

Charity number
1132916

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle
Trowbridge

Report and Accounts

For the Year ended

31 December 2025

Oakensen Limited
Chartered Accountants
Bryer Ash Business Park
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8HE

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge Trustees Annual Report

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025. The board of trustees are satisfied with the performance of the charity during the year and the position at 31 December 2025 and consider that the charity is in a good position to continue its activities during the coming year, and that the charity's assets are adequate to fulfil its obligations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

St Thomas' is a community meeting in the Parish Church of St Thomas' and occasionally at Holy Trinity Church. We describe ourselves as a 'Christ focussed, community facing, church family'. This sums up our 'DNA', underpinned with the key characteristics of – scriptural, prayerful, missional, generous, worship, and family.

Christ Focussed - above all else, we strive to make Jesus Christ the centre of all we are and do.

Community Facing - mission and service is integral to who we are. We aim to love our community in the way that Jesus loved us first.

Church Family - We are a congregation of all ages and backgrounds who know we belong together and care for one another because we have the same Father in heaven. We seek to be a community where everyone can find their place and feel valued.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Community of Trowbridge

Trowbridge is the county town of Wiltshire, lying eight miles south-east of Bath. It is the third largest town in Wiltshire (population circa 44000) after Salisbury and Swindon. It is a welcoming and quietly vibrant county town that blends rich heritage with a growing creative spirit. Once the heart of England's woollen cloth industry, its historic mills and distinctive architecture give the town a strong sense of identity, while new cafés, independent shops, and community spaces bring fresh energy to its streets.

Surrounded by beautiful Wiltshire countryside, Trowbridge offers easy access to peaceful canal walks, nature reserves, and nearby villages, making it a great base for exploring the region. The town's parks—especially the much-loved Trowbridge Park—provide green, family-friendly spaces right in the centre.

Culturally, Trowbridge punches above its weight. The Civic hosts theatre, comedy, and live music; the annual Weavers Market showcases local makers; and the town's growing arts scene reflects a community that values creativity and connection. Strong transport links, good schools, and a diverse, friendly population make it a place where people can put down roots and feel part of something.

The town's population includes settled communities from Eastern Europe, the West Indies, Morocco and other African countries, and in the last few years includes a significant number of Ukrainian

Trowbridge is a vibrant and historic market town, though less affluent than some Wiltshire towns, with the advantage that property is more affordable. There have been major housing developments with more being planned on the outskirts of the town. The headquarters of Wiltshire Council is a flagship civic building. Trowbridge is also served by a Minor Injuries Unit with a new Integrated Care Centre opening in 2026. The nearest general hospital is in Bath, and there is an excellent hospice, Dorothy House, nearby in Winsley, as well as a number of residential care homes.

St Thomas' Parish and Buildings

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The Church of St Thomas opened in 1870 to serve the growing numbers of mill workers living on the north side of the town. It was built by Major Thomas Clark (mill owner and Deputy Lieutenant of Wiltshire), with now pew tax, enabling all people to worship no matter of background or status. The parish was relatively small consisting of the area between St Thomas' Road and the Down. Following the threat of closure, the congregation grew steadily from the 1960s, and

now has a lively evangelical-charismatic ministry. In 2000 the housing development of Paxcroft Mead was added to the parish and in 2009 Kingfisher Church was planted in the Mead School. Whilst Kingfisher Church no longer meet on a Sunday, the legacy of the strong links with the schools continues with a team leading Christmas and Easter assemblies at both the Mead and Castlemead schools. In 2010 a section of the former Trinity parish (the Broadmead area) was also added to the parish, including Holy Trinity Church ('The Church on the Roundabout') reclassified as a Chapel of Ease.

In addition to the church itself, St Thomas' campus comprises a cottage (currently let), a hall (1960s era), a good suite of rooms (added in 1990) and the Vicarage (built in 1970). As well as being used extensively by our own congregation and groups, we also welcome many outside community organisations into our buildings. These regularly include On Trac (alternative educational provision), Guides/Brownies/Rainbows, U3A, AA, CA, Camera Club, Footlights, Stagecoach, Trowbridge Philharmonic Choir, DanceFit, family conferences, choirs and dramatic groups, Wiltshire Council, and many one-off events. In this way, both sites provide a valuable resource for the local community and help to pay for their own upkeep. Local Schools use the churches for some services, especially at Christmas.

Projects are underway for the development of all our buildings with a view to better facilitating what already happens and extending our mission and ministry throughout the 21st Century. An impressive reordering of St Thomas', along with significant improvements to Holy Trinity were undertaken in 2018-9. Phase 1 of the Development Project for both buildings is now complete, and we are now discerning when to begin fundraising and planning for St Thomas' Phase 2, replacing the Church Hall and remodelling the rooms and entrance area. We also seek to discern the best long-term future for serving all three areas of this parish appropriately, including the support of Broadmead and Paxcroft for both the wider and worshipping communities.

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge Trustees Annual Report

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charity made an operational surplus of £49,264 (2024 - surplus of £14,567).

RESERVES POLICY

The unrestricted fund represents the charity's free reserves, which are retained to provide initial funding for activities, and general running costs of the Church. The reserves should cover at least three months normal expenditure.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity number: 1132916

Registered Office: York Buildings, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8PT

Our Advisors

Examiners: Oakensen Limited, Bryer Ash Business Pk, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8HE

Bankers: HSBC 46 Fore Street, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8EL

CCLA Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

Trustees

Paul Edwards

John Chettleburgh

Harriet Heard

Natasha Bristow

Esther Brown

Angela Grist

Christine Whittock

Martyn Whittock

Lyndsey Wright

Simon Wright

Madeleine Archer

Ruth Chettleburgh

Marjorie Wade

Peter Hancock

Stephen Bull

Helen Shields

Simon Pope - from May 2025

Judy Wright - until June 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Parochial Church Council is an unincorporated association governed by a written constitution updated and agreed in 2014.

Appointment of trustees

New trustees are selected and appointed by those on the Church Electoral Roll, for an indefinite period of service.

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge Trustees Annual Report

Organisational structure

Allan Coutts was Incumbent of St Thomas' for 25 years until June 2024. The churchwardens Paul Edwards and John Chettleburgh led the church during a year's interregnum and Simon Pope was invested as Vicar of St Thomas' Trowbridge and St John's West Ashton on 22 May 2025.

St Thomas' has 2 Licensed Lay Ministers (LLM), Martyn Whittock and Angela Grist, as well as a small team of Licenced Pastoral Assistants. Another member of our congregation, Natasha Bristow, is training to become an LLM. There are currently no retired clergy in the parish. A Staff Team guides the church, consisting of the incumbent, St Thomas' Churchwardens, St John's Churchwarden, and the two LLMs.

The PCC (Parochial Church Council) is the body responsible for the finance and fabric of the church. It has 17 members, part elected, part ex-officio, and meets bi-monthly. All of its members are Trustees. We have two Churchwardens, Paul Edwards and John Chettleburgh, and three Assistant Churchwardens, one having special responsibility for Holy Trinity. Lyndsey Wright took on the role of Treasurer at our APCM in April 2025, assisted by Esther Brown. Any urgent business that occurs between PCC meetings is dealt with by the Standing Committee consisting of the Vicar, Churchwardens, PCC Secretary and Treasurer. Our parish Safeguarding Team consists of Martyn Whittock (with responsibility for children), Liz Atkins (with responsibility for vulnerable adults). Safeguarding Administration and Verification is carried out via the church office.

Paid staff and volunteers. Our salaried staff consists currently of Church Administrator (Frankie Smith) and cleaner (Steve Martin). There is ongoing work to develop this team further, with the short-term ambition to add a youth worker, and children and family's worker, whilst also looking to strengthen the office team.

We remain extremely grateful to members of the congregation who give their time and energy so willingly in the numerous other roles that are needed to ensure the smooth running of a church of this size. These include the Vergers, all those involved in Finance, Buildings maintenance, Junior Church, Youth Work, Worship Teams, Sound and AV desks, Small Group Leaders, Toddlers and Messy Church, Prayer Ministry, Hospitality and Maintenance Teams, the Island, Impax youth club, Morning Break plus those who give lifts and undertake countless other jobs which enable us to function. The Pastoral Team, consisting of LPAs (Lay Pastoral Assistants) also fulfil an invaluable role caring for the church family.

Wider links. Beyond Trowbridge, St Thomas' Church plays a full part in the structures of the Church of England, including Bradford Deanery Synod. The church supports charities and missions both national and overseas, giving 10% of our income annually. We have a Mission Awareness programme and speakers from various missions come to speak at our morning services throughout the year. Members of our congregations frequently attend training events run by Salisbury Diocese, New Wine, LICC and other Christian networks. We are Fairtrade certified, and working towards 'Eco Church' status, seeking to breathe new life into this endeavour in 2026.

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge Trustees Annual Report

For some years, St Thomas' has been one of the driving forces behind CATA (Christian Action in the Trowbridge Area); MenUnited (which holds very successful Big Breakfasts and Curry Nights as well as regular men's prayer meetings and lunches); and many joint compassion ministries. Holy Trinity acts as a venue for many different events and activities including Church and school services; The Island after school club for older children; and Women's Shed. Tom's Shed, (Men's Shed) meets at St Thomas'.

In 2025 livestreamed services continued to prove invaluable for those unable to attend and others wishing to 'catch up' later.

A number of new people have joined the regular congregations and several quickly become very actively involved.

Links with local schools are close to our heart, leading regular assemblies at Walwayne and collective worships at Bellefield Primary schools. School visits to church are encouraged, as well as Easter and Christmas events being held at The Mead and Castlemead schools.

Children's and Youth Work continues to be central to our mission, and we are currently advertising for a new Youth Worker. Impax Group at Paxcroft Mead continues to thrive and 'The Island' after school drop in at Holy Trinity regularly has well over 30 young people who play games and socialise with our committed volunteer leaders.

Community facing outreach remains central to our DNA. Women's Shed and Tom's Shed have become firmly established; with the Morning Break meeting in the Church Rooms every Friday morning. This grew out of the Warm Spaces initiative, serving soup and bread in the winter and coffee and cake in the summer. A good core of non-church members from the local neighbourhood attend regularly, joined by church members who value the company. Each month teams also visit and lead a service of worship in two residential care homes in our parish.

Finally, other significant happenings in St Thomas' over the year have been monthly Church Prayer Meetings, a successful Lent Course, an area Ukrainian Service, a music concert with Bishop Andrew, and summer services at Holy Trinity. The Social Team organise social events when possible one each month. These are for church members and also for guests, and have included Suppers for 6, quiz nights, afternoon tea, games evening and other fun events.

Risks

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge Trustees Annual Report

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

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

The trustees are 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 that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

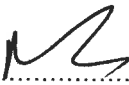
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mr David Oakensen FCA of Oakensen Limited was appointed as independent examiner for the year.

This report was approved by the Trustees of the PCC on 27/3/26


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Paul Edwards
Trustee

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge

Independent examiner's report to the members of The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge.

I report on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity'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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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.

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

27/03/2026



David Oakensen FCA
Independent Examiner
Oakensen Limited
Chartered Accountants
Bryer Ash Business Park
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8HE

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2025


	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Income from donations and legacies	2	135,699	-	135,699	144,276
Income from charitable activities	3	113,176	6,286	119,462	103,093
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		248,875	6,286	255,161	247,369
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Expenditure on charitable activities	4	195,476	5,170	200,646	228,824
Other expenditure	5	5,251	-	5,251	3,978
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		200,727	5,170	205,897	232,802
Net (expenditure)/income before investment gains		48,148	1,116	49,264	14,567
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
Net (expenditure)/income		48,148	1,116	49,264	14,567
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
		48,148	1,116	49,264	14,567
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds at 1 January 2025		93,461	25,705	119,166	104,599
Total funds at 31 December 2025		141,609	26,821	168,430	119,166

There were no recognised gains and losses other than those shown in the above Statement of Financial Activities.

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Current assets					
Debtors	7	407		649	
Cash at bank and in hand		171,904		123,556	
		<u>172,311</u>		<u>124,205</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	8	(3,881)		(5,039)	
#NAME?			168,430		119,166
#NAME?			<u>168,430</u>		<u>119,166</u>
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds	9		107,273		60,610
Designated funds	9		34,336		32,851
Restricted funds	10		26,821		25,705
			<u>168,430</u>		<u>119,166</u>

Approved by the Trustees of the PCC on 27/3/26



 Paul Edwards
 Trustee

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

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 to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised when it is received.

Gift aid tax claims are calculated on the accruals basis to ensure that the funds are recognised in the same accounting period as the gift.

Resources expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period they are incurred and include any VAT.

Costs which are directly attributable to meeting charitable objects are classified as provision of charitable services. These costs are directly allocated to activities.

Costs associated with the general running of the charity which are not attributable to meeting charitable objects are classified as management and administration costs.

Funds

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

No significant judgements have had to be made in preparing these financial statements.

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2025

2 Income from donations and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Planned giving	127,412	-	127,412	136,580
Donations	8,287	-	8,287	7,696
	<u>135,699</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,699</u>	<u>144,276</u>
 3 Income from charitable activities	 Unrestricted	 Restricted	 2025	 2024
	£	£	£	£
Gift aid refunds	31,232	-	31,232	30,425
Church rent	612	-	612	1,463
Hall income	18,182	-	18,182	7,277
Room income	37,827	-	37,827	26,850
Cottage income	9,315	-	9,315	9,000
Holy Trinity income	6,374	-	6,374	5,993
Parent and Toddler income	485	-	485	640
Fees	620	-	620	1,349
Weddings & Funerals	2,123	-	2,123	-
Interest	5,006	-	5,006	5,056
Ukraine family support	-	6,286	6,286	15,040
Impax	778	-	778	-
Tom's Shed	622	-	622	-
	<u>113,176</u>	<u>6,286</u>	<u>119,462</u>	<u>103,093</u>

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2025

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Deanery share	92,759	-	92,759	94,286
Vicars expenses	831	-	831	256
Church giving	23,845	-	23,845	18,811
Ukraine family support	-	5,170	5,170	18,434
Impax Expenditure	64	-	64	-
Salaries	20,170	-	20,170	37,567
Pension	1,093	-	1,093	1,080
Training	320	-	320	899
Rent	-	-	-	1,087
Insurance	9,957	-	9,957	9,805
Outreach costs	1,198	-	1,198	-
Heat and light	14,374	-	14,374	23,607
Cleaning	2,052	-	2,052	1,393
Water	1,513	-	1,513	1,765
Repairs and renewals	20,090	-	20,090	11,878
Cottage expenditure	1,370	-	1,370	861
Grounds	1,315	-	1,315	1,172
Hardship fund	-	-	-	670
Parent and Toddler expenditure	336	-	336	562
Youth work	578	-	578	1,509
Cell groups	450	-	450	-
Running costs	1,992	-	1,992	1,776
Music and licences	1,120	-	1,120	1,120
Audio visual system	49	-	49	286
	195,476	5,170	200,646	228,824

5 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Telephone and broadband	1,028	-	1,028	1,232
Stationery	788	-	788	795
Website costs	175	-	175	336
Subscription and fees	248	-	248	122
Accountancy	1,200	-	1,200	1,092
Bank charges	220	-	220	155
Equipment expensed	1,592	-	1,592	246
	5,251	-	5,251	3,978

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2025

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Salaries and employers NIC	20,170	37,567
Employer pension contributions	1,093	1,080
	<u>21,263</u>	<u>38,647</u>

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2024: none).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the Trust in the year (2024: £nil) nor were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2024: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

The full time equivalent number of staff for the charity is 2 (2024: 2)

7 Debtors	2025	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>407</u>	<u>649</u>
8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,200	1,044
Other creditors	2,681	3,995
	<u>3,881</u>	<u>5,039</u>

9 Unrestricted funds

	Balance as at 1 January 2025	Incoming resources and transfers	Outgoing resources and transfers	Balance as at 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£
Charitable funds	60,610	246,990	(200,327)	107,273
Designated Funds:				
St Thomas Repair fund	4,000	-	-	4,000
St Thomas Heating fund	7,000	-	-	7,000
Holy Trinity Heating fund	4,000	-	-	4,000
Holy Trinity Repair fund	1,500	-	-	1,500
St Thomas Hall Repair fund	2,200	-	-	2,200
St Thomas Hall Heating fund	1,500	-	-	1,500
Redundancy reserve	2,500	-	-	2,500
Development Fund reserve	10,000	-	-	10,000
Parent and Toddler group	151	485	(336)	300
Impax fund	-	778	(64)	714
Tom's Shed	-	622	-	622
	<u>93,461</u>	<u>248,875</u>	<u>(200,727)</u>	<u>141,609</u>

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Thomas The Apostle Trowbridge
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2025

10 Restricted reserves

	Balance as at 1 January 2025	Income	Expenditure	Balance as at 31 December 2025
Hardship fund	2,418	-	-	2,418
Musgrave Brown	632	-	-	632
Holy Trinity Fabric fund	10,000	-	-	10,000
St Thomas Development fund	1,263	-	-	1,263
Development fund	8,843	-	-	8,843
	<u>23,156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,156</u>
Ukraine Family fund	2,549	6,286	(5,170)	3,665
	<u>25,705</u>	<u>6,286</u>	<u>(5,170)</u>	<u>26,821</u>

11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Net current assets £	Total £
Restricted funds	26,821	26,821
Designated funds	34,336	34,336
Unrestricted funds	107,273	107,273
Net assets at the end of the year	<u>168,430</u>	<u>168,430</u>