BENWELL TEAM PARISH
SCOTSWOOD



ANNUAL REPORT
2025-26

A church for all
in Benwell and Scotswood

OUR MISSION

We believe that Jesus calls us to keep two commandments – to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

We hope for this love to inform everything we do.

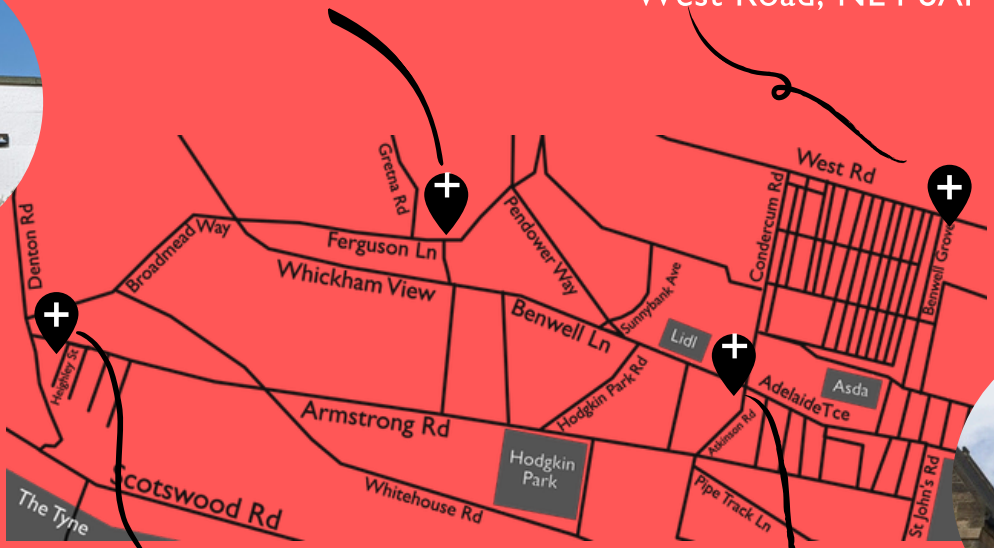
ONE CHURCH FOUR LOCATIONS





St John's Benwell Village
Ferguson Lane, NE15 6NW

The Venerable Bede West Road
West Road, NE4 8AP







St Margaret's Scotswood
Heighley Street, NE15 6AR

St James Benwell
Benwell Lane, NE15 6RS

Parish established 1833

Population 22568

202nd most deprived out of 12,178 parishes

Indices of multiple deprivation bottom 1%



Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish is a genuinely inclusive and authentic community in the west end of Newcastle upon Tyne. We work tirelessly to share the love of Jesus Christ and care for the community, whatever their background or belief.

The Church of England parish began in the 1830s. In 1985 St James, St John, and the Venerable Bede came together to form the Benwell Team. St Margaret's Scotswood then joined in 2015 to create Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish.

We are in one of the most culturally and ethnically diverse areas in the Diocese. We have seen significant growth and change in recent years, with many people of all backgrounds joining the worshipping community. We proudly welcome and offer support to asylum seekers and refugees.

FROM MAY 2026

PCC OFFICERS

Team Rector (chair)	(Position vacant)
Team Vicar for Mission (Acting chair)	The Revd Christopher Minchin
Licensed Lay Reader	Kathleen Germain
Secretary (co-opted)	Kath McIntyre
Treasurer (co-opted)	Gillian Libby
St James Benwell Churchwardens	Julius Ijefiya, Sarah Meighan
St Margaret Scotswood Churchwarden	Brenda McCutcheon
St John's Benwell Village Churchwarden	Colina Fenton
Venerable Bede Churchwarden	Kath McIntyre
St James PCC reps	Francesca Stockdale
St Margaret's PCC reps	Jill Sorley, Mohammad Lorestani
St John's PCC reps	Joyce Cuthbertson, Margaret Connor
Venerable Bede PCC reps	James Garratt
Deanery Synod Reps	Shirley Irving, Chris Libby
Asylum and Refugee reps (co-opted)	Timothy Ohanaka, Mohsen Hassanejad

OTHER POSITIONS

Electoral Roll Officer	Kath McIntyre
Safeguarding Administrator	Kath McIntyre
Parish Safeguarding officer	Brenda McCutcheon
Assistant Safeguarding officers	Kathleen Germain, Michael Keller
Heritage and Environment Group reps	Michael Keller, Elizabeth Flint
Treasurer for St John's	Colina Fenton
St James Caretaker (contracted)	Chris Foskett
Artist in Residence	Lily Mae Kroese
Independent Examiner	Justine Beer

Registered charity number 1205934

16 Trustees

2 Asylum and Refugee reps co-opted

4 PCC meetings per year

1 annual meeting

PCC code of conduct

- Pray first; seek God's guidance.
- Serve one other and our parish before self.
- Be open to change and new ideas.
- Speak openly and honestly.
- Listen respectfully without interruption.
- Stay focused and on topic.
- Be constructive with criticism.
- Seek consensus and accept majority decisions.
- Take responsibility for attending meetings.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM



CLERGY

Team Rector - Vacant

Team Vicar for Mission and Acting Team Rector (full-time stipendiary)
The Revd Chris Minchin

House for Duty Vicar - Vacant

Retired Clergy with PTO:
The Revd Anne Marr
The Revd Allan Marks

LAY MINISTRY TEAM

Pastoral Assistant (Ordinand) - Sarah Molyneux-Hetherington

Licensed Reader - Kathleen Germain

Anna Chaplain - Shirley Irving

Authorised Lay Ministers
Grace Thomson, Timothy Ohanaka, Chris Libby, Carol Davison, Christopher Foskett, Shirley Irving

WHAT WE DO



MINISTRY

- Prayer and fellowship groups
- Sunday and weekday worship
- Persian New Worshipping Community
- Pastoral care and visiting
- Sacraments & Life Events - Baptisms, weddings, funerals
- Bible study
- Exploring faith and teaching
- Music groups
- Festivals and feasts
- Civic events and commemorations
- Anna Chaplaincy (dementia care)

COMMUNITY

- Foodbank
- Multi-agency welfare support and advice
- Asylum & refugee support
- Art Club
- Craft groups
- Music groups
- Lunch club / community café
- Creative Writing Group
- Care home visiting
- Children's activities
- Artist in Residence
- Mental health peer support
- Local History tours and talks
- Gardening
- Exhibitions
- Volunteering opportunities
- Community events
- Interfaith events
- Dance Classes
- Socials and trips
- Office and community space for charities and organisations





SOMETHING WONDERFUL

The Something Wonderful project is run by Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish. It is for everyone, whatever their background or belief.

Our aim is to strengthen our local community, tackle the causes of poverty and isolation, and improve mental and physical wellbeing. We do this by through many activities and groups, and encouraging creativity.

We also aim to renovate and improve our buildings to ensure they remain open for the community and our local heritage is preserved.



Our new Artist in Residence– Lily Mae Kroese! Supported by funding from Newcastle City Council and the Biscuit Factory Foundation

With special thanks to

COMMUNITY FUND

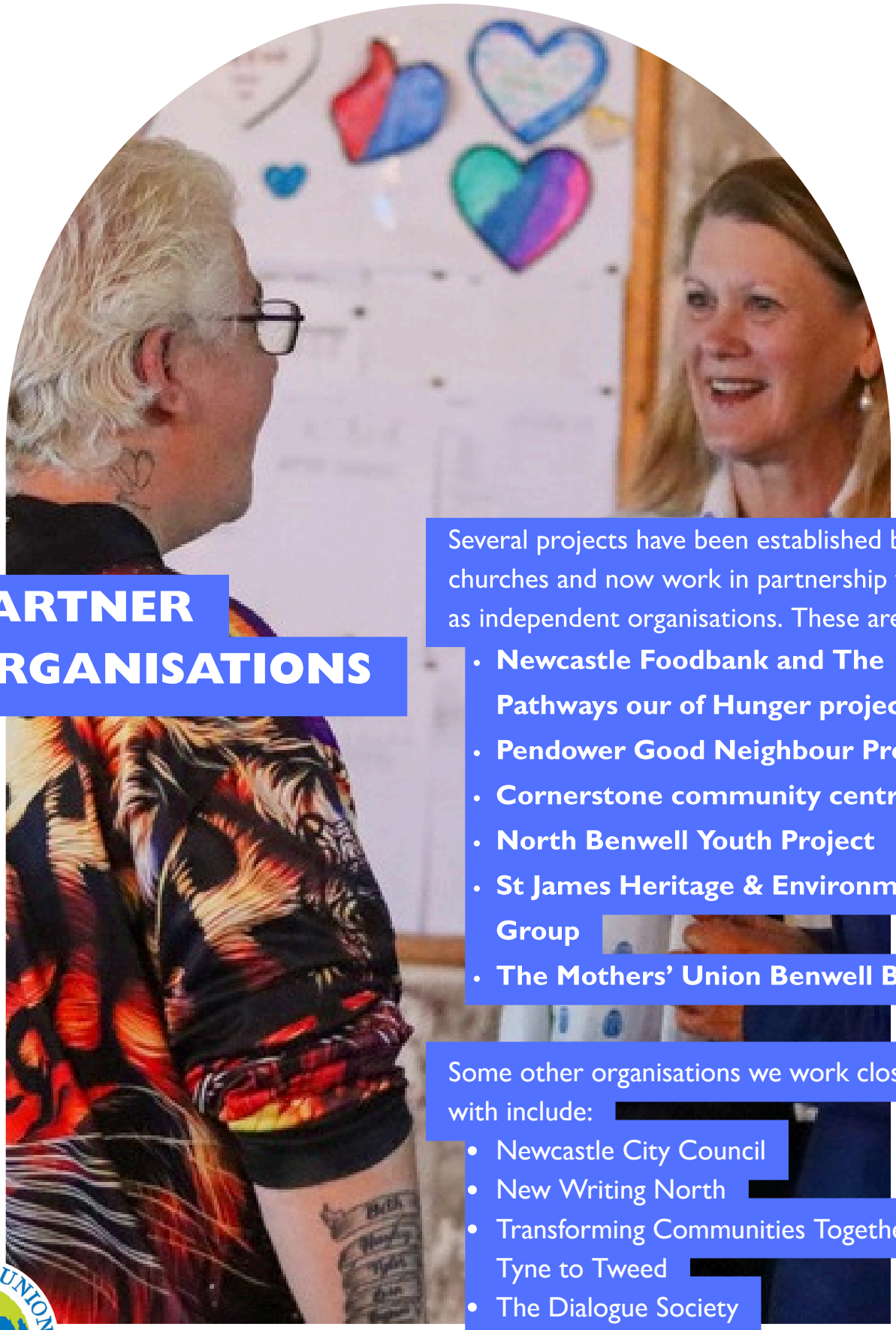
Newcastle City Council

THE BISCUIT FACTORY FOUNDATION

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER Tyne to Tweed

NORTHUMBRIA HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

MOTHERS' UNION Christian care for families



PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Several projects have been established by our churches and now work in partnership with us as independent organisations. These are:

- **Newcastle Foodbank and The Pathways our of Hunger project**
- **Pendower Good Neighbour Project**
- **Cornerstone community centre**
- **North Benwell Youth Project**
- **St James Heritage & Environment Group**
- **The Mothers' Union Benwell Branch**

Some other organisations we work closely with include:

- Newcastle City Council
- New Writing North
- Transforming Communities Together Tyne to Tweed
- The Dialogue Society

MOTHERS' UNION
Christian care for families

Newcastle Foodbank

Cornerstone
Include • Empower • Encourage • Celebrate

NEW WRITING NORTH

Newcastle City Council

DIALOGUE SOCIETY

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER
Tyne to Tweed

North Benwell YOUTH PROJECT

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Newcastle

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Church of England's vocation is and always has been to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ afresh in each generation to the people of England.

(The Church of England's vision and strategy)

THE DIOCESE OF NEWCASTLE

We are **seeking** through being open to God's transforming love; **sharing** through being generous with God's transforming gifts; and we are **sending** through being engaged in God's transforming work in the world.

(Diocese of Newcastle values)



The Right Revd Dr
Helen-Ann Hartley
Bishop of Newcastle



The Right Revd Mark Wroe
Bishop of Berwick

Seeking.
Sharing.
Sending.



BENWELL TEAM PARISH SCOTSWOOD

A SAFE CHURCH

- We promote a safe environment and culture.
- We safely recruit those with responsibility for young people and vulnerable adults.
- We respond promptly to concerns and allegations.
- We listen to survivors of abuse and take them seriously.
- We will respond with action and care for all those affected.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, if you witness or are told something then:

- **Recognise** the signs that abuse may be happening.
- **Respond** sensitively and listen - don't question or investigate.
- **Record** factually and accurately what you have been told in the language they used.
- **Report** immediately to the Church Safeguarding Officer, or the Diocesan safeguarding officer.

If there is immediate danger call 999.

Seen or heard something that doesn't feel right?

Something made you feel worried?

Tell someone!

Brenda McCutcheon
Parish Safeguarding Officer
brendamccutcheon@yahoo.co.uk
07940 27877



Mike Keller
Assistant Safeguarding Officer
fleller@btinternet.com
07761 542007



If in any doubt, contact the Diocese of Newcastle Safeguarding Adviser: safeguarding@newcastle.anglican.org

Kathy Germaine
Assistant Safeguardin Officer
kathleen342434@hotmail.com
0191 2451903



Visit our website for info and advice:
benwellscotswood.com/safeguarding

BENWELL TEAM PARISH SCOTSWOOD

A WELCOMING CHURCH

We believe every person is made in the image of God and is of infinite worth. We are committed to creating a welcoming, inclusive community where everyone is treated with dignity and respect regardless of:

Age
Disability
Gender identity or sex
Sexual orientation
marital status
Pregnancy and maternity
Race (including colour, nationality, or ethnicity)
Religion or belief
Immigration status

We aim to be a community where diversity is celebrated and valued.
We will continue to learn together as a community, and we will challenge discrimination.



TEAM VICAR'S REPORT

I never know what will happen each day in this role, and I love it. The variety is held by real connections running throughout our community, the rhythm of our worship together, and the eternal care of God. However, I have no idea how I can meaningfully sum up all the complex stories from this last year! Therefore, I asked myself what is the most important thing I have learnt from you over this last year? And I think it is this: hope has a foundation.

I stand on the foundation of hope that God gives me through you, and I am in awe how you all give this same hope to everyone in this community. We still have no Rector, a difficult financial situation, fractured local communities, protests, war in Iran. Yet, because of your faithfulness, we continue to encounter new people, we continue to find new and creative ways to serve them, we continue to commit ourselves to the transforming grace of God. And by that grace we saw 38 people confirmed last year– one of the biggest confirmations in the Diocese in years, even more baptised, thousands coming through our doors for support and fellowship throughout the year and being met by people who care. God is building a strong, beautiful, joyous community, where people are flourishing and their hearts are being transformed, right here in Benwell and Scotswood.

Some of the key developments over the last year have been:

- After consultation with the PCC and Bishop Mark, I became 'Acting Rector' until we have someone in post. I have tried to provide you with leadership and stability, and thank you all for supporting me in this, you are truly great teachers.
- We have continued to prioritise safeguarding, actively finding ways to keep each other safe.
- We agreed to offer Prayers of Love and Faith in our churches (for unions of same-sex couples). And we have committed to fighting for greater inclusion of LGBTQ+ people in the life of the church.
- We made the Something Wonderful a project of the whole parish, not just St James, to reflect our joint responsibility for this work.
- We have received £20,000 funding from the National Lottery to keep the Something Wonderful project running.
- We have received £4000 from the City Council to appoint our new artist in residence, and £2000 from the Biscuit Factory Foundation for art materials.
- The team from TCTTT are supporting us with fundraising for St James' building and our projects.
- The Worldwide President of the Mothers' Union visited us to see the Something Wonderful project, to worship with us and pray for us.
- Bishop Mark Wroe came to us for a confirmation service with 38 candidates.
- Bishop Helen-Ann joines us as our Holy Week preacher in 2026 and baptised 17 candidates.
- Plans have been drafted to lease the Venerable Bede Church hall to Newcastle Foodbank.
- Service patterns have been simplified and times adjusted to better suit our congregations. The Parish Eucharist now remains at St James all year round at 11am. We worship at 10am on Sundays at both St Margaret's and St John's. And the Venerable Bede worships at 12pm on Thursdays.

There is not enough room to thank everyone that I should. But I do want to thanks:

- Fr Allan Marks, for his incredible faithfulness, steadiness, and humour, he could choose to be anywhere in his retirement, and he has chosen to be here.
- The Revd Anne Marr, for her irrepressible joy and always being there when I needed a listening ear.
- The Revd Helen Young, who in her placement with us showed an incredible sense of justice, compassion and wisdom.
- James Garratt for his work as treasurer, Richard and Colina Fenton for their support, and Gillian Libby as she takes on the role.
- Kathy Germain our reader, who has also begun a mental health support group.
- Shirley Irving our Anna Chaplain, who has also taken on the running of the lunch club.
- Sarah Molyneux Hetherington our Pastoral assistant and St James worhsip co-ordinator extraordinaire.
- Kath McIntyre– Secretary, administrator, warden, charity shop co-ordinator, and person with the most jobs.
- Our wardens Colina, Brenda and Julius. And especially Mike Keller and Grace Thomson as they step down as wardens, Sarah Meighan as she takes up the mantle, and Mohammad as he begins as deputy warden.
- All our Farsi translators, particularly Mohammad Peivandi, Hamed Mohammadvand, Joseph Kaveh, Hadi Jamishi, and Mohsen Hassanejad.
- Chris Foskett our dedicated caretaker.
- Tim Ohanaka and Chris Libby for exceptional effort.
- Every PCC member, volunteer, and worshipper.

Lastly, we give thanks those who kept the flame of faith alive here, and whose lights still burn bright with God. How privileged we are to have known Cecil Harlock and his friendship; Margaret Ward the rock of the Venerable Bede community and an unwavering force for good; and John Nicholson who always reminded us that the best is yet to come.

The Revd Christopher Minchin
Team Vicar for Mission,
Acting Rector and Vice Chair of the PCC

PCC SECRETARY REPORT

At present, a replacement for David Kirkwood has not been identified. It is hoped that a new rector will be appointed in the near future to support the parish and its ongoing activities.

In the interim, Chris Minchin continues to serve as Team Vicar for mission while also taking on additional duties typically undertaken by the rector. The parish extends its sincere thanks to Chris for his unwavering dedication and hard work during this period.

James Garratt has recently stepped down from his role as PCC treasurer. The parish wishes to express gratitude for the commitment and expertise James has shown throughout his tenure.

Despite considerable mobility within the parish community, congregational numbers are increasing. There has also been a rise in baptisms and confirmations, reflecting a period of growth and renewal.

Fundraising efforts and grant applications remain essential, as building maintenance is an ongoing concern that requires continuous attention and resources.

The parish is deeply grateful for the support and hard work of all volunteers, whose contributions are invaluable to the life and wellbeing of the church.

Kath McIntyre

VENERABLE BEDE WEST ROAD



WARDEN'S REPORT

The Venerable Bede church and hall are in generally good condition. While the overall structure is sound and fit for purpose, some minor repairs and ongoing maintenance are necessary to ensure that both the church and hall remain safe and suitable for regular activities.

The Food Bank makes use of Venerable Bede Hall on Mondays and Thursdays, providing vital support to the local community. Plans are in place for the Food Bank to lease the hall for exclusive use in the near future, ensuring stability and continuity of this important service.

The House of Christ hire church regularly providing a useful stream of income.
Regular Thursday services are held at Venerable Bede , maintaining the church's commitment to providing spiritual guidance and community worship.

The churchwarden would like to extend warm thanks to all those who have offered their ongoing support, recognising the dedication and effort that contributes to the life of the church.

Kath McIntyre



ST JAMES BENWELL

WARDEN'S REPORT

Parish Eucharst time changed to 11.15am on Sundays. Worship during winter months now takes place in the church hall rather than moving to the Venerable Bede. The church continues to be used extensively throughout the week, particularly for the Pathways out of Hunger Project, Art Club, Lunch Club, Persian Bible study, and more.

Repairs:

- Vestry roof beam, dry rot removed, new wood flitched in.
- Roof covering replaced
- Noticeboard beside gate repainted
- Out of date noticeboard on external wall removed
- Internal noticeboards in hall moved
- Gates repaired and repainted
- Stone gate posts repaired, partially replaced, and strengthened
- Boundary walls repointed
- Tarmac replaced outside
- Drains unblocked and issue identified
- Handwash sink repaired

Currently ongoing:

- Walls in hall to be repainted
- Noticeboards to be updated
- Lights in porch and at west end to be fixed
- Funding applications in process to update kitchen, toilets, and vestry
- Funding application in process for clock face to be repaired

Thanks:

- St James Heritage and Environment group for maintaining the churchyard
- Northumbria Historic Churches Trust and the Diocesan Minor Repairs Fund, for the funding to repair the vestry roof
- Thanks to Chris Foskett, caretaker.
- Thanks to Sarah Meighan, hospitality co-ordinator
- Thanks to volunteers for cleaning, repairs, and hospitality
- Thanks to Patience Oghebon and Jeanette for all their help with cleaning
- Thanks to Shirley Irving for her work on the lunch club

Michael Keller & Julius Ijefiya
Church Wardens.



ST JOHN'S BENWELL VILLAGE

WARDEN'S REPORT

We had to have the gas capped due to a gas leak. Due to this we had the gas cooker removed. We have since replaced it with an electric cooker. (Thanks to Margaret, this was free). The electric circuit has been upgraded to accommodate this as well as a new socket in the kitchen.

Joe very kindly reconfigured the cupboards in the kitchen to accommodate the new cooker as well as installing tiles to fill in the space from the old gas cooker.

We took the decision to remove the soil in the church garden as it took a lot of maintaining. The church and the ukulele group joined forces to have the soil removed and replaced by gravel.

Joe has installed tiles in the gents toilets and has done an excellent job. The materials were supplied by the ukulele group with some tiles donated by Kathy Germain (She was just going to throw them away when Margaret and I saved them!)

Joe has installed a suspended ceiling in the gents toilet to make the room a bit warmer and look more pleasing. He is in the process of installing cladding on the wall above the tiles. This has been funded by the craft group.

The craft group have also paid for new toilet seats and some second-hand chairs to boost our stock.
We have recently had the back of the church cleared as it was overgrown and was causing damp in that area.

We are in the process of getting quotes to get the area made more manageable and weed free. This will help with the damp in that area.

The new time of 10.00am has been much appreciated and has meant that we have new members attending.
The line dancing continues to be a great success. This is thanks to Linda Daprato and her continued enthusiasm for running the classes. I want to thank her for all of her hard work.

The ukulele group continues to go from strength to strength with more and more concerts entertaining a wide variety of audiences. They vary from care homes to assisted living and community centres.
Church socials, coffee mornings and fayres continue to prove very popular and to be a great success raising a great deal of money for St John's Church.

The regular maintenance of the building has taken place. Namely the fire extinguisher service, boiler service and the PAT testing.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped me during my first year as church warden. We have all pulled together to help St John's work well and I am proud of the work that has been achieved.

Colina Fenton
Church Warden for St John's Church Benwell Village.



ST MARGARET'S SCOTSWOOD

WARDEN'S REPORT

At the end of a year, were we meet every new challenge; our building has continued to be open for service users and we continue with a regular pattern of worship, with a communion service every Sunday at 10.00 am, Baptisms have taken place. Baptisms have gone back to what they were with larger numbers, although still not as many as usual.

The Fire safety equipment and the security lighting have been checked regularly, by Northern Fire and Security Ltd, who already maintain the electrics. We still have a lift maintenance contract with Northern Elevators who regularly service the lift (4 times a year). Unfortunately, it's 26 years since we had the building re-ordered, and the main control panel for the lift had to have major repairs, this has seen quite a few problems, especially with the underfloor heating. Eventually it was identified as faulty software, which has now been replaced, and everything seems to be working as it should. This year we have had to have quite a few light fittings replaced, unfortunately time has seen changes in electrical equipment and after 26 years our fittings are now obsolete and when they go must be replaced. Also when the fire extinguishers were tested it was noted that all CO2 extinguishers will have to be replaced, this is to comply with environmental recommendations. All electrical equipment was PAT tested in December with no issues.

We don't need to have the lightning conductor tested as suggested at the quinquennium report, this is required every 4 years. We have completed a desktop risk assessment audit with Ecclesiastical insurance; this went well with only some small recommendations, namely we need a register of key holders, and the electrical fixed wiring was overdue a successful check, this has now been completed. We still have to address any recommendations form the quinquennium report.

Scotswood Village Nursery continue to hire the hall area, they also hire the old vestry, the Children's Garden and have shared use of the kitchen.

Changing Lives MAP and GAPs continue to occupy the upper room and have secured funding for the Elliot room, allowing them to employ a larger team, from Monday to Friday weekly, they also hire the quiet room, which they use for one2one sessions. Once again, the building is busy and vibrant.

We need to look at future fundraising events and how we reach out and involve the community in these.

As we move forward, we pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us into the future for our Church in Scotswood and help us to develop a new vibrant pattern of worship and social life, making St. Margaret's once again a happy, healthy centre which meets the needs of the community.

Thank you all for your help and support over the past year, you have all shown how loyal and committed you are to keeping St. Margaret's going.

Brenda M^{c}Cutcheon, Grace Thomson, (Church Wardens)

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS
Until 31 December 2025

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income, Expenditure and Funds 2025

Money In

	S James	Ven Bede	S John	S Margaret	Common	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024	Variance
Planned Giving	£4,541	£4,871	£1,962	£1,906	£1,502	£14,781	£16,223	-£1,442
Collections at Services	£0	£256	£1,065	£172	£0	£1,492	£2,057	-£565
All Other Giving	£1,350	£413	£1,268	£82	£5,801	£8,895	£3,913	£4,982
Gift Aid	£2,295	£414	£55	£55	£118	£2,937	£1,374	£1,564
Grants and Legacies	£7,500	£0	£0	£0	£14,817	£22,317	£72,775	-£50,458
Fundraising	£549	£0	£9,479	£0	£0	£10,028	£9,283	£745
Fees, Hires and Rentals	£3,335	£7,983	£0	£26,600	£649	£38,567	£39,264	-£697
Investments	£653	£145	£1,466	£0	£0	£2,264	£1,741	£523
Other Income	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£441	-£441
TOTAL	**£20,223**	**£14,081**	**£15,295**	**£28,794**	**£22,886**	**£101,280**	£147,070	**-£45,790**
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common Fund)	£2,000	£0	£0	£0	£14,817	£0	£20,960	-£20,960
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£18,223**	**£14,081**	**£15,295**	**£28,794**	**£8,069**	**£101,280**	£126,110	**-£24,830**

Money Out

	S James	Ven Bede	S John	S Margaret	Common	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024	Variance
Diocesan Parish Share	£0	£0	£0	£0	£12,000	£12,000	£12,400	-£400
Staff Salaries and Expenses	£0	£0	£0	£0	£142	£142	£344	-£203
Charitable Giving	£100	£2	£0	£0	£0	£102	£7,564	-£7,462
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common Fund)	£0	£7,124	£6,746	£3,393	£0	£17,263	£20,960	-£3,697
Other Mission Payments	£239	£0	£0	£0	£0	£239	£1,106	-£867
Church Services	£603	£764	£86	£15	£437	£1,904	£1,659	£245
Insurance	£8,978	£3,570	£752	£3,871	£0	£17,171	£17,007	£164
Church Upkeep	£11,365	£3,270	£593	£3,034	£2,640	£20,903	£18,245	£2,657
Utilities	£4,223	£9,389	£1,025	£12,941	£5,790	£33,368	£31,965	£1,403
Costs of Fundraising	£0	£0	£88	£0	£0	£88	£706	-£619
Major Building / Repair	£450	£0	£1,236	£5,823	£990	£8,499	£44,491	-£35,993
TOTAL	**£25,958**	**£24,118**	**£10,526**	**£29,077**	**£21,998**	**£111,677**	£156,448	**-£44,771**
Transfers within Team	£0	£7,124	£6,746	£3,393	£0	£0	£20,960	-£20,960
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£25,958**	**£16,995**	**£3,780**	**£25,684**	**£21,998**	**£111,677**	£135,488	**-£23,811**

Money Remaining on 31 December 2025

	S James	Ven Bede	S John	S Margaret	Common	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024	Variance
General Access Funds	£934	£9,634	£14,208	£19,521	£8,213	£52,509	£67,638	-£15,129
Restricted Funds	-£801	£0	£28,716	£0	£0	£27,915	£23,183	£4,732
TOTAL	**£133**	**£9,634**	**£42,924**	**£19,521**	**£8,213**	**£80,424**	£90,821	**-£10,397**

This has been a financially challenging year for the Benwell and Scotswood Team with funds falling by over £10,000.
The total income was just over £101,000, a decrease from 2024 of around £46,000. This fall is largely related to a fall in grants and legacies by £51,000 from almost £73,000 to £ 22,000.

In relation to expenditure, it may seem to be good news that costs have fallen by approximately £45,000. However, the majority of that figure relates to much lower spending on major building work and repairs, which fell by £36,000 compared with 2024.

Payments of £12,000 were made for Diocesan Parish Share in 2025, only £400 less than in 2024.

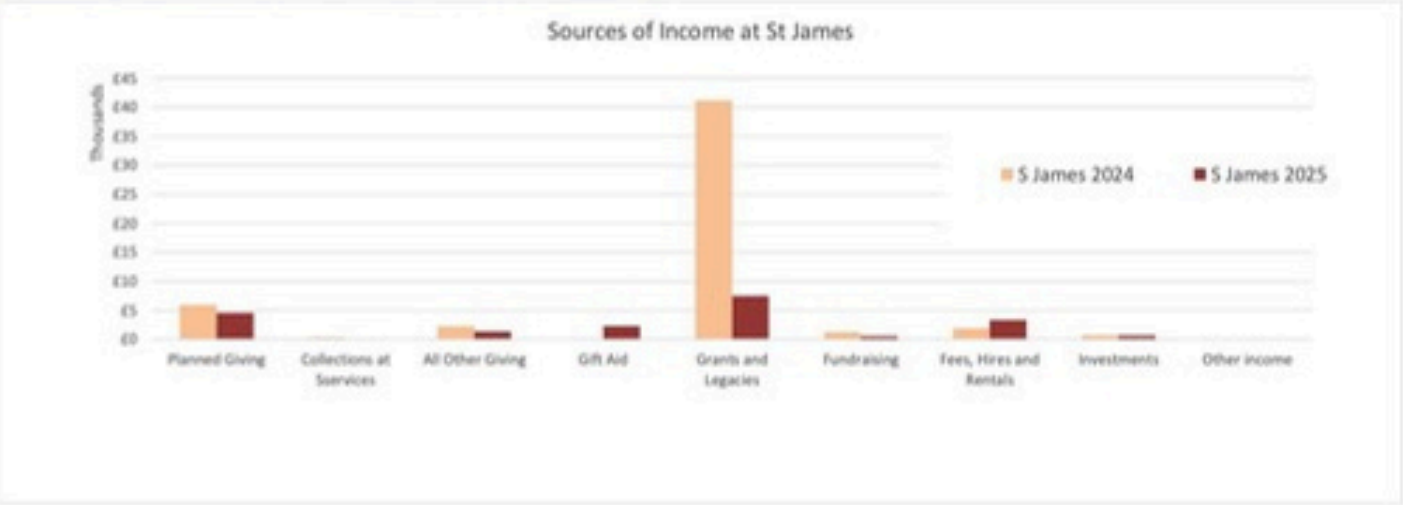
Similarly to 2024, areas of notable expenditure in 2025 were insurance (£17,000), church upkeep (£21,000) and utility bills of (£33,000).

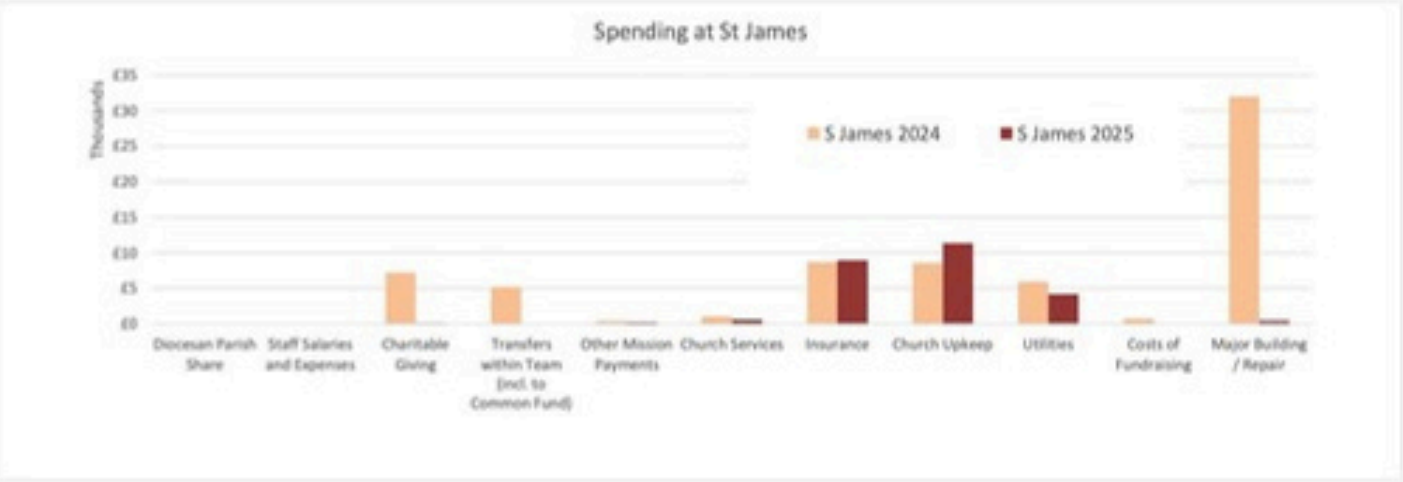
It should also be noted that there is a large outstanding gas bill for St. James relating to several financial years. The accounts do not reflect this liability. The extent of the liability is currently unkown as TotalEnergies are investigating the matter as we have queried the backbilling and a response is awaited soon. It is likely that a significant charge will be made in 2026 for outstanding gas usage.

Records show that there were 36 individual planned givers during 2025, an increase from 31 in 2024.

Our gift aid recovered has more than doubled in comparison to 2024. However, a concerted effort needs to be made to fully claim what we can from HMRC in 2026.
Re-validation of all gift aid data and use our new position as a registered charity must be used to become more consistent with our claims.
Our membership of the Parish Giving Scheme has helped to improve our regular income from Gift Aid, hence the increase in receipts.

Analysis of Finance for St James (2024 and 2025)





Current year	2025
Previous year	2024

Money In

	S James 2024	S James 2025	Variance
Planned Giving	£5,915	£4,541	-£1,374
Collections at Sservices	£315	£0	-£315
All Other Giving	£2,214	£1,350	-£864
Gift Aid	£38	£2,295	£2,258
Grants and Legacies	£41,194	£7,500	-£33,694
Fundraising	£1,257	£549	-£708
Fees, Hires and Rentals	£1,915	£3,335	£1,421
Investments	£688	£653	-£35
Other income	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL	**£53,535**	**£20,223**	**-£33,311**
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common	£0	£2,000	£2,000
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£53,535**	**£18,223**	**-£35,311**

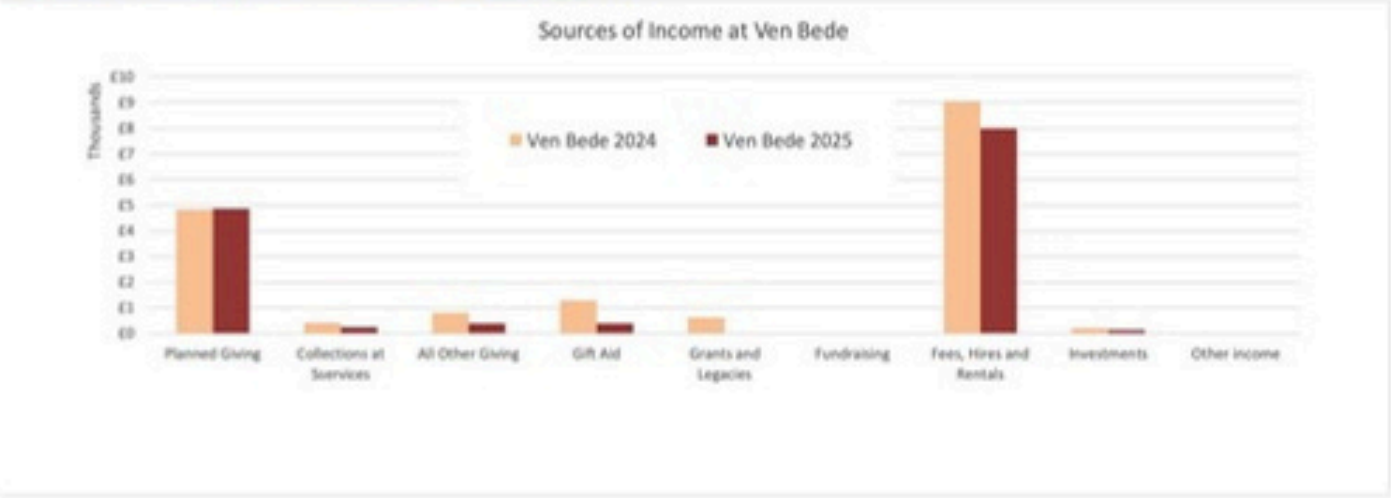
Money Out

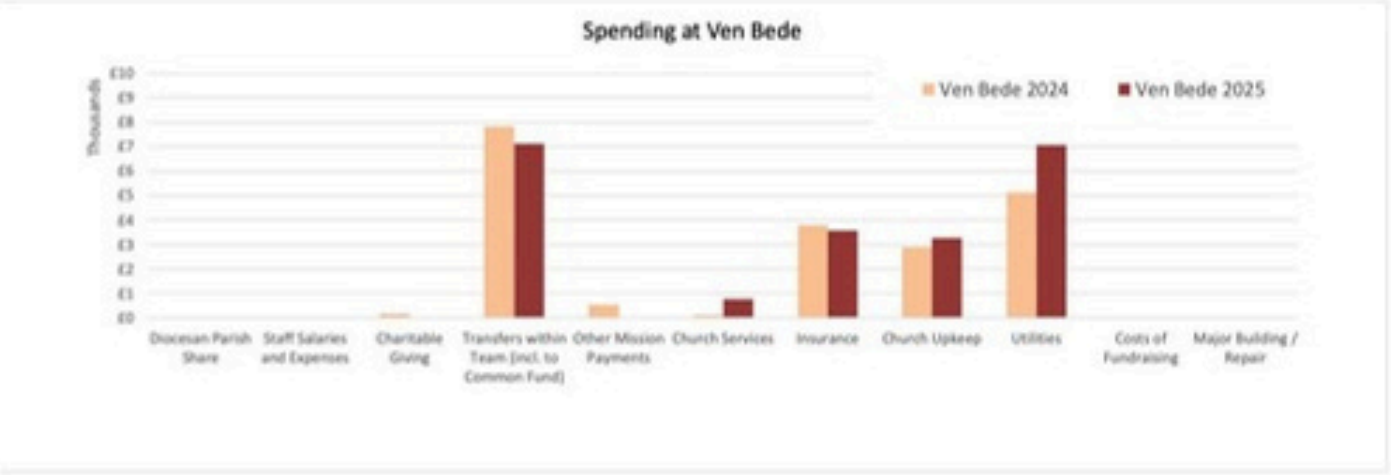
	S James 2024	S James 2025	Variance
Diocesan Parish Share	£0	£0	£0
Staff Salaries and Expenses	£0	£0	£0
Charitable Giving	£7,200	£100	-£7,100
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common Fund)	£5,208	£0	-£5,208
Other Mission Payments	£420	£239	-£181
Church Services	£1,051	£603	-£448
Insurance	£8,700	£8,978	£278
Church Upkeep	£8,580	£11,365	£2,785
Utilities	£5,967	£4,223	-£1,744
Costs of Fundraising	£706	£0	-£706
Major Building / Repair	£31,993	£450	-£31,543
TOTAL	**£69,826**	**£25,958**	**-£43,868**
Transfers within Team	£5,208	£0	-£5,208
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£64,618**	**£25,958**	**-£38,660**

Money Remaining at St James at the End of the Year

Year	2024	2025	Variance
General access funds	£3,036	£934	-£2,102
Restricted funds	£2,831	-£801	-£3,633
Total funds	**£5,867**	**£133**	**-£5,734**

Analysis of Finance for Ven Bede (2024 and 2025)





Current year	2025
Previous year	2024

Money In

	Ven Bede 2024	Ven Bede 2025	Variance
Planned Giving	£4,842	£4,871	£29
Collections at Sservices	£436	£256	-£180
All Other Giving	£824	£413	-£411
Gift Aid	£1,306	£414	-£892
Grants and Legacies	£821	£0	-£821
Fundraising	£0	£0	£0
Fees, Hires and Rentals	£9,048	£7,983	-£1,065
Investments	£212	£145	-£67
Other income	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL	**£12,806**	**£14,081**	**-£3,206**
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common F	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£12,806**	**£14,081**	**-£3,206**

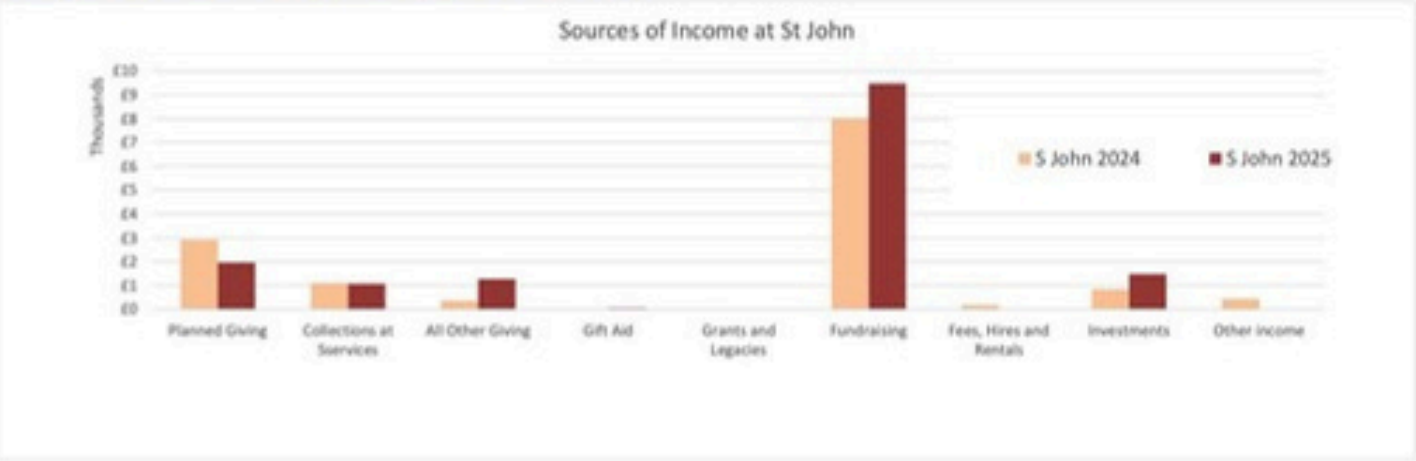
Money Out

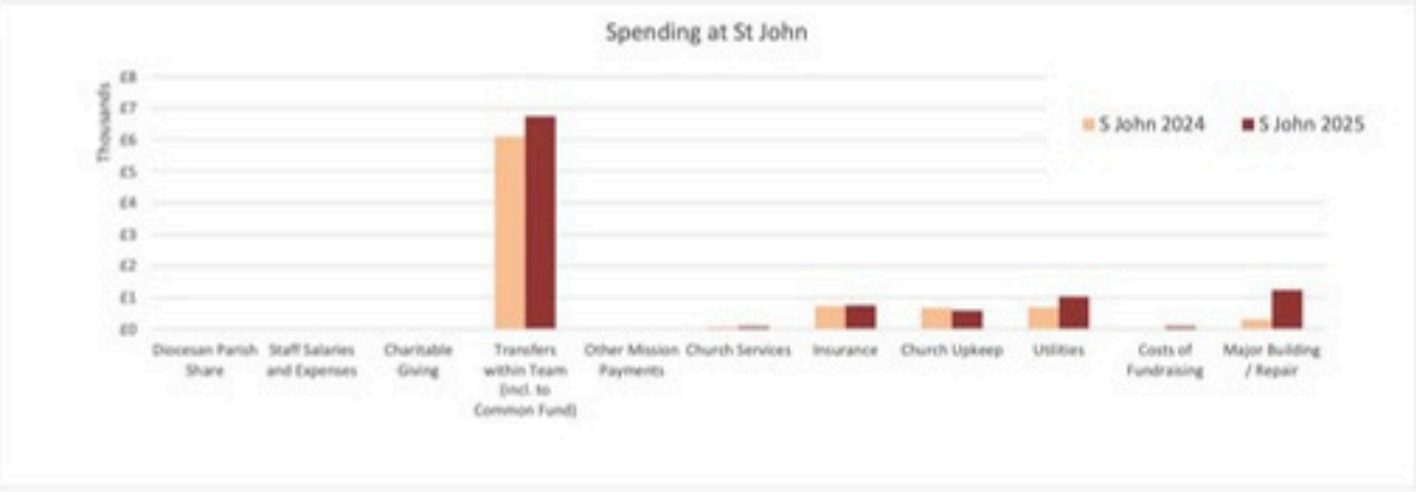
	Ven Bede 2024	Ven Bede 2025	Variance
Diocesan Parish Share	£0	£0	£0
Staff Salaries and Expenses	£0	£0	£0
Charitable Giving	£164	£2	-£162
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common Fund)	£7,836	£7,124	-£712
Other Mission Payments	£533	£0	-£533
Church Services	£104	£764	£659
Insurance	£3,794	£3,570	-£225
Church Upkeep	£2,894	£3,270	£376
Utilities	£5,126	£9,389	£4,263
Costs of Fundraising	£0	£0	£0
Major Building / Repair	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL	**£20,452**	**£24,118**	**£3,666**
Transfers within Team	£7,836	£7,124	-£712
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£12,616**	**£16,995**	**£4,378**

Money Remaining at Ven Bede at the End of the Year

Year	2024	2025	Variance
General access funds	£19,671	£9,634	-£10,037
Restricted funds	-£0	£0	£0
Total funds	**£19,671**	**£9,634**	**-£10,037**

Analysis of Finance for St John (2024 and 2025)





Current year	2025
Previous year	2024

Money In

	S John 2024	S John 2025	Variance
Planned Giving	£2,919	£1,962	-£957
Collections at Sservices	£1,106	£1,065	-£42
All Other Giving	£367	£1,268	£902
Gift Aid	£10	£55	£45
Grants and Legacies	£0	£0	£0
Fundraising	£8,026	£9,479	£1,453
Fees, Hires and Rentals	£174	£0	-£174
Investments	£841	£1,466	£625
Other income	£441	£0	-£441
TOTAL	**£13,884**	**£15,295**	**£1,411**
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£13,884**	**£15,295**	**£1,411**

Money Out

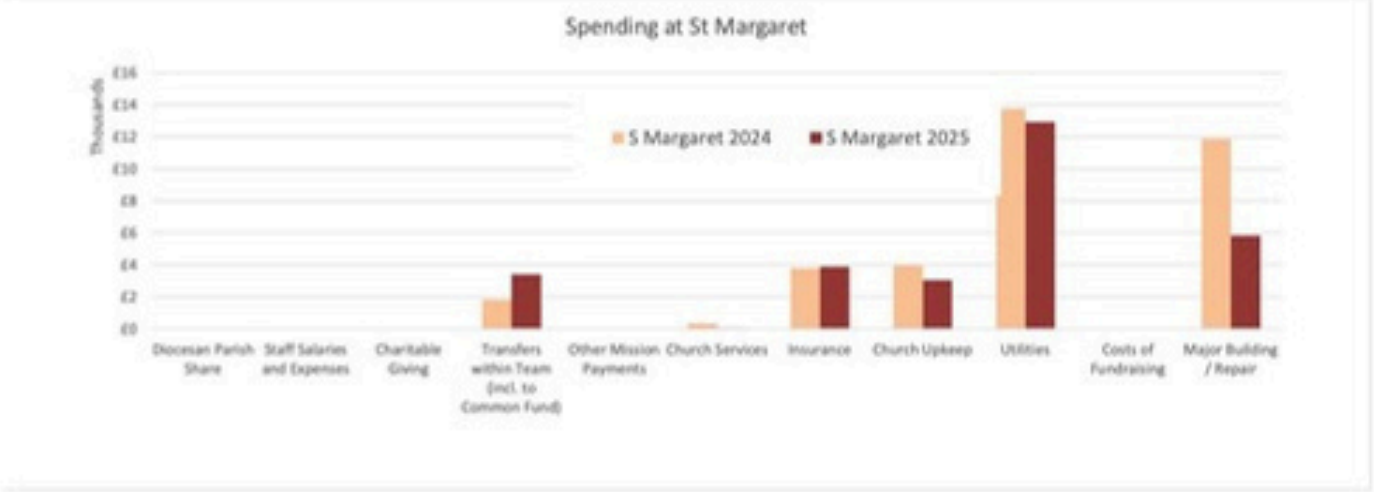
	S John 2024	S John 2025	Variance
Diocesan Parish Share	£0	£0	£0
Staff Salaries and Expenses	£0	£0	£0
Charitable Giving	£0	£0	£0
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common Fund)	£6,108	£6,746	£638
Other Mission Payments	£0	£0	£0
Church Services	£72	£86	£15
Insurance	£738	£752	£14
Church Upkeep	£668	£593	-£76
Utilities	£689	£1,025	£336
Costs of Fundraising	£0	£88	£88
Major Building / Repair	£301	£1,236	£935
TOTAL	**£8,576**	**£10,526**	**£1,950**
Transfers within Team	£6,108	£6,746	£638
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£2,468**	**£3,780**	**£1,312**

Money Remaining at St John at the End of the Year

Year	2024	2025	Variance
General Access Funds	£17,804	£14,208	-£3,596
Restricted Funds	£20,351	£28,716	£8,365
Total funds	**£38,155**	**£42,924**	**£4,769**

Analysis of Finance for St Margaret (2024 and 2025)





Money Remaining at St Margaret at the End of the Year

Year	2024	2025	Variance
General Access Funds	£19,803	£19,521	-£282
Restricted Funds	£0	£0	£0
Total funds	**£19,803**	**£19,521**	**-£282**

Current year	2025
Previous year	2024

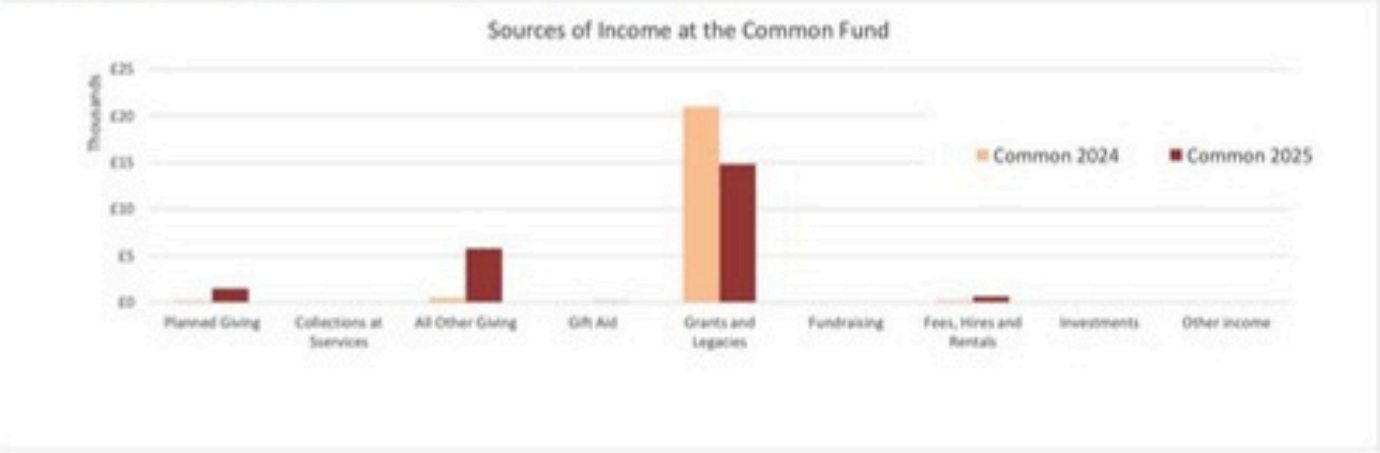
Money In

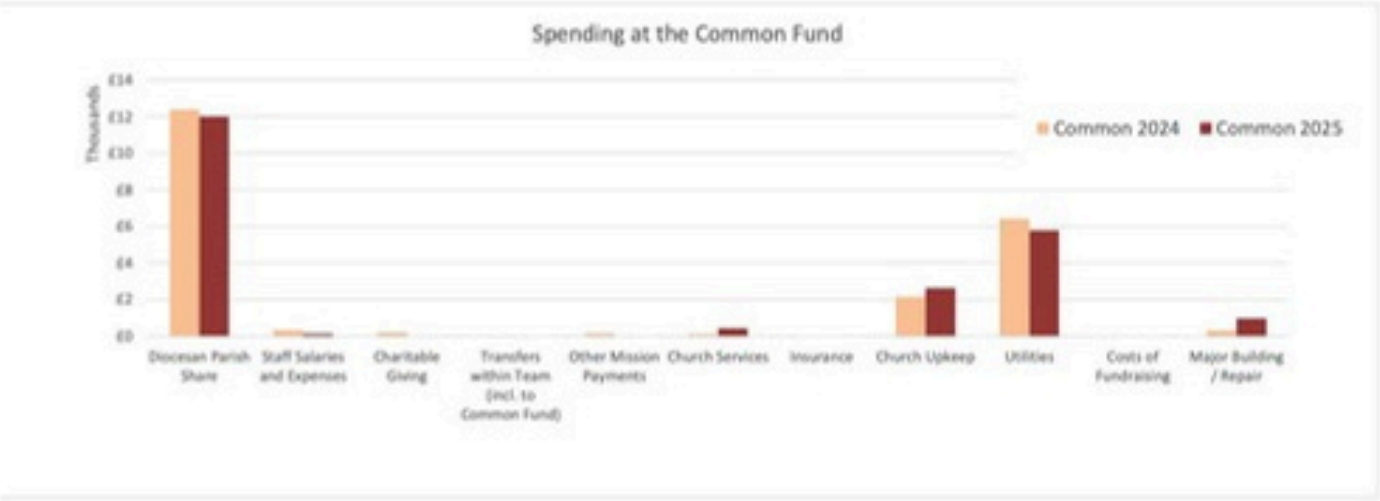
	S Margaret 2024	S Margaret 2025	Variance
Planned Giving	£2,347	£1,906	-£441
Collections at Sservices	£200	£172	-£29
All Other Giving	£40	£62	£22
Gift Aid	£10	£55	£45
Grants and Legacies	£10,000	£0	-£10,000
Fundraising	£0	£0	£0
Fees, Hires and Rentals	£27,940	£26,600	-£1,340
Investments	£0	£0	£0
Other income	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL	**£40,537**	**£28,794**	**-£11,743**
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common F	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£40,537**	**£28,794**	**-£11,743**

Money Out

	S Margaret 2024	S Margaret 2025	Variance
Diocesan Parish Share	£0	£0	£0
Staff Salaries and Expenses	£0	£0	£0
Charitable Giving	£0	£0	£0
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common Fund)	£1,808	£3,393	£1,585
Other Mission Payments	£0	£0	£0
Church Services	£309	£15	-£295
Insurance	£3,774	£3,871	£97
Church Upkeep	£3,952	£3,034	-£918
Utilities	£13,767	£12,941	-£826
Costs of Fundraising	£0	£0	£0
Major Building / Repair	£11,876	£5,823	-£6,054
TOTAL	**£35,486**	**£29,077**	**-£6,410**
Transfers within Team	£1,808	£3,393	£1,585
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£33,678**	**£25,684**	**-£7,995**

Analysis of finance for the Common Fund (2024 and 2025)





Current year	2025
Previous year	2024

Money In

	Common 2024	Common 2025	Variance
Planned Giving	£200	£1,502	£1,302
Collections at Sservices	£0	£0	£0
All Other Giving	£468	£5,801	£5,333
Gift Aid	£10	£118	£108
Grants and Legacies	£20,960	£14,817	-£6,143
Fundraising	£0	£0	£0
Fees, Hires and Rentals	£188	£649	£461
Investments	£0	£0	£0
Other income	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL	**£21,826**	**£22,886**	**£1,060**
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common F	£20,960	£14,817	-£6,143
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£866**	**£8,069**	**£7,203**

Money Out

	Common 2024	Common 2025	Variance
Diocesan Parish Share	£12,400	£12,000	-£400
Staff Salaries and Expenses	£344	£142	-£203
Charitable Giving	£200	£0	-£200
Transfers within Team (incl. to Common Fund)	£0	£0	£0
Other Mission Payments	£153	£0	-£153
Church Services	£122	£437	£314
Insurance	£0	£0	£0
Church Upkeep	£2,151	£2,640	£489
Utilities	£6,416	£5,790	-£626
Costs of Fundraising	£0	£0	£0
Major Building / Repair	£321	£990	£669
TOTAL	**£22,107**	**£21,998**	**-£109**
Transfers within Team	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL minus Transfers within Team	**£22,107**	**£21,998**	**-£109**

Money Remaining at Common Fund at the End of the Year

Year	2024	2025	Variance
General Access Funds	£7,325	£8,213	£888
Restricted Funds	£0	£0	£0
Total funds	**£7,325**	**£8,213**	**£888**

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish
Summary Statements
Year ended 31 December 2025

	St James Unrestricted General £	St James Unrestricted Music £	St James Restricted Missions £	St James Restricted Development £	St James Restricted Farsi £	St James Restricted Something Wonderful £	Ven Bede Unrestricted General £	Ven Bede Unrestricted Missions £	St Johns Unrestricted General £	St Johns Restricted Building £	St Margarets Unrestricted General £	Common Fund Unrestricted General £	Common Fund Restricted Farsi £	Total Restricted £	Total Unrestricted £	Total £
INCOME																
Voluntary giving																
Planned giving	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Direct payments	2,895.00	-	60.00	-	-	540.00	3,060.00	-	1,720.00	-	1,664.00	960.00	-	600.00	10,299.00	10,899.00
Envelopes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PGS	1,045.70	-	-	-	-	-	1,811.40	-	241.52	-	241.52	541.52	-	-	3,881.66	3,881.66
Collections at services	-	-	-	-	-	-	255.53	-	1,064.60	-	171.70	-	-	-	1,491.83	1,491.83
All other giving and voluntary receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special appeals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-	40.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40.00	40.00
General giving	846.66	-	-	-	-	502.99	373.38	-	1,268.40	-	62.00	5,801.20	-	502.99	8,351.64	8,854.63
Gift Aid recovered	2,107.37	-	13.92	174.02	-	-	413.93	-	55.19	-	55.19	117.69	-	187.94	2,749.37	2,937.31
Legacies received (capital value)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants from outside	2,000.00	-	-	-	3,500.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500.00	2,000.00	5,500.00
Transfer within team	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,817.00	-	-	16,817.00	16,817.00
															-	-
Activities for generating funds															-	-
Fundraising activities (gross proceeds)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,392.53	-	-	-	-	-	5,392.53	5,392.53
Fetes and bazaars	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,316.03	-	-	-	-	-	2,316.03	2,316.03
Special events	-	-	-	-	-	548.84	-	-	1,770.33	-	-	-	-	548.84	1,770.33	2,319.17
															-	-
Income from investments															-	-
Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	-	632.23	-	21.23	-	-	144.59	-	96.52	1,369.53	-	-	-	1,390.76	873.34	2,264.10
															-	-
Church activities															-	-
Fees retained by PCC (weddings, funerals etc.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	649.00	-	-	649.00	649.00
Trading activities (gross proceeds), NOT fundraising	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hall or Room Hire or Rental	3,335.32	-	-	-	-	-	7,557.50	-	-	-	26,599.96	-	-	-	37,492.78	37,492.78
Church Hire or Rental	-	-	-	-	-	-	425.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	425.00	425.00
															-	-
Other incoming resources															-	-
Other receipts/income not already listed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	14,230.05	632.23	73.92	195.25	3,500.00	1,591.83	14,081.33	-	13,925.12	1,369.53	28,794.37	22,886.41	-	6,730.53	94,549.51	101,280.04

	St James Unrestricted General £	St James Unrestricted Music £	St James Restricted Missions £	St James Restricted Development £	St James Restricted Farsi £	St James Restricted Something Wonderful £	Ven Bede Unrestricted General £	Ven Bede Unrestricted Missions £	St Johns Unrestricted General £	St Johns Restricted Building £	St Margarets Unrestricted General £	Common Fund Unrestricted General £	Common Fund Restricted Farsi £	Total Restricted £	Total Unrestricted £	Total £
Costs of generating funds														-	-	-
Costs of fundraising activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	87.54	-	-	-	-	-	87.54	87.54
														-	-	-
Church activities														-	-	-
Mission giving and donations	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	102.00	102.00
Diocesan parish share contribution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000.00	-	-	12,000.00	12,000.00
Salaries, wages and honoraria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clergy and staff expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141.67	-	-	141.67	141.67
														-	-	-
Church expenses														-	-	-
Mission and evangelism costs	-	-	-	-	215.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	215.86	-	215.86
Transfer within team	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,123.84	-	6,746.00	-	3,393.00	-	-	-	17,262.84	17,262.84
Paid outside team	-	-	-	-	-	22.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.75	-	22.75
Church running expenses (including governance)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ceremonial costs	465.99	137.00	-	-	-	-	763.53	-	86.41	-	14.72	436.54	-	-	1,904.19	1,904.19
Insurance	8,977.75	-	-	-	-	-	3,569.82	-	752.10	-	3,871.38	-	-	-	17,171.05	17,171.05
Repairs and maintenance	5,718.13	-	-	-	-	4,813.82	1,750.33	-	341.25	-	2,286.46	1,740.05	-	4,813.82	11,836.22	16,650.04
Other church running expenses	74.68	-	-	-	-	758.64	1,520.00	-	251.74	-	747.71	900.00	-	758.64	3,494.13	4,252.77
Church utility bills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Council tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,579.59	-	-	4,579.59	4,579.59
Water, light and heat	1,449.01	-	-	-	601.75	1,922.99	8,818.26	-	1,025.08	-	12,940.61	1,210.47	-	2,524.74	25,443.43	27,968.17
Telephone and internet	41.56	-	-	-	-	207.60	570.68	-	-	-	-	-	-	207.60	612.24	820.04
Costs of trading	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
														-	-	-
Major capital expenditure														-	-	-
Major repairs to the church building	-	-	-	450.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,700.00	990.00	-	450.00	6,690.00	7,140.00
Major repairs to church hall/other PCC property	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New building work to the church, church hall etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
														-	-	-
Other expenditure														-	-	-
Other payments/expenditure not already listed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,235.99	-	122.65	-	-	-	1,358.64	1,358.64
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	16,827.12	137.00	-	450.00	817.61	7,726.00	24,116.46	2.00	10,526.11	-	29,076.53	21,998.32	-	8,993.61	102,683.04	111,677.15
Profit/Loss	- 2,597.07	495.23	73.92	- 254.75	2,682.39	- 6,134.17	- 10,035.13	- 2.00	3,399.01	1,369.53	- 282.16	888.09	-	- 2,263.08	- 8,134.03	- 10,397.11
check						0.00		-		-	-		-			-
Cash and bank deposits at 1 Jan 2025																90,821.10
Cash and bank deposits at 31 Dec 2025																80,423.99
check																-

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish
Cash Summary
Year ended 31 December 2025

	St James £	Ven Bede £	St Johns £	St Margarets	Common Fund £	Total £
Balances at 1 Jan 2025						
Bank current account	3,596.43	5,383.05	14,237.22	19,802.67	7,324.95	50,344.32
Bank Deposit account	0.00	14,288.15	3,565.55			17,853.70
Bank Deposit (Second)	2,270.67		0.89			2,271.56
Bank Deposit (Third)						0.00
CBF Diocesan Deposit Scheme A			20,346.28			20,346.28
CBF Diocesan Deposit Scheme B			5.24			5.24
Cash	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
	5,867.10	**19,671.20**	**38,155.18**	**19,802.67**	**7,324.95**	**90,821.10**
Balances at 31 Dec 2025						
Bank current account	30.75	2,201.33	5,539.71	19,520.51	8,213.04	35,505.34
Bank Deposit account	60.00	7,432.74	8,661.78			16,154.52
Bank Deposit (Second)	41.90		0.89			42.79
Bank Deposit (Third)						0.00
CBF Diocesan Deposit Scheme A			28,715.81			28,715.81
CBF Diocesan Deposit Scheme B			5.53			5.53
Cash						0.00
	132.65	**9,634.07**	**42,923.72**	**19,520.51**	**8,213.04**	**80,423.99**
Change in monetary asset value						**-10,397.11**
check						0.00

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish
Funds Summary
Year ended 31 December 2025

			Opening Balance	Receipts	Expenditure	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Closing Balance
St James	Unrestricted	**General**	2,804.30	14,230.05	16,827.12	0.00	0.00	**207.23**
St James	Unrestricted	**Music**	231.32	632.23	137.00	0.00	0.00	**726.55**
St James	Restricted	**Missions**		73.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	**73.92**
St James	Restricted	**Development**	793.47	195.25	450.00	0.00	0.00	**538.72**
St James	Restricted	**Farsi**		3,500.00	817.61	0.00	0.00	**2,682.39**
St James	Restricted	**Something Wonderful**	2,038.01	1,591.83	7,726.00	0.00	0.00	**-4,096.16**
Ven Bede	Unrestricted	**General**	19,671.20	14,081.33	24,116.46	0.00	-2.00	**9,634.07**
Ven Bede	Unrestricted	**Mission**		0.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	**0.00**
St Johns	Unrestricted	**General**	17,808.90	13,925.12	10,526.11	0.00	-7,000.00	**14,207.91**
St Johns	Restricted	**Building**	20,346.28	1,369.53	0.00	7,000.00	0.00	**28,715.81**
St Margarets	Unrestricted	**General**	19,802.67	28,794.37	29,076.53	0.00	0.00	**19,520.51**
Common Fund	Unrestricted	**General**	7,324.95	22,886.41	21,998.32	0.00	0.00	**8,213.04**
Total Restricted			23,177.76	6,730.53	8,993.61	7,000.00	0.00	27,914.68
Total Unrestricted			67,643.34	94,549.51	102,683.54	2.00	-7,002.00	52,509.31
Total			**90,821.10**	**101,280.04**	**111,677.15**	**7,002.00**	**-7,002.00**	**80,423.99**

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2025

	Common Fund Unrestricted £	Restricted to individual churches £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Monetary assets				
Current Accounts	8,213	27,292	**35,505**	50,344
Deposit Accounts	0	16,197	**16,197**	20,125
CBF	0	28,721	**28,721**	20,352
cash	0	0	**0**	0
	8,213	72,211	**80,424**	90,821
Investment assets (at market value)				
Gladys Plews BEQ - Investment Fund	112,894		**112,894**	117,595
Gladys Plews BEQ - Deposit	21,447		**21,447**	17,364
Scott Legacy		21,843	**21,843**	22,753
	134,341	21,843	**156,184**	157,712
Other monetary assets				
Accrued interest on investments			**0**	0
Liabilities				
Independent examiner's fee	900		**900**	900
	900		**900**	900

Note
St James' Development fund had a closing balance of £41.90

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish
Notes to the Financial Statements

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the R&P basis.

2. A statement of monetary assets for each church is detailed below:

Statement of Monetary Assets as at 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted to the individual churches						
	Common Fund £	St James £	St James Mission £	Venerable Bede £	St Johns £	St Margarets £	Total restricted	Total assets £
Barclays Community	8,213	31	60	2,201	5,540	19,521	27,352	35,565
Barclays Savings					1		1	1
Barclays Premium		42		7,433	8,662		16,136	16,136
CBF					28,721		28,721	28,721
Cash					0		0	0
	8,213	**73**	**60**	**9,634**	**42,924**	**19,521**	**72,211**	**80,424**

Newcastle Diocesan Society hold two trust funds with market values of £112,893.89 and a deposit account totalling £21,447.34 on behalf of the PCC.
There is also a Trust fund for Benwell Scott Legacy, held by Newcastle Diocesan Society, with a market value of £ 21,843.13, the market value has reduced this year.

Both the capital and income from the larger trust fund and the deposit account are available for such religious and/or charitable purposes in the parish of Benwell as the Diocesan Society shall in their absolute discretion think fit, with the desire, without imposing any trust or binding obligation, that in exercising their discretion they should apply such capital and income for such purposes within the said parish of Benwell as may be directed by the DCC of the Venerable Bede (per the Trust document).

For the smaller trust fund, both 50% of the capital and the income is available to the parish for the choir/music group and 50% of the capital to the Diocesan Board of Finance towards clergy stipend, as agreed with the parish.

Scott Legacy - St James - Restricted.

Date	Trust Fund	No. of Units	Description	Base Cost	Current Market Value
22.01.20	Scott Legacy	984	CBF Inv Fund	805.23	18,853.44
31.12.20	Scott Legacy	984	CBF Inv Fund		20,159.00
				movement	-1,305.56
31.12.21	Scott Legacy	984	CBF Inv Fund		23,043.41
				movement	2,884.41
31.12.22	Scott Legacy	984			20,330.82
				movement	-2,712.59
31.12.23	Scott Legacy	984			22,243.62
				movement	1,912.80
31.12.24	Scott Legacy	984			22,752.74
				movement	509.12
31.12.25	Scott Legacy				21,843.13
				movement	-909.61

Common Fund

Date	Trust Fund	No. of Units	Description	Base Cost	Current Market Value	movement
22.01.20	Gladys Plews BEQ	5085.7	CBF Inv Fund	50,111.92	97,442.01	-6,750.25
22.01.20	Gladys Plews BEQ		CBF Deposit	27,866.17	27,866.17	-829.71
22.01.20	Gladys Plews BEQ	5085.7	CBF Inv Fund (Capital)	50,111.92	104,192.26	
31.12.20	Gladys Plews BEQ		CBF Deposit	27,866.17	28,695.88	
31.12.21	Gladys Plews BEQ	5085.7	CBF Inv Fund (Capital)	50,111.92	119,097.43	-14,905.17
31.12.21	Gladys Plews BEQ		CBF Deposit	27,866.17	31,733.74	3,037.86
31.12.22	Gladys Plews BEQ	5085.7	CBF Inv Fund (Capital)		105,077.68	14,019.75
31.12.23	Gladys Plews BEQ	5085.7			114,963.77	83,230.03
31.12.23	Gladys Plews BEQ		CBF Deposit		32,538.85	72,538.83
31.12.24	Gladys Plews BEQ	5085.7	CBF Inv Fund (Capital)		117,595.12	2,631.35
31.12.24	Gladys Plews BEQ		CBF Deposit		17,363.86	-15,174.99
31.12.25	Gladys Plews BEQ		CBF Inv Fund (Capital)		112,893.89	-4,701.23
31.12.25	Gladys Plews BEQ		CBF Deposit		21,447.34	4,083.48

NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN SOCIETY

Annual Trust Fund Statement

019H/BENWELL:SCOTT LEGACY

This is the financial statement of the above fund, held by the Newcastle Diocesan Society as Custodian Trustee, as at 31 December 2025.

Investments	No of shares	Market Value
Capital	984.00	21,843.13
Income	-	-
For information only		
Disbursements from investments		-
Deposits	-	Value
Capital	-	
Income	-	
For information only		
Interest received	-	
Dividend received		
Disbursements from deposit		

Income paid direct

Both 50% of the capital, and the income is available to the parish for the choir/music group and 50% of the capital to the Diocesan Board of Finance towards clergy stipend, as agreed with the parish.

The above information should be recorded in your annual accounts

NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN SOCIETY

Annual Trust Fund Statement

019H/BENWELL:GLADYS PLEWS BEQ

This is the financial statement of the above fund, held by the Newcastle Diocesan Society as Custodian Trustee, as at 31 December 2025.

Investments	No of shares	Market Value
Capital	5,085.70	112,893.89
Income	-	-
For information only		
Disbursements from investments		-
Deposits	-	Value
Capital	-	
Income	-	21,447.34
For information only		
Interest received	-	815.91
Dividend received		3,267.57
Disbursements from deposit		

Both the capital and income are available for such religious and/or charitable purposes in the parish of Benwellas the Diocesan Society shall in their absolute discretion think fit, with the desire, without imposing any trust or binding obligation, that in exercising their discretion they should apply such capital and income for such purposes within the said parish of Benwell as may be directed by the DCC of the Venerable Bede. (Extract from the Trust document).

The above information should be recorded in your annual accounts

APPENDIX 1
Governance Structures

GOVERNANCE

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish is a registered charity (number 1205934). The charity is the responsibility of a PCC (parochial church council) duly constituted under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) and the Church Representation Rules.

Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956): legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/Eliz2/4-5/3/contents

Church representation rules:
churchofengland.org/about/leadership-and-governance/legal-resources/church-representation-rules

The parish is led by the incumbent Rector and a Team Vicar, along with the PCC which consists of elected Churchwardens and lay representatives. They are the trustees of the charity.

THE PCC

There are 4 PCC meetings per year.

The PCC consists of:

- The Rector (chair, ex-officio).
- Licensed clergy (ex-officio).
- Licensed readers (ex-officio).
- 2 churchwardens for each church.
- 2 elected representatives for each church.
- 3 Deanery Synod representatives.

PCC members may occupy more than one position. They must be safely recruited with an enhanced DBS check and undertake safeguarding in leadership training (Level 3) and this is renewed regularly.

Co-opted (non-voting) officers are:

- The Secretary
- The Treasurer
- Two asylum seeker and refugee Representatives.

The PCC may also vote to create other officer roles and co-opt other individuals to the PCC when this is useful.

STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee meets approximately 2 weeks prior to each PCC.

The Standing Committee is a smaller, focused group who ensure PCC business is carried out between meetings and discuss details of proposals to be made at PCC.

The committee consists of the licensed clergy and readers, secretary, treasurer and one warden from each church (where there is more than one warden in a church, they may alternate who joins the committee).

ASYLUM & REFUGEE REPS

At the APCM in 2024 we agreed to create two asylum seeker and refugee Representative positions. This was to recognise the importance of the many asylum seeker and refugees in our community, but who also face barriers to joining the PCC as full members and charity trustees.

- The reps are invited to attend all PCC meetings and fully partake in discussions and planning.
- As officers appointed by the PCC this means they are not trustees, and therefore do not vote, but the PCC agrees that their views will be valued, considered seriously in all matters, and recorded in the minutes.
- In the event of reps having to move on, new reps can be appointed by a vote of the PCC.
- The reps need not fulfil the ordinary requirements of PCC members, including being on the electoral roll or complete a DBS check, though this is desirable wherever possible.

ANNUAL MEETING

The APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) is when we hear reports from the last year and approve the annual accounts, this is immediately followed by the Annual Meeting of Parishioners when we elect Churchwardens.

Anyone on the electoral roll may vote at the APCM and stand for a position.

ELECTORAL ROLL

To be eligible to join the electoral roll you must be over 16, baptised, and either live within the Parish boundaries or have attended the church regularly for at least 6 months.

DCCs

Each church has a District Church Council. At the APCM in 2023 it was agreed the DCCs would now only meet annually and comprise the bare minimum of members to reduce the number of meetings and avoid duplication of work done by the PCC. This is apart from St John's, who still value the space for discussion and meet 4 times a year.

SUB-COMMITTEES

Task-focused sub-committees are formed when necessary and report to the PCC. Currently there is a sub-committee for stewardship and finance, and a steering committee for the Something Wonderful project.

STAFF

The parish currently does not employ anyone directly. The parish is allocated two full-time stipendiary priests by the Diocese who are paid for by the Church of England Commissioners.

St James contracts the services of Chris Foskett as a caretaker, and Lily Mae Kroese as Artist in Residence. The church also contracts the services of various individuals and companies for maintenance and repairs, such as cleaners, roofers, and architects.

VOLUNTEERS

We encourage participation from all our worshipping community. There are various volunteer roles and we encourage the wider community to get involved as well.

There is a safer-recruitment process for all volunteers and a DBS and safeguarding training may be required for certain roles. If you are interested in volunteering then please get in contact.

PCC code of conduct

- Pray first; seek God's guidance.
- Serve one other and our parish before self.
- Be open to change and new ideas.
- Speak openly and honestly.
- Listen respectfully without interruption.
- Stay focused and on topic.
- Be constructive with criticism.
- Seek consensus and accept majority decisions.
- Take responsibility for attending meetings.

FORMER PCC OFFICERS - 2025-26

Team Rector (chair)	(Position vacant)
Team Vicar for Mission (Acting chair)	The Revd Christopher Minchin
Licensed Lay Reader	Kathleen Germain
Secretary (co-opted)	Kath McIntyre
Treasurer (co-opted)	James Garratt
St James Benwell Churchwardens	Michael Keller, Julius Ijefiya
St Margaret Scotswood Churchwardens	Brenda McCutcheon, Grace Thompson
St John's Benwell Village Churchwardens	Colina Fenton, (Position vacant)
Venerable Bede Churchwardens	Kath McIntyre, (Position vacant)
St James PCC reps	Francesca Stockdale, (Position vacant)
St Margaret's PCC reps	Jill Sorley, (Position vacant)
St John's PCC reps	Joyce Cuthbertson, Margaret Connor
Venerable Bede PCC reps	James Garratt, (Position vacant)
Deanery Synod Reps	Shirley Irving, Chris Libby, (Position vacant)
Asylum and Refugee reps (co-opted)	Timothy Ohanaka, Hamed Mohammadvand

OTHER POSITIONS (not PCC)

Electoral Roll Officer	Kath McIntyre
Safeguarding Administrator	Kath McIntyre
Parish Safeguarding officer	Brenda McCutcheon
Assistant Safeguarding officers	Kathleen Germain, Michael Keller, (Position vacant)
Heritage and Environment Group reps	Michael Keller, Elizabeth Flint
Treasurer for St James	James Garratt
Treasurer for St Margaret's	James Garratt
Treasurer for Venerable Bede	James Garratt
Treasurer for St John's	Colina Fenton
St James Caretaker (contracted)	Chris Foskett

APPOINTMENTS

Independent Examiner	Justine Beer
Inspecting Architect for St James	Peter Nugent
Inspecting Architect for St Margaret's	Ian Ness
Inspecting Architect for Venerable Bede	Peter Nugent
Inspecting Architect for St John's	Christopher J Blackburn

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Church of England is the established church, it is large and diverse denomination with a long history. The Archbishops of York and Canterbury and local bishops govern the church with the elected representatives of the General Synod. There are also 40 other independent Anglican provinces across the world.

THE DIOCESE OF NEWCASTLE

Framed by the Rivers Tyne and Tweed the Diocese of Newcastle is the Church of England's most northerly diocese. This Diocese in the 'land of the Northern Saints' was formed in 1882 and comprises 169 parishes across 2,110 square miles. The Diocese covers the local authorities of Northumberland, Newcastle, North Tyneside and also small parts of County Durham and Cumbria. The 12 deaneries within 2 archdeaconries serve a population of about 800,000 people across a variety of communities ranging from sparse rural to large inner-city areas of deprivation.

The Diocese is led by the Diocesan Bishop of Newcastle and the suffragan Bishop of Berwick. The Newcastle Diocesan Synod is the representative governing body of the Diocese of Newcastle. In it, the Bishops, along with elected clergy and lay people, meet to discuss the issues facing churches across the Diocese and make decisions about their common future. The clergy and laity of Diocesan Synod are elected from each Deanery by the members of Deanery Synods.

NORTHUMBERLAND ARCHDEACONRY

Our parish is in the Northumberland Archdeaconry in the primarily urban south-east of the Diocese. The Archdeacon is a senior member of clergy who is responsible for the administration of the church in this part of the Diocese.

NEWCASTLE WEST DEANERY

We are in the Newcastle West Deanery. Licensed clergy meet as the Deanery Chapter to support and pray for each other. Each parish also elects lay representatives to the Deanery Synod. Each deanery is led by an ordained Area Dean and a Lay Chair. The Deanery Synod considers topical issues, it passes motions to be considered by the Diocesan Synod and is responsible for creating deanery plans. Our deanery synod meets 3 times a year.

DIOCESAN CONTACTS

Bishop of Newcastle
The Bishop's House
29 Moor Road South, Gosforth, NE3 1PA
bishop.ha@newcastle.anglican.org

Personal Assistant - Deborah Botha
d.botha@newcastle.anglican.org
0191 285 2220

The Bishop of Berwick
bishopofberwick@newcastle.anglican.org

Personal Assistant - Elena Rose
elenarose.crawford@newcastle.anglican.org
0191 285 2220

The Archdeacon of Northumberland
The Venerable Rachel Wood
northumberland@newcastle.anglican.org
0191 270 4157 / 07469950198

Personal Assistant - Katherine Govier
k.govier@newcastle.anglican.org
0191 270 4142

Area Dean for Newcastle West
The Revd James McGowan
Vicar of St James and St Basil's Fenham
0191 266 1071
vicar@jamesbasilfenham.org.uk

APPENDIX 2
Policies
& Statements

DATA PRIVACY POLICY

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF BENWELL & SCOTSWOOD TEAM PARISH

1. Your personal data – what is it?

Personal data relates to a living individual who can be identified from that data. Identification can be by the information alone or in conjunction with any other information in the data controller's possession or likely to come into such possession. The processing of personal data is governed by the General Data Protection Regulation (the "GDPR").

2. Who are we?

The PCC of Benwell/Scotswood Team Parish is the data controller (contact details below). This means it decides how your personal data is processed and for what purposes.

3. How do we process your personal data?

The PCC of Benwell/Scotswood Team Parish complies with its obligations under the "GDPR" by keeping personal data up to date; by storing and destroying it securely; by not collecting or retaining excessive amounts of data; by protecting personal data from loss, misuse, unauthorised access and disclosure and by ensuring that appropriate technical measures are in place to protect personal data.

We use your personal data for the following purposes:

- To enable us to provide a voluntary service for the benefit of the public in a particular geographical area as specified in our constitution;
- To administer membership records;
- To fundraise and promote the interests of the charity;
- To manage our employees and volunteers;
- To maintain our own accounts and records (including the processing of gift aid applications);
- To inform you of news, events, activities and services running in Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish;
- To share your contact details with the Diocesan office so they can keep you informed about news in the diocese and events, activities and services that will be occurring in the diocese and in which you may be interested.

4. What is the legal basis for processing your personal data?

- Explicit consent of the data subject so that we can keep you informed about news, events, activities and services and keep you informed about diocesan events.
- Processing is necessary for carrying out legal obligations in relation to Gift Aid or under employment, social security or social protection law, or a collective agreement;
- Processing is carried out by a not-for-profit body with a political, philosophical, religious or trade union aim provided: -
    - the processing relates only to members or former members (or those who have regular contact with it in connection with those purposes); and
    - there is no disclosure to a third party without consent.

5. Sharing your personal data

Your personal data will be treated as strictly confidential and will only be shared with other members of the church in order to carry out a service to other church members or for purposes connected with the church. We will only share your data with third parties outside of the parish with your consent.

6. How long do we keep your personal data?

We keep data in accordance with the guidance set out in the guide 'Keep or Bin: Care of Your Parish Records' which is available from the Church of England website.

Specifically, we retain electoral roll data while it is still current; gift aid declarations and associated paperwork for up to 6 years after the calendar year to which they relate; and parish registers (baptisms,

Charity Number 1205934
St James' Church, Benwell Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 6RS
church@benwellscotswood.com | benwellscotswood.com

marriages, funerals) permanently.

7. Your rights and your personal data

Unless subject to an exemption under the GDPR, you have the following rights with respect to your personal data:

- The right to request a copy of your personal data which the PCC of Benwell/Scotswood Team Parish holds about you;
- The right to request that the PCC of Benwell/Scotswood Team Parish corrects any personal data if it is found to be inaccurate or out of date;
- The right to request your personal data is erased where it is no longer necessary for the PCC of Benwell/Scotswood Team Parish to retain such data;
- The right to withdraw your consent to the processing at any time
- The right to request that the data controller provide the data subject with his/her personal data and where possible, to transmit that data directly to another data controller, (known as the right to data portability), (where applicable) [Only applies where the processing is based on consent or is necessary for the performance of a contract with the data subject and in either case the data controller processes the data by automated means].
- The right, where there is a dispute in relation to the accuracy or processing of your personal data, to request a restriction is placed on further processing;
- The right to object to the processing of personal data, (where applicable) [Only applies where processing is based on legitimate interests (or the performance of a task in the public interest/exercise of official authority); direct marketing and processing for the purposes of scientific/historical research and statistics]
- The right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office.

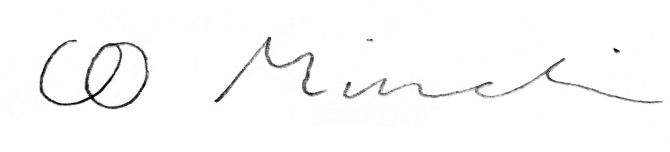
8. Further processing

If we wish to use your personal data for a new purpose, not covered by this Data Protection Notice, then we will provide you with a new notice explaining this new use prior to commencing the processing and setting out the relevant purposes and processing conditions. Where and whenever necessary, we will seek your prior consent to the new processing.

9. Contact Details

To exercise all relevant rights, queries or complaints please in the first instance contact the Team Rector (or if there is a vacancy, the Team Vicar or Churchwardens) at church@benwellscotswood.com

Signed on behalf of Benwell and Scotswood Team PCC, 3rd May 2026



The Revd Christopher Minchin
Team Vicar for Mission
Vice-Chair, Benwell and Scotswood PCC

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish
Diocese of Newcastle upon Tyne

INTRODUCTION

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parochial Church Council (PCC) is fully committed to the promotion of equality of opportunity and elimination of unlawful and unfair discrimination, valuing and embracing diversity and ensuring a holistic and inclusive approach in all fields of its activity.

The PCC adheres to The Equality Act 2010 which recognises the following specific protected characteristics: sex, gender reassignment, race (which includes colour, nationality and ethnic or national origins), disability, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage & civil partnership and pregnancy & maternity. It will not discriminate because of any other irrelevant factors and will build a culture that values openness, fairness and transparency.

AIM

- To ensure equality, diversity and inclusion are fully reflected in its employment practices and procedures, and that it is compliant with the statutory employment duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- To ensure employment policies and procedures are monitored and reviewed so that they do not operate against its Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy.
- To ensure it attracts and retains a diverse workforce through appropriate recruitment and selection methods. A potential exception to this is where a Genuine Occupational Requirement (GOR) is identified in relation to a specific role.
    - Under the Equality Act 2010 an employer may exercise the right to exercise legal exemptions under the 'occupational requirement' (GOR) in relation to any of the protected characteristics. Under this an employer must simply show that the requirement to discriminate is a 'proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim'. For example, in the light of the Church of England's Christian purpose and ethos it reserves the right to exercise legal exemption where it is declared that a Christian faith is integral to the individual in a specific work role and consequently requires membership of the Church of England or another recognised church.
- To ensure equality, diversity and inclusion is also applied where our buildings used by external groups and organisations.
    - Schedule 23, paragraph 2 permits religious organizations to be exempt from such obligation whereby any activities may conflict with the doctrine and religious conscience. Though the church community rooms may be protected under this provision, the governing body PCC reserves the right to consider each application fairly on a case by case basis.

The PCC, ministers, and employees will:

- Ensure that its commitment is communicated to all employees and volunteers fairly and responsibly including users of its services, and all those working for, on behalf of, or providing a service to the Parish.

- Lead by example, encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion internally and externally, embedding these values in decision making processes, and creating a climate where the differences that individuals bring are valued.
- Foster good relations between all employees and ministers, and service users/providers.
- Be aware of their responsibilities and report inappropriate behaviour/s and raise any incident/s that potentially breach this Policy with the appropriate line manager.

EXTERNAL GROUPS IN OUR BUILDINGS

- No individual will experience less favourable treatment (discrimination) in the use or hire of our buildings due to protected characteristics.
- We continue to review the need to adapt the physical environment to be inclusive and accessible for all.
- Where a proposed group's operation may be seen to conflict with Church doctrine or Church Canon Law, the PCC via the Rector will review the application and make a case-by-case determination which will be communicated to the potential hirer.

REVIEWING THIS POLICY

- This policy continues to evolve and will be formally reviewed every year.

Signed on behalf of Benwell and Scotswood Team PCC, 3rd May 2026



The Revd Christopher Minchin

Team Vicar for Mission

Vice-Chair, Benwell and Scotswood PCC

BENWELL | SCOTSWOOD TEAM PARISH

St James | St John | St Margaret | Venerable Bede

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

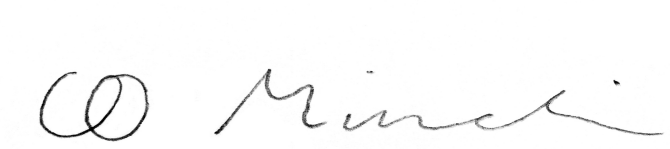
- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices implementation at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints:

Brenda McCutcheon, as Parish Safeguarding Officer
Kathleen Germaine and Michael Keller as Assistant Safeguarding Officers.

Signed on behalf of Benwell and Scotswood Team PCC, 3rd May 2026



The Revd Christopher Minchin
Team Vicar for Mission
Vice-Chair, Benwell and Scotswood PCC

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Benwell and Scotswood Team Parish (St James Benwell, St John's Benwell, St Margarets Scotswood, The Venerable Bede Benwell)

Contact: Parish Administrator

As a church, we understand that we owe a duty of care to ensure the safety of those who visit or use our churches, halls or churchyards.

We also know that, where we are an employer or control premises in certain circumstances, we have to meet the requirements of health and safety law.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Our policy is to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that our activities are carried out safely and do not pose a risk to the health of our employees, volunteers, congregation, visitors and others who may use the churches, churchyard or any other buildings we are responsible for. This will be in accordance with good practice and any relevant statutory provisions where they apply.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) accepts its overall responsibility for this. We will ensure that adequate resources are made available to achieve this objective. Any decisions we make will have due regard for it.

We will appoint a member of the PCC to have specific responsibility for this policy and its implementation. We will keep health and safety matters under review at appropriate intervals. We will monitor the effectiveness of the policy, amending it where we believe it is no longer valid.

It is the duty of each employee and volunteer to exercise personal responsibility for their own safety and that of others. This policy will be brought to their attention. We will try to ensure that everyone involved with the church plays his or her part in its implementation.

Further detail about our organisation and arrangements for managing health and safety is set out in this document. Copies of it will be kept in our churches and made available to others on request.

ORGANISATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The member of the PCC with overall responsibility for implementing our policy is:

They will ensure that:

- The standards set out in this policy are implemented and maintained
- Where necessary, specialist health and safety assistance is obtained
- Any hazards reported to them are rectified immediately
- Only competent persons carry out repairs, modifications, inspections and tests
- Any accidents are investigated, recorded and reported if necessary
- Relevant health and safety documents and records are retained
- They keep up to date on health and safety matters relevant to the church
- Set a personal example on matters of health and safety.

2. The Churchwardens have day-to-day responsibility for implementing our policy.

They will ensure that:

- All employees and volunteers are aware of their health and safety responsibilities
- Adequate precautions are taken as set out in this policy and related risk assessments
- Adequate information and training are provided for those that need it
- Any hazards or complaints are investigated and dealt with as soon as possible
- Where defects cannot be corrected immediately, interim steps are taken to prevent danger
- All accidents are reported in-line with the requirements of this policy
- Advice is sought where clarification is necessary on the implementation of this policy
- Set a personal example on matters of health and safety.

3. All employees and volunteers have a responsibility to cooperate in the implementation of this policy and to take reasonable care of themselves and others while on church business or premises.

They will ensure that they:

- Read this policy and understand what is required of them
- Complete their work taking any necessary precautions to protect themselves and others
- Comply with any safety rules, operating instructions and other working procedures
- Report any hazard, defect or damage, so that this might be dealt with
- Warn any new employees or volunteers of known hazards
- Attend any training required to enable them to carry out their duties safely
- Do not undertake any repair or modification unless they are competent to do so
- Report any accident
- Do not misuse anything provided in the interests of health and safety.

ARRANGEMENTS

This section sets out our general arrangements for managing health and safety.

RISK ASSESSMENT

We will complete risk assessments to identify what we need to do to comply with health and safety law. We will record our findings, implementing any necessary precautions. We will review and revise these where we suspect that they are no longer valid.

INFORMATION AND TRAINING

We will provide any necessary information and training for our employees and volunteers in a timely manner. We will keep a record of what is provided. We will also give relevant information to contractors and self-employed people who may need this to complete their work safely.

FIRST AID

We will provide adequate first aid facilities including – as a minimum – a suitably stocked first aid box in all buildings and a person who will take charge of the first aid arrangements. We will also provide relevant information for employees and volunteers.

ACCIDENT REPORTING

We will keep an accident book in each church building and record details therein. We will report to the enforcing authority and keep records of certain accidents to employees, volunteers and members of the public in accordance with the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations.

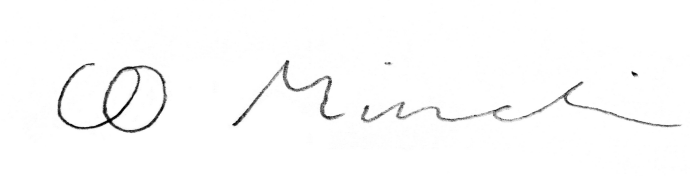
MONITORING

We will make periodic checks to ensure that our precautions remain effective and adequate. We will also ensure that any lifting, work or electrical equipment and church utilities are inspected as necessary to ensure that they remain safe. We will keep records of the checks we make.

CONTRACTORS

If we employ contractors, we make sure that they have their own health & safety policy and Public and Employers Liability insurance by asking to see copies of the relevant documents.

Signed on behalf of Benwell and Scotswood Team PCC, 3rd May 2026



The Revd Christopher Minchin
Team Vicar for Mission
Vice-Chair, Benwell and Scotswood PCC

The Parish of Benwell and Scotswood have affirmed that we support the offering of prayers to celebrate the union of same-sex couples, known as 'Prayers of Love and Faith'. The Parish Church Council would also like to call on the Church of England to offer more generous liturgical resources to be made available for use in stand-alone services as the Prayers of Love and Faith are inadequate.

The Parish will fully support our clergy if they choose to offer blessings of same-sex marriages and civil partnerships and, when it is possible, to conduct full and equal marriage services.

We commit to working towards a Church of England that is truly inclusive of all sexual orientations and genders.

Benwell and Scotswood Team PCC

Signed on behalf of Benwell and Scotswood Team PCC, 23rd April 2026

The Revd Christopher Minchin
Team Vicar for Mission
Vice-Chair, Benwell and Scotswood PCC

St James' Benwell
St John's Benwell Village
St Margaret's Scotswood
Venerable Bede West Road






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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Newcastle

Seeking. Sharing. Sending.

SOMETHING WONDERFUL

Independent Examiner's Report
to the PCC of Benwell & Scotswood Team Parish, Newcastle upon Tyne

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 5 to 8, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the *Church Guidance*, 2006 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations

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.



20/05/2026

Justine Beer **FCCA**
3 Bevan Court
Hepscott park
Morpeth
NE61 6FH