



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF  
HECKFIELD WITH MATTINGLEY AND ROTHERWICK  
(Registered Charity Number 1132735)**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

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## **REPORT FROM THE VICAR, THE REVEREND HELEN SHERLOCK**

As I look back on my first year with you, I do so with a full heart. It has been a year marked by many emotions, yet through every high and low, God's calling has remained steady and unmistakable.

When I was first offered this post, it was made clear that this was a crucial moment for our wonderful Churches — a last chance to breathe new life into them. The challenge was set, and as I began speaking with many of you, it became evident that the needs and hopes of our Parish had not always been met. Some of you felt overlooked or left behind, and hearing that stirred something deep within me.

This is not a criticism of the past. Ministry is never simple, and rural ministry brings its own unique joys and burdens. But it was clear that we had been given an opportunity — a chance to reset, to rebuild, and to move forward with hope.

The road has not always been smooth, but nothing worthwhile ever is. One of the first things we needed to address was our pattern of worship. Confusion about when and where services were happening had led to understandable disengagement from the wider community. Establishing a regular weekly service — at the same time, in the same place — was our first step in restoring rhythm and stability. Research supports what we have already begun to see: consistent worship in a consistent place helps a Church not only hold steady but grow.

Since beginning our weekly 11am service at Rotherwick, we have seen numbers rise, new faces join us, and a renewed sense of energy and belonging take root. Sharing coffee and cake afterwards has strengthened our sense of community, as has our monthly social gathering on the first Wednesday of each month.

Alongside our regular worship, we have come together for the great moments of the Christian year — Easter, Mothering Sunday, Remembrance, All Souls, and a truly joyful Advent and Christmas season, with full Churches and full hearts.

Behind the scenes, much has also been happening. We have worked hard to ensure our Health and Safety documentation is up to date, Risk Assessments have been completed, Safeguarding is upheld, training is undertaken, GDPR reviewed, and all administrative processes strengthened so that the Parish can run smoothly and responsibly. Bringing our administrative work back to the Parish itself, is also now allowing us to work more efficiently and effectively for the needs of both our Parish and the wider community.

Our Quinquennial Inspections have also given us a clear picture of the work ahead over the next five years.

Our Churches continue to be places where people want to mark life's most precious moments — weddings and baptisms — and we enjoy hosting wedding preparation days for our couples.

Ministry with Whitewater School and Pumpkin Patch continues to be a joy, and I am excited to explore new and creative ways to deepen those relationships.

We have also received requests for a Bible study group, a first aid course, and the offering of Morning Prayer. These are signs of a community eager to grow, learn, and serve. In the coming year, we will also focus on strengthening our engagement with local businesses and groups, seeking new ways to weave our parish more deeply into the life of the wider community.

Improving our communication tools and messaging will also be a priority as we continue to build clarity and connection.

None of this work happens alone. I am deeply grateful to all who give their time, gifts, and love to our Churches:

- To our dedicated Lay Ministers, for their steadfast support.
- To our Churchwardens, for caring so faithfully for our buildings and our people.
- To our PCC members, for their commitment and wisdom.
- To our Vergers and Organists, who enrich every service.
- To our Flower, Cleaning, and Gardening teams, who keep our Churches beautiful.
- To our Bell Ringers, who fill our villages with joy.
- To the Open the Book team, for their faithful ministry.
- To June Perry, for her creative gifts.
- To the Rotherwick Craft Ladies, whose help with Baby Jesus Rocks brought such delight — and whom we hope will join us again, if they can bear to!
- To my PA and to our Parish Administrator, who wears many hats — Electoral Roll Officer, Safeguarding Officer, PCC Secretary — and without whom we would be utterly lost.
- And to all who help in countless quiet ways: thank you. Your contributions matter more than you know.

It has truly been a year of firsts. I see God's hand at work in us and through us as we rebuild HMR with love, courage, and faith. I am deeply grateful for this unique and delightful community, and I look forward to all the memories we will continue to make together.

Finally, my heartfelt thanks to my family, whose support makes all things possible.

*With every blessing, Reverend Helen Sherlock*

## **PCC MEMBERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick (HMR) is responsible for:

- Promoting the mission of the Church within our ecclesiastical parish
- Maintaining our three Churches (Heckfield, Mattingley and Rotherwick)
- Maintaining four burial grounds
- Maintaining Mattingley Church Hall

The Parish of HMR is joined with the Parish of Hook to form The Benefice of Hook and Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick (known as The Whitewater Benefice), within which there are:

- Four Churches (Heckfield, Mattingley, Rotherwick and Hook)
- Two PCCs: HMR and Hook

The Benefice was under the care of The Reverend Canon Dr Marion de Quidt, until June 2025.

The correspondence address of the Benefice is: The Whitewater Benefice Office, St John's Church, London Road, Hook RG27 9EG.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956; Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019. Since August 2009 it has been a charity registered with the Charities Commission: Registered Charity Number 1132735.

PCC members are appointed as per Church Representation Rules and all Church attendees are encouraged to put their names on the Church Electoral Roll and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

During 2025 the following served as members of the PCC:

<b>Rector, Chair</b>	The Reverend Canon Dr Marion de Quidt
<b>Associate Priest, Chair</b>	The Reverend Helen Sherlock
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Stephen Burridge Ian Kenny James Trumpeter Jason Drury
<b>Representative on the Deanery Synod</b>	James Trumpeter
<b>Secretary (not an elected member)</b>	Laura Preston Nicky Martin
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Platt
<b>Elected Members</b>	Frances Chidley Jennifer Martin LLM, PTO Sarah Robertson

There were no co-opted members.

**Electoral Roll Officer:** Claire Darling, September 2025 (not a PCC member)

**Safeguarding Officer (Parish):** Claire Darling, November 2025 (not a PCC member)

**Vergers (Benefice):** Juliette Bromham, Gillian Lohead and Patricia Hunter (not PCC members)

**Other members of the Benefice ministry team who are not members of the PCC are:** Jonathan Bushman (Licensed Lay Minister) and Timothy Maynes (Licensed Lay Minister).

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

During 2025 the PCC met 7 times with an average attendance of 88.89%. PCC discussions remain varied and include amongst many other things, safeguarding matters, worship patterns, the Benefice vacancy, Church maintenance, Church repair, financial management and all other general administrative matters. Between PCC Meetings, the Associate Priest meets with the Churchwardens to discuss any matter not requiring formal PCC approval.

*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

### **ELECTORAL ROLL**

At the end of 2025, the electoral roll numbers were as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>%</b>	2024	%
<b>Number on Roll</b>	<b>103</b>		127	
<b>Number of Females</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>53</b>	73	57
<b>Number of Males</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>47</b>	54	44
<b>Resident in Parish</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>44</b>	41	32
<b>Non-resident in Parish</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>56</b>	86	67.7

*Claire Darling, Electoral Roll Officer*

## MINISTRY REPORTS

### HMR PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

Throughout the year, our dedicated team has worked tirelessly to sustain the regular pattern of worship across the Benefice. In HMR, this has only been made possible thanks to the ongoing commitment of our Lay Ministers, Jennifer Martin (LLM PTO) and Tim Maynes (LLMA PTO), whose service has been invaluable.

I am deeply grateful to all who contribute to keeping our Churches open and spiritually vibrant, including our organists, Churchwardens, bellringers, all who lock and unlock our Churches and PCC members. Their collective efforts have ensured that worship continues to be a source of strength and community.

We have conducted the following Life Events in the HMR Parish over the course of the year, again, this would not be possible without the entire team, so thank you:

<b>Life Event</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Wedding	<b>10</b>	7	<b>3</b>
Baptism	<b>11</b>	11	-
Funeral	<b>9</b>	4	<b>5</b>
Interment of Ashes	<b>1</b>	6	<b>(5)</b>

This can be broken down by Church as follows:

	<b>Weddings 2025</b>	<b>Funeral 2025</b>	<b>Interment of Ashes 2025</b>
Heckfield	3	3	-
Mattingley	5	2	-
Rotherwick	2	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>

Baptism information is broken down as follows:

	<b>0 to &lt;1</b>	<b>1 to 4 Years</b>	<b>5-10 Years</b>	<b>11-18 Years</b>	<b>Adult</b>
Heckfield	<b>5</b>				<b>1</b>
Mattingley		<b>1</b>			<b>1</b>
Rotherwick	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>

HMR meets socially once a month in the Coach and Horses, Rotherwick to plan our service rotas in detail. These meetings offer the opportunity to strengthen our community and grow our family of volunteers at our services. We welcome all and look forward to these continuing throughout 2026 on the first Thursday of every month.

*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

## **WORSHIP AND SERVICES**

HMR continues to offer a rich and varied pattern of worship across our Churches, which is valued by so many in our community.

We are especially glad to have introduced a weekly 11am Morning Worship service at Rotherwick, providing a consistent opportunity for fellowship. This weekly service complements our existing schedule, whereby Heckfield hosts the 8.30am Holy Communion service on the 4th Sunday, Mattingley offers the 8.30am Holy Communion and Matins on the 3rd Sunday, and Rotherwick continues to hold all other 8.30am services and Evensong in addition to the 11am.

This evolving rhythm of worship reflects our commitment to spiritual and community connection throughout the Parish.

We have been blessed to offer a full range of additional services throughout the year, including Holy Week and Easter (sadly without the hoped for appearance of our Donkey), Mothering Sunday celebrations, the opportunity to share meaningful moments on Remembrance Sunday and All Souls, plus of course the joyful celebrations of Advent and Christmas.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support of so many behind the scenes. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who opens the Churches, plays the organ, rings the bells, heats the buildings, prepares worship items, counts collections, serves as sides people, act as chalice assistants, volunteer to read, make the coffee and cakes, and those who bring others along to worship with us. Your time, care, and dedication make all the difference — thank you!

*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

## **THE CHURCHWARDENS**

We were delighted to welcome Jason Drury, alongside Ian Kenny, as a new member to our team in August. I must also extend a heartfelt thank you to Steve Burrige and James Trumpeter, who both stood down, for their commitment and help over the years.

Our Churchwardens must be recognised for their continued dedication and diligence. They have once again shown great commitment in overseeing both the services, and the ongoing upkeep of our Church buildings. Their efforts, along with those of their supporting team members, are deeply appreciated.

In addition to their regular responsibilities, the Churchwardens have maintained vigilant oversight of Health and Safety across our Churches, ensuring compliance with current legislation. This important work is ongoing, and we are grateful for their thoroughness and care in keeping our spaces safe and welcoming.

My particular thanks to Ian Kenny for his stewardship of the Heckfield School Charity and Rotherwick School House Trusts. Tony Merricks, Andrew Soundy and John Platt are also due particular recognition for their support of the Churchwardens in many ways. I appreciate you all.

*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

## **THE ORGANISTS**

We continue to provide organ accompaniment for most of the services within the Parish. It would be impossible for me to do this on my own, so I am extremely grateful for the valuable contribution of my fellow organists – Richard Joyce, Martin Barnes, Michael Steen and Stephen Davies. I particularly recognise the untiring service of Richard Joyce who, although officially ‘retired’ a few years ago, continued to share the work with me until a few months ago. He remains, and will always remain, a trusted and valuable mentor.

The instruments in Rotherwick and Heckfield have been replaced during the year. Wyvern Organs were contracted to install a new instrument in Heckfield which was delivered in April of 2025 with a further identical model installed in Rotherwick in October. I am grateful to Ian Kenny for negotiating a competitively priced purchase arrangement for the Rotherwick instrument – along with the no-charge disposal of the original one. Both instruments have provided good service with only a minor repair needed in Rotherwick recently. The instrument at Mattingley required a small repair in the Summer of this year which Stephen Davies kindly attended to.

The organ speaker system in Rotherwick was installed many years ago with the original Eminent instrument and are beginning to show signs of wear. This can be heard with minor distortion in some frequencies. It is not an urgent problem, but consideration may need to be given to their replacement in the next few years.

*Jason Drury, HMR Organist*

## **THE BELL-RINGERS**

Ringling at Rotherwick remains strong with the bells being rung for the 11 o'clock service every Sunday and, also the monthly Evensong service. This is in addition to any special services and weddings held at all three Churches in HMR.

The weekly Tuesday evening practice at Rotherwick continues to be well attended with our local ringers and regular visitors. We also welcome ad-hoc visitors and our repertoire of methods is continually improving with our learners making good progress. The monthly practice held at Heckfield continues to surprise with the number of ringers from further afield looking to experience the “agricultural” ring which includes the heaviest bell in the district!

Excitingly, the first peal since 2003 was rung at Rotherwick on Saturday 30 August 2025 and took two hours and 50 minutes to complete the 5040 changes! The youngest ringer was 13 and it was his first peal – a huge achievement!

We also enjoy ringing carols on the Heckfield handbells at Christmas, and we take these to The Coach and Horses on the last practice before Christmas to entertain other customers!

We are always delighted to welcome those who are interested in bell ringing, whether they actually want to give it a go or not! You only have to ask, and we will be happy to show our very special and ancient bells and the art of ringing!

*Nici Collins, Rotherwick and Heckfield Ringers*

## **THE FLOWER ARRANGING TEAMS**

Once again, I am very grateful to all the flower team who have produced lovely pedestal arrangements in the Church all year round.

With climate change has come the challenge of finding healthy greenery along with flowers, but the ladies have managed well. A particular thank you to the ladies who give extra time in decorating the Church for festivities, this is so appreciated! Thank you.

*Elsbeth Cavendish*

## **PARISH SAFEGUARDING TEAM**

In March, Caroline Frolander resigned as the HMR Parish Safeguarding Officer. The role was consequently assigned to Claire Darling in November.

HMR's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has fulfilled its obligations under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, ensuring full regard is given to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

The PCC reviewed and approved all safeguarding policies over the course of the year. At each PCC meeting, members received an update on safeguarding matters and ongoing casework.

PCC members, volunteers, and group leaders continued to complete the required safeguarding training appropriate to their roles. This remains an ongoing process. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were carried out as existing certificates expired or as new volunteers commenced their duties. The requirement to record relevant risk assessments was implemented throughout the year, with assessments completed and documented as necessary.

Significant work has also been undertaken to update the Parish Safeguarding Portal, ensuring that it accurately reflects the current status of all safeguarding policies, training records, and risk assessments. Again, this remains ongoing.

A number of safeguarding concerns were raised during the year. All were managed and escalated in accordance with approved Diocesan Safeguarding procedures.

*Reverend Helen Sherlock, Claire Darling*

## **IT**

A small team of volunteers provides IT support across the Benefice. We also support the Clergy and administration staff with iKnow Church, which is our Church management system. The main changes this year have been:

- Changes to the team itself.
- The 2025 Electoral Roll was a new roll, resulting in a lot of new people being added to iKnow Church.
- Ongoing data cleansing in iKnow Church.

In addition, the HMR team now have their own email addresses and database specifically for their use.

*Anna Shergold, Whitewater Website Manager*

### **BENEFICE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM**

The communications team is a small team of volunteers which includes members of both Hook & HMR parishes.

Working with the Clergy and support staff, the aim is to have a common strategy for comms across the Whitewater Benefice and ensure we have correct & consistent details across all the platforms to which we publish our information, e.g. the Website, A Church Near You, Facebook & any posters, fliers or cards. The same information is fed into the weekly notices and may be included in various emails which are sent from the Whitewater Benefice.

*Anna Shergold, Whitewater Website Manager*

### **DIOCESAN & ODIHAM DEANERY SYNOD**

Odiham Deanery Synod continues to meet periodically through the year and is a valuable forum for communication and information sharing amongst all the benefices and parishes of the deanery. The most recent meeting was held at St John's Church in Hartley Wintney and guest speaker was the new Bishop of Basingstoke, The Venerable Kelly Anne Betteridge. It was an informative and interesting evening and was an open meeting for all to attend as well as being a Deanery Synod event.

There was a question-and-answer session with Bishop Betteridge and a talk from her as she started her journey of becoming our Bishop.

Further Synod meetings are planned throughout the rest of this year, and I will be very pleased to continue to be the representative for HMR in this forum.

*James Trumpeter, HMR Representative*

## **OTHER MINISTRY REPORTS**

### **WHITEWATER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Whitewater Church of England Primary School, located in Rotherwick, continues to emphasise the core Christian values of love, respect and courage throughout their curriculum.

We have enjoyed many school services in Church over the year, including a Leavers service, a Harvest Festival and a Christmas Service. It is a joy to see the children embrace the Church as their own and make each service so special with their poems, readings, prayers, artwork and singing.

I visit the school bi-weekly and spend time with all of the children during assembly where we cover all manner of topics, helping them to understand their faith.

We now have four Worship Ambassadors amongst the School who support me for each session. They have ambassador badges and love their responsibility, setting up the hall, working the IT and generally getting involved.

My particular thanks to Michelle Elie and Sam Rolfe for their dedication and help.  
*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

### **OPEN THE BOOK WHITEWATER SCHOOL**

We have had a very good year with the team continuing to take the Open the Book Stories into Whitewater School. The children enjoy this immensely and we link the stories to the school values.

We act out bible stories adapted and written by Bob Hartman, and set out by the Bible Society, in a creative way. We include children from all year groups with the older children taking on speaking roles.

We have covered Jesus Ministry, from Birth to Crucifixion, including Parables and Miracles. We covered stories about the Ascension and Pentecost. Some Old Testament stories, Moses, David and Goliath, Naomi and Ruth. The birth of John the Baptist. And some stories about St Paul.

Just before Easter, Reverend Marion planned the Walk Through Easter programme which The Open the Book team supported. This was a whole school day with children coming into Rotherwick Church in their year groups. We follow Jesus washing his disciples' feet, the last supper and from the crucifixion through to the resurrection.

The team has remained faithful, and enthusiastic, with some having been involved for 15 years.

In September we were joined by a student (my granddaughter) from Peter Simmonds sixth form college. She has fitted in very well taking on several important roles in speaking and acting.

Thank you to the dedicated Open the Book Team and Whitewater School as we take Gods word into the school and giving the children further insight of the Bible and its meaning.

*Jennifer Martin, LLM, HMR Open The Book Coordinator*

### **PRE-SCHOOL MINISTRY IN HMR - PUMPKIN PATCH**

Mattingley Church Hall, set in the woodland of Mattingley Green, continues to be the venue for a local preschool offering a delightful outdoor experience for children under five from HMR and the surrounding area. The children are offered plenty of opportunities to explore, learn and develop within nature, in order to best meet their social, learning and development needs.

We have enjoyed meeting the children and their parents for their Christmas Nativity Service and as we get to know the staff and children further, we are excited about the opportunity to build stronger connections with the preschool and explore meaningful ways to engage with and support their community throughout the year.

*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025**

On March 7, 2025, communities around the world united for the World Day of Prayer, a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women and celebrated annually on the first Friday of March.

This year's theme, "*I Made You Wonderful*," inspired by Psalm 139 and prepared by the Cook Islands committee, invited reflection on the divine value and uniqueness of every individual.

Through shared worship, learning, and action, participants were encouraged to deepen their understanding of global issues and respond with compassion and prayerful engagement.

*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

### **THE BLUEBELL CAFÉ AT THE TRUE LIVING CENTRE, HECKFIELD**

I am pleased to report that the cafe now in its fifth year continues to be successful thanks to the wonderfully dedicated volunteers and the various organisations who support us financially.

Our numbers attending each week fluctuate for obvious reasons which seem to follow other similar groups. We are currently averaging circa 20 but they can be as high as 40 and as low as 10. The weather has a great bearing on the numbers.

The cafe operates each Friday between 2 and 4 pm at Holdshott Farm, a lovely unique location thanks to the generosity of the Mandry Family.

During those two hours the opportunity is there for our guests to play a number of table games, join in a quiz, or complete a jigsaw puzzle, whilst enjoying various refreshments.

Music plays a key role which allows our guests to join in the singing which is most beneficial. Besides our resident keyboard player, we have the benefit of outside entertainers e.g. Hart U3A Ukulele band comprising of 12 players. In addition, we have a very accomplished key board player who visits us regularly to play and sing the old song.

During the year we had speakers from the local police speaking on scams and another from Home Instead who demonstrated various sitting exercises. This year we are having an update on scams and the local fire brigade talking on safety in the home.

We are fortunate we have the use of Rosie's bus which collects guests in the Hook area from their home and returns them back after the cafe closes. Shirley Clancy does a splendid job in organising the numbers.

We have managed to obtain a grant each year from Hook Parish council which covers more than half the cost, the remainder has been made up by collections from bus users and the cafe covering the short fall.

We have a small group of volunteers who bake for us producing delicious cakes and snacks for our guests to enjoy every week (we could do with a few more people who enjoy baking so as to spread the load). The kitchen is run by Sonya Hudson who has been with us from the start. In addition to preparing refreshments for our guests, Sonya decorates the hall for our Easter and Christmas parties. We had a record number of guests at the Christmas party totalling 52.

During the summer David Nodder organised a boat trip on the canal for 42 guests made up of people from the Bluebell cafe and True Living Centre at which we served cream teas to all whilst listening to the keyboard player. An event enjoyed by all.

As I mentioned earlier, we are very fortunate with having wonderful financial support especially from HMR PCC who cover the cost of weekly cleaning. We also receive a donation from the Odiham Lions to help cover the cost of the Christmas party.

Whilst mentioning finances I am sorry to say our treasurer has had to retire due to poor health last year, but the position has been filled by one of our guests Paul Bloomfield, a retired bank manager.

Finally, I would like to say a very big thank you for the support from HMR PCC which is much appreciated.

*Ron O'Keeffe, Founder*

## **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORTS**

### **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, HECKFIELD**

During the year, new gates were installed, completing the programme of works required to repair previous external damage. All necessary health and safety signage has been placed within the Church, ensuring that escape routes are clearly marked and compliant with current regulations.

A Quinquennial Inspection was carried out, and the PCC is currently reviewing the recommendations arising from the report. In addition, the five-yearly Electrical Installation Condition (EIC) inspection was completed, and all identified electrical repairs have now been addressed.

We were delighted to see the installation of a new organ, which has been warmly welcomed by the congregation and visiting musicians alike.

St Michael's was a popular venue for weddings and baptisms in 2025, and we remain deeply grateful to the volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure the Church is well presented for these important occasions. Sadly, however, it must also be noted that Highfield Park has now closed as a hotel, and this has already had an impact on several weddings which had been booked at the Church in 2026 being cancelled.

*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

### **MATTINGLEY CHURCH**

Our Grade I listed Church has remained open throughout the year, supported by a dedicated team of volunteers who ensure the building continues to serve the parish and wider community.

During the year, essential maintenance works were undertaken, including repairs to the heating system and the completion of all required annual safety checks. Additional ad hoc repairs were carried out promptly as needs arose. The quinquennial inspection highlighted a number of items for attention, which are currently under review by the PCC.

Regular worship has continued without interruption, and the Church has welcomed several weddings and baptisms, each a joyful occasion for the congregation and community. The Pumpkin Patch Nativity Service was a particular highlight, featuring a memorable visit from Santa.

The ongoing operation of the Church would not be possible without the commitment of Sarah Robertson, Vivienne Alexander, Tessa Ryder Runton and Andrew Soundy, who have collectively taken on key responsibilities in the absence of a Church Warden and champion this Church. Their dedication ensures that this historic and much-loved building remains accessible and well cared for.

*Reverend Helen Sherlock*

### **ROTHERWICK CHURCH**

This has been a blessed year for Rotherwick Church having started a regular weekly worship in the Autumn of this year, with increased attendances as a result. Along with my fellow warden

Ian Kenny, I give heartfelt thanks to those volunteers who work tirelessly to make Rotherwick Church such a welcoming and special place. The generosity of our volunteers - flower-arrangers, cleaners, brass polishers, bellringers, sacristans, sidespeople, readers – is truly outstanding and for which the entire community is very grateful. As the benefice progresses into its period of vacancy, I am thankful for our ministry team – Helen, Jennifer and Tim – all of whom have worked to make our new pattern of worship a big success.

As a newcomer to the world of being a Churchwarden, I am grateful to Stephen Burridge for his advice and encouragement as I took on the role and to my fellow warden Ian Kenny who deals with so many of the matters relating to the Rotherwick School House and the Heckfield School Charity trust. I am also very grateful to Tony Merricks (former Churchwarden) who has given (and continues to give) freely of his time in helping with my questions and the maintenance of the Church. Nicky Martin spent an inordinate amount of time helping to de-clutter and organise the Church back in the summer and ensure that the Church was not only welcoming, but safe. Claire Darling has taken on some of the administrative work which often goes unnoticed and this has proved to be such a huge help. The Church simply would not function as well as it does without the help of all these people.

There have been challenges with the structure of the Church building itself. Notably, existing structural movement has become pronounced due to land changes following some very dry summers. This resulted earlier in the year in falling masonry in the altar area of the Church. This was inspected by the Church Architect and in November, a small excavation hole was dug to try and understand the problem in more detail. A structural engineer will need to be consulted so that strategies can be explored to prevent further problems. Again, Tony Merricks has been incredibly helpful in facilitating this and brings with him his own engineering knowledge as well as years of experience with Rotherwick Church. It is likely that underpinning will be required and this is likely to be a significant financial burden for the Parish. The PCC have been kept updated over the past months as the investigations have continued.

The Quinquennial Report was conducted in the Summer of this year and included several findings including the structural movement noted in the paragraph above. Other urgent items included a nest of bees which are due to be removed in the early part of this year and electrical works which were completed in the late Autumn of 2025. Widespread moss on the roof was noted in the report, and a quotation has been obtained for its removal. I extend my thanks to Simon Wells for spending time with me recently and helping to devise a regular schedule of maintenance that he has agreed to cover, should the PCC wish that. He has also agreed to attend to other outstanding small items that require attention. I am grateful to Simon also for his help in other areas such as the use of the village scaffolding tower on a number of occasions.

*Jason Drury, Churchwarden*

## **FINANCE REPORT**

The Financial Statements for 2025 are set out at the end of the Annual Report on pages FS1-8, from which it can be seen that there was an overall excess of expenditure over income this year of £4,765 (in 2024 income exceeded expenditure by £843). In addition, there were unrealised investment losses of £2,993 (profits of £1,675 in 2024), resulting in an overall out-flow of funds for the year of £7,758. The PCC receives significant financial support from the Heckfield School Charity, (HSC), and these figures are after grants received in 2025 of £50,369 (2024 £15,066).

### **Income**

The HSC provided the funding for many of the Parish's projects including two new digital organs for Heckfield and Mattingley Churches costing £28,408, as well as administrative support and towards other expenses. Apart from grants, the PCC's other main source of income is voluntary donations, that is planned giving, Church collections, sundry donations, and the associated GiftAid recovery. Fees for weddings, funerals etc. Church hall lettings, dividends and interest are also received.

### **Expenditure**

The PCC's annual costs for ministry, upkeep of services, Church and Churchyard running costs, administration and insurance exceed £100,000 per annum, and this excludes the further variable amount required each year for the necessary repairs to the three listed-building Churches to preserve these for future generations.

The Common Mission Fund is our parish contribution to the Diocese budget and is by far our largest expenditure. It pays for our ministry cost and also support of the national Church's mission. The contribution is based on our worshipping community, which is the number of people who attend Church regularly, and it comprises a standard amount per person to which an affluence band weighting is then applied (HMR is in the highest band). The contribution in 2025 was £42,591, assessed as £739 per head on the 58 people in our worshipping community.

### **Reserves Policy**

It is the aim of the PCC to maintain reserves in the Unrestricted Fund equivalent to approximately one year's net regular expenditure (i.e. excluding capital projects, and outgoings on the Mattingley Church Hall which are normally more than covered by its own income). The Restricted Funds are maintained for specific purposes, the details of which are given in the notes to the financial statements. The balance of reserves carried forward at the end of the year was Unrestricted Funds £69,409 (equivalent to 8 months net regular expenditure) and Restricted Funds £104,031.

### **Investment Policy**

Unrestricted and Restricted Funds totalled £173,440 at 31st December. Of this sum, £104,275 was held in the bank and on short term deposit within the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund. A further £71,878 was invested in units of the CBF Investment Fund, which is an equity-based fund designed for long-term capital.

### **The Heckfield School Charity**

The Charity has its origins in the receipt of the Heckfield Church of England School land and buildings, and its objects are to further the religious and other charitable work of the Church of

England in the parish of Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick. It is a connected charity, and also an excepted charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011. The managing trustees are the vicar and the Churchwardens for the time being. The custodian trustee is the Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance.

*John Platt, Treasurer*

**The Parochial Church Council of  
the Ecclesiastical Parish of  
Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick**

**(Registered Charity Number 1132735)**

**Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

<b>FS2</b>	<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>
<b>FS3</b>	<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>
<b>FS4</b>	<b>Balance Sheet</b>
<b>FS5-8</b>	<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>

FS1

**Independent examiner's report to Heckfield, Mattingley and Rotherwick PCC**

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, which are set out on pages FS3 to FS8, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (the "Regulations") and s145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the "2011 Act").

**Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**


My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Date 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

Name

LISA FINCHAM (Mrs)

Qualifications

BA ACMA CTA

Address

BOYETT MAYES LIMITED  
THE STABLES, MONEYS FARM, BOTTLE LANE, MATTINGLEY, RG27 8LJ  
Tel: 01256 636600 Email: info@bml-accountants.co.uk  
Website: www.bml-accountants.co.uk  
The Stables, Moneys Farm, Bottle Lane, Mattingley, Hampshire RG27 8LJ  
Company Registration Number: 4059388

FS2

## Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick Parochial Church Council

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA) for the year ending 31st December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Income</b>					
Voluntary donations	2(a)	52,061	2,114	<b>54,175</b>	54,698
Church activities	2(b)	26,064	-	<b>26,064</b>	20,410
Dividends and interest	2(c)	2,368	3,534	<b>5,902</b>	6,356
Grants	2(d)	52,308	-	<b>52,308</b>	15,066
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>132,801</b>	<b>5,648</b>	<b>138,449</b>	<b>96,530</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Charitable giving	3(a)	4,486	-	<b>4,486</b>	2,349
Church activities	3(b)	108,502	3,868	<b>112,370</b>	72,633
Church management and administration	3(c)	26,358	-	<b>26,358</b>	20,705
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>139,346</b>	<b>3,868</b>	<b>143,214</b>	<b>95,687</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>(6,545)</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>(4,765)</b>	<b>843</b>
<b>Unrealised Gains/(Losses) on Investments</b>		<b>(1,224)</b>	<b>(1,769)</b>	<b>(2,993)</b>	<b>1,675</b>
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<b>(7,769)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>(7,758)</b>	<b>2,518</b>
<b>Funds Brought Forward</b>		<b>77,178</b>	<b>104,020</b>	<b>181,198</b>	<b>178,680</b>
<b>Funds Carried Forward</b>		<b>69,409</b>	<b>104,031</b>	<b>173,440</b>	<b>181,198</b>

The notes on pages FS5 to FS8 form part of these financial statements

# Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick Parochial Church Council

## BALANCE SHEET at 31st December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible assets	1	-	-	-	-
Investments	4	29,391	42,487	<b>71,878</b>	74,871
		29,391	42,487	<b>71,878</b>	74,871
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors	5	3,013	-	<b>3,013</b>	7,468
Short term deposits					
The CBF Church of England Deposit Fund		28,723	62,582	<b>91,305</b>	87,503
Cash at bank and in hand		12,970	-	<b>12,970</b>	20,837
		44,706	62,582	<b>107,288</b>	115,808
<b>Liabilities - Creditors</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year		(4,688)	(1,038)	<b>(5,726)</b>	(9,481)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>					
		40,018	61,544	<b>101,562</b>	106,327
<b>Total Net Assets</b>					
		69,409	104,031	<b>173,440</b>	181,198
<b>Represented by Parish Funds</b>					
Unrestricted General Fund		69,409	-	<b>69,409</b>	77,178
Restricted Funds	6	-	104,031	<b>104,031</b>	104,020
		69,409	104,031	<b>173,440</b>	181,198

The notes on pages FS5 to FS8 form part of these financial statements

The Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 was accepted and approved by the HMR PCC at their APCM on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and signed on their behalf by Revd Helen Sherlock, PCC Chairman.

**Helen Sherlock**

**The Rev'd Helen Sherlock**  
PCC Chairman and Associate Priest

## **Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick Parochial Church Council**

### **NOTES to the Financial Statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

#### **1 Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 and on the Accruals basis.

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

#### **Funds**

Restricted Funds are those funds which may only be expended on the specific purpose for which they were given. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned on each fund's closing balance. Details of the funds held are provided in Note 7.

Unrestricted Funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

#### **Incoming Resources**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is recognised. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable. Interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Realised gains and losses are recognised when investments are sold.

#### **Resources Expended**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. The Common Mission Fund payment to the Diocese is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

#### **Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011. Mattingley Church Hall is carried at nil value.

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are inalienable property listed in the churches' inventories, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. All such expenditure and any equipment used within the church premises has been written off when incurred.

Investments are valued at market value at 31<sup>st</sup> December.

#### **Staff Costs**

During the year, the PCC employed 1 member of staff directly (The PCC Secretary/PA to the Associate Priest). The Church Administrator was employed on behalf of the Whitewater Churches by Hook PCC to whom HMR PCC reimbursed their share of the cost.

The pension scheme is the government established National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) money purchase pension scheme. Staff contribute 4% of qualifying earnings (5% after tax relief) and the PCC contributes 3%.

## Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick Parochial Church Council

### NOTES to the Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2025

<b>2 Income</b>	Unrestric ted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>2(a) Voluntary Donations</b>				
Planned giving	22,275	100	<b>22,375</b>	26,660
Church collections	13,894	1,034	<b>14,928</b>	11,004
Sundry donations	6,418	980	<b>7,398</b>	6,739
GiftAid	9,474	-	<b>9,474</b>	10,295
	<b>52,061</b>	<b>2,114</b>	<b>54,175</b>	<b>54,698</b>
<b>2(b) Church Activities</b>				
Church Hall lettings	8,312	-	<b>8,312</b>	8,300
Fees for weddings, funerals, etc	17,752	-	<b>17,752</b>	12,110
	<b>26,064</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,064</b>	<b>20,410</b>
<b>2(c) Dividends and Interest</b>				
Dividends	851	1,230	<b>2,081</b>	2,032
Interest	1,517	2,304	<b>3,821</b>	4,324
	<b>2,368</b>	<b>3,534</b>	<b>5,902</b>	<b>6,356</b>
<b>2(d) Grants</b>				
Grants	52,308	-	<b>52,308</b>	15,066
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>132,801</b>	<b>5,648</b>	<b>138,449</b>	<b>96,530</b>

## Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick Parochial Church Council

### NOTES to the Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>3 Expenditure</b>				
<b>3(a) Charitable Giving</b>	4,486	-	<b>4,486</b>	2,349
<b>3(b) Church Activities</b>				
Ministry	42,591	-	<b>42,591</b>	45,264
Diocesan Common Mission Fund				
Diocesan fees share	9,361	-	<b>9,361</b>	6,074
Other ministry expenses	1,738	-	<b>1,738</b>	2,134
Upkeep of services	4,162	54	<b>4,216</b>	3,989
Church and churchyard running and maintenance	9,084	3,814	<b>12,898</b>	10,416
Church repairs	34,373	-	<b>34,373</b>	592
Church Hall running costs	6,012	-	<b>6,012</b>	3,248
Sundry	1,181	-	<b>1,181</b>	916
	108,502	3,868	<b>112,370</b>	72,633
<b>3(c) Church Management and Administration</b>				
Administration	19,940	-	<b>19,940</b>	14,433
Insurance	6,418	-	<b>6,418</b>	6,272
	26,358	-	<b>26,358</b>	20,705
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>139,346</b>	<b>3,868</b>	<b>143,214</b>	<b>95,687</b>

### 4 Fixed Assets - Investment Assets

	£
Market value - 1st January 2025	<b>74,871</b>
Net loss on revaluation	<b>(2,993)</b>
Market value - 31st December 2025	<b>71,878</b>

### 5 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	-	2,900
Tax recoverable (GiftAid)	<b>2,249</b>	3,910
Other debtors	<b>764</b>	658
	<b>3,013</b>	<b>7,468</b>

## Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick Parochial Church Council

### NOTES to the Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2025

#### 6 Restricted Funds Analysis

	Balances at 1 Jan £	Income £	Expenses £	Investment Losses £	Balances at 31 Dec £
<b>Bell Maintenance Funds</b>					
Heckfield Bell Fund	2,511	98	-	-	<b>2,609</b>
Rotherwick Bell Fund	11,544	449	-	-	<b>11,993</b>
<b>Church and Churchyard Funds</b>					
Major Stuart Black Churchyard Trust	66,148	1,981	(3,814)	(1,769)	<b>62,546</b>
Mattingley Church Fund (Various legacies)	1,296	875	-	-	<b>2,171</b>
Rotherwick Church Fund (Various legacies)	7,218	531	-	-	<b>7,749</b>
<b>Flower Funds</b>					
Heckfield - Lucinda Bullen Flower Fund	1,428	53	(54)	-	<b>1,427</b>
Mattingley - Peter Gale Flower Fund	1,742	68	-	-	<b>1,810</b>
Rotherwick - Hutchings Flower Fund	1,477	57	-	-	<b>1,534</b>
<b>Friends of Whitewater Churches Fund</b>					
	10,656	1,536	-	-	<b>12,192</b>
	<b>104,020</b>	<b>5,648</b>	<b>(3,868)</b>	<b>(1,769)</b>	<b>104,031</b>

The Restricted Funds Investment Assets are held entirely by the Major Stuart Black Churchyard Trust. The capital and income of this Trust may be used to maintain the Churches and Churchyards within the Parish

The Bell Funds were provided for the purpose of maintaining and repairing the bells at the designated church

The Church Funds may be used to maintain the Church and Churchyard of the designated church

The Flower Funds may be used for payments for flowers at the designated church

The Friends of Whitewater Churches Fund may be used for repairs and maintenance of the churches

#### 7 Other Matters

During the year the following amounts were paid to members of the PCC :

- £1,220 was paid as clergy expenses to the Reverend Marion de Quidt (2024 - £1,324)
- £14 was paid as clergy expenses to the Reverend Helen Sherlock (2024 - £nil)
- £540 was paid as clergy expenses to Jennifer Martin (2024 - £641) and also £nil was paid as verger fees (2024 - £144)
- £nil was paid as verger fees to James Trumpeter (2024 - £64)

