

Charity Registration No: 1159232

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

**Report of the trustees and
unaudited financial statements
Year ended 5 April 2024**

T B Tax Services
Bridge House
Pattenden Lane
Marden
Kent
TN12 9QJ

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Contents

	Pages
Reference and administrative details	3
Report of the trustees	4-7
Independent examiner’s report	8
Statement of financial activities	9
Balance sheet	10
Notes to the financial statements	11-17

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Reference and Administrative Details
For the year ended 5 April 2024

Charity name	East Kent Gospel Hall Trust
Registered charity number	1159232
Trustees	Mr Garth Worsley Mr Nigel Deacon (Chair) Mr Chester Clarke Mr Darren Bedford Mr Roy Deacon
Treasurer	Mr Darren Bedford
Principal address	29 Mill Lane Shepherdswell Dover CT15 7LJ
Independent examiner	Simon Bell T B Tax Services Accountants Bridge House Pattenden Lane Marden Kent TN12 9QJ
Accountant	T B Tax Services Accountants Bridge House Pattenden Lane Marden Kent TN12 9QJ

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Report of the Trustees For the year ended 5 April 2024

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 5 April 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 11 and comply with the Trust Deed and applicable law.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Charity is an unincorporated trust constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 21 April 1982, most recently amended by Deed of Variation dated 15 August 2014. The Trust was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 17 November 2014 under Charity Registration Number: 1159232.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The names of the Trustees who served during the year and since the year end are set out on page 3. None of the Trustees, nor any person connected with them, received any remuneration or expenses from the Charity in the year ended 5 April 2024 (2023: £nil).

The Trust operates a Gospel Hall and Trustees are chosen from among the regular congregation of the hall. New Trustees are nominated by the existing Trustees or by the congregation and must be appointed by unanimous resolution of the congregation. They are selected according to their skills and experience and are expected to use both in furthering the objects of the Charity. Checks are made to ensure the Trustees' eligibility to act and incoming Trustees are made aware of their responsibilities by the existing Trustees, who ensure that new Trustees read the Trust Deed and relevant Charity Commission guidance.

Wider network

The Trustees maintain informal links with similar charities with a view to pooling experience considered useful in pursuing the objects of the Charity. The Charity also maintains particular links with the Holt Street Trust, with whom it shares members of its congregation, and during the year the Charity paid expenses on its behalf, as shown in the donated services note.

Risk management

The Trustees have identified and reviewed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and confirm that they have established systems or procedures to manage and mitigate those risks.

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

The charitable purposes of the Charity are the advancement of the Christian religion for the public benefit, including by the carrying on of the service of God in accordance with the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible as followed by those Christians forming part of the world-wide fellowship known as the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church (the "Brethren") and any other charitable purposes connected with Brethren. The core doctrine of the Brethren and proper practices in furtherance of certain aspects of doctrine are summarised in two schedules to the Trust Deed.

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Report of the Trustees (Cont'd) For the year ended 5 April 2024

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance to charities on public benefit.

Main activities and achievements

The Trust provides and maintains Gospel Halls where religious meetings are held by the local Brethren community. Details of the origins, teachings and way of life of the Brethren can be found on the website - www.plymouthbrethrenchristianchurch.org and in the schedules to the Trust Deed.

The Trust has continued to engage with the congregation and encouraging good works by them which benefit the wider community, as described in the annexed report.

Members of the congregation volunteered for the Rapid Relief Team, a registered charity in the work that they do. Work done by the RRT includes providing food boxes and essential supplies to the people of Ukraine displaced by the war, and providing support to homeless shelters in the provision of blankets and warm clothing.

As events open up throughout the remainder of 2024, RRT have plans for the future with some collaborations and support of a number of different charities which the trust will assist with.

Plans for future periods

Despite the increased cost of energy, the trustees feel that these increased costs are not significantly impacting on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.

Meetings

Meetings held at the Gospel halls include the Lord's Supper (Communion), Gospel preachings, Bible readings and Bible addresses. There is a structured weekly schedule of meetings and, depending on the particular meeting, between 30 and 300 people normally attend these occasions.

The meetings are attended by the regular congregation and most are open to other properly disposed visitors. The notice board outside the Hall welcomes visitors and displays the times of Gospel preachings, along with a telephone number for those seeking further information or help. Gospel tracts, which are distributed by street preachers, also display this information.

Bibles and an extensive range of other Christian reading material are on display at the hall and visitors are free to help themselves.

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Report of the Trustees (Cont'd) For the year ended 5 April 2024

Spreading the Gospel message and the life of a Christian

The Gospel Halls are a base from which the regular congregation and others who attend the meetings are encouraged to spread the Christian Gospel, in word and deed.

Members of the congregation participate in a programme of street preaching and Gospel tracts are provided free of charge by the Charity to such preachers to be handed out to interested members of the public.

In carrying out this work, the congregation considers itself to be living out its faith in practice, as particularly exemplified in the following extract from the schedule to the Trust Deed on living a Christian life:

- We seek and are encouraged to live exemplary lives in all our relationships with others in the wider community (including former Brethren), in accordance with the teachings of Holy Scripture (1 Tim 2:2).
- We regularly go out from our homes to preach on the streets, to distribute Christian literature and engage with the wider community (including former Brethren) in order to present eternal salvation, available to all men by faith in Jesus Christ. (2 Tim 4:2).
- We seek as members of the public to lead Christian lives as husbands and wives, parents, children, employers, employees and neighbours. (Col 3:22-25, Col 4:1).
- The preservation and protection of the family unit is fundamental and children are prized as a blessing from God. (Psalm 127:3-5). The elderly are valued members of the community, for whom both their family and the wider community are expected to care.
- Holy Scripture commands us to be good neighbours to others, and deal with all other people (including former Brethren) openly, honestly and fairly and consistent with these principles, we should give our time, talents and money to assist those in need in the wider community, in so far as reasonable given our abilities and our available resources. (Matt 7:12, Matt 22:39, Eph 4:28).

Funding

Funding is sought through gifts from the congregation and Gift Aid is claimed on eligible donations. Funding is sometimes received from other charitable trusts with complementary objectives.

Financial review

Financial position

In the year ended 5 April 2024 the Trust had a small deficit of incoming resources over resources expended. This was due to remedial work done on a hall belonging to the Holt Street Trust.

Total voluntary income received this year was £39,348 compared to £86,945 in the previous year.

All funds held were unrestricted funds.

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

**Report of the Trustees (Cont'd)
For the year ended 5 April 2024**

Reserves policy

The Trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs, based on its size and the level of its financial commitments. The Trust has no employees and its regular outgoings are minimal. The Trustees aim to ensure that the charity has sufficient reserves to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives.

The congregation is kept regularly informed as to particular needs for funds, and other relevant matters and the Trustees aim to ensure that the Charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure, by raising a funds appeal to the congregation.

Free reserves at the year-end were £203,450 (2023: £272,685). This is due to expenses to be incurred to upgrade some of the halls.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust Deed require the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. All transactions have been reviewed and approved by two Trustees.

On behalf of the Board:

DocuSigned by:

08BC7F6220114B4...

Darren Bedford
Trustee

12/11/2024

Date:

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees For the year ended 5 April 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of East Kent Gospel Hall Trust for the year ending 5 April 2024.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

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

BASIS OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT


My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 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 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act;
Or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

DocuSigned by:

BB7F736B5F08407...

Simon Bell
12/9/2024

T B Tax Services
Bridge House
Pattenden Lane
Marden
Kent
TN12 9QJ

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust**Statement of Financial Activities****For the year ended 5 April 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income and endowments from:					
<i>Donations and legacies:</i>					
Collections		0	0	0	0
Contributions from the congregation		33,600	0	33,600	26,444
Gift Aid donations		0	0	0	0
Income tax refunds		0	0	0	0
Donations - East Kent Projects Ltd		5,748	0	5,748	60,501
Payroll giving		0	0	0	0
Grants from other Trusts		0	0	0	0
<i>Investments</i>					
Bank interest		0	0	0	0
<i>Other</i>					
Profit on sale of assets		0	0	0	0
Total		39,348	0	39,348	86,945
Expenditure on:					
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Running meeting rooms		59,190	0	59,190	36,309
Charitable activities		5,279	0	5,279	1,690
Cost of donated services	4	16,568	0	16,568	3,775
Total	5	81,037	0	81,037	41,774
Net income/(expenditure)		(41,689)	0	(41,689)	45,171
Gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets		0	0	0	0
Transfer of restricted fund		0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		(41,689)	0	(41,689)	45,171
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		2,906,416	0	2,906,416	2,861,245
Total funds carried forward		2,864,727	0	2,864,727	2,906,416

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements. All of the above activities are classed as continuing and there are no gains and losses other than those included above.

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust
Balance Sheet
For the year ended 5 April 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets		0	0
Tangible fixed assets		<u>2,661,277</u>	<u>2,633,731</u>
	6	2,661,277	2,633,731
Current assets			
Debtors:			
Loans	7	45,748	160,501
Prepayments and accrued income		0	0
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>165,386</u>	<u>128,345</u>
		211,134	288,846
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year:			
Loans		0	0
Accruals and deferred income		<u>(7,684)</u>	<u>(16,161)</u>
Net current assets		203,450	272,685
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>2,864,727</u>	<u>2,906,416</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year:			
Loans		0	0
Net assets		<u>2,864,727</u>	<u>2,906,416</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted income fund	8	2,864,727	2,906,416
Restricted funds		0	0
Total charity funds	9	<u>2,864,727</u>	<u>2,906,416</u>

The unaudited financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees of East Kent Gospel Hall Trust on 12/11/2024 and signed on their behalf by

DocuSigned by:

08BC7F6220114B4...
Darren Bedford
Trustee

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 5 April 2024

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, and incorporating update bulletins 1 and 2, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The functional currency of the charity is sterling (£).

The Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

1.2 Income

Donations are recognised in the year in which there is entitlement and probability of receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future year. Gift aid is added to the value of the donation to which it relates.

Donated services are recognised as income and expenditure in the financial statements when organisations or individuals offer their services and support pro bono. The value of these donated services to East Kent Gospel Hall Trust is considered to be equal to market value which would be paid were the service formally procured. This includes services paid for by other trusts.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

1.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis. Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Charitable activities comprise those costs directly attributable to the fulfilment of the charitable objects.

1.4 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and costs related to statutory requirements. Governance and support costs are allocated to charitable activities on the basis of capacity used.

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 5 April 2024

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets (costing more than £1500) are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold Land and Buildings	Not depreciated
Fixtures and fittings	20% Reducing balance

1.6 Taxation

The Trust is a registered charity and is not liable to United Kingdom income or corporation tax on charitable activities, provided income falls within the charitable exemptions and is spent on charitable purposes.

1.7 Funds

The general unrestricted fund is free for the Trustees to use for any purposes in furtherance of the trust's charitable objects.

Restricted funds arise from donations to the trust, which are made for a specific purpose. Restricted funds can only be used for the purpose for which funds were given.

1.8 Preparation of consolidated financial statements

The majority of transactions undertaken by the subsidiary are already reflected in the accounts of the Trust through recharges. On this basis consolidated accounts for the year ended 5 April 2024 have not been prepared.

1.9 Going concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.10 Significant estimates and judgements

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

2. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits from an employment with the charity and no Trustees were reimbursed for expenses (2023: None).

3. Wages and salaries

There are no employees (2023: none).

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 5 April 2024

4. Donated services

	2024	2023
	£	£
Holt Street Trust	16,568	3,775
	<u>16,568</u>	<u>3,775</u>

5. Resources expended

<i>Current Year</i>	Meeting rooms	Other charitable activities	2024
	£	£	£
Direct costs:			
Insurance	3,084	0	3,084
Repairs & Maintenance	11,767	0	11,767
IT costs	293	0	293
Utilities	15,559	0	15,559
Congregation support	3,358	0	3,358
Activity costs	22,623	2,590	25,213
Donations to other trusts	0	669	669
Legal fees	2,316	0	2,316
Depreciation	190	0	190
Governance costs	<u>0</u>	<u>2,020</u>	<u>2,020</u>
	59,190	5,279	64,469
Donated services (see note)		16,568	16,568
	<u>59,190</u>	<u>21,847</u>	<u>81,037</u>
 <i>Prior Year</i>	 Meeting rooms	 Other charitable activities	 2023
	£	£	£
Direct costs:			
Insurance	212	0	212
Repairs & Maintenance	3,575	0	3,575
IT costs	196	0	196
Utilities	18,639	0	18,639
Congregation support	0	0	0
Activity costs	3,430	0	3,430
Donations to other trusts	0	0	0
Legal fees	10,004	0	10,004
Depreciation	253	0	253
Governance costs	<u>0</u>	<u>1,690</u>	<u>1,690</u>
	36,309	1,690	37,999
Donated services (see note)		3,775	3,775
	<u>36,309</u>	<u>5,465</u>	<u>41,774</u>

Governance costs include £2,020 (2023: £1,690) in respect of independent examiner's fees.

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 5 April 2024**6. Fixed assets**

	Gospel Hall	Freehold Property	Equipment	Total
Cost				
B/f at 06/04/2023	1,990,959	642,014	28,173	2,661,146
Additions	27,736	0	0	27,736
Disposals	0	0	0	0
At 5 April 2024	<u>2,018,695</u>	<u>642,014</u>	<u>28,173</u>	<u>2,688,882</u>
Depreciation				
B/f at 06/04/2023	0	0	27,415	27,415
Charge for the year	0	0	190	190
Impairment	0	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0	0
At 5 April 2024	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27,605</u>	<u>27,605</u>
Net book value				
At 5 April 2024	<u>2,018,695</u>	<u>642,014</u>	<u>568</u>	<u>2,661,277</u>
At 5 April 2023	<u>1,990,959</u>	<u>642,014</u>	<u>758</u>	<u>2,633,731</u>
Freehold Property:	Title No	Cost		
Eythorne	TT4157	139,410		
Land at Church Lane, Barham	TT48602	80,000		
Land at Whitfield	TT89243/TT89245/TT53203	422,604		
		<u>642,014</u>		

7. Loans made

	2024	2023
	£	£
Loan to East Kent Projects Ltd	45,748	160,501
TOTAL	<u>45,748</u>	<u>160,501</u>

The loan to East Kent Projects Ltd is interest free and is to fund work in progress. It will be repaid on completion of the project.

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 5 April 2024****8. Analysis of net assets between funds****8.1 Current year**

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	2,661,277	0	0	2,661,277
Current assets	211,134	0	0	211,134
Current liabilities	(7,684)	0	0	(7,684)
Long term liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total funds	2,864,727	0	0	2,864,727

8.2 Prior year

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	2,633,731	0	0	2,633,731
Current assets	288,846	0	0	288,846
Current liabilities	(16,161)	0	0	(16,161)
Long term liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total funds	2,906,416	0	0	2,906,416

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 5 April 2024

9. Movement in funds

9.1 Current year

	Balance at 6 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	TFR fund for works £	Balance at 5 April 2024 £
Restricted funds	0	0	0	0	0
Designated funds	0	0	0	0	0
Unrestricted funds	2,906,416	39,348	(81,037)	0	2,864,727
Total funds	2,906,416	39,348	(81,037)	0	2,864,727

9.2 Prior year

	Balance at 6 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	TFR fund for works £	Balance at 5 April 2023 £
Restricted funds	0	0	0	0	0
Designated funds	0	0	0	0	0
Unrestricted funds	2,861,245	86,945	(41,774)	0	2,906,416
Total funds	2,861,245	613,251	(23,915)	0	2,906,416

- The unrestricted fund is for use as the Trustees see fit.

10. Transactions with related parties

The only payments made to related parties related to reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Charity in furthering the Charity's objects.

The loan to East Kent Projects Ltd, which is interest free, is still outstanding. Tim Deacon (Trustee) and Nigel Deacon (Trustee) and Chester Clarke (Trustee) are directors of this company.

East Kent Projects Ltd also invoiced the Trust £27,736 (2023: £39,783) throughout the year for works on the new Hall. At the year end there was £5,764 outstanding (2023: £14,240).

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 5 April 2024

11. Volunteers

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust relies entirely on volunteers to carry out the management, administration and general maintenance work. The Trust has no paid staff or paid Trustees.

12. Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Income and endowments from:					
<i>Donations and legacies:</i>					
Collections		0	0	0	0
Contributions from the congregation		26,444	0	0	26,444
Gift Aid donations		0	0	0	0
Income tax refunds		0	0	0	0
Donations - East Kent Projects Ltd		60,501	0	0	60,501
Payroll giving		0	0	0	0
Grants from other Trusts		0	0	0	0
<i>Investments</i>					
Bank interest		0	0	0	0
<i>Other</i>					
Profit on sale of assets		0	0	0	0
Total		86,945	0	0	86,945
Expenditure on:					
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Running meeting rooms		36,309	0	0	36,309
Charitable activities		1,690	0	0	1,690
Cost of donated services	4	3,775	0	0	3,775
Total	5	41,774	0	0	41,774
Net income/(expenditure)		45,171	0	0	45,171
Gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets		0	0	0	0
Transfer of restricted fund		0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		45,171	0	0	45,171
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		2,861,245	0	0	2,861,245
Total funds carried forward		2,906,416	0	0	2,906,416

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust

Public Benefit Report

The purpose of this factual presentation, is to show how the East Kent Gospel Hall Trust community engage in many acts of public benefit and interact with the wider community in so many ways.

The Plymouth Brethren were established in 1828 when John Nelson Darby broke with the established Church in Dublin. Darby and others formed a fellowship based on the strict observance of Christian teachings as set out in the Holy Scriptures. Darby came to Plymouth in the early 1830s and the congregation grew rapidly. Early publications were produced in Plymouth and distributed to other congregations of followers throughout the globe.

Image

Introduction

There are over 18,000 Plymouth Brethren members in the UK, spread across 87 locations. These locations can be found on the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church (PBCC) UK Site.



There have been Brethren Gospel, or meeting halls in the East Kent area for over 150 years. The East Kent Gospel Hall Trust was formed to acquire buildings to be used for the advancement of the Christian religion by carrying on the service of God, including the celebration of the Lord's Supper, Gospel Preachings, Bible Readings and addresses on the Word of God and other meetings of a Christian religious character according to the injunctions contained in the Holy Scriptures and the tenets and practices of those Christians forming a worldwide fellowship known as Plymouth Brethren.

The East Kent congregation is one of the smaller congregations in the UK, with 122 members living in the Canterbury and Dover districts; however with residents from the Maidstone and Medway area attending services up to three times a week, together with other visitors, numbers attending services regularly approach 450 persons, from young babies to nonagenarians.

Our Network

To read more on the PBCC way of life, visit our website:

<https://www.plymouthbrethrenchristianchurch.org>.

Street Preaching and Tract Distribution

Street Preaching Street Preaching has been actively promoted by the Plymouth brethren for many years, at least from the 1920's, and today is enthusiastically supported by members of the East Kent Gospel Hall Trust congregation, as we seek to follow the example set out by our Lord Jesus Christ (Luke ch4 v17- 20)

The essential activity of publicly preaching the name of Jesus and God's wonderful Gospel indiscriminately, gives joy and encouragement to our daily lives; as having personally proved the tangible benefit and immense improvement believing in Jesus brings, we seek to highlight the availability of Jesus to all mankind.

Currently the main chosen location is in the High Street, Canterbury, street preachings have been held here since the 1970s.

Romans 10v13; "For everyone whosoever, who shall call on the name of the Lord, shall be saved".

The aim of the street preaching is not to recruit additional members for the Plymouth Brethren but to present eternal salvation as available to all men by faith in Jesus Christ and His blood and His work of atonement.

Members of the congregation have continued to hand out tracts to neighbours and people in need when they have met them. Tracts are available for download on the below website:
<https://christiandctrineandgospelpublishing.org/>

Outreach

In our outreach program, we have engaged with centres for the homeless, vulnerable and in prison. At the heart of our Community is the commitment to care and compassion, as we recognise the rights of all humanity within society. Members of the Congregation dedicate their time volunteering through our charitable arm, Rapid Relief Team(RRT) and contribute financially to many causes. As East Kent Gospel Hall Trust, we actively seek opportunities to support our local community from cleaning road signs to donating to local charities.

East Kent Gospel Hall Trust Public benefit

- Supply of 20 Bibles to East Kent Hospital Trust
- £100/mth food box donations to Aylesham food bank

Rapid Relief Team

Our Mission - To serve people with care & compassion in their time of need.

Our Vision - For the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church to express Christian principles of care and compassion, by way of benevolent relief to people in need.

Our Values - Global Team | Community Care | Compassion | Consistency

Donations: 25 Food boxes donated to families in need, in Aylesham District.

Meals: Martha Trust - charity staff reward day

150 meals - 10 RRT volunteers; 4.5 hours each

Pegasus charity - first day of summer holiday care.

80 meals - 8 RRT volunteers; 3.5 hours each

Foster Care charity event - fun day for Foster children in the summer holidays

100 meals - 8 RRT volunteers; 5 hours each

Registered Address:

29, Mill Lane, Shepherdswell, Dover CT15 7LJ