

THE HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB FREE CHURCH
(Registered Charity Number 1141258)
Annual report & accounts
For the period from 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Elders, acting as Trustees, are pleased to present their annual Trustees Report together with the financial statements of the Church for the year ending 31st December 2024. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with its section 133(1) show Receipts and Payments accounts for the year as well as a Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the year end.

Objectives and Activities

The purposes of the Church as defined in its constitution are:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith according to non-conformist principles;
2. To seek to advance education and to carry out other charitable objectives in the United Kingdom and in other parts of the world.

When planning activities, the Elders have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, particularly the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

In furtherance of the first objective the Church provided opportunities for public worship every Sunday of the year and additionally on special occasions as required by the Christian calendar. Sunday morning services remain live streamed, allowing people in other places to participate as well as the congregation in the Church building, and evening services for contemporary worship take place at 6.30pm on the third Sunday of every month.

The Church resolved in general meeting during the year to install screens in the church as an aid to worship, a project that was approaching completion at the year end.

During the year the congregation began to undertake a Church Life Review, with the purpose of formulating a vision and action plan for the future of the Church.

The Church was available for baptisms, weddings and funerals to anyone whom the Minister considered was making a genuine request for such services. Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church is committed to encouraging its members to represent, individually, the intentions of the Church in the particular contribution they make not only to the immediate community, but also through paid or voluntary activity to the wider community.

In furtherance of the second objective during the year, the Church provided opportunities for all to consider together important social issues and moral dilemmas in terms not only of Christian theologians, but also secular theorists, through discussion groups covering an established programme of study. These discussion groups offered an opportunity for spiritual, moral and intellectual development. Online meetings for Christian Meditation were also held, to encourage times of quiet and prayerful reflection.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

Though challenged by the small number of children, the Church continued to run Church of Youth during Sunday morning worship, and to operate a Toddler Group on Wednesday mornings during term time.

The Church was glad to continue to help facilitate the work of the Wycliffe organisation through its financial support of a Bible translator. It has also raised money for Water Aid.

The Church has continued to focus on mental health and maintains a relationship with the Dennis Scott Unit of Edgware Hospital. At Easter and Christmas, and at the time of the Wimbledon tournament, gifts are provided for the patients in the Unit.

The Church has continued to focus on the poor and homeless, and has facilitated giving to a local food bank. The Church continues to support the work of Homeless Action in Barnet, and hosts a night shelter one night a week during the coldest months of the year.

The Church continues to run the West End Café at the back of the church, as a Saturday coffee morning attended by members of the church family and of the local community.

Achievements and Performance

The Church remained an active participant in the lives of its members, ensuring that people are supported and cared for. It has also been a contributor to the wider community in a variety of activities.

Financial Review

Regular donations showed an increase on 2023, and Gift Day donations were 42% up. Revenue from the use of the hall and church, bazaar and other sales increased by 38%. Overall there was a surplus on unrestricted funds of £62,000.

There will be immediate calls on that surplus. The Elders commissioned a Quinquennial Review in 2024, and this highlighted a number of remedial works required to the fabric of the buildings.

Reserves Policy

The Church's policy is to maintain a balance on unrestricted reserves of at least nine months' unrestricted operating expenditure (say £138,000) to cover the demands which are likely to arise. The Trustees regularly monitor the level of reserves and are required to keep the reserves policy under review.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management

The Church is an unincorporated association. The structure and functions of the Church institutions responsible for its governance and management are described in its constitution. The institutions concerned are Ministry, Elders Court, Deacons Court and the Church Meeting of members.

Elders are elected for 3 year terms and act as the Church Trustees, with certain areas of governance reserved for the decision of the Church Meeting. Under the leadership of the Minister Elders are responsible for the Church's overall management. On occasion, Elders as Trustees meet to discuss trustee matters. Particular matters concerned with the upkeep and refurbishment of Church properties are delegated by the Elders to the Deacons Court and to a Buildings Committee.

Under the chairmanship of the Minister, each Court is due to meet regularly throughout the year. On occasion they will meet jointly when matters under discussion make that appropriate. Ordinary Church Members Meetings are convened quarterly throughout the year. When issues arise which require more immediate Church Meeting consideration and decision Extraordinary Meetings may be called in accordance with the provisions laid down in the constitution.

Reference and administrative details

Address: Central Square, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London NW11 7AG

Trustees: Joseph Fryer
Julia Fryer
Rev Aled Jones
Muna Levan-Harris
Carole Lindfield (to 11 June 2024)
Josephine Morris
Richard Orme
Lorna Page
Mary Stacy
Penny Trafford

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church (the 'charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

Trustees' responsibilities

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').

Independent Examiner's responsibilities

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 can 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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those 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.



Dated:
Andrew Thomas ACA
Nyman Libson Paul LLP
Chartered Accountants
124 Finchley Road
London
NW3 5JS

Date: 1 May 2025

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SECTION A RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
		£	£	£	£
A1 Receipts from					
Donations	2	67,391	1,496	68,887	63,438
Grants		5,000	0	5,000	0
Other trading activities	3	173,439	0	173,439	125,574
Investment	4	104	441	545	770
Total receipts		245,935	1,937	247,871	189,782
A2 Asset and investment sales					
Investment sales		0	0	0	74,000
Investment purchases		0	-730	-730	0
Total investment (purchases)/sales		0	-730	-730	74,000
A3 Payments on					
Ministry & Mission	5	95,842	441	96,283	63,229
Church costs	6	34,600	0	34,600	37,085
Hall costs	7	31,958	0	31,958	62,249
Manse costs	8	3,848	0	3,848	136,317
General expenses		4,941	0	4,941	7,133
Screens project		8,197	0	8,197	0
Designated collections and other liabilities		4,447	0	4,447	0
Restricted Donations		0	903	903	0
Total payments		183,833	1,344	185,177	306,013
Net of receipts/ (payments)		62,102	-137	61,964	-42,231
A6 Cash funds last year end		29,778	1,392	31,170	73,401
Cash funds this year end		91,880	1,255	93,134	31,170

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SECTION B STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES PER 31ST DECEMBER

Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
B1 Cash funds				
Bank deposits	91,822	1,255	93,077	31,166
Fund deposits	57	0	57	4
Total cash fund	91,879	1,255	93,134	31,170
B2 Other monetary assets				
HMRC(Gift Aid)	10,670	0	10,670	10,610
Total Other monetary assets	10,670	0	10,670	10,610
B3 Investment assets				
COIF Charities Investment Fund	3,805	16,374	20,179	19,021
COIF Charities Global Equity Fund	185,737	0	185,737	171,866
COIF Charities Fixed Interest Fund	57,087	0	57,087	53,853
Total investment assets	246,629	16,374	263,003	244,740

B4 Assets retained for charity's own use

The church building in Central Square, the Manse in Central Square and the Halls Complex in Northway are held on trust by the London Baptist Property Board for purposes connected with the Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church

B5 Liabilities				
Council tax	0	0	0	1,332
Sundry accruals	1,172	0	1,172	0
Designated collections	269	0	269	3,353
	1,441	0	1,441	4,685
Total Assets less liabilities	347,737	17,628	365,364	281,835
Total Reserves	347,737	17,628	365,364	281,835

The accounts have been approved by the Trustee Meeting on 12 February 2025 and signed on its behalf by

1st Trustee..... WJD Fryer

Name/position..... W JOSEPH D. FRYER, TREASURER

2nd Trustee..... PATrafford

Name/position..... PENELOPE A TRAFFORD, SECRETARY

Date..... 16/03/2025

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SECTION C - NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

NOTE 1

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church fulfils the criteria of a small charity according to the Charities Act 1993 Section 42(3). The accounts have been prepared on a cash basis.

NOTE 2

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Income from donations				
Envelopes, cheques and standing orders	50,355	1,496	58,851	46,519
Gift day	9,735	0	9,735	6,850
Open Plate	7,301	0	7,301	10,069
	<u>67,391</u>	<u>1,496</u>	<u>68,887</u>	<u>63,438</u>

NOTE 3

Other trading activities

Use of hall	106,755	0	106,755	78,605
Use of church	59,855	0	59,855	41,790
Bazaar and other sales	6,829	0	6,829	5,179
	<u>173,439</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>173,439</u>	<u>125,574</u>

NOTE 4

Investments

Dividends	104	441	545	522
Interest	0	0	0	248
	<u>104</u>	<u>441</u>	<u>545</u>	<u>770</u>

NOTE 5

Ministry and mission

Minister	36,919	0	36,919	19,742
Minister's expenses	1,401	0	1,401	6,294
Baptist pension scheme	9,777	0	9,777	0
Ministry and Mission	8,134	441	8,574	8,458
Administration	36,851	0	36,851	26,225
Organist and musicians	2,760	0	2,760	2,510
	<u>95,842</u>	<u>441</u>	<u>96,283</u>	<u>63,229</u>

NOTE 6

Church Costs

Heating/Lighting	14,061	0	14,061	16,768
Maintenance	5,842	0	5,842	7,973
Organ/piano maintenance	3,271	0	3,271	2,829
Insurance	11,426	0	11,426	9,515
	<u>34,600</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34,600</u>	<u>37,085</u>

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SECTION C - NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

NOTE 7

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Hall costs				
Hall costs	14,663	0	14,663	12,886
Heating/Lighting/Water	10,587	0	10,587	18,360
Maintenance/general	6,708	0	6,708	31,003
Major repairs	31,958	0	31,958	62,249

NOTE 8

Manse costs

Routine costs	3,848	0	3,848	3,748
Major refurbishment	0	0	0	132,569
	3,848	0	3,848	136,317

NOTE 9

Movement on Restricted Funds	01/01/2024	Inflow	Outflow	31/12/2024
Night Shelter Project	397	200	33	564
Dennis Scott Unit	869	566	744	691
	1,266	766	777	1,255

Collections were also taken in the year for designated charities, as follows

	£
Christian Aid	1,631
Tearfund	136
Water Aid	262
	2,029

NOTE 10

Hirsch legacy

The £16,374 Restricted Funds shown at B3 are a legacy held in trust to apply the income towards overseas missionary work until 29 July 2041. After that the capital may be used for the church's general purposes.