



THE GUILD CHURCH OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

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Registered Charity No: 1181352

**Annual Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements of the
Guild Church Council
of the Guild Church of St Margaret Pattens with St Gabriel Fenchurch for the
year ended 31 December 2024**

Guild Vicar:

The Revd. Andrew Keep
193 Foundling Court
Brunswick Centre
London WC1N 1QF

Bank:

HSBC plc.
1-3 Bishopsgate
London EC2N 3AQ

Independent Accountant:

Andrew Hedger FCA
52-54 Gracechurch Street
London EC3V 0EH

THE GUILD CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

2024 REPORT and ACCOUNTS

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THE GUILD CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

Structure, Governance and Management

Membership of the Trustees

The church registered with the Charity Commission in 2018. At the Annual Meeting held in 2019 the composition of the Trustees (the Guild Church Council [GCC]) was amended to reflect more closely the provisions of the Church Representations Rules 2017.

Trustees who sit on the Guild Church Council are elected annually at the Annual Meeting, except for the Guild Vicar (Priest-in-Charge) and the Secretary (Parish Clerk), who are ex officio, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year, the following served as trustees on the Guild Church Council:-

Guild Vicar	The Reverend Andrew Keep Chairman of the GCC
Church Wardens	Mr Steven (Tom) Jackson Mrs Sarah Hodge Mr Felix Corbett Mr Richard Turner (from April 2024)
Parish Clerk	Mr Tony Charlwood
Treasurer	Mr Steven (Tom) Jackson
Deanery Synod Representative	Ms Barbara Nicholson
GCC member	Mrs Jennifer Bryant-Pearson
Administrator	Ms Barbara Nicholson

Meetings Between full meetings of the Guild Church Council the Standing Committee is available to transact business subject to any directions given by the Guild Church Council. The members are the Guild Vicar and the Churchwardens with the Administrator in attendance.

The Finance Committee did not meet during the year, its business being transacted by the GCC

A Fabric Committee was established during 2012 to report to the Guild Church Council.

The Council met four times during the year (with most members physically present in church and some on Zoom).

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Aim and Purposes

The Guild Church of St Margaret Pattens exists to promote the gospel in and around the Guild Church and to minister to its two associated livery companies, the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers and the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers. Also to provide a place of tranquility and peace to all people and of all faiths or none in the City of London. As such it provides a haven for all who benefit from its presence in the City open for extended hours, and it is used by schools for educational purposes and other organisations for meetings, rehearsals etc. To this end the Guild Church Council (GCC) considers that it fulfils its "Public Benefit" remit.

Objectives & Activities

The GCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and become part of its wider community. Our services and worship embrace all through prayer, music and sacrament and the provision of a safe space for personal prayer and reflection in the busy City.

The GCC seeks to provide services reflecting the annual cycle of prayer as prescribed by the Church of England and additionally embracing a cycle of services for our two livery companies and has done so in 2024 in an open church or through the medium of Zoom on the internet. Therefore, the GCC promotes throughout the year:

- Prayer and worship on a regular basis;
- Provision of education, counselling and pastoral care;
- Mission and outreach.

To facilitate this work the GCC keeps the building open to anyone to visit from 7.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

St Margaret Pattens is part of a "hub" of churches in the area including All Hallows-by-the-Tower and St Mary-at-Hill promoting the gospel and Christian values.

Achievement and Performance

Prayer & worship

The GCC holds a service of Holy Communion on Thursday throughout the year open to all. There are also occasional services of Choral Evensong scattered throughout the year. All are welcome to attend our worship and are encouraged to become part of the church community. Services currently are held with a mixture of people attending in the congregation and on Zoom during the year, with numbers attending holding up well.

There are 63 members of the church on the Church Electoral Roll (see later report of the Electoral Roll Officer). As the church is situated in the City of London where there is little residential accommodation, the majority of the congregation is from the working population, few of whom live within the City. The weekly attendance is very variable as the congregation usually attend in their lunchtime and attendance is governed by the vagaries of work, meetings etc. (see above)

Special services are held for our two livery companies at various times during the year. (see above)

The church is open for individual prayer and contemplation (by those of all faiths and none) daily during the week. (see above)

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Provision of education, counselling and pastoral care

The church welcomes visits from primary schools in and around London. The schools visit the church, learn about key historical events in the City of London, and learn about the fabric of the church and its history, Christopher Wren and the Fire of London. (The Guild Vicar and the Administrator are both DBS checked.)

Counselling is provided by the Guild Vicar and the Administrator. They are available, both by appointment and open access (as available) to hear peoples' problems and offer spiritual advice and guidance.

Mission & outreach

See above relating to schools.

The church has provided accommodation for the Indian Orthodox Church on Sundays, they hold a service each Sunday for residents of Indian ethnic origin in Greater London and on other occasions. The GCC is formalising the relationship and the IOC will be at St Margaret Pattens under a Licence under Faculty in 2025, for which negotiations are being finalised.

It also caters for choir and brass band rehearsals and other uses of the church by community groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous.

Ministry

It is now five years since the start of the pandemic. Bearing in mind the many reports of things never having got back to where they were, as we review things it is pleasing that we have recovered, and can say that, if anything, we are in a stronger position than before, especially with attendance and usage.

The Thursday lunchtime service continues to be the centrepiece of church life, around which things can be focused. The simple short service of Holy Communion is hugely enriched by the presence of the Choir and Organist, and thanks are due to Rupert and his team. Numbers are up: on Thursdays an average of 10 in 2023 compares with an average of 17 in 2024. Zoom contact never ended after the pandemic, but has been made much better by Felix Corbett's mastery of YouTube, which hopefully makes it a more enjoyable experience.

There have been particular challenges concerning the letting of the Tower Suite, and of the church in the week. Barbara Nicholson has worked tirelessly at this and has achieved a high level of usage in a demanding climate. It is good to hear music, or to see groups of schoolchildren, using the building. Yet however we try to secure finances through careful strategy, income remains something requiring careful attention. We are immensely grateful to all those who give so generously.

As the first image of the church for many, Barbara retains her unfailing cheerfulness, imaginative thinking, kindness and energy, and retains patience in the face of the church's curious ways.

It has been great to welcome Richard Turner as Basketmaker Churchwarden. He brings an unfailing sense of humour and willingness to get involved, as well as establishing the closest possible link with the Basketmakers' Company.

The Friends have met with a readiness to help- with a determination to make sure we never lose sight of the importance of having fun and enjoying things.

The Rev Jen Midgley-Adam has made, by her simple presence, the cluster system a reality in our part of the diocese. We will miss her, and her readiness to get stuck in, with people, and by simply helping at the altar when she could see it was needed. We wish her, and her family, happiness and a good ministry on the next step at Eaton Square.

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The fabric has been inspected this year, and it is a tribute to those who went before us in recent years that things are largely as they should be- no mean feat in a church of this age and architectural sensitivity.

It has been a special joy to witness new beginnings in the church. There were two weddings around Christmastime, and then two baptisms in February. This all helps us to look forward, and to put any sadnesses in the national church in the context of progress on the ground. Complacency is dangerous, but that does not mean that we should not celebrate all that has and is being achieved, by many, in an atmosphere of willingness and positivity. We pray that all those, who by chance or by intention walk through our doors, may glimpse something of a wider life for themselves, infused by faith, hope and love.

Reverend Andrew Keep

Guild Vicar

February 2025

Music report for 2024

In 2024 the choir continued to provide music for most services on Thursday lunchtimes with special music on the first Thursday of the month as well as for other services throughout the church year. The most significant and tragic event to hit the choir last year was the untimely death of Hans Rashbrook in July, who was a loyal singer, bellringer and companion for over 25 years. He is sorely missed every week. Other than this the choir numbers remain stable and grown slightly throughout the year as more singers have been attracted to the bigger services. These include Philippa Dodds, Hugh O'Donnell, Julia McKenzie, Michael and Helen Brooks.

As usual January's schedule was busy with services for Epiphany, King Charles the Martyr and Candlemas before moving into Lent with the Ashing service the day after Ash Wednesday. Choral highlights included Clemens non Papa Magi veniunt ab oriente for Epiphany, Temperley's version of The Evening Hymn of King Charles and Eccard's Presentation of Christ in the temple. Our Lent Choral Eucharist at the beginning of March included Byrd's Mass for Five Voices, Wesley's Wash me Thoroughly and the organ voluntary Postlude by Matthias. At our Music & Readings for Passiontide service on Maundy Thursday we performed classic repertoire including Lotti's Vere Languores Nostros, Christus factus est by Anerio and Schutz's Contemplation of the Seven Words.

On May 9th we celebrated Ascension Day at lunchtime with the choir singing Alleluia (O Clap your Hands) by Debbie Wiseman, amongst other things. This was followed by The Pattenmaker's Ascension Day service in the evening. We sang Stanford's Coelos ascendit hodie and Dyson's Magnificat in F. In July we sang a special gospel Choral Eucharist including two spirituals arranged by Ken Burton, Were you There and Deep River, and John Dankworth's Folk Mass. These were especially poignant as Hans had died that week. We dedicated our July Evensong to his memory at which the choir was augmented with Hans's singing friends from his numerous choirs and the congregation swelled with his friends. All future July evensongs will be dedicated to his memory. The music we sang included some of his favourites, such as Phillip Crabbe Responses, Stanford's Mag and Nunc in B flat, Wesley's Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace and the voluntary Carillon by Herbert Murrill which paid homage to his avid bellringing activities!

In the Autumn term the choir performed two evensongs. The first was for Michaelmas service including Palestrina's Venit Michael Archangelus and Charles Wood's Second Setting in E flat. The second was for St Cecilia and the music included Purcell's Hear my Prayer, the Savoy Responses by James Cryer and Holst's classic Nunc Dimittis for eight voices.

In October the Harvest Choral Eucharist was celebrated with Harwood's Holy Communion Service in A flat and Ye shall dwell in the land by Stainer. Later in October the Basketmakers' annual service took place where the choir sang Duruflé's Ubi Caritas, Henry Ley's Jubilate and Ireland's Greater love hath no man. November saw our annual service of Remembrance and the music included Paul Edwards' I heard a voice from heaven, Purcell's Thou knowest Lord and Burgon's Nunc Dimittis. We were very happy to be joined by Hannah Scales again on trumpet for this event. In December we had our Music and Readings for Advent with traditional hymns, readings and choral numbers, which

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included Hassler's Dixit Maria, Stainer's How beautiful upon the mountains and Bach's Wachet Auf. At our annual lunchtime Christmas carol service we performed Goldsmidt's A tender shoot, Bob Chilcott's Behold that star amongst others. For the Livery Festival of Carols in the evening, as well as the usual Christmas carols and readings, we sang music including A Tender Shoot by Kerensa Briggs and Victoria's O magnum mysterium.

Somewhat unusually there were two weddings in December one on the 21st (Archie and Izzy) and one on the 28th (George and Kate), with a choir for the second. There we had great fun singing Bach's Jesu joy of man's desiring, Rutter's What Sweeter Music and Andrew Lloyd Webber's Pie Jesu from the Requiem.

We have performed a varied and satisfying repertoire this year in terms of number of services and repertoire. It was particularly hard losing Hans in the summer and I am grateful to my nephew, Hugh O'Donnell for stepping up to sing bass until October. My huge thanks go to the singers for their regular and sustained commitment and hope to see the church to grow and flourish as a community.

Rupert Perkins
Director of Music
February 2025

Deanery synod report

1. Introduction

There are normally three meetings of the City Deanery Synod in the year – one in January or February when the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs are in attendance for the beginning of the meeting, one in the Summer, and one in October. The summer meeting is usually Evensong at the Temple Church, followed by drinks in the Master's garden at the Temple Church.

Representation on the Synod varies according to the number of persons on the church roll. For example, St Helen's Bishopsgate, owing to its large weekday and Sunday congregations, has a large number. St Mary-at-Hill, our parish Church, has two representatives, and St Margaret Pattens has one.

Apart from Synod business, the meetings often include talks and presentations from a variety of speakers on diverse topics.

2. Meetings 2024 (19 June and 9 October 2024)

The 19 June meeting was held at the Temple Church, preceded by a beautiful Choral Evensong, and followed by drinks in the Temple Garden by the kind invitation of the Master of the Temple, Robin Griffith-Jones. At the meeting, Alexander Rayner from St Magnus the Martyr was elected the new Deanery Synod Lay Co-chair. The outgoing Lay Co-chair, Rory Anderson, having been in the post 16 years, was thanked by the new Area Dean Laura Jorgensen for his long and generous service.

The 9 October meeting was held at St Andrews by the Wardrobe. The main presentation topic was the Ecumenical Use of City Churches and there were several speakers across laity and clergy from a wide range of churches:

- **Sarah Alder:** a City worker talked about the Taizé Service at All Hallows by the Tower on Wednesdays at 18:00 (the only weekly Taizé service in London). She explained that Brother Roger established the movement in Taizé with a vision of a Christian community that works together. There are no sacramental services, but the meeting comprises psalms, bible readings and chants, which are the heart of the meeting, 170 chants in 45 languages. The congregation is very different from Sunday Anglican worship and covers a wide age range and many different people of faith or no faith.

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- **Revd. Canon Jack Noble, Vicar, St. Giles Cripplegate, and Martin Pendergast, St Joseph's RC Church:** There is an ecumenical partnership with Jewin Welsh Church; St Giles, Cripplegate; St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church; Wesley's Chapel, and Leysian Mission. This has grown up over several years with previous incumbents and local clergy, at a time when St Joseph's has not had a resident priest for 18 years. All the churches benefit from the non-sacramental arrangement, which disregards their differences whilst being cognoscent of them. A partnership agreement, signed in 2020 by all church councils and higher leaders focusses on *doing*, not worrying about ecumenism. Jack, as the new Rector at St. Giles has found a lively relationship of Christians with joint education groups for Lent, autumn and Advent, plus pilgrimages to Rome, Portugal and Latvia
- **Assistant Pastor Sebastian Matzer, St Annes's Lutheran Church, St Mary at Hill:** Sebastian's congregation is drawn from Lutherans across London mainly first and second generation migrants. St Mary at Hill has no Sunday service, so the Lutheran church hires the space on a Sunday. Meeting only on a Sunday brings challenges in collaboration, but as part of the East Cheap Cluster of churches they are keen to participate in the Food Bank donation scheme at All Hallows by the Tower and have the potential to join with other activities.
- **Father David Ramzy (representing Archbishop Angaelos), Coptic Orthodox Church at St Andrew by the Wardrobe:** The relationship with St Andrew by the Wardrobe has been pivotal in giving the Coptic Orthodox Community a home, and hub, "The Sanctuary", in the heart of the City. Father David explained the ancient Coptic Orthodox Church is 2000 years old, and that in the UK and Ireland there are 20,000 Copts. A number of initiatives are run from the Sanctuary including a focussed ministry to Coptic University Students. In the London area there are multiple events to engage the Coptic community in church activities; orthodox apologetics sessions, biblical studies, youth work, and the City Mission support to help the disadvantaged in London.

Various practical issues regarding ecumenical partnerships arise and were discussed, such as the commercial arrangements for the use of the church, requiring Heads of Terms, and a valuation to meet Charity Act requirements, and the ensuing licence, granted by the Chancellor. Additionally musical heritage needs to be maintained (in the Lutheran church by regular Sunday evening Bach vespers), and where additional items such as icons and specific altars need to be used, these requirements must be covered by the Licence and a Faculty applied for. If substantial changes to the fabric of the church were required, then this would need DAC agreement before proceeding.

The other topic of significant discussion was **Deanery Synod Finance**, in particular the Burial Ground Fund (BGF) investments. Income is generated by the Fund investments and that income is used to distribute grants equally to all Parish and Guild churches, by recommendation of the Deanery Synod Standing Committee (DSSC), to the Archdeacon of London. The capital value of the Fund had decreased by £92k in the year 2023 calendar year. This was in part due to the Trustees of the London Diocesan Fund (LDF) disinvesting in companies dealing in fossil fuels in its pursuit of net zero, then reinvesting in a global equity fund which had a poorer rate of return. Concern was expressed that neither the disinvestment nor re-investment decision-making was clear or sufficiently communicated and disapproval as to why a better investment choice had not been made. It was explained that the terms of the BGF limit recommendation of the DSSC to the Archdeacon, to the income distribution only, and there is no provision for being able to influence the investment decisions by the LDF at Synod level.

It was agreed that the situation would be re-explored and that the DSSC will see if there is any means of making representation to the LDF to improve income from the investments. The issue was flagged to be reviewed at the next Deanery Synod meeting.

3. Future Meetings in 2025.

There was a meeting on 8 January 2025 and then future meetings will be held on Wednesday 18th June and Thursday 2nd October 2025.

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4. Conclusions and Observations.

- (a) Deanery Synod meetings provide an excellent opportunity for representatives of both laity and clergy to meet. They are very useful for networking and making other City churches aware of the work and ministry of St Margaret Pattens and vice versa.
- (b) The meetings bring together in harmony City churches with differing Anglican traditions.
- (c) The meetings have often been a forum for exploring issues of all types; social, financial and controversial, affecting the Church of England.

Barbara Nicholson
Deanery Synod Representative
February 2025

Electoral Roll Officer's report

The Guild Church Electoral Roll numbers sixty-three members as at 31 December 2024.

This shows a figure that has grown in 2024. If the number on the Electoral roll is to increase further, then we should continue to encourage regular attendees to consider joining the roll.

Barbara Nicholson
Electoral Roll Officer
March 2025

Fabric Report

Regular Annual Maintenance.

Maintenance and inspection arrangements are in place in respect of

- Gutters, downpipes and roof surfaces
- Fire Alarm system
- Fire extinguishers
- Lightning conductor
- Boiler and heating system
- Organ
- PATS Electrical tests
- Cleaning.

Work carried out in 2024

There were no major works carried out in 2024 because the church was awaiting a report from the Inspecting Architect. The Quinquennial Review was completed in mid 2024 following the appointment of a new Inspecting Architect. The recommendations of the Inspecting Architect are being considered by the GCC to identify the most urgent works and following that approaches will be made to various charities etc. to seek funding.

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Works identified as necessary in 2024

The report commissioned from Bainbridges in 2023 (the conservationists who worked on the organ case and the pew refurbishment) on the condition of the Churchwardens' Pews had concluded that the condition of these pews was not good and estimated a cost of £10,000 plus Vat to restore them to an acceptable condition. Any further consideration of these works has been held over to be reviewed in the light of other necessary works.

The Ten Year Plan for 2019 - 2029

Apart from the major accomplishment of completing the Organ Restoration work in 2019/20, the implementation of the new 10 Year Plan for this decade has been delayed.

The GCC are mindful that the plan was drawn up encompassing the findings of the Quinquennial Inspection undertaken in 2017, however, with the Quinquennial report 2024 before the GCC an update shall be produced to reflect priorities.

The priorities that were identified in 2017 for attention in this decade were and are so reflected in the current report:

- Interior redecoration of the Church, including the Narthex, which was last completed in 1991. This will be a major undertaking and scaffolding will be needed.
- Carry out repairs to the South elevation of the Nave Clerestory.
- Repairs to the Vestry roof and East aisle window.
- To review the current lighting scheme in the Church. Any work needed at high level should be done when scaffolding access is available at the time the Church interior decorations are undertaken.

Many other small items will be considered when finance is available. These will include: replacement of the boiler, new glass doors at the South entrance and in the Outer Vestry and installation of solar panels, Preparatory work has been undertaken on the latter, in particular re pre-planning permission surveys.

Tony Charlwood

Parish Clerk

March 2025

Ecumenical relationships

The two Livery Companies, the Basketmakers and the Pattenmakers, support the church through worship and grant aid. They have special services at the church several times each year- the Pattenmakers' Ascension Day service in May, and the Basketmakers' Installation Day service in October and a Joint Livery Carol Service was held on 12th December 2024 with over one hundred people in church, with the church's own Carol service at lunchtime the same day with about sixty people in the congregation.

Other Livery Companies, from time to time, use the church for special services, and the church supports the wider mission of the City and the Lord Mayor and is open to the laity for private worship.

The church also conducts weddings and baptisms, 'though demand for such services is very variable.

Safeguarding

The Guild Church Council takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and

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vulnerable adults (especially with the increasing use being made of the church by primary schools studying the history of the City of London). This Safeguarding Statement applies to all who make up the church 'workforce' which includes all clergy, holders of Bishop's licence or permission, those commissioned or authorised by the Bishop, those, paid or unpaid, who hold positions of responsibility and work with children or vulnerable adults, and those with representational ministry, for example; churchwarden, organist and choir members. For the purposes of this statement it covers the GCC and the Guild Vicar who are together responsible for ensuring that diocesan safeguarding policies and procedures are implemented. For the purposes of this document a child is anyone under the age of eighteen years.

Policy 1.

The GCC has adopted, and regularly reviews, its commitment to the House of Bishops' safeguarding policy. A copy of the full relevant policy is obtainable on the Diocese of London's website and a hard copy is displayed on the noticeboard in the Narthex.

Policy 2.

The Guild Church Safeguarding Representative is Barbara Nicholson appointed by the GCC. The Children's Champion is Mrs Sarah Hodge and she has also been appointed by the GCC.

Statement of Commitment:

The GCC will continue to develop a safeguarding culture that:

- Creates an environment where there is awareness and vigilance about the signs, symptoms and impacts of abuse.
- Enables and encourages all concerns or allegations to be raised in order to protect children and adults from harm.
- Ensures all those who work or volunteer on behalf of the church with children and adults achieve the standards required by this policy.
- Holds to account those in the church community who disregard the safety and well-being of children and adults.

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Financial Review

The 2024 accounts have been prepared on the Accruals basis as they were in 2023.

General Fund, Unrestricted - In the year the church spent £130,722 to provide ministry including a total contribution to Common Fund of £36,500 which was £3,000 more than that requested from the Deanery as a contribution to the work of the wider church. The amount that the church contributes to Common Fund is based on a multi-faceted formulae and for Guild Churches with no accommodation for a priest is substantially less than for churches in the Deanery with accommodation for a priest.

The net result for the year on this Fund was an excess of income over expenditure which will need to be committed towards repair/redecoration work already identified by the Reporting Architect in the 2024 Quinquennial report on the fabric of the church.

The church was designed by Sir Christopher Wren and is Grade One listed.

Reserves Policy

The GCC's policy is to hold one year's operating expenditure in reserve (c£120,000) to cope with emergencies to be expected in a church building of the age of St Margaret Pattens. Currently some £11,000 is held in the reserves.

Volunteers

The GCC would like to thank all volunteers for their hard work, in particular our non-stipendiary priest the Reverend Andrew Keep.

Structure, governance and management

The GCC has met on four occasions during the year (see above). Given its responsibilities it has three sub committees:-

- the Standing Committee whose members are the four Churchwardens and the Guild Vicar (which meets as required); and
- the Finance Committee whose members are as above for the Standing Committee plus the church Treasurer [although the church's accounts are continuously monitored by the Treasurer, Administrator, Guild Vicar and Churchwardens]; and
- the Fabric Committee, the membership of which is variable as to circumstance, meets as necessary.

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Administrative information

The Guild Church of St Margaret Pattens with St Gabriel Fenchurch is situated on the corner of Rood Lane and Eastcheap in the City of London.

The church of St Gabriel Fenchurch was a small church standing in the middle of Fenchurch Street adjacent to where the main entrance to the office block, 31 Fenchurch Street, now stands. The church was destroyed by the Great Fire of London in 1666. After the Fire it was decided to join together the churches of St Margaret Pattens and St Gabriel Fenchurch. This is recognised by the canopied churchwardens' pews at the back of the nave, one designated for churchwardens from St Margaret Pattens and one designated for churchwardens from St Gabriel Fenchurch.

The GCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Guild Churches Acts 1954 and 1960, the Church Representation Rules 2017) and is registered with the Charity Commission; registered number 1181352.

GCC members serve from the date of the Annual Meeting (usually held in April) and hold office until the date of the next Annual Meeting and their names are set out at the beginning of this report.

Approved by the GCC on 1 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Revd. Andrew Keep

Guild Vicar and Chairman of the GCC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Keep', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

THE GUILD CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

Independent examiner's report to The Guild Church Council of St Margaret Pattens

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Guild Church Council of St Margaret Pattens (the Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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.

Signed: 

Name: ANDREW HEDGER FCA

Address: 52-54 Gracechurch Street, London EC3V 0EH

Date: 1st May 2025

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BALANCE SHEET

31 December 2024

	Note	Total 2024	Total 2023
FIXED ASSETS	9	4,871	8,535
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and prepayments	10	6,051	8,964
Short term Deposits		11,013	10,458
Cash at bank and in hand		89,439	69,604
		<u>106,503</u>	<u>89,026</u>
LIABILITIES			
Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year	11	10,786	28,616
NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		<u>95,717</u>	<u>60,410</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		100,588	68,944
Creditors - Amounts falling due after one year	7	40,000	50,000
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>60,588</u>	<u>18,944</u>
GUILD FUNDS			
Unrestricted	12	89,588	77,944
Restricted	12	(29,000)	(59,000)
		<u>60,588</u>	<u>18,944</u>

Approved by the Guild Church Council on the 1 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

The Reverend Andrew Keep,
Guild Vicar and Chairman of the GCC



Felix Corbett
Church Warden



1st May 2025

Tom Jackson
Treasurer and Church Warden



1st May 2025.

The notes on pages 17-20 form part of these accounts

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted fund 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total funds	
		2024	2024	2024	2023
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary Receipts	2(a)	49,446	30,000	79,446	70,530
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	74,433	-	74,433	78,037
Investment income	2(c)	455	-	455	424
Church activities	2(d)	18,291	-	18,291	10,810
Total receipts		142,625	30,000	172,625	159,801
PAYMENTS					
Church activities	3(a)	130,722	-	130,722	120,890
Raising funds	3(b)	258	-	258	258
Total payments		130,980	0	130,980	121,148
Net of receipts/(payments)		11,645	30,000	41,645	38,653
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Total funds brought forward		77,944	(59,000)	18,944	(19,709)
Total funds carried forward		89,589	(29,000)	60,589	18,944

THE GUILD CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICES

The GCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2001 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of GCCs. And with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, it is also the first year that they have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)). These financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the GCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the GCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £1,000 or on the repair of movable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2001 is written off.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off in the period in which the asset is acquired.

Items used within the church premises are depreciated at the following rates:

Grand piano	- Fully depreciated, no annual depreciation charge
Computers & other similar equipment	- on a straight line basis over 5 years
Furniture & equipment not included above	- on a straight line basis over 10 years

An impairment review is carried out at each year-end and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

Investments

Investments are valued at Market value at 31 December.

Short term deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the GCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the GCC, including amounts designated by the GCC for a particular purpose.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

THE GUILD CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2024

2 INCOME				
	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total funds	
	2024	2024	2024	2023
2(a) Voluntary income				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid donations	6,000	-	6,000	6,000
Gift Aid recoverable	250	-	250	10,376
Other	-	-	-	-
Collections and Alms:				
Open plate	4,576	-	4,576	4,078
Grants:				
Trust for London	680	-	680	906
Burial Ground Foundation	2,500	-	2,500	2,600
London Diocesan Fund	-	-	-	1,900
Livery Companies:				
Pattenmakers	8,000	-	8,000	8,000
Basketmakers	6,400	-	6,400	6,000
Friends of St Margaret Pattens	6,000	-	6,000	-
Sundry donations	15,040	30,000	45,040	30,670
	<u>49,446</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>79,446</u>	<u>70,530</u>
2(b) Activities for generating funds				
Hire fees	36,749	-	36,749	33,963
Forecourt trading	12,250	-	12,250	10,950
Radio Mast income	25,434	-	25,434	33,124
	<u>74,433</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,433</u>	<u>78,037</u>
2(c) Investment income				
Interest on Short term deposits	455	-	455	424
	<u>455</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>455</u>	<u>424</u>
2(d) Church activities				
GCC fees and Church events	(539)	-	(539)	310
Hire – Tower Room	6,830	-	6,830	-
Church Lettings	12,000	-	12,000	10,500
	<u>18,291</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,291</u>	<u>10,810</u>

THE GUILD CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2024

Note

3 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted fund 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total funds	
			2024	2023
3(a) Church activities				
Diocesan parish share	33,500	-	33,500	33,500
Diocesan parish share extra contribution	3,000	-	3,000	-
Clergy and staffing costs	4 26,997	-	26,997	27,095
Church running expenses				
Training	-	-	-	-
Church running expenses	24,001	-	24,001	25,897
Church maintenance	9,905	-	9,905	3,939
Music - organ and choir	9,528	-	9,528	8,838
Cleaning	7,072	-	7,072	8,925
Administration costs, including meetings and refreshment	10,655	-	10,655	8,647
Depreciation	3,664	-	3,664	4,050
Major repairs:				
Architects' fees	2,400	-	2,400	-
	<u>130,722</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>130,722</u>	<u>120,890</u>
3(b) Raising funds				
Stewardship costs	258	-	258	258
	<u>258</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>258</u>	<u>258</u>
4 CLERGY AND STAFFING COSTS			2024	2023
Administrator - salary and costs			26,781	26,795
Priest in Charge - fees and expenses			216	300
			<u>26,997</u>	<u>27,095</u>
Average number of employees			1	1
5 GOVERNANCE COSTS			2024	2023
Independent examiner			1,600	2,000
			<u>1,600</u>	<u>2,000</u>

THE GUILD CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2024

6 RELATED PARTIES

During the year no GCC members or persons closely connected to them or related parties received any payments for expenses.

Donations included £36,000 from two GCC members.

7 LOAN RECEIVED

On the 3rd October 2019 a loan of £100,000 was made to the church by the Newell family to cover the cash shortfall in funds, so far raised, towards the refurbishment of the organ.

The use of the loan is restricted to funding the organ restoration.

The loan is interest free and to be repaid in full with a minimum sum of £10,000 being paid per annum.

8 CONNECTED CHARITIES

The Friends of St Margaret Pattens

The GCC are supported by the fund raising activities of the Friends of St Margaret Pattens, which has a separate charity registration.

9 FIXED ASSETS - TANGIBLE		Concert Piano	Computers & other similar equipment	Furniture & equipment not included above	Total
Cost	At 1st January	7,500	15,658	11,127	34,285
	Additions	-	-	-	-
	At 31st December	7,500	15,658	11,127	34,285
Depreciation	At 1st January	7,500	11,717	6,533	25,750
	Charge for the year	-	2,725	919	3,664
	At 31st December	7,500	14,442	7,452	29,414
Net book value					
	At 31st December 2024	-	1,216	3,675	4,871
	At 31st December 2023	-	3,941	4,593	8,535

The concert piano, although fully depreciated, is thought to have a value of approximately £7,500.

10 CURRENT ASSETS	2024	2023
Debtors	5,979	4,367
Tax recoverable	-	3,292
Prepayments	72	1,304
	<u>6,051</u>	<u>8,964</u>

THE GUILD CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARET PATTENS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2024

11 LIABILITIES

		2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year			
Other creditors		786	14,085
Accruals		-	4,531
Loan	Note 7	10,000	10,000
		<u>10,786</u>	<u>28,616</u>
Amounts falling due after one year			
Loan	Note 7	40,000	50,000
		<u>40,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>

12 SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS

	Balance b/fwd	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance c/fwd
Unrestricted General Fund	<u>77,944</u>	<u>142,625</u>	<u>(130,981)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>89,588</u>
Restricted Funds					
Organ Restoration Fund	(60,000)	10,000	-	-	(50,000)
Solar Panel Fund	-	20,000			20,000
Pew Fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>(59,000)</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(29,000)</u>
Total funds	<u>18,944</u>	<u>172,625</u>	<u>(130,981)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,588</u>

13 SUMMARY OF ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Tangible fixed assets	4,871	-	4,871
Current assets	105,503	1,000	106,503
Liabilities:			
Amounts falling due within one year	(786)	(10,000)	(10,786)
Amounts falling due after one year	(20,000)	(20,000)	(40,000)
	<u>89,588</u>	<u>(29,000)</u>	<u>60,588</u>

