

St Austell Parish

Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ending 31/12/2024

Holy Trinity Church
Church Street
St Austell
Cornwall PL25 4FZ

Incumbent:

Rev Jonathan Huff (From 11th July 2024)

Principal Bankers:

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

Barclays Bank
10 Church Street
St Austell
PL25 4AS

Lloyds Bank
White River Place
St Austell
PL25 5AZ

Independent Examiner:

Tina Kelly
Cuckoo House
Nanstallon PL30 5LD

Registered Charity No. 1135008

St Austell Parochial Church Council (PCC) 1.1.2024-31.12.2024

Revd Jonathan Huff (from 11.7.2024) - *ex officio, Incumbent*

Sara Moulton *ex officio, churchwarden*

Bonnie Zaphiriou *ex officio, churchwarden*

Richard Rashleigh (Treasurer)

Katrina Hurst (PCC Secretary)

Clive Nichols

Jane Wingrove

Steve White

Georgia Jenkins

Heather Batho *ex officio, Deanery Synod*

Alan Gilbert *ex officio, Deanery Synod*

Jonny Dant *ex officio, Deanery Synod*

Jamie Moore *ex officio, Deanery Synod*

Revd Paul Zaphiriou *ex officio, Diocesan Synod, Rural Dean*

Lesley Lawther *ex officio, Deanery Synod*

Vicar's Report

It is a joy and a privilege to be sitting here writing my first "annual vicar's report" for you all! First and foremost because the fact that I'm sitting here at all to me demonstrates the incredible faithfulness of God. All of those months of Lydie and I praying for "what next", and He has answered our prayers so extravagantly... all of those months (had we known it!) of you all praying for "what next" with no plan B (!) and He has answered these too.

I've said this a few times from the front of all three of our churches, but our arrival here has felt to Lydie and I like coming home, even though in the geographical sense that couldn't be further from the truth. Behind the sense of homecoming, I believe, is the reality that we are where we are supposed to be, with the people we are supposed to be with, doing what we are called to do. So... a huge THANK YOU from both of us to you: for welcoming us so extravagantly and making us part of the family, but also for nurturing a hunger and a zeal for the Lord that is at the very heart of who you are and what you do.

Now to business! Although I've only been here in-post coming up 10 months, there's been so much going on that I couldn't possibly report on it all. Hopefully the reports which follow will give you a good sense of all this activity. From my perspective, just a few highlights to share.

My first six months were spent meeting people, getting up to speed on how things work within the parish as an organisation, and committing wholeheartedly to serving and leading the parish in its worshipping life. My priorities for this time were **building relationships** and **Sunday worship**. As a parish, our commitment to and love for one another is one of the things that makes us distinctive and marks us out as wholehearted followers of Jesus: something which makes a big impact on visitors and newcomers coming through our doors on Sundays. It was something we experienced and celebrated fully on our **parish weekend away** earlier in the year.

Some of the fruit that I see coming from these priorities – which remain! – is that as a parish we are growing numerically and flourishing spiritually, with new people arriving regularly on Sundays at Holy Trinity and St Levan's and growing teams and ministries to support this. **Prayer ministry** has been a key focus in this regard, and I've been working closely with Clive to grow the team and embed core values and practices. One of our priorities (which is listed as a parish DNA in the vision/parish profile) is **encountering the Holy Spirit in worship** – something for which effective prayer ministry is essential – and the **launch of the new evening gathering in March** has made room for this in a new way, with its emphasis on space, flexibility and simplicity.

One of the areas in which we are flourishing particularly clearly is in our **work with children and young people**. Lesley will say more in her report, but it is significant that in a national Church which struggles to reach the younger generation, we are

growing in this area on Sundays and in our midweek outreach. Our recent **Youth Alpha** was very fruitful in this regard!

We exist, after all, to make Jesus known to the world, so it's been very exciting to join a church which is running **Alpha** three times a year, and we celebrate all the **baptisms and dedications** we've held this year as a result... including baptising around a dozen new believers in the sea (some in freezing February!)

Part of understanding the parish as an organisation has required getting to grips with its **governance** and the protocols, processes and issues that come with it: things like **finances, team structures, policies and procedures**. I've been working with lots of different people on such things in the background, and although these are not usually the things which get talked about, they are vital in ensuring that the main things – mission and ministry – remain the main things. We are digging foundations for a fruitful future! Thank you to everybody who is working hard in this area.

I must also thank our incredible **staff team** who work so hard to lead our parish in the mission and ministry for which we exist. Across the board these are gifted, generous, selfless heroes who demonstrate the love of God so abundantly. It has been so hard saying goodbye to some of them in recent months, with Bonnie and Hilary stepping down and with the loss of our dear Paul. We also rejoice because of new appointments, including Jonny (as ordinand), Lara (Flourish) and Steve Williams (Associate Minister).

All-in-all, and with reference to our Parish Vision:

- We are seeing people becoming wholehearted for Jesus
- We are searching for God's heart and sharing it with St Austell, the Deanery, and beyond
- We are demonstrating God's love
- We are engaging our community
- We are a community of people playing their own parts
- We are learning
- We are hearing and following God

But this is just the beginning! Here's to the next year of following Jesus together!

With love,

Jonathan

Churchwardens' Report

After the installation of our new vicar, Jonathan Huff, in July last year, Bonnie's and Sara's first concern was to support him in establishing himself in the role. Now more than six months down the track, Jonathan has made the parish his own. Sara has served an extra year, authorised by the PCC, beyond the usual six-year term limit for Churchwardens and her extended term of office ends at the APCM.

Bonnie resigned as Churchwarden in March and we all owe her massive thanks for all her hard work and especially everything she put in place for the team producing our handbook and guidance for employees.

I know everyone will be praying with us for the selection of two new Churchwardens.

Bonnie Zaphiriou and Sara Moulton

PCC Secretary report

It has been a very busy year for the PCC with our new Vicar, Jonathan, joining us. Therefore we have met every month apart from August,

Katrina Hurst

Electoral Roll Report

Once in every six years, the preparation of a new church electoral roll takes place. This means that everyone must come off the roll and re-apply. On our new roll we have 165 members.

Rachel Smith

Electoral Roll Officer

Deanery Synod

2024 was a busy year for the Deanery.

It all started at our February meeting when Paul Zaphiriou Rural Dean and Mike Rowe Lay Chair presented a document proposing reconfiguring the Benefices in the Deanery. The rationale behind this was to make the vacant posts more attractive to applicants. This seems to have worked as by the end of year we had filled all of our vacant posts.

The Deanery held 4 meetings during the year and over the next 3 meetings we received talks including Poverty and Community Engagement from the parish Nurse in Goran.

Support for Low Income Families by Erica Payne from the Dockyard Collective based in Truro, and a Q and A session of two of our new appointments led by our Rural Dean Paul.

We also discussed if we should change the name of the Deanery as some people thought that when we talk about St Austell Deanery, we mean St Austell parish. The feeling of the parishes was that the rebranding was not necessary and that St Austell was the centre of the area and people recognised it as such.

Mike Rowe (Deanery Lay Chair)

Diocesan Synod Report

The Diocesan Synod meets 3 times each year in May, September and November. In 2024 the September meeting was of the Triennium following the elections in July.

In the May meeting we looked at different patterns of ministry across the Diocese including local lay leaders and oversight ministers.

At the September meeting with the new synod, synod took a look at how synod works with input from officers of the Diocesan Synod. In November the theme of Synod was 'With and for those in need'.

We received a presentation from Dr. Tanya Ovenden-Hope (TOH), Professor of Education at Plymouth Marjon University and Dean of Place and Social Purpose, and the 'Rurality Matters' work. Dr Tanya Ovenden-Hope (TOH) introduced herself and her research: The research has been conducted on place and social purpose, with a focus on education. We also heard from other Parishes from around the Diocese that are working 'With and for those in need'.

Also, at the November meeting we received the Budget presentation from Sophie Eddy Director of Finance. We then voted on the proposed budget for 2025 of which the majority were in favour.

Mike Rowe (Diocesan Synod Rep)

Worship

New Worship Leaders

Over the past year the worship team has adopted a co-leading model on Sunday mornings (two worship leaders per week) to encourage and train several of our emerging worship leaders. This model means they can take more responsibility for the planning and delivery of Sunday's sung worship alongside a more experienced leader. We have also welcomed two new members this year.

Evening Gatherings

Our main focus since the autumn has been preparing for evening gatherings, which started in March. This gathering has required a more free-flowing style of worship leading, a different tech setup, and an additional songpool of 60+ songs. We have spent time as a team developing the skills needed to fulfil this well.

Thursday@11

I have continued to support Jane with the sound and media requirements for this weekly gathering including training new volunteers to support her with setup and operating the iPad and iSingWorship software.

Sound Team

In the autumn I ran a live training session for the sound team and created a Sound of Holy Trinity document to provide a brief of how I would like the sound on Sunday mornings. There was also a training session for the different setup and sound required for the evening gatherings.

Media Team

The media team also had training on how to fulfil the different requirements of the evening gatherings and how to use the new media cabinet that we have recently commissioned (a big thank you to Justin Hanson for his time and expertise on this). This new cabinet is a permanent housing for our Media PC and offers faster setup/packdown, fewer connection issues, and protects the PC from the wear and tear damage that was naturally occurring by continually unpacking.

Youth Band

I have continued to coach youth band with the support of Talea and then Berna. We meet most weeks (on a Thursday afternoon) and currently have 5 young musicians attending - we would love a few more! The youth band led worship at an all-age Sunday morning gathering in September and February, with another scheduled for 27th April.

Parish

In January I oversaw the installation of two small screens at the front of St Levan's church in Porthpean (a big thanks to Keith Palmer for his time and expertise on this). This has allowed the congregation to have song lyrics shown on screens (via iSingWorship) and a way to show notices slides, sermon slides, and videos each week, including one showing photos of the Church Weekend Away at Lee Abbey. The next step is to install some permanent speakers to replace the temporary trolley speaker they are currently using.

Christians Together St Austell

I have continued to support the Christians Together in the town and took the lead role in the planning and executing the ecumenical ***Church in the Square*** event on Good Friday. I also led the band that provided sung worship during the event. This was once again a great success and warmly received by those who attended, despite us having to be inside again this year due to the wet weather. Hopefully we can be outside next year!

Deanery

Beyond the parish I have supported;

- **St Peter's** (Mevagissey) with two Christmas services (one was for the whole of Mevagissey Primary School) and also helped them set up a new church laptop with an iSingWorship subscription.
- **St Goran** (Gorran) by arranging and overseeing an upgrade to their sound system and providing a live demonstration of iSingWorship software at one of their Sunday morning services.
- **St Andrews** (Tywardreath) by helping Shona plan for a new monthly Family Service which is due to start in May.
- The **Deanery Implementation Team** by creating a plan for how we could hopefully encourage more intergenerational worship across the deanery.

Jamie Moore (Worship Minister)

Alpha

Over the past year, as a church, we have successfully run four Alpha courses, (including one Young Adult Alpha and one Youth Alpha course). We have seen a

total of 55 helpers and guests involved across the courses. We have seen multiple people turn to faith in Christ either for the first time or reaffirm their belief. We have had over 15 people get baptised following their Alpha course. It has been incredibly moving to see people not only turn to Christ but also to see their lives embedded in wholehearted discipleship groups. Roger and Jan formed an Alpha follow-up Life Group, and have been regularly meeting in their home to encourage one another in their faith. Many of the guests have also been involved in the helping of subsequent Alpha courses as co-leaders, which has been really inspiring to see their faith in action. We are looking forward to starting a new Alpha course in September, so please be praying about who you can invite.

Jonny Dant

Children's and Youth Ministry

It's been another wonderful and fun year of activities, outreach and growing disciples!

Since the last APCM we've seen growth in the number of families who've joined us and we now regularly have 30+ children and young people going out to our groups on Sunday mornings.

We continue on with our different groups and initiatives across the year which as well as Sundays includes; Woven girls' discipleship group, Youth Café, Sundays at the Loft, Light Fest, Winter Wonderland, Easter Fun Day, Easter Experience, Flourish project, Sunshine Toddler group, Christingle, our youth camp to SPREE in the summer and various other youth events across the year. We also hosted our first Youth Alpha in January.

We've taken lessons in Sky School at Eden and regularly take Collective Worship at Bishop Bronescombe. The Easter Experience brought 2 new schools into church and it was great to make links with these.

It's been a busy year for Rosie as she has been in the final year of her degree and has had some weighty assignments to write as well as leading and planning all the

things she does here for us. I'm very grateful for her and all she has given over these last 4 years. We've also been gifted Berna for the year as our SWYM intern from Germany. She has been a joy and has connected well with our children and young people. We will miss her when she goes home in the summer.

Rosie and I were very excited to attend the Youthscape National Youth Work conference in November and we came back inspired, equipped, laden down with resources and excited for all that God is doing here in St Austell and will continue to do.

Looking ahead we want to build and strengthen our links with our local secondary schools and we have plans to begin a small group for our teenage boys. We continue to build our team of amazing volunteers to help support all of this. We value your ongoing prayers. If you have any questions about anything we do, please come and chat to us!

Lesley Lawther

Thursday Gatherings

These gatherings have developed a reflective style of worship, allowing for people to join in the time of prayer together. I'm now encouraging others to take part in leading the prayers and doing the readings. We use iSing, Peter on the organ and Benjamin to enhance the worship. We have communion once a month. Our numbers range between 16 and 30! We are definitely a developing community and all are welcome at this midweek sanctuary!

Jane Wingrove (Anna Chaplain)

Buildings and Maintenance Report

During the last year the PCC have been proactively looking after our building and land. We have also been looking at future projects. Below is a summary of some of our actions.

Maintenance

- Many small jobs have been done on a regular basis by Justin Hanson.
- We have had two work party mornings in Autumn 2024 and Spring 2025. The main focus has been clearing shrubs, trees and weeds from the church car park.

- At the time of writing the emergency lighting in Holy Trinity needs some maintenance and upgrading.

Larger Projects

- Enhanced West Door Entrance into Holy Trinity: Professional drawings have been done which show the raising of the bell ringing floor and a new stairway up to this area. The next phase is to start the faculty process. Once this is complete we can get accurate costs for installation and find the funding.
- Church Car Park: In 2024 Paul Zaphiriou started investigating the future of the car park and its possible sale. This project will continue during 2025.

Quinquennial Inspections

- The C of E requirement is that every 5 years a church building is inspected. In April all three church buildings (Holy Trinity, St Levan and All Saint's) had their inspections. At the time of writing we are awaiting these reports. We are hoping that nothing major will be reported.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Keith Palmer who deals with various maintenance items at Trinity Centre particularly in the café.

Clive Nichols

CAP (Christians Against Poverty)

St Austell Parish has continued to be the lead church for CAP operations in the St Austell area. Edwina Sleeman, who is a member of White River Community Church, is our Debt Centre Manager, and Craig Glanville, who is a member of the Clays Community Church, is a Debt Coach. There are also befrienders who are drawn from various churches around the area, and several of these churches support CAP financially with monthly standing orders. The Board is made up of Kevin Prinsloo (White River Community Church), Jenny Taylor (Methodist) and Heather Batho

(Chair, St Austell Parish). We work in conjunction with St Austell Foodbank and are also involved in offering Life Skills training.

During 2024 support and advice was given to help many people become debt free, learn how to budget, and generally manage their finances in a more appropriate way.

All of this takes place in the context of sharing God's love to all. Clients are asked if they would like prayer, and most respond positively. Care for families is also an important part of the work of CAP and individual gifts for each child of clients, and care and food packages for adults are all distributed at Christmas and at other times as needed.

Heather Batho

Walking for Health

Our Walking for Health group is part of St Austell Healthcare's Social Prescribing set up, and as such we frequently have new walkers referred to us through local surgeries. We are a very mixed group and have regular walkers who have challenging special needs.

We walk whatever the weather every Tuesday, leaving from HT at 2pm. We walk along the Clay Trail for a total of about 3 miles, and then many choose to migrate to Trinity Café for a drink and some cake.

This walk is not just about encouraging people to take exercise, but it is a community and for some, it might be the only point in the week when they experience some social interaction and a warm welcome.

Heather Batho

Prayer Ministry Report

During the past year prayer ministry has grown and developed at Holy Trinity. Previously it was mainly available at the end of gatherings but now increasingly there is time set aside within each of the gatherings for opportunity for prayer. In order to facilitate this more members of the congregation have been mobilised to pray.

Jonathan has run two training sessions and we are grateful to the new folk who have been willing to support. Prayer ministry continues to be offered after the morning gathering for anyone who would like it. It is certainly a joy that prayer ministry has now become an integral part to our worship. In simple terms we ask the question, "What is the Lord saying and how do I respond to this?" The space given provides a place where we allow the Holy Spirit to bring his love, grace, mercy and goodness into our lives. It is a place where we sense the unique presence of the Lord, both personally, and corporately as a church.

So, whether you feel you want lots of prayer, or just a little, prayer ministry is for us all. It is an opportunity to press into the Lord as he leads us in our journey together.

Thank you to all the team, both new and old, for your faithfulness over the past year.

Clive Nichols

Life Groups

It's been a joy to see our Life groups develop over the last year. We currently have ten life groups meeting at various times of the week. We met with the life group leaders before Christmas to pray together and share encouragements and different resources we have been using. Life groups are also a first point of contact for pastoral care and it's been lovely to hear how people are supporting one another and meeting together for social occasions too. Life groups are a wonderful expression of church family and give the opportunity for growth in so many areas of our lives. If you aren't already in a group and wish to join one, please do get in touch with one of us or the office.

Jonny and Lesley April 2025

St Levan's Report

St Levan's has continued to thrive and grow throughout the year, with numbers attending typically hovering between mid 20s and low 30s. Our Associate Minister

and Reader Alan Gilbert continues to lead us with wisdom and dedication despite having given up driving this year.

Our willing volunteers are too many to list but highlights include Jim Bushrod who tames vegetation around the perimeter of the church and has replaced our inside lighting with LED bulbs this year as well as tackling our ailing outside vestry door and frame. Nigel Bloxham has been inspired to turn our lower plot into a garden for the congregation, community and parish and with the able assistance of Marguerite Coke's husband, Marcus, has cleared, tilled and seeded the plot ready for planting. We hope Nigel will see the realisation of his vision before his forthcoming move to Norfolk: he will be much missed. Maggie Barlow has played the organ for us frequently this year and it is always a joy to sing praises with beautiful live music. Alan Coode has taken on the role of secretary of the St Levan's Committee this year and keeps us efficiently organised with minutes, agenda and meeting dates. He and Roger Kirkpatrick alongside Sara Moulton have all mastered using I Sing on the computer with the new screens, installed by Jamie Moore and Keith Palmer. Jamie also trained the operators with exemplary skill and patience. The talented Lizzie Haskins has led with our flowers and the Vicar chairs our committee meetings. Our rota of readers, intercessors and refreshers is always full.

Our Life Group "Homegrown" meets weekly on Thursday afternoons usually at Polcarne, the home of Cathy and Alan Coode and we are grown to around twelve in number. Homegrown and the wider congregation are a welcoming and loving family, supporting each other in living and growing in faith.

This year we have acquired our stylish and elegant kitchenette constructed from timber felled, seasoned and donated by Alan Coode and constructed to his design, approved by the committee. The church has also just had its first quinquennial inspection and the report is to hand.

Incidents of note include the blowing over of a large length of the boundary fence to Rosemary Cottage and its repair at the parish expense, subject to an agreement that any repairs required will be at the expense of the other party. In August we were invaded by colonies of angry displaced bees who forced us temporarily out of our place of worship and left a terrible mess behind them. We worshipped for one week in All Saints Pentewan who gave us shelter and the bill for humane rehoming of the bees was paid by our insurer aside from the usual excess.

Sara Moulton

All Saints

It has been a rather variable period for all Saints Church Pentewan. It included a period before the new Vicar arrived, his first visits and a few indifferent services. The highlight was undoubtedly the Christmas Carol Gathering with an attendance of 91 including 3 children. Furthermore, there were only 4 from Holy Trinity, so the vast majority must have been locals who just wanted to enjoy singing carols in their own church!

A new door has been fixed to the outside toilet thanks to the efforts of Bonnie Zaphiriou. We have also had the roof surveyed and the gutters cleaned. There was a quinquennial survey conducted on 8th April, although little had changed since the one conducted in 2020. The church has also signed up to join the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust (CHCT). It is now possible to create a maintenance project that can be submitted to the PCC for costing and approval of some repairs.

Sadly, the number of regular helpers has diminished. There are really only 3 and if one is sick or on holiday, then the routine work falls to one person. Maybe it might be possible to have some periodic help from Holy Trinity? There is definitely a strong wish to keep the church open, even if it is only for High Days and Holidays. It is already a walkers' church and during the summer months there is a stream of visitors who seem delighted to see an open church with refreshments available. We now have a card reading machine, so more money should be going to the Parish. The future remains uncertain and much prayer is needed.

Ralph Curr

Pastoral Report

Our prayer was that the whole church would look after one another and this seems to be fruitful. Each area of the church family keeps a careful eye on its flock (Families and young people, Inspire, Grain, Worship group etc) We have still had termly meetings as the pastoral group and maintain contact as required through our Whatsapp group.

Jane Wingrove (Pastoral Lead)

Anna Chaplaincy

This past year I have developed a strong relationship with Woodlands Care Home and Penrice, both of which I visit on a weekly visit, working with groups and spending time with individuals. I have had the privilege of spending time at the Hospice with patients at the end of life and when I haven't been able to respond Andrew Wade has stepped in.

We have also set up the Daisy Chain Cafe to provide a safe place for those who are grieving to come together and share their stories. We meet in Holy Trinity on the second Sunday of each month. We have only met 3 times so it's early days.

I'm now in discussions with Social Prescribing to establish a group of Anna Friends to support the NHS work with elderly and lonely people in St. Austell

Jane Wingrove (Anna Chaplain).

Home Communion

Home Communion services were delivered to three residential homes: Penrice, Woodlands and Caprera once a month through the year except in December, when a service of lessons and carols was held just before Christmas, which was well received.

The team is small and has room to grow. With more members, it would be possible to cover more homes. As it is said in Matthew 9: 37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Home Communion services have also been brought to a person at their home.

Alan Coode, Co-ordinator

Precept Report

Precept Bible study groups have continued to meet on Zoom throughout 2024/25.

Participants come from St. Austell Parish as well as from other denominations throughout Cornwall, the UK and Worldwide.

During 2024/25 the Monday afternoon study group has just completed their study of Luke's gospel.

During 2024/25 the Thursday evening study group has studied Acts, Fasting, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah and Titus.

Both groups are going on to study Jude in May. As always we have deepened our relationship with God through studying His word, with the help of the Holy Spirit, and have been challenged to live differently, in ways that please God, through what we have studied. We have enjoyed fellowship, friendship and laughter despite being many miles apart.

If you would like any further information please contact Diana Adams
lydiaminerva@btinternet.com

Missions Report

Holy Trinity continues to financially support Katia Rocks £100 on a monthly basis. Holy Trinity was paired with Katia through Church Mission Society. Katia is based in Florianopolis in Brazil. Katia is a single Mum with two children, Joanna and Davi. Katia was diagnosed with cancer last year and has been receiving treatment, from which she is recovering. Katia is in Leadership of Vineyard Brazil and is planning to be ordained later this year. Katia's work into the women's prisons has been cancelled by the prison director however they are still able to go in and do their monthly evangelism.

Many thanks to Caroline Allsup-Evans for keeping the family of Holy Trinity updated with news of Katia in the notice sheet as and when we receive it.

During the transition period of Jonathon's arrival, Paul and I did meet regarding going forward with Missions. We both felt that it was best to wait and see how Jonathon wanted to proceed with missions.

Alison Hanson

Bellringers' Report

The year has been one of mixed fortunes. This year we have welcomed a number of visiting ringing groups and it has always been a pleasure to meet ringers from near and far. With the increasing usage of the church for events other than church services it can be difficult to fit visit requests from various groups. On one occasion we had to "encourage" wedding guests to leave resulting in a misunderstanding between the groups. This led to the guest ringers not realising they needed to pull the clock hammers away from the bells before ringing up resulting in severe damage to the clock chimes mechanism. Fortunately, the ensuing damage was covered by the church insurance!

With the move to single Sunday morning gatherings are now delighted to be ringing at the more socially acceptable time of 9.30-10.00am. I understand the neighbours are grateful for another hour of uninterrupted sleep. We have a maximum of 6 ringers for our 8 bells. With problems of work patterns for some, holidays and illness it is difficult to ring more than 4 or 5 bells each Sunday. We hope to recruit more ringers soon. We still have to stop ringing for the arrival of the congregation! We prefer not to lasso our friends!

Plans are progressing for a new ringing floor above the level of the entrance doors with access via a staircase. This will incorporate the long-planned piazza and good disabled access.

Rupert Adkins

Tower Captain

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell

Statement Of Financial Activities

for the Year ended 31st December 2024

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds 2024</u>	<u>Total Funds 2023</u>
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Donations and Legacies	2(a)	209,545	12,908		222,453	265,825
Charitable Activities	2(b)	16,559	113,752		130,311	109,181
Other Trading Activities		63,927			63,927	11,329
Investment Income	2(c)	4,736	7,344		12,080	11,645
Total Incoming Resources		294,767	134,004		428,771	397,980
Resources Used						
Church Activities	3(a)	301,549	159,303		460,852	352,509
Net Surplus/Deficit on Ordinary Activities		(6,782)	(25,299)		(32,081)	45,471
Other Resources Used Capital Items						
Trinity Centre Refurbishment & Café Fitting Out**	3(b)					91,944
Transforming Mission - Provisioning Exp - Equip. etc. **	3(b)					
Net Outgoing/Incoming Resources		(6,782)	(25,299)		(32,081)	(46,473)
(Before Other Recognised Gains and Losses)						
(Loss)/Gains on Investments ref. mkt value @ 31-12-2024	5(b)			394	394	9,017
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(6,782)	(25,299)	394	(31,687)	(37,456)
Transfers Between Funds		(23,645)	23,645			
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)						
Capitalised Expenditure **	3(b)					91,944
Gains and Losses on Revaluation of Property						
Other Gains/(losses)						
Net Movement In Funds		(30,427)	(1,654)	394	(31,687)	54,488
Reserves - Balances B/Fwd At 1st January 2024		226,341	1,408,617	114,312	1,749,270	1,694,782
Reserves - Balances C/Fwd At 31st December 2024		195,914	1,406,963	114,706	1,717,583	1,749,270
Memo - Of Which The Revaluation Reserve is -		46,245			46,245	46,245

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2024</u> £	<u>2023</u> £
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024			
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5(a)	1,995,609	1,997,223
Trinity Café (St Austell) Ltd - Share Capital	5 (b)	1	
Investment Assets	5(c)	114,706	114,312
		2,110,316	2,111,535
Current Assets			
Stock (Café Ingredients)			2,835
Debtors	6	43,818	23,800
Cash At Bank & In-Hand		75,206	88,411
		119,024	115,046
Liabilities; Creditors; Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	7(a)	(48,757)	(14,311)
Net Current Assets		70,267	100,735
Creditors - Amounts falling Due Over 1 year	7(b)	(463,000)	(463,000)
Net Assets		1,717,583	1,749,270
Funds			
Endowment	9	114,706	114,312
Restricted	8	1,406,963	1,408,617
Unrestricted	9	149,669	180,096
Revaluation Reserve	9	46,245	46,245
		1,717,583	1,749,270

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell
Statement Of Financial Activities
for the Year ended 31st December 2024

Notes Con't

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Trading Income (Café)</u> £	<u>Restricted Funds</u> Tr'form'g. Miss. £	<u>Restricted Funds</u> (Tr. Centre) £	<u>Restricted Funds</u> (Fabric) £	<u>Restricted Funds</u> (CAP) £	<u>Total Funds</u> <u>2024</u> £	<u>Total Funds</u> <u>2023</u> £
	<u>2023</u> <u>Comparative</u>	<u>2024</u>							
2. Incoming Resources									
2(a) Voluntary Income									
Planned Giving - Covenant	138,632	139,959						139,959	138,632
Donations, Appeals Etc	10,065	14,983			3,385		8,720	27,088	37,885
Collections	5,924	4,813						4,813	5,924
Contactless Devices	6,290	6,168						6,168	6,290
Tax Recoverable	29,467	33,622			428		375	34,425	36,830
Other Grants Received	8,798								25,764
Legacies	14,500	10,000						10,000	14,500
	213,676	209,545			3,813		9,095	222,453	265,825
2(b) Charitable Activities									
Missional Grants (Incl. TM Funding)		1,203		113,752				114,955	95,126
Fund Raising		150						150	
		1,353		113,752				115,105	95,126
Add:-									
Income From Other Qualifying Church Activities									
Rental incl Wayleaves	1,516	2,622						2,622	1,516
Income from Church Hall Site	8,163	8,860						8,860	8,163
Fees	4,376	3,724						3,724	4,376
	14,055	15,206						15,206	14,055
Total Income From Charitable Activities	14,055	16,559		113,752				130,311	109,181
Income from Other Trading Activities									
Café			63,927					63,927	11,194
Revenue from Sales of Books, Cards etc.	135								135
	135		63,927					63,927	11,329
2(c) Income From Investments									
Dividends	3,497	3,363						3,363	3,497
Interest	1,358	1,373				7,344		8,717	8,148
	4,855	4,736				7,344		12,080	11,645
Total Incoming Resources	232,721	230,840	63,927	113,752	3,813	7,344	9,095	428,771	397,980

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell
Statement Of Financial Activities
for the Year ended 31st December 2024

Notes Con't

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Trading Income (Café) £</u>	<u>Restricted Funds Tr'form'g. Miss. £</u>	<u>Restricted Funds (Tr. Centre) £</u>	<u>Restricted Funds (Fabric) £</u>	<u>Restricted Funds (CAP) £</u>	<u>Total Funds 2024</u>	<u>Total Funds 2023</u>
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>						<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>3(a) Church Activities - Ordinary Expenditure</u>									
Missionary and Charitable Giving	24	3,791						3,791	59
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)							5,394	5,394	6,183
Ministry : Diocesan Quota	62,339	67,544						67,544	62,339
Clergy Costs		67						67	
Parish Training & Mission Resources	3,589	5,343						5,343	3,589
Other Ministry Costs	2,731	1,205						1,205	2,731
Church :- Repairs & Maintenance	4,278	11,430				2,326		13,756	7,096
Insurance	9,680	13,894						13,894	9,680
Utilities	18,648	11,846						11,846	18,648
Upkeep Of Services	5,715	5,767						5,767	5,715
Depreciation of Equipment	9,647	8,227						8,227	9,647
Organist	1,135	638						638	1,135
Trinity Car Park	1,108	4,075						4,075	1,108
Children & Youth Expenditure	2,324	3,908						3,908	2,324
Church Fabric (Incl. Re-ordering)						1,350		1,350	1,107
Trinity Centre - Consultancy/Costs of Fund raising)	17								17
Staff Costs & Honorarium	34,967	36,690		119,250			11,876	167,816	156,799
Telephone & Broadband	380								380
Property Costs - Trinity Centre	27,107	26,012			960			26,972	27,577
General Office Expenses	6,177	8,674						8,674	6,177
Costs Of Trading			83,796	18,147				101,943	22,336
Miscellaneous	700	800						800	700
Loan Interest	6,781	7,344						7,344	6,781
Bank Charges	381	498						498	381
Total Ordinary (Operating) Expenditure	197,728	217,753	83,796	137,397	960	3,676	17,270	460,852	352,509
Net Surplus/(Deficit) on Ordinary Activities	34,993	13,087	(19,869)	(23,645)	2,853	3,668	(8,175)	(32,081)	45,471
Transfers Between Funds - Incoming/(Outgoing)									
Capital Transfers	(4,118)	(19,869)	19,869						
TM Funding - Parish Contr'n	(28,955)	(23,645)		23,645					
Trinity Centre - Refurbishment Expenditure**									(91,944)
Net Movement in Funds	1,920	(30,427)	-	-	2,853	3,668	(8,175)	(32,081)	(46,473)

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell

Notes Con't

4. Staff Costs

	<u>Amount</u>
	<u>£</u>
(a) Wages & Salaries	233,013
Employers National Insurance	9,630
Employers Pension Contributions	3,920
Estimate Of Average No. Of Full Time Equivalent Employees	7.1

(b) Payments to PCC members

The Operations Manager, Worship Minister and Pioneer Minister are members or have served on the PCC during the year and their election has been approved by the PCC on the basis that the best interests of the PCC are being so served.

Their remuneration was £18,003, £33,338, and £21,005 respectively, in the financial year.

5. Fixed Assets

5(a) Tangible	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	<u>Freehold Property</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Freehold Property</u>	<u>Equipment</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Actual Deemed/Cost at 1st January	1,942,733	89,860	1,884,412	53,624
Additions During The Year	-	6,613	58,321	36,236
Demolition/Disposals During The Year				
Revaluations During The Year				
Balance At 1st December 2024	1,942,733	96,473	1,942,733	89,860
Depreciation At 1st January	-	(35,370)	-	(25,723)
Charge For Year		(8,227)		(9,647)
Adjustments Demolition/Disposals/Reval'n During The Year				
Balance At 1st December 2024	1,942,733	(43,597)	1,942,733	(35,370)
Net Book Value At 31st December 2024	£1,942,733	£52,876	£1,942,733	£54,490
<i>Memo - Of Which Revaluation of Assets Accounts for -</i>	<u>£46,245</u>		<u>£46,245</u>	

The tangible assets consist of the freehold land, buildings and equipment. The freehold land and buildings comprise the former church hall site and car park and the Trinity Centre (formerly Hop & Vine) located in St Austell.

Valuation is based Open Market and these have been carried out within the last 3 years. The Revaluation Reserve gives the uplift in value from the Historic Cost. Equipment is depreciated at 25% reducing balance. Buildings are not depreciated based on assumptions of long life expectancy and high residual value.

5(b) Investment in Trinity Café (St Austell) Ltd

The PCC established and incorporated the café on the 25th July 2024 Company No.15858843 operating in St Austell town centre)

(Prior to incorporation it was run through the church - please see notes 2 and 3 for trading results for this period).

The nature of the business is a Café serving hot and cold food, snacks and drinks and related goods.

The PCC owns 100% of the shares and has control of the company

At the 31st December 2024 the aggregate value of capital and reserves was (£7,756) e.g. negative equity.

Herewith a summary Profit and Loss Account:-

Turnover (i.e. sales)	51,106
Cost of sales and/or direct expenses (optional line)	<u>43,707</u>
Gross profit	7,399
Less:- Administrative or operating expenses	<u>15,155</u>
Net profit/(Loss) before tax	(7,756)
Gift Aid donation to the parent charity	0
Retained profit (if any)	0
Intercompany balance owed to PCC	15,523

The Director's two of whom are on the PCC are of the opinion that this first year loss is not unexpected given that this is a start-up business.

There has been a reduction in management staffing and other cost cutting measures have been taken together with pricing changes. A growth in turnover and with the creation of the Piazza in the church grounds opposite the café - creating the potential for additional customers being able to sit outside, they believe that there are grounds for optimism that the Café will see a turnaround in its trading position in the coming year.

(Early results for the first quarter results for 2025 are supporting this view).

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell

Notes Con't

5 (c) Other Investments - Deposit and Investment Funds

	<u>2024</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>£</u>
Market Value 1st January	114,312	105,295
Unrealised investment (loss)/gain in year	394	9,017
Market value at 31st December 2024	<u>114,706</u>	<u>114,312</u>
Cost At 31st December 2024	<u>13,341</u>	<u>13,341</u>

6 Debtors

Income Tax recoverable	6,723	3,731
Transforming Mission Grants Receivable	20,000	18,389
Intercompany Debtors	15,523	
Prepayments and Accrued Income	1,572	1,680
	<u>43,818</u>	<u>23,800</u>

7. Liabilities

7(a) Creditors ; Amounts falling due within one year

Boscoppa Church (Agency a/c)	8,716	
General Creditors, Accruals and Deferred income	40,041	14,053
Outside Giving - Funds held for Distribution		258
	<u>48,757</u>	<u>14,311</u>

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell

Notes Con't

7(b) Creditors - Amounts falling Due Over 1 year

Truro Diocese TM Loan (5 Year Term Repayment 2/12/26)	25,000	25,000
Private Loans (Church & Trinity Project)		
Repayment terms 3-5 years/variable	438,000	438,000
	<u>463,000</u>	<u>463,000</u>

Loans are interest free. Private loans include loans from members of th PCC (Heather Batho £100,000 and Richard Rashleigh £298,000)

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell

Notes Con't
8. Funds

Restricted Funds Movement

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Church Fabric</u>	<u>Transforming Mission</u>	<u>Trinity Centre & Café</u>	<u>CAP</u>
Balance at 1st January 2024	1,408,617	176,767		1,214,895	16,955
Incoming Resources	134,004	7,344	113,752	3,813	9,095
	1,542,621	184,111	113,752	1,218,708	26,050
Resources Expended	(159,303)	(3,676)	(137,397)	(960)	(17,270)
Transfers To/From General Fund	23,645	-	23,645	-	-
Balance at 31st December 2024	£1,406,963	£180,435	-	£1,217,748	£8,780

9 Analysis of net assets by Fund	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<----- <u>Restricted</u> ----->						<u>Total Funds</u>
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Fabric Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>Trinity Centre & Café</u>	<u>CAP</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£	£		£		£	£
Fixed Assets - Tangible Investments	335,943 (150,000)	150,000	114,706		1,659,666			1,995,609 114,706
	185,943	150,000	114,706		1,659,666			2,110,315
Current Assets	33,439	30,798		29,175	(3,918)	8,780	20,750	119,024
Current Liabilities	(23,469)	(363)		(4,175)			(20,750)	(48,757)
Net Current Assets	9,970	30,435		25,000	(3,918)	8,780		70,267
Creditors - Amounts falling Due Over 1 year				(25,000)	(438,000)			(463,000)
Adj. Re Fixed Asset Revaluations (Trf to Separate Reserve)	(46,245)							(46,245)
Fund Balance	149,668	180,435	114,706		1,217,748	8,780		1,717,582
Note Revaluation Reserve Disclosed separately	46,245							

10 Audit and Accountancy Fees

	<u>2024</u> £	<u>2023</u> £
Independent Examiners Fee	800	700

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST AUSTELL

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on Pages 1 to 4, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirements of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity commission under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance 2006 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. The examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

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 41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations 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.



Tina Kelly

25th April 2025

Cuckoo House, Marshall Road, Nanstallon, Bodmin, Cornwall. PL30 5LD

Finance Report for the year ended 31st Dec. 2024

The accounts of the PCC are best viewed in two separate parts, namely those activities associated with what are termed Unrestricted Funds (funds that can be spent on any expense, routine or otherwise, that the church incurs in the course of carrying out its work) and those associated with Restricted funds (where money is specifically given and handled according to defined criteria e.g. for the maintenance of the Church's buildings and fabric).

Overview to the 2024 Accounts

Before proceeding with the detailed section of the report, it is worth briefly commenting on the main events and activities of the past year.

Transforming Mission initiative is being actively and confidently carried out within the benefice and also reaching out into the wider Deanery. On a general note with regard to this, although the early years of this initiative have been mainly funded by the Diocese in partnership with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England, our contribution has been increasing each year - on the basis that church growth will aim to provide the funding required to support the mission in the longer term. (The accounts show that our contribution to the initiative in 2024 was £23,645. In the coming year this is predicted to rise to around £45,000 and will rise again in 2026, after which current grant support will cease).

Turning to the Trinity Café. The café was run until the 24th July within church operations, thereafter it was incorporated - as Trinity Café (St Austell) Ltd. As a start-up, unfortunately the Café - whilst getting established - made a loss of £19,869 (within the church period till 24th July) and a loss of £7,756 (for the period of incorporation until 31st December. Despite this the directors hold a positive outlook, noting that the café is popular and enjoys good reviews on both social media and elsewhere. The situation has already seen a significant improvement in recent quarters (due to cost-cutting and pricing adjustments). They therefore remain optimistic that the café is on track to reach break-even or even turn a profit in 2025 (refer to note 5b in the accounts for further details). They would also like to mention that the ongoing support from the church congregation and friends is greatly appreciated and helping to shape the café into a warm and lively gathering place, strengthening its role as a vital link between the church and the wider community.

Commentary on Unrestricted Funds

The headline result for our principal church activities was a surplus of £13,087 however after deducting out TM contribution (£23,645) and start-up support for the cafe of (£19,869) this turned into a deficit of £30,427.

Income. (Please also refer to the expanded income statement in the notes and commentary section of the accounts)

Total income for Unrestricted Funds was £230,840 which is slightly down on 2023 (£1,881).

Commenting on particular items, Planned Giving was £139,959 (up £1,327). General one-off donations were up by £4,918 at £14,983 (from £10,065 in 2023) but are clearly unpredictable in nature. We have also benefitted legacies of £10,000. Total Voluntary giving by church members including tax recovered through Gift Aid came to £209,545 (down on 2023 by £4,131). Other income (including dividends, the car park and fees) came to £15,206 against £14,055 in the previous year.

Expenditure. Total expenditure on Unrestricted funds was £217,753 – an increase of £20,025 on 2023. The major changes were an increase in the MMF charge from the Diocese of £5,205, Charitable Giving of £3,767 (see paragraph below on missional support), Church Repairs £7,152 (principally Porthpean church – kitchen and boundary fencing repairs and improvements), Insurance £4,214, Car Park £2,967 (stable repairs and car park perimeter maintenance and repairs), Office Staff Costs by £1,723, Office Expenses £2,497. However, there were savings too – in utilities £6,801 (in large part refunds of overcharged VAT), and Trinity Centre £1,095

In terms of the church's Missional support our TM contribution (shown below expenditure in the table (in Transfers) is mission orientated albeit more locally focussed and came to £23,645.

Also, our mission partner Katia Rocks in Brazil is also receiving help from our mission reserve fund £1,200 p.a. as does CAP (£1,800 p.a.) and Bibles in Schools (£500).

Property Costs The freehold land and buildings comprise Trinity Centre (formerly the Hop & Vine) together with the Church Car Park located in St Austell. Valuation is based Open Market valuations, as reviewed within the last 3 years. The Revaluation Reserve gives the uplift in value from the Historic Cost.

Restricted Funds

For Restricted Funds, income normally comes from specifically designated grants, appeals and legacies. The total income came to £134,004 in 2024 of which £3,813 was money received towards the Trinity Centre and £113,752 was funding received towards Transforming Mission by the Diocese, and £9,095 towards CAP (Christians Against Poverty), which is administered by our church with the funds raised principally from the local churches (St Austell Churches Together) and other sponsors, and is ring-fenced for use in local debt relief.

Total expenditure on Restricted Funds was £159,303. This includes £137,397 related to Transforming Mission -staffing and resourcing and £17,270 to CAP Staffing and Resourcing.

Reserves Policy

Your PCC has agreed a Reserves policy (on the Free Reserves) of holding up to £50,000 as a Critical Reserve, and up to a further £50,000 as Discretionary Reserves (to maintain Children's & Youth work, seed fund initiatives, provide money for new or replacement office equipment and as general contingency).

At the year end the net current assets (Free Reserves) stood at £9,970 as against £11,452 at the end of 2023. Restricted Reserves which relate to the Church Fabric, Trinity Centre and CAP Funds) stood at £1,406,963. However, of this £150,000 is held as an internal investment loan to the General Fund which supported the initial purchase of the Trinity Centre.

Investments Policy

Your PCC has approved an investment policy that enables program related investments where the risk has been assessed as acceptable and provided a prudent level of cash reserves are retained to cover anticipated expenditure as well as possible contingencies that may arise. A more detailed policy statement is available for inspection. This policy has allowed for the loan arrangement set in place as described in the Reserves section above.

2025 Action

As a general objective - your PCC will continue to aim to achieve equilibrium between its income and expenditure, and maintain adequate free reserves to ensure the smooth running of the church's financial affairs. With rising costs and the increase in the PCC's share of the support costs to maintain the TM mission, it remains to be said that the continuing and generous support and commitment of the PCC and congregation will be essential in meeting the challenges that face us and making the most of the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

Richard Rashleigh
Treasurer
St Austell PCC