

St Jude's United Church
Englefield Green
2024

Registered Charity Number 1169401

Vicar

The Revd Canon Judith Allford

Methodist Minister

The Revd Andrew Reed

Hon. Reader

Roy Gouriet

Churchwardens

Claudia Tubb

Mike Brooking

Hon. Treasurer, PCC

Brian Hooker

Hon. Secretary, PCC

Marion Paige

Organist and Choirmaster

Professor Geoffrey Chew

Lay Vice Chair

Andrew Sheer

Annual Report for 2024

Background

St Jude's Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Canon Judith Allford, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church of St Jude's, St Jude's Road, Englefield Green and for the Church Hall in Bond Street, Englefield Green.

Membership

Members of the Council are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year, the following served as members of the Church Council:

Incumbent: The Revd Canon Judith Allford*

Methodist Minister: The Revd Andrew Reed*

Reader: Roy Gouriet*

Verger: vacancy

Churchwardens: Mike Brooking*
Claudia Tubb*

Representatives on the Jackie Kjos (elected 2023 for three years)

Deanery Synod: Marion Paige (elected 2023 for three years)

Members: Geoff Chew* (elected 2022 for three years)
Susie Harben* (elected 2022 for three years)
Brian Hooker (elected 2022 for three years)
Elizabeth Hopkins (elected 2021 for three years)
Renuka Humphrys* (elected 2022 for three years)
Andrew Sheer* (elected 2021 for three years)
Dave Walker* (elected 2021 for three years)

* - Trustees of the registered charity.

Church Council sub-committees and terms of reference are as follows:

Standing Committee

Regular meetings to plan agenda for Council meetings. Authorised to make decisions, exclusive of Council, as and when necessary.

Worship, Outreach and Social Committee

Regular meetings to consider aspects of mission, both spiritual and practical, within Church and in the wider community. Reports back to Council. Organises Lent groups, etc. Partial ecumenical aspect. Liturgical and music matters and planning for social events.

Finance and Stewardship Committee

Meetings ad hoc to discuss Council proposals and explore stewardship issues.

Fabric Committee/Health and Safety Committee

Meetings generally informal to discuss matters as they arise including issues related to Covid-19.

Village Centre Management Committee

Meeting regularly to oversee the work of the Village Centre.

Address for correspondence:

The Vicarage, 21 Willow Walk, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey TW20 0DQ

Address of Church:

St Jude's Road, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey TW20 0BZ

Email:

enquiries@stjudeschurch.info

Websites:

www.stjudeschurch.info and www.villagecentre.org.uk

Report on our worship

We continued to see a slight increase in the number of our regular worshippers but remain saddened that we see very few younger worshippers. However, the Vicar ran a small confirmation class in the summer and autumn, and on Sunday 1st December two young people and one adult were confirmed by Bishop Paul Davies, Bishop of Dorking, at St Paul's Church, Egham Hythe.

We maintained our established pattern of worship throughout the year.

8.00am Sunday

A service of Holy Communion (said) with BCP service on the first Sunday of each month. We missed the regular ministry at this service of the Revd Orion Edgar, former Anglican Chaplain to RHUL, following his transfer to parish ministry.

9.30am Sunday

Sung Eucharist (live-streamed) with the first Sunday service taken from the Methodist liturgy. Our intention remained to offer a non-Eucharistic on a Fifth Sunday.

4.00pm Sunday

Fourth Sunday at Four: a non-eucharistic worship service with hymns.

6.00pm Sunday

Compline via Zoom on the second Sunday in each month.

10.00am Wednesday

Midweek service of Holy Communion (said) with a short sermon. During Lent this service was moved to 11.00am and was followed by a simple Lenten lunch.

As always, we had a full programme of festival services which once again included a Christingle service in December for some of our local uniformed groups. Our Christmas Crib service was hugely well attended as usual, and there was record attendance too at our Christmas Carol Service, when our choir was once again augmented by the Allegra Choir directed by our AV co-ordinator, Guy Bunce.

Once again in 2024 we hosted two village memorial services: F. Harrison and Son, Funeral Directors, sponsored our summer service for a second year and Lodge Brothers our Christmas memorial service

for a fourth year. The Remembrance Sunday parade service took place as usual in November with excellent attendance from our local uniformed groups.

We remain grateful to our team of worship leaders including our Methodist Associate Minister, the Revd Andrew Reed, our Licensed Lay Minister, Mr Roy Gouriet and our occasional preacher, Mrs Diana Bendall, for their contribution to our worship. On occasions when the Vicar was absent, we benefitted from the ministry of the Revd Janet Franck (retired and with Permission to Officiate in the Diocese of Guildford) and the Revd Matt Prior (St John's Egham). Thank you to Roy Gouriet who co-ordinates our preaching rota. Roy's Permission to Officiate was renewed again in 2024.

Thank you to our regular teams of readers and intercessors and to Mrs Diana Bendall for co-ordinating this ministry. It has been good to welcome some new members to our readers' rota. Paul Murphy has also joined the team of contributors to our weekly prayer diary which has proved very helpful. Special thanks are due to our organist, Geoff Chew, and to our choir for leading our music in worship.

There are many others who contribute to our worship in vital, but perhaps less obvious ways. They include our church cleaning team, flower arrangers, members of our live-streaming rota and all who provide refreshments to follow our worship. Thank you all.

Occasional Services

During the year there were 7 baptisms (12 in 2023), 4 weddings (3), 15 funerals in church (22), 8 funerals conducted by our vicar in local crematoria (7), 1 graveside funeral conducted by our vicar (2), and 4 interments of cremated remains (3).

Church Council meetings

The Church Council met on 17th January, 7th March, 15th April, 4th June, 24th July, 19th September and 4th November. The APCM was held on Sunday 12th May.

We are grateful to our Churchwardens, Church officers, Council members and committee chairs for another year of generous service.

Electoral Roll

Our Electoral Roll for 2024 stood at 90, an increase of 5 on 2023.

Safeguarding

No safeguarding issues were reported. We remain grateful to Mrs Diana Bendall for continuing to serve as our Parish Safeguarding Lead and for supporting the Revd Andrew Reed who holds that role for our Village Centre. Effective safeguarding was an ever more important priority in 2024.

Concert Series

2024 saw a programme of 11 concerts and we are grateful to Professor Geoff Chew for arranging an attractive programme for us once again.

The concerts took place as follows: 3 February Community Concert, 9 March Royal Holloway students, 27 April Royal Holloway students, 11 May James Kirby's students, 15 June Vox Mundi, 6 July Cath Chew and Geoff Chew (1 and 2 pianos), 10 August Asia Bonuccelli (piano), 21 September Lesley Shrigley-Jones (cello), 9 November Valerie Fry/Dimitri Kennaway Words & Music WWII programme, 23 November James Kirby (piano), 14 December Geoff Chew (piano).

Social Events

Coffee Mornings were held on 24 February, 14 September and 26 October, an indoor Summer Fair/Coffee Morning on 13 July, St Jude's Stall at the Village Fair on 22 June, Harvest Lunch on 12 October in church, Christmas Market on 30 November in our Village Centre, and Mince Pie and Lebkuchen Tea on 4 December. Our grateful thanks to all who coordinated and contributed to these events.

Fabric

The clock face had been removed for refurbishment in 2023 and brought great joy when it was re-installed. A drainage survey was undertaken, and a couple of items were highlighted to the Fabric Committee for further discussion and exploration. Some damage was sustained to the large west window (at the back of the church), and a repair is being progressed. We received a grant from RBC to refurbish the two lampposts in the churchyard, and a grant from the Methodist Church to help pay for the stonework repairs and refurbishment of the clock face. Repairs were carried out to the organ, the boilers were serviced and a quinquennial inspection took place. The latter gave us a considerable list of items to be dealt with in 2025. We are grateful to the churchwardens for all their work on these projects and to the group of church members who carry out minor maintenance and cleaning.

Monsell Room lettings

Our thanks to Andrew Sheer for continuing to co-ordinate and administer all bookings. The users of the Monsell Room were Alcoholics Anonymous, Angeli's art classes, Egham Choral, Englefield Green Councillors' Surgery, Englefield Green Village Residents Association, Royal Holloway Music Department, Royal Holloway Women's Club, Ruth Hopkins' singing classes, Sue Lowe's cello classes. In addition to these regular bookings there were a few "one-off" hirings.

Mission and Outreach

Donations to the Runnymede Foodbank: total cash donations £640 (2023 £686). This, plus donations in kind, enabled a total donation by weight of 1073kg (an appreciable increase over the 2023 figure of 819kg). Thank you to Geoff Chew for continuing to manage and pass on our donations.

Donations to other appeals: we were pleased to be able to send donations to WaterAid, the Royal British Legion and the Children's Society.

Giving in kind: We continued to contribute to Revive and Thrive, a charity based at a Baptist Church in Mytchett who send knitted items and reconditioned tools to countries across the world. Thank you to Di and Alan Fone and to Pat and Brian Summers for continuing to co-ordinate this ministry. Donated items in 2024 included 4 manual sewing machines! Teddies, jumpers and hats have been knitted in quantity for children. Knitted squares have been sewn together to create blankets of varying sizes. We continue to be supported by knitters at Lynwood Village in Sunningdale. We are grateful to all our knitters and sewers, and we need knitters and donations of wool, please, to help us continue this work into 2025!

The Ship Newsletter

Our monthly newsletter is produced and circulated electronically by Brian Hooker who also uploads it to our website. Similarly, Andrew Sheer posts it on our Facebook page. Our thanks to them both.

Digital Outreach

This continued through our Facebook page and website. We are grateful to everyone who helped us with publicity in 2024, including Brian Hooker, Andrew Sheer, Roger Downing and Guy Bunce.

Our Church Schools

2024 was a busy year for our St Jude's Schools Federation. Both schools were inspected by Ofsted. Disappointingly, but not altogether surprisingly, our Infant School received a "Requires Improvement" judgment. But the inspectors were warm in their acknowledgment of all the changes the school has faced over the last few years, and of all the positive work that is being done to raise standards and improve on our performance. Very shortly afterwards Ofsted came to our Junior School and this time the assessment was "Good" and the feedback especially appreciative of the Leadership Team. The final inspection of the year was that of the "Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools" (SIAMS). The written report which followed was high in praise – of the emphasis placed by all the team on the Christian ethos of the school and of the embedding of our Christian vision and values throughout the school. The good relationship between St Jude's Church and our schools was highlighted in the report.

We are very grateful to Mrs Pat Summers and Mrs Deborah Kidd, both of whom read regularly with the children in Year 3. We know that this is hugely appreciated by the school. Our Vicar and the Revd Jeremy Brown from Christ Church, Virginia Water have continued to share the leading of the church collective worship at both schools. Both of them continue to serve on the Governing Body.

From the Vicar

As we look back on 2024, we can perhaps see it as a year of preparing for the opportunities and challenges which will lie ahead in 2025. During 2024, several conversations took place with the Archdeacon of Dorking, the Ven Martin Breadmore, and one of the Guildford Diocesan Mission enablers, the Revd Jens Mankel. Our discussion focussed on the possibility of developing a closer partnership with St John's Egham. At the end of 2024 it is clear that there is lots to do in order to work out what this may look like for both our churches, but I thank God with you for the exciting possibilities for growth that it could mean for us all. It will be a joy to work alongside Holly Byles, Curate at St John's, as we explore these opportunities together.

As the year closes and a new year dawns I am reminded of words from the pen of Paul – "He who calls you is faithful, and he will do it" (1 Thess. 5:24). A timely promise for us all!

God bless you. *Judith Allford*

Village Centre Annual Report for 2024

The Village Centre reopened on Tuesday 2nd January 2024 after the Christmas break. Our Community Fridge opened again on Monday and Friday mornings, 9am to 11am, from Friday 5th January, and the Child Contact Centre from Saturday 6th January. Our film nights resumed on Friday 12th January. However, during the first week of January the hall floor was completely re-laid so regular hall bookings and classes resumed in the second week of the month. During the month we issued a challenge via our social media outlets: Do you want to volunteer?

During January we received a Youth Fund Grant of £3190 for seven children's cooking classes which we were able to spread throughout the year. Our expression of interest to the major development

fund for the refurbishment of the kitchen was accepted and the full application submitted. An initial grant application to the Methodist South-East District for salary costs was also submitted this month.

Maintenance of the premises remained an ongoing task throughout 2024 and not least during the early months of the year. Many of the smaller tasks have continued to be carried out by our volunteer handy man with contractors only being used for larger or specialist tasks.

March saw a busy month at the Village Centre. We received a visit from the CEO of Runnymede Council, Andrew Pritchard. A new shopping service to Brooklands via Community Minibus was launched, a Seniors' tea party was hosted by students from RHUL, and an adults' cooking class was held in conjunction with Surrey County Council 'Let's talk about Food' initiative. We also received an award, as part of the Runnymede Civic Awards, for contribution to the Community.

The Village Centre Management Committee (VCMC) continued to support the work of the Centre throughout the year. In January we sadly had to say "farewell" to Sharon Edgar, who has moved away from the village. Other members of the Committee continued their various roles: Siobhan Elliot co-ordinating our social media presence, Diana Bendall acting as our Minutes Secretary, Jonathan Griffiths supervising our maintenance jobs and Andrew Sheer maintaining his role as Honorary Treasurer. However, early in the year Andrew announced his wish to step down from that role, which he has undertaken since the inception of the Centre in 2010. At the time of the issue of this Annual Report a successor to Andrew has not yet been found. Andrew has generously continued to fulfil the role for the time being, but the appointment of a new treasurer remains an urgent need.

One of the tasks undertaken by members of the VCMC has been providing monthly Village Centre Reports for the SHIP newsletter on a rota basis. April was another very busy month with a variety of Cooking Classes both for adults and children. Another special event took place on Thursday 18th April when Jo Layton, an Englefield Green resident and CEO of CAP Worldwide brought a team of volunteers to the Centre for the day. Between them they did some cooking for the Community Fridge and the Café, served in the Café, put together Baby Basics referral baskets, painted the hall and cleared weeds and debris from the alley and the lane! It was a hugely worthwhile day. At the end of April Hubbub, an award-winning environmental charity and sponsor of our Community Fridge, sent a film crew along to film the Fridge in action!

May saw the launch of a Monday Lunch Club for the over 55s. The Community Cooking Day was changed from a Monday to a Tuesday to accommodate this. Deliveries now go out on a Wednesday rather than a Tuesday. The Lunch Club was an immediate success, and numbers have continued to grow throughout the year.

At the beginning of June, we held a fundraising barn dance. Tickets sold out! Our caller was Barrie Bullimore, who had previously run weekly barn dances at Laleham Methodist Church. A good time was held by all! During the week commencing 10th June we were able to participate in "The Big Green Week" Events included a visit from Richard Emmett with his display beehive. We also had a visit from Elaine Gill, who had just begun her second term as Mayor of Runnymede.

The Revd Andrew Reed was away from us on a well-earned sabbatical from June to August. Events continued but with the usual reduction in café opening hours during the school holidays. Our Child Contact Centre was especially busy in June, following the closure of a neighbouring Contact Centre in Egham. This has meant an increase in referrals to our centre, so we also increased our volunteer database to cope with the increase in families attending.

June and July also saw us welcome a number of new student volunteers to the Centre, through local colleges and the DofE project. Students are provided with experience across all outreach programmes of the Centre to ensure that they receive a rounded level of experience within a charity environment. Another successful adults cooking class took place in July, which was very well supported by the local community. We also welcomed a pop-up stall from the Englefield Green Shop, to help them advertise their services and raise funds for the upkeep of their shop.

The Community Bus had a very well supported trip to the Chertsey Museum in August, where attendees were given an opportunity to view their vintage clothing exhibition and enjoy lunch in the sunshine. August also saw another children's cooking class, where local children donned their aprons and had a great time cooking up some culinary delights under the supervision of our volunteers. The children sat and ate their food together and also had some to take home to their families.

Baby Basics is another project that has continued to flourish. Referrals came into us from local midwives and health visitors at Ashford/St Peters Hospitals and Frimley Park. We also supported families referred to us via the Prison Service and Runnymede Resettlement Team.

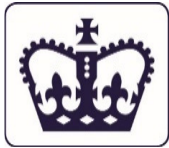
The Centre has remained busy throughout the year with private bookings for birthday parties, baby showers and other family gatherings. The Flow Church has continued to meet on our premises each Sunday.

The latter part of the year saw further cooking classes, bus trips and tea parties. However a large chunk of time was spent on administration to ensure the building is maintained, grant applications are applied for, and that our licensing is up to date. We revised our current premises license to ensure that all regulations are always followed and our neighbours are protected, and our five-yearly Quinquennial also took place at this time, where the whole building was inspected and action plan for remedial work proposed.

The year was rounded off with our annual Christmas Fair on 30th November, which was organised in conjunction with St Jude's United Church. The Village Centre hosted a children's fair in the back hall, whilst St Jude's Church held a market in the café area. It was a hugely successful afternoon, where we saw many local residents and families pass through our doors. We were incredibly grateful to the Egham United Charity who provided funds to provide free gifts and prizes to the children in attendance.

Finally we said goodbye to a longstanding member of staff on the 17th December. Sarmila, who worked for the Village Centre initially as a volunteer and then later as a dedicated member of staff, left the area for pastures new. We were incredibly sorry to lose her, but incredibly proud and happy for her new beginning.

Our thanks as always to our wonderful team of staff and volunteers who have led us through another busy and happy year. And to Ali Griffin for her visionary and tireless management which is such a blessing to us all. Thanks above all to our ever-gracious God for his unfailing provision.



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Receipts and payments account

For the period from	Period start date	To
	01-Jan-24	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £

A1 Receipts

Church

Donations	107,741	-	-
Grants	-	12,841	

Village Centre

Interest (Central Finance Bank)	107	-	
Child Contact Centre	3,550	-	
The Fridge Account	23	6,343	
Donations	46,394	-	
Trading Income (Café)	52,015	-	
Trading Income (Hall)	31,096	-	
Grants	-	55,546	

Sub total (Gross income for AR)

240,926

74,730

-

A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).

	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-

Total receipts

240,926

74,730

-

A3 Payments

Charitable activities			
Village Centre			
Child Contact Centre	4,379	-	
The Fridge Account	30	1,021	

Village Centre	-	2,578
Difference in Petty Cash	22	-

Sub total

4,431

3,599

Support Costs

Village Centre

Support Costs

136,333

26,372

Sub total

136,333

26,372

Church and services

-

-

Light, heat, water

1,861

3,141

Telephone and broadband

649

-

Repairs and replacements

2,271

-

Organist and instruments

807

-

Altar supplies and books

941

-

Insurance

3,527

-

Cleaning

127

-

Equipment

570

-

Sub total

10,753

3,141

Church Hall

Light, heat, water

2,370

-

Insurance

1,763

-

Telephone

469

-

Fire extinguishers

191

-

Repairs and replacements

3,240

-

Sub total

8,033

-

Church building

Organ repairs

4,099

-

Clock repairs

-

5,316

Sub total

4,099

5,316

Church House

Repairs and management

4,668

-

Sub total

4,668

Outside the parish

Parish Share

71,627

-

Methodist Circuit Share

8,000

Subscriptions

383

Bank charges

60

Sub total

80,070

-

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total payments	248,387	38,428	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 7,461	36,302	-
A5 Transfers between funds		-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end			
Church Account	42,168	-	
Village Centre Accounts	-	-	
Central Finance Board	6,755	-	
Contact Centre	4,821	-	
Fridge Account	-	-	
Village Centre	1,222	4,677	
Petty Cash	200	-	
Sub total	55,166	4,677	-
Cash funds this year end	47,705	40,979	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
	A5 Transfers between funds	-
	A6 Cash funds last year end	55,166
	A7 Cash fund this year end	
	Church Account	42,286
	Village Centre Accounts	
	Central Finance Board	6,862
	Contact Centre	3,992
	Fridge Account	5,314
	Village Centre	- 5,685
	Petty Cash	178
	Sub total	10,661
	Total cash funds	47,705
	(negative amounts must be reported under payment account(s))	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-

-
-
-
-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B3 Investment assets		

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B4 Assets retained for the charity’s own use		

	Details	Fund to which liability relates
B5 Liabilities		

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	F



ounts

Period end date
31-Dec-24

CC16a



Total funds

Last year

to the nearest
£
2024

to the nearest £
2023

107,741
12,841

107
3,550
6,366
46,394
52,015
31,096
55,546

315,656	OK	-
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-
-

-

315,656

-

-
4,379
1,051

2023

2,578

22

8,030

162,705

162,705

5,002

649

2,271

807

941

3,527

127

570

13,894

2,370

1,763

469

191

3,240

8,033

4,099

5,316

9,415

4,668

4,668

71,627

8,000

383

60

80,070

-		
-		
-		-

286,815	OK	-
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28,841	OK	-
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	-		-
	-		
	42,168		
	-		
	6,755		
	4,821		
	-		
	5,900		
	200		
	59,843		
	88,684		

period

Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
-	-
4,677	
4,384	
31,354	
	-
	-
40,979	-
OK	OK
Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
-	-
-	-

-
-
-
-

-
-
-
-

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Current value
(optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-

Current value
(optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-

Amount due
(optional)

-
-
-
-
-

When due
(optional)

Print Name

Date of
approval

Independent Examiner's Report to the Church Council of St Jude's United Church, Englefield Green

I report on the accounts of the JCC of St Jude's United Church Englefield Green for the year ended 31st December 2024

The Council is responsible for the preparation of the accounts and considers that an audit is not required under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts (under section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);

follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act;

and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's 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 considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Council concerning 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 1993 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 1993 Act 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.

Brian Summers

15 Englehurst

Englefield Green

Egham, Surrey

TW20 0EE