

A photograph of a garden with a brick building and a large tree. The building is made of red brick and has a small arched window. It is surrounded by lush greenery, including a large tree on the left and various plants in the foreground. The sky is blue.

Fulham Palace House & Garden

Annual Review 2025/26

Fulham Palace Trust

Fulham Palace is the historic home of the Bishops of London. For over 1,300 years, the Bishops retreated to the Palace and surrounding garden, away from the crowded city. Now the house and botanic garden are open, free of charge, for everyone, offering an extraordinary visitor experience in the heart of London.

In April 2011, Fulham Palace Trust was established to manage, restore and promote Fulham Palace, and is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status.

Board of Trustees / Directors

Iain Cassidy

Craig Coben

Anna Delaud (appointed 26 January 2026)

Reverend Canon Peter Dobson

Deborah Farley-Persaud, deputy chair

Fenella Goodhart

Paul Gray, chair

Clive Hinds

Daniel Jackson

John King

Matthew Pottage

Nigel Randall (appointed 26 January 2026)

Mariana Spater

Finance, Risk and Audit Committee

Craig Coben

Anna Delaud (appointed 26 January 2026)

Paul Gray

Clive Hinds, chair

Mariana Spater

Directors of Fulham Palace Enterprises Community Interest Company

Paul Gray

Clive Hinds, chair

Mariana Spater

Officers

Siân Harrington, chief executive officer and company secretary

We are committed to:

- Conserving and restoring Fulham Palace house and garden following thorough analysis of options and sector best practice.
- Developing the understanding of Fulham Palace's layered history through research and engagement with experts, partners, users and the community.
- Being inspirational, engaging and educational.
- Delighting our visitors through excellent customer service and high-quality facilities, interpretation and events.
- Being inclusive and participative in all areas of the Palace's operation.
- Being sustainable and financially self-sufficient.



Chair's review

As chair of Fulham Palace Trust, I am delighted to present this year's annual review. Fulham Palace continues to be a place where people can connect with history, nature and one another, and it is a privilege to be part of such a vibrant and dedicated community.

This year has been one of both challenge and progress. Across the Trust, there is a strong sense of commitment to preserving this remarkable place while ensuring it remains open, welcoming and relevant to all who visit. Whether through the house, the garden or the wide range of events and activities on offer, we continue to see how deeply the Palace is valued by our local community and beyond.

Our learning and engagement programmes lie at the heart of this impact. Over the past year, more than 24,000 learners have taken part in activities at the Palace, from school visits and family programmes to community partnerships. The 'get into gardening' project continues to be particularly inspiring, supporting young people who face a range of challenges and offering them space, confidence and new opportunities through hands-on experience in the garden. The difference this work makes to individuals is profound.

We have also continued to broaden the stories we tell. Our work on Black history and heritage, including our role in developing a Black History and Heritage Hub for the borough, reflects a growing commitment to presenting a fuller and more inclusive history of the Palace and its wider context. This is an important part of ensuring that everyone can see themselves reflected in the stories we share.

The garden remains a source of inspiration and calm for visitors, as well as a space for learning and conservation. This year, the development of a new garden collections policy and ongoing research into the history of the site have strengthened our ability to care for this unique environment for generations to come.

Like many organisations across the heritage sector, we continue to operate in a challenging financial environment. Rising costs and uncertain funding streams present real pressures. At the same time, we have taken important steps to strengthen our position. The award of £571,000 from the Arts Council

England's Museum Renewal Fund (MRF) has provided vital support, enabling investment in our infrastructure and helping to secure the Palace's continued accessibility.

More broadly, we have taken a more strategic and forward-looking approach to sustainability. By investing in planning, analysis and new ways of working, we are better equipped to build a resilient future for the Trust and to continue delivering for our audiences and community.

Throughout the year, I have been struck by the dedication and creativity of our team, and by the strength of support from our trustees, volunteers, partners and supporters. There is a shared belief in what Fulham Palace represents and in its potential for the future. While challenges remain, there is also a clear sense of confidence that, by working together, we can navigate them and emerge stronger.

My sincere thanks go to our staff team, led by Siân Harrington, whose energy and commitment underpin everything we achieve. I am equally grateful to our volunteers, whose contribution is extraordinary, and to our Patrons, Friends and donors, whose generosity makes so much of our work possible.

Finally, a huge thank you to Dame Sarah Mullally for all her support as Bishop of London. We were very excited to hear the news when she became Archbishop of Canterbury, but of course sad she isn't 'our' Bishop anymore. It was a historic moment of course – Dame Sarah was the first female Bishop of London, and now the first ever female Archbishop of Canterbury.

Fulham Palace has always been a place shaped by people – those who care for it, those who support it and those who visit and enjoy it. Looking ahead, our focus remains on strengthening the Trust's long-term resilience while continuing to offer a place that is open, inclusive and enriching for all.

Paul Gray
Chair of trustees

Highlights of the year



The Most Reverend and Right Honorable Dame Sarah Mullally DBE, Archbishop of Canterbury

We would like to congratulate the Most Reverend and Right Honorable Dame Sarah Mullally DBE on her installation as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury at Canterbury Cathedral on 25 March 2026.

Bishop Sarah is not only the first woman to hold the office in its 1,400-year history, she was also the first female appointed as the Bishop of London. Installed as the 133rd Bishop of London at St Paul's Cathedral in May 2018, Bishop Sarah served in the role for seven years before her appointment to the Church of England's most senior position.

We are incredibly grateful for Bishop Sarah's support and encouragement during her tenure as Bishop of London. Her commitment to building a fairer and more inclusive society through tackling modern slavery, acknowledging and addressing the Church's historic ties to the transatlantic trade in enslaved people and serving communities impacted by slavery has been an inspiration.

Since the late 14th century, 14 Bishops of London have been appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. The last Bishop of London to be appointed to this role before Bishop Sarah was Bishop Fisher, who was installed as the 99th Archbishop of Canterbury in 1945.

Celebrating Black history and heritage

Fulham Palace Trust is committed to addressing the issues of power, racism and inequality in the history we tell in our museum, and to be alert to any cultural bias that might exist within the organisation.

We seek to:

- Engage and involve the widest possible community in researching and writing the stories that we tell
- Ensure the diversity of the people involved in decision making
- Ensure that our site and online presence are welcoming and accessible to all

In line with this commitment we have been actively researching and presenting our findings on the historic role of the Bishops of London in British colonialism and transatlantic chattel slavery. Our resistance exhibition, opening in 2023, brought to the forefront the voices of those who have been marginalised. In 2024, the Trust was one of the first cohort of six museums joining the Museums Association Anti-racist Museums Programme, and we have embedded the wider principles of anti-racism and decolonising across our organisation.

In November 2024, we became a key delivery partner on the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham's Black History project, working to support the council's commitment to develop a Black History and Heritage Hub to promote the borough's rich built and intangible heritage. We recruited a freelance engagement manager, Bimpe



Adeyemi, in February 2025, and worked with her to host a number of public events and exhibitions over the last year. We developed a project assistant volunteer role, and volunteers are involved in helping to plan and facilitate various on- and off-site projects as part of a series of community-based programmes.

In September 2025, we held our first Black History and Heritage roadshow. Attendees were invited to bring in everyday objects, from photographs and jewellery to clothing and keepsakes, to help tell the story of Black history in Fulham and the surrounding area. A team of experts was on hand throughout the event to share insights into the brought items and help connect personal stories to wider histories.

In October and November, we hosted the project's first exhibition *The Fulham Stories: Threads of Community*, which celebrated the significant, and previously unacknowledged, contributions Black residents have made to the local area. Stories of everyday heroes, such as teachers, nurses and social workers, were brought to life through displays of personal belongings, photographs, films and oral history recordings of local Black communities from across Fulham.

In addition to our work with the Black History and Heritage Hub, we have also continued our Black History 365 talks, which are free for members of the public to attend. Introduced in 2024, this popular series features guest speakers presenting on a wide range of topics related to Black history and heritage. This year, we hosted six talks, with the subjects explored ranging from mapping London's multiracial past to the Bishop of London's historic role in the British tobacco colony of Virginia. The Black History 365 series will continue into next year, with seven talks already scheduled to take place between May and October 2026.

In October we also hosted the exhibition - *Tapestry of Black Britons*, curated by the visionary Paula Ogun Hector. The exhibition featured two striking tapestries - a World War II tapestry, newly embroidered by the Royal School of Needlework with the support of the Company of Gold & Silver Wyre Drawers, and a tapestry by artists Adwoa Botchey and

Solomon Adebisi of Adeche Atelier depicting a Yoruba creation story.

The garden past and future

As the home of the second oldest botanic garden in London, and one of the earliest in the United Kingdom, our plant collection is integral to how visitors experience the history and significance of our site. This year, we have not only been looking back at the garden's past through loans from the Oxford University Herbaria, we have also been looking forward to its future with our new Fulham Palace garden collections policy.

We welcomed four loans from the Oxford University Herbaria's significant collection, which contains specimens gathered from Bishop Compton's famous garden at Fulham Palace over 300 years ago. The new museum display includes two historic pressed plant specimens, red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) and the devil's walking stick (*Aralia spinosa*). Both species are grown in our garden today. Drawings of bush ganna (*Calobota cytisoides*) and leebekkie (*Nemesia bicornis*) by botanist Jacob Bobart the Younger (1641-1719), thought to be copied from Bishop Compton's missing *Codex Comptonianus*, are also on loan. The *Codex*, presented to Bishop Compton by the State of Amsterdam in 1691, contained original watercolours painted during an expedition to the Copper Mountains in Namaqualand (now part of South Africa) in 1685 and 1686.

To help us care for and grow our extensive living plant collection, we launched our new garden collections policy in June. The policy outlines the management, documentation, acquisition and disposal of plant species within our historic garden. Emphasising our



Devil's walking stick (*Aralia spinosa*)

Thanks to Oxford University Herbaria, Department of Biology.

commitment to biodiversity, sustainable horticulture and collaboration with other institutions, it includes our approach to managing pests and diseases and climate change adaptation, as well as stating our intention to be involved in initiatives and programmes to improve plant conservation and knowledge. In line with the policy, we have acquired new plant records software, Persephone 2.0, to aid our documentation activities, with an aim to record all significant plants in the database by 2028. With this new policy in place, we are confident that our garden will continue to expand and thrive, enabling our visitors to enjoy and cherish it, now and in many years to come.

Fulham Palace fit for the future

In August, Fulham Palace Trust successfully secured £571,000 from the Arts Council England's Museum Renewal Fund. The fund is designed to address the operational and financial pressures faced by civic and local authority-linked museums, helping reduce the gap between costs and income that can risk curtailing programmes, opening hours, staffing or public access.

In a time of financial uncertainty, this award has been a vital lifeline for the Trust, helping establish a strong foundation for long-term organisational resilience, income growth and sustainability. Within this grant, the Trust was provided with £178,500 towards its 2025/2026 operational deficit and £226,500 towards increasing our reserves to three months operating costs, both of which have significantly boosted the Trust's financial security.

The support has also ensured that our cultural, educational and heritage programmes were able to continue uninterrupted, and entry to the house and garden to remain free for all.

As part of the project, significant IT upgrades were delivered across the organisation. To align with wider user needs, tablets with specialist software were purchased, enabling us to enhance the visitor experience through upgraded digital interpretation in our museum. A new Electronic Point of Sale (EPOS) system was embedded to support the growth of our retail offer, including the potential for additional income generation beyond on-site sales. Behind the scenes, old desktops and laptops were replaced with secure, centrally managed devices, servers and backup systems upgraded and the

network infrastructure mapped. Through updated policies and training, we have developed better organisational awareness of cyber security, data management and system resilience, and staff are equipped to work securely and flexibly, supporting operational efficiency.

To support the ongoing financial sustainability of the Trust, a number of key studies were commissioned to guide decision-making for years to come related to business planning and income diversification. These included a comprehensive audience/market analysis, catering feasibility study, lettings strategy, commercial strategy and fundraising strategy.

Completed in April 2026, the fit for the future project has provided the Trust with a stronger foundation for growth and financial recovery. We are now able to move from a reactive position of responding to financial pressures to a more proactive and strategically informed approach to managing our resources and planning for the future.

We would like to thank Arts Council England for their generous support for this project.

'This land of 50 hides': The archaeology and history of the Fulham Palace site

The first monograph exploring the rich and long history of the Fulham Palace site is in the final stages of production. Representing the culmination of several decades' worth of archaeological investigations on the site, the 355-page book chronicles 10,000 years



of history, spanning from c. 8,000 BC to the present day.

Written by our community archaeologist, Alexis Haslam, the monograph is divided into 10 chapters, each containing in-depth research into a particular time period or aspect of the site's varied history. The story begins with Late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic activity on an eyot positioned on the River Thames, which has produced one of London's largest flint assemblages, followed by explorations into an Early Bronze Age Barrow, then the establishment of a late Roman farmstead. It is the Early Saxon period, when the land was first acquired by Bishop Wealdhere, which marks the site's beginning as the home to the Bishops of London, an ecclesiastical position that was at the core of the political and social machinations of the country for the next 1,270 years.

As part of the in-depth research undertaken to write the monograph, exciting discoveries were revealed and new theories developed. One new theory relates to the much-debated origin of the moat, once described as the largest domestic moat in all of England. Suggestions about its first introduction to the site have included an association with a possible Roman camp and even as early as an Iron Age earthwork. Stratigraphic excavations indicate it was most likely originally dug as a dry defensive ditch in the late 9th to early 10th centuries as a response to Viking raids along the Thames. In the late 13th/early 14th century, the ditch was filled with water, as indicated by references in 1392 court rolls as a magna fossa, or 'great ditch', and 1476 as the 'moat ditch of Fulham'. By the turn of the 20th century, the financial upkeep of this extensive watercourse was becoming problematic. Against much public opposition, it was drained and backfilled between late 1922 and early 1923, and London lost its last open domestic moat.

The monograph is due to be published in August 2026, and copies will be available for purchase from the museum shop at £30.

Get into gardening

Our successful get into gardening programme is currently in its fourth year, and we are now looking to secure funding to continue providing this unique and immensely rewarding scheme. The programme aims to help children and young people who have been identified as needing extra support and could benefit from an enriched

The traineeship has pulled me out of very big trouble – financially, mentally, emotionally and even socially. When I am around the garden team I feel fine, and it has been so long since I have felt fine. Here I can just breathe.

Get into gardening participant

educational offer. By actively engaging with local educational partners, including primary schools, SEN schools, alternative provisions, charities, and the local authority, we are able to help children and young people gain valuable experiences and life skills through providing the opportunity to work alongside our experienced garden team on a range of horticulture-focused activities.

Since September 2024, our garden team has facilitated 315 participations with young people and the adults working alongside them, surpassing our targets for the programme. Central to this success is our team's empathetic, flexible, person-led engagement with the people taking part and partner organisations. Many of the young people who participate in get into gardening face a wide range of barriers in their daily lives. Building trust is essential, and to help achieve this, our approach is one of openness and acceptance. We aim to respond to their individual needs, routinely tailoring the programme to provide the best support we can, from later start times to meal vouchers.

It's the little things that make a big difference – the benefits from having positive adult role models in their life which encourages them to think and reflect and the informal guidance and support whilst working alongside someone – it's like you're nurturing the land, but at the same time you are being nourished yourself.

Staff member at participating organisation

The feedback from participants, partners and our garden team has been overwhelmingly positive, speaking to the powerful impact of the programme. As we look to the future of the get into gardening programme, we are keen to secure the necessary funding to continue to provide this nurturing and empowering experience to the members of our local community who need it most.

We would like to thank The Lyon Family Charitable Trust for their support for this programme.

Learning

At Fulham Palace, our learning and outreach programme offers a wide range of engaging hands-on educational activities for children, young people and adults in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Below are a few of the highlights from the past year.

Green tales & garden trails

Over the course of the summer and October half term holidays, we ran a series of free, accessible and engaging nature-based activities for families thanks to the generous support of John Lyon's Charity. The activities, attended by 302 local children and their families, were designed to foster meaningful connections between participants and the natural world, embedding an understanding of the importance of biodiversity and environmental stewardship in participants.

Partnering with Brainspark Games, we ran expert-led storytelling sessions during the summer for children in receipt of benefits-related free school meals and SEND families. These sessions were followed by crafts, a guided tour of the walled garden and a hot lunch for all participants to help reduce food insecurity during the holidays. We also ran a self-guided garden sticker trail over the summer holidays, giving families a more structured way to explore the beauty and biodiversity of our garden.

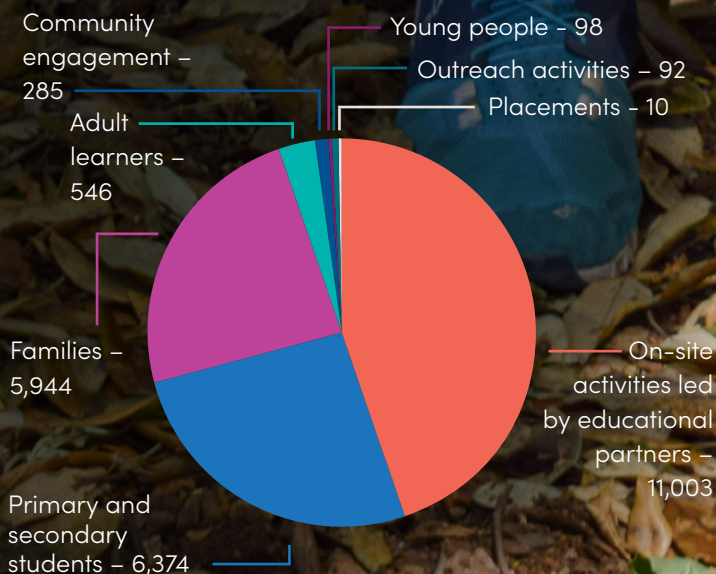
In the October half term, we hosted an autumn craft fair focusing on all things biodiversity, inviting fellow west London museums, including Leighton House and William Morris Society, to bring their own activities. Attendees also had the opportunity to take part in storytelling sessions for under-five-year-olds, a poetry workshop for older children and a bird of prey display by London Falconry.

Hidden stories from the Home Front

In April 2026, we welcomed over 285 family learners for our free family activity day exploring the hidden stories of life on the Home Front. Partnering with Home Front History and History Riot, we created an immersive and creative experience for families as they explored what life was like in Fulham during World War II. The event was

inspired by the work of artist Clive Cobb (1937–2021), who grew up in Fulham during the Blitz. One of the artist's hand-cranked automaton pieces depicting barrage balloons titled *That's the way to do it!* was hosted on our site as part of the *Clive Cobb: A Wartime Childhood in Fulham* exhibition by Hammersmith and Fulham Council libraries and archives through funding by Arts Council England.

Total learners: 24,352*



*Learners on-site except for all outreach activities and a selection of community engagement activities.



Schools' membership programme

Thanks to funding from John Lyon's Charity, our three-year project to establish a new schools' partnership and outdoor learning programme is well underway. The scheme offers a menu of free and reduced-priced learning and engagement options for primary and secondary schools, including SEN schools. It is aimed at supporting the local area schools who need it most - the number of children and young people receiving free school meals in Hammersmith and Fulham has increased by more than a third over the past five years.

During the first year and a half of the project, we have successfully launched the scheme, created and delivered new sessions, built valuable contacts with local schools and trialled working methods. Six local schools took part in the programme during the academic year ending in August 2025, with 354 students visiting or participating, many engaging with two or more activities.

The learning environment and experience offered by Fulham Palace is different from that of many of the participating schools, where outdoor space is limited. One of the most popular sessions is 'chicken chat', which brings children into contact with our beloved Pekin bantams in our walled garden. The students observe and name the differences between hens and cockerels, think about how to care for animals and get involved with a range of facilitated discussions which can reinforce learning in other areas of the curriculum, such as reproduction.

In addition to on-site sessions, member schools have access to a range of learning resources, teacher CPD sessions and other opportunities, such as student work experience and hiring exhibition space in the Palace. A single membership can be shared within the school, spreading the benefits across year groups and teaching teams.

This is an opportunity to get outside as there is very little outside space at school. It is especially helpful for science learning, life-cycles.

Teacher from member school

“

As the project progresses, we are looking forward to continuing to strengthen our relationship with local schools and increase participation within the local community, as well as offer members opportunities to shape the future of Fulham Palace as a community asset.

We would like to thank John Lyon's Charity for their generous support for the green tales & garden trails project and the school partnerships and outdoor learning project.

People

Fulham Palace offers visitors a place to retreat from the busy city and relax in a 13-acre green oasis in the heart of west London, free of charge.

Volunteer programme

We are incredibly grateful for the support of our volunteers. Without their invaluable contribution, we would not be able to share this magnificent house and garden, and the rich history of this site, with our visitors.

This year, we expanded our volunteer programme with four new types of opportunities to get involved and develop new skills. The roles include helping to facilitate a series of community-based programmes as part of Hammersmith and Fulham's Black History and Heritage Hub, assisting with data entry and ongoing maintenance of our new plant collections database, supporting the planning of our popular public events and producing the delicious preserves with produce grown on site and sold at our market barrow and at events.

To help ensure that volunteers are adequately supported and properly trained for their roles, this year our volunteer development officer, Valerie Weydert, developed and delivered mandatory training to all staff who line manage, supervise or work with volunteers in their department. At the training's core were our volunteer handbook and volunteer policy and agreement, which were revised this year in order to be more accessible for users and incorporate the findings from the Palace's anti-racism staff working group. With improved

Volunteer satisfaction

99% strongly agreed or agreed with the statement 'I would recommend Fulham Palace as a place to volunteer'

97% strongly agreed or agreed that they were satisfied with 'The recognition you receive from staff for the volunteering you do'

94% strongly agreed or agreed with the statement 'Volunteering at Fulham Palace gives me a sense of achievement'

86% strongly agreed or agreed with the statement 'Giving my time to Fulham Palace increases my sense of wellbeing'

Volunteer support

19,391 Volunteer hours contributed

377 Corporate volunteer hours contributed

248 Active volunteers

26 Volunteer roles

sections on equality and diversity in particular, the updated documents better reflect the organisation's current aims and ways of working. The training also included guidance on how to handle potential issues, empowering staff to address these situations as they arise and know the processes involved. Going forward, the full training will now be delivered on an annual basis, with additional shorter, more regular sessions focused on one specific topic, giving staff an opportunity for conversations and sharing experiences.





Visitors

We welcomed 237,490 visitors in 2025/26, with 94% of surveyed visitors rating their satisfaction with Fulham Palace as good or excellent. Our museum and historic rooms were open throughout the year, with the museum receiving the highest number of visitors to date at 25,305 people, a 4% increase from the previous year.

Fulham Palace was a delightful discovery. We enjoyed learning about the history and enjoyed the architecture, gardens and setting. We will recommend it to friends for a lovely day out.



Fulham Palace visitor

Public events at the Palace

We welcomed over 12,500 attendees in total to a range of both free and ticketed events in 2025/26, raising over £68,600 in net income to support the Palace. Our diverse public events programme attracts a wide variety of audiences, and our large-scale annual events – apple day, go green fest and the Christmas fair weekend – continue to prove popular with attendees.

In addition to our long-standing outdoor theatre series, this year we introduced four new family-focused performances across the October and February school half term holidays. Our beautiful and atmospheric Bishop Sherlock's room set the stage for families to join in with interactive storytelling shows. One popular performance was based on the world's most famous detective, where audience members helped Sherlock Holmes solve a mystery based on Arthur Conan Doyle's classic tale *The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*!

Staff

We currently employ the equivalent of 24.25 full-time members of staff. For more information, visit our website: fulhampalace.org

Financial report

In addition to our fundraising related activities, we generate funds through a diverse range of income streams. These include private functions and venue hire, catering, retail, lettings, and public events.

Retail

Our retail offer was strengthened this year as part of our Fulham Palace fit for the future project, delivered through support from Arts Council England’s Museum Renewal Fund. During the project, we successfully introduced a new Electronic Point of Sale (EPOS) system to help facilitate sales in our museum shop and market barrow, located in the walled garden. The integrated and scalable retail platform, Shopify POS, has replaced fragmented systems across our site, helping streamline our retail operations. The system offers improved customer data capture, loyalty tracking and reporting, all of which will enable us to improve our understanding of our customers and provide products better suited to our audiences. These activities will support our aim to increase secondary spend from on-site visitors, and, looking to the future, give us the opportunity for online retail.

We would like to thank Arts Council England for their generous support for the Fulham Palace fit for the future project.

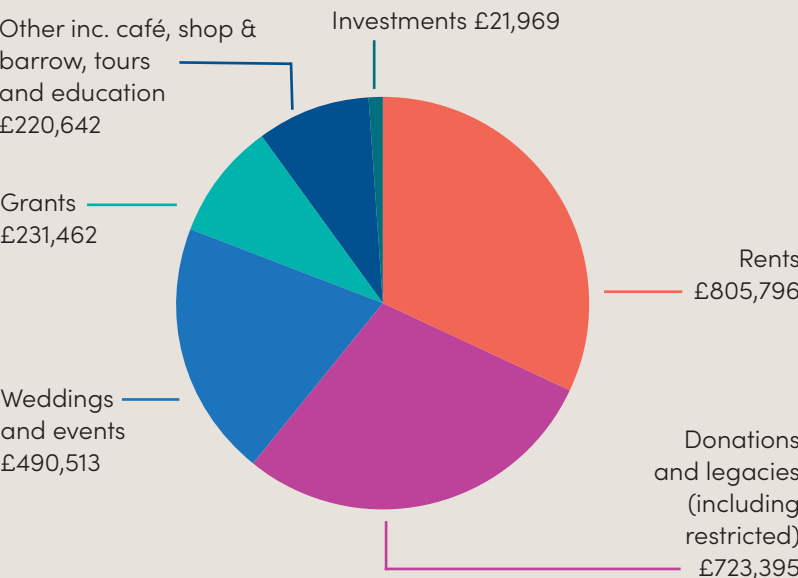
Office and residential lettings

Income from office and residential lettings continues to significantly contribute to the ongoing maintenance and restoration of the house and garden. In recent years, we have invested in the refurbishment of several additional rental spaces across the site to help further diversify our income streams and safeguard the financial sustainability of the Palace. In total, we now have seven business tenants and three residential properties. We were at full capacity throughout the year, with all lettings fully leased at market level. This generated an income of £805,796, a 3% increase from 2024/25.

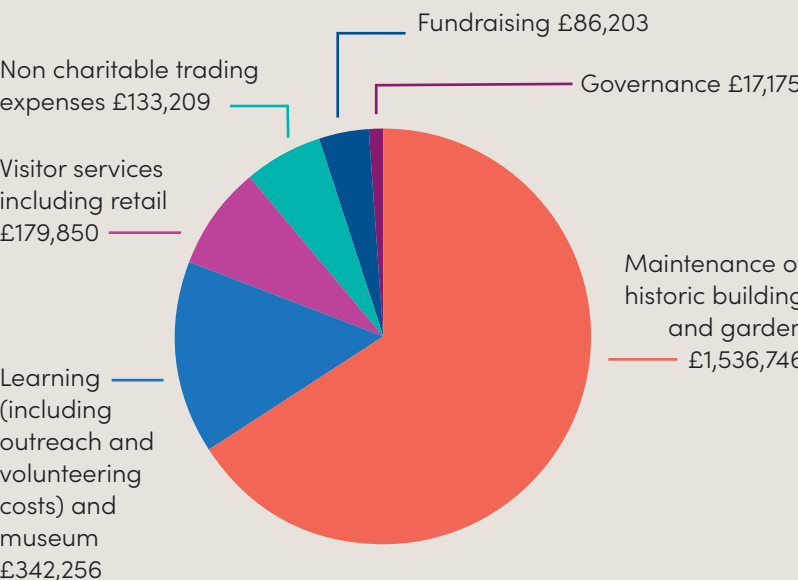
Total income and expenditure

In 2025/26, our total income was £2,493,777, an increase of 24% from last year. Total expenditure increased by 16% to £2,295,439.

Total income: £2,493,777



Total expenditure: £2,295,439



Fundraising

Thank you to all of our supporters for helping us shape the future of Fulham Palace and share it with our visitors. We could not do it without the generous grants and donations we receive from individuals, trusts and foundations and businesses.

Membership

We are very grateful for our Patrons and Friends of Fulham Palace, whose generous support helps fund a whole range of activities. The number of members involved with our Annual and Corporate Patrons schemes continues to remain relatively stable, with 47 Patron memberships and three Corporate Patrons in 2025/26. The number of Friends memberships decreased slightly to 337, down 8% from the previous year.

The Patrons and Friends were invited to participate in a range of exclusive trips and events throughout the year. Trips included a visit to Strawberry Hill House with a fascinating talk on the legendary Bianca Capello, a tour of Keats' House and a chance to view the poet's facsimile copy of Shakespeare's First Folio and a private tour of the Two Temple Place, a stunningly ornate mansion built for William Waldorf Astor in the 1890s. Our annual Chair's garden party for supporters, held in the walled garden, took place on 25 June, with special guest the Most Reverend and Right Honorable Dame Sarah Mullally DBE, in her role as the Bishop of London before her installation as the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Fundraising strategy

Like many of our fellow heritage and cultural organisations, Fulham Palace Trust is at a pivotal moment in its history. The combination of rising costs, reduced public funding and increased demand on the vital services we provide to our users means that we are operating in an increasingly challenging financial climate. While we have a strong track record of successfully securing funding, in recent years, unrestricted funding income, which does not have conditions or constraints on its use, is plateauing out. At the same time, the costs of running, conserving and improving the Palace continue to rise.

In response to this, we have developed a new fundraising strategy which focuses on growing sustainable income, deepening supporter relationships and building long-term financial resilience. To achieve this, we will be diversifying and broadening our income streams and reducing our dependence on short-term and restricted income, prioritising fundraising activities that align most closely with our mission and have the strongest likelihood of success. Going forward, we will be focusing on trust and foundation fundraising, strengthening our individual giving portfolio and strategic partnerships, while avoiding over-extension into income streams that require disproportionate resource for uncertain returns.

When creating our new strategy, it was incredibly important that our fundraising objectives align with our organisational goals, including the ongoing conservation and restoration of the house and garden, developing the understanding of the site's layered history and organisational sustainability and financial resilience. This targeted approach will help ensure Fulham Palace remains open and accessible for future generations to enjoy and continues to offer programmes that respond to today's social and environmental challenges.

Grants and donations

With thanks to our founding donors and all those who have given to Fulham Palace over the course of the year 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026.

Founding Donors

An anonymous benefactor
Botterill, Councillor Nicholas
Cook, Sandra
Edington CBE, Gordon
Emery FSA, Phillip
Hackett, Thomas and Genevieve
Hawes, the Reverend Canon Joseph
Howard, Phil and Jennie
Ingram, Tim
Poole, Martin
Sanderson, Tim and Dede
The Scorpion Trust
Von Schoenaich, Brita
Williams, Dr Jonathan
Wright, Ken

Life Patrons

Anonymous benefactors
Borrows, Simon and Sally
Boyce, Daphne
Burgess, Vernon and Jennifer Elizabeth
Clark, Simon
Dean, Esther
Fanshawe, Angus
Fenn, Anthony
Fowler, Stuart and Mindy
Greenhalgh, Stephen
Groenholm, Klaus and Kate
Harding, Anthony
Hill-Smith, Alex and Isobel
Hogg, Charlotte
Ingram, Jonathan and Abi
Ingram, Tim and Christine
Laing, Christopher
Leslie, Jonathan and Pepe
Lyon, Sebastian and Flora
McMillan, Carolyn
Monaghan, Ben and Louise
Nunneley, Sir Charles and Lady Catherine
Stead, George and Daphne
Upton, Richard
Whitehouse, Keith
Witherow, John
Wright, Jennifer

Corporate Patrons

Bovingdons Catering
LMA Property
Pascal Huser Design & Build Ltd

Individual Donors (£1,000+):

Davidson, Linda
Harding, Anthony
Nunneley, Sir Charles
Parker, Hamish

Charitable Trusts, Foundations and Organisations to Fulham Palace (£1,000+):

Arts Council England
Dyers Company
English Heritage
John Lyon's Charity
Museum Development London
The Barbara and Philip Denny Trust
The Bender Family Trust
The Foyle Foundation
The Lyon Family Charitable Trust





Annual Patrons

Armstrong, John and Caroline
Aylmer, Lord Julian and Lady Belinda
Barthaud, Helene
Bowden-Dan, Jane
Bradley, Stephen
Coben, Craig and Basia
Copeland, Eileen
Deblue, Isabelle
Delaud, Axel and Anna
Farley-Persaud, Deborah
Finch, Stephen
Gray, Paul
Haly, William
Harding, Anne
Hinds, Clive
Jenkins, David and Fiona
King, John
Lafuente, Gracia
MacIntyre, Duncan and Arabella

Marx, Jill
Mazza, Alessandro
Parker, Hamish
Paterson, David and Rosemary
Quinlan, Victoria
Richards, Geoffrey
Rylance, His Honour John and Philippa
Shocket, Godfrey and Sue
Sommerville, Robbie
Spater, Mariana
Spicer, Brian
Steane, Caroline
Stirton, Alan
Walsh, Stephen
Wintour, Richard
Woodhull, Richard and Hense, Michelle
Woods, Gil
St James Chapter NSDAR

* We are sad to report that Maureen Ball (Friend and volunteer) has passed away.

With thanks to all those who have given to Fulham Palace over the course of the year, including those who wish to remain anonymous.

Image copyright: front cover Matthew Bruce, page 1 Vida Saunders, page 2 and 12 Grace Aubry, page 3 [top], 7 & 8, 8 [top] and back cover Erin Brudi, page 3 [bottom], 9 [bottom], 13 & 14 Linval Bartley, page 9 & 10 Marcus Dawes.



A gift in your will

As a small independent charity with no guaranteed government funding, Fulham Palace Trust faces growing challenges in preserving this extraordinary historic site. Remembering Fulham Palace in your will helps support the long-term care of its historic spaces and garden, enabling essential conservation work and keeping the site open and accessible for future generations.

Whether large or small, a legacy gift is a meaningful way to help secure our future.

Please get in touch with us if you are interested in finding out more: development@fulhampalace.org

Fulham Palace House & Garden

Fulham Palace Trust
Fulham Palace
Bishop's Avenue
London SW6 6EA

fulhampalace.org
+44 (0)20 7736 3233

Company limited by guarantee,
registered no. 07464167
Registered charity no. 1140088



JOHN LYON'S
CHARITY



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



**English
Heritage**



HBG
Training Programme

English Heritage – Historic and Botanic Garden Training Programme