



St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust
Our impact report 2024

The history
of
St Martin's

is
the
history
of saying

yes

“St Martin's Trust draws together energies from the diverse initiatives of our many-splendoured community to make us together more than the sum of our parts. It sees to the long-term sustainability of our buildings, catalyses big ideas and brings them to fruition, turns local plans into transferable programmes, and connects people searching for a way to invest in hope with a community that's been generating and embodying hope for many decades. The Trust also rescued St Martin's during the pandemic. It is, in short, an inspiring vehicle for faith, hope and love.”

REVD DR SAM WELLS
Vicar, St Martin-in-the-Fields



“Our Yes Campaign calls us to action — to preserve our historic spaces, expand our reach, and deepen our social impact.”

As we reflect on an extraordinary year at St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust, we are deeply grateful for all we have achieved together. The stories and insights presented in this report highlight the tangible difference we are making in people's lives by responding to urgent needs and strengthening our community.

From the completion of the 18 Keys Project to the launch of our Yes Campaign, the unveiling of the first-ever Children's Plinth, and the delivery of exceptional music programme, 2024 was truly a remarkable year. Our events last year brought together decision-makers, industry leaders, and community members to share ideas, collaborate and inspire action. We proudly supported young musicians and hosted exceptional performances, ensuring that the arts remained central to our work.

Throughout 2024, the Trust laid strong foundations and built on the proud legacy of providing charitable support for individuals and communities.

Yet, there is more to achieve. Our Yes Campaign calls us to action — to preserve our historic spaces, expand our reach, and deepen our social impact. We invite you to be a part of this ambitious initiative and partner with us in shaping St Martin-in-the-Fields' future.

If you are one of our supporters, partners, trustees, or colleagues, I hope you read this report with pride, knowing the vital role you have played in our journey. And if you are new to our work, I warmly invite you to connect with us and explore how we can work together to achieve our goals.

LUCY LITTLEWOOD
Director, St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust



“We invite you to join us in this transformative journey, reinforcing our legacy of compassion and service.”

As the chair, I am proud to present our Annual Impact Report, demonstrating what we have achieved in 2024. Thanks to your unwavering support, we have strengthened our mission to preserve our historic legacy, nurture our community, and extend compassionate support to those in need.

The 18 Keys Project stands as a testament to the power of collaboration. With £2.2 million raised, including a remarkable £850,000 from the Julia Rausing Trust, we are on track to open a transformative residential space for women overcoming long-term street homelessness.

Our commitment to cultural and historic preservation continues to flourish. We have invested in protecting the architectural integrity

of St Martin-in-the-Fields while enhancing accessibility, ensuring that this iconic space remains open and welcoming to all.

Looking ahead, the Yes Campaign is our boldest vision yet. It presents an extraordinary opportunity to restore and reimagine St Martin-in-the-Fields, expand our social impact, and lead with sustainability. We invite you to join us in this transformative journey, reinforcing our legacy of compassion and service.

On behalf of the Trustees, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has been part of this journey. Your generosity and trust fuel our work and inspire us to continue creating a lasting impact.

MALCOLM JAMES BUTLER
Chair of the Board of Trustees,
St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust

“We are making an unprecedented effort to address urgent needs of the St Martin’s family while investing in future. We are focusing on restoring our historic building, tackling water ingress and enhancing sustainability — ensuring St Martin-in-the-Fields continues to inspire and serve for years to come.”

LUCY LITTLEWOOD
Director, St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust

RIGHT
Unveiling of the inaugural
Children’s Plinth with Justine
Simons OBE, Deputy
London Mayor for Culture
and the Creative Industries



£3,089,589

Raised in 2024, the highest income in the Trust’s history, setting a new financial milestone.

Yes
St. Martin-in-the-Fields

St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust is igniting a bold new vision with the Yes Campaign – a ground-breaking journey to reshape St Martin’s future. This campaign will fund innovative design, sustainable solutions and visionary developments that bridge our rich heritage with a dynamic future.

The Yes Campaign is a dynamic, positive movement helping St Martin’s offer its daily response to a world that can be hard for many people. It is a flourish of long-term activity helping St Martin-in-the-Fields to feed into the wider kindness.

£3,770,808

charitable contributions from Trust in 2024, more than doubling previous highest contributions and tripling that of 2023.

Only 14%

of total expenditure went towards administrative expenses and overheads, increasing Trust’s fundraising efficiency.

£200,224

invested in the capital project to restore and revitalise the heritage buildings at St Martin-in-the-Fields.

Over 1,000,000

visitors warmly welcomed to St Martin-in-the-Fields, offering them an opportunity to immerse in its rich history, splendid music and vibrant community.

The four Cs:

Continuing
our support
for
essential
causes

yes

yes

yes

yes

At St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust, our mission is built on four pillars—Culture, Compassion, Commerce, and Community—each reflecting our commitment to preserving heritage, supporting those in need, driving innovation, and enriching lives through faith and the arts. In 2024, we made significant strides across all areas, ensuring St Martin's remains a place of inspiration, sanctuary and positive change. From restoring our historic spaces and expanding homelessness initiatives to fostering artistic expression and strengthening community ties, our work continues to shape a more inclusive and sustainable future.



Culture

Preserving St Martin-in-the-Fields' historic architecture and nurturing its cultural life remain top priorities for the Trust.

In 2024, we made significant financial and strategic investments to ensure the longevity of our Grade I listed building. Extensive technical surveys were conducted in preparation for a major capital project aimed at mitigating water ingress and preserving both the internal structures and the external stonework of this historic site. The Trust also funded two disabled access lifts in the Church.

We expanded partnerships and raised awareness of key initiatives. We organised the World Homeless Day event, deepening our corporate engagement, and hosted an intimate dinner with Simon Russell Beale, presented by Classic FM's Zeb Soanes. A milestone moment for us was the launch of the first-ever Children's Plinth, in partnership with the Mayor of London's Fourth Plinth Schools Award. We are committed to supporting the Children's Plinth annually, inspiring future generations to engage with art and heritage.

Compassion

The St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust remains deeply committed to addressing homelessness by working closely with our colleagues at The Connection at St Martin's. In 2024, we played a key role in developing a new shelter and renovating showers.

Beyond immediate relief, we are investing in long-term solutions as well. The Trust proudly funded pilot research for The Connection's Solo Homes project, aiming to create sustainable housing solutions for those experiencing homelessness.

We also supported the International Group, a sanctuary for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers facing homelessness. In 2024, our aid reached over 270 individuals, providing food, clothing, and essential supplies to help them rebuild their lives. The International Group had a positive effect on the well-being of its guests, empowering them to grow in confidence and rediscover a sense of hope amid challenging circumstances. Week after week, we witness remarkable transformations as individuals find strength, connection, and a renewed sense of belonging within this supportive community.

Commerce

The Trust has partnered with the social enterprise at St Martin-in-the-Fields, providing funding for kitchen equipment, as well as digital screens, to enhance event promotion and engagement.

As society moves towards a cashless future, we have embraced innovation by implementing a seamless network of contactless donation devices, making giving easier for donors while enhancing our fundraising impact. Looking ahead, we are introducing interactive touch-screen displays in the Church and Crypt, designed to provide visitors with a more immersive, engaging, and accessible experience—deepening their connection to St Martin's rich history, mission, and community.

Additionally, the Trust continues to support St Martin-in-the-Fields' HeartEdge project, empowering communities to become self-sustaining by sharing resources, expertise, and innovation across commerce, culture and compassion.

Community

The St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust proudly supports the church's spiritual and philosophical life, enriching both faith and community. We fund initiatives like *Being With*, which helps people explore Christianity, and sustain the Nazareth Community and Companions of Nazareth, nurturing contemplation and prayer.

Our support also extends to a rich tapestry of music and community life. From *Great Sacred Music* and *Choral Classics* to *In Every Corner Sing*, we celebrate global traditions through song and spoken word. We support emerging artists and sustain vibrant Community and Children's Choirs.

Our Chinese congregation continues to flourish, with weekly lay-led services and non-faith-based community groups enjoying tai chi, calligraphy, and other social activities.

As London's parish church, we host services in memory of those who have died while experiencing homelessness, as well as victims of violence and those lost to suicide.

Power of Music:

Inspiring, empowering

and harmonising

through music

yes

yes

yes

yes

yes

yes

yes

yes

yes yes

yes

yes

Music at St Martin-in-the-Fields thrived in 2024, growing across worship, education and culture. We nurtured emerging talent through our Artist Development Programmes, expanded St Martin's Voices, and strengthened voluntary music initiatives. Our professional choir now reaches over 5,000 people weekly through performances, broadcasts and online worship. St Martin's Voices is a key part of the Church of England's online worship. None of this would be possible without our generous supporters, whose contributions keep music at St Martin's vibrant and ever-inspiring.

Music at St Martin-in-the-Fields flourished in 2024 and has continued to thrive across all areas of our mission, culture and musical education programme.



LEFT

A special performance on the rooftop of St Martin-in-the-Fields

OTHER PAGE

A double bassist finds his moment in the heart of a fundraising event for the Yes Campaign



Music is the heart of what we do, and we are proud to see it enriching, inspiring, and uplifting the communities around us.

The Trust is honoured to support the Artist Development Programmes, St Martin's Voices, and Voluntary Music at St Martin's. Through these programmes, we supported budding singers through the Choral Scholarship Programme, early-career professionals through the St Martin's Voices Emerging Artists Programme, and the Organ Scholar Programme. In 2024, we launched the Associate Choral Leaders Programme, which offers opportunities for emerging choral conductors and vocal leaders to establish new musical initiatives in churches across the UK.

Our professional choir, St Martin's Voices, continues to thrive, reaching an in-person and online audience of more than 5,000 through Great Sacred Music and Choral Classics. We've also introduced Choral Discovery Concerts, collaborated with renowned ensembles, expanded our presence on

Classic FM, as well as BBC Radio 3 and 4, and piloted a Cathedrals Tour across the UK with Classic FM presenter Zeb Soanes.

St Martin's Voices is now a key part of the Church of England's online worship, contributing regular recordings for the Daily Prayer app, A Church Near You music resource, and weekly online services.

This year, Music at St Martin's has a lot to look forward to. We'll be publishing the new Great Sacred Music book with Canterbury Press and hosting a regular concert series on Classic FM with St Martin's Voices. We're also excited about the future of our Junior Choir, which from September 2025, will lead a new Sunday worship service, fostering both musical and spiritual growth in young singers.

None of this would be possible without our generous supporters and music patrons, whose support ensures that St Martin's continues to inspire, educate, and share music far beyond our walls.

es A New
Chapter:

yes A safety net

for the
most vulnerable
women

yes in society

2024 was a landmark year for the 18 Keys Project, a transformative partnership between St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust and The Connection at St Martin's, dedicated to providing safe and supportive housing for women who have experienced long-term street homelessness. With the generosity of foundations, individual donors and corporate sponsors, we have made remarkable progress toward bringing this vision to life. Construction is progressing on schedule, and we eagerly anticipate welcoming residents to the new facilities when they open in November.

2024 was a momentous year for the 18 Keys Project, a joint endeavour between St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust and The Connection at St Martin's.



Thanks to our incredible supporters, the Trust successfully raised £2.2 million to build a highly supportive form of residential care at St Martin's House for women who have experienced long-term street homelessness.

We are honoured to be a recipient of the newly launched Julia Rausing Trust, which awarded us a significant inaugural grant of £850,000 for the project. We are also deeply grateful for grants from the Vogelgezang Foundation, Garfield Weston, The Story of Christmas, The Mercer's Company, The Forrester Family Trust, Sisters of the Holy Family and Cheerio Publishing. In addition, several individual donors made valuable contributions to the 18 Keys fund and continue to be strong advocates in our mission to alleviate street homelessness.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to the outstanding women in the 18 Keys Campaign Committee who generously donated to the cause, staged events and shared their networks, creativity and advice. The Incredibly Affordable Art Fair drew an enthusiastic crowd and raised £36,000.

We were also honoured when the current Bishop of London hosted a drinks reception with a horticultural theme to raise funds for the redesign, reconstruction and maintenance of the gardens at the 18 Keys.

We are now working together with a significant new corporate sponsor, The View from the Shard, to support core costs.

Work on the new building is underway and the new facilities are expected to be opened in November this year.

“The Julia Rausing Trust was inspired to make its grant to the 18 Keys Project, led by St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust, to support the building of ‘Julia’s House’, continuing to champion causes that were close to Julia’s heart.”

SIMON FOURMY
Director, Julia Rausing Trust

ABOVE
Proposed interior elevation of St Martin's House
as part of the 18 Keys Project

BELOW
Work on the new building underway
with expected completion by year end





Aiming Higher-

Embarking

on

our

boldest

campaign

yet

Our Yes Campaign is our boldest vision yet. It presents an extraordinary opportunity to restore and reimagine St Martin-in-the-Fields, expand our social impact, and lead with sustainability.

The Yes Campaign

For over three centuries, St Martin-in-the-Fields has said Yes to people and causes.

The Yes Campaign ensures we continue this legacy—restoring, expanding and strengthening St Martin’s for the future.

For over three centuries, St Martin-in-the-Fields has been a sanctuary for those in need, a champion of social justice, and a source of inspiration through its choral excellence and inclusive faith. Yet, time has taken its toll—its historic spaces are worn, its facilities overstretched, and its capacity to serve an ever-growing community increasingly strained. With over a million visitors each year and a world facing new challenges, the moment to secure St Martin’s future is now.

£24,000,000

Our fundraising goal for Phase 1 of the Yes Campaign

In response, St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust has launched the Yes Campaign—a bold, visionary initiative to restore, reimagine and rejuvenate this iconic landmark, from its historic church and crypt to its surrounding spaces. More than a renovation, the Yes Campaign is an investment—in people, in music, in community, and in the profound power of saying yes.

This transformational effort will ensure St Martin’s not only survives but thrives—becoming carbon neutral, setting new standards in homeless care, and continuing to enrich the world through theology, music, and unwavering compassion.



Our Yes Campaign is a vibrant, living action helping St Martin-in-the-Fields to be a sustainable institution fortifying human relationships, nurturing creativity, and offering a robust counter to the challenges of our times.



The Yes Campaign will transform St Martin-in-the-Fields, while ensuring we continue to say Yes to those who rely on us today. In the first phase, the campaign will focus on our most pressing needs:

LEFT
The Yes Campaign postcard
designed by Rebecca Joy

BELOW
An evening with Sir Simon Russell
Beale, with Zeb Soanes

BOTTOM
Yes Gala marked the official
kick-off for Trust's Yes Campaign



Heritage

Preserving our Grade 1 listed building for future generations by repairing severe leaks, preventing water damage, and restoring its historic stonework.

Accessibility

Addressing key site limitations that hinder our full potential, including enhanced public entrances, expanded restroom facilities, and reimagined crypt spaces—allowing for greater accessibility and more dynamic, simultaneous activities.

Net Zero

Investing to reduce our carbon footprint by at least 30% in Phase 1 of the campaign, as part of our net-zero carbon goal.

More Services

Long-term sustainability is a priority for the Yes Campaign and we plan to invest in improvements and upgrades to support commercial, cultural and revenue generating activities – principally the refurbishment of the Crypt Café, Gallery, Foyer and the Hall.

The Yes Campaign will also mean more services and support for people experiencing homelessness, more music and more investment in education for vulnerable students.

We will also expand our digital presence, enrich how we share St Martin's story with visitors, and deepen collaboration to support the success of St Martin's Oasis Academy—our school for children excluded from mainstream education.

We invite you to say Yes with us—to be part of this extraordinary journey and help shape the future of St Martin-in-the-Fields.





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St Martin-in-the-Fields Trust is a registered charity
Charity number 1110406



Yes

St. Martin-in-the-Fields