



The Alliance Manchester (TAM)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Registered Charity Number: 1171833

The Giving Tree, 508 Moss Lane East, Manchester, M14 4PA



THE GIVING TREE

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Introduction

The Alliance Manchester (TAM) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), established for the public benefit to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the TAM Statement of Faith. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 1 March 2017 and operates from The Giving Tree (TGT), a community centre and café at 508 Moss Lane East, Manchester, M14 4PA.

TAM is governed by its constitution, with its only voting members being the trustees of the charity. The trustees are responsible for ensuring that TAM remains compliant with its charitable objects, applying resources appropriately to achieve its mission, and operating in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements.

TAM is associated with the Christian & Missionary Alliance Great Britain (CMA-GB), which is affiliated with the worldwide Alliance World Fellowship, active in more than 50 countries.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution and Governance

The charity is governed by its constitution, which defines the arrangements for the appointment, reappointment and retirement of trustees, as well as the management of its affairs.

Trustees

The trustees collectively manage the governance, strategic direction and financial stewardship of TAM. They meet quarterly to discharge their responsibilities, oversee activities, and monitor compliance. To enable this, the trustees aim to meet quarterly to discharge their duties and obligations. Minutes of these meetings are recorded and retained in the charity's central repository together with other governing documents.

During the reporting year, Barnabas Kwant tendered his resignation, effective early 2025. In December 2024, Justin Siemens joined the Board of Trustees.

Current Trustees (as at 31 December 2024):

- Juan Carlos Parodi – Chair, Pastoral Team Lead
- Sandro Oliveira – Pastoral Team and Finance Support
- Barnabas Kwant – Treasurer / Finance Lead
- Justin Siemens – Envision Liaison
- Odong Ochaya

Trustee Recruitment, Induction and Training

The charity aims to appoint trustees with a diverse range of skills and experience. New trustees are provided with induction and supporting documentation to enable them to fulfil their

responsibilities. Ongoing training and updates are delivered through regular meetings and communications.

Volunteers and Staffing

TAM's activities are supported by a team of committed volunteers, including ministry facilitators and members of the core leadership group. Their contribution is vital to the delivery of services and activities, and the trustees express their sincere gratitude for their dedication.

The charity did not employ paid staff during the year. All operations and administration were carried out by trustees and volunteers.

Communications

TAM uses a range of platforms to communicate with its community. This includes WhatsApp groups (by invitation), the TAM website (<https://alliancemcr.com/>), the Giving Tree website (<https://www.thegivingtreehub.com/>), Facebook and Zoom.

Purpose and Aims

The vision of TAM is to be:

"A multicultural, Jesus-centred family, sharing life together and sharing Jesus' life with others."

The charity advances the Christian faith through worship services, teaching, outreach, training, community projects and other ministries delivered through The Giving Tree community centre and café.

The charity seeks to ensure that financial hardship does not present a barrier to participation in its activities. Where costs are necessarily incurred, support is made available through subsidies and scholarships to enable those of limited means to take part.

In accordance with the Charity Commission's guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit, TAM seeks to:

- To invite and encourage as many people as possible to participate actively in the life of the church community and to extend outreach to new individuals through events, activities and regular gatherings.
- To provide regular opportunities for prayer and worship that are open and accessible to all.
- To deliver Christian gospel teaching for spiritual and moral education, fostering trust in Jesus Christ and supporting people to become faithful disciples.
- To offer pastoral care, spiritual guidance, prayer and practical assistance, particularly for those experiencing difficult circumstances, poor health or bereavement.
- To undertake community projects that pass on skills, support personal development and benefit individuals from all nations, in faithfulness to the teaching of Jesus and the expression of Christian values in everyday life.

Achievements and Performance in 2024

Overview

The trustees regard 2024 as a year of significant achievement. The Giving Tree continued to serve as a vital hub for worship, fellowship, learning and community engagement, bringing together individuals from diverse nationalities and backgrounds.

Worship and Regular Meetings

The charity held a regular Sunday gathering each week including multi-lingual worship, prayer, Bible teaching and fellowship. Communion services were held monthly and the community regularly ate together with multiple cultures represented. Every Sunday, Christian Bible teaching was delivered to promote the Christian faith, inspire trust in Jesus and provide sound moral teaching. Attendance at the Sunday service varied across the year between approximately 40 and 70 people each week. The church's Pastor and leaders/facilitators generally delivered the teaching with occasional input from visiting speakers.

The charity continued to have many attendees who recently migrated from Hong Kong. The unique challenge of this group related to language barrier as most are Cantonese speakers. The charity has been encouraged that many of them are keen to be part of an English-speaking community.

The Christmas and Easter services were special services which were each attended by over 70 people sharing a Christmas meal together at The Giving Tree (TGT).

Children's Ministry

Each Sunday there was a Sunday school ministry with 4-10 children regularly attending between the ages of 3 and 11 years to receive Christian teaching and take part in various activities including crafts and games. The Sunday school facilitators included both committed church and visiting members with a passion to help children understand the Christian faith.

Support for Migrant Communities

The congregation continued to include significant numbers of attendees from Hong Kong, many of whom face challenges associated with migration and language barriers. The church encouraged integration through English conversation after services. Broader attendance reflected a wide range of nationalities, including Latino, East Asian, Middle Eastern, European, North American and African communities. Members fostered an inclusive environment where individuals from all cultures participated in Christian worship and received practical support, such as sharing meals after service, guidance to English classes, and pastoral care.

English Classes and Conversation Classes

TAM provided free 'English for Speakers of Other Languages' (ESOL) classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Average attendance ranged from 15 to 20 students, which was smaller than the previous year. These classes are structured around the academic calendar. A team of ten

volunteer tutors delivered lessons for beginners and intermediate learners, emphasising practical conversational English.

The programme's true success lies in the community it has built. Students represented diverse backgrounds, including the Middle East, Hong Kong, Brazil, South Sudan, France and Italy. The programme fostered a sense of belonging and mutual support, with notable acts of solidarity, such as visits organised for a student undergoing cancer treatment.

On four occasions throughout the year, optional Bible study sessions were offered after classes. These sessions were attended by 5-6 students and a couple of tutors. To complement the formal lessons, the charity organised a series of Saturday activities designed to encourage practical language use. These included visits to Manchester city centre, historical sites, the Manchester Art Gallery and the Manchester Museum. Social events, including two summer barbeques and a 'bring and share' Christmas party, were held.

Prayer and Mission Support

Weekly prayer meetings were held at The Giving Tree, with a focus on local needs and global issues. The charity supported a missionary family and an individual ministering in Africa throughout the year.

Worship and AV Teams

The past year has been a period of significant growth and strengthening for our Worship and Audio-Visual (AV) teams. We are delighted to report that the worship team expanded to a core of 11-14 individuals, representing a rich diversity of approximately seven nationalities. Similarly, the dedicated AV team grew to a team of six members, enhancing the technical quality of our services.

A key strategic focus has been on nurturing youth involvement and development. The band proudly incorporated three young people as interns, providing them with a valuable platform to develop their musical and leadership skills. This was further supported by the work of a dedicated worship intern, whose role was instrumental in fostering the next generation. The intern focused on helping children develop a deeper understanding of musical worship, regularly involving 3-5 children in services through music and scripture reading, and delivering monthly teaching on worship in Sunday School.

To build team cohesion and spiritual depth, we organised two 'Worship Jam Nights'. These events provided crucial opportunities for the attendees to connect in deeper fellowship, learn new songs together, and share encouragement. The worship and AV teams worked together closely to make it possible. The first event featured a collaborative session with a visiting team, while the second fostered meaningful sharing and left all participants feeling built up and connected. These initiatives have been vital in moving beyond mere performance to building a genuine, worshipping community.

Strategic Partnerships

In the final quarter of the year, the charity formalised a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Envision Manchester. Envision Manchester is an organisation focused on identifying and developing young leaders from diverse backgrounds. To strengthen this strategic partnership, Mr. Justin Siemens, who serves as co-lead at Envision Manchester, was appointed as a trustee of TAM/TGT. Envision Manchester currently operates from The Giving Tree hub. Under the oversight of Justin and Brittany Siemens, this partnership provides valuable growth and discipleship opportunities for young people in the Oxford Road and Moss Side communities, directly complementing our mission.

In a parallel development, the trustees proactively approached the Chinese Alliance Churches Union (UK) to explore registration as a member. The year concluded with the Board reviewing the various membership options available.

Pastoral Care

The pastoral team continued to meet to pray with and encourage individuals, both through home visits and through meetings arranged in The Giving Tree Centre and café. They provided both emotional and spiritual support for those who needed it.

The Giving Tree Café and Coffee Ministry

The café continued to provide a welcoming environment for training, community building and outreach through barista training sessions and 'the Coffee and Life programme'. Three barista training cohorts were delivered in 2024, involving 33 students - nine from January and February, fourteen during April and May, and ten during October and November. Participants were migrants or international students, including approximately 20% asylum seekers. Training included a 30-hour externship and mentorship from experienced volunteers.

In the past three years, nearly 90 volunteers completed the training programme, with a majority passing the SCA Barista Foundation tests. Ten volunteers advanced from the Foundation exams through the SCA Intermediate levels and took on responsibilities as Assistant Shift Leaders.

The café also hosted seven missionaries for training in coffee-based ministry. Two of the missionaries travelled from the Middle East for training. Their eagerness, enthusiasm and dedication served as a powerful reminder of the potential for our work to have an impact beyond the immediate local context.

Workshops were integral to the TGT Café/Coffee Ministry success and outreach in 2024. The following workshops were organised in that period that collectively engaged over 100 participants:

- 'Coffee and Ukraine' that saw 15 participants
- 'Coffee and Colombia' with 35 participants
- Two 'coffee cupping' workshops with a total of 40 guests and
- A sensory training workshop which involved 40 guests.

These workshops were providing hands-on coffee training as much as creating spaces of connection and outreach.

The TGT Cafe/Coffee Ministry outreach to university students expanded through a series of four Latte Art events held in partnership with the university Coffee Society, engaging a total of 40 students. These events successfully combined creativity and social connection, fostering new friendships and providing a welcoming introduction to The Giving Tree community. Building on this success, we plan to further develop relationships with university students and young professionals.

A key highlight of the year was the celebration of our second anniversary in April. The day commenced with a community initiative, distributing 100 complimentary cups of coffee to local businesses as a gesture of gratitude and goodwill. This was followed by an Open Day event in the afternoon, which welcomed neighbours, friends, and newcomers. The café was a vibrant hub of activity, featuring workshops and providing an opportunity to welcome visitors and reflect on the charity's journey. The event served as a significant milestone, highlighting the progress made and the diverse ways in which our work has developed.

Marriage Ministry

In the autumn we ran the second marriage weekend away retreat. We had in attendance visiting couples from the USA, Peru and local married couples. The retreat was a great time of fellowship and opportunity for couples to learn more about each other and Jesus. The retreat was preceded by seminar-type sessions at the TGT attended by the communities and church couples. These sessions' core aim was to strengthen marriages, which are core in families living and staying together.

Gardening Project

The Community Gardening Project successfully continued its work throughout the year, maintaining the vibrant planters and floral displays on the seating deck located behind The Giving Tree (TGT). A team of dedicated volunteers provided consistent care through watering, pruning, and general maintenance. This area provides a welcoming green space for reflection and relaxation. The deck has become a popular and well-utilised spot, offering a vital connection to the outdoors and enhancing the well-being of the community that utilises the space.

Future Plans

In 2025, TAM intends to:

- continue regular worship services and community activities;
- Initiate home groups that will be a means to reach out to local areas and engage new participants;
- further develop café-based ministries and Coffee and Life programmes;
- sustain and expand ESOL provision, with a view to reinstating conversational classes;
- use The Giving Tree as a hub for training in Christianity, intercultural exchange and community outreach.

Financial Review

Total income for the year was £91,373, comprising:

- £52,349 from unrestricted funds;
- £39,024 from restricted funds.

Income sources included voluntary donations from attendees, partners and charitable grants (including BNO funding from Manchester City Council). We raised some funds through charitable activities related to the community centre and café and also benefited from gift aid on donations. Restricted funds were given specifically towards Global Giving, the work of the community centre/café, marriage courses and the building fund. A particular thank you goes to the Rank Trust, who supported the work through their grants.

Expenditure totalled £85,879, including:

£51,234 on The Giving Tree centre and café (ministries, running costs, equipment and building works);

£34,645 on restricted ministry and grant-related activities.

The resulting net surplus for the year was £5,494, comprising an unrestricted surplus of £1,115 and a restricted surplus of £4,379.

Adding the bank balances brought forward at the beginning of the year of £24,381, the balances carried forward on 31st December 2024 totalled £29,875.

Please see Appendix 1 - Receipt and Payments Accounts Statement of Assets and Liabilities for further details.

Reserves Policy

As policy, TAM maintains a minimum reserve of £6,000 to cover emergencies. At year-end, unrestricted reserves stood at £17,291, meeting the policy requirement. Surplus reserves will support future programme development.

Investments

Funds are held in a charity bank account with the Co-operative Bank, Manchester. The charity does not operate an investment portfolio.

Risk Management

The trustees have reviewed the risks to which the charity is exposed and have put in place policies and procedures to mitigate them, including:

- *Equal Opportunities* – ensuring fairness and opposing discrimination.
- *Grant Making* – governing the allocation of funds in line with charitable purposes.
- *Safeguarding* – safeguarding policies and DBS checks for all ministry leaders and volunteers.
- *Data Protection (GDPR)* – systems in place for compliance.
- *Volunteer Policy* – defining roles, responsibilities and escalation of concerns.
- *Court Representation Policy* – clarifying that the charity will not represent members in legal proceedings.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

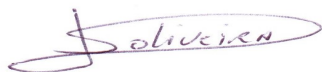
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees of The Alliance Manchester (TAM) and signed on their behalf by:

SIGNATURE



Sandro Oliveira

Trustee

Date (DD – MM – YYYY): 30/09/2025

Appendix 1 - Receipt and Payments Accounts Statement of Assets and Liabilities



Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period
from

01/01/2024

To

31/12/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations & Legacies	26,234		-	26,234	23,983
Grant Funding	-	13,000	-	13,000	17,500
Gardening Project	-	-	-	-	1,000
Global Giving	-	1,639	-	1,639	715
The Giving Tree	-	2,494	-	2,494	12,976
Coffee Machine Gift	-	-	-	-	1,461
Building Fund	-	2,800	-	2,800	2,189
Turkey & Syria Eathquake Appeal	-	-	-	-	590
Marriage Ministry	-	19,091	-	19,091	2,038
Charitable Activities	21,564	-	-	21,564	14,779
Gift Aid Received	4,462	-	-	4,462	1,864
Other (refunds,etc)	89	-	-	89	160
			-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	52,349	39,024	-	91,373	79,255
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	52,349	39,024	-	91,373	79,255
A3 Payments					
Building Repair & Maintenance	459	-	-	459	2,176
Rent, Bills, Rates (excl. Grant funding)	9,912	2,494	-	12,406	20,480
TAM Ministry costs	15,863	-	-	15,863	12,655
Gardening Project	271	-	-	271	1,683
Grant Fund expenses	-	11,421	-	11,421	17,500
Insurance & bank/legal fees	1,863	-	-	1,863	1,577
Loan Repayments (Coffee Machine)	-	-	-	-	5,841
Café & Barista costs	20,817	-	-	20,817	8,542
Global Giving	1,569	1,639	-	3,208	1,629
Turkey & Syria Eathquake Appeal	-	-	-	-	590
Marriage Ministry	-	19,091	-	19,091	2,038
Arts Ministry	480	-	-	480	
				-	
				-	
Sub total	51,234	34,645	-	85,879	74,711
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
Intruder Alarm		-	-	-	877
Laptop		-	-	-	403
Sub total	-	-	-	-	1,280
Total payments	51,234	34,645	-	85,879	75,991
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,115	4,379	-	5,494	3,264
A5 Transfers between funds			-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	16,176	8,205	-	24,381	21,117
Cash funds this year end	17,291	12,584	-	29,875	24,381

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Petty Cash	120	-	-
	Cash in co-op bank account	17,171	12,584	-
				-
	Total cash funds	17,291	12,584	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK


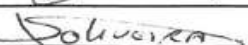
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Coffee machine & 2 grinders	Unrestricted	-	-
	Music instruments/sound equipment	Unrestricted	-	-
	Furniture	Unrestricted	-	-
	Café Equipment & Furnishings	Unrestricted	-	-
	Office Equipment & Furnishings	Unrestricted	-	-
	Intruder Alarm	Unrestricted	-	-
	Laptop	Unrestricted	-	-
	Various Café Equipment & Appliances	Unrestricted	-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Independent examiner's fee	Unrestricted		
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Barnabas Kwant	01/09/2025
	Sandro Oliveira	01/09/2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Alliance Manchester Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('the CIO')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO 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.



Joel Williams
1 Montrose Avenue
Stretford
Manchester
M32 9LN

05/10/2025