

**The Parish of
Saint Edward the Confessor, Leek
in the Team Benefice of Leek & Meerbrook**

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



St Edward the Confessor Annual Report for the year 2024

Reference and Administrative information

Name of Organisation

The Parochial Church Council of St Edward the Confessor, Leek

Address

St Edward the Confessor, Church Street Leek, ST13 6AB

Correspondence Address

St Edward's Vicarage, 24 Ashenhurst Way, Leek, ST13 5SB

VICAR AND TEAM RECTOR

Revd Nigel Irons (Chair)

LICENSED LAY READERS

Mr Michael Oliver

CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Lynne Ball
Mr Philip Allcock

ELECTED DCC MEMBERS

RETIRE 2025

Mrs Sheila Allcock
Mrs Jayne Baxter
Mr Geoff Channon
Mr Robert Heath
Mr John Morton

RETIRE 2026

Mrs Ann Chatwin
Mr Alan Leese (Treasurer)
Mr Ben Proctor
Mrs Win Ratcliffe
Mrs Anne Ward

RETIRE 2027

Mr Paul Brooks
Mr Peter Chatwin
Mr Ian Paton
Mrs Beverley Seymour
Mr Lewis Torr

DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES

RETIRE 2026

Mr Brian Hartley
Dr Mel Newton

JOINT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs Lynne Ball
Mrs Anne Ward

PATRONAGE BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs Lynne Ball

Note: Terms of Office for all elected members are one year unless an alternative retirement date is stated above.

Bank
The NatWest Bank, Derby Street, Leek

Examiner

Mrs Christine Vaughn

Clergy

Vicar, Team Rector and Rural Dean Revd Nigel Irons

Structure, governance and management

St Edward the Confessor is a Parish Church in the Team Benefice of Leek and Meerbrook. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is established under the Pastoral Scheme brought into effect on 1st November 2021 and under Rule 18 of the Church Representation Rules.

Recruitment

Appointment of PCC members is governed by the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are elected for a 3-year period by agreement of the APCM. PCC members are recruited from the congregation through the notice of the APCM, weekly newsletter and through announcements during services of the church.

Induction and Training

There is currently no formal process of induction and training for new members of the PCC. Some PCC members have attended training organised by the Diocese.

Organisation

The Standing Committee of the PCC consists of the Rector, Churchwardens, Treasurer, PCC Secretary and Asafeguarding Officer and meets as and when needed if urgent matters arise between meetings of the PCC.

The **Fabric Committee** and **Events Committee** meet regularly as a separate group and report back to the PCC.

The Maude Trust

Attached to St Edward's Church is the Maude Trust, a separate Trust vested in the Diocesan Trust. The objects of the Trust are:

1. in aid of repairing and restoring the Parish Church of St Edward the Confessor, Leek in the Parish of Leek and Meerbrook;
2. in aid of the expenses of carrying on the Day and Sunday schools in connection with the said Parish and Church.

Risk Assessment

Currently there are sufficient funds to meet our commitments, the performance of investment income has been negative this year but overall giving has increased. Of course this can be expected to recover in the longer term. Regular monitoring of the DCC account is undertaken by the Treasurer and the Leadership Team. All major expenditure is planned and approved by the full PCC.

The PCC has agreed and implemented the child protection policy as set out in the House of Bishops' report *Protecting All God's Children*.

There are procedures in place for ensuring that the church building is kept in good repair, is secure, well maintained and safe. The Fabric Committee monitors the use and safety of the premises. The PCC has a Health and Safety Policy. The church has been inspected under the Diocesan scheme for asbestos and no major problems were identified. The report is available to contractors. A Quinquennial Inspection of St Edward's Church took place in 2022 and most of the high priority work identified has now been completed.

There are policies and procedures in place for contractors and visitors to the church tower at St Edward's.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC works in co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The main objectives of the PCC are to seek ways of:

1. **Discovering the Heart of God:**
through prayer and worship that is faithful, creative and honouring to God and where each member of our congregation has opportunity to discover their gifts and exercise their ministry.
2. **Growing Disciples:**
by a commitment to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with our community and amongst our families, friends and those with whom we work and by helping one another to grow and learn in our Christian faith.
3. **Reaching New Generations:**
through making the most of the contacts we have through baptisms, weddings and other contacts with that generation of people who are largely absent from our church communities, supporting our local schools and exploring new forms of worship to appeal to a new generation.
4. **Transforming Communities:**
by making our buildings available and hospitable to other community groups, looking for ways in which we can best serve those in most need and having a wider, global vision and a commitment to justice and peace in the world.
5. **Practising Generosity:**
by creating a welcoming church open to all with a culture of generosity in our giving to the church and wider concerns.

Activities to meet these objectives

St Edward's seeks to fulfil these through:

1. Offering regular worship that is both traditional and contemporary
2. Providing a range of activities for children and young people
3. Participating in the wider life of the town
4. Actively supporting our church school
5. Working with other churches in the town through Churches Together in Leek and District and particularly with Trinity Church.
6. Supporting our CMS Mission Partner.
7. The creation of networks of pastoral care
8. Small groups for learning and fellowship
9. The provision of online services and teaching groups.

Volunteers

St Edward's has a considerable number of active volunteers. Volunteers support the work of the DCC through:

1. Leading worship as lesson readers, intercessors, flower arranging, musicians, preachers and chalice assistants.
2. Exercising leadership and planning strategy through the Church Council and the Leadership Team and St John's Planning group.
3. Sharing in the mission of the church through planning, enquirers courses, leading work for children and young people
4. Undertaking pastoral care through our team for visiting the sick and bereaves and assisting with baptism preparation
5. The management of the buildings and some regular maintenance and cleaning tasks.
6. Undertaking fundraising activities such as the Wednesday Lunch Club.
7. Leading small groups and the Mother's Union.
8. Serving as foundation governors to our Church School, St Edward's Academy.

Grants and Donations

In addition to occasional donations for special appeals, the PCC has agreed to give 10% of the income it receives from regular and one-off giving to other charitable organisations. It agrees the specific amounts to be given to specific charities on an annual basis.

Statistics

	2024	2023	2022
Number of Baptisms	12	11	24
Number of Marriages	5	6	5
Number of Funerals	36	55	45
Average Usual Sunday Attendance			
Adults	99	93	70
Children	10	8	9
Church Participants*			
Adults	176	162	159
Children and Young People	16	16	14
Electoral Roll at APCM	115	112	113

**A 'church participant' is any person who attends our church at least once a month (weekly services) or once a quarter (monthly services), or would do so if not prevented by illness, infirmity or temporary absence.*

**Figures for are based on physical church attendance and exclude an average of up to 12 people who view our online services.*

Mission Action Plan

The PCC is beginning to look at a new Mission Action Plan based on the new Diocesan Strategic Framework and it is hoped this will be completed during 2025.

Vicars Report

This report is chiefly related to my role as Vicar of St Edward's Church but also includes some wider issues relating to my wider responsibilities.

During January Churches Together in Leek & District facilitated the observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with daily times of prayer at midday held at Trinity Church which I led on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. I also led the United Service on Sunday 21st which was hosted by St Edward's. On the afternoon of Saturday 27th St Edward's hosted the National Holocaust Memorial Day Service organised by the Town Council which was well attended buy people from all walks of life and representatives of many organisations in the town. The Joint Council of the Team Benefice of Leek & Meerbrook also met for the first time during January.

In February St Edward's held our usual Shrove Tuesday Pea & Pie Supper which was well attended, and the following week our Lent Group started on Tuesday evenings in the Parlour. The group met for 5 weeks and once again I used the video extracts from Angel Studios amazing TV dramatization of the life of Jesus, *The Chosen*, as a basis for reflection and discussion. Last year I had based the course on Series One, and this year it was based on Series Two. Two or three people from Trinity Church also joined us.

On 1st March Riding Lights Theatre Company presented their production *The Narrow Road* at Trinity Church which was an event organised by CTLD. The following week I attended a Cluster Meeting with Bishop Matthew and Archdeacon Megan and a Presentation of the new Diocesan Strategic Framework, both in Barlaston. On Monday 18th March interviews were held for the post of Team Vicar with responsibility for All Saints Lek and St Edward's Cheddleton, and I was delighted to part of that process which culminated in the appointment of Revd Dr Henry Hope. St Edward's Academy end of term services were held at St Edward's on Friday 22nd and the following week Holy Week was celebrated in the usual way with evening communion services on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for the Anglican Team plus Trinity Church being hosted this year at St Edward's Leek followed by Maundy Thursday being celebrated by each congregation in their own churches. The Salvation Army then led the Good Friday March of Witness and this was followed by a Reflection and Meditation on the Cross from 1.00pm-

3.00pm at St Edward's Church and a 7.00pm Good Friday United Service also hosted by St Edward's.

From Monday 22nd - Thursday 25th April I attended the Diocesan Clergy Conference at The Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick, which was a really good opportunity to catch up with colleagues, receive spiritual nourishment and enjoy some space for refreshment and renewal.

On the evening of Wednesday 1st May Leek Deanery led a half hour slot as part of the Diocesan 24hrs of Prayer which took place online. The following day I attended a Public Hearing organised by the Church Commissioners for the purpose of giving anyone who want to raise any final issues relating to the proposed Pastoral Reorganisation of the Deanery to make their comments to the panel who would then make a final decision. Then on the evening of Friday 3rd St Edward's Church hosted a performance of the passion production *Relentless Love* by Manna Theatre Company.

At 6.30pm on Sunday 5th May St Edward's hosted the Arts Festival Service and as part of the programme we also organised another successful Tudor Evening on Wednesday 30th with Leslie Smith performing as Anne Boleyn and St Edward's Players providing musical and dramatic entertainment beforehand. Also during May the Joint Council of the Team Benefice of Leek & Meerbrook held its second meeting at which we agreed to hold an outdoor Team Service during August at St Edward's Academy.

In June Andy Machin and Vanessa Patrick-Wood completed the Pathways course run by the Diocese for those exploring lay ministry in the church. As a result of doing the course Andy applied to begin training as a Reader in September 2025 and Vanessa chose to continue her journey of vocational exploration.

On 22nd June Bishop Matthew and Archdeacon Megan came to present the new Diocesan Strategic Framework to the Deaneries of Leek, Cheadle and Alstonefield at St Edward's Academy in Leek. A number of members of the PCCs of these Deaneries attended.

On the evening of Friday 12th July Revd Dr Henry Hope was licensed as Team Vicar in the Benefice of Leek & Meerbrook with responsibility for All Saints Church and also to serve as Curate-in-Charge of St Edward's, Cheddleton. The next day, Saturday 13th July, St Edward's (Leek) led the annual Club Day service in the market square which was well attended despite some light rain. Many thanks to our music group Solid Ground and musicians from Gateway Church who joined them to lead the worship. On Friday 19th the St Edward's Academy end of year services were held at St Edward's Church.

On Sunday 4th September the congregation of St Edward's joined Trinity Church to attend the farewell service for their minister Revd Richard Pope who was leaving to move to a new post in the Bridgewater area. It was a very special occasion marking our particular gratitude to Richard for the close links he had maintained with St Edward's Church over the past 15 years and his unwavering commitment to the work of Churches Together in Leek & District, as well as praying for him as he embarked on his next phase of ministry.

On Saturday 10th August Lynne and Brian Ball celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary at the Bowling Club and many of us were very happy to join them at Leek Bowling Club for that very special event. On 18th August the Team Service on the playing field of St Edward's Academy was held and went really well. We were blessed with sunshine and representatives from all the churches in Benefice attended which was led by me with Revd Dr Henry Hope speaking. Each congregation chose a hymn or song to be included in the service which was followed by a picnic enjoyed by those who wished to stay afterwards.

On the afternoon of Saturday 31st August I attended the licensing of Revd Denise Williamson, the new Methodist minister being given responsibility for Trinity Church as well as churches in Endon, Cheddleton and Rudyard.

On 1st September St Edward's was very happy to host the Mayor's Civic Service for Cllr Barry Birch which was followed by a reception at the Maude Institute, and later that week I said prayers at the annual *Fly the Red Ensign for the Merchant Navy* event outside Moorlands House.

St Edward's annual Open Weekend was held on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September with many visitors from Leek and beyond coming to look at the church, view the tapestries and

stained-glass windows and take tours of the tunnel and tower. The Annual Royal Air Force Battle of Britain Service was also held that weekend with the usual very large turnout from uniformed organisation across the area.

On the mornings of Monday 30th September and Tuesday and Thursday 1st and 3rd October Year 7 pupils from St Edward's Academy visited St Edward's where we ran a number of groups teaching them about the Christian faith and what happens in the church. Thank you to Lynne Ball and her amazing team for all the hard work they put into this.

On Monday 21st October interviews were held for the post of Team Vicar with responsibility for St Luke's & St Paul's Leek and St Matthew's Meerbrook and I was delighted to be able to be part of the panel who appointed Revd Mike Fitzsimmons to this post. Mike is well known to many people in the town as he had worked here at the Warden of St Chad's Retreat House from May 2016 to September 2019.

During September, October and November I ran Baptism and Confirmation Preparation sessions for a pupil from St Edward's Academy as well as for seven young adults who had each talked about how they had experienced an encounter with Jesus and wanted to learn more and be Baptised (or in two cases Confirmed). It was a very exciting time to lead them in studying the gospel of Mark and see the obvious hunger they had to learn more about the Christian faith.

The Civic Remembrance Service was very well attended as usual and in addition to conducting the Act of Remembrance at the Monument I once again (in the absence of a Team Vicar at St Paul's) conducted the ceremony at Ball Haye Green in the afternoon. On the following Saturday 18th November we held a productive PCC Away Day at Rudyard Methodist Church during which I reviewed changes and developments in the life and worship of St Edward's Church over the last ten years and invited the PCC to consider a request to extend my ministry at the church beyond my normal retirement age of 70 until my 72nd birthday, as a result of which they agreed to meet separately in 9 days' time to formally consider and vote on this. We also looked at the new Diocesan Strategic Framework and began the process of starting to think about our response to it as well as looking at putting in place strategies to help St Edward's to prepare for my retirement whenever it took place.

The following day on Sunday 19th the Team Confirmation Service with Bishop Matthew was held at St Edward's Church at which four candidates were Confirmed, David Denham, Kirsty Stevenson and Mathew Greenwood from St Edward's Church and Layla McNichol from St Edward's Academy. The following day I began a three-day retreat at Mount St Bernard Abbey which I used to reflect on, pray about and prepare for the coming Christmas season.

The PCC met in my absence on Monday 25th November and I was very happy to learn that they had voted to approve my request for an Extension of Office until my 72nd birthday on 26th July 2027. I subsequently contacted Bishop Michael about this who said that he was happy to authorise this request. On Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th November I attended a Rural Dean's Retreat at Shallowford House.

On Sunday 8th December it was a great joy to Baptize three of the young adults I had been preparing and to renew the Baptismal Vows of the other two. Later that afternoon we held our Christingle Service which was as always very well attended. Thanks to Sheila Allcock and Lynne Ball for organising everything, to Jake Emery for narrating and to all the volunteers who came the day before to prepare the Christingles.

At the end of that week CTLD held it's Carol Singing event in Derby Street where members of congregations from across the town came to sing led by our musicians from Solid Ground who set up this year in the shelter of the Trinity foyer to avoid the possibility of being affected by rain ... many thanks to all involved!

Then on Friday 20th December St Edward's hosted one of the Advent '24 Doors' events between 4.00pm and 7.00pm with a dramatic adaptation of the nativity story performed in the Parlour after which guests were invited to spend some time looking round the church. This was a huge success with over 300 people attending the 14 performances during the three-hour period and receiving the free gift of a beer mat with a Christmas prayer on it. Thank you so much to Sheila and Philip and the team they put together ... it was an amazing event to have been part of!

Our *Carols by Candlelight* service was held on the evening of 22nd December at which the choir sang some excellent items amidst the carols, readings prayers and reflection that made up the service which was attended by over 200 people. Many families came to the Nativity Service on 24th and a larger than usual number of people to the Midnight Communion service. Christmas celebrations were rounded off with the All Age Christmas Celebration Service at 10.00am on Christmas Day followed by a brief service of Holy Communion which most of those who came chose to stay for.

Throughout the year the regular Monday morning Team Staff Meetings continued at St Chad's House with Warden Rachel Moore and it was a joy to be joined by Henry Hope following his licensing in July. I also met weekly with our Churchwardens Lynne and Philip as we continued to share together and encourage one another in our roles supporting and enabling the life of the church and all who minister in it.

During the year I also met from time to time with Jen Arnot, the head of RE at St Edward's Academy and led a number of acts of Collective Worship as well as the regular End of Term Services at St Edward's.

I was invited to broadcast a Thought for the Day around once a month on Moorlands Radio.

At Team level I was delighted to work with Henry during the second half of the year and to have had the prospect of a full team in 2025 with Mike coming to join us. I have established a good relationship with Revd Denise Williamson, the new minister at Trinity, and we plan to continue the pattern of holding joint services six times a year.

I attended a number of online webinars during the year which were very helpful and informative. I also continued to have the opportunity to lead prayers before each meeting of the Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and enjoyed very good relationships with the outgoing and incoming Chairs and Mayors of Leek.

In my role as Rural Dean I continued to give help and advice to a number of churches in the Deanery who were still in vacancy, many of whom had been (and still are) without a priest for several years, as well as maintaining regular contact with Bishop Matthew and Archdeacon Megan and working on the finalisation and implementation of the Deanery Plan. I also arranged two meetings of the Deanery Chapter and three of the Deanery Synod (see separate report).

Towards the end of the year we were saddened by the deaths of Chris Boone and Garry Hill, two longstanding members of our congregation for whose lives we give thanks to God. I would like to thank our Pastoral Co-Ordinator Lynne Ball who has continued to do outstanding work keeping in touch with the bereaved and others in need in the parish, and also to Anne Chatwin, Susan Taylor, Lynne Ball and Michael Oliver who took home communion to a number of parishioners (and to Michael also for his ministry at Beech Dene, Treetops Court and Hen Cloud House).

Thanks also go to the *Storyfinders* leaders Sheila Allcock, Christine Nixon, Sylvia Jones and Dagmar Wilson who have continued to lead the group throughout the year, and to Lynne Ball and her team who ran the Wednesday Lunch Club which as well as being a popular meeting place for parishioners raises very welcome additional funds for St Edward's Church, and the Drop-In which provides a base where those in need can gather and support one another.

I also want to thank everyone in a leadership role for their support and encouragement in sustaining and developing the life of the church as well as all those who take part in the Sunday worship at St Edward's by arranging the flowers, acting as sidespeople, leading prayers, reading the scriptures and helping with the administration of the chalice. Many thanks also go to Sheila Allcock, Christine Nixon and others who from time to time assisted them in leading the children's group during the morning service at St Edward's on the second and fourth Sundays of each month; to our Verger Alison Capper for her excellent, reliable and committed work in the church office; to Sheila Allcock for producing the Newsletter for us each week; to our Fabric Officer Ian Paton and his team for their care of the church building and to Robert Heath for his help maintaining the lighting and electrics; to the Choir for the enriching contribution they make to the musical life of the church and to Philip Mann who leads their monthly practices and Jo Smith who conducts them and works with them on anthems for special occasions; to our organists Diccon Pearce and Vickie Ainslie for their keyboard skills; to

our Music Group *Solid Ground* for the valued way in which they enhance our worship and to Brian Ball for his amazing work on the churchyard gardens. Last but by no means least I record my special thanks to our Treasurer Alan Leese for the excellent and detailed way in which he keeps track of our finances and to our Churchwardens Lynne Ball and Philip Allcock for their immense help support, dedication and hard work at St Edward's, most of which takes place unseen and unnoticed but it essential for the well-being of the church as a whole.

Ten new people started regularly attending St Edward's church during the year and others have continued to join us via the online services on our YouTube channel.

In addition to my role as Vicar of St Edward's Church I have also served in the following capacities during the year:

- Rural Dean of Leek
- Team Rector of Leek & Meerbrook
- Chair of Leek Deanery Chapter
- Chair of Leek Deanery Synod
- Chair of All Saints PCC
- Member of Lichfield Diocesan Synod
- Trustee of Harrison Trust
- Trustee of Leek Almshouses
- Trustee of Leek Town Dole
- Trustee of Maude Trust
- Pastoral Support to St Edward's Academy
- Moderator of Churches Together in Leek and District
- Facilitative Chair of Leek Church Leaders
- Chaplain to the Mayor of Leek
- Chaplain to Chair of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
- Surrogate for Leek Deanery

I attended the following events in 2024 as part of my wider responsibilities:

- 21st January CTLD WoPFCU United Service at All Saints Church
- 23rd January Deanery Synod at St Paul's Leek
- 7th February CTLD Forum Meeting at St Edward's Church
- 5th March Rural Deans Cluster Meeting in Barlaston
- 29th March CTLD Walk of Witness in Derby Street
- 29th March CTLD Good Friday United Service at St Edward's Church
- 17th April CTLD AGM & Forum Meeting at Gateway Church
- 1st May Deanery Zoom session as part of Diocesan Day of Prayer
- 12th May CTLD Christian Aid United Service at Trinity Church
- 21st May Deanery Synod at St John's Knypersley
- 3rd June Rural Deans Cluster Meeting in Longnor
- 10th July CTLD AGM Forum Meeting at All Saints Church
- Saturday 13th July Club Day in the Market Square and streets of Leek
- 23rd July Deanery Chapter at All Saints Church
- 24th September Deanery Synod at St Luke's Leek
- 8th October CTLD Forum Meeting at St Luke's Church
- 23rd June Rural Deans Cluster Meeting in Meir
- 25th September Deanery Zoom session as part of Diocesan Day of Prayer
- 4th November Deanery Chapter at St Philip & St James' Milton
- 25th November CTLD Blessing of Christmas Crib in the Market Square 26th-27th
- November Rural Dean's Retreat at Shallowford House
- 14th December CTLD Carol Singing in Derby Street

I also attended the following events as part of my Continuing Ministerial Development:

- 13th March: CPAS Webinar *Staying Fresh in an Era of Volatility*
- 22nd-25th April: Diocesan Clergy Conference at The Hayes, Swanwick
- 19th June: CPAS Webinar *Releasing Growth in an Era of Scarcity*
- 19th September: College of Preachers Webinar: *Exploring the Big Questions*
- 17th October: United Christian Broadcasters: *Helen Yousaf*
- 26th-27th November: Rural Dean's Retreat at Shallowford House

Revd Nigel Irons

Churchwardens' Report

2024 was another very busy year for Lynne and I. All the usual weekly and monthly services and activities took place. I list below most of the other services and events in chronological order following which I shall highlight a common theme for those listed with an asterisk *:

21st January Churches Together united service at end of week of prayer for Christian unity

27th January National Holocaust Memorial Day service

February/March Lent course in the Parlour based on Series 2 of The Chosen

13th February Pie and pea supper *

17th February Church walk at Rudyard followed by meal at Royal Oak, Rushton Spencer

20th February A crowd of us went to see 'Jesus Christ Superstar' at The Regent, Hanley

16th March Christian Aid Sponsored Walk around Tittesworth raising over £200

March/July & December School services at St Edward's

March Holy week services were all at St Edward's

25th March Easter Story Egg Hunt in and outside Church *

Easter & Summer School holidays Free packed lunches provided for children each Wednesday *

20th April Cream tea in the Parlour for Dereck & Barbara's 90th birthdays

3rd May Manna Theatre Company performed 'Relentless Love'

5th May Leek Arts Festival service

11th May Christian Aid Big Brekkie in the Parlour raising over £400 *

30th May Portrait of Anne Boleyn & Tudor entertainment *

10th June Archdeacon's Visitation at St Edward's

6th July Ugandan Rhythms Drumming Concert & Workshop - £831.71 raised

13th July Club Day - St Edward's leads Market Place worship & procession *

22nd July, 30th July & 5th August Safeguarding sessions online in Parlour

6th August Together Young & Old - lots of table top activities for all ages *

18th August Team service in the open air at St Edward's Academy & picnic lunch

1st September Mayor's Civic service

10th September Cuppa, Cake & Care replaces 'Just B' every 2nd Tuesday of month

14th/15th September Heritage Open Weekend 129 people had tours raising £1,187 *

30th September, 1st & 3rd October Year 7 visits learning about the life of St Edwards including Baptism, Holy Communion, weddings, prayer, stained glass windows, mission and outreach *

20th October Anna Sims, our CMS partner visited, followed by soup, roll & apple crumble

November Shoe boxes for Ukraine children

10th November Remembrance service

15th November Christmas Lights Switch On - helping with refreshments at Trinity

16th November PCC Away Day at Rudyard Methodist Chapel

17th November Team Confirmation service at St Edward's

8th December Christingle service

14th December Carol singing in Derby Street

20th December 24 Doors Advent event in the Parlour - a local nativity story *

22nd December Carols by Candlelight

24th/25th December Christmas services

Lynne and I have both had significant health issues of late and we thank everyone for their support and prayers. Most of the events and activities listed above could not have happened without your help. That is the theme particularly behind all the items above highlighted with an asterisk, namely teamwork. All the activities and events were a success because of teamwork and working together.

Looking to the future I think we shall be even more dependent on teamwork and the support of the whole congregation. We are extremely grateful for Nigel's unfailing support.

The silver will have been checked prior to the APCM.

May God bless you all.

Philip Allcock

Wednesday Lunch Club Report

During 2024 we continued to be extremely busy every week. Opening at 9.15am and taking last orders at approximately 1pm to enable us to clear the room and kitchen ready for Storyfinders who follow us at 1.45pm.

We serve snacks and light lunches along with home-made sweets and hot and cold drinks throughout the morning and continued to provide home-made soup, with either a roll and butter or sandwiches, which has been very popular. Wednesday Lunches is not only a valuable fund raiser for the Church but also provides a warm welcome and outreach to both regulars and visitors to Leek.

The Lunch Club was able led by Lynne Ball along with her committed team of helpers Melody Cartledge, Coral Brown, Sue Sperring-Toy, Ann Morris, Brian Ball and Philip Allcock along with bakers Bev Seymour, Pat Wickstead and others and Paul Brooks who donates the milk each week.

In 2024 the team continued to be extremely but enjoyed a shared sense of good humour, fun and fellowship as they met many people including regulars also many visitors to Leek.

Nigel Irons

The 'Drop-In' Report

This project began in 2021 and continued through 2024. From 9.15am until 1pm each Wednesday a safe space was provided in Church for anyone who is lonely, anxious, homeless, marginalised, or suffering or recovering from addiction, providing a warm welcome, a feeling of belonging and a tangible sign that people do care.

Free hot drinks and hot food of oatcakes or toast with cheese, beans etc. are provided throughout the morning. Participants come and they go but there a core group continued to come every week to what they recognised to be a place of safety, friendship, and trust. the group also acted as a signposting place for help and community events. A number of members of the group have developed links with St Edward's Church and many conversations about Christian faith and God's goodness have taken place.

We thank God for this project and the opportunities it has brought to demonstrate the love of Jesus by supporting those on the margins. Particular thanks go to Lynne Ball who acted as the group supervisor alongside her busy role heading up the Lunch Club.

Nigel Irons

Cuppa, Cake & Chat Group Report

This group developed out of the 'Just B' Bereavement Group and Met on the 2nd Tuesday of each month during 2024. Numbers in attendance varied but those who did come were very appreciative of the opportunity to meet in the context of shared companionship, friendship and support over a hot drink and some homemade cake.

Thank you to Lynne Ball, Barbara Brown, Bill Taylor, and Michael Oliver, for making this group possible.

Nigel Irons

PCC Report

During the year the PCC met briefly after the APCM to appoint officers for the new administrative year and subsequently met three times in the Parlour to conduct its regular business and once in my absence to discuss my request for an Extension of Office. We also held an Away Day at Rudyard Methodist Church in November. We received regular reports from the Treasurer, the Fabric Officer, the Lunch Club and Drop-In, Storyfinders, Churches Together, the Events Group and St Edward's Academy and had a particular focus on the issue of Safeguarding led by our Safeguarding Officer Bev Seymour. We also discussed other items including the distribution of our annual giving, the stage platform project, the ongoing sale of

St John's Church, the proposed Pastoral Scheme for the re-organisation of Leek Deanery, the new Diocesan Strategic Framework and the need to develop a new Mission Action Plan and to spend time over the next two years putting strategies in place to prepare for my retirement in 2027.

Revd Nigel Irons

Fabric Report

This report is awaited.

Storyfinders Baby and Toddler Group

Storyfinders is held on Wednesday afternoons from 1.45-3.30pm.

Story Finders continued to meet during term time throughout 2024 with fluctuating numbers of adults including mum's and dad's, grandparents and childminders with their children coming along each week, many who give us positive feedback and tell others about the group.

God's love has continued to be shown through the faithful volunteering of Christine Nixon, Sylvia Jones, Sheila Allcock and Dagmar Wilson. As a result, St Edward's has been able to provide a warm, welcoming, supportive and stimulating space for our local community to meet and be in Church. During the time together the adults and children listen to a story and say our action prayer which is: *God loves me from the hairs on my head to the tips of my toes, from the lobes of my ears to the end of my nose, from my back to my front, to my wiggly fingers, God loves me and you and you and all our families.* They also join in songs and rhymes, chat, form friendships, have tea and cake and enjoy a whole variety of fun play and messy activities together.

Sheila Allcock

Trustees Report - St John's Church

A new buyer was found for the land and building and the Trustees agreed to wait while they sought planning approval to convert the main building into a joinery workshop and showroom. This process took many months but has now been completed and a final sale price of £160,000 has been agreed. Our solicitors are now handling the sale which itself is taking some time as they have needed to contact the Church Commissioners in connection with the removal of a restrictive covenant of the site. It is hoped that the sale will finally be completed once this matter has been dealt with.

Revd Nigel Irons

Churches Together in Leek and District Report

During January the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** took place with a half hour prayer and reflection every lunchtime at Trinity Church, using the material based on the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The week ended with a **United Service** on Sunday 21st at All Saints Church.

As part of the **Lent Courses** offered across the town Nigel ran a 5-week course in the Parlour at St Edward's using extracts from the Angel Studio's TV series The Chosen Series 2 looking at the Biblical themes of grace, suffering, faithfulness, love, transformation, redemption, and sacrifice. Trinity Church also held a course.

The annual **Christian Aid walk** took place on Saturday 16th March at Tittesworth Water, an enjoyable walk with good conversation and fellowship on a mainly dry morning to enjoy the beautiful surrounding countryside. Sponsorship for walkers from St Edward's raised over £200.

During **Holy Week** the services on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening took place at St Edward's. The walk of witness from the monument to the Market Place saw a large turnout on Good Friday and was led by the Salvation Army. In the afternoon there was a Reflection & Meditation on the Cross from 1.00pm-3.00pm at St Edward's Church and a United service at 7.00pm also at St Edward's.

The **Christian Aid Service** to mark the start of **Christian Aid Week** this year was held at Trinity Church on Sunday 12th May. St Edward's held a 'Big Brekkie' and Trinity Church held a Coffee Morning during the week.

Club Day took place on Saturday 13th July and was led by St Edward's Church. There was a good turnout for worship in the market square led by Revd Nigel with musical

accompaniment from *Solid Ground* plus musicians from Gateway Church. Everyone present then walked around the town in their church groups we then went to Trinity Church for refreshments afterward where we were joined by the local dignitaries.

Refreshments were served at Trinity Church during the **Christmas Lights Switch-On** event on 15th November.

The Crib in the Market Place was erected on 25th November followed by a Service of Blessing led by Nigel.

Churches Together Carol Singing took place on Saturday 14th December outside Trinity Church accompanied by *Solid Ground* worship group, and this event was slightly curtailed due to torrential rain near the end!

The **Enabling Group** met in January, June and September to discuss the ongoing activities of CTLD, subscriptions and finance, the programme for 2025, the erection of the Christmas Nativity scene in the market square, Carol singing in Derby Street and the organisation of one-off events. Agendas were also set ahead of each Forum Meeting.

Forum Meetings were held on 7th February at St Edward's Church, 17th April at Gateway Church, 10th July at All Saints Church and 8th October at St Luke's Church.

Thanks to our secretary Anthony Matthewson who kept members informed of developments and plans throughout the year.

Rev'd Nigel Irons

St. Edward's Academy

During 2024 I continued to lead acts of Collective Worship at the school once or twice a term and we were as always very pleased to welcome the entire school to St Edward's Church for the End of Term Services at Easter, Summer and Christmas. If the weather was too inclement I ran these services in the school hall instead.

I maintained good contact with the Principal Katie Smith and the Head of RE Jen Arnott during which the ongoing importance of the relationship between the school and St Edward's Church was valued and affirmed. We were also very grateful to the school for agreeing to let us use their grounds for the Team Service on Sunday 18th August.

Rev'd Nigel Irons

Leek Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod met three times during the year in January, May, and September. It received presentations from Lyndsey Stockton about the work of Leek Foodbank; from Lichfield Diocese Strengthening Communities Team covering Dementia-Friendly Churches, Enabling All and Places of Welcome; and from Jill Cooper about the Cursillo Movement.

Rev'd Nigel Irons

Treasurers Report

St Edward's accounts for this year show a small decrease in funds of £6,087 compared to an increase in funds of £40,884 last year. The increase in funds for 2023 were mainly due to the increase in value of our investments and legacies that had been left to us. Whereas the funds decrease for 2024 relates mainly due to a payment of £10,812 towards the stage and balcony upgrade and the general cost of living expenses going up i.e. utility bills, insurance, wages, etc.

Our cashflow has suffered this year with a decrease of £-13,832 mainly due to the costs previously mentioned above, in comparison to nearly breakeven at £-3,282 last year.

We are very grateful to the following person from whom we have received a legacy this year:-

Edwin Deakin	£ 500.00
--------------	----------

Income from Wednesday lunches fundraising has continued to improve to £13,664 this year, up from £11,298 last year, due to this very well organised and operated weekly event. However, as we all know unfortunately the continuation of this fundraiser is in some doubt for 2025 but hopefully as a community and social gathering of people into the church we should try to keep it going. Income from investments for the year have increased to £18,168.23, compared to £15,855 last year.

Income from investments for the year have increased to £19,170, compared to £18,168 last year.

The PCC need to decide on which organisations we wish to give donations to and a provision has been

allocated in these accounts.

				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds			
							2024 £	2023 £		
District Church of St Edward's, Leek										
Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2024										
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds			
							2024 £	2023 £		
FIXED ASSETS										
Old Timbers				0.00	0.00	150,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00		
Hargreave Hale (Lichfd) Shares Port'o - 78 West'd Rd				B1	0.00	154,347.00	0.00	154,347.00	152,087.00	
Hargreave Hale (Lichfd) Shares Port'o - Maude Trust				B2	0.00	146,559.00	0.00	146,559.00	145,009.00	
The CBF CoIE Short Duration Bond Fund Inc CB3028438 (New A/c No.)				B3	0.00	16,406.32	0.00	16,406.32	15,925.53	
The CBF CoIE Investment Fund Inc CB3028439 (New A/c No.)				B4	0.00	131,532.32	0.00	131,532.32	128,589.12	
Scot' Widows Dep' (Investments)					0.00	724.65	0.00	724.65	713.69	
					0.00	449,569.29	150,000.00	599,569.29	592,324.34	
CURRENT ASSETS										
Debtors (inc. Gift Aid)					8,556.76	6,759.98	0.00	15,316.74	16,127.45	
Prepayments					154.31	0.00	0.00	154.31	1,096.29	
LBS Maude Trust Fund					6,857.95	29,922.75	0.00	36,780.70	29,922.75	
Scottish Widows Deposit (Maude)					0.00	644.31	0.00	644.31	634.56	
LBS Fabric & Restoration Fund					(6,063.50)	96,728.49	0.00	90,664.99	96,092.49	
LBS Fabric & Restoration Fund (Tower Only)					0.00	4,529.18	0.00	4,529.18	5,165.18	95,194.17
LBS Organ/Story Finders Fund					(2,600.70)	3,179.70	0.00	579.00	547.46	
LBS Embroidery Fund					0.00	3,205.48	0.00	3,205.48	2,983.07	
CBF Deposit Fund					96.91	0.00	0.00	96.91	92.03	
Nat West Current Account					9,816.36	(4,157.79)	0.00	5,658.57	11,021.85	9,816.36
										- 4,157.79
					16,818.09	140,812.10	0.00	157,630.19	163,683.13	
CURRENT LIABILITIES										
Creditors					16,054.44	0.00	0.00	16,054.44	12,113.12	
Accruals					6,282.72	0.00	0.00	6,282.72	2,945.32	
					22,337.16	0.00	0.00	22,337.16	15,058.44	
TOTAL NET ASSETS										
					(5,519.07)	590,381.39	150,000.00	734,862.32	740,949.03	
									(6,086.71)	

				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds			
							2024 £	2023 £		
Parish Church of St Edward's, Leek										
Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2024										
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024										
				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds			
							2024 £	2023 £		
FIXED ASSETS										
			Note							
Old Timbers				0.00	0.00	150,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00		
Hargreave Hale (Lichfd) Shares Port'o - 78 West'd Rd	B1			0.00	154,347.00	0.00	154,347.00	152,087.00		
Hargreave Hale (Lichfd) Shares Port'o - Maude Trust	B2			0.00	146,559.00	0.00	146,559.00	145,009.00		
The CBF CoFE Short Duration Bond Fund Inc CB3028438 (New A/c No.)	B3			0.00	16,406.32	0.00	16,406.32	15,925.53		
The CBF CoFE Investment Fund Inc CB3028439 (New A/c No.)	B4			0.00	131,532.32	0.00	131,532.32	128,589.12		
Scot' Widows Dep' (Investments)				0.00	724.65	0.00	724.65	713.69		
				0.00	449,569.29	150,000.00	599,569.29	592,324.34		
CURRENT ASSETS										
Debtors (inc. Gift Aid)				8,556.76	6,759.98	0.00	15,316.74	16,127.45		
Prepayments				154.31	0.00	0.00	154.31	1,096.29		
LBS Maude Trust Fund				6,857.95	29,922.75	0.00	36,780.70	29,922.75		
Scottish Widows Deposit (Maude)				0.00	644.31	0.00	644.31	634.56		
LBS Fabric & Restoration Fund				(6,063.50)	96,728.49	0.00	90,664.99	96,092.49		
LBS Fabric & Restoration Fund (Tower Only)				0.00	4,529.18	0.00	4,529.18	5,165.18	95,194.17	-
LBS Organ/Story Finders Fund				(2,600.70)	3,179.70	0.00	579.00	547.46		
LBS Embroidery Fund				0.00	3,205.48	0.00	3,205.48	2,983.07		
CBF Deposit Fund				96.91	0.00	0.00	96.91	92.03		
Nat West Current Account				9,816.36	(4,157.79)	0.00	5,658.57	11,021.85	9,816.36	- 4,157.79
				16,818.09	140,812.10	0.00	157,630.19	163,683.13		
CURRENT LIABILITIES										
Creditors				16,054.44	0.00	0.00	16,054.44	12,113.12		
Accruals				6,282.72	0.00	0.00	6,282.72	2,945.32		
				22,337.16	0.00	0.00	22,337.16	15,058.44		
TOTAL NET ASSETS				(5,519.07)	590,381.39	150,000.00	734,862.32	740,949.03		
								(6,086.71)		

Parish Church of St Edward's, Leek

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2024

INCOMING RESOURCES				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds	
							2024 £	2023 £
				Note				
Incoming Resources from donors								
Planned giving:	Gift Aid		A	18,727.02	0.00		18,727.02	18,334.18
	Income tax recoverable		B	6,784.13	0.00		6,784.13	6,529.76
	Other planned giving		C	6,889.18	0.00		6,889.18	6,294.56
Online - Just Giving & SumUp				D1+2	1,167.91	0.00	1,167.91	1,337.28
Collections				D3	5,578.39	0.00	5,578.39	6,158.22
Sundry Donation				E	1,985.84	0.00	1,985.84	2,922.69
				R1	41,132.47	0.00	41,132.47	41,576.69
Other voluntary incoming resources								
Donations				G	1,039.16	0.00	1,039.16	1,077.60
Legacies				R2 H	500.00	0.00	500.00	19,300.00
					1,539.16	0.00	1,539.16	20,377.60
Income from operating activities to further the councils objectives								
Magazine/Photocopies				J	7.50	0.00	7.50	25.70
Church Brochure(CP&P)/DVD/Books&Mugs				J1	25.00	0.00	25.00	105.00
Church hall lettings				K	2,020.00	0.00	2,020.00	521.00
Rent				R3.1 L	7,550.00	0.00	7,550.00	7,200.00
Church, Organist & Lichfield Fees				R3.2 M	20,451.09	0.00	20,451.09	28,574.91
					30,053.59	0.00	30,053.59	36,426.61
Income from operating activities to generate funds								
Fundraising - Events (Tudor - Elizabeth1)				R4 N1	1,515.00	0.00	1,515.00	1,381.83
Fundraising - Events (Heritage W/End,etc)				R4 N2	837.00	139.32	976.32	1,685.50
Fundraising - Wednesday Lunches				R5 Q	13,663.81	0.00	13,663.81	11,297.77
Other ordinary incoming resources				R6.1 R	2,640.30	0.00	2,640.30	60.00
Other extra-ordinary incoming resources				R6.2	450.00	0.00	450.00	7,109.78
Income from investments				R7 W	18,784.87	385.01	19,169.88	18,168.23
Investment - Gain/(Loss)				R8 Y	0.00	7,244.95	7,244.95	24,866.09
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES					110,616.20	7,769.28	0.00	118,385.48
								162,950.10

Parish Church of St Edward's, Leek

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2024

RESOURCES USED				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2024 2023 £ £	
Note								
Missionary and Charitable Giving								
Church overseas - missionary societies (Anna Sims)		A		1,590.00	0.00		1,590.00	1,500.00
Church overseas - relief & develop (Christian Aid)		B		200.00	0.00		200.00	255.00
Home mission / Church societies		C		5,688.99	0.00		5,688.99	8,055.46
Secular charities		D		458.00	0.00		458.00	1,053.60
				7,936.99	0.00		7,936.99	10,864.06
Activities relating to the work of the church								
Ministry:	Parish share	E1	E	40,887.00	0.00		40,887.00	48,400.00
	Visiting Clergy expenses		E1	1,727.00	0.00		1,727.00	3,220.00
	Clergy expenses		F	2,111.95	0.00		2,111.95	1,845.14
	Clergy homes maint' (All Old Timbers)		G	1,192.15	0.00		1,192.15	570.69
Church:	Running expenses	E2	H	17,742.63	0.00		17,742.63	15,833.11
	Quinquennial + gen' maint'	E3	J	15,670.08	0.00		15,670.08	4,327.40
	Church Tower repairs	E4	K	0.00	636.00		636.00	744.02
Upkeep of services			L	4,998.88	0.00		4,998.88	4,792.09
Education			M	640.01	0.00		640.01	123.43
Fees to Lichfield			P	5,037.00	0.00		5,037.00	5,687.00
Organist/Choir Master/Sidespersons Fees		E5	Q	4,782.91	0.00		4,782.91	6,655.52
Staff Costs		E6	U	13,848.89	0.00		13,848.89	12,311.90
				108,638.50	636.00		109,274.50	104,510.30
Church management & administration								
	Audit Fees (Yrs2021&22) + Payroll/Pension processing		V	680.00	0.00		680.00	1,180.00
	Gifts and Presentations		W	100.00	0.00		100.00	0.00
	Printing, stationary + telephone		X	2,187.28	0.00		2,187.28	2,150.99
	Leek Team Contribution		Y	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
				2,967.28	0.00		2,967.28	3,330.99
Cost of generating funds								
	Tudor Event - Elizabeth I		Z1	451.10	0.00		451.10	374.30
	Wednesday Lunches Costs		AA	1,878.73	0.00		1,878.73	1,548.30
	Other extra-ordinary costs	E7	AF	1,963.59	0.00		1,963.59	1,438.40
TOTAL RESOURCES USED				123,836.19	636.00	0.00	124,472.19	122,066.35
Excess of Reciepts over Payments				(13,219.99)	7,133.28	0.00	(6,086.71)	40,883.75
Balance of all assets at 1st January 2024							740,949.03	700,065.28
Balance of all assets at 31st December 2024							734,862.32	740,949.03

Statement of Financial Activities				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds	
							2024 £	2023 £
Incoming Resources								
Incoming resources from generating funds								
- Voluntary income				42,671.63	0.00	0.00	42,671.63	61,954.29
- Activities for generating funds				16,015.81	139.32	0.00	16,155.13	14,365.10
- Investment income				18,784.87	385.01	0.00	19,169.88	18,168.23
Incoming resources from church activities:				30,053.59	0.00	0.00	30,053.59	36,426.61
Other incoming resources				2,640.30	0.00	0.00	2,640.30	60.00
Other extra incoming resources				450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	7,109.78
Total Incoming Resources				110,616.20	524.33	0.00	111,140.53	138,084.01
Resources Expended								
Cost of generating funds -								
- Fundraising trading costs				2,329.83	0.00	0.00	2,329.83	1,922.60
Church activities								
- Missionary and charitable giving				7,936.99	0.00	0.00	7,936.99	10,864.06
- Ministry costs				111,605.78	636.00	0.00	112,241.78	107,841.29
Governance costs				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other extra-ordinary costs				1,963.59	0.00	0.00	1,963.59	1,438.40
Total Resources Expended				123,836.19	636.00	0.00	124,472.19	122,066.35
Net Incoming /(Outgoing) Resources Before Transfers				(13,219.99)	(111.67)	0.00	(13,331.66)	16,017.66
Gross Transfers between Funds				2,403.14	(2,403.14)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Incoming /(Outgoing) Resources Before Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)				(10,816.85)	(2,514.81)	0.00	(13,331.66)	16,017.66
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)								
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets								
- On disposal				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
- On revaluation				0.00	7,244.95	0.00	7,244.95	24,866.09
Net Movement in Funds				(10,816.85)	4,730.14	0.00	(6,086.71)	40,883.75
Balances brought forward at 1st January 2024				5,297.78	585,651.25	150,000.00	740,949.03	700,065.28
Balances carried forward at 31st December 2024				(5,519.07)	590,381.39	150,000.00	734,862.32	740,949.03

Parish Church of St Edward's, Leek

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2024 (Other A/cs Included / Integrated within St Edwards Church A/cs)

INCOMING RESOURCES				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds	
							2024 £	2023 £
Note								
Other accounts incoming resources								
Leek Town Dole Monies	R7	S		0.00	0.00		0.00	3,912.24
Leek Deanery Fund Monies	R8	S		0.00	0.00		0.00	2,649.00
Carr Trust Monies	R9	S		0.00	0.00		0.00	400.00
LADS Donation - Tudor Evenings	R10	S		450.00	0.00		450.00	0.00
Leek Team Account	R11	S		0.00	0.00		0.00	148.54
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES				450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	7,109.78
RESOURCES USED				Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds	
							2024 £	2023 £
Note								
Other accounts resources used								
Leek Town Dole		AB		893.00	0.00		893.00	1,280.00
Leek Deanery Fund		AC		679.00	0.00		679.00	0.00
Carr Trust Monies		AD		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
LADS Donation - Tudor Evenings		AE		233.19	0.00		233.19	0.00
Leek Team Account		AF		158.40	0.00		158.40	158.40
TOTAL RESOURCES USED				1,963.59	0.00	0.00	1,963.59	1,438.40
Excess of Receipts over Payments				(1,513.59)	0.00	0.00	(1,513.59)	5,671.38
AMOUNTS OWED BY ST EDWARDS CHURCH TO THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS:-								
Leek Town Dole				1,739.24	0.00		1,739.24	2,632.24
Leek Deanery Fund				1,970.00	0.00		1,970.00	2,649.00
Carr Trust Monies				400.00	0.00		400.00	400.00
LADS Donation - Tudor Evenings				216.81	0.00		216.81	0.00
Leek Team Account				(168.26)	0.00		(168.26)	(9.86)
				4,157.79	0.00	0.00	4,157.79	5,671.38

Cashflow for 2024			2024	2023
			£	£
Total Income			118,385.48	162,950.10
Less: Legacies & Donations		-	500.00	- 19,300.00
Less: Investment Gain/Loss		-	7,244.95	- 24,866.09
			110,640.53	118,784.01
Total Expenditure			124,472.19	122,066.35
			124,472.19	122,066.35
Annual Gain/(Loss)			-13,831.66	- 3,282.34
DCC 10% Giving Calculation			2024	2023
			£	£
<u>Total Income excluding Investment Gains/Income:-</u>				
Total Income			118,385.48	162,950.10
Excluding: Investment Income		-	19,169.88	- 18,168.23
Excluding: Investment Gain/Loss		-	7,244.95	- 24,866.09
			91,970.65	119,915.78
<u>Less following expenses:-</u>				
Charity Collections		-		1,308.60
Other Extra Ordinary Income/Expenses		450.00		7,109.78
Diocesan Fees		5,037.00		5,687.00
Organist Fees for weddings and funerals		4,782.91		6,655.52
Events Costs		451.10		374.30
Wednesday Lunches Costs		1,878.73		1,548.30
			12,599.74	22,683.50
			79,370.91	97,232.28

Report signed on behalf of the PCC of St Edward the Confessor, Leek

Revd Nigel Irons
Vicar of St Edward the Confessor, Leek
Team Rector of Leek & Meerbrook
Rural Dean of Leek

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2024

The Church of St Edward the Confessor
Church Street
Leek
Staffordshire

Clergy & Treasurers in Office

St Edward's Church

Vicar: Rev N Irons

Treasurer: Mr A Leese

Independent Examiner

Mrs Christine Vaughan

CV-ABAS Limited

STATEMENT OF MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the members to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the Parochial Church Council's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the members should follow best practice and:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in business.

The members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and which enable them to both ascertain the financial position of the charity and ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the SORP 2015. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
- Voluntary income	2(a)	42,672	-	-	42,672	61,954
- Activities for generating funds	2(b)	16,016	139	-	16,155	14,365
- Investment income	2(c)	26,335	385	-	26,720	25,368
Incoming resources from church activities						
	2(d)	(1,165)	-	-	(1,165)	4,572
Other incoming resources	2(e)	3,090	-	-	3,090	7,170
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		86,947	524	-	87,472	113,430
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Cost of generating funds						
- Fundraising trading costs	3(a)	2,330	-	-	2,330	1,923
Church Activities						
- Missionary and charitable giving	3(b)	7,937	-	-	7,937	10,864
- Ministry costs	3(c)	87,257	636	-	87,893	82,007
Governance costs	3(d)	2,644	-	-	2,644	2,618
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		100,167	636	-	100,803	97,412
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		(13,220)	(112)	-	(13,332)	16,018
GROSS TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		2,403	(2,403)	-	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)		(10,817)	(2,515)	-	(13,332)	16,018
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)						
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets						
- On disposal		-	-	-	-	-
- On revaluation		-	7,245	-	7,245	24,866
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(10,817)	4,730	-	(6,087)	40,884
BALANCES B/F AT 1ST JANUARY		5,298	585,651	150,000	740,949	700,065
BALANCES C/F AT 31ST DECEMBER		(5,519)	590,381	150,000	734,862	740,949

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	4	-	-
Investment Assets		599,569	592,324
		<u>599,569</u>	<u>592,324</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		-	-
Income Tax Recoverable		-	-
Prepayments and Accrued Income		154	1,096
Other Debtors		15,317	16,127
Cash at Bank and On Deposit		142,159	146,459
		<u>157,630</u>	<u>163,683</u>
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	6	<u>22,337</u>	<u>15,058</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>135,293</u>	<u>148,625</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>734,862</u>	<u>740,949</u>
FUNDS	7		
Unrestricted DCC Funds		(5,519)	5,298
Restricted Funds		590,381	585,651
Endowment Funds	8	150,000	150,000
		<u>734,862</u>	<u>740,949</u>

Signed on behalf of The Parochial Church Council of Leek & Meerbrook PCC

Chairman: Rev N Irons

Church Warden: Mr Philip Allcock

Date:

MR Irons
Philip Allcock
17th September 2025

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any regulations regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC 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.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Resources Used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan quota or parish share is accounted for when payable. Any quota unpaid at 31st December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Gains and losses on investments (unrealised)

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on the revaluation of investments at 31st December.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by S.10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2014.

No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities and separately disclosed.

Land

Land is valued at its historic cost and is not depreciated on the basis that it has an infinite useful economic life.

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Freehold Properties

All properties are shown at their open market value as at 31st December. No depreciation is charged on any of these properties.

No depreciation is charged on investment properties in accordance with the generally accepted practice set out in SSAP19. In the opinion of the members of the PCC to depreciate investment properties would not give a true and fair view as the assets are held for the investment potential and therefore need to reflect current values.

It is the PCC policy to maintain in a state of sound repair and therefore it is considered that the lives of the properties are so long and their residual values so high that the annual depreciation charge and accumulated depreciation is not material. Accordingly, and as set out in FRS15, no depreciation is provided on other properties used for church activities.

Fixed Assets

Other fixtures, fitting and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 10 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31st December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2024

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
2(a). Voluntary Income					
Planned giving	18,727	-	-	18,727	18,334
- Gift aid and covenants	6,784	-	-	6,784	6,530
- Income tax recoverable	6,889	-	-	6,889	6,295
- Other planned giving	1,168	-	-	1,168	1,337
Online – Just Giving & Sum Up	5,578	-	-	5,578	6,158
Collection (open plate)	3,025	-	-	3,025	4,000
Sundry Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Donations & Appeals	500	-	-	500	19,300
Legacies					
	42,672	-	-	42,672	61,954
2(b). Activities for generating funds					
Fund raising events	16,016	139	-	16,155	14,365
	16,016	139	-	16,155	14,365
2(c). Investment Income					
Dividends and interest	18,785	385	-	19,170	18,168
Rent	7,550	-	-	7,550	7,200
	26,335	385	-	26,720	25,368
Magazine (Spark)	8	-	-	8	26
Fees	(3,218)	-	-	(3,218)	3,920
Church Centre/Hall Income	2,020	-	-	2,020	521
Miscellaneous Income	25	-	-	25	105
	(1,165)	-	-	(1,165)	4,572
2(e). Other incoming resources					
Insurance proceeds	3,090	-	-	3,090	7,170
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	86,947	524	-	87,472	113,430

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2024

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
3(a). Fundraising trading costs					
Fundraising activities	2,330	-	-	2,330	1,923
	2,330	-	-	2,330	1,923
3(b). Missionary and Charitable giving					
Church Overseas					
- Missionary Societies	1,590	-	-	1,590	1,500
- Relief & Development agencies	200	-	-	200	255
Home Missions/Church Societies	5,689	-	-	5,689	8,055
Secular Charities	458	-	-	458	1,054
Education & Schools	-	-	-	-	-
	7,937	-	-	7,937	10,864
3(c). Ministry Costs					
Parish Share	40,887	-	-	40,887	48,400
Clergy Expenses	1,727	-	-	1,727	3,220
Vicarage	1,192	-	-	1,192	1,845
Other Clergy costs	2,112	-	-	2,112	571
Church – running expenses	17,743	-	-	17,743	15,833
Church – maintenance costs	15,670	636	-	16,306	5,071
Major repairs	-	-	-	-	-
Upkeep of Services	4,999	-	-	4,999	4,792
Magazine – Spark	-	-	-	-	-
Church Centre/Hall costs	-	-	-	-	-
Upkeep of churchyard	-	-	-	-	-
Organists, vergers, honoraria	-	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	-
PCC property upkeep costs	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment renewals	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-
Administration	-	-	-	-	-
Staff costs	-	-	-	-	-
Gifts & Presentations	-	-	-	-	-
Office Supplies	2,187	-	-	2,187	2,151
Education & Training	640	-	-	640	123
Miscellaneous	100	-	-	100	-
Depreciation of church assets	-	-	-	-	-
	87,257	-	-	87,893	82,007
3(d). Governance costs					
Accountancy, audit and independent examination	680	-	-	680	1,180
Assigning accounts	1,964	-	-	1,964	1,438
Legal and professional costs	-	-	-	-	-
	2,644	-	-	2,644	2,618
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	100,167	636	-	100,803	97,412

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2024

4. FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY PCC

	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Church Investment Property Buildings £	Equipment Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
4(a). Tangible Fixed Assets				
COST				
Cost brought forward	-	150,000	-	150,000
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
	-	150,000	-	150,000
DEPRECIATION				
Depreciation b/f	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
NET BOOK VALUE				
As at 31 st December 2023	-	150,000	-	150,000
As at 31 st December 2024	-	150,000	-	150,000

4(b). Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
St Edward's Church		
Shares	300,906	297,096
CBF/COIF fund	147,939	144,515
Other Investments	725	714
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	449,569	442,324

4(c). Gains/(Losses) on Investments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Realised gains(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation surpluses	-	7,245	-	7,245	24,866
	-	7,245	-	7,245	24,866

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2024

5. CURRENT ASSETS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Stock	-	-
Income Tax Recoverable	-	-
Prepayments & Accrued Income	154	1,096
Other Debtors	15,317	16,127
Cash at bank and On Deposit	142,159	146,459
	<u>157,630</u>	<u>163,683</u>

6. LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	6,283	2,945
Creditors for goods and services	16,054	12,113
	<u>22,337</u>	<u>15,058</u>

7. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	-	449,569	150,000	599,569	592,324
Current Assets	16,818	140,812	-	157,630	163,683
Current Liabilities	(22,337)	-	-	(22,337)	(15,058)
	<u>(5,519)</u>	<u>590,381</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>734,862</u>	<u>740,949</u>

8. ENDOWMENT FUND

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balances at 1 st January	150,000	150,000
Revaluation Surplus	-	-
	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
Represented by:		
Freehold Property		
5 Stockwell Street	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

WARDEN & RECTOR'S STATEMENT

The financial statements on pages 1 to 11 for the year ended 31st December 2024 have been prepared on our behalf as a summary of the accounts for the Parish.

Mr Philip Allcock: Philip Allcock Church Warden

Revd Nigel Irons: N Irons Rector

Date: 17th September 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements of St. Edwards Church Leek Parochial Church Council which are set out on pages 1 to 11.

Respective responsibilities

The church is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and considers that the audit requirement of Section 145(1) of the Charities Act 2014 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissions under Section 145(5) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination of the church funds, nothing came to my attention which gave me cause to believe otherwise than that the financial statements accord with the accounting records of the church, and that those records satisfied the requirements of the Act. I am not aware of any matter to which attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

The restating of the unrestricted funds to restricted, as per the note to the accounts, has been performed as a result of a resolution made at a Special Meeting of the PCC meeting held on 27th July 2025.

Signed by the Independent Examiner: Crangle

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
- Voluntary income	2(a)	42,672	-	-	42,672	61,954
- Activities for generating funds	2(b)	16,016	139	-	16,155	14,365
- Investment income	2(c)	26,335	385	-	26,720	25,368
Incoming resources from church activities						
	2(d)	(1,165)	-	-	(1,165)	4,572
Other incoming resources	2(e)	3,090	-	-	3,090	7,170
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		86,947	524	-	87,472	113,430
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Cost of generating funds						
- Fundraising trading costs	3(a)	2,330	-	-	2,330	1,923
Church Activities						
- Missionary and charitable giving	3(b)	7,937	-	-	7,937	10,864
- Ministry costs	3(c)	87,257	636	-	87,893	82,007
Governance costs	3(d)	2,644	-	-	2,644	2,618
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		100,167	636	-	100,803	97,412
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		(13,220)	(112)	-	(13,332)	16,018
GROSS TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		2,403	(2,403)	-	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)		(10,817)	(2,515)	-	(13,332)	16,018
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)						
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets						
- On disposal		-	-	-	-	-
- On revaluation		-	7,245	-	7,245	24,866
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(10,817)	4,730	-	(6,087)	40,884
BALANCES B/F AT 1ST JANUARY		5,298	585,651	150,000	740,949	700,065
BALANCES C/F AT 31ST DECEMBER		(5,519)	590,381	150,000	734,862	740,949

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	4	-	-
Investment Assets		599,569	592,324
		<u>599,569</u>	<u>592,324</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		-	-
Income Tax Recoverable		-	-
Prepayments and Accrued Income		154	1,096
Other Debtors		15,317	16,127
Cash at Bank and On Deposit		142,159	146,459
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LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	6	22,337	15,058
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>135,293</u>	<u>148,625</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>734,862</u>	<u>740,949</u>
FUNDS	7		
Unrestricted DCC Funds		(5,519)	5,298
Restricted Funds		590,381	585,651
Endowment Funds	8	150,000	150,000
		<u>734,862</u>	<u>740,949</u>

Signed on behalf of The Parochial Church Council of Leek & Meerbrook PCC

Chairman: Rev N Irons

Church Warden: Mr Philip Allcock

Date:

MR Irons
Philip Allcock
17th September 2025

ST EDWARDS CHURCH, LEEK

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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Mr Philip Allcock: Philip Allcock Church Warden

Revd Nigel Irons: Nigel Irons Rector

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Independent Examiner's statement

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Signed by the Independent Examiner: Orange