

Registered Charity No. 1053883

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

CONTENTS

	Page
Annual Report of the Trustees	1-7
Report of the Independent Examiner	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11-18

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The Trustees of The Ecclesiastical History Society ("the Society" or "the Charity") present their report and the independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements comply with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The names of the Committee Members who served during the year and to the date of this report are:

- Prof Mike Snape (President)
- Prof Peter Marshall (Past President)
- Dr Sara Parvis (Vice-President)
- Dr Joseph Hardwick (Secretary)
- Mr Simon Jennings FCA (Hon Treasurer)
- Dr Angela Platt (Conference Secretary)
- Dr Edmund Wareham (Publicity Secretary)
- Revd Prof Charlotte Methuen (co-editor)
- Dr David Ceri Jones (co-editor)
- Dr Arnold Hunt (co-editor from 3 March 2025)
- Prof Hilary Carey (International Relations Secretary)
- Dr Aude de Mézerac-Zanetti (International Relations Secretary from 24 July 2024)
- Dr Dan Cruickshank (until 23 July 2024)
- Dr Anna French (until 23 July 2024)
- Dr Emilie Murphy (2023-2026)
- George Palmer (2023-2025)
- Dr Felicity Hill (2023-2026)
- Dr Laura Mair (2023-2026)
- Michael Fraser (from 24 July 2024)

Dr Stephanie Burette (co-opted to committee 11 October 2024 and to be formally voted on to committee at Annual General Meeting 16 July 2025)

Prof Mike Snape was inducted as President of the Society by Prof Peter Marshall at the start of the Society's annual summer conference in July 2024, and Dr Sara Parvis was elected Vice President at the 2024 AGM and will succeed Prof Mike Snape as President for 2025-2026.

The postal address of the Society is c/o S P Jennings, 18 Warwick Street, Oxford OX4 1SX.

Bankers:

COIF Charity Funds – Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

National Westminster Bank Plc – Tavistock Square Branch, PO Box 83, Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9XA

Independent Examiner:

Mr Peter J Stevenson, Flat 25, Cherwell Court, Banbury Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire OX5 2BG.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT)

The Society is established under a formal written constitution, as periodically revised, most recently in 2024. The Society is based and administered in the United Kingdom. Management is vested in the Society's Committee which is responsible for the day to day running of the Charity, organising various events and maintaining contact with the members to ensure they are kept up to date with events and issues. The Committee is also responsible for the maintenance of accounting records and the preparation of the annual accounts.

The Committee also constitutes the body of the Trustees of the charity and is responsible for the report made on their behalf.

Induction and Training

Trustees receive training informally. All Trustees are informed of their responsibilities on appointment and are kept informed at meetings of their duties and obligations under the law in addition to their proper conduct in accordance with Charity Commission guidance.

Related Parties

None of the Trustees receives remuneration or other benefit from work with the Charity, save that essential officers as are required to attend conferences do so free of charge or receive re-imbursement of costs and expenses. Any transaction between the Charity and related parties must be approved by the Trustees.

Pay policy for staff and consultants

The trustees comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling the charity. The day to day running and operations of the Charity are delegated to appropriate administrative helpers and subcommittees. The Business Manager, a Website Manager and an administrative and accounting assistant are engaged as consultants.

All trustees give up their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year. The pay of any consultant reflects the level of responsibilities and skill set required. The pay is reviewed annually.

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP FRS 102;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the principles above. 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.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information included on the charity's website.

Internal Controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of internal controls. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements follow best practice. They are also responsible for the charity safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The system of internal controls is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

Risk Management

The Trustees have undertaken a risk assessment which comprises:

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks; and
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

This continuing process will identify risk areas to which the charity is vulnerable and highlight any necessary safeguards that will need to be put in place. The Trustees identified the following areas of risk and safeguards to mitigate them:

- Insufficient conference attendance: mitigated by careful planning around projected numbers to avoid penalty payments for missing targets, providing flexibility for different types of attendance e.g. day rates, keeping the conference fee under review (having surveyed Members in summer 2022 about pricing points) to ensure it was accessible while not bound to lead to a loss, regularly reviewing the conference format, and active publicity campaigns;
- The Committee has been aware that moves in academic publishing towards open access may impact the Society through a withdrawal of hard copy versions of *Studies in Church History* and through the consequent loss of royalty revenue. A new contract has been concluded with CUP under which there will be provision for retention of a hard copy option for an experimental period at enhanced cost and subject to there being at least 100 subscribers at the enhanced price. Members have been invited to increase the element of their subscription payments relating to SCH to £35 if they wish to continue to receive hard copy editions with effect from 1 July 2025 and the Committee intends to try to ensure that the minimum commitment is achieved. If there is a shortfall, the Committee will review and decide whether to fund any temporary shortfall or allow CUP to cease hard copy printing.
- The Committee feels it is prudent to take account of the probable loss of royalty revenue along with rising overheads in assessing the general rates for membership subscriptions and will propose increases at the 2025 Annual General Meeting.
- Insufficient submissions to produce the annual volume of *Studies in Church History* mitigated by continued active work to ensure the conference theme is sufficiently clear and broad to attract submissions and encourages high quality conference proposals, making the publication schedule clear early on in the conference call/paper selection process, and promoting the prestige of publishing in *SCH*. The Society's production of 'The Church in Sickness and in Health' (SCH 58) demonstrated its ability to produce a volume even if there was no conference (due to COVID restriction). The Society also ensures it retains sufficient funds to cover the costs of two years' publications with CUP. If further mitigation was needed consideration could be given to developing a hybrid model for submissions both through the conference and independently of it;
- Declining membership due to cost-of-living pressures: the high-quality offer to Members was important, with promotion through the website and social media, and additional activities; new members are being encouraged through opportunity to participate in conferences, through incentives offered by prizes as well as the possibility of papers being published, and through social media;

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

- Difficulties in recruiting unpaid officers to run the Society: involvement at all career stages was encouraged and ways to proactively encourage membership of the Committee were considered;
- The Society's position as a data controller: this would be reviewed regularly. Appropriate measures were in place to secure and regulate access to the membership database. Names and emails might be sent to the Conference Secretary but personal financial details were not passed to her; both she and the Secretary used bcc when sending material to email lists. Most Committee members would be members of HEIs and receive training on GDPR from them, but good practice in this area would be included in handover notes. The Society is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office.
- The trustees have insurance against trustee and public liability.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit and confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to it. They consider the information which follows in this annual report, about the Charity's aims, activities and achievements in the areas of interest that the Society supports demonstrates the benefit to its beneficiaries and through them to the Public that arise from those activities.

Objectives

The main object of the Society, as set out in its Constitution, is to advance public education in ecclesiastical history, mainly through conferences and publications.

Activities and Achievements

The Summer Conference at Durham from 23-25 July 2024 was on the theme 'The Church and the Military'. The committee awarded five postgraduates bursaries that covered the cost of the registration fee for the Summer Conference. The sixth bursary was kindly provided by the Anglo-Catholic History Society and this award helped to continue long-running links between the two societies. The Winter Meeting on the same theme, which remains an online event to facilitate participation, took place on Saturday 11 January 2025, and was also successful. The Winter Meeting featured three plenary lectures and thirty-four communications.

Publication of volume 61 of *Studies in Church History*, resulting from the Summer 2023 and Winter 2024 Conferences on the theme: 'Margins and Peripheries in Christian History' was scheduled for early July 2025. The electronic version of SCH 61 was published on 20 May 2025.

The Society has renewed the contract to publish *Studies in Church History* with Cambridge University Press. In line with recent developments in academic publishing, a key feature of the new contract is that starting with SCH 62, all subsequent volumes will be entirely open access and therefore available to everyone. A hard copy (paperback) will be available to subscribing members of EHS only.

The Society also organised an online Post-Graduate Colloquium on 7 March 2025 on the theme 'New Directions for Church History: Methods and Sources'. This event featured ten papers in two panels and two conversations. The colloquium, which like similar events EHS has organised in the past, was intended to extend and develop the Society's international reach: postgraduates from German, French, Italian, Indian, British and Filipino institutions delivered papers and talks at the event. The Society, led by its International Relations Secretaries, plans to organise a similar online post-graduate events in future years.

 THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

During the year, the Society also awarded prizes. The Kennedy Prize for the best communication given by a post-graduate student at the previous year's conference (£500) was awarded to Teodora Popovici (University of Bucharest) for her paper: 'Papal Indulgences and the Conversion of Schismatics in Late Medieval Transylvania'. The President's Prize for the best communication given by an early career academic at the previous year's conferences (£1,000) was awarded to Robert Evans (Cambridge) for his paper: "'Correctio from the Margins': Geographical Peripheries and Moral Conformities in Later Carolingian Annals'. The recipients of both prizes are decided by that year's President and the editorial team.

The Society also awarded a Book Prize for the best first monograph published in the field of the history of Christianity during the 2023 calendar year. The panel shortlisted three books, and the prize, which amounts to £1,000, was awarded to Kyle Jackson for *The Mizo Discovery of the British Raj: Empire and Religion in Northeast India, 1890-1920* (Cambridge University Press). The panel, which determined both the shortlist and the winner, was made up of a specially convened sub-committee.

Finally, as part of the Society's 'endorsement scheme', the Society supported a project title 'Two More Episcopal Court Books for the Diocese of Lincoln, 1526-1562'. The project focuses on editing and publishing previously unpublished records from the Bishop of Lincoln's Audience Court created during the first sixty years of the sixteenth century. Drawing upon underutilised materials housed in the Lincoln Diocesan Archive, the project seeks to illuminate the workings of a court that maintained a significant interest in regulating the moral conduct of both clergy and laity. The project is led by Martin Roberts of the University of Lincoln and is supported with funds from Lincoln Record Society and their Nigel Burn Memorial Research Grant Scheme.

This support was extended under the Society's scheme offering endorsement for approved projects in the field of ecclesiastical history. Projects must be proposed by members in good standing, be within the scope of the Society's academic remit and demonstrably have the support of another organisation external to the proposer (e.g. Church/ Diocese/ Archiver/ Think Tank/ Charity/ Funding Council, but their not own University). The scheme which allows use of the EHS name and logo, but does not involve financial support, is intended to build public awareness in Ecclesiastical history and advance scholarship in the subject.

During the year, members' subscriptions and donations (exclusive of subscribing payments for the year's volume of SCH) amounting to £8,509 were received. The Committee would like to express its gratitude to those who continue to subscribe to the Society and to welcome new members.

Other receipts have predominantly come from conference fees and subscriptions to, and sales of, *Studies in Church History*. Income has been generated from investments in the M&G Charifund. The value of this investment has slightly increased this year but continues to be affected by market uncertainties and the Committee continues to monitor it.

The 2024 AGM appointed two members to serve on the Committee, Michael Fraser and George Palmer. George Palmer had been co-opted on to the committee at the spring committee meeting in March 2024, and the AGM was the opportunity to formally vote George on to the committee. To take the number of committee members to six, the committee co-opted Stephanie Burette on to the committee at the Autumn meeting on 11 October 2024.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

After years of service to the Society, Charlotte Methuen had signalled her intention to leave the editor post. Charlotte was appointed editor in 2010 and the first SCH volume she worked on was SCH 48, 'The Church and Literature'. Charlotte does not vacate her post immediately and will work with Sara Parvis on the volume of Studies of Church History that would come out of the conferences in 2025-26 (SCH 63). In early 2025 the Society advertised for the editor post and interviewed three candidates. Dr Arnold Hunt of the University of Durham was offered and accepted the role in early March 2025. Arnold joined the editorial team immediately so that he could be involved in the design and running of Sara Parvis' Conference and take a part in all aspects of the publication of SCH 63.

Emily Betz continues her work as website and publicity manager, as does Alice Soulieux-Evans as Assistant Editor for the Society. Dr Maria Harff continues to assist with bookkeeping and the management of the membership database.

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Incoming Resources

Incoming resources totalled £44,601 for the year to 31 March 2025 (2024 - £47,343). The fees for attendance at the residential conference arranged in 2024 produced delegate fees of £15,391. The Charity's other income was derived principally from membership subscriptions (£8,509), subscriptions to, and direct sales of Studies in Church History (£4,884), and royalties from sales by CUP (£9,271).

Charitable activities

Total expenditure amounted to £38,418 (2024 - £41,719). Charitable activities comprised the running of conferences, the publication costs of Studies in Church History and the award of prizes. The cost of such activities amounted to £19,828, (2024 - £25,178).

Result of the year

After publication costs £4,180 (2024 - £4,540) and other costs, including governance costs, of £5,674 (2024 - £5,946), the Charity realised a net surplus of £6,183 (2024 - £5,624). The Summer Conference result showed a profit of £2,258 (2024 - deficit £3,349). After taking account of modest appreciation of the Charifund holding amounting to £4,088, £4,943 accumulated dividends, and foreign exchange losses of £28 (2024 - loss of £74), the funds of the Charity increased by £10,243 (2024- £6,710).

Financial position

The Trustees consider that the financial position of the Charity as at the year-end is satisfactory, with reserves of £143,349 (2024 - £133,106) and cash balances of £41,862 (2024 - £46,707).

Reserves Policy

There are no outstanding commitments or cash demands which are not adequately covered by our existing resources. Consequently, the Committee feels it would be inappropriate at this stage to adopt a specific reserves policy, beyond ensuring that sufficient funds are retained to cover six months administrative costs plus the likely costs of the annual summer conference (together estimated at £30,000). However, the Committee think it appropriate to conserve the surplus on the Publications Account which has accumulated through sales of SCH and royalties in the past. With online access to SCH, this source of income will largely disappear, and the Committee think it proper to expend the accumulated surplus gradually, using it to fund bursaries to permit appropriate candidates to participate in its conferences. The Committee is confident that the Society remains a going concern for at least twelve months from the date of this report, and that it is appropriate to prepare accounts on that basis.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Investment Policy

£50,000 was invested in the M&G Charifund on 1 April 2014. The market value has fluctuated since with the effect of Covid 19 and subsequent global instability. It now stands at £93,056 having risen slightly over the past year taken together with accumulation dividends of £4,943.

5. PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Trustees do not propose to deviate from the current objectives and activities of the charity as detailed above.

Approved by the Trustees on
and signed on their behalf by

JA Hardwick

[Name]

21 November 2025

[Date]

JOSEPH HARDWICK
SECRETARY

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

I report on the financial statements of The Ecclesiastical History Society for the year ended 31 March 2025, as set out on pages 9 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner and basis of report

The Trustees of The Ecclesiastical History Society are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for maintaining proper accounting records. They are also responsible for making available to me the charity's accounting records and all other records and information, including minutes of meetings, relevant to my examination. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"), and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- State 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 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 financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a "true and fair view", and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent reporting examiner's statement

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

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to
- Keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - Prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply to 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.

Peter J. Stevenson. 14/01/2026

Peter J Stevenson, Flat 25, Cherwell Court, Banbury Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire OX5 2BG

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Page	Members' Funds	Publications Funds	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024
		£	£	£	£
INCOME FROM:					
Subscriptions (note 1)	13	8,509		8,509	8,857
Investments (note 2)	13	993	4,943	5,936	5,311
Charitable activities (note 3)	13	16,001	14,155	30,156	33,175
Total income		25,503	19,098	44,601	47,343
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Cost of raising funds (note 5)	14	3,424	9,492	12,916	10,595
Charitable activities (note 6)	14	13,133	6,695	19,828	25,178
Other (note 7)	14	4,392	1,282	5,674	5,946
Total expenditure		20,949	17,469	38,418	41,719
Net income (expenditure)		4,554	1,629	6,183	5,624
Net gains/(losses) on investments (note 4)	13	(28)	4,088	4,060	1,086
Net movements in funds		4,526	5,717	10,243	6,710
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		51,914	81,192	133,106	126,396
Total funds carried forward	10	£56,440	£86,909	£143,349	£133,106

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11-18 form part of these financial statements.

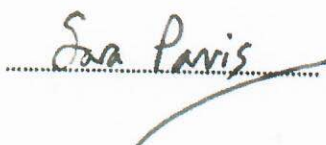
THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Page	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS:					
Quoted investment at market value (note 11)	15	20,000	73,056	93,056	84,025
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Debtors (note 12)	15		8,981	8,981	10,012
Cash on deposit (note 13)	16	27,563	5,830	33,393	18,400
Cash at bank (note 13)	16	9,127	(658)	8,469	28,307
Total current assets		36,690	14,153	50,843	56,719
TOTAL ASSETS		£56,690	£87,209	£143,899	£140,744
LIABILITIES:					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year (note 14)	16	(250)	(300)	(550)	(7,638)
Total net assets		£56,440	£86,909	£143,349	£133,106
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds					
Members' Reserve	9	56,440	-	56,440	51,914
Publications Reserve	9	-	86,909	86,909	81,192
		£56,440	£86,909	£143,349	£133,106

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and were signed of its behalf by:





17 Dec 2025
[Date]

The notes on pages 11-18 form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**Legal status of the trust**

The Ecclesiastical History Society ("the Society" or "the Charity") is a registered charity (charity number 1053883). It is a members association governed by a constitution. The property of the Society is held by the Committee as charitable trustees.

The contact address is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements.

Basis of Preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2016) – (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The presentational currency of these financial statements is Pounds Sterling.

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value with the following significant accounting policies applied.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the Trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The Trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The forecast income and reserves are sufficient to cover all of the budgeted expenditure to be able to continue as a going concern.

Income & Expense recognition

Voluntary donations (including membership subscriptions- see below) and income from interest bearing deposit accounts are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, any conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably. Publication royalties are recognised when the relevant account has been produced by the Cambridge University Press, sales when volumes have been sold and conference fees and expenses when there is a contractual commitment.

Income from membership, comprises an annual subscription and (if members so choose) payment for the annual publication. Annual subscriptions are considered donations and are recognised on receipt. The payment for the publications is shown as sales, but the cost of the volume sent to subscribing members is recognised on payment to the publishers.

Life membership subscriptions are included as income in full in the year of receipt. The payment of a lifetime subscription does not bestow a benefit beyond that enjoyed by members who choose to pay their subscription annually and the Charity is not bound to repay any portion of their membership if it ceases to operate.

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Trustees to the expenditure ((save for the cost of publication of the annual SCH volume – which is recognised on receipt of the invoice from CUP). Expenditure is categorised under the following headings:

- The cost of raising funds – consists of advertising, marketing and direct mail materials, including publicity costs not associated with educational material, designed wholly or mainly to further the charity's purposes.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)****Expenditure recognition (continued)**

Charitable activities comprise grants and donations made during the period, and prizes awarded (which are recognised when the offer is conveyed to the recipient), and the costs of publication of SCH which are recognised when invoiced.

Status of funds

All funds are unrestricted and the Trustees have complete discretion for their use in pursuance of the Charity's objectives.

Foreign currency

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the Balance Sheet date. Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are converted at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. All transaction differences are taken to the statement of financial activities as they arise.

Taxation and irrecoverable VAT

The Charity is not subject to tax on its income, provided that all surplus funds are used for charitable purposes. Accordingly, no provision is made for taxation.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Gift Aid

As membership subscriptions carry a right to acquire copies of Studies in Church History at a price substantially below the retail price charged by the publisher, HMRC will not permit subscriptions to be gift aided. Other donations may be.

Basic financial instruments

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Investments in equity instruments are measured initially at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Investments are restated at market value each year at the Balance Sheet date, with changes recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees have considered how best to apply the Charity's accounting policies and make estimates in the preparation of the financial statements, where relevant. The Trustees have not made any significant estimates in these financial statements.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Subscriptions & General donations	8,509	-	8,509	8,857	-	8,857
	8,509	-	8,509	8,857	-	8,857

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Interest	993	-	993	906	-	906
Dividends	-	4,943	4,943	-	4,405	4,405
	993	4,943	5,936	906	4,405	5,311

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Sales of Publications	-	4,884	4,884	-	4,480	4,480
Publication royalties	-	9,271	9,271	-	13,139	13,139
Summer Conference	15,391	-	15,391	14,766	-	14,766
Winter Conference	610	-	610	790	-	790
	16,001	14,155	30,156	15,556	17,619	33,175

4. OTHER GAINS/LOSSES

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Foreign exchange gain (loss)	(28)	-	(28)	(74)	-	(74)
(Depreciation)/ Appreciation of investments	-	4,088	4,088	-	1,160	1,160
	(28)	4,088	4,060	(74)	1,160	1,086

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5. COST OF RAISING FUNDS

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Fundraising and publications	3,424	9,492	12,916	3,275	7,320	10,595
	3,424	9,492	12,916	3,275	7,320	10,595

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Summer Conference	13,133	-	13,133	18,115	-	18,115
Publications		4,180	4,180	-	4,540	4,540
Book Prizes		2,515	2,515	-	2,523	2,523
	13,133	6,695	19,828	18,115	7,063	25,178

7. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Secretarial expenses	-	-	-	150	-	150
Bank charges & commissions	200	-	200	200	-	200
PayPal charges	196	-	196	191	-	191
Independent examiners fees	250	-	250	250	-	250
Subscriptions	-	-	-	149	-	149
Accountancy & administration fees	2,340	-	2,340	2,350	-	2,350
Trustee expenses	-	1,282	1,282	-	1,565	1,565
Database development costs	1,107	-	1,107	792	-	792
Trustee insurance	299	-	299	299	-	299
	4,392	1,282	5,674	4,381	1,565	5,946

The expenses, including attendance at Conferences, of the Editorial team, have been charged to the Publications Account.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8. EMPLOYEES

No persons were employed during the year, nor in the previous year.

9. TRUSTEES

Trustees received no remuneration. Expenses reimbursed amounted to £1,282 (2024 - £1,374).

10. GOVERNANCE COSTS

Governance Costs are considered to comprise the Independent Examiner's fee of £250 (2024: £250).

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
M&G Charifund (Market Value)	20,000	73,056	93,056	-	84,025	84,025

To rectify a notional overdrawn cash position on the Publications account, a decision was made to allocate £20,000 of the market value of the M&G Charifund to the Members Fund.

12. DEBTORS

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Summer Conference Prepayment	-	-	-	1,439	-	1,439
Publishing royalties	-	8,981	8,981	-	8,573	8,573
	-	8,981	8,981	1,439	8,573	10,012

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13. CASH AT BANK

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Cash on deposit	27,563	5,830	33,393	12,845	5,555	18,400
Cash at bank	7,593	876	8,469	28,085	222	28,307
Inter fund transfer	1,534	(1,534)	-	10,843	(10,843)	-
	36,690	5,172	41,862	51,773	(5,066)	46,707

14. CREDITORS – amounts falling due within one year

	Members' Funds 31 March 2025 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
Accounts & Administration	-	-	-	675	-	675
IT Costs	-	-	-	103	-	103
Independent Examiners' Fees	250	-	250	250	-	250
Consultants Fees	-	300	300	270	1,800	2,070
CUP Publishing costs	-	-	-	-	4,540	4,540
	250	300	550	1,298	6,340	7,638

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15. Comparative breakdown for Statement of Financial Activities

	Page	Members' Funds 31 March 2024 £	Publications Funds 31 March 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024 £
INCOME FROM:				
Donations and legacies (note 1)	13	8,857	-	8,857
Investments (note 2)	13	906	4,405	5,311
Charitable activities (note 3)	13	15,556	17,619	33,175
Total income		25,319	22,024	47,343
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Cost of raising funds (note 5)	14	3,275	7,320	10,595
Charitable activities (note 6)	14	18,115	7,063	25,178
Other (note 7)	14	4,381	1,565	5,946
Total expenditure		25,771	15,948	41,719
Net income (expenditure)		(452)	6,076	5,624
Gains/(losses) on investments (note 4)		(74)	1,160	1,086
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(526)	7,236	6,710
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		52,440	73,956	126,396
Total funds carried forward	9	51,914	81,192	133,106

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16. Comparative breakdown for Balance Sheet

	Page	Members' Funds 31 March 2024	Publications Funds 31 March 2024	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2024
FIXED ASSETS:				
Quoted investment at market value (note 11)	15		84,025	84,025
CURRENT ASSETS:				
Debtors (note 12)	15	1,439	8,573	10,012
Cash on deposit (note 13)	16	23,466	(5,066)	18,400
Cash at bank (note 13)	16	28,307	-	28,307
Total current assets		53,212	3,507	56,719
LIABILITIES:				
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year (note 14)	16	(1,298)	(6,340)	(7,638)
Total net assets		51,914	81,192	133,106
The funds of the charity:				
Unrestricted funds				
Members' Reserve	17	51,914	-	51,914
Publications Reserve	17	-	81,192	81,192
	9/17	51,914	81,192	133,106

17. STUDIES IN CHURCH HISTORY

The Ecclesiastical History Society produces an annual volume in the series "Studies in Church History" (SCH), which is available to members at a discount, and to the general public. Subscribing Members receive a copy of the year's volume. Of the subscribing membership fee of 2023/24, £20 is attributable to Volume 58, and is included within Publications Income in note 3 on Page 12.

18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Details of trustee expenses are given in note 9. There were no other related party transactions in either year.

19. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The trustees consider that, while the trustees are in the main elected by the members, it is the trustees who are in day-to-day control of the charity and there is no ultimate controlling party.