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# PARISH OF GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

## ANNUAL REPORTS & ACCOUNTS FOR 2025

### **\*\*AIMS & PURPOSES\*\***

Great Faringdon PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, for promoting the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic and social) within the ecclesiastical parish, and for maintaining the fabric of All Saints' Church, Str Mary's and Coach Lane cemetery.

The PCC of Great Faringdon is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC exceeds the limits for exception from registering with the Charity Commission and is therefore registered under the name of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Great Faringdon" (Charity No. 1134401).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, Licensed Lay Ministers, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who are members of our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and has regard to it in the administration of the parish.

The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the Vicar and co-operating in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, it provides a benefit to the public, both to individuals and to society as a whole, by: providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both to its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; promoting Christian values and the service by members of the church to their communities.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we also maintain the fabric of both All Saints' Church, St Mary's Church and the Barber Rooms.

This review summarises the life of Great Faringdon Parish during the calendar year 2025 and highlights many events and activities. Again, this year, those responsible for many of the church's activities have been invited to contribute.

The PCC met 9 times during 2025, with an average attendance of 15. During the year the following served as ex-officio members, members of the PCC either elected or invited to attend.

### **EX OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Vicar	Rev'd Maria Jukes
Assistant Curate	Szabina Patel (from July 2025)
Licensed Lay Ministers	Robert Slade Graham Weller (Left parish in May 2025)
Church Wardens	Mark Jackson Linda Ritchie (until Annual Meeting of Parishioners May 2025) Annie Brooke (from Annual meeting of Parishioners May 2025)
Deputy Church Wardens	Douglas Lines Pippa Regan
Deanery Synod Reps (Until APCM 2026)	Peter Foot John Seedell Alice Voaden

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**ELECTED MEMBERS** (MEMBERS ARE ELECTED FOR THREE YEARS)

Until APCM 2026	Alice Voaden Chris Horley Christopher Raybone Wendy Tynan
Until APCM 2027	Chris Speller David Wilson Jim McGowan Nicola de Borde (Co-Opted)
Until APCM 2028	Aimee Husebo Maxine Everitt Douglas Lines Pippa Regan
Children, Families and Youth Minister (Co-opted)	Josey Speller
Hon Treasurer	David Wilson
Hon Secretary	Aimee Husebo
Safeguarding	Sarah Couzens (not PCC member)

## VICAR'S REPORT

You will hopefully have noticed a major change in our Annual Report this year. Following our APCM last year, where we adopted a scheme that allowed us to revise our operation to match our legal structure (as one parish with two churches), this annual meeting now reflects the mission and ministry across both our churches in this parish. I want to begin by thanking PCC, wardens, and others who have been involved in this process of re-shaping St Mary's and All Saints' structures in a way that has helped us make this transition. It still feels like an ongoing process, but I am so thankful to everyone involved in the grace, patience and love you have shown both me and each other throughout. I never thought of wrestling with legal church structures as a place where the fruits of the spirit might grow so noticeable, but it has been a delight to discover!

On the theme of "growing"...

*Looking to Jesus we seek to...*

*... be a loving community where everyone matters*  
*... grow in His likeness*  
*... share His love in our everyday life*

This is the mission statement that, after over a year of consulting, reflecting and refining, the PCC adopted for All Saints' Church. A mission statement shouldn't be the most important thing, but it is something that should help us notice what God is already doing, and to gather around a sense of direction in where we believe He is leading us. We have shortened the Mission Statement into three words: Loving, Growing, Sharing. Words that challenge us to think about who we already are, as well as who God is calling us to become, and how this impacts the world around us.

We have already spent some time looking at "Sharing" in 2024, so in 2025 the focus in All Saints' was in the "Grow" part of our mission statement as we have spent some time thinking about Discipleship – what does it mean and look like to be a follower of Jesus? It has been an invitation for us to grow in faith and consider how the everyday habits and practices we take part in shape our lives. As we will move on to look at "Love" during 2026, I hope that we will continue to hold on to this desire to direct our whole lives towards Jesus, to seek to be shaped by him, and grow in our faith.

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This has also been a year thinking about growing at St Mary's – in discipleship, yes, but also in a more literal sense! Investigations and plans have been made into a Fresh Expression of Church we are hoping to plant during spring/summer 2026. "The Shed" allotment church will be based at the allotments in Little Coxwell and be a place for a monthly intergenerational service in a different format. Planting, weeding, sowing will be the scene for the bible to be opened, and prayers be lifted. Much of the groundwork (pardon the pun) has been in consulting with community, diocese and professionals during 2025 to make sure that we could make some realistic plans for work to begin in 2026. This has also been an exciting area of collaboration between our two churches as ideas and resources have been generously shared across the benefice.

Much more has happened over this last year and is covered in the numerous reports that together form our annual report, I commend all of this to you and would encourage you to read through for a holistic view of the mission and ministry that has taken place during an exciting and active 2025. Alongside these activities and ministries, we have also maintained our regular, and seasonal, service pattern in both All Saints' and St Mary's. In all these things I am extremely grateful to the ministry team for their support and contribution to All Saints' as well as lay leaders who have contributed much to the prayer life of the church. I think the gift of having different voices and experiences to draw from is something which contributes greatly to our worshipping life, and the support of Rev'd David Pickering alongside the retired clergy with PTO: Rev'd Chris Etherton, Rev'd Tim Hewes, Rev'd Dick Whittington, Rev'd Barbara Mapley, Rev'd Paul Winchester, lay minister Bob Slade, and Children, Families and Youth Minister Josey Speller is a blessing to our whole benefice.

2025 has also seen the addition to this ministry team in Szabina Patel as she has joined us as Assistant Curate. It has been a blessing to get to know her and also welcome her family to our church and community. Szabina is already contributing much to services, mission and pastoral ministry with her wisdom and prayerfulness. It has been great to see the monthly prayer service gain some new energy as Szabina, assisted by Tim DeBorde, has taken a lead on these and moved them to an in-person format in the Barber Rooms.

As well as a growing ministry team, there seems to be a growing congregation at our 10.30 service at All Saints'. During Sundays it is noticeable that main body and "pink seats" are frequently quite full, and the side aisles are increasingly being used. This emphasizes the need for our re-ordering project, particularly in how this will help us increase visibility in areas around columns. Please do continue to hold the re-ordering process in your prayers, particularly as the work undertaken in 2025 will enable us to apply for a faculty during 2026. My sincere thanks to the subcommittee who has undertaken such detailed and thorough work on this, and particularly Jim McGowan for his wise and gracious persistence in bringing this process forward. Also, a massive thanks to everyone who have taken part in consultations and questionnaires - all your views have been read and considered in our discussions and ensured that our proposals are formed in a way that better reflects the needs of our whole church.

We also have a couple of areas we hope to see more growth in, mainly around children and young people. Following the pastoral work we began at FCC in 2025, Josey is making plans for some out-of-school provision for youth together with friends in Faringdon Baptist Church, and an after-school provision for families in a similar format to Little All Sorts. Please do pray for the discernment around these two initiatives, and please also consider if you might be able to volunteer some time to serve on the teams for these.

As much of 2025 has followed that theme of "Growing", one particular blessing to me is the sense of growth in relationships and community in our church and beyond as I am nearing 3 years in ministry here. I am so thankful to everyone who continues to contribute to our church in different ways, for all who serve on different committees, teams, and in different roles. It is such a blessing to serve alongside you all, and to see how God is able to do amazing things through what we are able to bring. Thank you so much everyone, for the time and energy you give – but also for who you are, I so appreciate all your wisdom, care, enthusiasm and ... love! A theme I look forward to exploring more with you all in our next year together.

Every blessing,

Maria

## FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR 2025 – DAVID WILSON

This is the first year that the final accounts presented have been for Great Faringdon Parish, rather than for All Saints' Faringdon and St Mary's Little Coxwell separately. This has required combining the brought forward amounts of the two sets of accounts, so these figures are different to those shown in either of last year's accounts. Note that for simplicity of calculation, the 2024 figures shown are for All Saints' Faringdon only.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £170,798 of which £115,627 was unrestricted planned voluntary donations, and a further £21,974 was from Gift Aid.

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Restricted income and donations (including gift aid) of £43,989 were also received. Of this, £17,860 relates to donations from individuals and final grant funds from the ODBF towards the cost of our Children & Families leader Josey Speller. A further £13,303 represents grants received by the Friends of St Mary's fund.

No legacies were received in the year.

£161,177 was spent from unrestricted funds to promote the whole mission of the church within the parish and beyond. Our diocesan parish share was paid in full (£72,474 after rebates received for paying by direct debit and because the deanery share for the first half of the year was paid in full before the end of July). Donations to missions and charities of £15,428 were made.

Overall funds decreased slightly by £4,120 during the year. There was a pleasing increase in the General Fund of £8,872. Restricted and Endowment funds both decreased in value, exacerbated by reductions in the value of funds invested in the stock market.

## PCC RESERVES POLICY – DAVID WILSON

The PCC needs to hold reserves as it has fixed (and usually rising) expenditure each year to cover expenditure such as Parish Share, Parochial expenses, Insurance, Repairs and Maintenance, Gas/Electricity/Water to support church services with no guaranteed income.

The risk of income not arising each year to cover these core expenditure items is small (there are a reasonable number of committed/planned givers who provide a good base level of income each year).

The PCC believe that reserves amounting to between three and six months of annual expenditure on the items above is reasonable to cater for a downturn in income as well as providing an appropriate level of funds to cover any unexpected buildings or repairs expenditure. This would equate to between £40,000 and £80,000 on 2025 general expenditure.

The PCC currently has reserves (unrestricted and designated) that exceed this range. However, there are significant expected additional costs in 2026 and beyond, including:

- paying a full year's housing for our Curate
- fully funding our Children, Families and Youth Minister and
- paying for early stages of our church reordering plans

All these contribute to forecast deficit budgets for the next 3 years. As a result the PCC is comfortable with this position.

It remains our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remaining longer term investments in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH FABRIC REPORT – JIM MCGOWAN (ON BEHALF OF THE FABRIC GROUP)

The main events during in 2025 have been:

1. Redecoration of baptistery
2. Installation of bike rack – we are extremely grateful to the cycling group Farcycles for a £700 grant towards the cost of installing the bike rack. The whole process of installing the bike rack was much longer and more complex than anticipated, mainly due to the requirement to obtain planning permission and confusion over whether we would be awarded a decarbonisation grant
3. Theft of lead from the baptistery roof – our roofer (Pete Hawkins) did an excellent job with the emergency repairs, and our CCTV system provided some very helpful footage for the police. [At the time of writing we are still negotiating with our insurance company on the long-term repairs].

A key activity scheduled for early 2026 is our Quinquennial Inspection, when our QI architect will take a detailed look at the condition of the church building and the Barber Rooms.

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Thank you to everyone who has been involved in looking after the fabric of our buildings over the past year – for polishing & cleaning, looking after the heating system, organising regular maintenance and servicing, changing inaccessible light bulbs, participating in working parties, removing weeds and cutting back shrubs, sorting out repair jobs, putting out the bins and everything else! We are extremely grateful for all that you do to look after our wonderful buildings.

### ALL SAINTS' CHURCH REORDERING PROJECT – JIM MCGOWAN (ON BEHALF OF THE REORDERING PLANNING GROUP)

The Reordering Planning Group continued to meet throughout the year to develop our reordering proposals; the group is made up of Rev'd Maria Jukes, Mark Jackson, Dave Wilson, Alice Voaden, Jonathan Mapley, and Jim McGowan. We've also been working closely with our architect, Christian Randall of Conservation Architects, who are based in Wantage.

The key developments in 2025 have been:

- A sub-group of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) visited All Saints' to discuss our initial proposals and provide helpful feedback. The DAC play a key role in deciding whether we are granted permission to go ahead with our ideas on reordering
- Consultation with the church family on our proposals
- Display (during Festive Faringdon) of our proposals and an encouragement to the wider community to provide feedback
- Investigating potential sources of grant funding
- Visits from specialists to advise on key aspects of our proposals (e.g. conservation work on medieval south door, installation of additional AV facilities, etc.)

All this work has helped us to develop and refine our Statement of Need (39 pages) and our Statement of Significance (29 pages); both these documents (along with various plans and sketches) are key for our application for a faculty (that is permission from the diocese to proceed). [Our faculty application was submitted early in 2026].

The next step in the process will be much more detailed discussions with various interested organisations, like the DAC, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), the Victorian Society and Historic England.

### COACH LANE CHURCHYARD REPORT – JIM MCGOWAN (ON BEHALF OF THE COACH LANE CHURCHYARD GROUP)

We are extremely grateful to all those who help with the maintenance of Coach Lane churchyard, our two main contractors (Gentle Giant Gardening and Sorbus), Wendy Tynan who does a huge amount of work at Coach Lane throughout the year and keeps an invaluable watchful eye on all that is happening at the churchyard, Richard Jukes (who faithfully takes the bins out) and Mark Ritchie, who carefully monitors the spread of ash die-back (ADB) disease amongst the many ash trees.

In addition to the regular maintenance, we are still looking at ways to develop a garden of remembrance (for the interment of ashes) in a small area of the churchyard, as well as pursuing the issue of compliance with churchyard regulations, particularly reducing the number of unapproved ornaments.

Finally, last summer some work was undertaken on the ash trees on the "boundary" line in the churchyard, with the emphasis being on the removal of dead or dangerous branches and self-seeded suckers.

### DEANERY OF THE VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE – PETER FOOT

Following the Revd Canon Jason St John' Nicolle's seven years as Area Dean, Deanery Synod was pleased to welcome the new Area Dean, the Rev'd Maria Jukes, June 2025. Across the year, certain themes have been addressed.

#### Deanery Prayers

These continue on a weekly basis, supporting each of the benefices in the Deanery with prayer for each individual who holds an office in the churches. The prayers link the work and mission of the parishes to the Dorchester Area and Oxford Diocese, bringing before God individuals and departments at Church House, Oxford, who assist our churches. Going beyond that, we pray for church unity, for peace in our time, for environmental responsibility.

World Mission John Seedell has faithfully represented the Deanery in this Diocesan work and is now alongside the Rev'd Maria as she has accepted the Växjö Link Chair of the Diocesan connection to Sweden. Synod receives regular updates on activities, and this ensures Synod does not become narrow in its focus.



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Speakers Synod has received excellent presentations and discussions on local schools, parish flourishing and intergenerational churches.

Parish Share Synod is very grateful that Dave Wilson has agreed, as an interim measure, to take up the role of Deanery Treasurer. We are pleased that the Deanery performs well in Parish Share terms and especially grateful to All Saints' for its willingness to assist mid-year to ensure that almost all in the Deanery receive their half-year rebates from the Diocese.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER – SARAH COUZENS

Safeguarding has remained an important priority for Great Faringdon Parish over the past year, ensuring that our churches are safe and inclusive places for all. The year has seen a change in the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), with the new officer (Sarah Couzens) in this role now fully trained and inducted. Our thanks go to the previous PSO, Isobel Weller, for her many years of hard work and dedication to this position.

All Saints' Safeguarding Committee comprising all those directly involved in safeguarding at All Saints' has met on three occasions during the year and this has been a helpful forum in keeping up to date with diocesan and legal requirements for training and compliance as a PCC as well as changes in DBS providers.

Jilly Strongman our Church Administrator is trained as the DBS Recruiter/Verifier and continues to ensure this is undertaken where needed for roles in our parish. She also assists with people's online training needs as required. She remains a hugely valuable asset to the smooth running of safeguarding procedure in our church.

Josey Speller, the Children, Families and Youth Minister, oversees the different children and young people's groups and liaises with Maria (as incumbent) and Sarah (as the PSO) as necessary, ensuring that safer recruitment practices are carried out for all new volunteers.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard remains a useful tool for clarifying the steps required for working towards the safest possible environment and gives links to the latest documentation. Action plans generated from the Dashboard are shared with the PCC where safeguarding is a standing item on the agenda at meetings. The Safeguarding Hub also continues to be a helpful tailored resource for the specific DBS and training requirements for members of All Saints’.

Useful opportunities for networking via webinars and Zoom meetings especially resulting from the PSO training and induction process have enabled us to keep our knowledge current.

We have responded to a few concerns related to both children and young people as well as adults over the year involving the Diocesan Adviser and other external agencies as appropriate.

We would like to thank the church, particularly those volunteering in a wide range of different roles for their support and cooperation with Safeguarding – with undertaking training, raising awareness and responding to needs. Their dedication reflects that Safeguarding is truly Gospel work.

## ST MARY'S SUBCOMMITTEE – PIPPA REGAN & DOUGLAS LINES

The main issue of the year was the Parish Boundary. It had been discovered that although St Mary's and All Saints' were acting as separate parishes, legally they were just one parish. Various options had been presented to both parishes and both had voted to keep the current legal status and remain as one Parish. Therefore, the process started to bring the operational structures in line with the current one-parish legal entity. The first steps were amalgamating the electoral roll and having a joint APCM which was achieved in May. St Mary's Finances were amalgamated with All Saints' and the Friends money was to be treated as a restricted fund. The PCC became a Sub Committee of the Gt Faringdon PCC and operated much as it always had in the running of St Mary's. The two St Mary's Church Wardens became Assistant Church Wardens and were allocated a place on the main PCC.

St Mary's held its own annual meeting to explain the changes and read out the reports to reflect the events of the year 2024.

The subcommittee worked with the Vicar and the retired clergy in spreading the word of the gospel and maintaining a Christian influence through twice-monthly services within Little Coxwell.

A new curate, Szabina Patel, was appointed to the Parish and Rev Maria Jukes was appointed Area Dean.

The PCC (January – May) and the St Mary's Sub Committee (May – December) comprised:

Rev Maria Jukes	Chairman
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Mrs Pippa Regan  
Mr Douglas Lines  
Mr Henry Boddington  
Mr Philip Bathe  
Mr Richard Bathe  
Mr Derek Belcher  
Mrs Clare Jarman

Assistant Church Warden  
Assistant Church Warden

The committee met 5 times during the year in February, March, June, August and November. Services have been advertised through posters on the church noticeboard and the weekly benefice email sent out by the All Saints' team. Key services have also been advertised via the village email and WhatsApp groups.

The committee wishes to express their thanks to the following:

Liz New, Carol Mattingley, Caroline Weston and Jenny Gray - flower arranging for special services  
Mr Derek Belcher and Mr Philip Bathe - churchyard maintenance

We would also like to thank those people who have contributed to the smooth running of the church by acting as sides persons and providing refreshments after the service (Clare Jarman, Derek Belcher & Philip Bathe), and to Colin Dyer, Henry Boddington, Clare Jarman, Douglas Lines, Dominic Regan and Johnny Hume who have read the lesson.

### Services

There have been two services a month throughout the year. These are at 9am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. One is Holy Communion and the other Morning Worship. These are generally Morning Worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday and Holy Communion on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. However, this can vary depending on the festivals and other events in the church calendar.

Special services have included the rural services, which were pioneered by Rev'd Paul Winchester, and are now usually taken by Rev'd Chris Etherton - Lammas, Plough Sunday and Rogation. Harvest Festival was taken by Rev'd Maria Jukes. Most services have been taken by Maria Jukes or Chris Etherton to whom we wish to extend our sincere thanks. We are also grateful to LLM Bob Slade, Curate Szabina Patel and retired clergy Rev'd Dick Whittington MBE.

The Morning Prayer Meeting continues to take place at St Mary's at 8.30 am on a Tuesday. This is usually attended by around 6 people.

Congregations for services have remained fairly consistent throughout the year with an average of 12. There is a solid nucleus drawn from the village and others from Faringdon and Stanford in the Vale. Little Coxwell is a hamlet with a population of around 120 so it is a healthy percentage of the population.

Other special services included:

Easter Day Communion (21 – up from 17)  
Harvest Festival (21 - up from 18)  
Remembrance Service (37 – up from 34)  
Carols by Candlelight Service (66 – up from 55)  
Christmas Day Communion (24 - down from 36)

There has been one funeral service during 2025 for Shirley Farrow.

### Other events

Fundraising for the church over the year included a Harvest Supper raising £261, Ride and Stride £609 and a cake stall at the Little Coxwell Garden Fair £310. Thank you to all who worked so hard for these events.

### Christmas

On the Thursday before Christmas a group from the congregation and other villagers went carol singing around Little Coxwell raising funds of £140 for the Faringdon Food Bank. The villagers of Little Coxwell embrace advent with a new window in the village being decorated on each day of December. On 21<sup>st</sup> December we held our Carols by Candlelight and decorated the back of the Chancel with our nativity set as our church advent window.

### Fabric

We carried out work according to the Quinquennial Inspection (£15,816) and the crown reduction of the lime trees (£3,596). Roof repairs of £403 were also incurred. During the works in the QI being completed, Peter Hawkins identified some other repairs necessary on the roof. The plan remains to carry out internal redecoration works as and

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when funds allow. New heaters were installed after the year end. Those have been less successful than hoped and improving them will be investigated in 2026.

The Friends of St Mary restricted fund covered £596 of the cost of insuring the church building. The churchyard continues to be maintained to a very high standard by Derek Belcher, ably assisted by Philip Bathe. St Mary's Church are exceptionally grateful to both for the fantastic job they do. St Mary's Church are also grateful for those who contribute to the Friends of St Mary's fund, which enables us to carry out repairs and maintenance to the building, ensuring its upkeep and availability for future generations.

#### Finance

See Treasurer's Financial Report

#### The Future

Attendance figures remain fairly consistent, and it is hoped these can be increased to expand our Church community. We are always grateful to receive suggestions and ideas regarding the organisation of the affairs of St Mary's.

## CHURCH WARDEN REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2025 – ANNIE BROOKE & MARK JACKSON

This past year has seen many exciting opportunities for the life of our church.

We have welcomed our lovely curate, Szabina and her family, and it feels as if she has always been with us. We were pleased that Josey accepted a new 3-year contract to build on the ministry she has already grown with us, now in capacity as Children, Families and Youth Minister. We are grateful for her creativity and enthusiasm which she pours into everything she does. We also saw Maria take up her position as Area Dean. Let's continue to pray for wisdom and guidance for her in this exciting role!

Our church adopted a new mission statement this past year, which gives focus to all that we do in the life of our church. *Looking to Jesus we seek... To be a loving community where everyone matters, to grow in His likeness, and to share His love in our everyday lives: Loving, Growing, Sharing.*

We can grow in His likeness through discipleship, and this has been a major theme of the last year. The Alpha course provides a path into discipleship while exploring areas of our faith. This is a popular course that is run each year, and we are seeing people come to Christ through it.

The second half of the year has been discipleship focused with our homegroups working through the Practicing the Way video series - a practical pathway for discipleship.

It was also very exciting to see our Sunday youth starting this year. Thank you to all the leaders who have stepped up with a real heart for our teenagers!

As we strive to be a loving community where everyone matters, we welcomed the community through our doors in our Civic and Remembrance Day services. Both of these services see the church bursting at the seams!

Maria began a new midweek service this year as well. This has been a real asset to our list of services and has been offered in conjunction with our Community Cafe. Thank you to all of the volunteers who have given their time to make sure that this service can happen.

During the month of August, Maria presented our Summer Sermon Series "Try Church August" - a great opportunity for us to invite friends along in a more relaxed setting. The series culminated with our Ice Cream Sundae Sunday, which is always a hit with our families! As with most years, it rained; let's pray for a sunny day this year!

As we strive to share His love in our everyday lives, we planned many opportunities to involve the community in the life of our church.

Folly Fest is always an exciting weekend for opening the church to the community. We continued with the much-anticipated Teddy Bear Zipline, bell tower tours, and a special bell ringing demonstration on the front path. This weekend was also an opportunity for our community to comment on our reordering plans. Jim McGowan did an excellent job on the displays and presenting the plans clearly to the community.

After years of prayer, Faringdon Community College agreed to have a small group of leaders present on campus one day a week for pastoral support. Please continue to pray for more opportunities in this area!

During our Advent season, we replaced Messy Christmas with our Crib Service - complete with our Grumpy Innkeeper churchwarden! It was well attended on Christmas Eve, and a great opportunity to see some of our families from Little All Sorts joining in.

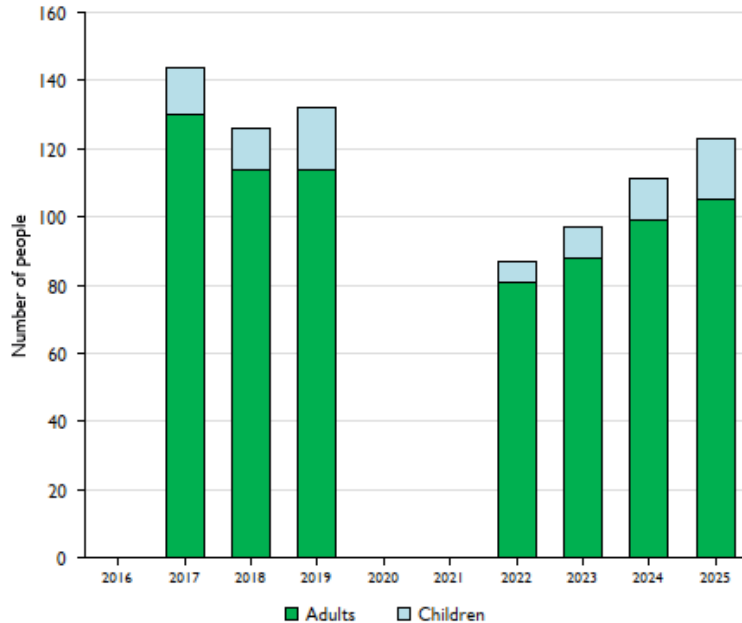


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Personally, one of my favourite outreach activities during Advent was our Carols in the Pub night at The Swan. It was an evening which started off a little tenuous but ended with the entire (packed!) pub singing carols of our saviour's birth and winning over even the grumpiest of bar flies. It was definitely the highlight of my year!

Our church attendance is also growing each week, and it's very exciting to see. As we become more visible and active in the community, we pray that this growth continues throughout 2026.

Average Sunday attendance:



St Mary's activities have been reported in the subcommittee report above, and we are thankful for the cooperation, engagement and growing relationship we have seen this year with the church in Little Coxwell. Many thanks to Pippa and Douglas for their ongoing commitment and contributions to the life of the church, and the rest of the congregation at St Mary's for their support and ongoing witness to their community.

And, finally, a huge thank you to everyone who donates their time and energy to all that happens throughout Great Faringdon Parish. You are not only contributing to the ongoing mission of the church, but you are advancing His kingdom throughout greater Faringdon! So, thank you from both myself and Mark.

Annie & Mark

### **\*\*ALL SAINTS' PRAYER MINISTRY\*\***

#### **PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM – MARY MOUNTFORD-LISTER**

It is a joy and privilege to lead the Prayer Ministry team here at All Saints'. We are a team of 7 people and would love to have more people join us. We offer prayer for members of our congregation during communion and after communion services. This takes place in the Prayer Space in the Baptistry area of the church. We always warmly welcome everyone for prayer and we always pray as a pair of team members.

The prayer that we offer grows out of our dependence on God and our trust that he is with us as we pray and cares deeply for us all. We have found that many things draw people to come for prayer. It may simply be a sense that it's helpful to say the things that concern us out loud and to know that we have been heard and held in prayer. Sometimes people come to pray about things that are happening in their lives, health, or with their families, or about decisions to be made. At other times the content of the service or theme of the sermon might prompt people to come for prayer. All are welcome.

About one to three people tend come forward for prayer ministry at each service, and we have found that one pair of prayer team members is usually sufficient. However, we do keep an eye on the queue and will ask other members of the team to form a second pair if needed. We don't want anyone to leave without having time and space to pray.

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## PARISH OF GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

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We are a team who care about each other and want to offer this ministry with care, wisdom and sensitivity. We have all done the Diocesan Safeguarding Training and several of us have done Mental Health First Aid Training (validated by Mental Health First Aid England and delivered for us in a bespoke course by our own Dan Butcher at the end of 2024). We met for a team update and opportunity to reflect together on our ministry in April 2025 and will do so again in May 2026. These opportunities to come together and learn from and encourage each other are a vital part of the ministry that is visible in church, and which is a thread in the wider prayer life in our All Saints' Family.

#### INTERCESSIONS TEAM – PAM DE WIT

At present there are 11 members of the congregation in the Intercessions team, invited by Maria to share in leading the Intercessions at All Saints' 10.30 Holy Communion and Services of the Word.

We train together as a team. Our training sessions in the last two years began with an induction for new members, combined with a refresher for 'old hands'. Most recently, in March this year, the team met for shared reflection on our own experience and best practice. This meeting was lively and confident: it was clear that everyone understands their role and what their current practice is, and why.

Our task is a representative one on behalf of the congregation. We are there to find words that will bring us all closer to God and help us to pray for the Church and for the World, and to thank God for His goodness. We make space in the silence for everyone to bring to God the needs of those they know who are in any kind of trouble or sorrow or sickness. We pray regularly for the All Saints' Charity of the Month. We pray for King Charles and for our new Archbishop Sarah; and in this time of widespread anxiety about public life in the UK and the wider world, we wrestle with how to pray in complicated times, remembering those in positions of power, and those who suffer, and those who work for peace.

While there is an overall shared pattern to the Intercessions as we do them at present, we are also glad to see the diversity of age, background and style that different members of the team bring to our current practice. We hope that between us we are managing to fulfil our aim 'to pray the prayers of people's hearts'.

#### PRAYERS ON FRIDAY – HELEN & MARK JACKSON

Prayers on a Friday 7.40 – 8.30am by zoom in 2025

This group has been going for over 40 years and moved to zoom since the beginning of lockdown. The zoom link is published in the church News Letter every week. It is open to anyone who would like to pray for any situation both local and international. Each meeting starts with a passage of Scripture and then prayers follow as people feel led. There is no compulsion to pray out loud and any and every topic for intercessory prayer is acceptable. Newcomers are welcome so feel free to log on one Friday morning and see whether you want to come back! We are regularly a group of 9 and it is a great way to start the day.

#### MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING – SZABINA PATEL

Facilitating the Monthly Prayer Meeting since October 2026 has been a real blessing. The gathering had previously been organised on Zoom. Meetings initially began at 7:30pm, but the start time was later moved to 7:45pm due to other activities taking place in the Barber Rooms, which serve as the venue.

It has been great to have Tim de Borde on board, who co-led the meetings by leading worship and sharing biblical reflections. Special thanks also go to Nikki de Borde for her help with the slides, and to Josey for her support with the technology and planning. Thanks, are also due to our incumbent, Maria, for her guidance in shaping the direction of the meetings.

The aim of these meetings has been to combine Spirit-led worship and intercession, often centred around a particular seasonal theme.

Attendance has ranged from around 12 to 25 people each month. The hope is that this meeting will continue to develop and grow as we partner with Christ and with one another in intercession.

Heartfelt thanks go to everyone who has attended these sessions. May they continue to be a blessing to all who gather, as together we seek God's will for the world, the Church and our local community.

#### PRAYER CHAIN – JENI SUMMERFIELD

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This is a much-valued aspect of our prayer life at All Saints' with the three strands of the prayer chain continuing to work to uphold those in need before the Lord.

If you wish to make a prayer request you can speak to Maria, Szabina, the church wardens or any one of the three of us named below. We are all happy to receive an email which is then forwarded to the three prayer chains. If however, the request is extremely urgent you may make contact by phoning one of us.

If you would like to be on the prayer chain, please let Jeni know and you will be added to one of the three lists.

Jeni Summerfield	<a href="mailto:jenisummerfield@btinternet.com">jenisummerfield@btinternet.com</a>	01367 240912
Ruth Seedell	<a href="mailto:ruth.seedell@gmail.com">ruth.seedell@gmail.com</a>	01367 242440
Barbara Mapley	<a href="mailto:barbaramapley@gmail.com">barbaramapley@gmail.com</a>	01367 615009

## **\*\*ALL SAINTS' CHURCH ACTIVITIES\*\***

### CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND YOUTH MINISTER REPORT – JOSEY SPELLER

#### Little All Sorts

Our baby and toddler group continues to be a highlight of the week – for the families and for our wonderful team of leaders. At times numbers are low and there is always a natural turnover as parents go back to work or children start school. A few families come to other events outside of Little All Sorts which is encouraging and is something we wish to develop in 2026. There is always room for more on the team so if you can help once a month, please do speak to me.

#### Junior Saints

It's been a great year with good growth. We are seeing new families join us and I am hugely grateful for the team of leaders. We've been trying to involve children more in our services and we've had great feedback around the children and communion. The intergenerational slots at the beginning of the service are also good ways to encourage different ages to worship together. We use Roots most weeks to plan the teaching which works well and provide resources for both Junior Saints, Sunday Youth and our all-age services.

The challenge that comes from the growth in number is that there is now the need for more groups so that we can better provide for the actual ages we're getting on Sunday mornings. If you would like to talk about becoming a leader with the children, please do speak to me. They children really are a delight to teach and be with on a Sunday morning.

#### Sunday Youth

This group meets during the communion services. It has remained up and down in terms of attendance, but when the young people come, they relate well to one another and respond well. The team of leaders are great and have a real passion for teaching young people. In September a youth worker started at the Baptist Church so we're hoping for some joint work together in 2026.

#### Junior Schools

We had four visits from the schools this year. The majority are from The Elms as they are much closer and easier to walk to us. It is harder for Folly View to come to the church as they need more staff and helpers to walk them to the school. We did have the reception classes come as they spent a whole day at The Elms. This year, we've had a couple of families want to come to church on Sundays because they came with their class.

#### Faringdon Community College

After much patience and perseverance from Maria in the Autumn term, we began a weekly visit to the school to work with their pastoral team. A lot of their work is with year 10's and 11's who are particularly stressed, so we are doing smaller group work with years 7's and 8's to do some early intervention work. We aim to be a gentle Christian presence in the school, with a focus on supporting the school in their pastoral offering respecting the secular environment this takes place within.

#### Other Activities

Our 'Messy Church' style events were changed this year. At Easter we offered crafts for all in the Barber Rooms on Easter Day which worked well in bringing families together. At Christmas we had a crib service which again proved positive – thank you to all those involved. In the summer we had activities after our 'ice cream Sunday' service, which was a lovely way to start the new term.

Christmas also saw us again leading the NSPCC carol service with some wonderful Christmas Jumpers (the majority joyfully loaned by my Christmas attire loving husband Chris!). Brenda Barber organises this so wonderfully each year

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and I'm already looking forward to their 60<sup>th</sup> service in 2026! The Christingle service was before Christmas again this year and seems to suit its new time of the year. Our other Christmas offering was to open the church during Festive Faringdon and it was a delight to work with the Baptist church on some puppet shows.

Once again, we had our teddy bear zipwire during Folly Fest, with the addition of a go kart run! Even though we've done this for three years, it proves to be a really popular event and a great way to bring some of the wider community into the church. Other highlights from the year the retreat day in September, family games, detached youth work and Szabina joining the team.

I was delighted that I could carry on the ministry at All Saints' for another three years – enormous thanks to those who journeyed with Chris and I through this change. Faringdon is a wonderful place to worship, and I am blessed to be working in such a supportive church. My biggest thanks must go to all those of you who volunteer throughout the year for any of the activities we run – without your prayers, love, time and energy; the ministry to children, youth and families wouldn't happen.

### ALL SAINTS' ECO CHURCH GROUP – PETER FOOT

The main business of the year was getting ready, in the first half of the year, for the visit by Professor Mick Crawley FRS and building on what we learned from him in the second half. The Professor has made a life-long, comparative study of the churchyards on the Ridgeway and the Golden Ridge. As Faringdon is situated on the latter, he already has made visits and surveys of plant life in our churchyard.

The reason we invited such a distinguished expert to review our space was to get the very best advice as to how to develop a regime of care and maintenance for the churchyard, in conjunction with the Town Council – which has overall responsibility for maintaining the churchyard. We also had a visit from other experts who surveyed our lichens. We learned the importance of not introducing species plants outside those 'native' to our region; where things needed special protection and what was too abundant; and where outside help would be needed.

The outcome of all of that was a recommendation to the PCC on the way forward for 2026. Drs de Wit and Ritchie drew up a plan for the churchyard and establishing a sequence of work. Details of these proposals are shown in the relevant PCC Minutes of Meetings. Conversations with the Town Council will finalise the practical elements of these. However, there is an amount of work which the Eco Group will need to do for the church and that will need rather more youthful bodies than are currently available in the Group. The Eco Group looks forward to 2026 being a year of volunteers doing occasional working party tasks, thereby ensuring that the excellent advice received, and the superb planning, are given practical expression in 2026.

Not the least of the planned benefits from all of this is greater access and attractiveness for the community. We already have primary schools visiting and it would be good to be able to offer a better set of pathways and signage to help. This is very much a development that the Town is keen to promote and foster. Although it is not a driver of things, all this activity will undoubtedly help in any future application for a Gold Award from Eco Church/A Rocha.

### ALL SAINTS' SOCIAL COMMITTEE – MAXINE EVERITT

The PCC organised two social events in 2025

1. The Strawberry Tea on 21<sup>st</sup> June, which was attended by about 45 people. Volunteers served sandwiches, scones with cream and fresh strawberries and cake. As in previous years those invited were people living alone. Many of those attending were members of the congregation but also people from the nearby sheltered housing. Everyone, attendees and volunteers appeared to enjoy the event tremendously.
2. The Advent Tea on 6<sup>th</sup> December was attended by around 40 people. The PCC agreed that the invitation should be extended to include people who are carers, along with the person needing care as being a carer can be more isolating even than living alone. The Community Café hosts a Parkinson's group and there is a Memories Club, based at the Reform Church so we extended invitations through these groups. Volunteers served our guests with sandwiches, sausage rolls, mince pies and lots of cake. Afterwards we all greatly enjoyed singing carols – many thanks to Ruth Seedell who accompanied us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who volunteered to help with these events, setting up and clearing after the event, assisting and greeting and ensuring the safety of our guests up the steep path and into the Barber Rooms, baking cakes, preparing sandwiches, hosting tables, keeping the tea cups topped up, serving, chatting and all sorts of things! I would also like to thank the PCC for their support and look forward to the events in 2026.

## ALL SAINTS' COMMUNITY CAFE – JULIE SLADE

The Community Café started in May 2024. In origin, it was a follow-on from a bereavement course that had run earlier that year. It was conceived as a gathering at which people could choose to meet monthly. It takes place in the Barber Rooms and is open to all. It has been a delight to be part of this project, with a good number of people gathering from the start, both from within and outside of the Church. The local Parkinson's Society group has also joined in.

During 2025 Café sessions ran from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. People come for tea and cake at cost, and there is plenty of time to sit, chat and spend time together. We have tried offering crafts, but conversation is much more popular.

The new Café days and times are so that the café will precede midweek Church services and people going can meet and chat before those. The café and the services can work together, or people can go just to one or to the other.

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH MISSION PARTNERS – JOHN SEDELL

When we extend our discipleship beyond these shores, we need to raise our eyes to a vision that is close to God's vision for the world. We can enlist help from those who daily dedicate their lives to this purpose.

We continue to support a range of Mission Partners through financial support, prayer, and by highlighting their work during our Mission of the Month display and information in weekly News Letter. The Mission Partners committee met in November 2025, and we decided, following interest and information provided by church members for our consideration, to support two new partners: International Justice Missions and Adventure+. We hope that our work with these new mission partners will support works for justice, particularly in areas of people trafficking and child exploitation through the work of IJM, and lead to mutual support in the mission to young people in our area and further afield through the ministry of Adventure+. We look forward to learning more about their work during 2026.

Please do take time to look at the Mission of the Month table in church for information of the work of our different mission partners throughout the year.

One of the mission partners we have supported for many years is the Church Mission Society, better recognised as CMS.

CMS was established on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 1799 by a group known as 'The Clapham Sect', William Wilberforce and Charles Simeon were early members of the movement.

Today CMS through its many projects reaches out to people on the edges of society in over 150 countries. The work is so wide ranging, a more detailed appreciation of the various projects can be gained by viewing their website [info@churchmissionsociety.org](mailto:info@churchmissionsociety.org).

### Here what CMS say about themselves:

*'We exist to make disciples of Jesus at the edges, but crucially, we are also disciples ourselves. As we seek transformation for those who might have presumed Jesus wasn't for them, we – and those who accompany us through prayer, giving and taking action – are also being continuously transformed.'*

*'CMS is made up of disciples of Jesus from various countries, cultural backgrounds and walks of life. When we say "we" we are talking about a vibrant mix of people in mission from the UK, Africa, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia – all following Jesus to the edges together.'*

Here at All Saints' we support the work of Marcio Ciechanowicz and Noemi Celeti who live and work in San Paulo, Brazil. Please read their latest newsletter and other CMS material which is on the CMS notice board in the Barber Rooms entrance.

Marcio and Noemi are not just some distant disciples of Christ working thousands of miles away – on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 we welcomed them to our 10.30 service, we enjoyed hearing about their work, hearing firsthand about 'Du Park' where they have created a community of all comers to receive hospitality, play games and hear about the love of Jesus. All in a local park with a prefabricated boat for indoor activities.



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Please pray for Marcio, Noemi and their family in Brazil and the world mission activity of CMS. For ourselves here at All Saints' let's pray for our discipleship, that we reach out to those living on the edges of society here in Faringdon, or wherever God calls us.

#### ANNA CHAPLAINCY & PASTORAL WORK – JULIE SLADE

Anna Chaplaincy is named after the widow, Anna, present when Jesus was presented as a baby in the Temple by Mary and Joseph. It is organised and supported nationally by BRF Ministries (Abingdon) and locally at All Saints'. Both Anna and Simeon, who was there also, are good role models of faithful, older people.

Anna Chaplaincy offers spiritual support to older people, including those living in their own home, in a care home or in sheltered accommodation, as well as to their relatives and staff members who care for them.

At All Saints' we have a team that visits care homes (Ferendune Court and Coxwell Hall) once a month to take a communion service and individuals are visited at other times. We have also joined in some events organised by the homes.

As part of our pastoral team, we also visit several people from Church, many of whom are no longer able to come to Sunday services. It has been a joy to see some of this group now manage to attend the fortnightly midweek service in the Barber Rooms and the community café.

In 2026 we will explore becoming a dementia friendly church and will plan some activities to inform and inspire our work in this area. Please keep a look out for upcoming events and share your thoughts and ideas with Julie.

#### ALPHA COURSE – HELEN & MARK JACKSON

Alpha started on October 7, 2025, as an 8-week course meeting every Tuesday evening from 7pm to 9.15pm and a Saturday Holy Spirit morning on November 15 at All Saints' Church.

The format of the evening is sharing a meal together, watching the Alpha film, followed by a discussion of the content of the film (we give everyone an Alpha manual and that covers the content of each film). The Holy Spirit morning gives more time to discussion and an opportunity to receive personal prayer. We are very grateful to everyone who volunteered to cook a meal for us all and wash up afterwards. We started as a group of 9, most of whom came through personal invitation, and ended up with a core group of 10. We were delighted that two who came last year came back for a second time and one person who had attended the Bereavement Journey in January also came. It is the first year that everyone has been able to attend the Holy Spirit morning. It is always a privilege to participate in people's spiritual journey, and the group has carried on meeting as a home group.

There were two changes to this year that made a difference.

1. Whoever cooked the meal joined in and ate with the group, so they were able to get to know other members of the congregation
2. We had an intercessory prayer who came and prayed in the church throughout our meeting time

#### THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY (TBJ) – HELEN JACKSON

All Saints' Faringdon ran the bereavement journey for the second time in January 2025. It is a 6- or 7-week course for people who have been bereaved at any time. The 7<sup>th</sup> week is an optional session on faith related questions. The first 6 weeks are about grief and bereavement in general and therefore open to people of any faith or none. The course was advertised through the White Horse Medical Practice and online via Sobell House. It was also advertised at the All Souls' service the previous November. We ran two groups with a total of 11 participants and 5 helpers plus a qualified on-call counsellor. Only four of the participants lived in Faringdon and five of the participants had no church affiliation. One has since done the Alpha course in October. There was very positive feedback about the course and several still meet up with each other.

#### ALL SAINTS' HOME GROUPS – ANDREW SARGENT

During 2025 All Saints' ran seven home groups:

- Mondays, weekly, 8-9.30pm, leader: Chris & Josey Speller, venue: alternates
- Mondays, fortnightly, 7.30pm, leader: Linda & Mark Ritchie, venue: Fernham Manor

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- Tuesdays, weekly, 9.30am, leader: Peter Foot, venue: Kay Fox/Zoom
- Wednesdays, fortnightly, 7.30-9.15pm, leader: Mark & Helen Jackson
- Thursdays, fortnightly, 7.45-9pm, contact: Katie Foot, venue 64 Coxwell Road
- Thursdays, fortnightly, 7.45-9pm, leader: Andrew Sargent, venue: 1 Wearn Road
- Thursdays, 7.30-9pm, leader: Chris & Josey Speller, venue: alternates

Further groups are planned.

Numbers inevitably vary due to individual circumstances, but currently around 70 congregation members attend a group. Individual groups usually have 8-12 members.

Last year most groups followed the Dazel (Evangelism) Course in the spring and the Practicing the Way (Discipleship) Course in the late autumn. For the rest of the years each group chose its own topics for study. These included Biblical material – Mark's and John's gospels, John's epistles, and the book of Revelation – and topical courses devised by charities and theologians.

Each group is different, but in addition to study and discussion different groups may pray together, sing or share a meal. The Wednesday group avoids meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month so that members are free to go to the church prayer meeting (if they wish).

Our hope as a church is that more of our members would want to meet together in small groups, pray and study together, get to know one another, and through these experiences grow in faith together.

Here is a snapshot of what some of our groups have been doing:

#### Monday Home Group – Chris & Josey Speller

We are a committed group of 8 people meeting weekly. We have two wonderful houses that alternate in hosting. During 2025 we have studied 'Together for good', 'Discipleship on the frontline', 'Make Room', 'The Dazel Course' 'The Romans Course' and the first part of 'Practicing the way'. We enjoy doing life together, studying a variety of subjects and how the bible can be applied in our everyday lives and praying for each other.

#### Tuesday Home Group – Peter Foot

During 2025, our group got used to being with each other, meeting in one of our houses rather than on Zoom. We meet on a Tuesday morning for two hours. In many ways, in 2025 we were still feeding off the earlier study we did by going through Tom Wright's biography of St Paul. But this year we deliberately chose smaller studies from the Cover-to-Cover series: *Mary*, *Revelation* and *1 Timothy*. Perhaps the most rewarding sessions were those where each member took it in turns to share a Bible reading, explaining its importance to them and the wider implications of the passage. The year concluded with the Practicing the Way course.

#### Wednesday Home Group – Mark & Helen Jackson

In 2025 we did the Dazel Course on Zoom with the Gilpins and Practicing the Way. In between we did the gospel of John which we have gone back to. We are on Chapter 14. There are 13 on our books. Usually, approximately 11 come. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday evening so that we can go to the church prayer meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month.

#### Thursday Home Group – Update by Chris & Josey Speller hosted by Kate Crebbin

We meet weekly, usually at Kate's house, but also alternating when needed. This group was originally set up by Helen Wilson, who we regularly remember with delight. There are several who take turns in leading the studies. Amongst other things in 2025 we studied 'Discipleship on the frontline', some studies on Mark's gospel, a lent series and the first part of 'Practicing the way'. We are a group of 6 who meet most weeks. Most in the group are parents to teenage and older young people. We are open to new members joining us.

## ALL SAINTS' FRIENDSHIP DIRECTORY – MARGARET STARR

A final version of the friendship directory has recently been published. Going forward we will be using "My Church Suite App" for our directory, and we are currently in the process of moving to the app. A paper copy will be available to those that are unable to use the App.

We would like to thank Julia Burn and Margaret Starr for all their hard work in producing and maintaining this directory over the past years.

## FLOWER GUILD – JENI SUMMERFIELD

The Flower Team needs new recruits to help with church decorating. The work is very enjoyable, and the group is friendly and supportive. No previous experience is required as we offer 'on the job' training.

Since Covid restrictions we haven't had a weekly rota, and we only put fresh flowers in the church for the main festivals, weddings and funerals.

As we are an Eco church we are working under the guidelines of the Sustainable Church Flower movement [Sustainable Church Flowers](#) and over the last two years have stopped using floral foam. We make every effort to only use flowers that are not produced with the use of chemicals and flown thousands of miles.

We usually arrange the flowers on Friday mornings, but sometimes it's necessary to do them at different times depending on our own commitments or if we have mid-week events. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in joining us I should be very pleased to explain more about our work.

## OPEN CHURCH – CHRIS HORLEY

Thank you to all the sitters for their time, effort and perseverance, without you there would be no one to greet visitors. Thank you also to Jilly for organising the rota and showing people around. In the visitor's book people actually thank the sitters for their times and trouble: "Fantastic tour guide", "Tried to visit many times – lucky to be let in today". So, the more sitters we have the better.

We had 63 recorded visitors by our sitters, but some data was missed. There were 26 entries in the visitor's book – slightly less than the previous year (running from March to March). The last entry for 2025 on 29<sup>th</sup> October was on the occasion of the visitors 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

We had visitors from USA, Singapore, Netherlands and Germany; the man said, "thank you for the Key" (I hope he didn't keep it!). It is worthwhile showing people around this beautiful Church – they very much appreciate it.

## ALL SAINTS' SINGERS – KAREN BRUSCH

The All Saints' Worship Group have had a year of combining good traditional songs with searching for new and recently learnt worship music. It has also been great to have Annie and Ed leading us, once a month. The worship group has continued to grow in confidence in learning new songs, and in harmonising. For the observant among you, you will have seen that we look for a newly composed worship song for Christmas. Whilst we all love the traditional carols and other Christmas songs, listening out for what the Holy Spirit is moving people to write is always refreshing. One change we have made this year is ensuring that there is almost always a traditional hymn to end our Services with; ensuring there is a mix of well-known and newer songs to worship through. We continue to pray before every Sunday morning service that the Holy Spirit will go before us and lead us afresh in raising our voices to Jesus our Lord. We're now looking forward to Easter and begun our rehearsals!

## ALL SAINTS' BELL RINGERS – PETER HUNT (TOWER CAPTAIN)

### Notable VoWH Branch Events

The branch practice was held at All Saints', in place of our normal practice on 19<sup>th</sup> January. The tower was pretty full with 21 attendees but this was fewer than the record number from the previous year. The branch AGM was held at Stanford-in-the-Vale on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March. The branch dinner was held at the Woodman, Fernham on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

### Quarter Peals and Peal

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February a quarter peal (lasting about 45 minutes) was rung by two of our young ringers, both aged 13. It was a first quarter for one and a first quarter as conductor for the other both achievements being at the first attempt.

A quarter peal was rung on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June by a visiting band which incorporated some Faringdon ringers.

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July Daniel Watson, our distinguished young, now adult ringer, rang a complex peal, lasting three hours, to celebrate his eighteenth birthday. We repeated the publicity that we had used in 2024 for all the above events.

A Faringdon band rang a quarter peal for the All Saints' carol service on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

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### VOWH Branch Quiz

The first social event during 2025 was the branch general knowledge quiz held in the Barber Rooms on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April. This was hosted by Faringdon ringers, being their reward for winning the previous quiz at Uffington in 2024. Questions and quiz structure were expertly conceived and delivered by Caroline, one of our ringers and her husband, Ifor. Food for the event (Coq-au-Vin, new potatoes and green beans) was superb, plentiful and prepared and delivered by the Crown Hotel (at £10 per head). The quiz was won by a team from the Swindon Branch (the Stay Benders) who were presented with the golden clapper and will host the next quiz. Faringdon came fourth out of the six teams.

### Tower AGM

The tower AGM was held on April 14<sup>th</sup> in the Barber Rooms on the Monday of Holy Week replacing our normal practice. There were thirteen attendees including Maria plus four apologies. Peter Hunt, Julian Watson and Elin Bornemann were re-elected as Tower Captain, Steeple Keeper and Treasurer, respectively. The authoring of articles for the Faringdon Advertiser will continue to be shared between Faringdon and Stanford-in-the-Vale. Ropes were repaired on the second and sixth bells. Julian is to liaise with Jilly for digital storage of tower artefacts, possibly on the Church based cloud facility.

### Faringdon Rotary Club

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April five ringers hosted and, I believe, impressed a party of members of the Faringdon Rotary Club. We provided an introduction to bell ringing, a close up view of our bells and a demonstration of us ringing as a band. The club kindly made a donation to our tower fund.

### Ringling for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May twelve ringers turned up at 6.30pm to ring for the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day in line with CCCBR (Central Council of Church Bell Ringers) and Town Council requests. We also rang for the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VJ Day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August.

### VOWH Branch and ODG Competitions

Faringdon entered two teams (as did Shrivenham) in the VOWH Branch 6 Bell Striking Contest on May 16<sup>th</sup> at Longcot. There were eight teams in total. The contests are judged on the quality of the way a test piece is rung. The All Saints' teams came second and seventh. Longcot came first and won the shield. Two of Longcot's ringers are members of Faringdon tower and two more are regular Faringdon ringers. As in 2024 the winning team went on to represent the Branch at the inter-branch contest of the ODG which in 2025 was held at Cuddington on 4<sup>th</sup> October. The team also entered a Raising and Lowering Competition held at Horspath on the same afternoon. The team, which at that date contained five regular Faringdon ringers, came third (out of seven) and second (out of five) in the two respective competitions.

### Folly Fest

The church was opened to visitors on the Saturday of Folly Fest and, as last year, hosted a hand bell ringing workshop in the nave given by the St. Denys hand bell ringing group from Stanford-in-the-Vale. At the request of the Folly Fest organisers the VOWH branch arranged for its Mini Ring to be assembled outside of All Saints' church, just to the left of the main door. This provided its usual attraction for visiting children.

For visitors interested in visiting the ringing room we positioned a smart TV in the Upper Asset Room with a ringer (Jon) on hand to help visitors understand bell ringing via selected YouTube videos. In the ringing room itself a standalone television was set up to be able to play recordings, taken in both the ringing room and the belfry, of a peal being rung, as well as short clips panning around the bells at rest - the belfry was kept inaccessible to the public. Thanks go to Jilly who also printed and laminated some close up A3 photographs of the bells for us to show visitors.

### Weddings

There were three weddings which required bells in 2025, on April 26<sup>th</sup>, May 24<sup>th</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup>. We rang all eight bells for each of the weddings.

### Outing

On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October we had an enjoyable outing to six towers in the Cotswolds, organised on behalf of the VOWH Branch by one of our young ringers (with his Mother's help). The number of bells at each tower varied from six to ten. Lunch was at Moreton-in-the-Marsh.

### Town Council Meeting

I was invited to the Town Council Meeting in the Corn Exchange on November 26<sup>th</sup>, along with various other local organisations. I took along some materials to exhibit and promote our activity.

### General

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## PARISH OF GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

### ANNUAL REPORTS & ACCOUNTS FOR 2025

We have rung every Sunday for the 10.30am service and invariably manage to ring all eight bells. We rang for the NSPCC Carol Service (1<sup>st</sup> December). Maria and Mark attended our Christmas celebration in the ringing room on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December. Maria was given a tasting session for handling a bell. We rang for the late Christmas Eve service with the help of two ringers from Stanford-in-the-Vale.

#### Safeguarding

The Basic Awareness courses are up to date for all ringers as well as the Foundation course for myself. All courses are under the control of Jilly who now issues reminders to individuals in the band prior to their three-year refreshment (2026) course becoming due.

#### 2026 Centenary of the Recast and Rehang of the bells in 1926

We have had some feedback from the article that was published in the Faringdon Advertiser and from its mention in last year's APCM Report. Caroline has visited Taylor's bell foundry at Loughborough and gleaned more information about the bells. We are hoping to have some celebratory ringing, hold a service and have a social event to mark the centenary.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDP) – KATE BUTCHER

This ecumenical service has been celebrated every year in Faringdon since 1980, always on the first Friday in March, rotating around the churches. It starts and finishes in Samoa, taking 38 hr to travel around the world - as the earth rotates a great wave of prayer builds.

In 2025 the service was developed by women in the Cook Islands. The theme was "I made you wonderful", based on the words of Psalm 139, and helped us to recognise that despite our uniqueness we were all created with great care and loving attention. God created us, God knows us, God is with us.

Two services were held in Faringdon, hosted by Blessed Hugh Catholic Church. In total approximately 45 people attended.

The service in 2026 is hosted by United Church, and in 2027 by Baptist Church. It will be All Saints' time to host again in 2028.

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARINGDON – KATIE FOOT

#### General

We were pleased to welcome Rev'd Szabina Patel in July when she started her curacy at All Saints'. Caeli Thomas joined FBC in September as their Youth Worker. We were sad, however, to hear that Rev'd Jason Cooke (FUC) would be leaving the area in early 2026.

Tim Gerry (Faringdon Baptist Church) continued as President and Katie Foot (All Saints'), remains Secretary. We are very grateful to Jonathan Mapley (All Saints'), our Treasurer, for continuing his role.

Activities we have variously organised during 2025 have included:

- Monthly columns in The Advertiser magazine (distributed to every household in Faringdon)
- Ash Wednesday prayer service at All Saints'
- Weekly talks during Lent on Muthuraj Swamy's book, "Reconciliation", hosted by our churches
- World Day of Prayer, at Blessed Hugh, prepared by Christian women in the Cook Islands in the South Pacific
- 'Prayers for Peace' at the Friends' Meeting House
- Good Friday service at All Saints'
- Sunrise service on Easter Day on Folly Hill, with about 50 people present, led by Blessed Hugh, followed by a delicious breakfast at Faringdon Baptist Church
- Christian Aid week e-collection and United Songs of Praise at All Saints'
- Big Green Day (stalls included Eco-Church and The Mustard Seed)
- Folly Fest open air service, led by Rev'd Mark Greenwood
- Jenny and Steve Braithwaite kindly hosted a summer lunch in their garden for members of all churches
- International Day of Peace (21 September) was celebrated with prayers in the Market Place
- Activities in All Saints' and on a market stall for the Advent 'Lights On' event and flyers handed out with details of Christmastide services

#### Faringdon Food Bank

Faringdon Food Bank has been run by Churches Together in Faringdon in partnership with the Town Council. Jeni Summerfield stepped down as chair early in the year and Gill Bolter took over. New Trustees have been appointed and during the year, arrangements were made to set up the Food Bank as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated



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## PARISH OF GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

### ANNUAL REPORTS & ACCOUNTS FOR 2025

Organisation). A Memorandum of Understanding with Churches Together in Faringdon has been prepared so that the Food Bank's Christian ethos is upheld and all Trustees should be actively involved in one of the churches in Faringdon (and at least one of them a minister of one of the churches).

Adele Vincent also left the Town Council (and therefore the Food Bank) and a new manager, Lesley Fugle, was appointed in the autumn. At the CTiF AGM, both Jeni and Adele were given flowers and thanked most gratefully for all their hard work during a particularly difficult period when numbers of clients increased exponentially.

The wonderful volunteers work very effectively together to deliver a caring but efficient service to those in need, but more would be very useful, particularly to help with the weekly shopping. If this is something that you feel you could do, please contact Lesley as soon as possible for more information.

We are extremely grateful for the generous donations both financial and food from members of all the churches, and those who donate at Waitrose and Stanford Co-op. Adele and Lesley also worked very hard accessing grants to help provide foods for us to distribute.

There is a donation box in church by the front door on the first pew in the south aisle so if you're able to offer even one small tin or packet of food a month that will really help us to feed those who are finding life particularly challenging. Alternatively, if you are able and would like to make a financial donation please speak to Jonathan Mapley or note the details - Faringdon Food Bank; sort Code 20-90-91; Acc. No. 53402738.

#### Mustard Seed

The shop was open all year again, from 9am to 1pm Mondays to Saturdays, and in December we were also able to remain open until 4pm Tuesdays to Saturdays.

The arrangement for ordering books and cards through the *Cornerstone Christian Centre* in Grove is working well. Our grateful thanks to Sarah Shewring, the manager at *Cornerstone*, for being so very helpful.

A stall was held in the Corn Exchange on Faringdon's Big Green Day in June and at the Farmers' Market in October immediately following Fairtrade Fortnight. Blessed Hugh church also has a sale after Mass on the first Sunday of each month. If anyone would like to invite friends to find out more about what we do and have a sale in their home, please contact Katie or Karen.

As ever, grateful thanks to our shop staff and window dressers, as well as to Lois Chell for her hard work keeping the books in order and arranging for the accounts to be audited by Alder Demain Akers free of charge.

Plans are being made to celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May 2026 – look out for signs!

*Sjoerd Vogt – Chairman*

*Karen Vogt and Katie Foot – Co-managers*

#### Sanctuary Faringdon

Most of our work during 2025 has been with the asylum seekers. It remains hard work keeping track of who is there, and exactly what help they need. Frances Starr has continued teaching the much-appreciated ESOL lessons at the Friends' Meeting House in Faringdon. Help has been offered by various individuals in all sorts of ways, including assistance with medical, legal and school issues. We were also able to help a few move into their own accommodation once they had received their right to remain. Support from the different churches has also been much appreciated.

*Sjoerd Vogt and Katie Foot*

If anyone has managed to read thus far and would like to get more involved in any of the work we do across the town, please don't hesitate to contact Tim Gerry (FBC) or me.

*Katie Foot - Secretary, Churches Together in Faringdon*

**GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025**  
**Statement of financial activities**

2024 (All Saints only) £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
	<b><u>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</u></b>						
165,874	Voluntary Income	2a	152,640	-	43,989	-	196,629
	Activities for generating funds		-	-	310	-	310
9,900	Income from Investments	2b	5,199	-	7,184	-	12,382
12,587	Church Activities	2c	12,088	-	-	-	12,088
	Other income	2d	872	-	-	-	872
<b>188,361</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>170,798</b>		<b>51,483</b>		<b>222,281</b>
	<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>						
-	Raising Funds	3a	-	-	-	-	
	Church Activities						
14,862	- Missionary and Charitable Giving	3b	15,428	-	-	-	15,428
65,691	- Diocesan Parish Share		72,474	-	-	-	72,474
82,386	- Other activities	3c	73,055		57,480		130,535
220	Governance Costs	3d	220	-	-	-	220
<b>163,159</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>161,177</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>57,480</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>218,657</b>
25,202	<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)</b>		<b>9,622</b>		<b>(5,997)</b>		<b>3,624</b>
7,420	<b>NET GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS</b> (on revaluation)	11		(557)	(1,461)	(5,726)	(7,744)
32,623	<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<b>9,622</b>	<b>(557)</b>	<b>(7,458)</b>	<b>(5,726)</b>	<b>(4,120)</b>
-	<b>TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS</b>		-	-	-	-	-
-	- Move £750 from General Fund to CL Designated		(750)	750		-	-
-						-	-
-						-	-
<b>32,623</b>	<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>8,872</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>(7,458)</b>	<b>(5,726)</b>	<b>(4,120)</b>
<b>826,798</b>	<b>Total funds brought forward 1 January</b>		<b>585,999</b>	<b>13,937</b>	<b>159,079</b>	<b>143,234</b>	<b>902,249</b>
<b>859,421</b>	<b>Total funds carried forward 31 December</b>		<b>594,870</b>	<b>14,130</b>	<b>151,621</b>	<b>137,508</b>	<b>898,129</b>

**GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025**  
**Balance Sheet**

2024 (All Saints only)		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
£							
	<b>Fixed assets</b>						
465,000	Tangible fixed assets	7	460,000	-	-	-	460,000
245,609	Investment assets	8	-	14,130	86,976	137,508	238,615
<u>710,609</u>	<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>460,000</u>	<u>14,130</u>	<u>86,976</u>	<u>137,508</u>	<u>698,615</u>
	<b>Current assets</b>						
0	Stock		-	-	-	-	-
0	Debtors (tax recoverable)	9	-	-	-	-	-
137,684	Short term deposits		116,290		50,745		167,035
11,127	Cash in hand and at bank		18,580	-	13,899	-	32,479
<u>148,812</u>	<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>134,870</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,644</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,515</u>
	<b>Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due within one year</b>						
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
0	Barber Rooms costs	10	0	-	-	-	0
<u>148,812</u>	<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>134,870</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>64,644</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>199,515</u>
	<b>Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due after one year</b>						
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
<u>859,421</u>			<u>594,870</u>	<u>14,130</u>	<u>151,621</u>	<u>137,508</u>	<u>898,129</u>
	<b>Funds of the church</b>						
	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
561,688	General fund		594,870	-	-	-	594,870
13,937	Designated fund	12	-	14,130	-	-	14,130
<u>575,626</u>			<u>594,870</u>	<u>14,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>609,001</u>
140,561	<b>Restricted funds</b>	11	-	-	151,621	-	151,621
143,234	<b>Endowment fund</b>	11	-	-	-	137,508	137,508
<u>859,421</u>	<b>Total funds of the church</b>		<u>594,870</u>	<u>14,130</u>	<u>151,621</u>	<u>137,508</u>	<u>898,129</u>
			-	-	-	-	-

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 10 April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Maria Jukes  
Vicar, All Saints Church

Dr David Wilson  
Treasurer, All Saints Church

**GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025**

**Notes to the accounts**

2024 (All Saints only)		2025				
Total funds	<b>2 INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds
£		£	£	£	£	£
	<b>2a Voluntary Income</b>					
	Planned Giving:					
82,450	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	87,644	-	3,291	-	90,935
23,713	Tax recovered/recoverable	21,974	-	2,912	-	24,885
23,585	Other planned giving (bankers order and payroll)	27,983	-	-	-	27,983
4,575	Collections of loose cash at services	6,382	-	-	-	6,382
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
19,595	Children & Families Leader Cont'ns (ODBF & Individuals)	-	-	17,860	-	17,860
	Grants Received towards activities	1,700	-	13,303	-	15,003
	Curate Contributions (ODBF and Individual)	-	-	6,464	-	6,464
	Mission Fund Donations	-	-	-	-	-
368	Little All Sorts Donations	375	-	-	-	375
1,718	Other donations (Gift Aided)	1,795	-	60	-	1,855
9,699	Other donations (Non Gift Aided)	4,788	-	100	-	4,888
170	Wall Safe/Cask etc.	-	-	-	-	-
165,874		152,640	-	43,989	-	196,629
	<b>Activities for generating funds</b>					
	Fetes, Bazaars, Other fund-raising events	-	-	310	-	310
				310		310
	<b>2b Investment Income</b>					
5,244	Deposit accounts (CBF, CAF, Virgin)	3,864	-	2,977	-	6,842
4,656	CBF Investment Account Dividends	1,334	-	4,207	-	5,541
9,900		5,199		7,184		12,382
	<b>2c Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>					
8,871	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	7,801	-	-	-	7,801
3,716	Room Hire	4,287	-	-	-	4,287
12,587		12,088		-		12,088
	<b>2d Other incoming resources</b>					
	Parish Share refunds from Diocese (2025 on)	872	-	-	-	872
		872	-	-	-	872
<b>4</b>	<b>3 EXPENDITURE</b>					
	<b>3a Raising Funds</b>					
0	Stewardship Campaign. Gift Aid Envelopes etc.		-	-	-	-
	<b>3b Missionary and Charitable Giving (see note 6)</b>					
8,877	Overseas Mission, Relief & Aid	8,600	-	-	-	8,600
4,390	Home Missions	6,378	-	-	-	6,378
1,595	Secular Charities	450	-	-	-	450
14,862		15,428		-		15,428
	<b>3c Church Activities</b>					
1,183	Ministry: Clergy Expenses	1,224	-	-	-	1,224
	Curate Costs	5,950	-	6,464	-	12,414
31,779	Children & Families Leader	15,113	-	19,360	-	34,473
288	Other Staff & Expenses	349	-	-	-	349
5,198	Church Cleaning	5,616	-	-	-	5,616
3,187	Heat Light & Water	6,745	-	-	-	6,745
713	Telephone & Wi-Fi	905	-	-	-	905
6,231	Insurance	7,373	-	596	-	7,969
729	Repairs & Maintenance: Organ & Bells	-	-	873	-	873
8,697	Other (mainly Quinquennial work)	536	-	30,187	-	30,723
	Church Development	3,735	-	-	-	3,735
1,944	Cost of church services	3,412	-	-	-	3,412
1,807	Upkeep of Churchyard	1,937	-	-	-	1,937
1,455	Training, Mission & Education	367	-	-	-	367
5,440	Depreciation charge for year (Barber Rooms etc.)	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
	Other expense items	-	-	-	-	-
13,734	Admin, Printing, Stationery, Bank Charges	14,793	-	-	-	14,793
82,386		73,055	-	57,480	-	130,535
	<b>3d Governance Costs</b>					
220	Audit fees, legal advice, PCC meetings	220	-	-	-	220
<b>4</b>	<b>4 STAFF COSTS</b>					
46,117	Wages & Salaries	51,912				
4	Average no. of employees	3				

During the year the PCC employed a Children and Families leader, an administrator and a cleaner.  
There were no P11D employee benefits paid to any staff in this, or previous, years

**GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025**

**Notes to the accounts**

**5 Trustee remuneration and expenses - related parties**

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who are ex officio members do receive a stipend but are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. No PCC members claimed expenses although they would be entitled to claim travel costs for attending meetings.

**6 Grants made** - grants were made to the following institutions:

Christian Aid	1150.00	CMS	3800.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators	275.00	Royal British Legion	300.00
Adventure Plus	1150.00	IJM	1150.00
Scripture Union	575.00	The Bible Society	575.00
The Children's Society	1150.00	Simeon's Trustees	300.00
Tear Fund	1150.00	Torch Trust	150.00
WATSAN	1150.00	A Rocha	1150.00
Dasel Course Donation	650.00	Anna Chaplaincy	150.00
Faringdon Foodbank (LC Don'n)	278.00	OHCT (LC Don'n)	25.00
RBL (LC Don'n)	100.00	Christian Aid (LC Don'n)	200.00
<b>2024 TOTAL</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15428.00</b>
<b>14862.00</b>			

No grants were made to individuals.

**7 Tangible fixed assets (all unrestricted)**

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures fittings & equipment £	Other £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
At 1 January 2025	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Additions/Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 January 2025	35,000	2,200	-	37,200
Charge for year	5,000	-	-	5,000
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	40,000	2,200	-	42,200
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 1 January 2025	465,000	-	-	465,000
At 31 December 2025	460,000	-	-	460,000

**8 Investment assets**

<b>Fixed asset investments</b>	£
Carrying (market) value on 1 January 2025	245,609
Add additions at cost/value	-
Less disposals at carrying value	-
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	(6,994)
Market Value - 31st December 2025	238,615

**9 Debtors and prepayments** (no amounts were due in more than one year)

	Amounts falling due within one year
	2,025 2024
	£ £
Accrued income - tax refund due	- 0

**10 Creditors and accruals** (no amounts were due in more than one year)

	Amounts falling due within one year
	2,025 2024
	£ £
Accruals	- 0
	- 0

**11 Endowment and restricted funds**

	Fund balances b/f £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances c/f £
<b>Endowment funds</b>					
Craven/Rawlings/John Wright (Inv A/C)	22,175	-	-	886	21,288
Haines/Spinage (Inv A/C)	3,527	-	-	141	3,386
Celia Walker Fund (Inv A/C)	117,533	-	-	4,699	112,834
	143,234	-	-	5,726	137,508
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Invest)	69,038	0	0.00	806	68,232.56
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Deposit)	618	20.94	625	-	13.59
Celia Walker Fund (Deposit)	18,138	4,617	8,000	-	14,754.71
Celia Walker Fund (Invest)	15,152	0	-	606	14,546.32
Bell Ringers Fund (Deposit)	4,545	377	248	-	4,674.00
Fabric Fund (Quinquennial grants etc.)	9,246	418	-	0	9,663.94
Accrual for tax refund	0	-	-	-	0.00
Mission Fund (Deposit)	18,456	835	-	-	19,291.59
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Inv)	4,247	-	-	50	4,197.54
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Deposit)	1,120	51	-	-	1,170.89
Friends of St Mary's (Current)	6,862	-	5,686	-	1,176.31
Friends of St Mary's (Deposit)	11,656	2,243	-	-	13,899.12
	140,561	8,562	14,559	1,461	151,620.58

**12 Designated Funds**

	£	£	£	£	£
Coach Lane Investment Fund	13,937	750	-	557	14,130



## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Great Faringdon Parochial Church Council**

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

### **Respective responsibilities of the PCC (Charity trustees) and Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 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 accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no 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
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gill Garrard  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
Independent Examiner  
3 Stanford Road  
Faringdon  
Oxon SN7 7AQ

