The Parish of
Saint Edward the Confessor, Leek
in the Leek Area Team Benefice

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



St Edward the Confessor Annual Report for the year 2025

Reference and Administrative information

Name of Organisation
The Parochial Church Council of St Edward the Confessor, Leek

Address
St Edward the Confessor, Church Street Leek, ST13 6AB

Correspondence Address
St Edward's Vicarage, 24 Ashenhurst Way, Leek, ST13 5SB

VICAR AND TEAM RECTOR		Revd Nigel Irons (Chair)
LICENSED LAY READERS		Mr Michael Oliver (PtO)
CHURCHWARDEN		Mr Philip Allcock
ELECTED PCC MEMBERS	RETIRE 2026	Mrs Ann Chatwin Mr Alan Leese (Treasurer) Mr Ben Proctor Mrs Win Ratcliffe Mrs Anne Ward
	RETIRE 2027	Mr Paul Brooks Mr Peter Chatwin Mr Ian Paton Mrs Beverley Seymour Mr Lewis Torr
	RETIRE 2028	Mrs Sheila Allcock Mr Simon Clarke Mr Geoff Channon Mr Sam Hambleton Mr Robert Heath
DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES	RETIRE 2026	Mr Brian Hartley Dr Mel Newton
JOINT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE		Mrs Anne Ward
PATRONAGE BOARD REPRESENTATIVE		Mrs Lynne Ball (up to February 2026)

Note: Terms of Office for all elected members are one year unless an alternative retirement date is stated above.

Bank
The NatWest Bank, Derby Street, Leek

Examiner
Mrs Christine Vaughn

Clergy
Vicar, Team Rector and Rural Dean Revd Nigel Irons

Structure, governance and management
St Edward the Confessor is a Parish Church in the Leek Area Team Benefice. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is established under the Pastoral Scheme brought into effect on 1st November 2021 and under Rule 18 of the Church Representation Rules.

Recruitment
Appointment of PCC members is governed by the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are elected for a 3-year period by agreement of the APCM. PCC members are recruited from the congregation through the notice of the APCM, weekly newsletter and through announcements during services of the church.

Induction and Training
There is currently no formal process of induction and training for new members of the PCC. Some PCC members have attended training organised by the Diocese.

Organisation
The Standing Committee of the PCC consists of the Rector, Churchwardens, Treasurer, PCC Secretary and Safeguarding Officer and meets or is consulted as and when needed if urgent matters arise between meetings of the PCC.

The **Fabric Committee** and **Events Committee** meet regularly as a separate group and report back to the PCC.

The Maude Trust
Attached to St Edward's Church is the Maude Trust, a separate Trust vested in the Diocesan Trust. The objects of the Trust are:

1. in aid of repairing and restoring the Parish Church of St Edward the Confessor, Leek in the Parish of Leek and Meerbrook;
2. in aid of the expenses of carrying on the Day and Sunday schools in connection with the said Parish and Church.

Risk Assessment
Currently there are sufficient funds to meet our commitments, the performance of investment income has been negative this year but overall giving has increased. Of course this can be expected to recover in the longer term. Regular monitoring of the DCC account is undertaken by the Treasurer and the Leadership Team. All major expenditure is planned and approved by the full PCC.

The PCC has agreed and implemented the child protection policy as set out in the House of Bishops' report *Protecting All God's Children*.

There are procedures in place for ensuring that the church building is kept in good repair, is secure, well maintained and safe. The Fabric Committee monitors the use and safety of the premises. The PCC has a Health and Safety Policy. The church has been inspected under the Diocesan scheme for asbestos and no major problems were identified. The report is available to contractors. A Quinquennial Inspection of St Edward's Church took place in 2022 and most of the high priority work identified has now been completed.

There are policies and procedures in place for contractors and visitors to the church tower at St Edward's.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC works in co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The main objectives of the PCC are to seek ways of:

1. **Discovering the Heart of God:**
   through prayer and worship that is faithful, creative and honouring to God and where each member of our congregation has opportunity to discover their gifts and exercise their ministry.
2. **Growing Disciples:**
   by a commitment to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with our community and amongst our families, friends and those with whom we work and by helping one another to grow and learn in our Christian faith.
3. **Reaching New Generations:**
   through making the most of the contacts we have through baptisms, weddings and other contacts with that generation of people who are largely absent from our church communities, supporting our local schools and exploring new forms of worship to appeal to a new generation.
4. **Transforming Communities:**
   by making our buildings available and hospitable to other community groups, looking for ways in which we can best serve those in most need and having a wider, global vision and a commitment to justice and peace in the world.
5. **Practising Generosity:**
   by creating a welcoming church open to all with a culture of generosity in our giving to the church and wider concerns.

Activities to meet these objectives

St Edward's seeks to fulfil these through:

1. Offering regular worship that is both traditional and contemporary
2. Providing a range of activities for children and young people
3. Participating in the wider life of the town
4. Actively supporting our church school
5. Working with other churches in the town through Churches Together in Leek and District and particularly with Trinity Church.
6. Supporting our CMS Mission Partner
7. The creation of networks of pastoral care
8. Small groups for learning and fellowship
9. The provision of online services and teaching groups.

Volunteers

St Edward's has a considerable number of active volunteers. Volunteers support the work of the PCC through:

1. Leading worship as lesson readers, intercessors, flower arranging, musicians, preachers and chalice assistants.
2. Exercising leadership and planning strategy through the Church Council and its committees.
3. Sharing in the mission of the church through planning, enquirers courses, leading work for children and young people.
4. Undertaking pastoral care by visiting the sick and bereaved and assisting with baptism preparation.
5. The management of the buildings and regular maintenance and cleaning tasks.
6. Undertaking fundraising activities.
7. Leading small groups and the Mother's Union.
8. Serving as foundation governors to our Church School, St Edward's Academy.

Grants and Donations
In addition to occasional donations for special appeals, the PCC has agreed to give 10% of the income it receives from regular and one-off giving to other charitable organisations. It agrees the specific amounts to be given to specific charities on an annual basis.

Statistics

	2025	2024	2023
Number of Baptisms	13	12	11
Number of Confirmations	3	4	2
Number of Marriages	2	5	6
Number of Funerals	45	36	55
Average Usual Sunday Attendance			
Adults	88	99	93
Children	12	10	8
Church Participants*			
Adults	180	176	162
Children and Young People	11	16	16
Electoral Roll at APCM	79	115	112

**A 'church participant' is any person who attends our church at least once a month (weekly services) or once a quarter (monthly services), or would do so if not prevented by illness, infirmity or temporary absence.*

**Figures for are based on physical church attendance and exclude an average of up to 12 people who view our online services.*

Mission Action Plan
Due to the forthcoming retirement of the Team Rector in July 2027 the current Mission Action Plan has not yet been revised. This leaves the way open for the PCC to work with their new incumbent on a 5-year plan for 2028 onwards.

Vicars Report
Vicars Report 2025
This report is chiefly related to my role as Vicar of St Edward's Church but also includes other issues relating to my wider responsibilities.

During January Churches Together in Leek & District facilitated the observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with daily times of prayer at midday held at Trinity Church which I attended Monday-Friday and led on Thursday and Friday. On the afternoon of Saturday 25th St Edward's hosted the National Holocaust Memorial Day Service organised by the Town Council which was which was well attended by people from all walks of life and representatives of many organisations in the town.

In February we were very saddened to learn that Lynne Ball had been diagnosed with cancer and as a result needed to step back from her work as churchwarden and all the other many roles and responsibilities which she exercised at St Edward's Church and the wider community so that she could undertake a course of chemotherapy and take time to rest and recuperate at home. I visited Lynne almost every week for the remainder of the year and many other visitors also went to see her regularly so she continued to keep in touch with the things that were happening in the church and the town. Lynne's presence was greatly missed and she was always in our thoughts and prayers.

Also during February I began a course run by the Diocese to renew my Safeguarding accreditation.

On Saturday 1st March a Pre-Lent Pea and Pie Supper was held at Leek Bowling Club on which was well attended, and on Tuesday 4th March I was very happy to attend the Licensing service of Revd Mike Fitzsimmons as Team Vicar with responsibility for St Luke's & St Paul's Leek and St Matthew's Meerbrook. Mike's appointment means that the Leek Are Team Benefice now has its full complement of three full time stipendiary Clergy. The following day we held our usual

Ash Wednesday service of Holy Communion and the following week our Lent Group started on Tuesday evenings in the Parlour. The group met for 5 weeks and once again I used the video extracts from Angel Studios amazing TV dramatization of the life of Jesus, *The Chosen*, as a basis for reflection and discussion. Last year I had based the course on Series Two and this year it was based on Series Three. This was very well attended and included members of the congregations of Trinity Church, All Saints Church and St Luke's & St Paul's.

On the afternoon of 3rd April Leek Deanery led a half hour slot as part of the Diocesan 24hrs of Prayer which took place online. St Edward's Academy end of term services were held at St Edward's on Friday 11th April and the following week we held our usual Maundy Thursday Holy Communion service. All Saints Church led the Good Friday March of Witness and this was followed by them hosting a Reflection and Meditation on the Cross from 1.00pm–3.00pm attended by a good number of people from churches across the town. On Easter Sunday I led our morning service which began at 10.30am to enable me to also take the service at St Chad's, Longsdon at 9.15am.

On the evening of Sunday 4th May St Edward's hosted the annual Arts Festival Service, and on the evening of Thursday 8th we held a very successful Victorian Evening as part of the Leek Arts Festival at which The St Edward's Players provided music and performed a short playlet entitled *"The Tempting Tip"* before Leslie Smith took the stage to deliver her fascinating soliloquy in the part of Florence Nightingale. On the afternoon of Sunday 11th the annual Christian Aid Week service was held at St Edward's Church featuring material from Christians in Guatemala. The following Sunday I was pleased to be able to go to the service of Commissioning of Deb Tudor as President of the Diocesan Mothers Union which took place at Lichfield Cathedral which a few other members of the congregation were also able to attend.

On 9th June Philip Allcock and I attended the Archdeacon's Visitation at Ipstones where Philip was sown in for his next term of office as Warden. No one had come forward to fill the vacancy left by Lynne which meant that Philip's workload was considerably greater and from time to time he was grateful for the help and support of other members of the congregation who had served as wardens in the past. On a personal note I was very pleased to be able to attend the Baptism of two of my grandchildren at St Barnabas' Church, Cambridge on Sunday 15th June. On 23rd I said prayers outside Moorlands House for the *Fly a flag for the Armed Forces* Ceremony.

On 18th July St Edward's Academy end of term services were held at St Edward's Church. Saturday 26th July was my 70th Birthday which I celebrated with a family BBQ at home and the following day took my five grandchildren and their parents walking with Llamas who were very entertaining.

On Wednesday 30th July I was very pleased to attend the Licensing of Revd Debbie Lovatt as Vicar to the new Benefice of Endon, Bagnall and Horton which meant that the Deanery was then fully staffed with its complement of 7 full time stipendiary clergy.

During July Rachel Moore, the Warden of St Chad's House, indicated that she had decided to step down from that role and would finish at the end of September. The process of advertising the vacancy and seeking applications then began.

On Saturday 2nd August I was very pleased to hold my second birthday celebration at The Maude Institute attended by many members of the congregations of St Edward's along with other invited friends. On Sunday 17th an outdoor Team Service was held at St Edward's Academy with Revd Mike Fitzsimmons as our speaker. This was followed by a picnic lunch for those who were able to stay, and we were blessed with lovely weather.

On Wednesday 3rd September I said prayers at the *Fly a Flag for the Merchant Navy* event outside Moorlands House and on Friday 5th I conducted a service of Holy Communion at Waterfall church for their Mother's Union. The following day I took part, along with Revd Henry Hope and Revd Mike Fitzsimmons, in the ceremony to mark the 100th Anniversary of the Nicholson Memorial Monument at the bottom of Derby Street. On the afternoon of the next day, Sunday 7th, a social event was held at Leek Bowling Club which provided an opportunity for those attending to test their skills on the Green as well as enjoying a delicious buffet.

On Thursday 11th I attended the annual Diocesan Finance Consultation Meeting at Trentham Church where I was invited to give a review of the financial situation of all the churches in the

Deanery. The Annual Royal Air Force Battle of Britain Service was held on Sunday 14th with the usual very large turnout from uniformed organisation across the area. Later in the month St Edward's Church held its annual Open Weekend on 20th and 21st September which went very well and was attended by many people. Thank you to all those involved in organising and facilitating everything that took place! On 22nd September I attended the Churches Linked Across Staffordshire and the Potteries Enabling Group Meeting at St John's Church, Littleworth where, along with Moderators from three other areas, I had been invited to talk about the ministry of Churches Together in Leek and District.

Also during September Andy Machin and Vanessa Patrick-Wood began the first year of their Reader Training which they have both gained a great deal from so far. We are looking forward to them being licensed on 19th September 2026 after which they will complete the second year of training designed to support them in their first year of ministry. Vicky Ainslie also began the one-year Chad Foundation Course as a discernment process for her own sense of vocation.

On 29th and 30th September interviews took place for applicants for the post of Warden of St Chad's House and after further consultations and conversations Gary and Jai Crick were appointed to this role. It was agreed that they would move in to the house in January and that the Trustees would look at making some alterations to the property to make it more suitable for them and their family. Also on 30th September I met with Revd Denise Williamson to agree dates for Joint Services between St Edward's and Trinity Church during 2026.

On Wednesday 1st October Leek Deanery again led a half hour slot during the Diocesan 24hrs of Prayer. During October and November I ran Confirmation Preparation sessions for a pupil from St Edward's Academy as well as for a young person and an adult from St Edward's Church and an adult from St Chad's Longsdon. It was really encouraging to meet with them and spend time helping them to grow in their knowledge of the Christian faith.

On the mornings of Monday 13th, Monday 20th and Thursday 23rd October Year 7 pupils from St Edward's Academy visited St Edward's where we ran a number of groups teaching them about the Christian faith and what happens in the church. Thank you to Sheila Allcock and her amazing team for all the hard work they put into this. On 26th October Rachel Moore came to the morning g service to give us the opportunity to say farewell to her and thank her for her work as Warden of St Chad's during the last 6 years.

The Civic Remembrance Service was very well attended as usual on Sunday 9th November and we were pleased to be able to welcome visitors from Leek's twin town of Este as well as all the usual representatives of the civic authorities, armed forces and other local organisations and schools. Later that week I went on a three-day retreat to Whalley Abbey which I used to reflect on, pray about and prepare for the coming Christmas season. The following Sunday 16th the Team Confirmation Service with Bishop Matthew was held at All Saints Church at which the four candidates I had prepared were Confirmed, Emma Cooper and Charles Clarke from St Edward's Church, Lucas Rawson from St Edward's Academy and Tony Bailey from St Chad's Longsdon. On Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th November I attended a Rural Dean's Retreat at Shallowford House.

On Saturday 29th November Manna Theatre Company performed their latest Christmas production *Whilst the world slept* at St Edward's Church which was well received and attended. The following Saturday 6th December St Edward's was the venue for our own *The NativiTea* drama in the Parlour as part of the Advent Celebrations in the town and around 120 people came to watch one of the ten performances between 3.00pm and 6.00pm. Thank you to Sheila Allcock for organising this and for all the dramatic participants and those who assisted in any other way.

On Sunday 7th we held our Christingle Service which was as always very well attended. Thanks to Philip and Sheila Allcock and their team for organising this, to pupils from St Edward's Academy who took part and to all the volunteers who came the day before to prepare the Christingles.

At the end of that week CTLD held it's Carol Singing event in Derby Street where members of congregations from across the town gathered outside Trinity Church to sing a set of twelve carols interspersed with Bible readings. The weather was much kinder to us thank in some previous years and there was a very real sense of the anointing of the Holy Spirit on the event.

St Edward's Academy Christmas services were held at St Edward's Church on Friday 19th with a very well attended Carols by Candlelight taking place on the evening of Sunday 20th which included some excellent items from our choir. A large number of families came to the Nativity service on Christmas eve afternoon and bigger than usual number of people attended the Midnight Communion service. Christmas celebrations were rounded off with the All Age Christmas Celebration Service at 10.00am on Christmas Day followed by a brief service of Holy Communion which most of those who came chose to stay for.

The regular Monday morning Team Staff Meetings continued at St Chad's House with Warden Rachel Moore until she stepped out of that role at the end of October. I also met weekly with our Churchwarden Philip as we continued to share together and encourage one another in our roles supporting and enabling the life of the church and all who minister in it.

During the year I also liaised with Jen Arnott, the head of RE at St Edward's Academy and led a number of acts of Collective Worship as well as the regular End of Term Services at St Edward's.

At Team level I was delighted to work with a full complement of two Team Vicars following Mike's licensing in March. I continued to build a good relationship with Revd Denise Williamson at Trinity and we made plans to hold four joint services in 2026.

I attended a number of online webinars during the year which were very helpful and informative. I also continued to have the opportunity to lead prayers before each meeting of the Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and enjoyed very good relationships with the outgoing and incoming Chairs of that council and Mayors of Leek.

In my role as Rural Dean I continued to give help and advice to a number of churches in the Deanery who were still in vacancy but was very happy to see the Deanery finally fully staffed from August onwards. I continued to maintained regular contact with Bishop Matthew and Archdeacon Megan in my role as Rural Dean also arranged two meetings of the Deanery Chapter and three of the Deanery Synod (see separate report).

During the year we were saddened by the deaths of Barbara Brassington, Fred Barnett, Mary Hammersley, Cath Walton, Rhoda Deere and Stan Slatcher for whose lives we give thanks to God.

Thanks are due to Anne Chatwin, Susan Taylor, Lynne Ball and Michael Oliver who took home communion to a number of parishioners and to Michael also for his ministry at Beech Dene, Treetops Court and Hen Cloud House. I also want to record my particular thanks to Revd Diane Oliver for her personal support in making herself available to lead and preach on a regular basis when I am away and for her service as Secretary to the Deanery Synod.

We are very grateful to *Storyfinders* leaders Sheila Allcock, Christine Nixon, Sylvia Jones and Dagmar Wilson who have continued to lead the group throughout the year and for Sheila's work arranging additional events for the children and young people of the town.

I also want to thank everyone in a leadership role for their support and encouragement in sustaining and developing the life of the church as well as all those who take part in the Sunday worship at St Edward's by arranging the flowers, acting as sidespeople, leading prayers, reading the scriptures and helping with the administration of the chalice. Many thanks also go to Sheila Allcock and Christine Nixon for leading the children's group during Baptism services at St Edward's; to our Verger Alison Capper for her excellent, reliable and committed work in the church office; to Sheila Allcock for producing the Newsletter for us each week; to our Fabric Officer Ian Paton and his team for their care of the church building; to the Choir for the enriching contribution they make to the musical life of the church and to Philip Mann who leads their monthly practices and Jo Smith who conducts them and works with them on anthems for special occasions; to our organists Diccon Pearce and Vickie Ainslie for their wonderful keyboard skills; to our Music Group *Solid Ground* for the valued way in which they enhance our worship and to Brian Ball for his amazing work on the churchyard gardens. Last but by no means least I record my special thanks to our Treasurer Alan Leese for the excellent and detailed way in which he keeps track of our finances and to our Churchwarden Philip Allcock for his immense help support, dedication and hard work at St Edward's (made more demanding since Lynne became unable to carry out her duties), most of which takes place unseen and unnoticed but is essential for the well-being of the church as a whole.

Ten new people were added to the Worshipping Community of St Edward's Church (which includes those attending the monthly Holy Communion services in local Care Homes) during the year and others have continued to join us via the online services on our YouTube channel.

In addition to my role as Vicar of St Edward's Church I have also served in the following capacities during the year:

Curate-in-Charge of St Chad's Church, Longsdon
Team Rector of Leek Area Team Benefice
Rural Dean of Leek
Chair of Leek Deanery Chapter
Chair of Leek Deanery Synod
Member of Lichfield Diocesan Synod
Trustee of Harrison Trust
Trustee of Leek Almshouses
Trustee of Leek Town Dole
Trustee of Maude Trust
Pastoral Support to St Edward's Academy
Moderator of Churches Together in Leek and District
Facilitative Chair of Leek Church Leaders
Chaplain to the Mayor of Leek
Chaplain to Chair of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
Surrogate for Leek Deanery

I attended the following events in 2024 as part of my wider responsibilities:

26th January	CTLD WoPfCU United Service at All Saints Church
25th February	Deanery Synod at St Philip & St James' Milton
13th February	CTLD Forum Meeting at The Salvation Army
19th February	Rural Deans Cluster Meeting in Meir Park
25th March	Deanery Chapter at St Lawrence's Biddulph
2nd April	Deanery Zoom session as part of Diocesan Day of Prayer
18th April	CTLD Walk of Witness in Derby Street
11th May	CTLD Christian Aid United Service at St Edward's Church
22nd May	CTLD AGM & Forum Meeting at St Mary's Church
10th June	Deanery Synod at St Lawrence's Biddulph
3rd June	Rural Deans Cluster Meeting in Meir Park
21st July	CTLD Forum Meeting at Trinity Church
3rd September	Deanery Chapter Meal at The Travellers Rest, Stanley
9th October	CTLD Forum Meeting at St Paul's Church
30th September	Deanery Synod at St Luke's Endon
1st October	Deanery Zoom session as part of Diocesan Day of Prayer
7th October	Rural Deans Cluster Meeting in Meir
24th November	CTLD Blessing of Christmas Crib in the Market Square
13th December	CTLD Carol Singing in Derby Street

I also attended the following events as part of my Continuing Ministerial Development:

30th April	CPAS *Leading Change* Webinar
10th June	*Breathe Deeply* Pentecost Retreat at Bishop's House, Lichfield
18th September	Renewal event at Aldridge Parish Church
16th October	CPAS Rural Dean's Webinar
11th-14th November	Retreat at Whalley Abbey, Clitheroe
25th-26th November	Rural Dean's Retreat at Shallowford House

Revd Nigel Irons

Churchwardens' Report

2025 was a very busy year for me, not least because from the beginning of February Lynne's health meant that she was unable to come to Church. It was therefore a steep learning curve for me and I couldn't have done all the Churchwarden's duties on my own without the considerable help of many people.

All the usual weekly and monthly services and activities took place. I list below most of the other services and events in chronological order.

13th - 19th January	Attending daily services for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
18th January	Provide a Church and Tower tour for the Medieval Re-enactment Society
2nd February	A talk from Keith Davis of Christian Solidarity Worldwide
1st March	Pie and pea supper and quiz at the Bowling Club
March/April	Lent course in the Parlour based on Series 3 of The Chosen
March to July	Attending Club Day meetings
29th March	Christian Aid Sponsored Walk around Tittesworth raising £277
April, July & December	School services at St Edward's
14th April	Easter Story Egg Hunt in and outside Church
26th April	Audley Male Voice Choir concert at St Edward's
3rd May	Singing Workshop and Drumming concert
4th May	Leek Arts Festival service
8th May	Lesley Smith as Florence Nightingale, Music and Playlet at Victorian Evening
9th June	Archdeacon's Visitation at Ipstones where I was officially sworn in as Churchwarden again.
12th July	Club Day
13th July	Lunch at Leek Golf Club
17th August	Team Benefice outdoor service at St Edward's Academy & picnic lunch
7th September	Crown Green Bowling and Cream Tea at the Bowling Club
20th/21st September	Open Weekend
5th October	Harvest Festival and Ploughman's Lunch
13th, 20th & 23rd October	Year 7 visits learning about the life of St Edward's including Baptism, Holy Communion, weddings, prayer, stained glass windows, mission and outreach
19th October	Civic Service
November	Shoe boxes for Ukraine children
9th November	Remembrance service and service at The Monument
16th November	Team Confirmation Service
21st November	Christmas Lights Switch On – helping with refreshments at Trinity
29th November	Manna Theatre Company's 'Whilst the World Slept' at St Edward's
30th November	Advent Carols
6th December	NativiTea
7th December	Christingle service
13th December	Carol singing in Derby Street
21st December	Carols by Candlelight
24th & 25th December	Nativity & Christmas services

Most of the above events and activities could not have happened without your help.

There are many other activities that occur regularly which enrich the life of our Church such as Bible Study groups, Healing Services, Storyfinders, Mothers Union and Memorial Services. Thank you to everyone who enables these things to happen.

May I record my thanks to the work of the Fabric Committee, Events Committee, Choir, Sidespeople, Readers, Chalice Servers, Bellringers, Organists and Musicians, Solid Ground, IT and Sound Operators, Bev the Safeguarding Officer, Refreshment Servers, Deb the Cleaner, Alan the Treasurer, Alison the Verger, and anyone else I've missed out. Above all, I thank my wife Sheila, without whom I couldn't function.

I am also extremely grateful for Nigel's constant and unfailing support.

The silver will have been checked prior to the APCM.

May God bless you all.

Philip Allcock

Wednesday Lunch Club Report

The Lunch Club was a very successful community outreach and fundraising event led by Lynne Ball with her wonderful team of helpers Melody Cartledge, Coral Brown, Sue Sperring-Toy, Ann Morris, Brian Ball and Philip Allcock along with bakers Bev Seymour, Pat Wickstead and others and Paul Brooks who donated the milk each week.

Sadly in February 2026 Lynne had to step out of the leadership role due to her health problems and no one felt able to come forward to take her place. Philip and I met with some of

the team to see if a way forward could be found but this proved not to be possible so the Lunch Club remained closed for the rest of the year and has been greatly missed.

Nigel Irons

The 'Drop-In' Report

From 9.15am until 1pm each Wednesday a safe space was provided in Church for anyone who was lonely, anxious, homeless, marginalised, or suffering or recovering from addiction, providing a warm welcome, a feeling of belonging and a tangible sign that people do care.

Sadly the Drop-In had to close in February as the Lunch Club, along with Lynne Ball's oversight of the group, was integral to its functionality. It too has been greatly missed.

Nigel Irons

Cuppa, Cake & Chat Group Report

Thank you to Lynne Ball, Barbara Brown, Bill Taylor, and Michael Oliver, for making this group possible. Due to Lynne's ill health this group also closed down in February.

Nigel Irons

PCC Report

During the year the PCC met held 5 full meetings plus one brief gathering after the APCM to appoint officers for the new administrative year. We received regular reports from the Safeguarding Officer, the Treasurer the Fabric Officer, the Lunch Club and Drop-In, Storyfinders, Churches Together, the Events Group and St Edward's Academy. We also discussed other items including the distribution of our annual giving, the stage platform project, the ongoing sale of St John's Church, the proposed Pastoral Scheme to extend the Benefice, the new Diocesan Strategic Framework and the development of strategies to prepare for my retirement in 2027.

Revd Nigel Irons

Fabric Report

We have had several working parties arranged when required for tasks such as leaf collecting, gutter cleaning and branch clearing from the graveyard, the exception is St John's to keep up its appearance for selling and clearing of self setting trees for the benefit of the sale and to neighbours. Other work has been:

i) Replacement of the water heater for the toilets which was carried out by Edward Sczesniok free of charge.

ii) Lighting replaced to to lower the energy consumption and upgrade to LED where possible.

iii) Thanks to Geoff Channon on his excellent report for the CCTV.

iv) Thanks to Phillip Alcock for his contact with Time Assured.

v) I am sure that everyone involved with St Edward's would like to thank Lynne and Brian Ball for their amazing contribution over the years. Lynne will continue to be sadly missed.

vi) Thanks must also go to Robert Heath for his electrical work over past years .

vii) I would like to thank the new members who have joined the Fabric committee for their contribution of keeping the Church clean and decorating the kitchen.

Ian Paton

Safeguarding Report

Saint Edwards Church adheres to the Church of England safeguarding policy and continues to utilise the Church of England safeguarding Dashboard as a tool to ensure relevant policies and action plans are reviewed and agreed by the PCC and are updated in the agreed time frame.

Saint Edward Church complies with The Church of England Key Roles and Responsibilities of Church Office Holders and Bodies Practice Guidance.

All PCC members are aware of and have access to the Church of England Promoting a Safer Church Safeguarding Policy Statement for Children, Young People and Adults.

Saint Edwards Church strives to promote the safeguarding welfare of its congregation and the wider community. Posters are displayed in and around the church with the Safeguarding Policy statement of The Church of England and telephone contact details for the appointed

safeguarding officer. The Church has information clearly displayed for victims and survivors of abuse.

Saint Edwards has gained 3 new PCC members in 2025 who have completed the Church of England safeguarding training online and have had DBS checks completed.

Safeguarding is always on the Agenda for all PCC meetings; a report is compiled from the Safeguarding dashboard and any policies that need updating/reviewed are discussed.

One safeguarding incident was managed with a telephone call and a written report to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

Beverley Seymour

Storyfinders Baby and Toddler Group

Storyfinders is held on Wednesday afternoons from 1.45-3.30pm.

Story Finders continued to meet during term time throughout 2025 with fluctuating numbers of adults including Mum's and Dad's, Grandparents and Child minders with their children coming along each week, many who give us positive feedback and tell others about the group.

God's love has continued to be shown through the faithful volunteering of Christine Nixon, Sylvia Jones, Sheila Allcock and Dagmar Wilson. For a few weeks we welcomed a young family with a nine, three and a one-year old. The older child at the time was unable to access a special needs school due to lack of spaces. As a result, St Edward's has been able to provide a warm, welcoming, supportive and stimulating space for our local community to meet and be in Church. They have joined in songs and rhymes, simple Bible Stories, chatted, formed friendships, had drinks, fruit and cake and enjoyed a whole variety of fun play and messy activities together.

Sheila Allcock

Events Committee Report

The Events Committee is fortunate to have 8 members who met several times during 2025 to arrange the following events:

Pie and Pea Supper and Quiz at the Bowling Club on 1st March
Christian Aid sponsored walk around Tittesworth on 29th March raising £277
Easter Story Egg Hunt – 14th April
Singing Workshop and Drumming Concert – 3rd May
Lesley Smith's performance as Florence Nightingale and Playlet and Victorian Evening – 8th May.
Club Day – 12th July
Lunch at Leek Golf Club – 13th July
Crown Green Bowling and Cream Tea at the Bowling Club – 7th September
Open Weekend – 20th and 21st September
Ploughman's Lunch – 5th October
Year 7 visits – 13th, 20th & 23rd October
NativiTea – 6th December
Christingle Service – 7th December
Nativity Service – 24th December

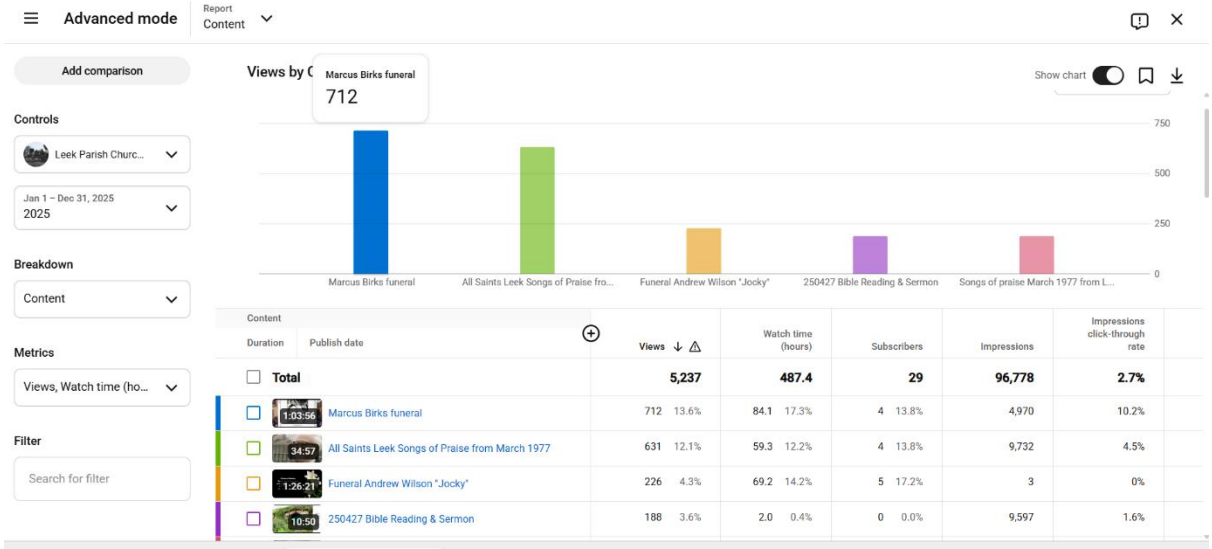
There is no limit to the number of people on the Events Committee, so if you have an idea for an event, let one of the committee members know, or join the Committee yourself! The Committee members are: Vicky Ainslie, Ann Chatwin, Deb Pegnall, Camilla Harley, Sheila Allcock, Robert Heath, Paul Brooks, Philip Allcock. Thank you to them all!

Philip Allcock

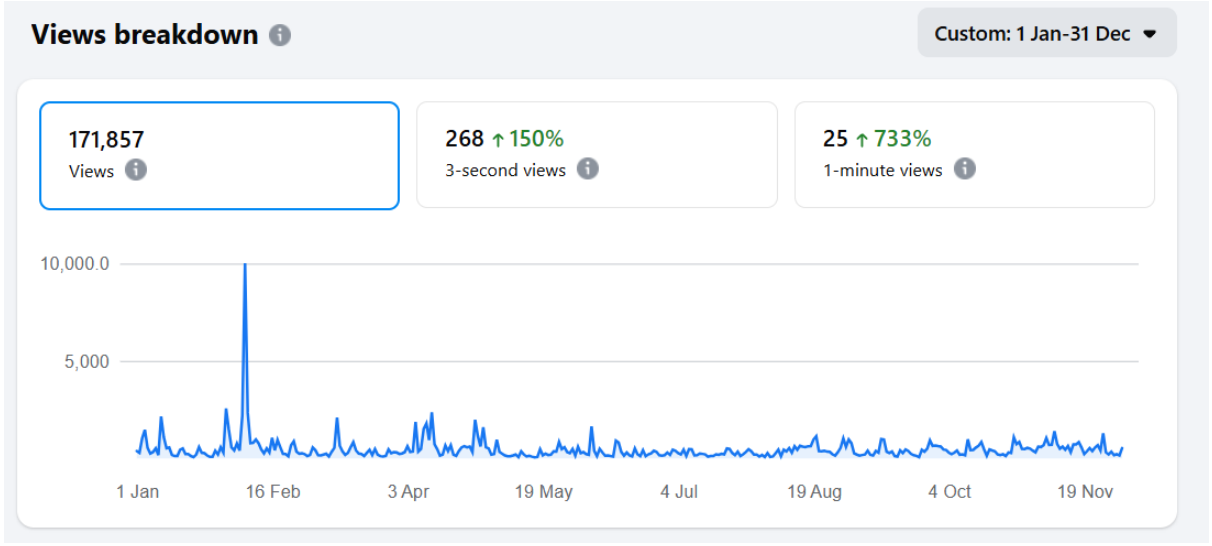
Care Homes Report

Throughout the year Michael Oliver and I have taken monthly services of Holy Communion at Beech Dene, Treetops Court and Hen Cloud House Care Homes.

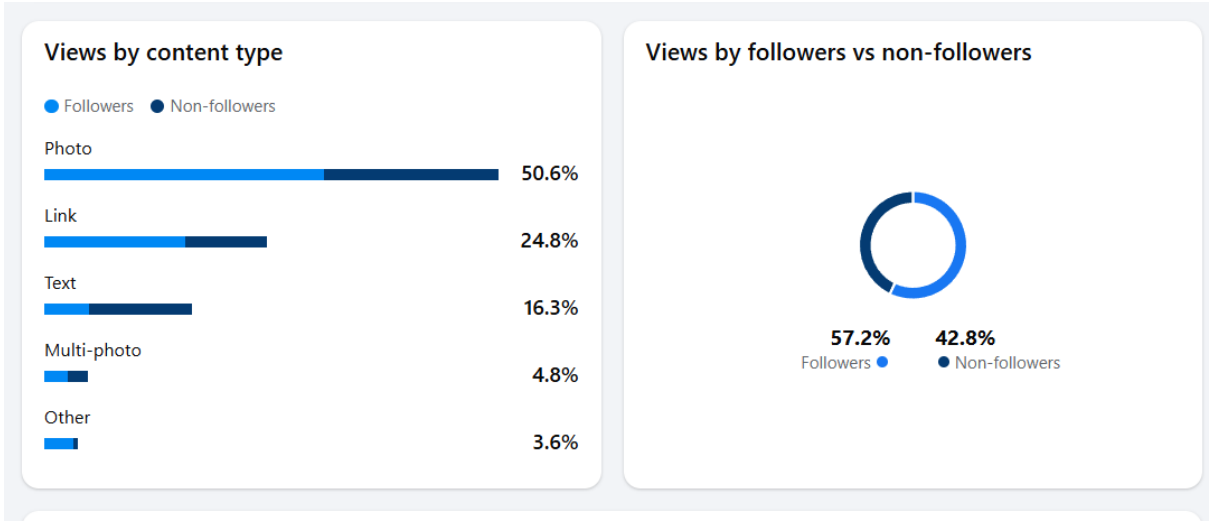
Social Media Report



You Tube



Facebook



Facebook

Trustees Report - St John's Church

Ongoing, lengthy and detailed conversations have continued to take place between the solicitors handling the sale on and the Church Commissioners who are chiefly concerned about the lifting of the restrictive covenant which precluded the land and building from being used for any purpose other than Christian activities and education. We have now fully complied with all their procedural requirements and are awaiting what we hope will be their final approval.

Revd Nigel Irons

Churches Together in Leek and District Report

During January the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** took place with a half hour prayer and reflection every lunchtime at Trinity Church, using the material based on the theme verse of Ephesians 4:4 *"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope of your calling."*

The week ended with a **United Service** on Sunday 26th at All Saints Church.

As part of the **Lent Courses** offered across the town Nigel ran a 5-week course in the Parlour at St Edward's using extracts from the Angel Studio's TV series The Chosen Series 3 looking at the Biblical themes of grace, suffering, faithfulness, love, transformation, redemption, and sacrifice. Trinity Church also held a course.

The annual **Christian Aid walk** took place on Saturday 29th March at Tittesworth Water, an enjoyable walk with good conversation and fellowship on a mainly dry morning to enjoy the beautiful surrounding countryside. Sponsorship for walkers from St Edward's raised over £200.

During **Holy Week** the Team & Trinity services on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening took place at All Saints Church. The walk of witness from the monument to the Market Place saw a large turnout on Good Friday and was led by Gateway Church. In the afternoon there was a Reflection & Meditation on the Cross from 1.00pm-3.00pm at All Saints Church.

The Christian Aid Service to mark the start of **Christian Aid Week** this year was held at St Edward's Church on Sunday 11th May.

Club Day took place on Saturday 12th July and worship in the market Square was led by a group of people from St Luke's & St Paul's Church and Gateway Church. Everyone present then walked around the town in their church groups and we went to Trinity Church for refreshments afterwards.

Refreshments were served at Trinity Church during the **Christmas Lights Switch-On** event on 21st November.

The Crib in the Market Place was erected on 24th November followed by a Service of Blessing led by Nigel.

Churches Together Carol Singing took place on Saturday 13th December outside Trinity Church and went very well.

The **Enabling Group** met in January, April, June and September to discuss the ongoing activities of CTLD, subscriptions and finance, the programme for 2026, the erection of the Christmas Nativity scene in the market square, Carol singing in Derby Street and the organisation of one-off events. Agendas were also set ahead of each Forum Meeting.

Forum Meetings were held on Thursday 13th February at the Salvation Army, Thursday 22nd May at St Mary's Church (including our AGM), Monday 21st July at Trinity Church and Thursday 9th October at St Paul's Church.

Many thanks to our secretary Anthony Matthewson who kept members informed of all meetings, developments and plans throughout the year.

Revd Nigel Irons

St Chad's Retreat House -Warden's Report

A full programme of events was run up until October when the Warden Rachel Moore stepped down from her role after 6 years in post. We said goodbye to her at the morning service at St Edward's Church on 26th October at which we thanked her for her work at the house and prayed a Celtic blessing over her for her future.

In November we were very happy to appoint Gary & Jaime Crick as the new Wardens and they moved into the house in January 2026.

Nigel Irons

St. Edward's Academy

During 2025 I continued to lead acts of Collective Worship at the school once or twice a term and we were as always very pleased to welcome the entire school to St Edward's Church for the End of Term Services at Easter, Summer and Christmas. At the end of September and early October three visits were made by Year 7 pupils at which we ran workshops covering different aspects of the Christian faith and the life and worship of the church. Thank you to Sheila & Philip Allcock and the team which supported them for making this possible.

I maintained good contact with the Principal Katie Smith and the Head of RE Jen Arnott during which the ongoing importance of the relationship between the school and St Edward's Church was valued and affirmed. We were also very grateful to the school for agreeing to let us use their grounds for the Team Service on Sunday 17th August.

Revd Nigel Irons

Leek Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod met three time during the year in February at St Philip & St James' Milton, in June at St Lawrence's Biddulph and in September at St Luke's Endon. It debated and approved a motion to be presented to Diocesan Synod seeking to reduce the amount of the Common Fund request for parishes with long vacancies and received a presentation from St Lawrence's Biddulph about Kintsugi and from Stephi Scott of Rural Missions.

Revd Nigel Irons

Treasurers Report

St Edward's accounts for this year show a decrease in funds of £28,514 compared to a smaller decrease in funds of £6,087 last year. Four of the main decreases in funds for 2025 were due to the following:

Wednesday Lunch Club reduced income of	£12,500
Quinquennial repairs	£7,000
Architects Fees for work on Entrance Alterations	£6,000
Exterior and interior light fittings	£3,000
Total	**£28,500**

There were obviously other but compensated by increased income.

Our cashflow has suffered greatly this year with a decrease of £-38,456 mainly due to the costs previously mentioned above and follows a decrease in funds of £-13,832 last year.

Other income (excluding Wednesday lunches) is only less than 1% down from last year. However, please feel free to strengthen your giving, as it is always greatly appreciated. Our current yearly rental income from Old Timbers is £7,800pa, which is up slightly from last year but it is a very good source of income.

Income from Wednesday lunches fundraising as you know was stopped drastically because of the unfortunate circumstances surrounding Lynne, who was the main motivator and manager of the project. We have started the lunches up again in 2026 on a much smaller scale but we do hope with support from our congregation and the general public, we can make it a worthwhile fundraiser for and a place of social gathering in our church.

Income from investments for the year have decreased very slightly to £18,526, compared to £19,170 last year.

The PCC need to decide on which organisations we wish to give donations to and a provision has been allocated in these accounts.

Parish Church of St Edward's, Leek

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2025

INCOMING RESOURCES	Note		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Incoming Resources from donors							
Planned giving; Gift Aid		A	16,797.57	0.00		16,797.57	18,727.02
Income tax recoverable		B	6,255.58	0.00		6,255.58	6,784.13
Other planned giving		C	6,069.98	0.00		6,069.98	6,889.18
Online / Cardreader receipts		D1+2	218.32	0.00		218.32	1,167.91
Collections		D3	4,973.74	0.00		4,973.74	5,578.39
Sundry Donation		E	2,746.99	0.00		2,746.99	1,985.84
	R1		37,062.18	0.00		37,062.18	41,132.47
Other voluntary incoming resources							
Donations		G	975.95	0.00		975.95	1,039.16
Legacies	R2	H	0.00	0.00		0.00	500.00
			975.95	0.00		975.95	1,539.16
Income from operating activities to further the councils objectives							
Magazine/Photocopies		J	0.00	0.00		0.00	7.50
Church Brochure(CP&P)/DVD/Books&Mugs		J1	81.00	0.00		81.00	25.00
Church hall lettings		K	1,510.00	0.00		1,510.00	2,020.00
Rent	R3.1	L	7,800.00	0.00		7,800.00	7,550.00
Church, Organist & Lichfield Fees	R3.2	M	22,706.95	0.00		22,706.95	20,451.09
			32,097.95	0.00		32,097.95	30,053.59
Income from operating activities to generate funds							
Fundraising - Events (Florence,Open Day,etc)	R4	N2	3,548.03	0.00		3,548.03	2,491.32
Fundraising - Wednesday Lunches	R5	Q	1,199.79	0.00		1,199.79	13,663.81
Other ordinary incoming resources	R6.1	R	1,190.27	0.00		1,190.27	2,640.30
Other extra-ordinary incoming resources	R6.2		526.40	0.00		526.40	450.00
Income from investments	R7	W	2,196.57	16,329.01		18,525.58	19,169.88
Investment - Gain/(Loss)	R8	Y	0.00	9,941.83		9,941.83	7,244.95
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES			**78,797.14**	**26,270.84**	**0.00**	**105,067.98**	**118,385.48**

Parish Church of St Edward's, Leek

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2025

RESOURCES USED		Note		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Missionary and Charitable Giving								
Church overseas - missionary societies (Anna Sims)			A	2,733.04	0.00		2,733.04	1,590.00
Church overseas - relief & develop (Christian Aid)			B	277.00	0.00		277.00	200.00
Home mission / Church societies			C	5,076.57	0.00		5,076.57	5,688.99
Secular charities			D	252.39	0.00		252.39	458.00
				8,339.00	**0.00**		**8,339.00**	**7,936.99**
Activities relating to the work of the church								
Ministry:	Parish share	E1	E	42,931.00	0.00		42,931.00	40,887.00
	Visiting Clergy expenses		E1	2,157.00	0.00		2,157.00	1,727.00
	Clergy expenses		F	2,260.34	0.00		2,260.34	2,111.95
	Clergy homes maint' (All Old Timbers)		G	507.64	0.00		507.64	1,192.15
Church:	Running expenses	E2	H	15,337.34	0.00		15,337.34	17,742.63
	Quinquenial + gen' maint'	E3	J	23,826.11	0.00		23,826.11	15,670.08
	Church Tower repairs	E4	K	585.96	0.00		585.96	636.00
Upkeep of services			L	3,230.49	0.00		3,230.49	4,998.88
Education			M	1,872.66	0.00		1,872.66	640.01
Fees to Lichfield			P	5,285.00	0.00		5,285.00	5,037.00
Organist/Choir Master/Sidespersons Fees		E5	Q	5,573.28	0.00		5,573.28	4,782.91
Staff Costs		E6	U	14,774.79	0.00		14,774.79	13,848.89
				118,341.61	**0.00**		**118,341.61**	**109,274.50**
Church management & administration								
Audit Fees (Yrs2021&22) + Payroll/Pension processing			V	680.00	0.00		680.00	680.00
Gifts and Presentations			W	0.00	0.00		0.00	100.00
Printing, stationary + telephone			X	2,396.37	0.00		2,396.37	2,187.28
Leek Team Contribution			Y	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
				3,076.37	**0.00**		**3,076.37**	**2,967.28**
Cost of generating funds								
Events - Florence, open day, etc			Z1	829.29	0.00		829.29	451.10
Wednesday Lunches Costs			AA	179.97	0.00		179.97	1,878.73
Other extra-ordinary costs		E7	AF	2,815.87	0.00		2,815.87	1,963.59
TOTAL RESOURCES USED				**133,582.11**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**133,582.11**	**124,472.19**
Excess of Reciepts over Payments				**(54,784.97)**	**26,270.84**	**0.00**	**(28,514.13)**	**(6,086.71)**
Balance of all assets at 1st January 2025							**734,862.32**	**740,949.03**
Balance of all assets at 31st December 2025							**706,348.19**	**734,862.32**

Parish Church of St Edward's, Leek

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2025

Statement of Financial Activities	**Unrestricted Funds £**	**Restricted Funds £**	**Endowment Funds £**	**Total Funds 2025 £**	**2024 £**
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds					
- Voluntary income	38,038.13	0.00	0.00	38,038.13	42,671.63
- Activities for generating funds	4,747.82	0.00	0.00	4,747.82	16,155.13
- Investment income	2,196.57	16,329.01	0.00	18,525.58	19,169.88
Incoming resources from church activities:	32,097.95	0.00	0.00	32,097.95	30,053.59
Other incoming resources	1,190.27	0.00	0.00	1,190.27	2,640.30
Other extra incoming resources	526.40	0.00	0.00	526.40	450.00
Total Incoming Resources	**78,797.14**	**16,329.01**	**0.00**	**95,126.15**	**111,140.53**
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating funds -					
- Fundraising trading costs	1,009.26	0.00	0.00	1,009.26	2,329.83
Church activities					
- Missionary and charitable giving	8,339.00	0.00	0.00	8,339.00	7,936.99
- Ministry costs	121,417.98	0.00	0.00	121,417.98	112,241.78
Governance costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other extra-ordinary costs	2,815.87	0.00	0.00	2,815.87	1,963.59
Total Resources Expended	**133,582.11**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**133,582.11**	**124,472.19**
Net Incoming /(Outgoing) Resources Before Transfers	**(54,784.97)**	**16,329.01**	**0.00**	**(38,455.96)**	**(13,331.66)**
Gross Transfers between Funds	63,039.30	(63,039.30)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Incoming /(Outgoing) Resources Before Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)	8,254.33	(46,710.29)	0.00	(38,455.96)	(13,331.66)
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)					
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets					
- On disposal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
- On revaluation	0.00	9,941.83	0.00	9,941.83	7,244.95
Net Movement in Funds	**8,254.33**	**(36,768.46)**	**0.00**	**(28,514.13)**	**(6,086.71)**
Balances brought forward at 1st January 2025	**(5,519.07)**	**590,381.39**	**150,000.00**	**734,862.32**	**740,949.03**
Balances carried forward at 31st December 2025	**2,735.26**	**553,612.93**	**150,000.00**	**706,348.19**	**734,862.32**

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2025 (Other A/cs Included within St Edwards Church A/cs)

INCOMING RESOURCES	Note		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Other accounts incoming resources							
Leek Town Dole Monies	R7	S	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Leek Deanery Fund Monies	R8	S	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Carr Trust Monies	R9	S	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
LADS Donation - Tudor Evenings	R10	S	0.00	0.00		0.00	450.00
Leek Team Account	R11	S	526.40	0.00		526.40	0.00
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES			**526.40**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**526.40**	**450.00**

RESOURCES USED	Note		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Other accounts resources used							
Leek Town Dole		AB	1,739.24	0.00		1,739.24	893.00
Leek Deanery Fund		AC	242.00	0.00		242.00	679.00
Carr Trust Monies		AD	400.00	0.00		400.00	0.00
LADS Donation - Tudor Evenings		AE	167.90	0.00		167.90	233.19
Leek Team Account		AF	266.73	0.00		266.73	158.40
TOTAL RESOURCES USED			**2,815.87**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**2,815.87**	**1,963.59**
Excess of Reciepts over Payments			**(2,289.47)**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**(2,289.47)**	**(1,513.59)**

AMOUNTS OWED BY ST EDWARDS CHURCH TO THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS:-

Leek Town Dole	0.00	0.00		0.00	1,739.24
Leek Deanery Fund	1,728.00	0.00		1,728.00	1,970.00
Carr Trust Monies	0.00	0.00		0.00	400.00
LADS Donation - Tudor Evenings	48.91	0.00		48.91	216.81
Leek Team Account	91.41	0.00		91.41	(168.26)
	1,868.32	**0.00**	**0.00**	**1,868.32**	**4,157.79**

Cashflow for 2025	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**
Total Income	105,067.98	118,385.48
Less: Legacies & Donations	-	- 500.00
Less: Investment Gain/Loss	- 9,941.83	- 7,244.95
	95,126.15	110,640.53
Total Expenditure	133,582.11	124,472.19
	133,582.11	124,472.19
Annual Gain/(Loss)	**- 38,455.96**	**- 13,831.66**

DCC 10% Giving Calculation	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**
Total Income excluding Investment Gains/Income:-		
Total Income	105,067.98	118,385.48
Excluding: Investment Income	- 18,525.58	- 19,169.88
Excluding: Investment Gain/Loss	- 9,941.83	- 7,244.95
	76,600.57	91,970.65
Less following expenses:-		
Other Extra Ordinary Income/Expenses	526.40	450.00
Diocesan Fees	5,285.00	5,037.00
Organist Fees for weddings and funerals	5,573.28	4,782.91
Events Costs	829.29	451.10
Wednesday Lunches Costs	179.97	1,878.73
	12,393.94	12,599.74
	64,206.63	79,370.91

Report signed on behalf of the PCC of St Edward the Confessor, Leek



Revd Nigel Irons
Vicar of St Edward the Confessor, Leek
Team Rector of Leek Area Team Benefice
Rural Dean of Leek

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2025

The Church of St Edward the Confessor
Church Street
Leek
Staffordshire

Clergy & Treasurers in Office

St Edward's Church
Vicar: Rev N Irons
Treasurer: Mr A Leese

Independent Examiner
Mrs Christine Vaughan
CV-ABAS Limited

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the members to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the Parochial Church Council's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the members should follow best practice and:

a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

c) state whether applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in business.

The members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and which enable them to both ascertain the financial position of the charity and ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the SORP 2015. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
- Voluntary income	2(a)	38,038	-	-	38,038	42,672
- Activities for generating funds	2(b)	4,748	-	-	4,748	16,155
- Investment income	2(c)	9,997	16,329	-	26,326	26,720
Incoming resources from church activities	2(d)	20,730	-	-	20,730	20,557
Other incoming resources	2(e)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		73,512	16,329	-	89,841	106,104
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Cost of generating funds						
- Fundraising trading costs	3(a)	1,009	-	-	1,009	2,330
Church Activities						
- Missionary and charitable giving	3(b)	8,339	-	-	8,339	7,937
- Ministry costs	3(c)	118,269	-	-	118,269	108,488
Governance costs	3(d)	680	-	-	680	680
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		128,297	-	-	128,297	119,435
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		(54,785)	16,329	-	(38,456)	(13,332)
GROSS TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		63,039	(63,039)	-	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)		8,254	(46,710)	-	(38,456)	(13,332)
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)						
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets						
- On disposal		-	-	-	-	-
- On revaluation		-	9,942	-	9,942	7.245
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		8,254	(36,768)	-	(28,514)	(6,087)
BALANCES B/F AT 1ST JANUARY		(5,519)	590,381	150,000	734,862	740,949
BALANCES C/F AT 31ST DECEMBER		2,735	553,613	150,000	706,348	734,862

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	4	-	-
Investment Assets		608,781	599,569
		608,781	599,569
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		-	-
Income Tax Recoverable		-	-
Prepayments and Accrued Income		54	154
Other Debtors		13,218	15,317
Cash at Bank and On Deposit		96,668	142,159
		109,940	157,630
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	6	12,373	22,337
NET CURRENT ASSETS		97,567	135,293
NET ASSETS		706,348	734,862
FUNDS	7		
Unrestricted DCC Funds		2,735	(5,519)
Restricted Funds		553,613	590,381
Endowment Funds	8	150,000	150,000
		706,348	734,862

Signed on behalf of The Parochial Church Council of Leek & Meerbrook PCC

Chairman: Rev N Irons

Church Warden: Mr Philip Allcock

Date: 18.10.26

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any regulations regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Resources Used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan quota or parish share is accounted for when payable. Any quota unpaid at 31st December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Gains and losses on investments (unrealised)

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on the revaluation of investments at 31st December.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by S.10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2014.

No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities and separately disclosed.

Land

Land is valued at its historic cost and is not depreciated on the basis that it has an infinite useful economic life.

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Freehold Properties

All properties are shown at their open market value as at 31st December. No depreciation is charged on any of these properties.

No depreciation is charged on investment properties in accordance with the generally accepted practice set out in SSAP19. In the opinion of the members of the PCC to depreciate investment properties would not give a true and fair view as the assets are held for the investment potential and therefore need to reflect current values.

It is the PCC policy to maintain in a state of sound repair and therefore it is considered that the lives of the properties are so long and their residual values so high that the annual depreciation charge and accumulated depreciation is not material. Accordingly, and as set out in FRS15, no depreciation is provided on other properties used for church activities.

Fixed Assets

Other fixtures, fitting and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 10 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31st December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2025

2. INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
2(a). Voluntary Income					
Planned giving					
- Gift aid and covenants	16,798	-	-	16,798	18,727
- Income tax recoverable	6,256	-	-	6,256	6,784
- Other planned giving	6,070	-	-	6,070	6,889
Online – Just Giving & Sum Up	218	-	-	218	1,168
Collection (open plate)	4974	-	-	4974	5,578
Sundry Donations	3,723	-	-	3,723	3,025
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Donations & Appeals	-	-	-	-	-
Legacies	-	-	-	-	500
	38,038	-	-	38,038	42,672
2(b). Activities for generating funds					
Fund raising events	4,748	-	-	4,748	16,155
	4,748	-	-	4,748	16,155
2(c). Investment Income					
Dividends and interest	2,197	16,329	-	18,526	19,170
Rent	7,800	-	-	7,800	7,550
	9,997	16,329	-	26,326	26,720
Magazine/Photocopies	-	-	-	-	8
Church Brochure	81	-	-	81	25
Fees	17,422	-	-	17,422	15,414
Church Centre/Hall Income	1,510	-	-	1,510	2,020
Miscellaneous Income	1,717			1,717	3,090
	20,730	-	-	20,730	20,557
2(e). Other incoming resources					
Insurance proceeds	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	73,512	16,329	-	89,841	106,104

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2025

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
3(a). Fundraising trading costs					
Fundraising activities	1,009	-	-	1,009	2,330
	1,009	-	-	1,009	2,330
3(b). Missionary and Charitable giving					
Church Overseas					
- Missionary Societies	2,733	-	-	2,733	1,590
- Relief & Development agencies	277	-	-	277	200
Home Missions/Church Societies	5,077	-	-	5,077	5,689
Secular Charities	252	-	-	252	458
Education & Schools	-	-	-	-	-
	8,339	-	-	8,339	7,937
3(c). Ministry Costs					
Parish Share	42,931	-	-	42,931	40,887
Visiting Clergy	2,157	-	-	2,157	1,727
Clergy Expenses	2,260	-	-	2,260	2,112
Clergy Homes Maint	508	-	-	508	1,192
Other Clergy costs	-	-	-	-	-
Church – running expenses	15,337	-	-	15,337	17,743
Church – maintenance costs	23.826	-	-	23.826	15,670
Major repairs	586	-	-	586	636
Upkeep of Services	3,230	-	-	3,230	4,999
Magazine – Spark	-	-	-	-	-
Church Centre/Hall costs	-	-	-	-	-
Upkeep of churchyard	-	-	-	-	-
Organists, vergers, honoraria	5,573	-	-	5,573	4,783
Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	-
PCC property upkeep costs	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment renewals	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-
Administration	-	-	-	-	-
Staff costs	14,775	-	-	14,775	13,849
Gifts & Presentations	-	-	-	-	100
Office Supplies	2,396	-	-	2,396	2,187
Education & Training	1,873	-	-	1,873	640
Miscellaneous	2,816	-	-	2,816	1,964
Depreciation of church assets					
	118,269	-	-	118,269	108,488
3(d). Governance costs					
Accountancy, audit and independent examination	680	-	-	680	680
Assigning accounts	-	-	-	-	-
Legal and professional costs	-				
	680	-	-	680	680
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	128,297	-	-	128,297	119,435

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2025

4. FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY PCC

	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Church Investment Property Buildings £	Equipment Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
4(a). Tangible Fixed Assets				
COST				
Cost brought forward	-	150,000	20,856	150,000
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
	-	150,000	20,856	150,000
DEPRECIATION				
Depreciation b/f	-	-	20,856	20,856
Depreciation	-	-	-	-
	-	-	20,856	20,856
NET BOOK VALUE				
As at 31st December 2024	-	150,000	-	150,000
As at 31st December 2025	-	150,000	-	150,000

4(b). Investments	2025 £	2024 £
St Edward's Church		
Shares	315,699	300,906
CBF/COIF fund	143,082	147,939
Other Investments	-	725
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	458,781	449,569

4(c). Gains/(Losses) on Investments	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Realised gains(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation surpluses	-	9,942	-	9,942	7,245
	-	9,942	-	9,942	7,245

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2025

5. CURRENT ASSETS	2025	2024
	£	£
Stock	-	-
Income Tax Recoverable	-	-
Prepayments & Accrued Income	54	154
Other Debtors	13,218	15,317
Cash at bank and On Deposit	96,668	142,159
	109,940	157,630

6. LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	4,403	6,283
Creditors for goods and services	7,969	16,054
	12,373	22,337

7. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	-	458,781	150,000	608,781	599,569
Current Assets	15,108	94,832	-	109,940	157,630
Current Liabilities	(12,373)	-	-	(12,373)	(22,337)
	2,735	553,613	150,000	706,348	734,862

8. ENDOWMENT FUND	2025	2024
	£	£
Balances at 1st January	150,000	150,000
Revaluation Surplus	-	-
	150,000	150,000
Represented by:		
Freehold Property		
5 Stockwell Street	150,000	150,000

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

WARDEN & RECTOR'S STATEMENT

The financial statements on pages 1 to ~~14~~ 12 for the year ended 31st December 2025 have been prepared on our behalf as a summary of the accounts for each individual District in the Parish.

Mr Philip Allcock: Philip Allcock ..... Church Warden

Revd Nigel Irons: ..... Rector

Date: 18.10.26

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements of St. Edwards Church Leek Parochial Church Council which are set out on pages 1 to 11.

Respective responsibilities

The church is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and considers that the audit requirement of Section 145(1) of the Charities Act 2014 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissions under Section 145(5) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions of the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations 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 financial statements.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination of the church funds, nothing came to my attention which gave me cause to believe otherwise than that the financial statements accord with the accounting records of the church, and that those records satisfied the requirements of the Act. I am not aware of any matter to which attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed by the Independent Examiner: ....

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Edwards Church, Leek Staffordshire

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages ..... to .....

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and Independent Examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full 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.

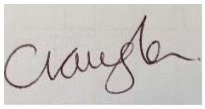
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

Signed  **Date:** 11/10/2026

Name: Christine Vaughan ACMA BSc CertEd

Address: Tall Trees, Park Road, Leek, Staffs. ST13 8JS