

OTFORD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1202246

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2023-03-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 81 Pilgrims Way West
Oxford
Sevenoaks
TN14 5JH

Phone 01959525085

Email contact@otfordchurch.com

Website <https://www.otfordchurch.com/>

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF FAITH IN PARTICULAR (BUT WITHOUT LIMITATION) BY PROVIDING WORSHIP, PRAYER AND CHRISTIAN TEACHING.

Activities: For the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith in particular (but without limitation) by providing worship, prayer and Christian teaching.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£72,153	£61,078	-	-
2024-03-31	£51,682	£86,808	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Stuart John Cross	Chair	2021-07-21
JAMES ALAN BACON		2021-07-21
Timothy Finlay Cochrane		2021-07-21

OTFORD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1202246

Accounts

Pastor's Report for Charity Commission

Oxford Evangelical Free Church continues to function as a place of Christian worship.

To this end – the church conducts services at 11 am and 6.30 pm on a Sunday and holds a prayer meeting/ Bible study on a Wednesday evening at 8.

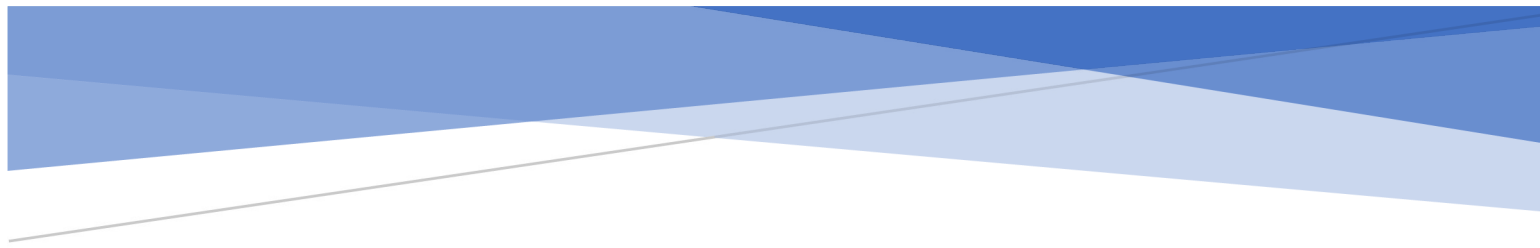
For the older children on Sundays – there is a pre-service morning Bible time and for the younger – there is Sunday school during the latter part of the morning service.

The church also sees Christian mission at the heart of its ministry and in this connection has a weekly play group term-time which has proved so popular in the community that a booking system has had to be introduced.

For the older generation in the village – the church has a monthly coffee, cake and conversation afternoon.

The church also has a presence at village events such as the Annual Parish Meeting, the Village late Spring Fete and the Village Christmas Fayre.

Kevin Bracken, pastor



Otford Evangelical Free Church

Accounts 2024-25

Elaine Bracken

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2025

Receipts	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricte	Designate	Restricted	Total	Total
	d	d	£	£	£
Donations	43,564	14,436	4,452	62,452	150
Gift Aid	7,871	0	802	8,673	0
Interest	1,028	0	0	1,028	0
Total receipts	52,463	14,436	5,254	72,153	150
Payments	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricte	Designate	Restricted	Total	Total
	d	d	£	£	£
Ministry	37,187	0	0	37,187	0
Chapel	4,981	0	0	4,981	0
Administration	6,101	0	0	6,101	0
Donations	7,183	0	3,999	11,182	0
Church Life	1,628	0	0	1,628	0
Total payments	57,080	0	3,999	61,078	0
Net receipts over payments	(4,617)	14,436	1,256	11,075	150
Transfer from Unincorporated Trust	109,778	0	563	110,341	0
Net receipts including transfer from Trust	105,161	14,436	1,819	121,416	150
Transfers between funds	(95,311)	95,311	0	0	0
Cash funds last year end	150	0	0	150	0
Cash funds this year end	10,000	109,747	1,819	121,566	150

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricte	Designate	Restricted	Total	Total
	d	d	£	£	£
	£	£			
Cash & bank balances					
Bank current account: Co-op	9,942	28,958	1,819	40,718	150
Bank notice account: Co-op	0	80,789	0	80,789	0
Cash in hand	59	0	0	59	0
Totals	10,000	109,747	1,819	121,566	150
Other monetary assets	0		0	0	0
Investment assets	0		0	0	0
Assets retained for the charity's own use	0		0	0	0
Liabilities	0		0	0	0

Gifts to missionaries / individuals

	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	
Compassion UK	372	0	372	0
CRIBS	400	0	400	0
Falconer Trust	400	0	400	0
GBM re Jason & Andrea Murfitt	2,000	0	2,000	0
Individuals	-39	0	-39	0
Kent Gospel Partnership	250	0	250	0
London City Mission	1,000	0	1,000	0
Open Air Mission	400	0	400	0
Samaritans Purse - Shoeboxes	0	320	320	0
Samaritans Purse - Middle East Appeal	0	1,308	1,308	0
SIM International UK	2,000	0	2,000	0
Tear Fund - Middle East Emergency Fund	0	1,510	1,510	0
UFM re Andrew & Jenny Love	400	0	400	0
World in Need - Marima	0	381	381	0
Benevolent	0	0	0	0
Pastors Benevolent Fund	0	480	480	0
Totals	7,183	3,999	11,182	0

Otford Evangelical Free Church, 81 Pilgrims Way West, Otford, Kent TN14 5JH is registered with the Charity Commissioners under two legal entities:

1. A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) - No 1202246 - first constituted on 23 March 2023
2. An unincorporated trust - No 1045221.

These accounts relate to the CIO entity.

The Church is affiliated to The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches.

Basis of accounts

This is the second set of accounts prepared for Otford Evangelical Free Church as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("CIO"). The assets of the unincorporated trust were transferred from the trust to the CIO on 15 May 2025 and the cash funds transferred are included as "Transfer from Unincorporated Trust" within Receipts. The NatWest bank accounts previously used for the unincorporated trust were then subsequently closed prior to 31 March 2025, once all the receipts and payment transactions were transferred to the current bank account.

These accounts have been prepared on a "Receipts and Payments" basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011. The trustees consider this basis of accounting to be appropriate given the income from the former unincorporated trust.

Reserves Policy

The church have agreed the Reserves Policy as follows: One quarter of annual expenditure to be kept as reserves ie. £10,000.

Designated Funds

The Church has created a designated Property Fund for any future building expenditure of £20,000

Property Fund	20,000
Total Designated	20,000

Restricted Funds

The table below summarises the balances, receipts and payments for the restricted funds.

	Bal 2024	Transfer from Uninc. Trust	Receipts	Payments	Transfer from/ (to) Unrestricted	Bal 2025
Barnabas Fund - General	0	29	0	0	0	29
Barnabas Fund - Morocco	0	0	534	0	0	534
Benevolent	0	275	500	0	0	775
Pastors Benevolent Fund	0	0	750	480	0	270
Samaritans Purse - Middle East Appeal	0	0	1,300	1,308	0	(8)
Samaritans Purse - Shoeboxes	0	59	433	320	0	172
Tear Fund - Middle East Emergency Fund	0	0	1,510	1,510	0	0
World in Need - Marima	0	201	228	381	0	48
Total	0	563	5,254	3,999	0	1,819

Signed on behalf of the Church Trustees

Trustee 1:

Date

Trustee 2:

Date

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Otford Evangelical Free Church CIO

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on page 1 - 3.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with 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.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.



Name: Abigail Gardner

Relevant professional qualification or body: Chartered Accountant of the Chartered Institute of England and Wales

Address: 60 Magpie Hall, Bromley, Kent, BR2 8ER

Date: 19 October 2025

OTFORD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1202246

Accounts

Oxford Evangelical Free Church Report of Activities 2023/24

Church life was somewhat different to previous years in that the pastor and his wife were given a three month Sabbatical from all church activities commencing 1st September. However, the church continued to be active in ministry throughout the year for the benefit of its members, its regular worshippers and the wider village community.

Sundays were given over to the worship of God and the nurturing of Christian faith through the systematic preaching of the Bible and the fostering of Christian fellowship. Provision for the children attending the church was made through twice monthly Bible times before the morning service. Wednesday church nights were given over to prayer, the sharing of news and discussion on Bible passages.

The church was also pleased to record in June its first believers' baptisms since 2007.

The church continued to be active in the community opening its doors the first Tuesday afternoon of every month to those in the village for a time of company, conversation, cake and coffee.

Every Friday morning during term time - the church offered a play group for mothers and carers of pre-school age children the popularity of which meant a booking system had to be introduced.

The church was also present at community events with stalls at the Coronation Celebration on the village green on 8th May and at the Oxford Village Fete on 29th May providing activities for young children.

The church also continued to pursue its interest in Christian mission a highlight of which was the visit of the pastor and his wife to the Island of Madeira in October where the church is sponsoring the ministry of a church planting family in Funchal.



OTFORD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

End of Year Accounts

2023 - 24

Elaine Bracken

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2024

Receipts	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Donations	37,201	3,649	40,850	43,600
Gift Aid	8,129	947	9,076	17,877
Interest	1,756	0	1,756	539
Total receipts	47,086	4,596	51,682	62,015
Payments	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Ministry	40,174	0	40,174	36,465
Chapel	26,364	0	26,364	12,432
Adminstration	3,266	0	3,266	2,443
Donations	11,739	4,039	15,778	25,440
Church Life	1,226	0	1,226	2,114
Total payments	82,770	4,039	86,808	78,892
Net receipts over payments	(35,683)	557	(35,126)	(16,877)
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0
Cash funds last year end	148,711	6	148,717	165,594
Cash funds this year end	113,027	563	113,590	148,717

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash & bank balances				
Bank current account	1	0	1	1
Bank interest account	112,619	542	113,161	148,486
Cash in hand	407	21	428	230
Totals	113,027	563	113,590	148,717
Other monetary assets	0	0	0	0
Investment assets	0	0	0	0
Assets retained for the charity's own use	0	0	0	0
Liabilities	0	0	0	0

Gifts to missionaries / individuals

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Barnabas Fund - General	1,155	58	1,213	2,275
Barnabas Fund - Morocco	0	2,325	2,325	0
Barnabas Fund - Pakistan Flooding	0	0	0	1,453
Barnabas Fund - Ukraine	0	0	0	2,681
Children Alone	0	0	0	0
Compassion UK	390	0	390	462
CRIBS	578	0	578	1,050
Falconer Trust	462	0	462	840
GBM re Jason & Andrea Murfitt	2,310	0	2,310	4,300
Hospice of Hope	0	0	0	213
Individuals	489	0	489	475
International Mission to Jewish People	0	0	0	200
Kent Gospel Partnership	250	0	250	0
London City Mission	1,155	0	1,155	2,200
Open Air Mission	882	0	882	840
Retired Missionaries	0	0	0	250
Samaritans Purse	0	0	0	145
Samaritans Purse - Biosand Water Filter	0	0	0	966
Samaritans Purse - Earthquake	0	544	544	2,056
Samaritans Purse - Shoeboxes	0	0	0	340
SIM International UK	2,310	0	2,310	2,300
Tear Fund - Drought Appeal	0	0	0	43
Tear Fund - Earthquake	0	0	0	775
Tear Fund - Middle East Emergency Fund	0	875	875	0
Tear Fund - Ukraine	0	0	0	13
Toilet Twinning	180	0	180	0
UFM re Andrew & Jenny Love	578	0	578	1,050
World in Need - Marima	0	137	137	464
Benevolent	1,000	100	1,100	50
Totals	11,739	4,039	15,778	25,440

the Charity Commissioners (No 1202466) and constituted as Unincorporated Trust

The Church is affiliated to The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches.

These accounts have been prepared on the "Receipts and Payments" basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Fixed Assets

The freehold land and Church building at 81 Pilgrims Way West, Otford, Kent TN14 5JH are vested in the names of the Church Trustees and insured in the sum of £747,006, contents are insured in the sum of £73,081. Other assets held by the Church for its use comprise seating, tables, storage units, catering equipment, piano, laptop, ipad and sound system, general furnishings, Bibles and hymn books together with sundry items of equipment for use in the maintenance of the Church building and grounds.

Ministry

Kevin Bracken's PAYE is administered by Stewardship Services.

Gift Aid

The Gift Aid and Gift Aid Small Donations amounts for gifts in the 2022/23 financial year were both claimed and received in the 2023/24 financial year. The Gift aid amounts for the previous year were higher due to Gift aid claimed for both 2020/21 and 2021/22.

Donations paid

The annual unrestricted donations for the 2023/24 financial year were increased for inflation. The donations for the previous year were higher due to late payment of the 2021/22 financial year unrestricted gifts.

Restricted Funds

The table below summarises the balances, receipts and payments for the restricted funds. The negative balances at the end of the previous year were anticipated Gift Aid which has now been received.

	Bal 2023	Receipts	Payments	Transfer from/ (to) Unrestricted	Bal 2024
Barnabas Fund - General	58	29	58		29
Barnabas Fund - Morocco	0	2,325	2,325		0
Barnabas Fund - Pakistan Flooding	(291)	291	0		0
Barnabas Fund - Ukraine	(24)	24	0		0
Benevolent	125	250	100		275
Samaritans Purse - Biosand Water Filter	(173)	173	0		0
Samaritans Purse - Earthquake	274	270	544		0
Samaritans Purse - Shoeboxes	0	59	0		59
Tear Fund - Drought Appeal	(9)	9	0		0
Tear Fund - Earthquake	(5)	5	0		0
Tear Fund - Middle East Emergency Fund	0	875	875		0
World in Need - Marima	51	287	137		201
Total	6	4,596	4,039	0	563

Payments to Trustees

There was no trustees' remuneration or other trustee benefits for the 12 months ending 31 March 2024 or for the previous financial year.

Expense Payments to Officers of the Church and their relations

Expense payments to officers of the church and their relations in the year 2023-24 amounted to £1012.08

Contingent Liabilities

There are no contingent liabilities for the current year.

**Signed on behalf of the Church
Trustees**

Trustee 1:

Date

Trustee 2:

Date

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Otford Evangelical Free Church

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Name: Abigail Gardner

Relevant professional qualification or body: Chartered Accountant of the Chartered Institute of England and Wales

Address: 60 Magpie Hall, Bromley, Kent, BR2 8ER

Date: 14 July 2024