. 2024. Average weekly giving increased over 5% to £16.43 vs. 2024 due to the decline in the number of planned givers. There is a strong concentration of total giving with the top 10 givers providing over 50% of planned giving in 2025.

As our expenses continue to rise, it is critical to continue raising funds to sustainably maintain the functioning of our church. If you are not yet a part of the planned giving scheme and would like to learn more, please pick up a leaflet at the back of the church or contact me directly. Even a small amount makes a big difference!

Christopher Meissner, Treasurer

ST MICHAEL'S CENTRE REPORT

Bookings for the Centre and the Church spaces have remained broadly consistent with last year, and we continue to see regular use of both the Church Centre and the main church space.

Regular bookings continued much as before. West London Chorus, formerly Chiswick Choir, remains a valued weekly user of the church space. St Michael's Players, Perform, Karate, Fantom Films, Hounslow Council as a Polling Station, and our local councillor's surgery have all continued to make regular use of the Centre. Pilates and the Stretching Club also continued as part of our ongoing bookings.

One significant change this year has been the closure of the Montessori nursery. The nursery had previously made regular use of the space throughout weekday mornings and afternoons. We are still hoping to secure a regular weekday booking that would cover mornings through to 4pm, similar to

the previous pattern of use. We would be grateful for prayer that a suitable long-term arrangement may be found.

Occasional bookings continue to include events such as talks by WildChiswick and birthday parties. We are glad to see these continue alongside the steady pattern of regular bookings already in place.

Booking fees were increased for 2025 and remain competitive compared with other local venues. We continue to consider ways in which the Centre can be a real asset to the wider community, and we welcome any ideas that may help us make better and more sustainable use of the space.

Hansol Kim

ST MICHAEL'S PLAYERS

Overview

2025 was another successful year for St Michael's Players and we performed four very well attended shows including the ever popular panto. Over the year we sold 1603 tickets out of 1830 which represents a very impressive 88% of available tickets.

Outside of plays we held three acting workshops, three traditional socials and five play readings.

A new beginning

The 2025 AGM saw us bring the curtain down on our 2024 committee where Claire Richmond (chair), Alastair Dewar (deputy chair), Tessa Dunn, Ian Trowbridge and Christine Lee all stood down and, after a rousing thank you, we raised the curtain on a shiny new committee of Chris (Chair), Guy (Deputy Chair) Moira (Treasurer), Jo (Secretary), Arabella, David, Vicki and Gareth. Great to see lots of new faces stepping forward to help – this is very much a theme that continued through 2025.

A quick word that even though Chris has served the committee for 29 years, this was the first time he was not our treasurer. A marvelous effort and we are all grateful for not only doing it but also for seeing the group through some tight times and leaving our accounts in a sound position.

Plays

Railway Children

Another train-based play directed by Guy Fairbank who reflected: "One of the best productions I've had the honour of directing. The combination of a stunning set, great production team and a super cast made for a triumphant show, one we were all so proud of. I still shed a little tear when I think of it"

Play highlights

- Unknown to the cast, Guy arranged for the entire audience to have white hankies and when the entire audience waved back, we were treated to a priceless reaction on stage. Inspired.
- We managed to adapt the complex Harvey set which, this time, featured amazing painting by Arabella, Teena and many others in the group. And the realistic tunnel was a showstopper. We had so many pictures of just that.
- Guy also developed some very effective scene transitions with wooden chairs and suitcases.

- We also added a matinee show hoping to encourage a younger audience and, in the end, this was not successful, but the experiment was worth trying

Chiswick Shorts

Guy went straight into directing this one too, although this production was actually 7 separate playlets from the Bite Size stable, selected to encourage prospective directors and actors to take on smaller projects. This achieved its aims and we blooded three new directors within the 5 total.

Play highlights

- This arrangement provided lots of opportunities for directing and acting and was presented in a cabaret style which was well received and made for a most enjoyable evening.
- Minimal sets and props allowed swift transitions and small casts meant potential stage access bottlenecks were avoided as many rehearsals could be held in homes.
- And one of the authors came to see the show which started a trend for the rest of the year

In fact, we liked it so much, we're going to reprise this again in 2026

Frogs

From brand new plays from budding playwrights to one of the first comedies ever written. Following Paul Smith's successful Classical Greek degree he determined to improve everyone's education on our little stage. Although Frogs is a very old comedy, this play staged a brand new translation by one of Paul's fellow students. Sadly, we missed out on hosting the premiere, but we weren't going to let that bother us.

One thing does need to be stated, and I'll speak for the cast and say we really thought we'd struggle to sell tickets. But, as it turns out, Paul's faith was well-founded and in addition to 2 sold out shows, the author, Danyal Warsopp, came back for a second view!

Play highlights

- We finally said goodbye to the Harvey set. Pretty good effort to get 4 plays from it. Alastair completed his set-design course and swept into this one with a set box (little model) and a simple, effective and fun set, the highlight of which was Pluto's showstopper reveal
- Leila, one of our new young members, popped up with a stunning lion mask for Hercules. Absolutely brilliant mask
- And when we lost one frog, Oscar's jumped in (sorry) with a timely offer to help and in Paul's words "turned into the jumpiest, froggiest frog ever"

I'd like to recognise Paul's bravura performance in the lead role complete with script in hand. Great performance, yes but not enough to overshadow my own starring role (ahem).

Snow White

Another Ben Crocker script and Neil's second direction of our world-famous panto. A huge cast of 27, a novel visualisation of the seven dwarves and another sell out success. There's not much we can say about this for our readers, because nearly everyone comes to see these shows and we are so humbled by the local and travelling support. Accordingly, and in response to this ongoing popularity, we've decided to add 3 extra shows in 2026. That's 9 shows! Wow!

Panto highlights:

- Another play and another author in the audience. Yup, Ben Crocker made the trip from Bristol although I do wonder how much of the script he recognised? That's a bit tongue in cheek and we need to acknowledge Neil and Cecilia's work bringing the script in line with our Chiswickian standards.
- Having the Seven as a supergroup was inspired and not only allowed our costume department to show off but also avoided all the pearl-clutching that the presence of dwarves seems to precipitate.
- And we really loved the alliterative lines and responses (effing well done) and who can forget the unforgettable "white charger"

Some more memorable moments include:

- A full set of parent child combinations (Mum-daughter, Mum-son, Dad-daughter and Dad-son)
- Sunday painting sessions turned into great fun as we "grew" our own forest. Surely this will be appearing in many future shows.
- And two of our star youngsters, Audrey and James, both enjoyed some solo singing and the audience showed their appreciation.

Other Activities not on Stage

Workshops

St Michael's Players runs theatre-based courses/workshops for our members and generally covers half the costs thereby hopefully bringing these within everyone's reach. In 2025, we ran 3 courses and all of them were presented by Lin Sagovsky who most of us remember from The Crown and Eastenders. Her three workshops covered:

- Freeing your voice
- Developing your character, and
- Understanding the text

Play Readings

We also hold play readings at each other's houses so that members who are not involved with the current production can still enjoy each other's company and the odd glass of wine together. We held five such evenings in 2025

Socials

And finally, we held our three regular events for the whole group, their partners and any prospective members. These are/were:

- Annual dinner: On the last Sunday in January we all met at the The Hole in the Wall pub and 26 people enjoyed a wonderful 3 course meal and pretty much took over the whole pub.
- Spring Social: Early May on a warm summer evening, 25 of us gathered at the Duck and Ball for a relaxed evening of chat, although I couldn't help noticing some people sidling off to keep an eye on the football! Nice pizzas too.
- Summer BBQ: And on the hottest day in August, typically, everyone descended on the Chair and Treasurer's house for the summer BBQ. The weather had everyone running for whatever shade they could find. Luckily there seemed to be quite a lot around the drinks table!

Bryony Wilman Scholarship

2025 saw the first Bryony Wilman scholarship awarded to Alastair and provided half the fees for his set design course at City Lit. The course completed around July and Alastair arrived post-course on a wave of enthusiasm and swept straight into Frogs and Snow White. Congratulations.

Summary

2025 was a very successful year for St Michael's Players with all our productions playing to full, or nearly full, audiences. This is, after all, the *raison d'etre* for the group and shows we are in good health as we enter 2026

For me, the 2025 highlights were:

- 88% of tickets sold, so we must be doing something right
- 3 new directors bringing our total to 10
- 3 authors came to see their play in our theatre
- Set design took a big step forward

Chris Hulatt, St Michael's Players

THE DIOCESE OF LONDON

The Diocese of London is the largest in the Church of England, with over 400 churches serving a diverse population of 4.2m north of the Thames and west of the Lea, with a vision for every Londoner to encounter the love of God in Christ.

In 2025, the Church continued to grow according to indicative statistics, contributing to attendance increases of around 20% since 2022.

The London Diocesan Fund (LDF) serves, supports and resources all parts of the Diocese by funding clergy salaries and providing essential services so every parish benefits from strong pastoral and missional leadership.

The Ministry Team supported the formation and development of our 540 paid clergy, 204 self supporting clergy, 114 Licensed Lay Ministers, as well as over 100 exploring ordained or lay ministry.

Most stipendiary clergy are housed by the LDF. The Housing team completed over 3,000 repairs and planned maintenance tasks, alongside major retro-fitting to improve housing quality and energy efficiency, contributing to net zero goals.

Parishes received wide-ranging practical support for ministry. The Property and Fundraising team helped secure nearly £16m of external investment towards building renovations, community engagement and mission.

Safeguarding practice was strengthened further, with 95% of parishes now using safeguarding dashboards. INEQE carried out an independent audit of diocesan safeguarding, which will provide recommendations for how to build on progress made to create a safer church.

This work was funded through parish contributions via the Common Fund (£24.3m) and LDF generated income (£12.8m) from grants and investments.

The LDF has also generated additional funds for mission-focused projects, now totalling £40m across their collective lifespan. Great progress was made in 2025, including:

- Hackney & Islington Programme: 24 parishes supported, four new worshipping communities launched, lay leaders trained, and significant attendance growth.
- Southall & Hounslow Project: strengthening intercultural ministry across 13 parishes with new multilingual congregations adding over 100 new disciples.
- Tower Hamlets Mission Project: 89 young people came to faith and nearly 9,000 residents were engaged through new worshipping communities and outreach.

The Diocese also celebrated Bishop Sarah's appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury, giving thanks for her eight years as Bishop of London, marked by committed support for parish ministry, mission, safeguarding, and the diocesan priorities of becoming younger, safer and more racially just.

Oliver Home, General Secretary of the Diocese of London



St Michael's is a broad friendly church with a lively vicar and a modern outlook, driven by traditional Christian values.
We seek to be a spiritual haven from the everyday pressures of life in a beautiful church building.

The Revd Martine Oborne vicar@stmichaels-elmwoodroad.org
St Michael's Church, Elmwood Road, Chiswick W4 3DY Tel: 020 8994 3173
www.stmichaels-elmwoodroad.org
Charity No. CC:1149114

St Michael's Annual Financial Report 2025

PCC of St Michael's Chiswick
For the period ended 31 December 2025



Prepared by
Christopher Meissner, Treasurer

Prepared on
16 April 2026

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Independent Examiners Report

Independent examiner's Report to the PCC of St Michael's Church Chiswick

I report to the PCC of St Michael's Church Chiswick (the PCC) on my examination of the accounts of St Michael's PCC for the year ended December 31st 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As members of the 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 the 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. 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:

Name : Franklin Atille FCCA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any) - ACCA

Address: Building 3 Chiswick Business Park, 566 Chiswick High Road, W4 5YA

Date: 16/04/2026

Financial Activities by Month

January-December, 2025

	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	TOTAL
Income													
Donations and legacies													
General Donations	55.00	257.23	65.00	791.00	1,530.00	2,305.00	195.00	92.86	222.00	135.00	238.20	155.00	£6,041.29
General Donations (Gift Aid Eligible)	167.00	55.00	106.00	30.00	785.00	1,138.00	180.00		217.72	234.30	324.00	285.05	3,522.07
Total for General Donations	**222.00**	**312.23**	**171.00**	**821.00**	**2,315.00**	**3,443.00**	**375.00**	**92.86**	**439.72**	**369.30**	**562.20**	**440.05**	**£9,563.36**
Give to Grow	4,124.71	5,001.71	6,336.71	4,622.88	5,252.88	5,378.60	4,793.60	4,778.60	6,178.60	4,763.60	5,448.60	4,837.40	61,517.89
Service Collections	300.00			650.00	601.00	110.00					100.00	550.00	£2,311.00
Service Collections (Gift Aid Eligible)	50.00	30.00	90.00	450.00	508.97	281.00	386.98	382.21	530.00	365.00	360.00	1,555.95	4,990.11
Total for Service Collections	**350.00**	**30.00**	**90.00**	**1,100.00**	**1,109.97**	**391.00**	**386.98**	**382.21**	**530.00**	**365.00**	**460.00**	**2,105.95**	**£7,301.11**
Total for Donations and legacies	**4,696.71**	**5,343.94**	**6,597.71**	**6,543.88**	**8,677.85**	**9,212.60**	**5,555.58**	**5,253.67**	**7,148.32**	**5,497.90**	**6,470.80**	**7,383.40**	**£78,382.36**
Facility Rental													
Centre Rental Income	7,528.50	4,687.50	3,553.55	5,806.25	7,871.45	3,278.75	3,338.75	3,218.85	3,802.05	11,260.23	3,773.75	6,039.75	64,159.38
Church Rental Income	280.00		175.00		290.25	20.00	725.00		280.00	665.00	80.00	815.00	3,330.25
Total for Facility Rental	**7,808.50**	**4,687.50**	**3,728.55**	**5,806.25**	**8,161.70**	**3,298.75**	**4,063.75**	**3,218.85**	**4,082.05**	**11,925.23**	**3,853.75**	**6,854.75**	**£67,489.63**
Fundraising													
150 Uniforms Fund				25.00			50.00		550.00	465.00			£1,090.00
150 Uniforms Fund (Gift Aid Eligible)						10.00		20.00	230.00	10.00			270.00
Total for 150 Uniforms Fund				**25.00**		**10.00**	**50.00**	**20.00**	**780.00**	**475.00**			**£1,360.00**
Auction Proceeds						2,156.22	500.00						2,656.22
Total for Fundraising				**25.00**		**2,166.22**	**550.00**	**20.00**	**780.00**	**475.00**			**£4,016.22**
Gift Aid Reclaim	431.30	98.50	1,331.10	559.59		1,199.36	652.27	646.02	646.02	12,475.61	596.02		18,635.79
Incoming Grants				1,000.00	6,445.00								7,445.00
Statutory Fees Collected			250.00		56.00		56.00						362.00
Uncategorised Deposits		116.06	369.05	147.00	245.16					200.00			1,077.27
Total for Income	**12,936.51**	**10,246.00**	**12,276.41**	**14,081.72**	**23,585.71**	**15,876.93**	**10,877.60**	**9,138.54**	**12,656.39**	**30,573.74**	**10,920.57**	**14,238.15**	**£177,408.27**
Cost of Sales													
Total	**12,936.51**	**10,246.00**	**12,276.41**	**14,081.72**	**23,585.71**	**15,876.93**	**10,877.60**	**9,138.54**	**12,656.39**	**30,573.74**	**10,920.57**	**14,238.15**	**£177,408.27**
Expenditures													
Accounting Costs	440.40				594.00								1,034.40
Advertising/Promotional											245.88		245.88
Card Processing Fees	38.67	61.18	25.23	26.33	29.41	59.54	80.95	20.98	2.84	44.03	33.71	21.01	443.88
Common Fund Contribution	5,837.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	5,833.00	70,000.00
Cost of Fundraising						252.22							252.22
Facility Costs													
Centre Maintenance									0.00	250.00			250.00
Centre Running Costs				460.00							160.00	100.00	720.00
Church Maintenance	644.02		1,024.14	607.44	2,030.05			498.00	20.00				4,823.65
Church Major Expenses							0.00		5,146.75				5,146.75
Church Running Costs	211.20				403.20						3,365.70	2,678.34	6,658.44
Utilities	596.33	3,300.59	2,692.90	531.20	292.78	3,660.91	962.08	741.15	1,543.67	693.25	711.99	4,090.49	19,817.34
Total for Facility Costs	**1,451.55**	**3,300.59**	**3,717.04**	**1,598.64**	**2,726.03**	**3,660.91**	**962.08**	**1,239.15**	**6,710.42**	**943.25**	**4,237.69**	**6,868.83**	**£37,416.18**
Insurance	457.73	457.73	457.73	457.73	457.73	467.76	467.78	467.78	467.78	467.78	467.78	467.78	5,563.09
Mission/Ministry Costs	201.11	21.00	21.00	67.87	21.00	21.00	21.00	42.76	21.00	21.00	57.98	547.95	1,064.67
Office/General Administrative Expenses	474.59	146.43	466.06	563.71	90.48	590.51	127.38	-339.32	73.99	81.88	476.26	-1,094.53	1,657.44
Organist and Choir			124.00					58.95	1,267.00		1,276.00	1,413.00	4,138.95
Outgoing Grants	50.00											2,538.00	2,588.00
Social/Refreshment Costs	312.76		112.00			205.86						60.46	691.08
Staff Costs	3,860.71	3,678.64	4,042.78	3,680.14	4,044.28	4,417.19	4,454.22	4,510.38	4,447.63	3,838.72	3,838.72	4,602.84	49,416.25
Statutory Fee Payments	124.00			199.00									323.00
Street Party Costs							202.80		2,535.33	1,198.28			3,936.41
Training and Events									-200.00	-2,225.00	3,381.00	140.00	1,096.00
Upkeep of Services			755.00	34.79		55.37	128.35			147.19			1,120.70
Youth Club Costs	78.92		171.33	101.90				807.89	32.37	307.47	265.95	442.51	2,208.34
Total for Expenditures	**13,327.44**	**13,498.57**	**15,725.17**	**12,563.11**	**13,795.93**	**15,563.36**	**12,277.56**	**12,641.57**	**21,191.36**	**10,657.60**	**20,113.97**	**21,840.85**	**£183,196.49**
Net Operating Income	**-390.93**	**-3,252.57**	**-3,448.76**	**1,518.61**	**9,789.78**	**313.57**	**-1,399.96**	**-3,503.03**	**-8,534.97**	**19,916.14**	**-9,193.40**	**-7,602.70**	**-£5,788.22**
Other Income													
Other Expenditures													
Net Other Income													
Net Income/(Expenditure)	**-390.93**	**-3,252.57**	**-3,448.76**	**1,518.61**	**9,789.78**	**313.57**	**-1,399.96**	**-3,503.03**	**-8,534.97**	**19,916.14**	**-9,193.40**	**-7,602.70**	**-£5,788.22**

Budget vs. Actuals 2025

January - December 2025

	Total	
	Actual	Budget
INCOME		
Donations and legacies		
General Donations	6,041.29	4,000.00
General Donations (Gift Aid Eligible)	3,522.07	4,000.00
Total General Donations	**9,563.36**	**8,000.00**
Give to Grow	61,517.89	64,000.00
Service Collections	2,311.00	2,500.00
Service Collections (Gift Aid Eligible)	4,990.11	3,500.00
Total Service Collections	**7,301.11**	**6,000.00**
Total Donations and legacies	**78,382.36**	**78,000.00**
Facility Rental		
Centre Rental Income	64,159.38	78,000.00
Church Rental Income	3,330.25	1,500.00
Total Facility Rental	**67,489.63**	**79,500.00**
Fundraising		
150 Uniforms Fund	1,090.00	
150 Uniforms Fund (Gift Aid Eligible)	270.00	
Total 150 Uniforms Fund	**1,360.00**	
Auction Proceeds	2,656.22	
Total Fundraising	**4,016.22**	
Gift Aid Reclaim	18,635.79	20,000.00
Incoming Grants	7,445.00	2,000.00
Statutory Fees Collected	362.00	
Uncategorised Deposits	1,077.27	
Total Income	**177,408.27**	**179,500.00**
TOTAL	**177,408.27**	**179,500.00**
EXPENDITURES		
Accounting Costs	1,034.40	1,200.00
Advertising/Promotional	245.88	800.00
Card Processing Fees	443.88	500.00
Common Fund Contribution	70,000.00	70,000.00
Cost of Fundraising	252.22	500.00
Facility Costs		
Centre Maintenance	250.00	2,000.00
Centre Major Expenses		3,000.00
Centre Running Costs	720.00	3,000.00
Church Maintenance	4,823.65	3,000.00
Church Major Expenses	5,146.75	3,000.00
Church Running Costs	6,658.44	4,500.00
Utilities	19,817.34	18,000.00
Total Facility Costs	**37,416.18**	**36,500.00**
Insurance	5,563.09	6,000.00
Mission/Ministry Costs	1,064.67	2,000.00
Office/General Administrative Expenses	1,657.44	3,000.00
Organist and Choir	4,138.95	4,500.00

	Total	
	Actual	**Budget**
Outgoing Grants	2,588.00	
Social/Refreshment Costs	691.08	600.00
Staff Costs	49,416.25	48,000.00
Staff/Volunteer Appreciation		300.00
Statutory Fee Payments	323.00	
Street Party Costs	3,936.41	
Training and Events	1,096.00	
Upkeep of Services	1,120.70	2,000.00
Youth Club Costs	2,208.34	4,000.00
Total Expenditures	**183,196.49**	**179,900.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**-5,788.22**	**-400.00**
OTHER EXPENDITURES		
Loan Repayment		7,000.00
Total Other Expenditures	**0.00**	**7,000.00**
NET OTHER INCOME	**0.00**	**-7,000.00**
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	**£ -5,788.22**	**£ -7,400.00**

Statement of Cash Flows

January-December, 2025

FULL NAME	TOTAL
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Income	-5,788.22
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations:	
Creditors	-1,267.00
Debtors	0.00
Employee Cash Advances	300.00
Funds Collected for Other Charities	-2,245.12
Total for Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations:	**-£3,212.12**
Net cash provided by operating activities	**-£9,000.34**
INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
LDF Loan - Roof Repairs	-7,008.00
Net cash provided by financing activities	**-£7,008.00**
NET CASH INCREASE FOR PERIOD	**-£16,008.34**
Cash at beginning of period	**£28,136.55**
CASH AT END OF PERIOD	**£12,128.21**

Balance Sheet

January-December, 2025

	TOTAL
Fixed Asset	
Tangible assets	
Church Centre	£405,961.00
Depreciation	113,671.10
Total for Church Centre	**£519,632.10**
Total for Tangible assets	**£519,632.10**
Total for Fixed Asset	**£519,632.10**
Cash at bank and in hand	
Cash on hand	0.00
CBF Deposit Fund	0.00
Current - Metro Operating	9,363.68
Current - Metro Petty Cash	485.03
Total for Cash at bank and in hand	**£9,848.71**
Debtors	
Debtors	0.00
Total for Debtors	**£0.00**
Current Assets	
Employee Cash Advances	400.00
Outstanding Gift Aid Reclaim	0.00
Undeposited Funds	2,279.50
Total for Current Assets	**£2,679.50**
NET CURRENT ASSETS	**£12,528.21**
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	
Trade Creditors	
Creditors	0.00
Total for Trade Creditors	**£0.00**
Current Liabilities	
Funds Collected for Other Charities	0.00
Total for Current Liabilities	**£0.00**
Total for Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**£0.00**
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£12,528.21**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	**£532,160.31**
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	
LDF Loan - Roof Repairs	5,485.32
Total for Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**£5,485.32**
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£526,674.99**
Charity Funds	
Opening Balance Equity	516,809.98
Retained Earnings	15,653.23
Profit for the year	-5,788.22
Total for Charity Funds	**£526,674.99**

Budget Overview 2025

January - December 2025

	Total
INCOME	
Donations and legacies	
General Donations	4,000.00
General Donations (Gift Aid Eligible)	4,000.00
Total General Donations	**8,000.00**
Give to Grow	64,000.00
Service Collections	2,500.00
Service Collections (Gift Aid Eligible)	3,500.00
Total Service Collections	**6,000.00**
Total Donations and legacies	**78,000.00**
Facility Rental	
Centre Rental Income	78,000.00
Church Rental Income	1,500.00
Total Facility Rental	**79,500.00**
Gift Aid Reclaim	20,000.00
Incoming Grants	2,000.00
Total Income	**179,500.00**
TOTAL	**179,500.00**
EXPENDITURES	
Accounting Costs	1,200.00
Advertising/Promotional	800.00
Card Processing Fees	500.00
Common Fund Contribution	70,000.00
Cost of Fundraising	500.00
Facility Costs	
Centre Maintenance	2,000.00
Centre Major Expenses	3,000.00
Centre Running Costs	3,000.00
Church Maintenance	3,000.00
Church Major Expenses	3,000.00
Church Running Costs	4,500.00
Utilities	18,000.00
Total Facility Costs	**36,500.00**
Insurance	6,000.00
Mission/Ministry Costs	2,000.00
Office/General Administrative Expenses	3,000.00
Organist and Choir	4,500.00
Social/Refreshment Costs	600.00
Staff Costs	48,000.00
Staff/Volunteer Appreciation	300.00
Upkeep of Services	2,000.00
Youth Club Costs	4,000.00
Total Expenditures	**179,900.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**-400.00**
OTHER EXPENDITURES	
Loan Repayment	7,000.00

	Total
Total Other Expenditures	**7,000.00**
NET OTHER INCOME	**-7,000.00**
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	**£ -7,400.00**

Signatory Page

This Annual Financial Report is signed on behalf of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Michael Sutton Court:

Rev. Martine Oborne
Chair

Sue White
Churchwarden

Independent examiner's Report to the PCC of St Michael's Church Chiswick

I report to the PCC of St Michael's Church Chiswick (the PCC) on my examination of the accounts of St Michael's PCC for the year ended December 31st 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act")

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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:

Name : Franklin Atille FCCA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any) - ACCA

Address: Building 3 Chiswick Business Park, 566 Chiswick High Road, W4 5YA

Date: 16/04/2026