



# Annual General Meeting

February 2026

BAKE | BRING | SHARE



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2025 Review

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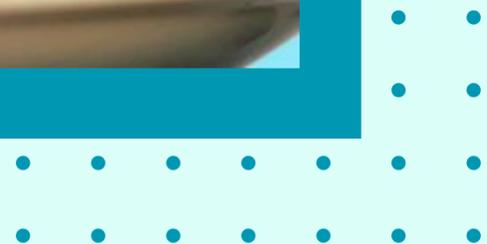
Election of New Committee

**06**

2026 & beyond

**07**

Any Other Business



# 2025 – Events Summary

## Village Bakers – Sunday Socials

This year we successfully ran 12 Sunday Socials, maintaining the heart of our Bake, Bring & Share ethos that brings members together each month to share homemade bakes and good company. Across all our socials, including our Great Village Bake Off-style event and a spectacular Christmas celebration, we estimate that members brought over 340 cakes and bakes to share — a wonderful show of baking creativity and community spirit. Every event continued to be a friendly, inclusive space where bakers of all abilities can bring something along, or simply come and enjoy tasting others' creations. These gatherings play a key role in strengthening connections within the group, supporting our social aims and encouraging participation throughout the year.

## Local Prides:

Village Bakers was proud to attend local Pride events across Whalley Range, Didsbury, and Chorlton, bringing a splash of colour (and cake!) to each celebration. We ran a joyful cake tombola that proved hugely popular, helping to raise funds for the group while creating moments of connection, laughter, and community spirit. It was a privilege to support these vibrant events and celebrate inclusivity alongside our neighbours.

## Masterclass:

For the first time, Village Bakers also hosted two baking masterclasses this year. Participants learned the craft behind some much-loved bakes, including traditional hand-raised pies, beautifully layered babka, and delicate cream-filled Viennese whirls. Each session combined hands-on practical skills with plenty of shared enthusiasm, giving everyone the opportunity to develop new techniques while celebrating the joy of baking together.

## Annual Bake-Off:

Village Bakers' Bake Off competition was a brilliant showcase of creativity and skill, with participants taking on the themes "Baker's Dozen" and "Around the World." The bakes ranged from classic favourites to inventive international flavours; all were thoroughly enjoyed!

## Mid Week Socials:

This year, Village Bakers held more Mid-Week Socials than ever before, giving members even more opportunities to come together outside of our Sunday events. This included our first ever free Mid-Week Social for members, making these evenings even more accessible and inclusive.

The events themselves were relaxed, fun-filled gatherings that strengthened our sense of community — from sharing plates and great conversation at Tapas Night, to friendly competition at Putters golf, and getting into the spooky spirit at our Halloween get-together. Pizza Night rounded things off perfectly, with great food and an easy-going atmosphere that made Mid-Week Socials a real highlight of the year.

## Christmas (star!);

Village Bakers' Christmas party was a festive highlight, bringing everyone together to celebrate another successful year. The evening was made extra special when the BBC North West Tonight Christmas Star was proudly awarded to our chairperson, Kevin, recognising his dedication and contribution to the group. It was a well-deserved moment of celebration, shared with plenty of cheer, laughter, and seasonal spirit.

## A look ahead:

In 2026, we're aiming to maintain our Baking Masterclasses, mid-week socials, take part in the Manchester Pride March, and boost attendance at Pride events throughout the year.

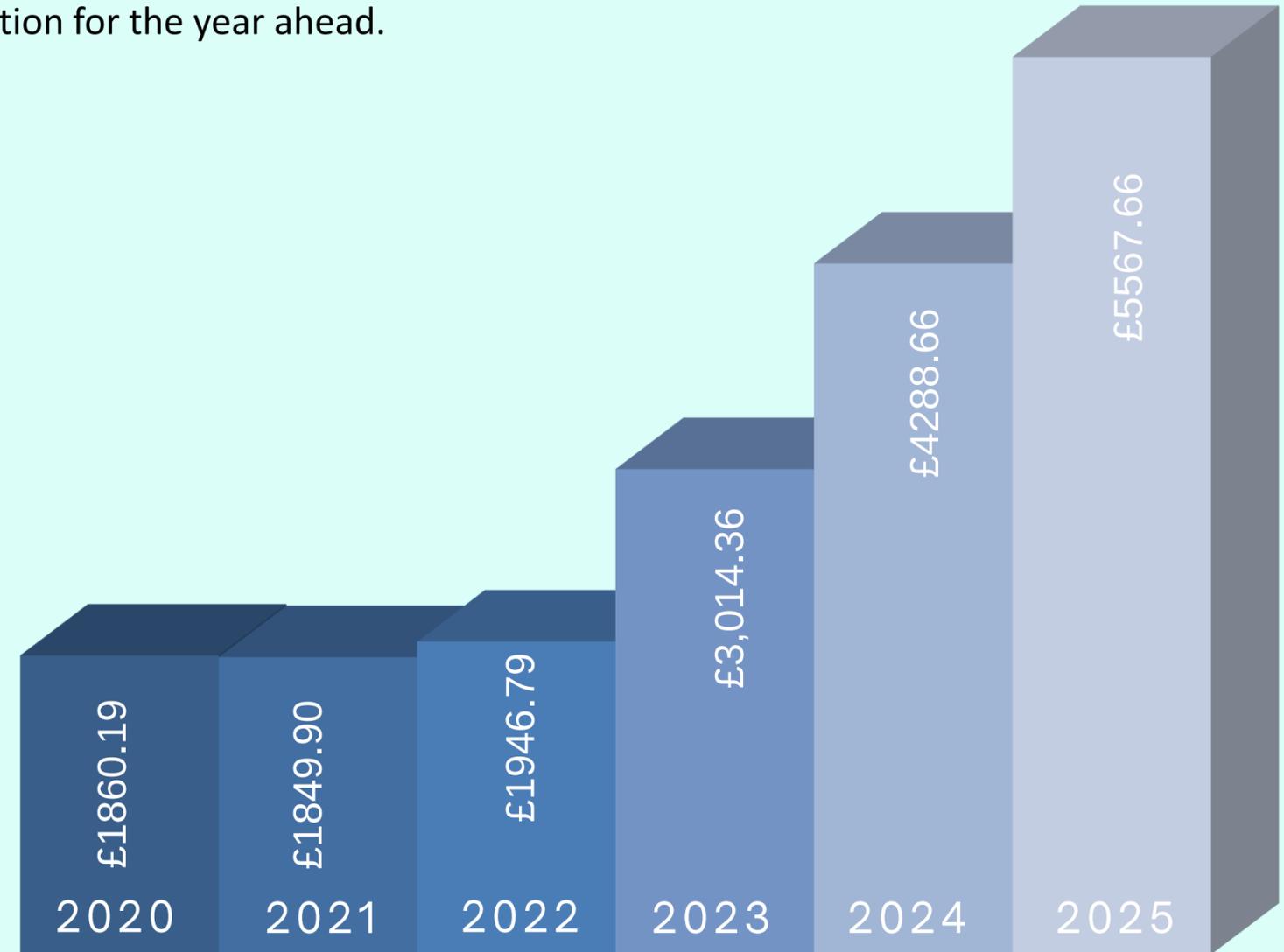


# Finance Update

Our finances remain in a healthy position, allowing Village Bakers to confidently continue with our planned activities and events. We ended the year with a total account balance of **£5,567.66**, representing a **30% increase on our end-of-year balance for 2024**. This strong position reflects careful management and provides a solid foundation for the year ahead.

Account Balance  
**£5,567.66**

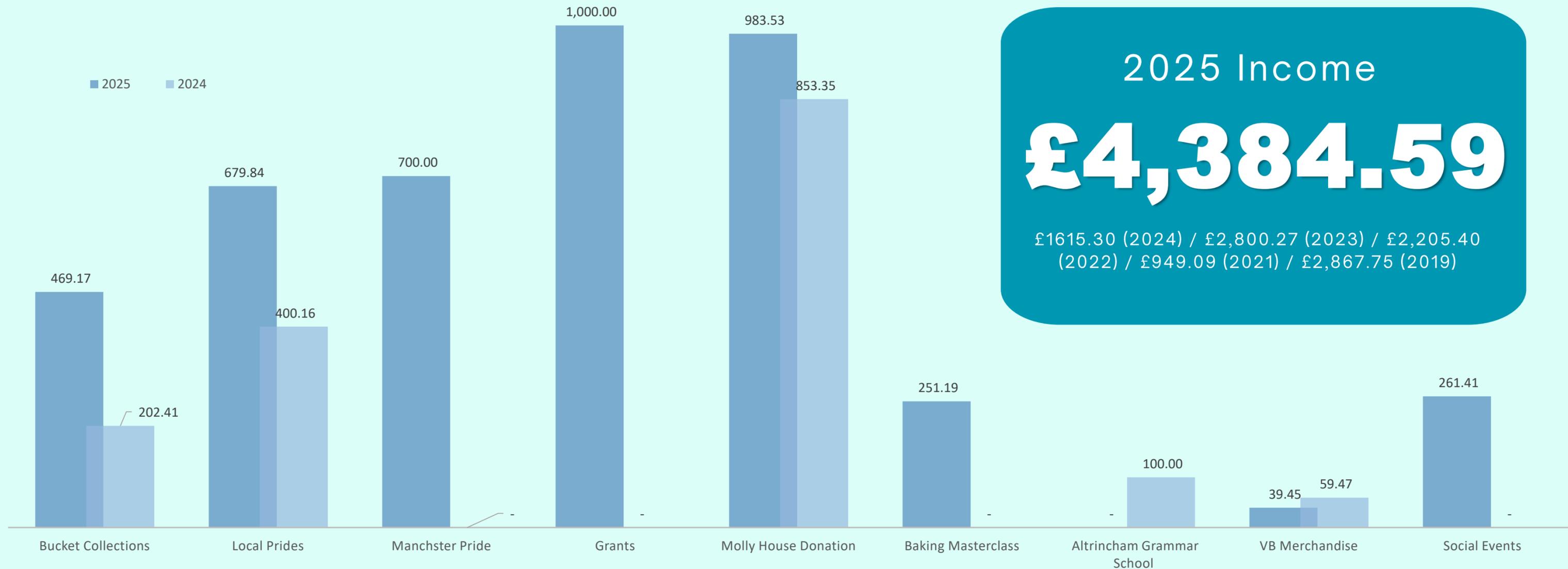
Increase of  
**30%**



# Finance - Income

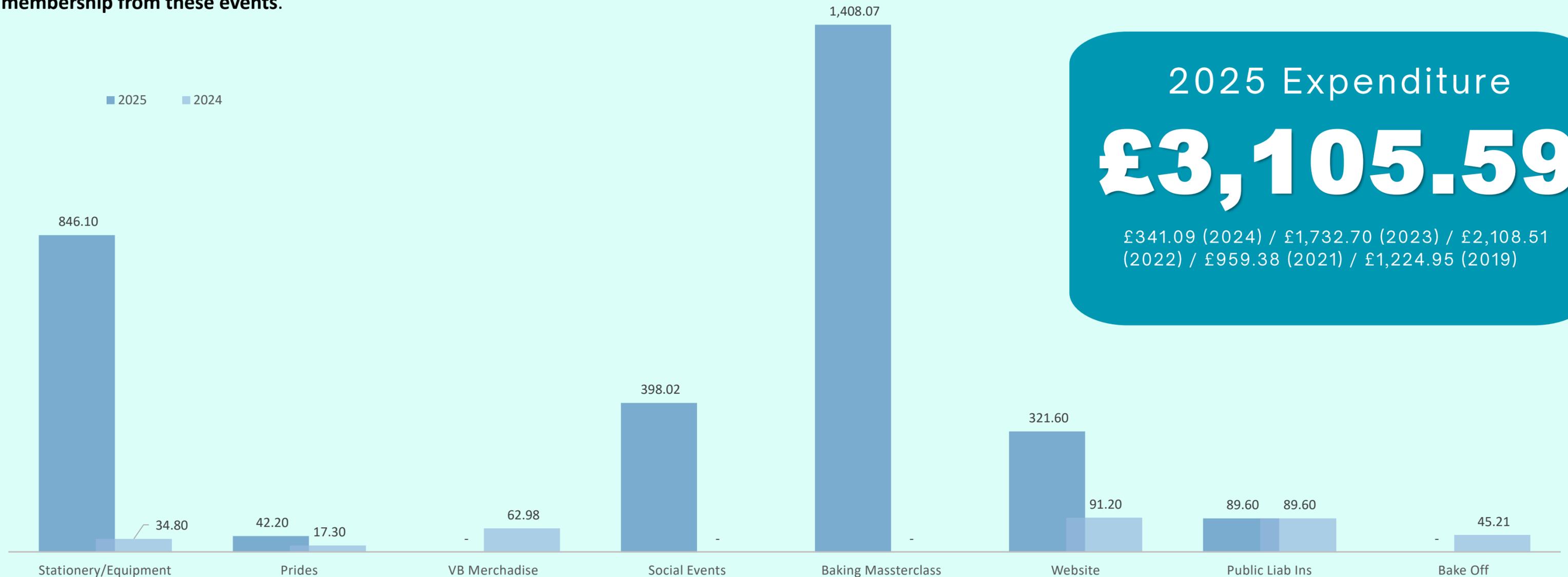


Total income for 2025 was **£4,384.59**, a significant increase from **£1,616.30 in 2024**, reflecting strong growth and support for the group. Key income sources included donations from **The Molly House via the 10% Membership Card scheme**, alongside notable increases in donations from **Bucket Collections and Local Pride events**. We also received **£700 from Manchester Pride** to support our Baking Masterclass in April. Following the collapse of Manchester Pride in September and concerns around future funding, we successfully explored alternative sources and secured **£1,000 from NISA**, helping to support future baking masterclasses and activities..



# Finance - Expenditure

Total expenditure for 2025 was **£3,105.59**, up from **£341.09** in **2024**, reflecting increased investment in the group's activities and growth. The main rise in costs relates to the delivery of our **Baking Masterclasses**; following the collapse of Manchester Pride in September, the October masterclass was **fully funded from Village Bakers' savings**. We also increased spending on **social events**, with the **Pizza Social fully funded by Village Bakers**, helping to strengthen our community offering. Investment was made in the **Village Bakers website**, which has recently relaunched with a more professional look and feel to support attracting new members. Additional expenditure on **equipment and marketing materials**, including membership cards and pride event equipment, has improved our professional presence at local pride events and directly contributed to **increased income & membership from these events**.



# Membership

Attendance at our Sunday Socials continues to grow year on year.

Average attendance has risen to **39 people**, up from **25 last year (+56%)**, and more than double our **2020 average of 16 (+144%)**. This growth shows a thriving, welcoming community that's going from strength to strength.

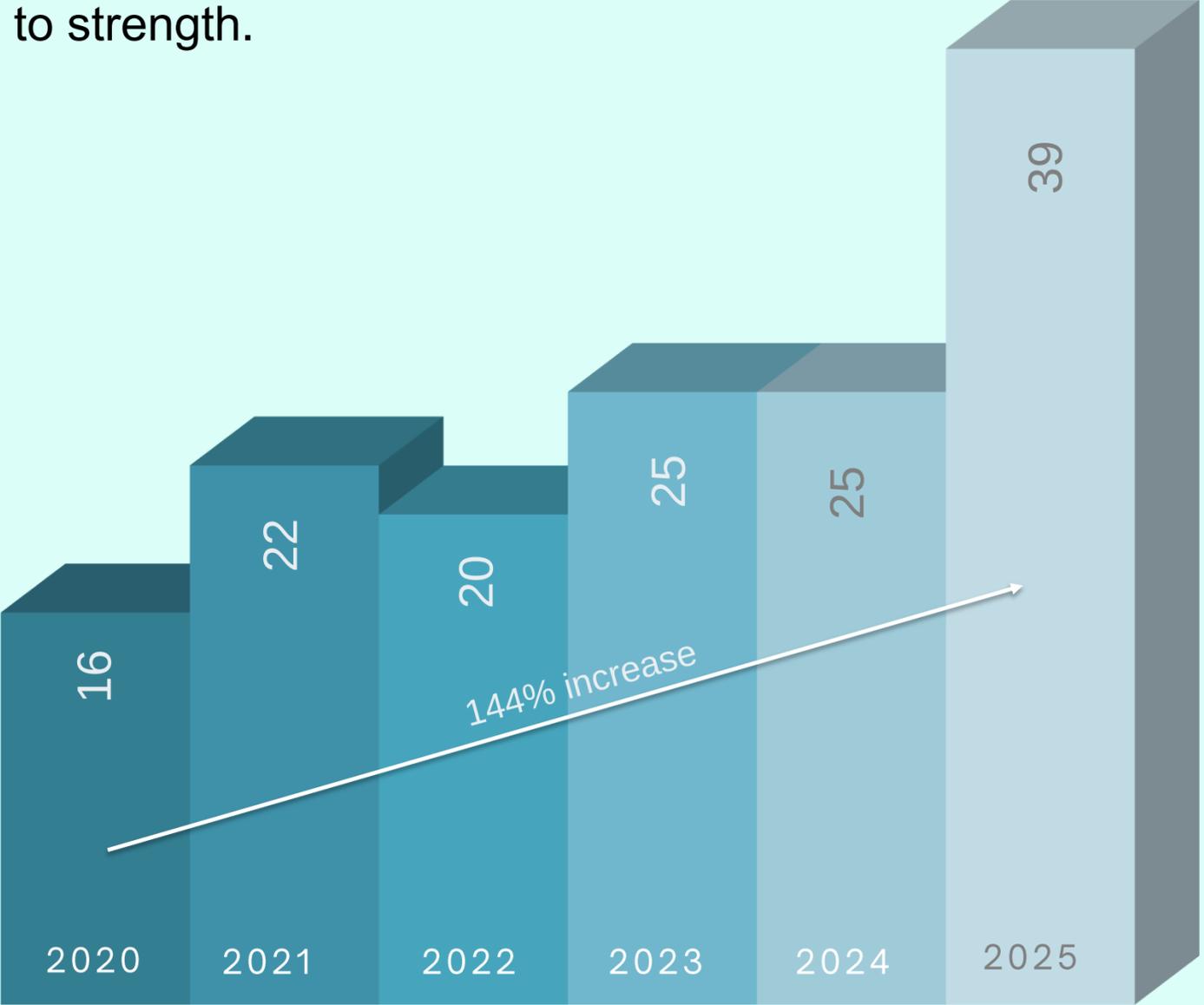
Average Attendance

**39**

Increase of 14 people

**56%**

Increase on 2024



Village Bakers  
Great Village Bake Off 2015



# STRONG

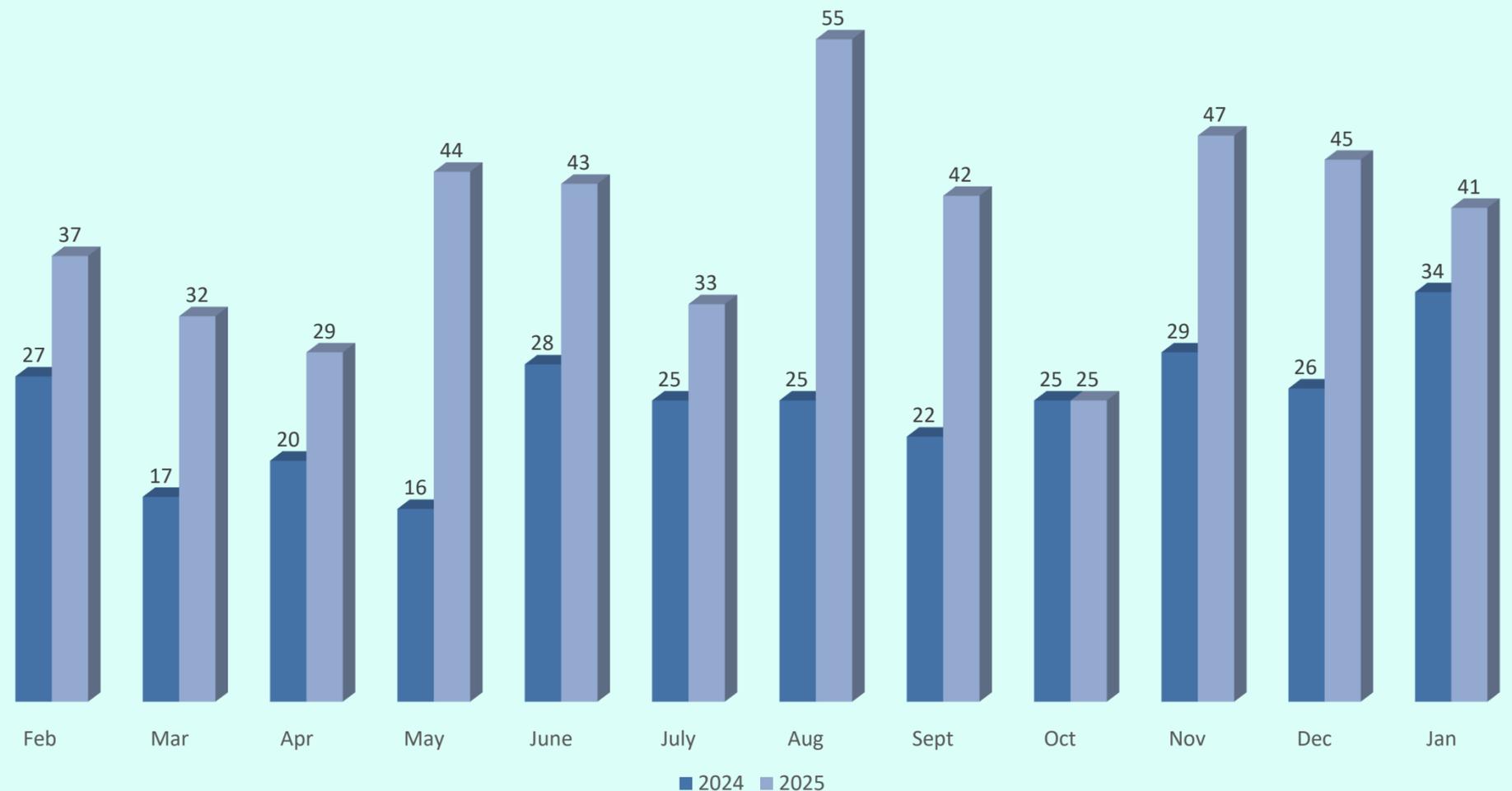
Attendance numbers exceeding previous years monthly attendance.



# Membership

Monthly Sunday Social attendance showed strong and consistent growth throughout the year.

Each month exceeded the previous year's attendance, with the exception of **October**, which matched last year's numbers. **August, November and December** were our highest-attended socials. Typically, May sees lower attendance due to Eurovision, but this year the timing worked in our favour and did not impact turnout.



# 66

+31 YOY

membership cards  
issued in 2025

YoY increase of 31

2022 (16), 2023 (32), 2024 (35), 2025 (66)

### Percentage of New Members vs Renewal of Membership

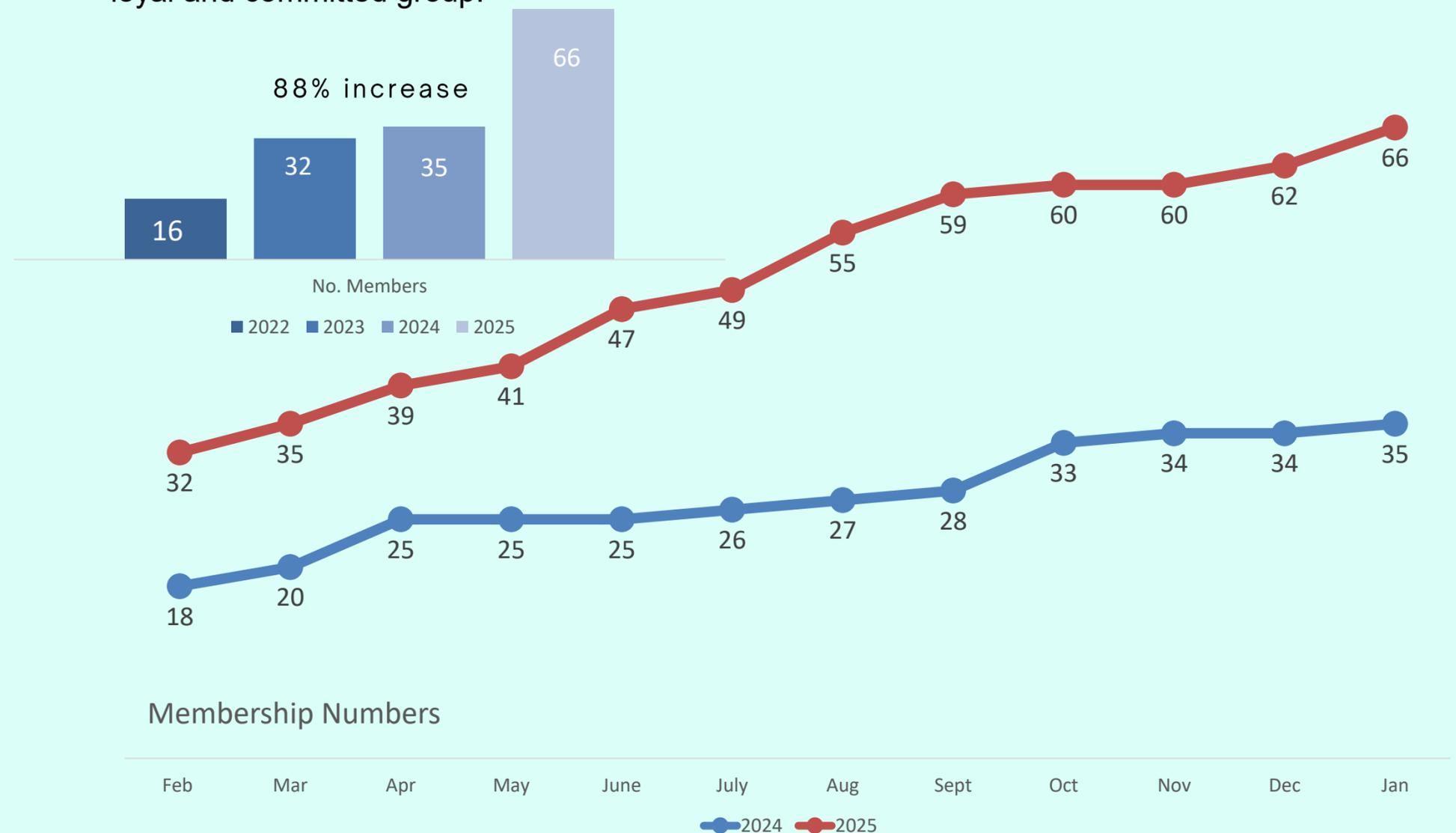
% New % Renew



# Membership

Our membership continues to grow and strengthen year on year.

Member numbers have increased from **35 to 66 (+88%)**, with membership cards issued consistently throughout the year — showing that new attendees are staying, returning and becoming part of the community. Alongside this growth, we're retaining our existing members, with **53% of cards being renewals** and **45% of members having joined before 2024**, reflecting a loyal and committed group.



# Village Bakers 2025



**13**

Years of  
Bake | Bring | Share

**12**

Sunday  
Socials



**340**

Cakes & Bakes\*

\*estimated based on average attendance

**1**

Great Village  
Bake Off

**2**

Baking  
Masterclasses

**3**

Local  
Pride  
Events



**66**

Membership  
Cards  
issued in  
2025



**30%**

Increase in our Bank Balance

Average of

**39**

People  
attending Sunday  
socials



**47%**

Of membership cards issued  
are to **New Members**

**4**

Mid Week  
Socials

**8**

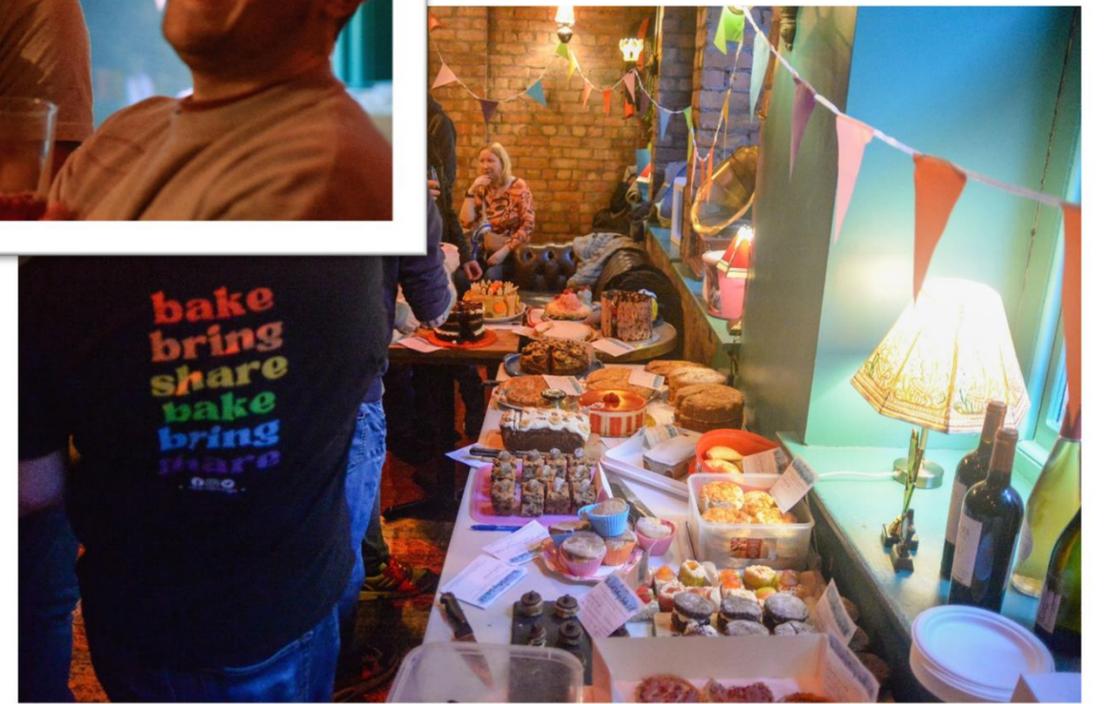
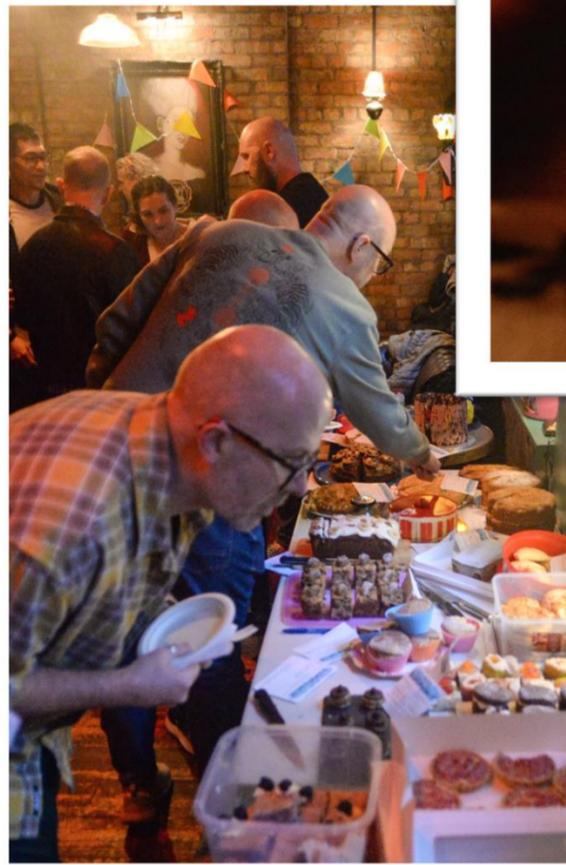
Committee Members  
donating their time for your group

**1**

New Website  
and Promo Flag  
However still no roller banner!



# Village Bakers 2026



# Village Bakers Constitution

## *Proposed Changes*



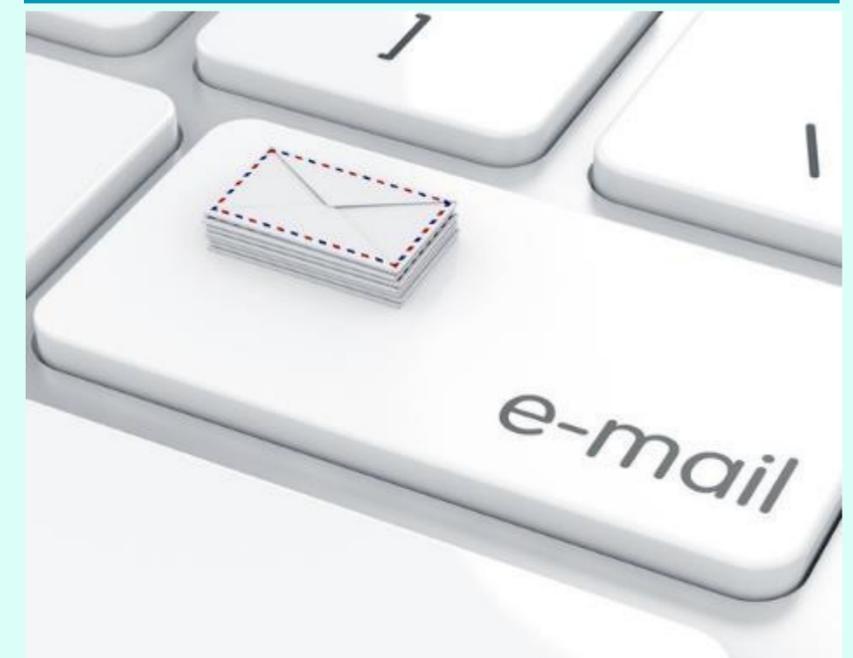
No changes proposed.

## *How to view the constitution*



The full Village Bakers Constitution can be viewed at [www.villagebakers.lgbt](http://www.villagebakers.lgbt)

## *How to feedback*



If you have any concerns about the changes to the Village Bakers Constitution, please email [villagebakersmanchester@gmail.com](mailto:villagebakersmanchester@gmail.com) within 2 weeks of the AGM.

# Our Proposed Committee 2026

Changes: Stepping down – Steve S, New to committee – Ellis, Change in Role – Andrew to support membership



Kevin Sargent  
Chair Person



Gavin Deadman  
Secretary



Steve Brooks  
Treasurer



Laura White  
Membership



Jon Whitfield  
Committee Officer



Jonnie Balls  
Committee Officer



Andrew Bourne  
Membership



Ellis Jones  
Committee Officer

Committee Vacancies: Vice Chair Person / Committee Officer Roles

# 2026 & Beyond

Village Bakers focus areas for 2026 and beyond.

## Membership

**Recruit, retain** and **maintain** new & existing members.

Ensure membership represents our **diverse** community.



## Advertising

**Target new members** by investing in our owned and paid for channels.



## Finance

**Maintain** the current financial stability, ensuring spending is in line with expectations

## Events

A **manageable** program of events, designed to **reward and attract** members





VILLAGE  
B A K E R S  
— ESTD. 2012 —

**ANY OTHER  
BUSINESS**

