St. MARK'S
SOUTH FARNBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Report of
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
for the year ended
31 December 2025

Faith • Friendship • Food
www.stmarksfarnborough.co.uk

GRATITUDE is the right **ATTITUDE**

There are so many people at St Mark's who give of their time, experience and expertise that the PCC has devoted this Annual Report to all our volunteers in gratitude for their service.



AIM AND PURPOSE

St Mark's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC shares legal responsibility with the Vicar and Church Wardens for the administration and finances of the church. As well as the Church itself, which is on the corner of Alexandra Road and Reading Road, the PCC is also responsible for maintaining the Church Hall in Guildford Road East. You can read more about their responsibilities from the Church of England website. The PCC is a corporate body i.e. responsibility is shared, a separate legal entity and a charity. This means that PCCs must comply with all aspects of charity law.

The PCC executes its responsibility for a whole range of things including the buildings, the finances, any appointments and the public services of the church. To do this effectively the PCC appoints an honorary treasurer who oversees the finances and ensures thorough accounting records are kept. They report to the PCC. The accounts in turn are examined by either an independent examiner or auditor on an annual basis.

SAFEGUARDING

The PCC has complied with the duty under section five of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, duty to comply with the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our Church, and to become part of our church family. When planning our activities, the PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and particularly the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. We try to enable people of all ages to discover the love of God in Jesus Christ and to live out their Christian faith through worship, prayer and study; provision of welcome, hospitality and pastoral care for people living in the parish and for the church family; partnership with St Mark's Church of England Primary School and support of positive social action in the parish, deanery and wider church. To facilitate this work, it is vital that we maintain the fabric of both the Church and the Hall.

... it is vital that we maintain the fabric of both the Church and the Hall.

WORK OF THE PCC

Among the regular topics discussed by the PCC in 2025 we agreed Terms of Reference for the Standing Committee as well as Financial Accountability and Delegated Authority policies. Of wider interest the PCC undertook a process of discerning the way forward from 2026. A tool called Appreciative Enquiry was used. This enabled members of all ages of the church family to contribute. We also had input from our VA school, partner churches and non-church members of the geographical parish. We were encouraged to hear so many features of our church life which were thought to be good. Also encouraging was the careful thought which went into reflections on what could be better. At the time of this APCM the Development Plan is being prayerfully discerned and developed by the PCC.

We took the opportunity to consider what makes a Eucharistic Community and to look more closely at the Eucharist as the central feature of our lives and worship. One of the outputs from that process was a three-session 'taught' Eucharist during the Sunday worship, to help refresh all our understanding. Another was discussion, consideration and decision leading to formally welcoming children fromn Year 2 (approximately 7) and upward to communion before confirmation, following a course of preparation. This has been the national policy of the Church of England for more than 20 years and churches which have experienced this report a far greater sense of belonging from among the younger members.

We are grateful to Colin Lagor for his dedication to the role as Honorary Secretary of the PCC and careful capturing the minutes of each meeting and of keeping us on track.

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT 2025

During 2025, the Electoral roll was completely renewed, as required by the Church of England. Every member of the Roll at that point was given a personal letter explaining the situation and the appropriate new enrolment forms were supplied. Forms were also available for newcomers. At the start of the renewal there were 63 members of the Roll. At the closing date for the new Roll, we had lost 20 members. Some of these were natural causes such as death, incapacity or movement away from the parish, but some are unexplained; the forms were not returned. This dropped our numbers therefore to 43. However, eight new members joined us bringing our total at APCM 2025 to 51. Of these 35 live within the Parish and 16 live outside the Parish. The current Roll is being revised and will be reported upon at the APCM 2025.

... each parish is prayed for regularly in our Cathedral ...

ALDERSHOT DEANERY SYNOD

We elected two lay members of the Deanery Synod on 8 May 2025. We are grateful to Daryl Bates and Natasha Brown for stepping into this important role. We had a new Incumbent from about the same time. The meeting of Deanery Synod scheduled for September 2025 was cancelled. The first meeting in February 2026 was hosted by us in the Church Hall and Dianna led the opening worship. The theme of that meeting was our Cathedral, and our guest was The Very Reverend Bob Cooper, Dean of Guildford. Dean Bob gave an interesting introduction to the work of our Cathedral and engaged with Synod members in widening our understanding of the nature and purpose of our Cathedral. He encouraged us to visit, and bring our friends with us, reminded us that each parish is prayed for regularly in our Cathedral and asked for our prayers for him and his team as they lead this important aspect of Diocesan life.

CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORT 2025

It has been a very busy and productive year regarding maintenance and repairs to our lovely traditional Church.

Many of the priority safety issues on the Quinquennial report have been addressed, and the necessary work required has either been completed or is currently being done.

Internal painting of the Church Hall has been almost completed but due to the necessity to replace a glass door panel which had been broken, there are two doors remaining to be done. Unfortunately, the slamming of the door which probably caused the glass to smash, also damaged the door which now needs to be rehung with parliament hinges which will allow the door to open flush with the wall thus creating a clear field to the safety exit.

This damage highlighted the necessity for not only the broken glass but all the glass in the Hall doors to be replaced with safety glass. When this work is finally completed, the aim of a smart looking Hall will be achieved.

All the curtains, including the stage curtains, have now been repaired, rehung and are looking cleaner and in good order.

Very importantly, keeping the Hall in good repair to be worthy of future hire, is paramount to financing the running of the Church.

This was a justifiable reason to replace the previous wooden floor which was failing. The Hall now presents with a smart new Luxury Vinyl Tile floor creating a hard wearing, longer lasting and maintenance free great look.

The men's toilet had a blocked urinal which is now in good order. In addition, the floor covering has also been repaired at no further cost. The outside security lighting over the Hall car park had a failed circuit resulting in the three lights needing to be replaced.

All outside fire doors have been repaired, painted and faded exit/fire notices replaced with new. It became necessary for safety and practical maintenance reasons to survey all trees within the Hall grounds. This highlighted urgent work which is currently being carried out. At the time of writing 80% is completed with the remaining work eo be finished in the week beginning 3 May 2026.

Guttering around both Church and Hall have had an annual clean. New fencing around the memorial will be erected in May 2026, courtesy of Rushmoor Council, and the Memorial will undergo a refurbishment yet to be confirmed by same.

Various other minor repairs, and the installation of a baby change station in the church loo, have been undertaken courtesy of two parishioners… namely Mick and Arthur at no further cost, bless them!

We can quite honestly say that it has given us as wardens real delight in the achievement of under-budget completion of these works. It is with grateful thanks to the generosity of our wonderful tradesmen!

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT 2025

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, those elected to the Deanery Synod, and other members who are elected, by those on the Electoral Roll, at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Members of the congregation are always encouraged to join the Electoral Roll, and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. The PCC met six times during 2025. There is a good level of attendance. From May 2025 and as required under the Church Representation Rules, the PCC has a Standing Committee comprised of the vicar, churchwardens, PCC Hon Secretary, PCC Hon Treasurer, plus up to two PCC members appointed by the PCC. In July 2025 the PCC agreed Delegated Authority and Threshold Expenditure policies. policies. These will be reviewed annually.

Since May 2025 the PCC meets on alternate first Tuesdays of the month and the Standing Committee meets every other month on the alternate first Tuesdays. The Standing Committee takes only those decisions delegated to it by the PCC.

The PCC appointed Peter Johnston as Honorary Treasurer as from 1 January 2026 succeeding Mick Smith following his outstanding 15 years as Honorary Treasurer.

RESERVES POLICY

The PCC has not yet determined a Reserves Policy. This will happen in 2026.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish ...

LOOKING BACK AT 2025

There are so many people at St Mark's who give of their time, experience and expertise that the PCC has devoted this Annual Report to all our volunteers in gratitude for their service. More will be said at the APCM but at the top of our 'gratitude list' of 2025 are two people, without whom much in this report could not have happened.

Daryl Bates has served as Church Hall Manager for 13 years. In those years she has overseen the running of our Church Hall. This includes working with all hirers and prospective hirers, keeping the Hall clean and safe, all manner of compliance – Health and Safety and Fire and Risk Assessment for example. She also maintains all the bookkeeping and invoicing required. We say such a heartfelt Thank You to her for her caretaking of this wonderful asset for our church.

The PCC is very grateful for his generous and continual service.

Mick Smith stood down as Honorary Treasurer on 31 December 2025, following 15 years of service. His contribution to the work of the PCC has been deeply valued as he has kept his finger on the financial pulse of our church. This voluntary role is one from which many would shy away due to the volume of work required but Mick has kept his hand to the plough through thick and thin. We are extremely blessed to have had his expertise as Treasurer for so many years.

CHILDREN

Each Sunday and for special occasions Angharad Nicholas-Podger prepares engaging sessions for children of primary and preschool. Ably assisted by Mary Petley and (from time to time) Judith Gibbons, Frances Kahkonen and Becki Hartley the children are encouraged to engage with the gospel message of the week and create a craft for a physical reminder. One of the children reads a prayer Angharad has written after the children share their activities with the rest of the congregation.

... engaging sessions for children of primary and preschool.

CHURCH HALL

Daryl Bates is an absolute force of nature. Through her work as Church Hall Manager, she extends a warm welcome and the heart of Christ to all those who rent space in the Church Hall, either as one-off bookings or regular classes and activities. There is far more to managing the Church Hall than the warm smile. Behind the scnes are all the bookings, cleaning, maintenance, bookkeeping, compliance and much more. We are grateful for Hilary's offer in 2025 to support Daryl with the repairs and maintenance of the Church Hall. Daryl has now handed on the role of Church Hall Manager and (hopefully) will have a bit more time for her own activities and hobbies and family. The PCC recognizes, with gratitude, the foresight of our predecessors who built the Church Hall as the wonderful community resource which it is.

... absolute force of nature ... The PCC is grateful for all she does ...

CHURCHWARDENS

Our churchwardens have worked very hard during 2025. As well as managing the vacancy for the first six months, they also kept the show on the road through their oversight of all day-to-day matters. Deglan Rowe and Hilary Bellemy are brilliant churchwardens, able to juggle any number of things at the same time, and still able to welcome everyone with a smile at services and other events.

Originally conceived of as a support for the churchwardens, in June 2025 Anne Rowe took on the role of Parish Administrator (much of which she was already doing). She is the first port of call for all funerals, baptisms and weddings and navigates the journey through the legalities with ease and poise. She produces Pew News each week and arranges for it to be printed. The PCC is grateful to Anne for all she does (and for always knowing where Deglan has left the keys!)

HOSPITALITY

This is at the heart of all we do. From making the church look beautiful and seasonal, to the wonderful Welcomers at each service, to keeping the church open on Fridays, for Open Days and for local festivals. Through catering for large and small occasions, as in previous years, our small teams have worked so hard to ensure that everyone feels welcome and included in our shared life. Major functions provided for include Dianna's Induction and the Archdeacon's Service (for the Admission of Churchwardens). The team also provided welcome and hospitality for the Open Weekend, our week-long Festival of Light during Advent, the refreshments following the Carol Service, our monthly Parish Breakfast, a bring-and-share Harvest Supper, coffee and refreshments after services and, of course, Carole Lagor's famous cakes for all occasions. The decoration, displays and hospitality are really markers of our shared life, and this is inspired by our awareness of God's welcome and love for all. Especial thanks go to Daryl and Hedley Bates, Carole and Colin Lagor, Judith Gibbons and their teams for the continual generosity with their time and expertise.

This is at the heart of all we do.

OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIP

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. We continued to contribute to the work of North Farnborough Food Bank and thank the pupils of St Mark's School for their amazing Harvest Festival donations. Jacqueline Nichols has guided our work on behalf of the Children's Society enabling a very enjoyable Christingle Service on Christmas Eve, as well as the collecting boxes. In 2025 we sent almost £300 to the Children's Society. We were introduced to Friends of Marich Pass by Judith Gibbons and are pleased to have been able to support this worthy charity supporting families in Kenya for many years.

As well as our support for church, national and oversees projects we also increased our participation in *Visit North Camp*- our local forum of traders, retailers, churches and local organisations. It's very good to be a part of making North Camp the best it can be for all residents. Many thanks to Angharad Nicholas-Podger and Emily Patsalides for representing us so well at that forum.

Our partnership with St Mark's Primary School goes from strength to strength. We express our thanks to Angharad Nicholas-Podger for visiting Emerald Class weekly during Lent to engage in special activities. The Vicar meets termly with the Senior Leadership at school to plan together what we can do together and to discover what each is doing which can be supported by the other. The school gathered at church for the Year 6 Leavers Service, which was very moving act of worship prepared and delivered by the Year 6 pupils. Dianna supported the Year 6 pupils also when they attended the Cathedral for the Diocesan School Leavers' Service. A packed cathedral, a procession of school standards and the gift of a candle to take back to school will have made lasting memories for all involved. During Harvest the children contributed lots of needed food and provision for our donation to North Guildford Food Bank. On the 11th of November Dianna led the Two Minute Silence, including the playing of the Last Post and Reveille, in the school playground. The short ceremony included presentation of wreaths made by each class, poems and readings prepared by the school Spirituality Team, and attentive and silent children and adults as we remembered the fallen. The children also contributed to the Parish Act of Remembrance by providing a wreath for our War Memorial. We are grateful to Nethushi for the laying of that wreath.

In September Open Weekend saw Colin Lagor mastermind an interesting programme of visits and talks. We're especially grateful to him, Mike Palmer and Daryl Bates for their input during the weekend. During Advent Daryl Bates organized a Festival of Light at church which began with a lantern procession from school. The beautiful lanterns made by the pupils were then displayed at church. Also, each class had made a display about light in different religious traditions, and these were on display for the community in the church. Carols around the Campfire in the school playground is great fun for the school and Dianna was invited to be part of the evening. Our church is included in the regular Headteacher's Newsletters and, thanks to Emily Patsalides via the PTA and Parents' communications.

WEBSITE

We are grateful to Nikos Patsalides for taking on the running and maintenance of the church website. This is a very important shop front for our church and for other activities in the parish. Like most behind-the-scenes jobs this involves a lot of work and expertise. Nikos brings experience and knowledge and continual improvements to both the contents and how the website works.

This is a very important shop front for our church

WORSHIP, PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE

The PCC is very grateful to those priests who enabled us to have a Sunday, and some festival, services during the vacancy. Following Dianna's appointment, we have continued the regular Sunday pattern of 10.30am Parish Eucharist with children's activities and, on the first Sunday of the month a Traditional Rite 8am Holy Communion service. During 2026 we introduced a midweek Holy Communion service on Wednesday mornings. The Service books have been renewed with page numbers and explanations of parts of the service. This makes it much easier for any visitors to find their way around our worship as they settle in. Thanks are due also to all those who lead intercessions and read the scripture lessons at services.

We began to ring the church bell for five minutes before Sunday and Festival services. Many thanks to Peter Faye-Gladwin for getting this going and for those who also are willing to have a go.

In June 2025 Michael Hartley agreed to serve as Music Coordinator and we are very grateful to him for his keen attention to the liturgy and understanding of our congregations. He chooses hymns and other music for all our liturgies, which we are enabled to sing because Paul Collins finds and downloads all the backing and other music required for each service AND is with us each Sunday with his amazing kit making it seem as if we have an organ. Many visitors compliment our 'organist' after a service, not realizing that Paul has put together all the music electronically. We've been blessed by other music – Michael on

the trumpet for Remembrance Sunday, the occasional all-age choir or solo pieces, the sensitive use of the piano thanks to Michael, and to Moses Okafor for stepping in at Christmas and Mary on the French horn at Easter (2026). The services of Nine Lessons and Carols and the Christingle Service were well attended, and thanks go to all the musicians and readers and those who provided hospitality, including preparing the Christingle bags for the service.

Although outside the scope of this report it is worthy of note that in 2026, we were able to have two Lent Groups thanks to the hospitality of Daryl Bates, Marie Collins and delicious soup provided by many others. Our theme was *How to read the Bible* and in total 17 people participated.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. At the time of writing there have been six baptisms, three of adults and three of children. We have provided the church for funerals and there is a wedding waiting in the wings.

Those who are no longer able to come to Church are not forgotten. The vicar takes communion to any who request it and visits Lavender Lodge. We are grateful to the Reverend Sarah Norbron from St Peter's who takes communion and leads worship at Knellwood.

... willing to have a go.

YOUNG PEOPLE

We're very grateful to our young people for their contribution to our shared life - to Tiana and Amber for joining the coffee rota, and to Neo and Matthew for their sterling work as servers.

2026 AND BEYOND – LOOKING FORWARD

The PCC will share the Parish Development Plan shortly. Many thanks to all those who took part in helping us to discern the way forward. We have asked God for courage as we step into the future with possible plans for more room at church – especially needed as the children grow up and younger ones join us. We hope to restore and revive the churchyard as part our of growth. We'll focus on our stewardship, particularly our financial giving. We will bring forward plans for major fundraising – for the expansion of the church building and grounds and for a full-time vicar after Dianna retires. These exciting developments will take commitment and input from all of us, young and old. What a wonderful privilege it will be to see the fruition of prayer and giving.

Another output from the survey responses was an offer from three of our younger members to form an Eco-Church Work Group. With experience of effective leadership of this work in their school, they will be supported in guiding us towards our Eco Church Bronze award, and in due course perhaps even an Eco-Church Gold Award.

We will continue to focus on the mission of God – that is the outpouring of God's self in love and service. We will be courageous

and try things or do familiar things in new ways. We will 'fail' from time to time but we will learn for the next time.

We expect that our community partnerships will continue to grow in ways which give life to all who live in our parish.

We're very grateful to our young people for their contribution to our shared life ...

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Address for correspondence:
The Parish Office, 16 Reading Road,
Farnborough, GU14 6ND

Vicar:
Vacancy from 1 January to 6 May 2025
The Very Reverend Dianna Gwilliams from 7 May 2025

Bankers:
Nat West Bank

Independent Examiner:
Mr Patrick Brown
6 Kingsley Court
Windsor Walk
Aldershot Hants
GU11 1HZ

Church website:
www.stmarksfarnborough.co.uk

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2022) and is registered with the Charity Commission, Charity Number 1188893

PCC members as from APCM in 2025

Ex officio

The Incumbent	vacant
	The Very Reverend Dianna Gwilliams (from 7 May 2025) • Chair
Churchwardens	Hilary Bellamy
	Deglan Rowe • Lay Vice Chair
Deanery Synod Reps	Daryl Bates (from 8 May 2025 until APCM 2025)
	Natasha Brown (from 8 May 2025 until APCM 2025)

Elected Members	Year of Election	Until
Jim Elder-Ennis	2023	2026
Christina Faye-Gladwin	2023	2026
Rebecca Hartley	2024	2027
Angharad Nicholas-Podger	2023	2026
Mike Palmer	2025*	2028
Nikos Patsalides	2025*	2027
Mary Petchy	2025*	2028
Sally Turner	2025*	2027

Co-opted Members

Colin Lagor	8 May 2025	APCM 2025 • Honorary Secretary

*PCC members serve three years, and may stand for re-election. It is required that one-third of PCC members retire each year, and that if more than three are elected at the same time lots should be drawn to determine the length of term. Lots were drawn on 8 May 2025 as represented above.


Thank you

Design: Martin Gwilliams

St MARK'S
SOUTH FARNBOROUGH

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AND TREASURERS REPORT

year ending 31 December 2025

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1 - Financial Statement for the Year Ending 31 December 2025

St Mark's has undergone some major changes throughout the year 2025 after the resignation of the priest-in-charge in October 2024. With help from the Diocese, St Mark's Church Wardens managed to provide 8am and 10.30am communion services regularly with a service of the word on Sundays where no celebrant could be found. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all the celebrants who came to our aid.

In May 2025, the Very Reverend Dianna Gwilliams was installed as the new vicar for St. Mark's in a service led by Bishop Paul, which was very well attended by the clergy who had come to our aid.

The Diocese parish share for 2025 started at £27,587.04 then increased to £32,621.93 on the installation of the Very Reverend Dianna Gwilliams. The parish share for 2025 was paid in full, but an over payment of £256.96 was made due to an error calculating the monthly amount paid to the Diocese.

In the February of 2025, the sum of £45,000 was transferred from the 2526 account into the 7625 account. This was done to reduce the balance in the 2025 account to below £100,000. The transferred money was unrestricted and was set aside to cover planned works to be carried out throughout 2025 and beyond. This includes the Quinquennial work agreed by the PCC, The hall floor replacement and to address the damp at the rear of the hall.

The Church income for 2025 was £36,796.07 with expenditure of £59,875 As can be seen, there is a shortfall in the church's income against expenditure, a shortfall of £23,079.23

The Church Hall is still making up the shortfall in monthly church giving, so church giving needs to increase to reduce the reliance on hall income which is not guaranteed. As the congregation continues to expand it is hoped that the church income will also increase so this will become less of an issue. The Hall income for 2025 was £52,153.64 with expenditure of £50,788.35.

The Bank Card gifting device (Payaz) continues to increase the monthly income and has contributed to the income in 2025 by the sum of £2,693.77

Once again, the Treasurer, I would like to thank everyone for their continuing support of St Mark's.

2. 2025 - Income

In 2025 the church total income decreased from £73,759.73 to £36,796.07 in 2025.

The difference in the two income is due to the £26,674.81 three years Gift Aid collection in 2024 which boosted the income considerably. However, the total income for 2025 is £36,963.66 down on 2024.

Planned Giving:

A) Monthly Standing Orders (SO) has also seen a decrease from £28,025.00 in 2024 to £23,610.00 in 2025 a decrease of £4,415.00, the decrease was due to some major contributor leaving. A big thank-you to the new people who now donate by Standing Order. This regular planned giving gives the standing committee and PCC a better idea for planning and budgeting. On a positive note, the year started at £1,850 per month donation and has Increased to £2,190 by December

B) Yellow envelopes (now brown):

The Gift Aid envelope scheme has seen a decrease from £1,230.00 in 2024 to £385.00 in 2025, a big decrease of £845.

C) Gift Aid Blue envelopes:

The blue envelope scheme has seen an increase from £1,773 in 2024 to £2300 in 2025, an increase of £527

D) Open Plate Collection:

The open plate has seen a decrease from £2,779.59 in 2024 to £876.04 in 2025, a decrease of £1903.55.

E) Digital Giving via Payaz unit

The Bank Card gifting device (Payaz) continues to increase the monthly income and has contributed to the income in 2025 by the sum of £2,693.77.

The number of people attending services has been slowly increasing, but the use of envelope donations is decreasing. This may be due to people moving to SO giving or donating using the card reader. I would ask if the taxpayers could use the Gift Aid form for the brown or blue envelopes, standing orders and the card reader as your donation is increased by 25% if you are a taxpayer (Please check before signing up for gift aid).

The SO planned giving, yellow envelope, blue envelope, open plate, donations and card reader donations income for 2024 was £42,471.58, and the income from SO planned giving, yellow envelope, blue envelope, open plate, donations and card reader donations for 2025 was £30,983.17 which is a decrease of £11,488.41 in 2025.

The Church Hall

The church hall is the biggest contributor of income to general funds. Despite the Hall being practically fully booked, 2025 has seen a small decrease in income from £57,500.50 in 2024 to £52,153.64 in 2025. Without Hall income, life would be vastly different at St Mark's.

Mrs Bates retires as hall manager in April 2026. The treasurer says many thanks to Mrs D Bates and her team for their tireless work in invoicing and maintaining the hall that is so vital to St Mark's survival. It is hoped that the new people taking over will be able to maintain the facilities the hall offers.

2025 Income

	2526 Church £	2526 Hall £	2526 Restricted £	CCLA Restricted £	7625 Unrestricted £	Total 2025	Total 2024
Voluntary Income							
Planned Giving Standing Orders	23,610.00					23,610.00	28,025.00
Planned Giving Yellow Envelopes	385.00					385.00	1,230.00
Gift Aid Blue Envelopes	2,300.00					2,300.00	1,773.00
Open Plate Unrestricted Cash	876.04					876.04	2,779.59
Gift AidableDonations	1,118.36					1,118.36	801.00
Donations						0.00	5,066.50
St Mark's Den Fund	104.00					104.00	
7625 Acc deposits						0.00	375.00
SumUP Donations	2,693.77					2,693.77	2,796.49
HMRC Refunds							26,674.81
Totals	31,087.17					31,087.17	69,521.39
Income from Investments							
CCLA St Mark's No.2 & 3 Account	645.98					645.98	776.06
CCLA St Mark's No.4 Account				50.85		50.85	
Totals	645.98			50.85		696.83	776.06
Income from church activities							
Book sales	100.00						
Cakes, coffee, crafts	847.50					847.50	120.00
Monies to be paid out (Rest collected to be paid out)			604.75			604.75	0.00
Fund raising Fayres (Any)					2,448.06	2,448.06	2,789.28
Church Hall Lettings (Income)		52,153.64				52,153.64	57,500.50
St Mark's PCC Fees	1,011.76					1,011.76	553.00
Totals	1,959.26	52,153.64	604.75	0.00	2,448.06	57,165.71	60,962.78
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	33,692.41	52,153.64	604.75	50.85	2,448.06	88,949.71	131,260.23

3 - Expenditure:

The total church and hall expenditure for 2025 was £110,663.65. The increase from 2024 of £86,586.91 is due mostly to quinquennial works carried out on the church and major works in the hall.

The parish share for 2025 was £32,621.93 and was completely paid. St Mark's paid the parish share by a monthly standing order.

The financial situation remains unchanged from previous years; expenditure has been increased with essential and safety works being carried out. The quinquennial works will continue during 2026 these will be detailed in the fabric report.

The standing committee is closely monitoring the utility bills. The electricity contracts for both the hall and church renewed in 2022 and will need negotiating in September 2026. Currently the church hall electricity cost is 22.34p/kWh and the church 22.59p/kWh with the standing charge 144p/day.

Gas contract with British Gas finished in August and October 2025. The new contract is with Engie and has seen an increase in the unit of Gas to 13.46p/kWh and the daily standing charge to 77.05p/day and climate levy 0.775p/kWh

The previous cost: Gas 8.73p/kWh daily standing charge 119.75p/day and Climate levy 0.775p/kWh.

This means that the church and hall heating bills will be greatly increased after August and September 2025, further increasing the dependence on the hall income.

A renewed effort is now required for fundraising for the Church building and roof fund. The Quinquennial report lists some work that is needed promptly to maintain the integrity of the building. After April 2025, this list will be added to, placing a further burden on the limited income.

Maintenance, repairs and refurbishment carried out using funds from the 7625 account

Works to deal with some quinquennial items discussed by the PCC were undertaken, and good progress is being made regarding the stone works and painting of the church

Accurate Brickwork Solutions' quote for the work was £15,546.0, and an initial invoice for £3,886.50 (25%) was paid to secure the quote and start the most urgent work. Work is still ongoing

The Church Hall floor needed to be replaced as it was becoming dangerous, and patching the problem areas of the floor was becoming a major issue. The decision was made to replace the floor and the quote from Carpets and Flooring was accepted at a cost of £24,720.00.

A major damp problem was discovered at the back of the church Hall. Ingress of water from the damaged gutters and down pipes was rectified by M J Maintenance at a cost of £950.00

2025 Expenditure

	2526 Unrestricted Funds Church £	2526 Unrestricted Funds Hall £	2526 Restricted Funds Church £	7625 Unrestricted Funds Church £	7625 Unrestricted Funds Hall £	7625 Restricted Funds Church £	7625 Restricted Funds Hall £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
CHURCH ACTIVITIES									
Ministry									
Diocesan Parish Share	32,621.93							32,621.93	30,617.88
Working Expenses	1,268.81							1,268.81	1,213.55
Vicarage Expenses	49.00							49.00	138.80
Visiting Clergy	7.65							7.65	227.86
Upkeep of Services	279.06							279.06	1,294.40
Childrens Den	411.00							411.00	0.00
Insurance	5,042.65	2,551.43						7,594.08	7,381.39
Utilities	8,084.08							8,084.08	6,421.99
Boiler Maintenance	1,858.15	127.20						1,985.35	846.00
Repairs, Maintenance Certifications	3,275.42	412.60						3,688.02	9,776.26
Church and Hall Music	210.00	1,464.00						1,674.00	1,715.26
Church Verger / Organist / Flowers W,F,B								0.00	312.00
Running Costs		8,490.27						8,490.27	8,282.68
Utilities		9,064.58						9,064.58	7,586.64
Hall Sundries		1,252.35						1,252.35	805.67
Hall Major Expenditure Repair Maint		2,445.92			18,366.27		6,353.73	27,165.92	984.00
Hall Bad Cheques Refunds & Deposit Returns								0.00	680.80
Church Charity donations & paid out	1,586.30		604.75					2,191.05	609.70
DBS Chcks								0.00	322.64
Church Quinquennial Inspections/works				690.00		3,886.50	260.00	4,836.50	7,369.39
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	54,694.05	25,808.35	604.75	690.00	18,366.27	3,886.50	6,613.73	110,663.65	86,586.91

4 - 2025 Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £		Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Nat West Bank Balances					
NatWest Bank 2526 Account	73,071.93	357.41		73,429.34	113,731.67
NatWest Bank 7625 Account	35,053.18			35,053.18	17,161.62
CCLA Bank Accounts Balances					
C of ECBF No. 2 Account	14,291.28			14,291.28	13,672.52
C of ECBF No. 3 Account	628.68			628.68	601.46
C of ECBF Account No.4		1,174.34		1,174.34	1,123.49
Total Assets	123,045.07	1,531.75		124,576.82	146,290.76

5 - Movements in Restricted Funds during the year 2025

	Bal B/fwd Funds	Receipts	Payments	Transferred to 7625 General Funds	Transferred to 2526 General Funds	Bal C/fwd. Funds
NW7625 Gen (Restricted)	10,240.23		-10,240.23			0.00
NW7625 Memorial Chapel (Restricted)	587.39			-587.39		0.00
NW7625 Roof works (Restricted)	260.00		-260.00			0.00
Restricted funds held in NW2625 Gen Fund	357.41					357.41
Reserved Children's Den Fund in NW2625 (Designated)	329.70	104.00	-411.00		-22.70	0.00
CBF No.4 004D Restricted	1,123.49	50.85				1,174.34
TOTAL	12,898.22	154.85	-10,911.23	-587.39	-22.70	1,531.75

The NatWest 7625 account is an account with restricted and unrestricted funds, to be used by the PCC for both general and specified (restricted) projects.

At the close of 2025 the NatWest 7625 Account balance was £35,053.18.

1) The non-specific restricted fund of £10,240.23 was used in part to cover the cost of the replacement hall floor.
2) The restricted Memorial Chapel fund of £587.39 was transferred to the 7625 unrestricted fund with agreement from Mrs Bates and the PCC, as all works were now complete.
3) The restricted Church Roof Works fund of £260.00 was use in part payment for the repairs to the roof, gutters and down pipes at the hall.

There are no longer any restricted funds in the Nat West 7625 account

Approved by PCC 5 May 2026

Signed Dianna Gwilliams

The Very Reverend Dianna Gwilliams, Vicar

6 - Forward to 2026 and future years

I will be standing down as treasurer at the end of 2025 so this will be my last report to the APCM.

As in last year's 'Forward into 2025', St Mark's is still at the point of unsustainability, and some major actions are still needed to ensure its future.

For the year 2025. St Mark's Parish Share was set at £32,621.93 which has been paid in full. The 2026 parish share has been set at £37,364.72.

The parish share for a parish with a full-time priest living in the vicarage would be more than >£75,000 a year. This would need an additional church income of ~£3,400.00 per month. This is unachievable with our current income for 2025 from the church of ~£3,100.00 per month including gift aid. In the current climate of increasing costs, and the Church income being likely to be maintained or fall slightly, the parish share still needing to be paid as this is the cost of Ministry. Ministry includes the vicar, their housing costs, pension, and support for and from the Diocese.

In April 2024, Nye Saunders produced a quinquennial inspection report that cost ~£1,400.00. This has highlighted areas of concern which will require extra funds to cover existing issues, and any subsequent problems discovered during works.

A budget of £25,000 plus 10% has been set aside for very urgent work-to make safe the stonework that has deteriorated to such a state as to be dangerous. Work is still ongoing (see the fabric report)

The Church Hall is still the saviour of the church, raising a surplus of ~ £1,365.29 in the year 2025 which enables the church and hall to sustain themselves. The cost of the church hall floor replacement was £24,720.00, work on the gutters and down pipes came to £950.00 both projects were paid for by the funds in the 7625 account which reduced the overall church hall surplus for 2025.

The church hall floor has been completely removed and replaced during the summer holiday period. This was undertaken as the floor was becoming dangerous, and as the hall is a major source of income that needed protecting.

St Mark's is so grateful for the hard work and dedication of Mrs Daryl Bates, her family and team, in keeping the Hall is good order and the bookings extremely high throughout 2025. Mrs Bates is retiring in April 2026, and I would like to thank her for her amazing support in keeping the hall in such good condition and increasing the hiring and income.

Regarding the weekly/monthly collections and giving, if you have not reviewed the amount you are giving, please could you consider increasing your donations to help address the shortfall in income against expenditure. The treasurer would ask if it would be possible to change your method of donation to a Standing Order, as this gives a reliable and regular income forecast to enable better budgeting.

With an Electoral roll of 51, the potential £75,000 parish share would equate to a donation of approximately ~£147.00 per month or ~£28.30 per week per person. Increasing the congregation or monthly donations is essential to cover this amount.

Please remember this amount would NOT cover the monthly costs of the church insurance (£5,042.65 for 2025), utilities (£8,084.08 for 2025), repairs and maintenance (£5,133.57 for 2025) and Quinquennial works (£4,836.50 for 2025). The Quinquennial works still require ~ £12,000 to be spent during 2026. The funds are available in the 7625 account. Since August 2025, St Mark's, has been on an increased tariff for gas. This is just over twice the price prior to August 2024. November through to February 2025 has seen monthly gas bills of £2,100 plus.

Therefore, there is a real need to increase the church's income to remove the reliance on the surplus from the church hall.

7 Bank Account Functions

General funds

NatWest Account ---2526 - this is the account used for the day to day running of the Church and Church Hall.

C of E CBF No.2 account - this is the savings account for general non-restricted funds.

C of E CBF No.3 account – this is a designated account that was designated for music at St Mark's.

Restricted Accounts

NatWest Account ---7625- is an account with restricted and unrestricted funds, to be used by the PCC both general and specified (restricted) projects.

C of E CBF No.4 Account - the fund in this savings account are restricted for music.

Compiled by Michael Smith
Treasurer for the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mark South Farnborough

ST MARK'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mark's, Farnborough

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 130 of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

    a. To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
    b. To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.

    Have not been met; or

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Mr Patrick Brown
6 Kingsley Court
Windsor Way
Aldershot
Hants
GU11 1HZ

5th May 2026

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5th May 2026