

Grace Bible Rugby Church

Annual Report and Financial Statement 2024

Grace Bible Rugby Church

Charity Registration Number: 1164758

31 March 2024

Annual Report and Financial Statement

Legal and administrative information

Annual Report of the Trustees

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees

Statement of financial activities

Charity Name Grace Bible Rugby Church

Charity Registration no. 1 164758
The Charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 08/12/2015

Registered Office: 61 Somers Road
Rugby
CV22 7DG

Aims and Purposes

The object of the CIO is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Evangelical Christian faith in Rugby, Warwickshire and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time decide.

Objectives

In running the charity and compiling this report, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The mission statement for Grace Bible Church Rugby states;

***We exist to glorify God by preaching and teaching the Word of God,
so that people are transformed into Christ's likeness.***

Trustees The trustees who served during the period or who were serving at the date of this report were:

Name	Date of appointment
Timothy Simon John Atkins	08/12/2015
Thomas James McConnell	08/12/2015
Antony Michael Coote	01/05/2016

Key Management Personnel Those in charge of planning, directing, controlling, running and operating the Charity, including those members of staff are the Elders of Grace Bible Church Rugby.

Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 1 Churchill Place London E14 5HP
Independent Examiner	Christine Cheung-Poston Flat 48, Samford House Charlotte Terrace London N1 0JF

The Trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements of Grace Bible Church Rugby (GBCR) ("the Charity") from the establishment of the Charity to 31 March 2019. The legal and administrative information set out earlier in this document forms part of this report.

1. Structure, Governance & Management

Trustees

The Trustees meet 4 times a year to discuss a full range of matters relating to strategy, project work, recruitment, finance and general administration. None of the Trustees receives remuneration for their remuneration duties. Trustees aim to maintain and, where necessary, expand this range of skills and experience through training.

The induction process for any individual newly appointed to the board of Trustees comprises an initial meeting with at least two of the Trustees (whenever possible one of these two Trustees being the Chair) and a written role description, referring to other key documents: • the Charity Commission's guidance 'The Essential Trustee' • the Trust Deed of the Charity • the Charity's financial position.

The Church is governed by the elders in accordance with its Constitution. The procedure for appointing new elders is set out in the Church Rules. Decisions are taken by the elders and communicated to the members of the church through church meetings or informal announcements at the Sunday services.

The Elders during the period of 1 April 2023-31 March 2024 were;

Rev Timothy Atkins
Rev Thomas McConnell Jr
Rev Claudio Farinha

The elders met 13 times during the period 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024

Staff

The staff who served either during the period or were in post at the date of this report are:

Name	Title
Timothy Simon John Atkins	Pastor / Elder
Thomas James McConnell	Pastor / Elder
Claudio Farinha	Missionary / Elder

1. Acknowledgements

Grace Bible Church Rugby is grateful to Christine Cheung-Poston for examining the accounts for 2023-24.

2. Aims and Purposes

The object of the CIO is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Evangelical Christian faith in Rugby, Warwickshire and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time decide.

3. Objectives and Activities

In running the charity and compiling this report, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The mission statement for Grace Bible Church Rugby (GBCR) states;

We exist to glorify God by preaching and teaching the Word of God, so that people are transformed into Christlikeness.

Accordingly, we have held weekly worship services that are open to the public which are advertised via the internet, social media, personal invitation flyers and word of mouth. These services have been streamed to enable people to participate from home. We have held weekly prayer meetings open to members and regular attenders. We are committed to encouraging as many people as possible to live out their faith within the community of Rugby and wherever else they may go.

4. Achievements and Performance

Worship Services

Public worship services have been held on Sunday mornings throughout the year.

We continue to provide a livestream service for people who are unable to attend the service in person due to illness, holiday etc. Services are recorded and made available to the public via our YouTube channel.

As of 13th November 2023, these services have been held at Houlton School in Rugby or at the Griffin Primary School (when Houlton is not available). We also hire out Dunchurch Baptist Church for our baptism services. We began the church year with a week of prayer running from the 3rd to the 10th of September 2023. Prayer meetings have been held in private homes twice monthly.

Special services have been held at Christmas for the benefit of the local community. These were advertised on our website and via flyers distributed to homes in area around the school building.

Training and Christian Growth

We have offered a 14-week class on the Fundamentals of the Faith which began on the 23rd of January 2024. We also offered a class on How to Interpret the Bible (Hermeneutics) which ran from the 21st of January to the 10th of March 2024.

Pastor Tim Atkins has focused on shepherding and preaching, Pastor Cláudio Farinha has focused on the church plant in Madeira and Pastor Tom McConnell has been leading Grace Bible Academy, the Bible training part of GBCR, and leading GBCR free Biblical Counselling ministry, while working on a doctorate in Biblical Counselling which should finish ca. May 2024. Once Pastor Tom finishes his doctorate, we hope that this will enable the church to expand its current training capability and to broaden its scope. It will also make training available to a greater number of people than previously.

11th Anniversary

On 11th February 2024, GBCR celebrated its 11th anniversary. We celebrated this special time with an international fellowship meal at the end of the service.

Future leadership

The Elders have identified several men who have potential for future leadership. The elders have been doing this for a few years and continue to test the Biblical qualifications of these men as well as their spiritual gifts.

Ladies' Ministry

The Women of Grace group continues to meet to study the Bible and pray together.

They have been meeting once a month on Saturday mornings.

They also engage in discipleship and evangelism.

They went through a book about God's Design for Women.

Men's ministry

The Men's Group continues to meet to study the Bible and pray together.

They have been meeting once a month on Friday evenings.

They spent this year going through a video series about the Attributes of God.

They also engage in discipleship and evangelism.

Links to Churches and Other Groups

Tom McConnell continues to work as an elder of GBCR, and is a missionary from Grace Community Church in Los Angeles, USA. Tom is studying for a doctorate in Biblical Counselling through 'The Master's Seminary' in Los Angeles, California which provides strong links with likeminded ministers in the US. He continues to be part of 'The Master's Seminary Fellowship' group in the UK which meets monthly for prayer and encouragement.

Tim Atkins continues to serve as the Occupational Elder. He is a member of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Church's Pastors Network and part of 'The Master's Seminary Fellowship' group.

Claudio Farinha is an elder of the church continues to work in Madeira as a missionary.

He has been developing network links with churches in Portugal and Spain.

The church continues to support him and the family as they go on behalf of GBCR.

GBCR has welcomed 2 visiting preachers and 2 other church members have assisted the elders in the preaching ministry of the church.

Pastoral Care

Tim Atkins focused on the pastoral care of GBCR by regularly visiting the members of the church. These visits provide an opportunity for counselling, teaching and mutual encouragement.

The elders continue to develop other members in the church to provide spiritual instruction, mutual encouragement, and growth through discipleship relationships.

Tim and Angela Atkins made another visit to Claudio and Nikki Farinha in June 2023 to encourage and support them in their church planning work. Tom McConnell also visited the Farinha family in February 2024 to encourage them and support the first Short Term Missions' Trip to Madeira.

The Martha Ministry has provided meals for families going through short term emergencies, e.g. bereavement, the birth of a child.

Biblical Counselling

The elders of GBCR and their wives continue to be certified through the Association of Certified Biblical Counsellors in the USA. Tom McConnell is the elder over this ministry and has been focusing on improving the Biblical counselling administrative and legal policies and structures.

We have of members of GBCR that are at different levels of pursuing certification in Biblical Counselling through ACBC (Association of Certified Biblical Counsellors). One of those members has begun the last phase of this certification (50-hour supervised counselling).

Grace Bible Church Rugby continues to provide free counselling to those with spiritual problems, both locally and internationally. This has been advertised via the church's website, the website of the Association of Certified Biblical Counsellors and by word of mouth.

Mission and Evangelism

During April 2023 – March 2024, Claudio and Nikki Farinha continue to serve on the Island of Madeira as missionaries preaching the Christian message. They continue their efforts to plant a new church and have shared the Christian message with thousands of people through 1-1 conversations, distributing Christian literature and hosting Bible studies.

This ministry continues to be the auspices of GBCR. Once the new church is able to exist in its own right, the intention is that it will be made independent under Claudio's pastoral leadership.

The Evangelism Team regularly visit Rugby town centre to bring the Christian message to members of the public through distributing Christian literature and engaging in 1-1 conversations. Other evangelistic events have also been organised, such a Family Christmas Service, and meals where the members of the church invite their neighbours, friends and family. Members of the congregation continue to tell others the message of the Christian faith as part of everyday life which continues to have a positive impact on the community.

5. Financial Review

Financial Activity and Financial Position

The statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet can be found on **page 11**. The Charity have available cash of **104,996.83** at the year end.

It is the policy of the church to hold reserves as follows:

Emergency Fund: **£30,000.00**

6. Responsibilities of the Trustees for the Financial Statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Charity law in England and Wales requires 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 income and expenditure of the Charity for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the activities of the Charity will continue.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. The Trustees 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. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included in the Charity's website.

7. Approval

The report of the Trustees was approved by the Trustees on **14/01/2025** and signed on its behalf by:



Antony Coote
Trustee (GBCR)

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). My independent examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by the law, I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Trust and the Trustees for my independent examination, for this report, or the opinions I have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period (under section 144(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

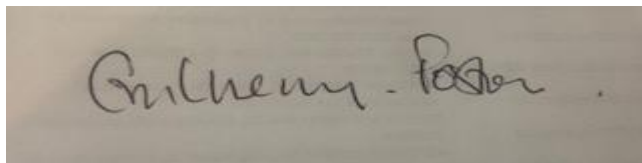
It is my responsibility to: • examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act); • follow the procedures laid down in the General Direction given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and • state whether particular matters have come to my attention

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

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 charity 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.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in dark ink on a light-colored surface. The signature appears to read "Christine Cheung-Poston".

Christine Cheung-Poston

1st January 2025

Statement of Financial Activities for the period ended 31 March 2024.

	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24
Income	83,484.55	90,907.02	104,781.66
Voluntary	83,455.66	90,610.94	103,436.07
Other Income			
Interest earned	28.89	296.08	1,345.59
Expenditure	-54,099.83	-78,719.28	-93,044.19
Administration Costs	-4,377.46	-3,209.38	-4,098.75
Building & Facilities	-177.64	0.00	0.00
Church Life & Outreach	-4,455.78	-2,737.33	-30,054.24
Employee Costs	-25,572.19	-31,631.69	-29,877.47
Governance	-250.00	-250.00	-300.00
Mission & Ministry	-1,099.30	-17,516.04	-1,603.37
Office Expenses	-2,695.16	-537.19	-698.61
IT Expenses	-2,109.51	-1,960.73	-2,227.04
Travel Expenses	-1,174.12	-3,380.84	-3,531.99
Worship Expenses	-1,108.34	-2,917.08	-1,486.92
Rent	-11,080.33	-14,579.00	-19,165.80
Grand Total	29,384.72	12,187.74	11,737.47

Fund Movements			
	Opening Balance 22-23	Closing Balance 23-24	Movement
Restricted Fund	30,926.02	22,642.95	-8,283.07
Building Fund	15,138.14	17,278.78	2,140.64
Children's Ministry Fund	245.00	0	-245.00
GBA Fund	0.00	1,843.45	1,843.45
Madeira Fund	15,542.88	3,520.72	-12,022.16
Unrestricted Fund	62,201.81	82,353.88	20,152.07
Building Fund	8,400.00	11,250.00	2,850.00
Deacons Fund	500.00	500.00	0.00
Emergency Fund	24,000.00	30,000.00	6,000.00
General Fund	21,101.81	30,603.88	9,502.07
Maderia Fund	8,200.00	10,000.00	1,800.00
Grand Total	93,127.83	104,996.83	11,869.00

At the end of the financial year, the Charity held **£104,996.83** at the bank, of which **£22,642.95** were for restricted purposes, see above table.

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and drawn up on the cash basis accounting policy.

Trustees giving for the period amounted to £18,389.00 and this included the giving from one of the trustees via his company.