

HWMC Report for Annual Church Meeting on June 29th 2025

To cover Connexional Year September 2024 – August 2025

WORSHIP:

During this past year we have enjoyed some interesting and thought-provoking services and we thank all who come to lead our worship. Our numbers have remained constant, now usually around 30 and we have been delighted to welcome new worshippers, particularly some of our friends from Gidea Park MC and we are pleased that they all feel at home with us. We celebrated Harvest Festival and Rev Robert led our Church Anniversary celebrations. We used the 'Hush the Noise' liturgies from the Methodist Church during Advent and Christmas, in our beautifully decorated church. The Christmas music was joyful and we were treated to solos and duets from classical performers who are friends of the Maginleys. The annual Christmas Concert given by the new Dimension Choir attracted more supporters and we were pleased to host the annual circuit New Year Social on January 4th, following which Rev Robert Maginley led our Covenant Service, when we were delighted to welcome friends from Trinity MC. We hosted a Guides 'sleepover' in honour of Thinking Day on February 22nd, which was followed by a Parade Service next morning, led by Rev Eleanor Jackson. From the beginning of Lent through till Pentecost we followed the theme of a Methodist Way of Life. In the month of June we were delighted to welcome the families of two little girls, one from Gidea Park MC and the other from Trinity MC and to witness their baptisms. When Robert is able to lead our worship, we enjoy the short talks given by his wife, Shirley.

From concern that we find it difficult to meet for a prayer time an online Prayer Group was started, with prayer suggestions from Monday to Friday. Included are the Methodist Prayer handbook Bible readings and daily hymn from Singing the Faith. Currently there are 21 participants, though not all from HWMC. All communications are sent via 'blind-copy', so that no one knows who else is involved and members have the option to unsubscribe at any time. Each day offers a prayer suggestion for people or events locally or within our country, while world events are also included. Suggestions for people and situations to pray for are welcomed and included.

We continue to be thankful to our two Stewards, Evie Song and Pamela Coles, together with our Sunday helpers, Ann Barnes, Barbara Pyle, Beatrice Dwamena, Marilyn Robinson and Yvonne Weston, without whom it would not be easy for us to function.

PASTORAL: Our current membership stands at 32. We gained a member by transfer at the end of the last Connexional Year but, sadly, lost one of our longtime members, Iris Wood, earlier this year. Some of our stalwarts down the years are now in care homes and others are unable to leave their homes to come to worship, but Robert and Evie visit faithfully, as often as is possible, taking Communion to them. Renee Francis keeps in regular contact by phone and mail. At the start of each week everyone unable to attend the Sunday worship who has Internet access, is emailed a copy of the service sheet, which they can use to follow the worship and also keep abreast of what is happening at HWMC.

PROPERTY and PREMISES: Our vast premises continue to be overseen by Alan Pyle, who calls in tradesmen when needed. This past year this has included the usual annual checking and servicing of the boilers and fire extinguishers. At the close of the previous Connexional Year our church boilers

were replaced. During the year, the top corridor, plus those between our upper and lower premises, were repainted, as were all our toilets, which have lightened and brightened our premises. A tall fence within the pre-school garden, which adjoins our neighbours in Gubbins Lane, has been installed, to safeguard the security of the children who play there. In addition, some of the lower branches of the conifer trees which greatly overhung our premises, were removed. We thank Alan for all he does, together with Yvonne and Stuart Weston, who, with some help from Kean Song, continue to keep our gardens in beautiful condition. Our grounds have looked particularly spectacular this spring. It has been a delight to enjoy the magnificent blossom on our church trees this spring.

'TOTS & CO': This group continue to be very busy, with more than 20 children each week, together with their accompanying adults. Despite this the atmosphere is calm and relaxed, with the young ones enjoying riding on the bikes, scooters and other toys, plus the cherished slide. The four-week rotation of activities in the Schoolroom continues, as do the story and songs to close the morning. Before the December close, the church welcomed the Tots group for the annual Christingle service. We thank the team of Yvonne, Stuart, Sonia, Jane, Anne, Kay, Linda and Steve, with occasional welcome help from Rosemary and Leslie Banks, for their devotion to keeping this church group afloat.

WESLEY GUILD: This group continues to meet on Monday evenings, but as there are now quite a number of our friends from around the Circuit who come along, the name has been changed to Wesley Guild @Harold Wood. As usual members have enjoyed a variety of talks, games, quizzes and activities, with several guest speakers to lead on occasions. Our thanks go to Leslie Banks and John Adams, for their devotion to keeping this group going.

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB: The weekly two-course dinners produced by Ann and Sonia's teams continue to be enjoyed by the guests. The teams have had some challenges, with various members having to take time out for different reasons, but the meals have continued and we would like to offer our heartfelt thanks everyone who helps, including the guests who willingly help with the clearing to lighten the load for the two teams. Following last year's D-Day Landings 80th Anniversary Cream Tea, another was held during May to commemorate the VE Day 80th Anniversary celebrations, both of which were greatly appreciated and enjoyed. During the long summer break the volunteers come in to give the kitchen a thorough clean, in readiness for the following year and we were delighted when their diligence earned our kitchen a Grade 5, following borough inspection.

GUILDONIAN PLAYERS: Our in-house drama group continues to produce 3 plays per year, which vary in type but which are enjoyed by their patrons. The slickly-performed comedies by modern playwright Ken Ludwig continued to amuse and delight as were their performances of '84 Charing Cross Road' by Helene Hanff and 'Goodnight, Mister Tom', by Michelle Magorian, which included young people from the Store Room Youth Theatre, was sold out. Our church continues to be grateful for the help and support round our premises which members of the Guildonians are happy to give.

Pamela Coles

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS - SEPTEMBER 2024 TO AUGUST 2025

Receipts					Payments		
2023-24		General Accounts	2024-25		2023-24	General Accounts	2024-25
£			£		£		£
		Gift Day	970.00		23,150.00	Circuit Contributions	23,800.00
1,602.34		Tax Refund/Gift Aided	1,700.35		80.00	Circuit Donation	2,500.00
1,210.10	9,375.71	Sunday Offerings:		10,301.05	67.48	Office Expenses	59.99
3,785.61		- Envelopes	1,287.70		394.87	Sundries	416.09
4,380.00		- Cash	4,763.35			Preacher's Expenses	30.00
		- Standing orders	4,250.00		148.35	TMCP Admin Fees	
		PRF Refund	5,753.59				
1,261.37		Interest from CFB	1,153.41		288.72	Christian Copyright Licence	297.86
2,861.37		Interest from TMCP	2,712.28			Gifts for Housebound	
365.00		Weddings & Funerals			77.00	Gift Donations	13.50
180.00		Donations	800.00		200.00	Audit Fees	200.00
		Bank's error on 04/2/25	0.20		1,800.00	Solicitors Fees	624.00
6,253.29		Bequests – JF				Surveyor Fees	-
		TMCP Admin Charges (Sep-Aug)	198.31			TMCP Admin Charges (Sep-Aug)	198.31
		Transfer out of TSB	30,000.00		26,206.42	Transfer to CFB	30,000.00
21,899.08		Total:	53,589.19			Total:	58,139.75
72,894.74	B/forward		68,587.40				
94,793.82	Total		122,176.59		68,587.40	Balance in Account	64,036.84
		Property Accounts				Property Accounts	
1,460.00	27,275.00	External Organisations & HTN	-	26,927.00	3,644.16	Repairs & Maintenance	4,377.69
2,675.00		Parking Donations	2,895.00		9,132.73	New Equipment	3,575.91
2,320.00		Hire of Halls	2,160.00		4,997.61	Gas & Electricity	7,993.54
20,820.00		Preschool	21,852.00		1,644.14	Everflow	1,579.48
		HTN (for 2024 and 2025)	20.00		814.08	Telephone – XLN (Daisy)	389.12
					542.24	Refuse Waste – PF Ahern	570.19

2023-24		Property Accounts	2024-25		2023-24	Property Accounts	2024-25
£			£		£		£
	12,833.29	Donation from Church Groups:			2,113.00	Wages – Cleaner on PAYE	1,994.40
125.00		- Wesley Guild	150.00		3,430.16	Church Insurance	3,693.24
6,000.00		- Guildonian Players	6,000.00		517.18	HMRC - Tax	651.60
1,500.00		- Table Tennis Club	-			Telephone - BT	362.66
1,600.00		- Tots & Co.	1,450.00		240.00	Organ/Piano Maintenance	16.51
3,608.29		- Tuesday Lunches	3,430.54				
1,483.90		Fundraising & Donations	795.00				
		Utility Rebate	-				
41,592.19		Total:	38,752.54		27,075.30	Total:	25,204.34
47,012.65	B/forward		61,529.54				
88,604.84	Total		100,282.08		61,529.54	Balance in Account	75,077.74
		Benevolence Fund				Benevolence Fund	
5.00		Communion Offerings	0.00		0.00	Community Offerings	0.00
232.20	B/Forward	Total:	237.20		237.20	Balance in Account	237.20
		Appeals Account				Appeals Account	
156.50		Action for Children	163.00		156.50	Action for Children	163.00
175.00		Easter Offerings	96.00		175.00	Easter Offerings	96.00
146.50		Christian Aid	230.00		146.50	Christian Aid	230.00
		Leprosy Mission	145.00			Leprosy Mission	145.00

2023-24		Appeals Account	2024-25		2023-24	Appeals Account	2024-25
£			£		£		£
100.00		Water Aid	100.00		100.00	Water Aid	100.00
578.00		Total:	734.00		578.00	Total:	734.00
					0.00	Balance in Account	0.00
		SUMMARY OF BALANCES IN HAND				SUMMARY OF BALANCES IN HAND	
68,587.40		General Accounts	64,036.84		17,891.45	Central Finance Board Account	32,698.80
61,529.54		Property Account	75,077.74		51,442.74	TSB Current Account	42,920.75
237.20		Benevolence Account	237.20		61,019.95	TMCP Account	63,732.23
0.00		Appeals Account	0.00				
130,354.14		Grand Total:	139,351.78		130,354.14	Grand Total:	139,351.78

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

HAROLD WOOD METHODIST	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

ROMFORD	Circuit	Circuit no.	35/32
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1127228

If not a registered charity **His Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

The Reverend Dr Eleanor Jackson

Church Stewards:

Evelyn Song
Pamela Coles

Treasurer:

Evelyn Song

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	12,966	5	12,971	10,983
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	9,818		9,818	4,122
a4	Lettings	37,958		37,958	27,640
a5	Other receipts	1,595		1,595	20,751
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	62,336	5	62,341 (a7)	63,496

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	23,800		23,800	23,230
b3	Donations	2,514		2,514	77
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	8,268		8,268	16,399
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	14,588		14,588	11,428
b6					
b7	Other payments	4,174		4,174	2,148
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	53,344		53,344 (b9)	53,282

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	8,992	5	8,997
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		129,771	584	130,354 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	138,763	589	139,352
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	138,763	589	139,352 (c8)
					130,354 (c6)

SECTION D			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures)	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	734	578
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	734	578
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID		
	(d1+d2-d3)		

HAROLD WOOD METHODIST Church

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Gullidonian Players	10,569	9,441	1,129		5,706	6,834
e2 Tots & Co	1,586	1,686	(100)		173	73
e3 Tuesday Luncheon Club	5,901	5,901			675	675
e4 Wesley Guild	489	467	22		339	361
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	18,545	17,495	1,050		6,893 (e11)	7,943 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	62,341 (a7)	53,344 (b9)	8,997	(c7)	130,354 (c6)	139,351 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	80,887	70,839	10,048		137,247 (x)	147,294 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	51,443	42,921
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	17,891	32,699
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	61,020	63,732
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	130,354 (c6)	139,352 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	7,009 (e11)	7,943 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	137,363 (x)	147,295 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,565,822	4,725,698
g3 Other Assets	170,444	176,412
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church Harold Wood Methodist Church

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer *Evelyn Song* Date *15/03/2026*

Name and address of treasurer
Evelyn Song
6 Athelstan Close, Harold Wood, Romford RM3 0QJ

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on *15.3.2026*

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Eleanor Jackson*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *Revd Dr Eleanor Jackson* Date *15.3.26*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

HAROLD WOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Number . 1127228

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Harold Wood Methodist..... Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages *1* to *3*
.... As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* ~~delete or circle as appropriate~~

Name of Church HAROLD WOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner ANDREW LLEWELLYN COURTS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate) Lescott Courts Limited
T/A Courts & Co

Address Chartered Certified Accountants
49 High Street
Burnham-on-Crouch
Essex CM0 8AG

..... Post Code

Date 23/2/2026

* delete or circle as appropriate