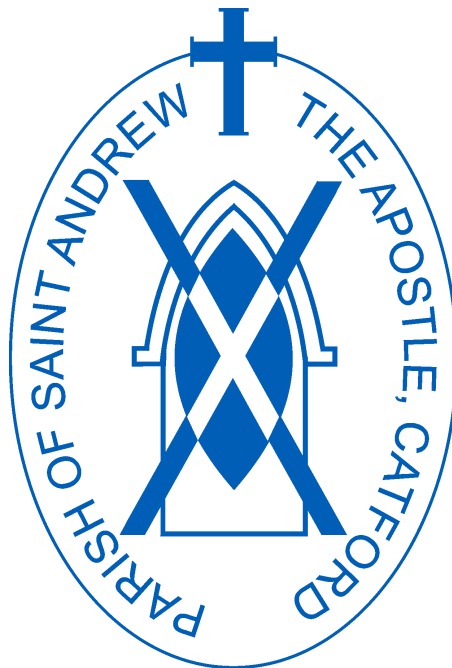


ST ANDREW'S CATFORD

ANNUAL MEETING
&
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

10 MAY 2026



AGENDA – APCM 2026

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, CATFORD
10 MAY 2026

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS (open to all who live in parish or are on Electoral Roll)

Election of Churchwardens

Followed by

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (open to those on the electoral roll)

Agenda

Apologies for absence

Welcome from Rev Bec

Minutes of 2025 APCM

Matters Arising

Chairman's report

Secretary's report

Report on fabric, goods and ornaments

Independent examiner's report + Financial Statement for year ending 31st December 2025

Steward's report and Election of Stewards

Electoral Roll report

Free Will Offering (FWO) and Gift Aid report

Deanery Synod report

Safeguarding report

Committee reports

- Finance & General Purposes (F&GP) report
- Children & Young People's (C&YP) report
- Hall Executive Committee (HEC) report
- Finance, Events, Social & Communications (FESC) report + social media and website reports

Election of PCC Members

AOB

PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S, CATFORD

MINUTES OF THE 2025 VESTRY & ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING SUNDAY 11th MAY 2025

There were 42 members of the congregation present with Rev Bec (RB) chairing the meeting.

RB welcomed everyone to the Vestry Meeting at St. Andrew's.

VESTRY MEETING

Election of Churchwardens

Richard Elliott (RE) was nominated and elected for the position of Churchwarden for 2025/26. No other nominations were received.

RB thanked both RE and Zanna Bloomfield (ZB) for all their work as churchwardens during the interregnum.

This concluded the business of the Vestry Meeting.

MINUTES OF THE APCM IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

Apologies for absence

ES noted that apologies were received from Nicole Burgum, Crystal Callow, Liz Rhys-Jones, Fiona Craggs and Rona Dixon.

Thank you from Rev Bec

RB thanked everyone who has kept the church going through the vacancy. Particular thanks to the churchwardens and to the church officers who are standing down this year.

All agreed for Emily Steadman (ES) to be Clerk for the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Norma Dixon (ND) proposed that the minutes were an accurate recording of last year's meeting. Brenda Henderson (BH) seconded. All in favour. RB abstained as was not present.

Keith Bloomfield (KB): Under PCC elections, it says PCC numbers set to 10 for 2023/24 – **ES amended to 2024/25.**

Matters arising from the minutes

None

Secretary's Report The report appears in the booklet.

No questions on the report. RB thanked ES for the report and for all the work she does.

Churchwardens' Fabric and Ornaments Report The report appears in the booklet.

RB thanked the churchwardens for preparing the report and for all their work, especially relating to the building.

No questions on the report.

Financial Statement: The statement appears in the booklet.

RB thanked Wendy Owen (WO) for her work as Treasurer.

APCM MINUTES - 2025

ND: Are we in a good position financially? WO: we have money in reserve, but there are several significant upcoming required works, which will draw it down. Overall, however, we are in a relatively good position.

RB: compared with other parishes she's been part of, we're in a good place financially. We have several big building projects coming up this year, as WO noted, so will need to apply for grants and to keep up our regular giving. It's notable that the Independent Examiner has said all looks fine.

Churchwarden's Remarks The report appears in the booklet.
No questions on the report.

Steward's Report and Election of Stewards The report appears in the booklet.

Christiana Ezeilo (CE): asked whether, given its length, the report could be made available in advance of the APCM, so everyone has adequate time to read through it.

ES and RB confirmed that the report was and is always made available at least one week in advance of the meeting as required by the Church of England. This year a PDF of the report was put on the website Friday 2nd May (under the 'About' tab – 'APCM') and the link was sent out with the Weekly Newsletter on the 2nd May and again on 9th May, with a notice that paper copies were available at the back of church from Sunday 4th May. Acknowledged that it is indeed a long report, which is why it's circulated in advance to give parishioners an opportunity to read it thoroughly.

Janette Cunliffe (JC): John Lee has come off the list, so we have 10 Stewards this year.

All agreed to approve the current Stewards for this year.

RB gave her thanks to JC for her work with the Stewards.

Electoral Roll Report The report appears in the booklet.

RB thanked John Goodwin (JG), the Electoral Roll Officer, for providing the report.

RB: pleased to confirm that the Roll has gone up this year from last year.

BH: asked whether there is any information about age when you sign up for the Electoral Roll, so we have a sense of demographics other than the numbers of male and female parishioners.

RB: confirmed it does not ask for any other data - it's not used for a wider demographic survey. However, it does give an opportunity for RB to get consent from everyone who agrees to share their data with St Andrew's, in line with GDPR. This allows RB to contact people. RB reiterated that everyone's information is kept private and secure.

Free Will Offering (FWO) and Gift Aid Report The report appears in the booklet.

FB: given how much we can get from Gift Aid, with more than half not using it, wondered if there could be a sermon or a talk to reiterate how important it is. FB has switched to using SumUp and she hadn't thought about the fact that it would be difficult to then claim GiftAid from it.

RB: Agreed that yes, we do need a sermon or a talk about its importance – it's in the planning.

KB: confirmed that it is indeed more difficult to claim GiftAid from SumUp, because much of what goes on SumUp is anonymous and even if you sign a GiftAid form, KB can't claim it against you. There is the facility to get a 'top-up' from SumUp payments, but it doesn't allow for the maximum donation, so using top-up system is not as effective as Gift Aid. Would encourage all to make a regular pledge and, if they're in position to, to GiftAid it. However, it's important that people make an intentional decision on whether to

APCM MINUTES - 2025

GiftAid. You cannot GiftAid more than the tax you pay in a single year, so people need to make a personal judgement. In the context of stewardship, it's important that we give everyone all information on giving options, so all can make an informed decision. While KB's role is purely 'mechanical', processing the Gift Aid, though he can answer questions about it and advise a stewardship campaign.

BH: we could consider QR codes or other payment methods, e.g. at events, that would give people the option to GiftAid.

RB thanked KB for all the work he does for Free Will Offering and Gift Aid.

RB: echoing that, thanks to everyone for your financial giving at a time of great strain.

Deanery Synod Report The report appears in the booklet.

No questions.

RB thanked Fenella Beckman (FB) and Chris Jarvis (CJ) for being our reps this year.

JG: asked whether all reps should have signed the report. RB confirmed that it's fine for just the person writing the report to sign it.

RB: our Deanery has undergone a great change over the year, and we are in a time of transition, so the reps provide us with good information.

FB: I really enjoyed going to the meetings and being part of that world. It would be helpful if we could share and integrate more of what's happened at the meetings with our parish.

Safeguarding Report The report appears in the booklet.

No questions.

ZB: the report notes that all PCC members have to have training, but every member also has to have a DBS check.

RB: Confirms that's correct. Because our PCC is now registered with the Charity Commission, members of the PCC are viewed as trustees, and due to that, all members are required to have a DBS check as well as to do training.

RB: one of the requirements at an APCM is to declare whether as a church we are currently safeguarding compliant.

JJG: We are not safeguarding compliant at the moment but are working towards it. We have just done a Safeguarding Audit, and the Diocese does not expect all churches to be compliant – they want them to have a plan on how they will become compliant.

ND: asked why we aren't compliant. JJG explained that there are a number of reasons stopping us from being compliant, but we are working towards filling those gaps.

Committee Reports All of the committee reports appear in the booklet.

Committees meet and send regular reports for the PCC to review throughout the year.

Stewardship & Outreach Committee report

RB: ES kindly put this report together for us since its Chair stepped down. Noted that our children and young people are going to help us choose the charities that we support for 2026.

APCM MINUTES - 2025

No questions on the report.

Finance & General Purposes (F&GP) Committee Report

RB: there is some overlap with the churchwardens' report, but this report provides more detail about the church building.

RE: while he chairs the F&GP committee, he's not someone with a lot of technical knowledge. Therefore, if anyone does have relevant knowledge that they feel would be useful to us, please come forward. It would be very good to be able to benefit from people's experience.

No questions on the report.

Children & Young People (C&YP) Committee Report

No questions on the report.

FB: it's been so good to see the children's side of the church really coming on. Would also like to see the older children's side further developed. It becomes more challenging to engage with young people as they get older. If we don't have the facilities to do it here, perhaps we can start forging a link with other churches that do have established youth programmes.

Allison Bishop (AB): noted it's more about having discussions with the young people themselves to find out what they want to do. We need to continue thinking about how we can help develop the youth offering, but ultimately, the buy-in has to come from them.

BH: as a church we also need to consider educating the people within the church about our young people. A personal experience was when her son, who hadn't been here for some time, came to church recently and was racially profiled. It did not make him feel welcome nor that he wanted to come back anytime soon, so educating our church members about how they approach young people is very important.

ZB: asked BH to explain what she meant by racially profiling. BH explained that someone made an assumption about her son, perhaps based about what he was wearing, and asked him a question that was inappropriate.

CE: it's also important to make sure our teachers are safeguard compliant.

Online and Social Media Report

RB: thanks to Tom Steadman (TS) who has continued to help support with our website.

No questions on the report.

Social Media Report

RB: Our Facebook profile is a very important form of communication with the wider community, but for those not on Facebook, don't feel you're missing information. Key information is shared through the newsletter, announcements at church, noticeboards and website.

No questions on the report.

Hall Executive Committee (HEC) Report

Amy Sheldrake: I'm relatively new here and don't know much about the Annexe. It would be great for all those in the congregation who don't know what these spaces look like to have a tour, to gain a better understanding of the space.

APCM MINUTES - 2025

RM: agreed there are many people here, even those who have been here for some time, who don't know much about the Annexe. We had some interest last year from builders, but that interest has fallen off, perhaps due to the scale of the job. The idea is to create a space that will benefit us physically as well as spiritually. We will need the congregation's support to help us move forward with this redevelopment. Highlighted that Hall hire fees will drop off dramatically this year because we have lost PLUS Services as a hirer. We need to engage the congregation in helping us to promote the use of the Hall to help us raise much-needed funds. Thanked the member of the congregation who gave a large donation to help us complete the garden works.

AB: are there different hall hire rates for members of the congregation vs members of the public?

WO confirmed that it's a flat rate at the moment for all hiring the space for a one-off personal event.

RB: acknowledged that the conditions of hiring the hall are quite high on the agenda in the HEC; we're working towards some clarity for internal / external / professional / commercial hirers. We did increase our hall hire fees and that's been well received.

WO noted that she spoke with Crystal Callow who confirmed she's never had someone query the fees, in fact she's had comments that we're cheaper than others.

KB: when is the cut-off time for hiring the hall? RM: For outsider hirers, we do not hire beyond 9pm, but there have been occasions where we go later for St Andrew's events. We want to respect the local community, and late hires also mean that Oliver, our caretaker or someone from the HEC has to come lock up. KB: suggests that we at St Andrew's should follow the same rules.

RB: reiterated that this is also why she's working with the HEC to come up with a clear policy.

AB: felt there should be a privilege for congregation members to hire later as it would be a one-off.

TS: noted there is a potential that one-off events from church members could ostensibly happen every week; and however much you try to avoid it, it's inevitable that doors may be left open, or music will be heard, and we want to respect the neighbours. It's has been tricky to get the balance right for the hire period timings, so any feedback on that would be useful. For example, we have found that the morning session is underutilised, but the afternoon sessions are in very high demand. Many want to start halfway through the afternoon session and go into the evening.

RB: asked to curtail the discussion on Hall hiring in this forum. It is a topic that will come back through the PCC over the coming months and will be further discussed in the HEC. As noted, RB working hard with different groups to discuss and establish clear guidelines.

FB: registered thanks to RM for all his work on the garden.

As part of the meeting, RB asked report writers to tell us what has brought them joy this year. Answered included thanksgiving for a new vicar, the teamwork in different parish groups, the support from the church community, being connected to what's going on in our parish, and having a role which supports others.

Election of PCC Members

ES: Three PCC members are standing down: Jonathan Ames-Lewis, Norma Dixon and Gill Leach, and we have two new PCC members standing this year: Amy Sheldrake and Brenda Henderson. This means we will have nine elected members, the suggested number for our size parish.

Amy Sheldrake and Brenda Henderson both nominated and duly elected to the PCC.

APCM MINUTES - 2025

Lay Ministers – Crystal Callow, Nicole Burgum and Liz Rhys-Jones – co-opted to the PCC. A majority in favour.

WO co-opted as Treasurer. All in favour. **ES co-opted as Secretary.** All in favour.

Deanery Synod representatives: Rona Dixon (RD) has been nominated as a Deanery Synod representative and is duly elected.

ES noted that with 84 on the Electoral Roll, we can have 3 Deanery Synod members, so if anyone is interested in becoming a rep across the coming year, they could be co-opted and join RD and FB in representing St Andrew's.

The new PCC now has nine elected members and nine ex-officio members.

Elected PCC members for 2025/2026 are: Amy Sheldrake, Brenda Henderson, Janette Cunliffe, Jacqui Joseph-Grotefeld, Angela Jackson, Angie Thompson, Trevor Jarvis, Kay Spikes and Robin Maggs.

Ex-officio: Rev Bec (vicar), Richard Elliott (churchwarden), Nicole Burgum, Liz Rhys-Jones and Crystal Callow (lay ministers), Wendy Owen (treasurer), Emily Steadman (secretary), Fenella Beckman and Rona Dixon (Deanery Synod reps).

Addendum: Fiona Craggs has agreed to continue as an Assistant Churchwarden. She will be co-opted at the first PCC meeting of the new term, in June.

Appointment of auditor The independent examiner's report appears in the booklet. As every year, we need to appoint an examiner for the next year.

WO: Trevor Blackmur, our current auditor, is prepared to do it again. WO proposes we reappoint Trevor Blackmur. RB seconded. **Majority in favour.**

Any Other Business (AOB)

No AOB.

RB said a special prayer, before the meeting was closed with the Grace.

VICAR'S REPORT | 2025

'I remain confident of this:

I will see the goodness of the Lord

in the land of the living' Psalm 27:13

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2025 Annual Report. It is wild to think that when 2025 began I was still living in Manchester; and wasn't yet your vicar, it feels like longer, in a good way.

What a year we had last year! Lots of celebrating – the church's festivals of Easter, Pentecost, Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas – and other more local feasts like Corbfest and the Catford Arts Trail, and of course the Plant Sale, Christmas Tree Festival, Wine Tasting, and HGLO concert. We have innovated new things and renovated and rejuvenated other feasts, opening our church to the public on Tuesdays, Kids' Council and a trip to the Horniman, celebrating Windrush Sunday and Black History Month, the All Souls' service and the intergenerational arts project.

We have seen people grow in faith; we held a confirmation service and prepared 6 people for baptism. We saw the retirements both of our long-term neighbour, Fr Charles Pickstone and of Liz Rhys-Jones as Lay Minister. Luckily for us, we continue to experience the love and ministry of both Fr Charles and Liz in more informal capacities. We have known sadness too, in 2025 we said goodbye to many people at funerals in church, and at local crematoria, including our own Kathy Dawes.

As I write, we are nearly halfway through the following year, and things are looking good – our Electoral Roll has grown again this year, and we hope to become members of Inclusive Church reflecting our collective desire that all people might find hope, peace and joy in our church.

I am so pleased with all that we achieved together, in service of God, one another, and our community and eagerly look forward to what the year ahead will bring. Church work is always a team activity, thank you to all those who contribute your time, talents, resources and your very selves to our church. As you read these reports may they be a testament to you of the goodness of God in the land of the living!

Every blessing,

R Wilkinson

Rev Bec Wilkinson, Vicar and Chair of St Andrew's Church PCC

20th April 2026

SECRETARY'S REPORT | 2025

The PCC had seven meetings across the year for which we were delighted to have a vicar to chair! All meetings were in-person. While no extraordinary meetings have been required, the Standing Committee has met or consulted on urgent decisions between meetings.

The following items have been discussed and, where relevant, agreed/adopted by the PCC during the past year:

- Following our APCM, Fiona Craggs was co-opted as Assistant Churchwarden, to support Richard.
- The Treasurer updated us on the accounts and on our financial position at each meeting.
- As Secretary, I took minutes and reported at each meeting on any correspondence, admin updates, standing committee decisions. I continue to send out the Weekly Newsletter.
- Committee members were elected and reports made at each meeting for: Children & Young People (C&YP); Finance & General Purposes (F&GP); Hall Executive (HEC); Finance, Events, Social and Communications (FESC).
- The Stewardship & Outreach committee was replaced by the FESC committee. Chaired by Rev Bec, FESC supports the vicar in fundraising and giving in all its forms; planning the church calendar; supporting HEC in promoting community cohesion and outreach; and improving communications, including website, social media, notice boards and the Weekly Newsletter.
- Our Parish Safeguarding Officer reported to us at each meeting.
- Our Deanery Synod representatives updated us after each quarterly meeting.
- We carried out a revision of our Electoral Roll, which happens every six years.
- Responding to our Mission Action Plan, to 'open the church doors more, both for events and at set times so people can walk in to look, reflect and pray', we agreed to start 'Open Church' on Tuesdays from 2-4pm, where the church is opened to the public.
- As part of our commitment to safeguarding, as per Diocesan and Charity Commission guidance, we agreed that all PCC members and adults in the serving team need to have DBS clearance.
- We agreed to recruit for a new Director of Music and organist, a paid position for which the PCC takes responsibility as employers; and were pleased to then appoint Herman Jordaan.
- We agreed to join the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), a national online scheme that aims to streamline the giving process, both for regular gifts and one-off donations.

Emily Steadman
PCC Secretary
May 2026

REPORT ON THE FABRIC & ORNAMENTS OF ST ANDREW'S

Fabric

Overview

An in-house inspection of the church fabric was undertaken in April 2026. No significant problems were noted beyond those detailed in our last Quinquennial Inspection Report (QIR, December 2022). An annual "Articles of Enquiry" inspection was carried out by Area Dean Fr. Michael Bailey and Assistant Area Dean Rev. Daphne Clifton on 15 July 2025. Throughout the reporting period (calendar year 2025), our inspecting architect Paul Jackson continued to advise St Andrew's on our care of the building, and David Rathbone of Alan Baxter Associates (ABA) on structural engineering matters.

Summary of the church's general condition as at April 2026

All areas of the church are in use and watertight and are being carefully maintained. Evident external and internal defects include the following:

External

- Lady Chapel area: evidence of historical and possibly ongoing movement of buttresses over the damp proof course. Following remedial work, some stonework joints remain open on the undersides of the flying buttresses.
- Lady Chapel roof: slates, ridge tiles, battens and felt display considerable weaknesses.
- Lead flashings are loose in various places including the NW buttress/aisle roof abutments and on the main E and W gables.
- A coping stone is missing on the W gable (N side).
- Defective tiles on N aisle roof.
- Brickwork repointing required in various areas.
- N-side downpipes and gullies require realignment (awaiting drain repairs).
- Timbers: fascias, rafter ends and doors are in need of redecoration.
- The flying buttresses on the S side are subject to similar outward movement and consequent sagging as those on the N, although "the movements are much smaller" (ABA report, January 2024). This situation is under observation.
- Belfry: louvres missing or slipped; fabric at the top of the tower is in a poor state of repair.
- War Memorial: the stones are cracked and the lettering largely illegible.

Internal

- Lady Chapel: continuous gap along the junction of N wall and floor.
- Lady Chapel requires redecoration following historical water damage and recent internal works.
- E walls of both transepts in a poor state of decoration (underlying causes remedied).
- South Transept: cracks in the brickwork of the S wall below the windows (under investigation).
- Cracks in the Ambulatory floor and Sanctuary walls.
- Mosaic floor in Sanctuary cracked and loose in places.

A plan is in place to remedy the above defects according to their degree of urgency.

REPORT ON THE FABRIC & ORNAMENTS OF ST ANDREW'S

Glass

As well as needing an expert clean, the church windows are affected by a range of issues including fractures, areas of loss and in some cases open joints in the stone traceries.

Ornaments

An inventory check of the church's movable property was carried out in late February 2026. The churchwarden declares that "The lists of Church properties, goods and ornaments [...] have been duly checked and additions or corrections noted and initialled and are certified as correct to the best of our knowledge".

The inventory of Church Articles, the Work Log and the 2026 Maintenance Plan were produced to the PCC on 26 April 2026. A hard copy of each is kept in the St Andrew's Log Book along with our safety certificates and a copy of the current QIR. Digital copies are securely stored.

Heartfelt thanks are offered to all who cleaned, maintained, repaired, polished, swept, dusted and otherwise helped to look after the church building and its fittings, musical instruments, goods and ornaments in 2025.

Churchwarden Richard Elliott, April 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of St Andrew's Church, Catford.

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

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- 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 the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

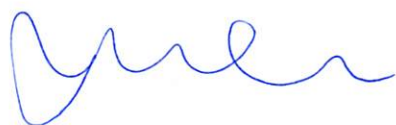
In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
- to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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



31st March 2026

Name and Address

TREVOR BLACKMUR ATT
2 HAFTON ROAD
LONDON
SE6 1LP

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2025

	General	Gen Reserve & Liquidity	Hall Reserve & Liquidity	Organ	CBF	Hall	Mission	Total 2025	Total 2024
Income									
Income from Donors	29,408			245		23,484		53,137	82813
Other Voluntary Income	53,914							53,914	45611
Grant								-	5124
Interest		1,833	1,441	110				3,384	2627
Mission							1,250	1,250	3020
Total	83,322	1,833	1,441	355	-	23,484	1,250	111,685	139195
Expenditure									
Work of the Church	80,912	£ 732				24,370		106,014	100419
Mission							1,250	1,250	3020
Total	80,912	£ 732		-		24,370	1,250	107,264	103439
Balances 1/1/25	313	100,068	85,002	9,802	3,198	3,237		201,620	165,821
plus income	83,322	1,833	1,441	355	139	23,484	1,250	111,824	139,195
plus transfers in	28,126	24,237	13,800			11,296		77,459	108022
plus hall deposits in hand						1,045		1,045	
Total	111,761	126,138	100,243	10,157	3,337	39,062	1,250	391,948	413383
minus expenditure	80,912	732				24,370	1,250		
minus transfers out	30,487	27,618	9,204			10,552			
Total	111,399	28,350	9,204	-	-	34,922	1,250	185,125	211763
Balances 31/12/25	362	97,788	91,039	10,157	3,337	4,140	-	206,823	201620

St Andrew's Church, Catford - Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

General Fund Receipts & Payments Account

	2025		2024		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	
RECEIPTS					
<i>Incoming Resources from Donors</i>					
Planned Giving - Freewill offering	1	£29,408	30,417		
Gift Aid recovered	2	£16,484	9,054		
General Collections	3	£7,790	7,226		
Donations	4	£6,181	5,970		
Sunday School	5		0		
Wedding/Funeral income	6	£1,450	425		
Mission Giving	8			3,020	
		£61,313	£1,250	53,092	3,020
<i>Income from operating activities to further the work of the church</i>					
Fundraising	10	£5,988			
Fees (Funerals & Weddings)	11	£1,893	798		
Teas	12	£833	638		
		£8,714	1,436		
<i>Other Receipts</i>					
Restricted Income		£9,150	21,500		
Special events					
		£9,150	21,500		
<i>VAT Refund</i>					
VAT refunds	18	£4,145	5,124		
		£4,145	5,124		
Total Receipts	18a	£83,322	£1,250	£81,152	£3,020
PAYMENTS					
<i>Grants to further the work of the Church</i>					
Mission Giving				1,250	3,020
<i>Church activities</i>					
Parish Support Fund	20	£20,160	19,476		
Parish expenses	21	£2,736	1,055		
Insurance	22	£7,682	7,387		
Heating and Lighting	23	£8,695	10,848		
Fundraising Costs	24	£527	126		
Religious	25	£1,057	282		
Music	27	£6,409	9,213		
Governance	28	£976	420		
Maintenance inc sacristry	30	£29,146	31,310		
Hall	31	0	14		
Wedding and Funeral fees	33	£1,893	514		
refreshments		£1,125	752		
Special Events					
		£80,406	1,250	81,397	3,020
<i>Church management and administration</i>					
Administration	32	£506	3,323		
		£506	3,323		
Total Payments	33a	£80,912	£1,250	£84,720	£3,020
Excess of Receipts over Payments					
Bank current and deposit accounts at 1 January 2025		£313	557		
transfers into general account from other accounts	18b	£28,126	33,423		
B/F 1/1/24 plus income line 18a plus transfers in line 18b		£111,761	115,132		
transfers out of general account into other accounts	33t	£30,487	£ 30,099		
Payments line 33a plus transfers out line 33b		£111,399	£ 114,819		
Bank current and deposit accounts at 31 December 2025		£362	313		

Reserve and liquidity Accounts	2025 restricted		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Restricted Donations trans from general acct		24237	30099	
Restricted Donations trans from hall				
Interest		1833	1430	
		26070	31529	
Payments				
transfer to hall		2092		
transfer to current account		25526	28386	
work completed		732		
		28,350	28386	
excess of payments over receipts		-2280	3143	
Bank current and deposit accounts at 1st January 2025		100068	96925	
Bank current & deposit accounts at 31st December 2025		97788	100068	

Organ Maintenance Fund restricted Account

Deposit Account 2

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Interest	34	245	200	
		110	137	
		355	337	
Payments				
Work Completed	35			
Excess of receipts over payments			337	
Transfers				
From general fund				
From Reserve fund				
Bank current and deposit accounts at 1st January 2025		9802	9465	
Bank current & deposit accounts at 31st December 2025		10157	9802	

Capital Works Fund Receipts & Payments Account - Designated Fund

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Interest from CBF Deposit Fund		139	156	
Payments	36			
Excess of Receipts over Payments			156	
Bank current & deposit accounts at 1st January 2025		3198	3042	
Bank current & deposit accounts at 31st December 2025		3337	3198	

Reserve and Liquidity Accounts Hall		2025	2024
<i>Receipts</i>	Interest	1,441	904
	Transfers from hall	7,550	44500
	Transfers from general	6,250	
	Total Receipts	15,241	45,404
<i>Payments</i>	Payments restricted items		
	Transfer to general Account		
	Transfer to hall account	9,204	
	Transfer to Reserve		
	Total Payments	9,204	
	Excess of receipts over payments	6037	45404
	Bank current account 1 January 2025	85002	39598
	Bank current account 31 December 2025	91,039	85002

Hall Account	2025	2024	
<i>Receipts</i>			
	Hire Fees	23484	52196
	Grant		
	Fundraising		
	Total Receipts	23484	52196
	Hall returnable Deposits In	13995	12150
	transfers In	11296	
	Grand Total	48775	64346
<i>Payments</i>	Invoices	24370	15699
	Transfer to hall reserve acct	7550	44500
	Transfer to General acct	3002	5339
	Total Payments	34922	65538
	Hall Returnable deposits out	12950	11805
	Grand Total	47872	77343
	Excess of total receipts over payments	903	-13342
	Excess of Deposits in hand		345
	Total	903	-12997
	Bank Current Account 1 January 2025	3237	16234
	Bank Current Account 31 December 2025	4140	3237

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31st December 2024

	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Restrict</i> <i>ed</i>	<i>Organ</i> <i>Fund</i>	<i>Capital Works</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>2025</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>2024</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Monetary Assets</i>						
Bank current account	363				363	313
Hall Deposit & Liquidity Account		91,039			91,039	85,002
Deposit Account No 2 OMF			10,157		10,157	9,802
Reserve Account		97,788			97,788	100,068
Hall Account	4,140				4,140	3,237
CBF Deposit Fund 1				3,337	3,337	3,198
Total Cash	4,503	188,827	10,157	3,337	206824	201,620

STEWARDS' REPORT & ELECTION OF STEWARDS | 2026

As always, I would like to say a big thank you to all the stewards who gave of their time and effort in the past year. Your efforts are always very much appreciated.

I would like to thank John Lee and Sharon Richards for all their efforts over the years. They have had to take a step back from stewarding for various reasons.

If anyone would like to join us, we would be really grateful for more volunteers.

At the time of writing these are the people who wish to stand for election for the post of steward for the coming year:

Hillrett Bradshaw	Nyewuna Chukwu	Brian Craggs	Janette Cunliffe
Norma Dixon	Sandra Fuller	John Goodwin	Angela Howe
Diane Nolan			

Stewards duties generally come round roughly every three weeks on a Sunday morning, with requests for volunteers for any extra services. The more stewards we have, the longer the gap between duties.

The duties of a steward are many and varied. If you are curious to find out more, please speak to myself or any of the existing stewards. Asking for information does not automatically commit you.

Please give this some thought, it's not onerous but it's a valuable service.

Any of our younger people from the congregation would be welcome to serve as a steward. Any young volunteers would be included on the stewarding rota alongside our adult stewards and would assist on a regular basis.

Janette Cunliffe
Steward

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT | 2026

As at 26th April 2026, the number of Parishioners whose name appears on the Parish Electoral Roll is 92, which is an increase of 8 on the previous year.

Of the names that are on the Electoral Roll, 41 live outside the Parish and 51 within, 64 are female and 28 male.

John Goodwin
Electoral Roll Officer

Key stats (*excludes donations by other methods e.g. plate, box and sum-up*)

1. Weekly offering envelope scheme: 10 donors
2. Standing orders: 36 donors
3. Donors not covered by 1 or 2 above using Gift aid envelopes (regular or one-off): 2
4. Number of people gift-aiding: 33
5. Total sum gift-aided (rounded): £23,116
6. Expected gift-aid (rounded): £5,779

Commentary

Total number of envelope and standing order donors is broadly the same as last year. On gift aid, the year-on-year decline continues, in both the numbers of people gift-aiding and the amounts gift-aided. For comparison, in 2020 (year of Covid), these numbers stood at 44 people and £31,473.

We have reached the limit on the top-up we can claim from HMRC on non-gift-aided donations, including sum-up and plate. Therefore, as gift aid allows us to increase your offering, making it even more impactful, **we would encourage all who can to set up a regular gift with gift aid.** Regular giving or standing orders also give us a better idea of annual income, helping us to budget.

For more detail, see [previous annual reports](#) (website: About Us/Church Documents/APCM reports).

Future

We are now offering a new arrangement for giving – the [Parish Giving Scheme](#) – which is administered nationally rather than in-house. However, existing arrangements will continue for any who do not wish to move to the new scheme.

Keith Bloomfield

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT | 2025-6

East Lewisham Deanery Synod

In the Church of England, a **Deanery Synod** is a **synod** convened by the Rural Dean (or Area Dean) and/or the Joint Lay Chair of the **Deanery Synod**, who is elected by lay members. The Deanery consists of all clergy licensed to a benefice within the **Deanery**, plus elected lay members Elected by church members on the Electoral Roll. We are a group of Anglican churches located in the eastern part of the London Borough of Lewisham. The Deanery Synod of East Lewisham is made up of 16 Anglican churches of which St Andrews is one. Our Area Dean is The Revd Michael Bailey. The elected lay members are made up from the congregation of each of the churches of the Deanery and they usually attend 3 meetings a year where we discuss matters concerning our deanery as well as the Anglican Church at large.

The Deanery Synod met 24.6.25, 6.11.25, 11.2.26

Deanery Synod Meeting 24.6.25

Focus: Reflect on why we are on the Deanery Synod

Visiting Speaker: Henry Metcalf from Southwark Diocesan Governance team.

Governance in The Church of England without God is futile.

Diocesan values: Shared values determine how we relate to each other and to God's world. These values seek growth in discipleship, in our churches, schools and worshipping communities and in the kingdom of God.

Our shared Values in Southwark Diocese:

Joy, Justice, Hope, Love, Community, Humility, Hospitality - these values enable us to grow.

Reflection - What does St Andrew's do well and where is support needed for growth to happen?

Southwark Vision 2024-2035

Building on what Southwark has done and seeking to respond to what God is now doing in our midst, the following are priorities: Parishes, Ministry, Growth, Youth and diversity, Deepening our discipleship, Healing.

Deanery Synod Meeting – 6.11.25

Focus: Racial Justice

Visiting speaker: Weisi Dennis, Diocesan Racial Justice Development Officer.

Key points:

- Climate around racial justice has changed a lot. It's nearly five years since the Diocesan Anti-Racism Charter was unveiled. Diocese is looking at how to embed the Charter. To that end, Weisi is available to support parishes, and Bishop Christopher and Bishop Rosemarie have started a listening process. Above all, we remain rooted in Christ – in the unity he brings. The roots of justice work are very closely tied to faith. But what does 'embed' mean? How has it been adopted? Things to consider:
 - Doing things collectively and visibly.
 - The past and present can collide; for example, at St Nicholas, Deptford, with the history of Sir Francis Drake, and possibility of modern slavery in nail bars and such.

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT | 2025-6

- Prayer is needed around racial justice, as people move at different paces.
- Actions needed as well as words – a church in Streatham noted that one of their responses to issues of racial justice was to provide knife bins.

Reg Amoah, one of Weisi's colleagues, visits parishes and other groups to lead unconscious bias trainings (he helped to lead one at St Andrew's in the past) and there are also small grants available from the Diocese for racial justice projects. The team can be contacted here: racial.justice@southwark.anglican.org

Deanery Synod Meeting 11.2.26

Focus: Children and Young People

Visiting Speakers: Father David Adamson-Hill (St. Mary's Lewisham), Cat Clay (St Margaret's Lee), Imani McEwen (Diocesan Children and Youth Team), Reverend Bec Wilkinson (St Andrew's)

Discussion: Mission and outreach with young people

Each speaker reported on what was happening with children and young people in their parishes. Imani McEwen from the Diocese gave an overall report on Diocesan initiatives concerning children and young people. St Mary's and St Margaret's have church schools attached to them. They were able to go into schools and lead Christian teaching in a variety of forms e.g. first communion course. St Margaret's also secured a Diocesan grant to develop the server's team. St Andrew's has had good local school links.

In conclusion:

A lot of good work with young people is going on around the Diocese, but it could do with being joined up, with more parishes working together. To that end, it's important to find the 'glue which holds the youth together,' both within and across parishes. Further work needs to be done, across the Deanery, to give young people the opportunity to take part in activities, worship, fellowship and friendship, within their church and more widely.

Rev Bec has begun to address this at St Andrew's, thinking about what we can do to enable our young people to meet their fellow Christian peers and move forward in faith. There's scope to tap into Diocesan initiatives and to apply for resources to build on the excellent work already being carried out in our parish. We need to continue to make children and young people feel valued by giving them a voice.

Rona Dixon

Fenella Beckman

Deanery Synod Representatives, 2025

SAFEGUARDING AT ST ANDREW'S | 2025

Report for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Sunday 10 May 2026

Introduction

1. A Safe Church is a manual containing the Diocesan policies, procedures and guidelines for safeguarding children, safeguarding adults who may be vulnerable, and responding to domestic abuse. The PCC first adopted Diocesan safeguarding policies and procedures, as set out in A Safe Church, on 13 October 2009.

2. At St Andrew's we are committed to promoting and supporting environments which:

for **children and young people**

- are youth and child-friendly and nurture their positive development
- enable children and young people to be active contributors to the church community
- protect children and young people from actual or potential harm

for **adults who may be vulnerable**

- ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse
- encourage adults who may be vulnerable to lead as independent a life as possible, to choose how to lead their life, and to be active contributors to the church community
- protect adults who may be vulnerable from actual or potential harm
- for those experiencing domestic abuse
- recognise equality amongst people and within relationships
- refuse to condone any form of abuse
- protect those vulnerable to domestic abuse from actual and potential harm

and **for all people**

- enable and encourage concerns to be raised and responded to openly and consistently

Responsibility for Safeguarding at St Andrew's

3. Responsibility for implementing Diocesan safeguarding policies and procedures is shared between PCC members, Rev Rebecca Wilkinson (Priest), Richard Elliott (Churchwarden) and Jacqueline Joseph-Grotefeld, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO). Safeguarding is also an important part of the work of the Children & Young People committee and events-related PCC committees.

4. All members of the congregation have a role to play in helping St Andrew's to be a safe church and are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the Parish Safeguarding Poster, which sets out what action should be taken in the event of a safeguarding concern. The poster contains contact details for the PSO, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and emergency contact details for the police and children and adult social care in Lewisham. The poster can be found on the noticeboard by the tea point at the back of church and on a noticeboard in the Hall.

Safeguarding Audit

5. Michael Browne, Head of Safeguarding for the Diocese of Southwark, has let us know a significant amount of work is happening across the Safeguarding Team, including ongoing scrutiny of its own

SAFEGUARDING AT ST ANDREW'S | 2025

practice to ensure there's an understanding of the impact of their work in keeping safe vulnerable adults and children, and in their support of parishes. The Diocese's commitment to victims and survivors remains central, shaping both their priorities and practice. As a result, the INEQE's Independent Safeguarding Audit Team was commissioned to conduct Independent Safeguarding Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses and cathedrals are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected.

As part of the audit process, parishioners and members across the Diocese were asked to give feedback on safeguarding in their church. The online survey conducted was anonymous and confidential and results have been sent directly to the INEQE's Audit Team, not to the Church of England. The online survey closed on 8 April 2026, and it is hoped that many St Andrew's parishioners took part.

We await feedback on the results of the online survey. In the meantime, we continue to work on our action plan and our goal remains to follow the points in the plan to ensure that St Andrew's is fully compliant with Safeguarding issues as soon as possible.

Safeguarding Training

6. All PCC members should have a basic knowledge of safeguarding issues and, as such, should complete the Basic Awareness Course on the Church of England's National Safeguarding website. PCC members can log into or create an account here (let PSO know when course completed): <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/login/signup.php>

For new members, or existing PCC members yet to do the course, it should be completed by 30 June 2026 at the latest.

A Safe Church

7. This contains all Diocesan safeguarding policies and procedures and can found online here: <http://southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/diocesan-policies-and-procedures>

8. Parishioners can find a hard copy of the updated manual on the bookcase outside the Sacristy.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for PCC Members

9. We have been informed by the Diocese of Southwark that following the data breach at the end of 2024 in the company the Diocese used for DBS Checks, coupled with the Diocese's continued focus on safeguarding in our church and shared mission, a new company has been chosen and is now providing DBS Checks for churches within the diocese. **Thirtyone:eight is the new provider and all checks are now undertaken through them.**

I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate that no PCC members nor any other members of St Andrew's who had DBS checks at the end of 2024 or beginning of 2025 were part of the data breach.

Finally, since the last APCM on 11 May 2025, five safeguarding incidents were logged.

Jacqueline Joseph-Grotefeld
Parish Safeguarding Officer
St Andrew the Apostle, Catford

This report covers the period January to December 2025.

Overview

At the heart of the Finance & General Purpose Committee's remit is the care and maintenance of our church building, internally and externally, with a focus on implementing the recommendations of the latest Quinquennial Inspection Report (QIR). The F&GP also receives finance updates, liaises with our insurers, researches contractors, solutions and renewable technologies and supervises works. Every effort is made by this six-person committee to preserve the integrity of our Grade II* building and its fabric, while at the same time considering how the building can be adapted to meet new needs. For a summary of the present condition of the church building, please see the **Churchwarden's Report on the Fabric and Ornaments**. Works aimed at addressing the issues identified in the QIR continued throughout 2025 and are summarised below. The F&GP committee met six times during the year.

Summary of works undertaken in 2025

Drain surveys

Obstructions and broken drainage pipes were discovered and investigated during the course of two surveys. Substantial repairs to the below-ground drainage system along the N and E sides of the church (including pipework replacement, lining and patching) were then recommended. An insurance claim (work value £10,000+) has been accepted by Ecclesiastical for "accidental damage to underground services", and a faculty application has been submitted. (February and June 2025, Auger Site Investigations Ltd.)

Buttress consolidation works aimed at arresting the Lady Chapel buttress shift

External works were carried out over the course of seven weeks in spring 2025. These included the consolidation of open joints in the flying buttresses; the installation of seven telltales (movement gauges) on the buttresses and flying buttresses; the selected repointing of the brick buttresses in the abutment with the flying buttresses and of the lead flashings to the Lady Chapel roof; the investigation and clearing of rainwater drainage channels through the buttress tops; the repointing of buttress bases below damp proof course level; the repointing of brickwork cracks in the canted NE wall and filling of open joints in the stone sill; the refitting of a stone coping to one of the buttress tops (removed by Rodells Steeplejacks as a safety precaution following the January 2024 storms). The work was part-financed by a £2,900 Buildings for Mission grant from the Archbishops' Council. (May/June 2025, Paye Stonemasons Ltd.) Seven telltales are being monitored on a monthly basis.

Lady Chapel: repair of plaster cracks and filling of open stonework joints

Cracks below and above the Lady Chapel NE window were dug out and replastered; open joints between the voussoirs of the window arch and in the sill stones were filled. The wall above the window proved to be very friable when opened up and had to be packed before replastering. (June 2025, Paye Stonemasons Ltd.).

Inspection of cracks in the brickwork, South Transept

Inspection by David Rathbone of ABA and our inspecting architect Paul Jackson of the brickwork cracks in the South Transept. DR's report concludes that "it seems most likely that [the cracking to the south wall of the south transept] is due to differential movement as a result of corrosion and expansion of

the built-in ends to the steel/iron [basement] floor beams." His recommendation is "some limited opening-up works to see the extent of corrosion to the built-in iron/steel beams to determine whether this is the cause of the movement/cracking and if so how this can be cleaned/repaired to mitigate the problem." (June 2025.) A faculty application has been submitted for these opening-up works. Further steps will be taken in consultation with inspecting architect Paul Jackson.

Installation of anti-pigeon equipment

Netting, metal spikes and drain guards were installed on the N (Lady Chapel) and S (vestry) sides. Wire mesh was replaced inside the belfry turret, and pigeon carcasses and other debris removed prior to sanitisation of the turret interior. (October 2025, Hawk Abseiling Ltd.)

Lady Chapel Roof

Replacement of around 30 broken slates. A similar type of slate from our reserves was used on the southern face of the Lady Chapel roof, while Westmorland Green originals were removed from this hidden face and used on the visible northern slope; cracked ridge tiles (possibly damaged by falling main roof pantiles in the January 2024 storms) were repaired with sand cement mortar. (December, Conor Barden of Catchesides.)

Summary of maintenance tasks carried out in 2025

The usual maintenance tasks were performed during the year, including the clearing of all high-level gutters, box gutters, hoppers and valleys and the removal of vegetation from the buttress and flying buttress areas (Hawk Abseiling Ltd.); low-level gutter clearance throughout the year (St A Team); vegetation removed from Lady Chapel roof (October-December, St A Team); drainage gullies unblocked as necessary (St A Team); regular cleaning of the church interior throughout the year (Cleaning Team led by Pam and John Goodwin); litter-picking (St A Team), servicing of the church and hall boilers in September and a pipework repair carried out in October.

Safety

All safety inspections falling due in 2025 were carried out and certified on time.

Other issues

Other issues considered by the F&GP Committee in 2025 include renewable energy options (in line with the Diocese of Southwark's Net Zero 2035 ambition), the condition of our stained-glass windows, the renovation of the War Memorial in the gardens at the west end of the church, the church audio system; and a church/hall key audit.

Much F&GP time was spent on research, administrative tasks such as grant and faculty applications, dealing with loss adjusters, consulting the Diocese teams and our associated experts and planning future works. It is hoped that this investment of time and energy will bear fruit in the coming months.

I would like to thank the committee members for their hard work and dedication throughout 2025 and all others who supported the F&GP's work, not forgetting the St A Team for its routine maintenance and regular tidying of the church grounds.

Richard Elliott, F&GP Chair, April 2026

May 2026 APCM report for 2025

The Children and Young People (C&YP) committee supports St. Andrew's community of children and young people to grow in their faith and have fun while doing it.

Sunday School

Sunday School continues the first Sunday of each month, with many thanks to the Sunday School leaders who provide their support. We are always on the lookout for new leaders – if this could be you, please get in touch: youth@standrewcatford.com or speak to Angie.

Readings and prayers at the Sunday liturgy

The children and young people participate in the readings and the intercessions on the last Sunday of the month.

Kids' Council

Kids' Council is an opportunity for children and young people to give their opinions on different aspects of parish life. It is held roughly quarterly. In 2025, children and young people discussed the following:

- March: Suggestions for how to spend a donation specifically for children and young people activities. This resulted in a trip to the Horniman Museum and aquarium.
- July: Discussion about their sense of belonging in St Andrew's parish life.
- November: Choosing the charities St Andrew's will support. The five charities chosen were CORD, Manna, WWF, Operation Forgiveness, The Children's Society.

Children and Young People activities

A variety of activities were held in 2025, including:

- Games Party, with a selection of games to play and (importantly) pizza to eat.
- Easter Trail, complete with a mystery for older children to solve and challenges for younger children, craft activity, Resurrection Garden, and refreshments.
- Horniman trip, including visiting the aquarium.
- Halloween welcome, where children could enjoy hot chocolate and a lit pumpkin trail in the church garden.
- Thanksgiving Potluck, where we gathered to thank God for good food and friends!
- Christmas Eve Family Service play, featuring the children and young people and Brownies/Scouts in 'What the Robin Heard'.

Finally, in the last year we have introduced Ecclesiastical bags for children to play with during the service. Among other church-related items, these include a teddy bear vicar!

Thanks to the army of volunteers who have made the above possible, and the fantastic parents who are so supportive of these activities. With Rev Bec's guidance, over the coming year, we hope to build on the above with more activities and opportunities for children and young people to participate in parish life.

Angie Thompson
CYP Chair, May 2026

ANNEXE

Discussions were held with a young, enthusiastic architectural practice who, at no cost to the church, presented a review of the site, value and costs, and potential uses. At present, the biggest issue is negotiating the legal and financial ramifications of the different possibilities; to that effect, specialist legal advice on financial possibilities has been received.

The team overseeing progress – Rev Bec, Richard E, Tom S and Robin M – are preparing a presentation to the new PCC with information about the nature and size of the project options to enable informed decisions on how to proceed.

The Annexe building will become an increasing liability; the aims with development are to:

- Enable the space to pay for itself
- Benefit the church's mission and finances
- Benefit the community

Funds only cover the scoping works (surveys, legal & planning advice, structural & design advice) so the final manifestation and timescale will be a product of congregation effort and fundraising.

The congregation were asked if they would like to make suggestions – there were 3 replies, 2 of which proposed development into housing. We again invite the congregation to engage in this.

CHURCH HALL

HALL USE

The lucrative hire contract with PLUS Services, from which the church received £39,000 annually, finished in 2024. We now rely on weeknight and weekend hires, which cover Hall running costs with a small profit. Daytime hires are infrequent. While HEC is working to increase usage, it has been difficult to find a hirer as beneficial as PLUS. Commercial estate agents have been contacted but with little progress.

Financial information for the Hall is in the 2025 church accounts.

HIRES

Most weekends are booked for one-off hires, mainly afternoon slots.

Potentially we could attract 2-3 funerals per month; and we welcome more church-led creative or games evenings. If anyone would like to host an event, please speak to an HEC member.

There are plans to use the Hall more during the week, but these need to be co-ordinated with the development of the Annexe spaces to maintain flexibility and to work with current Hall users.

MAINTENANCE

Extensive redecoration works have refreshed the Hall areas, which were showing signs of wear and tear after 10 years of intensive use.

We wish to maintain this condition for as long as practicable so, if you are part of, or responsible for, a user group, please ensure the condition is respected and contact the HEC if repairs are needed.

Future works include the repair and replacement of doors, and repainting of exterior woodwork.

GARDEN

Building on the enthusiastic reception for the garden works, the vegetable area was completed and planted; many people – congregation and community – have benefitted from an abundance of tomatoes and sunflowers. Thanks to generous donations and sponsorships, we are looking to have fully completed garden spaces on three sides of the Hall in 2026.

HALL EXECUTIVE REPORT | 2025

Side gates were installed and, within that side area, a burnt shed was repurposed and ground works completed, allowing for planting beds and patio areas to be available for Plant Sale growing.

These spaces have been created with the specific intention of encouraging groups to use, and to own, areas for planting, growing and harvesting as part of participation and education projects. We welcome ideas from group leaders in 2026 on developing and administering such activities.

HEC Members 2025

Crystal Callow, Fiona Craggs, Robin Maggs, Wendy Owen, Tom Steadman, Rev Bec Wilkinson

Robin Maggs

HEC Secretary, May 2026

Fundraising, Events, Social and Communication (FESC) Committee was inaugurated after the APCM in May 2025. It was created to help us coordinate creative ideas and action in relation to fundraising efforts, events, the social life of the church and both internal and external communications.

We are comprised of both PCC members and co-opted members, and the vicar is the Chair. We met twice in 2025 – ensuring clear communication between the different internal departments in the run up to Christmas, planning out events so that they can be enjoyed by the maximum number of people, and preparing to launch the Parish Giving Scheme in Lent 2026.

Rev Bec Wilkinson
FESC Chair
May 2026

APCM Report: Online Presence and Social Media

Over the past year, the church's online presence has continued to strengthen significantly. Our website has been vastly improved, and we extend sincere thanks to Tom for his work in developing it into a fully functioning, visually engaging, and regularly updated resource. It now serves as an effective and welcoming first point of contact for those seeking information about the church.

Facebook remains our primary social media platform and continues to play a central role in our communications. The page is regularly updated with news, events, and highlights from church life, helping to keep both our congregation and the wider community informed and connected. In addition, Morning Prayer is streamed live every Tuesday via Facebook Live, providing an accessible way for people to engage with worship remotely. We also stream key events on Facebook Live, doing an extra 3 live broadcasts over Easter. It is a powerful tool to extend the ministry of the church.

We also maintain a presence on the Church of England's "A Church Near You" directory, ensuring that accurate and up-to-date information about our church is available to those searching locally and nationally through a search engine.

Overall, Facebook continues to be an essential and integral tool for outreach, publicity, and communication. Alongside our successful website, it remains our main online platform for engaging with our community and extending the church's presence beyond its physical setting.

Crystal Callow
April 2026

The church website continues to be an effective piece of St Andrew's comms. Not only for the congregation, but also the wider Catford community, advertising our weekly Eucharist as well as the many events that take place in the Church and Hall.

The St Andrew's 'A Church Near You' website has also been updated with the latest information and up-to-date emails and contact details. We continue to update this to ensure the information across both sites is aligned.

Future development for the website:

- A downloadable and online gift aid form for those not using the Parish Giving Scheme
- Recordings of services as downloadable 'podcast' episodes to increase the accessibility of the church and website.

Web Hosting

The Domain registration has been moved from 123-Reg to Hostinger providing a single point of contact and consistent service across Website and Domain hosting.

Website statistics overview

- We continue to see steady usage of the website. In 2025 we had 5,546 visitors with 11,925 views
- We have an average view count on the website of 994/month
- Some headlines:
 - Our top two pages are 'Home' (3288 views) and 'Hall Hire' (3383 views), with 'About Us' third (852 views). All up on the previous year.
 - We had significant traffic in the lead up to and during the Black History Month event – a 562% increase in views!
 - We get a lot of direct referrals to the website, but also some coming in from 'A Church Near You'.
 - Our top search engine referrer continues to be Google with 5164 out of 5666 referrals, making it 91% of the search traffic
 - Facebook continues to be our top social media referrer with 681 of 683 views
 - Our top three growth pages are Privacy Policy (282%), Church Organ (211%) and Giving (123%)

Detailed breakdown of the website statistics can be found on the following pages.

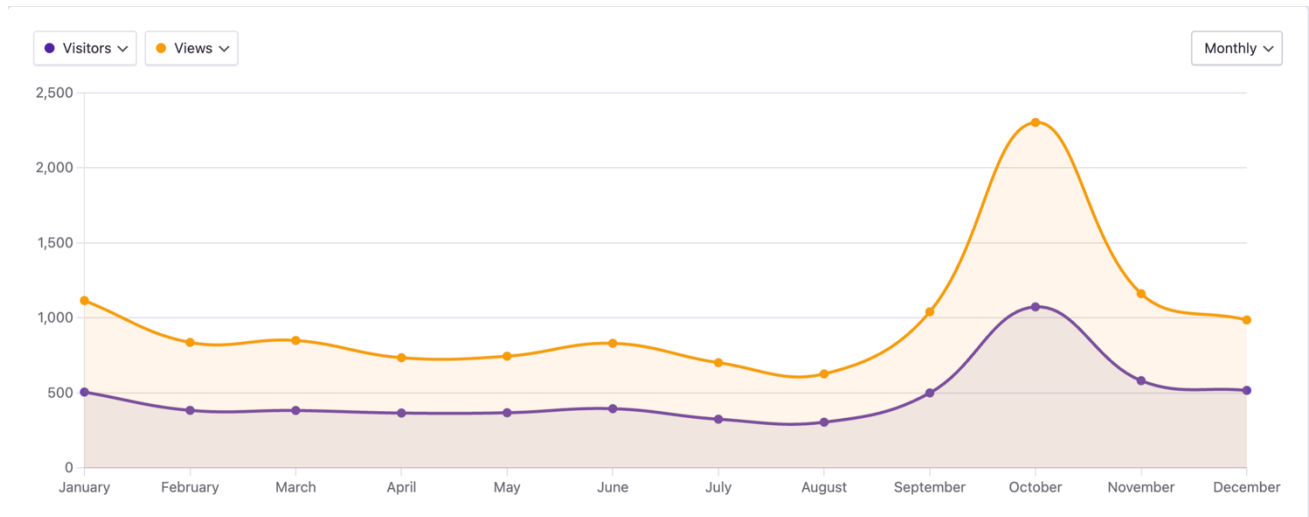
All stats are from 1st January 2025 – 31st December 2025

Tom Steadman
May 2026

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Website views statistics

Visitors 5,546 <small>↗ 93% vs. previous period</small>	Views 11,925 <small>↗ 66% vs. previous period</small>	Sessions 6,587 <small>↗ 66% vs. previous period</small>
Average Session Duration 2:41 <small>↗ 4% vs. previous period</small>	Bounce Rate 59% <small>↘ 5% vs. previous period</small>	Views Per Session 1.81 <small>↗ 0% vs. previous period</small>

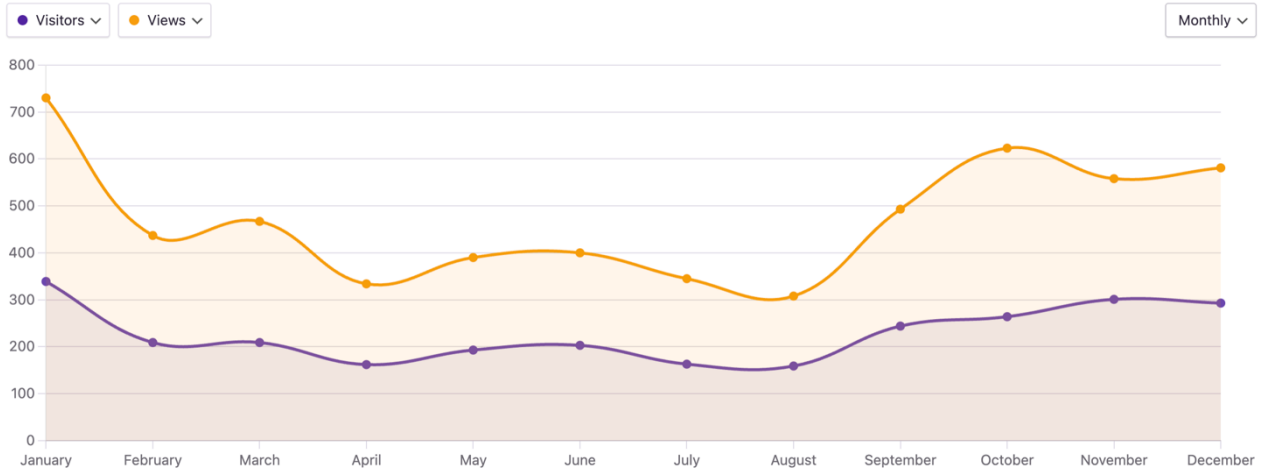


Title	Visitors	Views	View Duration	Bounce Rate	URL
Home	2,401	3,288	1:00	47.8592	/
Hall Hire	2,331	3,383	1:41	55.48	/hall-hire/
About Us	720	852	1:12	19.6809	/about-us/
What's On	560	679	2:05	39.5695	/whats-on/
Hall Hire enquiry form	544	668	3:07	15.5932	/hall-hire-enquiry-form/
Services	433	519	0:54	9.5982	/services/
Find Us	373	448	1:08	16.7076	/find-us/
Church documents	369	557	1:39	32.4766	/church_docs/
Giving	234	555	0:42	20.7951	/giving/
Life Events	223	249	0:58	10.4348	/life-events/
Children and Youth	119	137	0:28	20.1613	/children-and-youth/
Church Organ	84	93	1:51	36.0465	/church-organ/
Church History	74	80	2:30	28.3784	/church-history/
Stained Glass	62	66	3:16	67.1875	/stained-glass/
Policies	48	62	0:39	35.4167	/policies/
Safeguarding	48	54	0:24	30.6122	/safeguarding/
Privacy Policy	42	45	0:21	54.5455	/privacy-policy/

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Search Engine referral statistics

Visitors 2,721 / 5,546 ↗ 50% vs. previous period	Views 5,666 / 11,925 ↗ 35% vs. previous period	Sessions 2,933 / 6,587 ↗ 34% vs. previous period
Average Session Duration 2:52 / 2:41 ↗ 29% vs. previous period	Bounce Rate 55% / 59% ↗ 0% vs. previous period	Views Per Session 1.93 / 1.81 ↗ 1% vs. previous period



Referrer	Referrer Type	Visitors	Views	Session Duration	Bounce Rate
1 Google	Search	2,521 (92.65%)	5,164 (91.14%)	2:52	56%
2 Bing	Search	117 (4.3%)	289 (5.1%)	2:55	38%
3 DuckDuckGo	Search	39 (1.43%)	109 (1.92%)	3:35	31%
4 Yahoo	Search	24 (0.88%)	51 (0.9%)	1:09	48%
5 Ecosia	Search	17 (0.62%)	36 (0.64%)	2:36	50%
6 Brave	Search	6 (0.22%)	12 (0.21%)	3:43	57%
7 Yandex	Search	2 (0.07%)	2 (0.04%)	-	100%
8 Qwant	Search	1 (0.04%)	3 (0.05%)	1:09	0%

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Social referrals statistics

Visitors 437 / 5,546 ↗ 695% vs. previous period	Views 683 / 11,925 ↗ 694% vs. previous period	Sessions 439 / 6,587 ↗ 657% vs. previous period
Average Session Duration 1:36 / 2:41 ↗ 9% vs. previous period	Bounce Rate 67% / 59% ↘ 6% vs. previous period	Views Per Session 1.56 / 1.81 ↗ 5% vs. previous period

2	Referrer ▶	Referrer Type ▶	Visitors ▼	Views ▶	Session Duration ▶	Bounce Rate ▶
1	Facebook ↗	Social	436 (99.77%)	681 (99.71%)	1:37	67%
2	Instagram ↗	Social	1 (0.23%)	2 (0.29%)	0:09	0%

Top Referrers

3	Referrer ▶	Referrer Type ▶	Visitors ▶	Views ▶	Session Duration ▶	Bounce Rate ▶	Visitors Growth ▼
1	Direct	Direct	211 (55.97%)	436 (53.76%)	4:15	59%	11.05%
2	achurchnearyou.com ↗	Referrer	17 (4.51%)	46 (5.67%)	5:49	22%	6.25%
3	Google ↗	Search	165 (43.77%)	329 (40.57%)	3:59	56%	-22.9%