

ST MARY'S CHURCH, KINGTON

Registered charity number 1185453

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
for
2025

St Mary's Church is situated in Kington, in the Kington and Weobley (Now "The Three Rivers" or, in Welsh, "Tri Afon") Deanery in the Diocese of Hereford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Church Office, The Vicarage, Church Road, Kington, HR5 3AG.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2011) and is now registered with the Charity Commission (Registered charity number 1185453).

As Charity Trustees, all PCC members are mindful of the Charity Commission's six core principles for charity trustees, which are as follows:

1. ***Ensure your charity is conducting its purposes for the public benefit.***
2. ***Comply with your charity's governing document i.e. PCC Measure and Church Rep Rules – and the wider law.***
3. ***Act in your charity's best interests****., by making sure that you act for the church and not for any conflicting interest, e.g., a related school or other organisation. Ensure that the decisions are yours, not those influenced by others.*
4. ***Manage your charity's resources responsibly.***
5. ***Act with reasonable care and skill****.*
6. ***Ensure your charity is accountable.***

PCC members who have served at any time since the Annual Church Meeting 2025 until the Annual Church meetings in April 2026 are:

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Licensed Clergy:	Rev Sally Welch, Rev Phillippa Wright, Rev Paul Roberts and Rev Judith Pollard
Licensed Reader	Mr Rob Mccurrach
Churchwardens:	Miss Ann Edwards
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Mrs Eileen Thomas (sacristan) Mr Stephen Lacey Mrs Penny Halcrow
PCC Secretary	Mrs Christine Robinson
Elected members:	
2023	Mrs Margaret Pengelly, Mrs Deborah Sell, Ms Julia Reid coopted from November 2023 Mr Nick Cooke, Mrs Margaret Cooke, Mr Malcolm Price re-elected
2024	Mr Malcolm Price resigned, Mrs Rosemary Brown elected

2025	Mrs Elizabeth Banks, Phillip Sell

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary's, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar, Sally Welch), churchwardens, the reader licensed to the Benefice, parochial representatives elected to the Deanery Synod, and members elected by those on the electoral roll of the church. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. There were six PCC meetings during the year of which were chaired by the chair Rev Sally Welch

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AIMS AND PURPOSES

St Mary's (Kington) PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent and the Rural Dean in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the Church and of the Parish Hall.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community at St Mary's. This includes those who worship via the live stream which has about 50 views each week. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and in 2025 introduced a regular mid week service of morning prayer.

Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music, and sacrament. We try to enable everybody to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Mary and the Parish House and build up the church community.

Safeguarding

The Parish Safeguarding Policy Statement is on display in all churches.

The parish follows the national legal and procedural framework for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and Church of England policy and practice. It has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

A copy of The Parish Safeguarding Handbook is available from Vicarage

St Mary's church is committed to ensuring that children and vulnerable adults and those who have been abused in the past have a positive experience of church and are safeguarded and protected. The Safeguarding Officer ensures that adults in positions of responsibility and helpers with children's work are checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service and that the correct processes are in place. The PCC has agreed to display information about safeguarding in the church and has agreed to update all the policies and procedures on an annual basis. The PCC reviews a Safeguarding action plan at every meeting, and the information is recorded on the Church of England Safeguarding Portal. This year St Mary's has moved from level 2 to level 3 in the safeguarding portal and now has very few outstanding issues.

A copy of The Parish Safeguarding Handbook is available from Vicarage

We will act promptly on any complaints made and work in close partnership with police and social care services where children or vulnerable adults have been harmed or are at risk of harm or mistreatment and record any action taken. We provide safe recruitment, training and support to our voluntary and paid workers with children and vulnerable adults. We care for those who have been abused in the past and minister appropriately to those who have abused.

Christine Robinson

WORSHIP AND PRAYER

St Mary's has a service of Holy Communion three weeks out four and also involves lay people in running other services on the fourth Sunday and in the evening of the first Sunday in the month.

Local Worship Leaders

Five members of the church community trained as Local Worship Leaders in order to lead the non- eucharistic worship on the third Sunday in the month. Freda Lymouth, Alison Hird, Trish MacCurrach, Elaine Roche, and Ann Edwards have all been commissioned as Local Worship Leaders for a period of three years from 2024. Together with the Lay reader Rob MacCurrach, they have ably led the worship on the third Sunday in the month and introduced innovative approaches to worship.

Morning Praise has been running very successfully on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Fewer attend this non-Eucharist service, but it is valued by many who like the variety. The part lay team is enthusiastic, and there is a growing desire to broaden its

reach, perhaps relax the liturgy, and recruit more lay worship leaders onto the team.

Rob MacCurrach

PPE (Praise & Prayer in the Evening) has continued to meet on the first Sunday. evening of each month with an attendance of about 8 to 10. This is a very different. format to Sunday mornings with a much more informal style of worship. It is however, sincere and heart felt where the emphasis is on participation in joyful praise, open. prayer and the opportunity to share thoughts, experiences and insights. Songs tend. to be a little more modern in style, yet still very much based on scripture.
Stephen Lacey

24/7 Prayer Course Lent 2025

During Lent the 24/7 Prayer Course was run with about a dozen members in 2 different homes. It was much valued and found encouraging in the practical demands of prayer. It introduced prayer to some of us in a refreshing and innovative way. It will have contributed significantly to the prayer life of St Mary's, and it was agreed that the course was well worth repeating when the opportunity arose.

MISSION AND EVANGELISM

Young People Ministry

Messy Church & Other Themed Events

The attendance of Messy Church continued to decline over the first half of the year, so we changed and transitioned to new activities and formats as we attempted to attract and inspire young children. Throughout the year one of our challenges has been the variability of attendance and winter months activities do prove challenging for children/parents.

Invariably the sessions involve crafts, games, storytelling and we utilise the large screen for YouTube songs, words and actions. One of the new additions is the incorporation of a 'quiet table' recognising that those children challenged by too much noise and excitement have a place also.

It's been great to welcome and have the input, fresh ideas and support of our new Curate, Phillippa, and visiting youth workers from the Diocese.

Significant effort has been made to ensure safeguarding conformance across the team so that we could start to run holiday clubs for young children without parents. The first one in the summer one was a great success but unfortunately lack of pre-registration for the Oct half term necessitated the second one being cancelled.

A family 'drop in' crib building event in November proved very popular. II provided an opportunity for the telling of the Christmas story as nativity scenes were crafted from all manner of recycled rubbish. While a fabulous display was built to help kick off the Crib festival, it was lovely that many children wanted to take away their smaller crib creations to decorate their homes.

For 2026 we continue to evolve and adapt to new, and what we hope are exciting ways, to encourage young children and families to hear the message of the gospel.

Month	Theme
January	N/A
Feb	N/A
March	Messy Church - Easter
April	N/A
May	Messy Church - Creation
June	Messy Church - David
July	Messy Church - David – re-run
August	Holiday Club
September	N/A
October	Holiday Club – Superheroes - planned but cancelled
November	Family Crib Building / Junk modelling
December	N/A

Attendance:

2025	Children	Adults	Helpers	Total
Average	14	7	8	29
Max	23			
Min	3			

Kington Creations – St Marys Lego Club

The aim of the Lego Club is to get children playing, sharing, listening and solving together within the church environment. Eleven Lego club sessions were run in 2025 with the theme challenges shown below. No detailed instructions are given, just a few pictures are provided to get them started, and then its up to their imagination to create and build. It's amazing what they produce and it's great to see the parents getting involved too.

At the end children are encouraged to show and talk about their models, after which we take a few pictures before they break them up and tidy away: everything sorted by colour and brick style! The children are also encouraged to enter their own theme suggestions for future months' build challenges.

Although a few older ones have now left it's encouraging that new children have come along so the numbers have remained strong.

Month	Theme
January	Winter fun, sports & snow scenes
Feb	Underwater worlds
March	Easter Eggs, rabbits, chicks, Crosses
April	Aliens & monsters
May	Space
June	Theme Parks
July	Summer Holidays
August	N/A
September	Back to School!
October	MineCraft
November	Nativity scene
December	Christmas tree decorations & games

2025	Children	Adults	Helpers	Total
Average	**12**	**6**	**4**	**22**
Max	**18**			
Min	**7**			

One of the strengths of our church is the great team of helpers that support this ministry and without whom running these events would not be possible. A big thanks to everyone.

Stephen Lacey

The Alpha Course 2024/2025

The Alpha Course is an introduction to the Christian faith and has been run for 30 years in churches all round the world. We ran the Course during autumn 2024 and finished in January 2025. 12 people attended and with the help of a dedicated and enthusiastic team we enjoyed a delicious meal every week followed by a short time of worship, a professionally produced video and, most importantly, time to raise questions and discuss. We spent a whole day away at the Friends Meeting House in Almeley to discover more about the Holy Spirit. The majority of the group were already churchgoers, but we all learnt and experienced something more about our faith. For at least one person the Course introduced them to a more personal relationship with Jesus.

Bible Society Course

Eleven people recently completed The Bible Course, produced by Bible Society. In eight sessions we covered the whole bible, discovering how the different parts fit together like jigsaw pieces in a big picture. We learnt about God's plan for saving the world, starting with Abraham and culminating in Jesus. We were excited to feel part of the continuing story and inspired by the hope that lies ahead of us. The sessions included testimonies of people whose lives have been changed by encountering God, and how the bible has become an essential part of their lives.

This is what some of our groups have said:

The Bible Course provided a "map" of God's daring rescue plan for mankind. This helps us place scripture in the deepest and the widest context so that we continue building on sound foundations.

Attending the course has enabled me to have a greater understanding of the scriptures. Reading or listening to the daily bible plan via resources online and through the digital hub was a different experience and easy to follow.

I found it so helpful to see how the different books fitted together and to follow the overarching theme of the promised Christ. Great stuff.

I hope we may run the course again next year, but in the meantime, you can access it online free of charge at biblesociety.org.uk.

Paul Roberts

Nursing Home Services report for St Mary's APCM

We have visited Kington Court Nursing Home every third Tuesday to bring a Service of the Word to the residents. The service lasts about 30 minutes and is always well attended. Phillippa has now joined our little team, and we often have additional members of St Mary's church who help with the singing.

We usually have about 18 to 20 people present at the services which includes care staff as well as residents, and they are all pleased to see us. The service always includes a bible story with a following reflection, plus prayers and four hymns. The last hymn is always "Jesus loves me, this I know for the bible tells me so" as everyone likes it and those who are able all sing with great enthusiasm. The other three hymns are chosen to reflect the seasons, and in December we always have a carol service where we build up the Crib Scene on our temporary altar piece by piece as we sing the carols.

In addition to the services, we also visit with our handbells twice a year. This involves several members of St Mary's congregation, including five who are in the handbell team. During 2025, we performed a "Last Night of the Proms" on handbells, violin and cello, and then we performed "The Donkey's Story" with Phillippa acting the part of the donkey – complete with ears (but no tail because her dog ate it!).

We enjoy going to Kington Court. It has its challenges, but it is always an uplifting experience, and we will continue to visit during 2026.

Freda Lymath, Alison Hird and Ann Edwards

Giving and Community

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. Through various special collections and donations, £2678 (approximately 3.5% of income) was sent to various charities. Through the Deanery, we continue to support the Diocesan Train-a-Priest scheme in Tanzania (please see Deanery Synod Report).

Our parish magazine keeps our parishioners informed of the important matters affecting our Church as well as providing a valuable source of community information. The new editors have ably taken on the role previously held by Feda Lymath for 19 years and are producing a colourful and informative document that is widely read in the towns and villages.
St Mary's is fortunate to have three weeks at the community shop, and this not only raises money for the church but also emphasises that the church is an integral part of the community.

Music at St Mary's

In 2025 we celebrated the restoration of our organ with a series of concerts and recitals. This began with a recital given by Ben Saunders (organ and accordion) in May and ended with a seasonal party event in December, when Richard Hobson delighted us with his playing.

We estimate that around 600 people attended these events, and we took in over £3000 in income as a result.

We are very fortunate now to have the power and colour of a good instrument to use in recitals and concerts. In the past Kington Choral Society was deterred the from using the church as the organ was unreliable. Now that they have experienced it working well, hopefully they will be more minded to return for future concerts.

In this year, we hope to be able to set p another series of concerts and recitals which feature the organ and to further promote our church as good place for holding such events.

Our Church Choir contributes much to the musical life of the church, leading the singing at all Eucharistic services and special events. Sometimes the choir is supplemented by additional singers- especially for the Carol Service. We are all grateful for their commitment and for all they add to our worship at St Mary's.

We value the contribution of Rev Paul Roberts as organist for the 3rd (Morning) Sunday service, for the Carol Service and for the enjoyable organ recitals he gave last year. We look forward to further recitals in the year to come.

Philip Sell Director of Music

Ecumenical Links

St Mary's has been represented at Churches Together by Sally Welch, Ann Edwards and Eileen Thomas. Meetings have taken place throughout the year, and St Mary's has participated in the regular and special joint services including Remembrance Day and the Commemoration of D Day.

Kington St Mary's Electoral Roll Officers Report 2026

2026 is the first year after the complete revision of the Electoral Roll. The roll is slightly down on the numbers from the 2025 roll. Currently there are 25 males and 47 females on the Electoral Roll comprising:

60 people resident in the parish

12 people outside the parish

Nobody has moved away.

2 people have died.

Nobody has joined the register.

Total on 2025 Roll 74

Total on 2026 Roll 72.

If anyone would like to be included on the Electoral roll, is baptised and lives in the parish or is a regular worshiper at St Mary's, then please let me know so that I can provide you with an Electoral Roll form.

Alison Hird

Electoral Roll Officer for the PCC

Deanery Synod Report – 2025

There have been two meetings of the Deanery Synod since the last annual report.

The first meeting, In July, provided the opportunity to meet our new Rural Dean.

Having come from a very varied and broad church background, Katie Smith was ordained five years ago having previously been a police officer. She is currently working in the Eardisley Group of Parishes as a Self-Supporting Minister and is also Chaplain for the Deaf in Hereford.

She sees the role of a Rural Dean as supporting the benefices and parishes by helping unite their challenges and skills.

She emphasised how important it is that each parish elects Deanery Representatives to enable the Deanery to function effectively as a layer of government, for the benefit of individual parishes and the Church as whole. Without the voice of Deaneries, the Church will not be aware of their concerns.

The second meeting, in November, was held in St Mary Magdalene Church, Eardisley and began with a service of holy communion.

The main focus of the meeting was to consider a change of the name of the deanery from the Kington and Weobley Deanery, to take account of the many other parishes in the deanery, some of which are across the border in Wales.

The Rev'd Prebendary Steve Hollinghurst introduced the proposal that the name should be changed to Tair Afon. After discussion, those present voted that the deanery's new name should be Three Rivers (Tair Afon).

The meeting also included a report from the Diocesan Synod, submitted by our local representative Fiona Shone.

Finally, there was a reminder that an opportunity exists for someone to take on the role of Lay Co Chair. The Rural Dean asked for everyone to consider taking on the role and to contact her if interested.

Penny Halcrow

February 2026

PARISH HALL REPORT - 2025

The Parish Hall remains a much-appreciated facility and provides a valuable space for both church and community meetings and activities.

The Parish Hall has continued to be let to various bodies independent of Church use, including weekly meetings of Home-Start and Yoga classes and KADOS (for part of the year) and the monthly rehearsals by a small music group. It is still used once a month (third Wednesday) by the Community Lunch Club, and the monthly Beetle Drives began again in September. The hall is regularly used for PCC and other Church meetings. A very successful Ascension Day Breakfast was provided, to follow that day's early morning service. In January, weekly Stay and Play sessions for parents, carers and their babies and toddlers were introduced. Twice a week, on Monday and Friday mornings, the Kington Zero Waste Food Project gives everybody the opportunity to help fight food waste, by taking the surplus food donated by local businesses. There have also been occasional bookings for private parties and meetings.

In July, the hall was booked for a weekend, including overnight, to provide an aid station for runners taking part in a 100-mile Ultra run, starting and finishing in Bishop's Castle. The organisers have just requested to book the hall, again in July 2026, for a rerun of the event.

In May 2026 we will be welcoming the return of the Marches Book Art Group, who will be staging an exhibition as part of the Marches Makers' Festival.

During 2025, the outside lighting was repaired and other external repairs carried out. Repairs to the chimneys were undertaken including the fitting of cowls to deter the jackdaws. Walls were repointed where necessary and missing stonework replaced. Gutters were cleared and repaired. Repairs to the flat roof over the porch are still necessary, but a spell of warmer weather is required. The gas boiler and cooker were serviced and safety checked in November and all alarms are checked regularly. Unfortunately, the boiler subsequently developed a fault, requiring a new part to be fitted. Internally, repairs and repainting have been carried out when and where necessary. A baby changing table has been fitted, thanks to a grant from the Town Council.

Penny Halcrow

Churchwardens' Report

St. Mary's has enjoyed a busy and productive year in 2025.

We have welcomed several new people to our church congregation and hope they will continue to be part of our community for many years. We have continued the services and activities which have been part of our church over a number of years and have also built on our traditions with some new ventures over the past year or two, including Prayer and Praise evenings on the first Sunday, and Holiday Clubs during half terms and school holidays. Plans for 2026 for Stay and Play mornings for toddlers, and for Wild Church activities are also underway.

Towards the end of the year, we began a Zero Waste venture. About-to-be-out-of-date food and other items including flowers are brought to the Parish Hall and offered for anyone to use, free of charge. This has resulted, in just a few weeks, in several hundreds of pounds worth of food being diverted from landfill and used in the community.

As part of the country's celebrations for the 80th Anniversary of VE Day, the service from Westminster Abbey was live streamed in church, with the audience also enjoying coffee and cake. On Sunday afternoons in July and August many people enjoyed tea and cakes in church and puzzled over the anagram competitions. Beetle Drives have been restarted and are proving very popular. We have had several well attended concerts over the year, making full use of the newly restored organ, many followed by afternoon tea – a recurring theme this year.

In December we held a Crib Festival. Many organisations and individuals made cribs for this, including Year 7 pupils from Lady Hawkins school, and the members of the church Lego club. Judging by the number of chocolate biscuits eaten and coffee used over the course of the month, many people came to visit and hopefully enjoyed all the exhibits.

At Christmas we had our usual Memory Tree and Light Up a Life service, the Christmas Eve Crib service, and this year, for the first time, The Donkey Story, a delightful retelling of the Christmas story through the eyes of the donkey. Our annual Christmas services were also very well attended.

Report on the Church Fabric.

The churchwardens are pleased to report that the church fabric appears to be in good repair at the end of 2025, and the furnishings and fittings likewise.

The installation of the new sound system was completed in January, including the replacement of the old loop system which was no longer working. We hope that the new system will make participation in all our activities in church easier for all, wherever they are sitting. The sound quality of the live streamed services is also greatly improved.

In June, the downpipe on the lychgate was repaired, and a few damaged stones replaced.

The new far- infra red heating was installed in October and November – luckily almost finished when the old gas boiler failed in November. It is basically working well, although we are still adjusting the control system for it. The church kitchen is now frost proofed, and the old radiators removed from the church.

A small area of the ceiling over the meeting area in church fell down overnight in late December. That, and a visibly cracked area of ceiling near the font, have now been repaired. Some slipped roof tiles over the south aisle have also been replaced. All the inspections of the electrical installations, fire extinguishers, and lightning conductors are up to date, as is the fire risk assessment.

Thank you to everyone who has done anything, however large or small, to help with the upkeep and running of St. Mary's over the past year. Helping with flowers, refreshments, general tidying, giving out books, delivering the Parish News…. Whatever you have done, everything helps towards the life of the church here. Thank you very much.

Ann Edwards and *Margaret Cooke* Church Wardens

Vicar's Report

This, my first full year as Vicar of the Kington Benefice, has been very busy, quite challenging, but also extremely fruitful. We have gathered as separate and joint church communities to celebrate the great feasts of the Christian year – Christmas and Easter have been highlights but so too have been Harvest and End of Lambing. We have also enjoyed many social events and activities – harvest suppers, summer fetes and countless post-service get-togethers. We have mourned the loss of valued members of our communities but also celebrated weddings and baptisms as new faces join our congregations. The Benefice Pilgrim Project has been launched, with five circular walks, one from each church, all with leaflets containing routes and reflections. We walked one a month during the summer, coinciding in September with the Kington Walking Festival.

Some of our buildings have been affected by issues – St Stephen's Old Radnor is currently wading its way through the faculty and grant application process to restore the Lewis monument. St Mary's Kington, however, celebrated the completion of its new heating system – an example to other churches seeking a heating solution which is both green and affordable. Our buildings have been used by groups and communities for concerts and events, but more importantly they have been open every day, offering a place to be still and reflect, to recover and seek restoration.

None of this would have been achievable without the help and support of churchwardens, PCC members and individuals who have met together faithfully week after week to pray and praise – the essential task of the Christian. From this weekly gathering support has come for the church communities and the buildings in the form of fundraising, building maintenance, event preparation and all the other tasks which help to create a living, thriving church.

In 2026 we look forward to an expanded Pilgrim Project, with five more circular walks planned for Sunday afternoons. In addition, we are joining Kington Spring Walking Festival to lead a three-day walk round the whole Benefice, a total of 30 miles.

Plans also include the start of the Dove Project – the conversion of the ground floor of the former Wine Vaults pub in the Centre of Kington into a Community Centre for small groups and activities. This will form part of our outreach to the wider community, a gesture of love and support for the people with whom we share our lives.

Finally, as I celebrated the 25th anniversary of my ordination in October, my thanks go to all of you for your support and encouragement during this last year. I look forward to working with, for and amongst you this coming year.

Curates' Reflection

The board at the entrance to St Mary's churchyard carries the message "All are welcome" and whilst this goes someway to reflecting the culture within the Benefice it does not give a complete picture. I think that a more accurate message might be "A Church that cares." Why do I think this?

Firstly, I think that the congregations show a commitment to Christ through prayer and worship. The CofE definition of regular worship is once a month. Many of you come to Sunday service as often as they happen. You are also a people of prayer, taking opportunities to pray together for the Church, World, Community and each other.

Secondly, the idea that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ is evident by the way everyone is cared for and encouraged. Welcome and hospitality are shown to friend and stranger. You encourage each other to use your gifts and talents and live well with difference.

Thirdly, the congregations actively seek to engage and support the surrounding community. This is through annual fetes, children's ministry and musical events. The ambition to be recognised and support the community is now taking on some exciting new endeavours.

The Kington Benefice Churches are Churches that care. You embrace new ideas with confidence and genuinely seek to live out your Christian faith in everyday life. Long may this continue. Thank you.

Financial Report and Accounts

It continues to be true that our day-to-day payments are more than our receipts. I can report that we made on operating loss of nearly £14,000 this year. This has been somewhat offset by a legacy.

Having said this, we are still in a strong financial position with total assets of £88,574. The operating loss is being addressed in several ways including negotiating a reduction in the sum that we offered to the diocese. We will pay £25,000 to the diocese in 2026 rather than the £50,000 that was offered last year. (We have been assured that the reduction of our offer will not mean that we lose clergy support. The diocese employs clergy based on need and the potential to grow the church rather than what we can pay.)

We have recently made significant improvements which have a bearing on our financial prospects. The refurbishment of the organ means that we are an increasingly popular venue for recitals and concerts. These bring people into the church who might not otherwise have visited and turn a good profit. Nearly £3,000 was paid in tickets and donations at concerts in 2025. The new heating system will save significant costs. We are now able to zone the heating. The removal of the gas supply means that we can save nearly £2,000 per year in standing chares.

I would like to thank all those who generously donate week by week in the collection plate and all those who donated through the Parish Giving Scheme and by standing orders. Fund raising is an important part of the strategy, too, and I thank those hardworking people who make teas, run and donate to the Community Shop, run stalls and buy from them. The gift of time, energy and hard cash is very impressive.

Nick Cooke 2nd February 2025

St. Mary's Church, Kington

Balance Sheet and Fund Movement Summary
Registered charity no. 1185453

			2025 Movements					
	DR	**CR**	**Net Change**	**Transfers**	**2025**		**2024**	
CASH FUNDS								
Co-Operative Account (08-92-99 67225860)					**34107**		12237	
CBF Deposit (618026001D) – Capital Reserve					**747**		12856	
Cash and cheques in hand					**2301**		57	
Cash funds accessible at short notice			**12006**			**37155**		**25149**
PLUS: Other assets								
Prepayments					**0**		0	
Adjustments				**88038**	**0**	**0**		
Total current assets						**37155**		**25149**
LESS: Liabilities								
Loans (Interest free)								
						0		0
Adjusted cash funds available						**37155**		**25149**
ADD: INVESTMENTS								
Bill Price Bequest (485 Utd Utilities shares) (K16)					**5790.90**		5796	
1,650 Haleon shares (Share issue from GSK)					**6184.20**		6227	
1,650 Glaxo Smith Kline shares (E Bowen bequest)					**30104.25**		22209	
M Edwards' Bequest (CBF Invest. Fund) CB3026938				-23412	**253.06**		24311	
Price Bequest (CBF Investment Fund) CB3008085 (K15)					**9086.21**		9465	
Gregory Trust (Diocesan CBF Fund) CB3008122 (K11)				-4304	**0.00**		4304	
Gregory Trust (CBF Investment Fund) CB3008040 (K11)				-59680	**0.00**		59680	
						51419		**131991**
Freehold property			0		**0**	**0**	0	0
NET ASSET VALUE OF FUNDS						**88574**		**157140**
Represented by:	**DR**	**CR**	**Net Movement**	**Transfers**				
GENERAL FUND - opening					**147052**		156784	
General Fund Movements	99988	77457	-22531		**-22531**		-32999	
Unrealised Gain/Loss on Investments					**-382**		2091	
Unrealised Gain/Loss on Shares					**7848**		-137	
Transfers to Restricted / Designated Funds				*-43830*	**-43830**		21314	
Balance C/F						**88157**		147052
DESIGNATED FUNDS								
Family Service			0	-1406	**0**		1406	
Heating System	64679	16000	-48679	48679	**0**			
Music		0	0	-1821	**0**		1821	
Sound System	3373	0	-3373	-1530	**0**		4903	
Transfers to / from General Funds				43922				
Balance C/F						**0**		8130
RESTRICTED FUNDS								
Flower Fund	0	0	0	-92	**0**		92	
Heating System	38905	37655	-1250		**0**		1250	
Special Collections	1407	1208	-199		**416**		615	
Transfers to / from General Funds				-92				
Balance C/F						**416**		1958
ENDOWMENT FUNDS								
Gregory Trust (CBF Investment Fund) …. 1289S (K11)					**0**		0	
Gregory Trust (Diocesan CBF Fund) …1452D (K11)					**0**		0	
Transfers to / from General Funds				0				
						0		0

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on 31st December 2025

	2025					2024
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	General	Designated				
Accounts						
Co-operative Account (08-92-99 67225860)					34107	12237
CBF Deposit (CB3026937) – Capital Reserve					747	12856
Cash and cheques in hand					2301	57
Loan Accounts						
Prepayments						
Subtotal Cash /Cash equivalents	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**37155**	**25149**
Investment Accounts / Shares						
1,650 Glaxo Smith Kline shares (E Bowen bequest)					30104	22209
1,650 Haleon shares (Share issue from GSK)					6184	6227
Bill Price Bequest (485 Utd Utilities shares) (K16)					5791	5796
M Edwards' Bequest (CBF Invest. Fund) CB3026938					253	24311
Price Bequest (CBF Investment Fund) CB3008085 (K15)					9086	9465
Gregory Trust (Diocesan CBF Fund) CB3008122					0	4304
Gregory Trust (CBF Investment Fund) CB3008040 (K11)					0	59680
Subtotal Investment accounts/shares	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**51419**	**131991**
Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**88574**	**157140**

Balance Statement

	2025					2024
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	Total Funds
	General	Designated				
Opening Balances	147052	8130	1958	0	157140	265731
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	-22531	-52052	-1449		-76032	-110544
Unrealised gain/(loss) in share values	7848				7848	618
Unrealised gain/(loss) in CBF investment values	-382				-382	1335
Movement on Prepayments / Loans					0	0
Transfers Between Funds	-43830	43922	-92	0	0	0
Closing Balances	88157	0	416	0	88574	157140

St. Mary's Church, Kington

Registered charity no. 1185453

Financial Statement for the year ending 31st December 2025

These accounts are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis

Receipts and Payments Account

		2025				2024
		Unrestricted		Restricted	Total	
	Notes	General	Designated			
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Receipts						
Planned Giving	1	22568			22568	23846
Collections at Services	2	3125		1208	4333	6658
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3	8455	16000	20805	45260	8803
Gift Aid Recovered	6	8346			8346	6419
Legacies	5	5000		0	5000	36500
Grants	4	0		16850	16850	55671
Total voluntary receipts		**47493**	**16000**	**38863**	**102356**	**137896**
Activities for Generating Funds	7	**9453**	**0**		**9453**	**4805**
Investment Income	8	**4317**			**4317**	**7779**
Church Activities	9	**13579**			**13579**	**13915**
Rent/Hire of Church Property	10	**3003**	**0**		**3003**	**3358**
Sale of Church Property	11	**0**			**0**	**90**
Sundry Income	12	**-387**			**-387**	**1247**
Total receipts		**77457**	**16000**	**38863**	**132320**	**169091**

		2025				2024
		Unrestricted		Restricted	Total	Total
	Notes	General	Designated			
PAYMENTS						
Church Activities						
Parish Offer	13	45833			45833	48000
Prepayment of Parish Offer						0
Clergy Expenses	14	3010			3010	251
Church Running Expenses	15	15237			15237	17467
Cost of Services	16	8894	0	0	8894	7008
Mission Giving & Charitable Donations	17	1271	0	1407	2678	4703
Parish House	18	7602			7602	13784
Administration	19	8737			8737	10447
Weddings and Funerals	20	3305			3305	2259
Major Works	21	884	68052	38905	107841	173922
Costs of Generating Funds	22	2452		0	2452	1722
Costs associated with other church proper	23				0	0
Various	24	2763	0	0	2763	75
Total Payments		**99988**	**68052**	**40312**	**208352**	**279638**
Surplus/Shortfall		**-22531**	**-52052**	**-1449**	**-76032**	**-110547**

Notes on the accounts

For the year ending 31st December 2025

		2025					2024
		Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowments	Total	Total
		General	Designated				
RECEIPTS							
	Voluntary Receipts						
Note							
1	**Planned Giving**						
	Standing Orders Gift Aided	720				720	2,210
	Standing Orders	312				312	452
	Yellow Envelopes Gift Aided	1015				1015	1,055
	PGS Donation	20521				20521	20,129
	Total	**22568**	**0**	**0**		**22568**	**23,846**
2	**Collections at Services**						
	Unrestricted Collections	3125				3125	3,082
	Restricted Collections			1208		1208	3,576
	Total	**3125**	**0**	**1208**	**0**	**4333**	**6658**
3	**All other voluntary Giving/Donations**						
	Sundry Donations	5182				5182	591
	Contactless	429				429	559
	Donation Box in Church	911				911	728
	Mission Support inc Messy/Lego	0				0	944
	Flower Fund	0				0	150
	Music	1933				1933	1,481
	Donations to Designated Funds					0	
	Heating Fund		16000			16000	
	Donations to Restricted Funds					0	
	Heating Fund			20805		20805	1,250
	Organ			0		0	3,101
	Total	**8455**	**16000**	**20805**		**45260**	**8,803**
4	**Grants**						
	Heating			16850		16850	
	Organ Fund			0		0	55,671
	Total	**0**	**0**	**16850**	**0**	**16850**	**55,671**

RECEIPTS (Continued)		2025					2024
		Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowments	Total	Total
		General	Designated				
5	**Legacies and Bequests**						
	Legacy 1	5000				5000	36,500
	Total	**5000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5000**	**36,500**
6	**Gift Aid recovered**						
	PGS Gift Aid Tax Refund	3525				3525	4,198
	Other Gift Aid & GASDS	4821				4821	2,221
	Total	**8346**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8346**	**6,419**
7	**Activities for Generating Funds**						
	Bonus Ball	1276				1276	2,268
	Community Shop	1684				1684	1,210
	Peerie Boxes	25				25	23
	Fete	1330				1330	1,265
	Concerts	2841				2841	
	Other Fund Raising	2287				2287	39
	Parish House Fund Raising	10				10	
	Total	**9453**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9453**	**4,805**
8	**Investment income**						
	CBF Deposit Fund Interest (CB3026937)	1215				1215	4,044
	Investment Income	3102				3102	3,735
	Total	**4317**	**0**	**0**		**4317**	**7,779**
9	**Church Activities**						
	Wedding & Funeral Fees	5261				5261	4,913
	Parish News Adverts	5831				5831	5,825
	Parish News Sales	2487				2487	3,177
	Total	**13579**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**13579**	**13,915**
10	**Rent/Hire of church property**						
	Hire of Church	63				63	50
	Hire of Parish Hall	2940				2940	3,308
	Total	**3003**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**3003**	**3,358**
11	**Sale of church Property**						
	Sale of Church Property	0				0	90
	Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**90**

Further to note 12 Sundry income (Other & Net of expenses…) : The other parishes in our benefice are invoiced monthly for their shares of the Benefice Expenses (Office work, stationery supplies etc.) This value will vary from year to year depending upon when they settle the final invoice. Over the years it averages out to zero.

12	**Sundry income**						
	Benefice expenses reclaimed	2347				2347	1,072
	Insurance claims and other income	0				0	175
	Realised Gain / Loss on Investment	-2920				-2920	
	Other	186				186	
	Total	**-387**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**-387**	**1,247**
	TOTAL OF ALL RECEIPTS	**77457**	**16000**	**38863**	**0**	**132320**	**169,091**

PAYMENTS	2025					2024
For the year ending 31st December 2025	Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowments	Total	Total
Note	General	Designated				
13 **Parish Offer**	45833				45833	48,000
Total	45833	0	0	0	45833	48,000
14 **Clergy Expenses & Staffing Costs**						
Kington Share: Vicar	1630				1630	146
Vicarage Garden wages	200				200	
Other Parishes: Vicar (To be reimbursed)	638				638	105
Kington's Share: Curate	512				512	
Other Parishes: Curate (To be reimbursed)	29				29	
Total	3010	0	0		3010	251
15 **Church Running Expenses**						
Upkeep of Church	853				853	73
Cleaner	960				960	1,547
Insurance	4893				4893	4,238
Minor repairs/maintenance	1531				1531	2,312
Gas 3003486630	3145				3145	5,488
Electricity 3003746581	3254				3254	3,258
Water	234				234	531
Upkeep of Churchyard	368				368	20
Total	15237	0	0		15237	17,467
16 **Cost of Services**						
Cost of Services: Sundries	833				833	452
Live streaming	1509				1509	540
Payments to Organist	3441				3441	3,781
Music and Choir	2983				2983	1,886
Flowers	127				127	350
Total	8894	0	0	0	8894	7,008
17 **Mission giving and Charitable donations**						
Other special collections			1407		1407	3,686
General Fund Donations	593				593	254
Mission	678				678	763
Family Service	0				0	
Total	1271	0	1407	0	2678	4,703
18 **Parish House**						
Wages	512				512	540
Upkeep	505				505	603
Insurance	0				0	397
Repairs & maintenance	4482				4482	2,468
Major repairs & improvements	0				0	7,143
Gas 3003519585	611				611	814
Electricity 3003746592	1086				1086	1,143
Broadband	-19				-19	543
Water	361				361	
Rent to Diocese	64				64	133
Total	7602	0	0	0	7602	13,784

Payments (Continued)		2025					2024
		Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowments	Total	Total
		General	Designated				
19	**Administration**						
	Admin (not wages)	1202				1202	2,211
	Wages: Office	2094				2094	1,671
	Bookkeeping	1190				1190	
	Expenses to be reclaimed	822				822	1,784
	Parish News Printing	3429				3429	4,780
	Total	**8737**	**0**	**0**		**8737**	**10,447**
20	**Weddings and Funerals**						
	Statutory Fees	1955				1955	1,244
	Organist/Bells/Choir/Verger	1350				1350	1,015
	Total	**3305**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**3305**	**2,259**
21	**Major Works**						
	Organ						143,825
	Sound system		3373			3373	30,097
	Memorial Garden	884				884	
	Heating System			38905		38905	
	Heating System		64679			64679	
	Total	**884**	**68052**	**38905**	**0**	**107841**	**173,922**
22	**Costs of Generating Funds**						
	Bonus Ball	1117				1117	1,290
	Community Shop	130				130	260
	Peerie Boxes	0				0	
	Fete	0				0	97
	Contactless	256				256	
	Cost of grant applications	0				0	
	Parish House Fund Raising	0				0	75
	Other Fund Raising	950				950	
	Total	**2452**	**0**	**0**		**2452**	**1,722**
24	**Various**						
	Visits	0				0	
	Misc	2763				2763	75
	Loans	0				0	
	Total	**2763**	**0**	**0**		**2763**	**75**
	TOTAL OF ALL PAYMENTS	**99988**	**68052**	**40312**		**208352**	**279,638**

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCESIASTICAL PAR
MARY THE VIRGIN, KINGTON

On accounts for the year ended	31st December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1185453

Set out on pages: 1 and 2
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust'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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:	George	**Date:**	04/02/2026
Name:	Timothy Steven George		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	ACIB		
Address:	16 Greenfield Drive, Kington, Herefordshire, HR5 3AD		