

**MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH**  
**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2025**

**CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1135029**

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**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

PREVIOUS NAMES	Bromley Vineyard Hope Vineyard Church Croydon Limited Medway Vineyard Church Limited
CHARITY NUMBER	1135029
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1 <sup>st</sup> February 2024
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st January 2025
TRUSTEES WHO SERVED DURING THE YEAR AND AT DATE OF SIGNING	Aoife Obatre Derek Bluer Andrew Millar (Chair and Secretary) Stephen Leveritt – appointed 13/10/2025
REGISTERED ADDRESS	15 Thames Avenue Rainham Kent ME8 9BN
DATE OF INCORPORATION	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2010, converted to a CIO on 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution adopted on 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021
BANKERS	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Sarah Crispin ACA Stewardship Services [UKET] Limited 1 Lambs Passage London EC1Y 8AB

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2025**

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report and accounts of the charity for the year ending 31st January 2025.

### **Nature of the company**

Medway Vineyard Church Limited was incorporated on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010 as a charitable company limited by guarantee as defined by the Companies Act 2006 (company registration number 7127431). Medway Vineyard Church Limited was also registered as a charity on 18th March 2010 (charity number 1135029). On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021, the charity converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the name Medway Vineyard Church. It is therefore now only accountable to the Charity Commission and is required to comply with charity legislations. The company's financial year is February to January.

### **Governance and Organisational Structure**

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rest with the trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity. The day to day running of the church is led by Andrew and Sharon Millar who are the Senior Pastors, and Andrew is also a trustee. They along with volunteers implement the objectives and execute the administration of the charity.

### **Connected Organisations**

Medway Vineyard Church is connected to the charity Vineyard Churches UK and Ireland (VCUKI) which was formed with the purpose of joining together churches that hold common values and practices. It gives oversight to the pastors of Vineyard churches and facilitates church planting. It helps, serves and strengthens the churches by leading, training, resourcing, administrating and providing pastoral support to Senior Pastors. Medway Vineyard Church uses the name under license from VCUKI.

### **Appointment of Trustees**

Trustees are appointed from candidates who are generally from within the Vineyard movement and considered on the basis of their skills, experience and sympathy with the aims of Medway Vineyard Church. New trustees will be appointed by the existing trustees, and trustees attend periodic training days in order to keep them up to date.

### **Trustee Indemnity Insurance**

The charity does not have indemnity insurance to protect it from loss arising from neglect or default of its trustees or agents or to indemnify the trustees or officers against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

### **Objects of the Charity**

The objectives of the charity as stated in the constitution are:

- A) To advance the Christian faith and the planting of other Vineyard churches;
- B) To further Christian education;
- C) To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provisions of counselling and training in life skills;
- D) To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities.

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2025 (continued)**

### **Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements**

This is captured by the church's vision to 'Bring Hope, Healing and Freedom to Medway through the love of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit'. The church has continued to grow throughout this last year and the church is diverse in nature with a broad mix of people attending. The church employs two people, a Pastor (Sharon Millar) and an administrator for Wonderfully Made (WM) and during this year employed a church administrator for six months.

In fulfilling these objectives, the church holds Christian services, children's and youth activities, provides charity locally across Medway. The church provides hardship relief both financially and through the giving of time, via the compassion ministry, Wonderfully Made. During this year the church has continued to support two local primary schools in a deprived area through the provision of food for breakfasts. This is aimed at children who wouldn't otherwise be provided with a breakfast at home and has served up to 50 children. Wonderfully Made, the church's school uniform ministry has continued apace and was awarded further funding this year which is essential support to enable the provision of this vital service. The church has received some very encouraging feedback from both clients and referrers (social workers, schools etc) which has inspired the team and shows how valuable this ministry area is. In excess of 300 uniforms per year are provided to the most vulnerable in society. This has led to support in other areas, such as the provision of furniture, referrals to other churches to support those who struggle to speak English.

The following two sections seek to look back over the activities of the past year and then forward to what is planned and hoped for in the coming year.

### **Looking back:**

2024 saw continued growth in the church, both numerically (with new families and individuals regularly attending), and in depth of discipleship. The Youth Group has bonded well over the last year despite some moving on as they enter the adult church, others have joined from the Kids' ministry. The annual week-long youth camp, Dreaming the Impossible (DTI) was a success once more and the Youth have also been on mini versions of this more locally. The church appointed an (unpaid) associate Pastor which has really strengthened the leadership and provided much needed support to the Pastors. The creche was also launched, meaning there are now three age groups for young people to be discipled and equipped on a Sunday morning and beyond. In a surprising development, but in line with many other churches, we have seen an increase in young adults attending, some of whom are exploring faith. We have run one Alpha course and about to launch the next with approx. 12 attendees.

Following on from the strong links to HMP Rochester we have continued to support Alpha courses in the prison and provide occasional services within the prison on a Sunday morning. To enhance this further, one of the church's ladies has now been appointed as the Prison's Pastor and will be imminently taking up a position as a Prison Chaplain (the first time this has been made available to the Vineyard).

As the church continues to grow, so does the need to provide small groups. We continue to provide a variety of small groups on different days and at different times:

- Five location-based traditional Vineyard Small Groups
- Strategic Prayer Meeting
- Intercessory Prayer Group
- Blokes' Breakfast Group
- Women's Group (Love a Latte)

The church continues to seek funding for Wonderfully Made and are expectant of receiving grants through the year.

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2025 (continued)**

Following on from last year's initiative, the church used our contacts within social services to run a love Christmas project, buying food vouchers and gifts for some of the most needy families we have connected with through Wonderfully Made. The whole church was involved in the purchase of gifts once more. In addition to this, links through WM have enabled the church to provide for some extremely deprived families, some of whom had zero furniture, clothing, appliances etc. We were able to link in via social services to provide of this and more for two families.

We have strengthened our links with Churches Together In Medway (CTIM), and are regularly represented at all meetings. We have also taken a closer role within the provision of worship at CTIM events, having sent teams to lead worship at a youth event in a barn, the monthly CTIM worship and prayer evening and also a bespoke Medway House of Prayer worship evening.

### **Looking Forward:**

Church numbers are likely around 140-150 with regular Sunday attendance at around 90-100. This means the use of the school remains viable, but we are always alert to the need to move to something more flexible with more frequent access in the near future. This pressing need remains and the use of a purposed building is becoming more important. The barriers to this are availability and cost. We remain hopeful that at the right time, such a building will be made available.

We have two or three people still considering church planting and they are on a development track working towards this.

We anticipate further Prison Alphas, church growth discipleship and opportunities to serve the poor in the coming year. A focus on young adults is likely given the increase in their number and what appears to be a noticeable move across the UK.

The church remains committed to serving Jesus in the Medway Towns and will look to His guidance and direction in the coming year.

### **Financial Review**

The charity had a deficit during the year of £16,994 (2023/24: surplus of £2,181). Giving to the charity remained static during the year in the general unrestricted funds at £60,356 (2023/24: £60,330), but the level of income received into the Restricted funds reduced significantly to £4,061 (2023/24: £22,850). Expenditure increased slightly during the year, particularly in areas such as the rent and young person's work, offset by reductions in gifts and hardship relief.

At the end of the year the charity had unrestricted reserves of £24,062 (31<sup>st</sup> January 2024: £32,220), of which £4,800 was in a designated fund for future property requirements and restricted reserves of £Nil (31<sup>st</sup> January 2024: £8,836) relating to Wonderfully Made.

### **Reserves Policy**

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of financial commitments held. The trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

As such, the trustees have set a minimum level of unrestricted reserves of £9,000, which will ensure that at least three months of the charity's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.

This policy is reviewed regularly, at least annually, by the trustees.

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2025 (continued)**

### **Risk Management**

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The trustees review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

### **Public Benefit**

The charity acknowledges its requirements to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit.

In planning the activities of Medway Vineyard Church the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. The trustees believe that this report provides suitable evidence of the public benefit being provided.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

Charity law requires us as trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

### **Approval**

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
Andrew Millar (Oct 7, 2025 10:46:09 GMT+1)  
Andrew Millar

Date: Oct 7, 2025

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Medway Vineyard Church ("the charity") for the year ended 31 January 2025 on pages 8 to 11 following.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

*Sarah Crispin*  
Sarah Crispin (Oct 16, 2025 13:46:05 GMT+1)

Sarah Crispin ACA

Date: Oct 16, 2025

Stewardship  
1 Lambs Passage  
London EC1Y 8AB

**MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH**  
**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024/25 £	TOTAL 2023/24 £
<b>INCOME RECEIPTS</b>					
Donations		53,153	600	53,753	66,283
Gift aid receipts		7,119		7,119	8,570
Other grants		-	3,461	3,461	8,243
Investments		84	-	84	84
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>60,356</b>	<b>4,061</b>	<b>64,417</b>	<b>83,180</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	65,898	14,674	80,572	71,378
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others		360	-	360	5,360
Purchase of fixed assets		479	-	479	4,261
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>66,737</b>	<b>14,674</b>	<b>81,411</b>	<b>80,999</b>
Net of receipts /(payments) before transfers		<b>(6,381)</b>	<b>(10,613)</b>	<b>(16,994)</b>	<b>2,181</b>
Transfers between funds		(1,777)	1,777	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>(8,158)</b>	<b>(8,836)</b>	<b>(16,944)</b>	<b>2,181</b>
Cash funds as at last year end		32,220	8,836	41,056	38,875
<b>CASH FUNDS AT THIS YEAR END</b>	3	<b>24,062</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,062</b>	<b>41,056</b>

The notes on pages 10 to 11 form part of these accounts.

**MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH**  
**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st January 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Jan 2025 £	Total 31 Jan 2024 £
<b>A Cash funds</b>				
Cash at bank with immediate access	24,062	-	24,062	41,056
<b>B Other monetary assets</b>				
Gift aid due to the charity	4,031	-	4,031	760
Prepaid tickets for DTI2025	2,433	-	2,433	-
	6,464	-	6,464	-
<b>C Liabilities</b>				
Falling due within one year				
Fees for Independent Examination	810	-	810	780
Accrued expenses	1,845	-	1,845	1,630
	2,655	-	2,655	2,410
<b>D Assets retained for charity's own use</b>				
	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost £	Current value £	
Land and buildings – church office	General	7,541	3,448	
Music and PA equipment	General	6,132	2,924	
Computers and IT	General	1,691	743	
Furniture	General	776	73	
		16,140	7,188	

Current values have been estimated by the trustees by depreciating the assets on a reducing balance method.

**E Guarantees and secured debts**

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

Andrew Millar  
Andrew Millar (Oct 7, 2025 10:46:09 GMT+1)

By: Andrew Millar

Date: Oct 7, 2025

The notes on pages 10 to 11 form part of these accounts.

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2025

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

### 2. PAYMENTS IN RELATION TO CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024/25 £	TOTAL 2023/24 £
Advertising and promotion	644	726	1,370	960
Bank charges	377	-	377	301
31:8 (CCPAS)	209	-	209	237
Fees and Subscriptions	4,905	-	4,905	3,709
Gifts	4,133	-	4,133	2,205
Small groups and outreach	3,730	-	3,730	856
Hardship relief	1,942	-	1,942	2,506
Independent Examination fees	780	-	780	750
Insurance	-	-	-	282
Miscellaneous	420	38	458	535
Pastoral items	857	-	857	1,184
Refreshments	1,867	-	1,867	1,803
Rent	7,309	480	7,789	4,590
Rochester Prison Project	60	600	660	-
Staff Costs	26,602	4,500	31,102	26,571
School breakfasts	130	-	130	370
School Uniform Ministry	-	8,063	8,063	15,945
Stationery and postage	5	-	5	155
Telephone	585	-	585	450
Training and conferences	3,792	-	3,792	3,009
Travel	2,108	267	2,375	1,946
Young people's work	5,443	-	5,443	3,014
	<b>65,898</b>	<b>14,674</b>	<b>80,572</b>	<b>71,378</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2025 (continued)**

**3. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS**

	Balance at 31 Jan 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Jan 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
General Fund	28,020	60,356	(66,737)	(2,377)	19,262
Designated Fund	4,200	-	-	600	4,800
	<b>32,220</b>	<b>60,356</b>	<b>(66,737)</b>	<b>(1,777)</b>	<b>24,062</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
School Uniforms	8,836	3,461	(14,074)	1,777	-
Rochester Prison Project	-	600	(600)	-	-
	<b>41,056</b>	<b>64,417</b>	<b>(81,411)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,062</b>

There were two restricted fund this year. The School Uniforms Project, known as Wonderfully Made, is designed to provide school uniforms to those that might struggle to afford one otherwise. Any shortfall in this fund during the year is made up from general funds. The Rochester Prison Project was to bless the local prison through the providing of doughnuts to them at Christmas

The designated fund is amounts set aside by the trustees for possible future building requirements, and are held as cash balances at the balance sheet date.

**4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES**

Mrs S Millar is a related party to Mr A Millar, and received remuneration of £23,422 (2023/24: £21,600) in respect of her work in the running of the church, as permitted by the governing document. She is also considered to be Key Management for the Charity.

Mr A Millar and Mrs S Millar received travel expenses between them of £2,076 (2023/24: £1,786) during the year, as permitted by the governing document. All other expenses paid to them were reimbursement of specific costs incurred.