

St Stephen's Church, Shottermill



Annual Reports and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council *For the year ended 31st December 2010*

(Registered charity number: 1134016)

Incumbent:
Rev Danny Wignall

Bank:
CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:
Christopher Elsey FCA
Barter Durgan & Muir
31 Bepton Down
Petersfield
Hampshire
GU31 4PR

The Parish of St Stephen's, Shottermill

Agenda for the Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on 27th March 2011 at 10.00am

A: Vestry Meeting

- 1 Election of 2 Churchwardens to serve for the year 2011/2012
- Duncan Long and Hilary Bicknell and approval of Bill Kennedy as Assistant Churchwarden

B: Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 *Minutes of the APCM of 25th April 2010*
- 4 Matters arising and notification of Any other Business
- 5 Written reports on the past year as follows - *please take time to read these.*
 - Electoral Roll Report - *Jo Long*
 - Annual Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council - *Robin Andersen*
 - Report on the Church Fabric - *Andrew Lee, Colin Short and Duncan Long*
 - Report on the Proceedings of the Godalming Deanery Synod - *Danny Wignall*
 - Rainbow Nursery report - *Hilary Owen*
 - Worship and media report - *Andy Rigby*
 - Children's and families worker report - *Giles Carpenter*
 - Youth Work Report - *Lee Nancarrow*
 - Noah Ark & Rainbow Nursery and Noah's Ark Social Fundraising Committee (SFC) - *Vanessa Clothier Pratts*
 - Outward Giving Report - *Neil Wilson*
 - Prayer Ministry Team/The Marriage Course - *Jean & Michael Clark*
 - Prime Time - *Vanessa Kemp*
 - Care Home Ministry - *Sarah Weldon*
 - Pastoral Care Report - *Jane Saunders*
 - Church Office - *Jo Long*

N.B. Verbal reports will follow on future Sunday's

- 6 Election of Lay Representatives to serve on the Deanery Synod (3 places)
 - Jean Burchell and Erika Glaysher are standing down - *please notify Danny or Lynda if you would like to stand (there are 3 vacancies)*
- 7 Election of Lay Representatives to serve on the PCC (5 places)
 - Leaving: Lynne Brown, Annie Barnesdale, Robin Andersen
 - Joining: Ross Cunningham, Bill Kennedy, Jackie Gray & Zoe Isaacs (to be co-opted) - *please notify Danny or Lynda if you would like to stand (1 vacancy remaining)*
- 8 *Annual Report on the Financial Affairs of the Parish and Presentation of the Audited Accounts*
 - Verbal report from the Treasurer Ed Walker
- 9 Appointment of the Independent Examiner to the Council :
"This meeting resolves to reappoint Mr Christopher Elsey FCA as independent examiner to the Council for the term of office ending at the close of the next annual meeting."
- 10 Vicars Report
- 11 Questions/AOB
- 12 Date of the next APCM - Sunday 22nd April 2012 at Church

**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting and APCM of St Stephen's Church
10am 25th April 2010**

APCM 2010

Opened in prayer by John Postill
Chaired by Danny Wignall

Vestry Meeting

1. **Church Wardens** - Colin Short was proposed to remain as church warden by Michelle Webb and seconded by Jill Soar. Andrew Lee was proposed to remain as church warden by Peter Soar and seconded by Duncan Long. All agreed - no objections. Thanks given to Andrew, Colin and Duncan Long for all their work.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

1. Members not on the electoral roll were proposed to be allowed to remain. All agreed - no objections
2. Apologies for absence were received from Diana Harding, Sam Dalton, Morag Dalton, Derek Dalton, Helen Mitchell, Dave Mitchell, David Van-Jeffries, Jean Van-Jeffries, Lisa Aucamp, Peter Aucamp, Anne Laver, David Laver,
3. **Minutes from 2009:** were approved. - Neil Caie proposed, Brenda Petrie seconded all agreed - no objections.
4. No **Matters Arising** from previous minutes.
5. **Written Reports** - Danny directed people to the written reports and encouraged everyone to read them and thanked each person for all they have done. The reports are listed below:
 - a. Electoral Roll Report - Jo Long
 - b. Annual Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council - Robin Andersen
 - c. Report on the Church Fabric - Andrew Lee, Colin Short and Duncan Long
 - d. Report on the Proceedings of the Godalming Deanery Synod - Danny Wignall
 - e. Rainbow Nursery report - Hilary Owen
 - f. Worship and media report - Andy Rigby
 - g. Children's and families worker report - Vanessa Clothier Pratts
 - h. Youth Work Report - Lee Nancarrow
 - i. Noah Ark & Rainbow Nursery and Noah's Ark Social Fundraising Committee (SFC) - Vanessa Clothier-Pratts.
 - j. Outward Giving Report - Neil Wilson
 - k. Prayer Ministry Team/The Marriage Course - Jean & Michael Clark
 - l. Prime Time - Vanessa Kemp
 - m. Care Home Ministry - Sarah Weldon
 - n. Pastoral Care Report - Jane Saunders
 - o. Church Office - Jo Long
 - p. Finance Report - Ed Walker.
6. **Deanery Synod** - Jean Burchell and Erika Glaysher were elected to the Deanery Synod. Jean Burchell was proposed by Robin Andersen and seconded by Andrew Lee. Erika Glaysher was proposed by Andrew Lee and seconded by Robin Andersen.
7. **PCC** - Helen Mitchell and Erika Glaysher have completed their period on the PCC. Peter Aucamp was proposed to join the PCC by Patrick Carron and seconded by Peter Soar, there were no objections. Jill Soar was proposed to join the PCC by Jo Long and seconded by Robin Andersen, there were no objections. Ian Gee was proposed to join the PCC by Andrew Lee and seconded by Robin Andersen, there were no

- objections. Lynda Kay was proposed to join the PCC by Ed Walker and seconded by Peter Soar, there were no objections.
8. Duncan Long was proposed to join the PCC by Jeannie Postill and seconded by Donna Rigby, there were no objections. There remain two spaces within the PCC and anyone who would like to join was asked to contact Danny, Colin, Andrew or Robin.
 9. **Treasurers report** - Ed provided a summary of the key points of the financial position of the church:
 - a. General income of the church was £180,000, £40,000 of which was on tax reclaim
 - b. General expenditure was £170,000
 - c. At 2012 the building fund should have £56,000 contained within, including all loans repaid
 - d. Stewardship 2010 - Target was £17,000 and 10 new givers. We have achieved a £13,500 increase and 5 new givers so far.
 - e. Curate funding - we will sell flat 3 to fund the next 4 years. We will start a fund for the following 4 years.
 10. **Appointment of the Independent Examiner to the Council** -The meeting resolved to reappoint Mr Christopher Elsey FCA as independent examiner to the Council for the term of office ending at the close of the next annual meeting on 24th April 2011. All agreed - no objections.
 11. **Vicars Report** - Danny showed photographs of the events that have happened in the church in the last year. Danny announced that 16 new people have joined the electoral roll. Over the next year he encouraged the church to grow deeper in our relationship with God, in love and unity with our church family, in sharing our faith with others in what we say and how we live.
 12. Date of the next meeting of the Parochial Church Council - 14th May 8pm at the Vicarage. Date of the next APCM is the 24th April 2011.

Closed in Prayer by Danny

VICAR'S REPORT - APCM 27th March 2011

We are truly blessed as a church to have so many dedicated people serving us in the church and on our behalf in the community. I hope as you read the reports written in this document that you will be as encouraged and inspired as I have been. Thank you to everyone who has written a report and of course to all the teams of people they represent - many very much behind the scenes - but none-the-less, equally valuable. Thank you! Maybe as you read them, you will be prompted to have a go at serving in a particular area of church life? Please remember that it is OK to try something out for a while and then to say if isn't the right thing for you. However, you might discover something you really enjoy!

We all have a unique God-given part to play in the body of Christ and we aim as a church to create the space and support to enable each person to discover what this might be for them. There is so much to give thanks for and way too many people to thank individually by listing them all here, so I want to thank each one of you for the privilege of leading and serving such an exciting and vibrant community of God's people.

It is hard to believe that this time last year we were eagerly awaiting the arrival of Giles, Rachel, Jessie, Libby and Charlie. However, there was some anxiety over the

provision of housing and Nicky Lee has written in a previous edition of Good News of the amazing way in which God provided Sunvale Avenue. Giles and the family have been a real blessing to us all and I want to thank them for the way they have thrown themselves into this community and for their warmth, hospitality and love. I am immensely enjoyed having Giles as a colleague and he is truly a 'Partner in the Gospel'.

One of my jobs as your vicar is to continually bring us back to what it is God has called us to be as individuals and as a church and this report is primarily a re-stating of what I believe God has called us to be as the people of St Stephen's. I said in last year's report that I believed God was calling us to grow deeper and not wider. It was CS Lewis who coined the phrase 'Deep Church'. When asked if he was 'high' church or 'low' church replied 'no; I'm deep church'. I believe that this continues to be God's call to us as a community that seeks to be centred around Jesus (our key value). We grow as disciples as we grow deeper in relationship with Him, grow deeper in relationship with each other and grow deeper in relationship with those who are not-yet Christians. This of course reflects our ultimate purpose as a church (based on the great commandments and commissions of scripture) to grow UP - growing in intimacy with God; IN - growing in love and unity in our church community and OUT - growing in mission and service to those outside of the church.

I shared with the PCC on our away day in January that I don't believe that this is a year for major new plans or a changes in direction (although there will be necessary and unavoidable changes - some of which I will mention later on in this report). I have a sense that we are only at the beginning of what God is wanting do with us as a church and as individuals. I am very excited about what lies ahead. I also want to reassure you all that I intend to be around for a number of years yet and that my Extended Ministerial Development Leave (Sabbatical) is not planned because I have itchy feet and want to explore other possibilities. It is actually an opportunity for me to have time to take stock and be re-energised and resourced for what lies ahead here. As Anglican ministers we are encouraged to do this every 10 years or so. I have been ordained for 13 years this year, so have taken this opportunity in consultation with the diocese and PCC. I love being a vicar - and especially your vicar - and I trust that you will see the benefits of this extended time for study, reflection and development when I return in November. I also know that you will support Giles and the team during my absence.

I have already restated God's call to us to be a 'deep church' and to seek to grow deeper in our relationships. I also want to remind you of two scriptures that are absolutely central to the mission that God has given to us at St Stephen's and to introduce a new scripture to guide us for the coming year: The two scriptures I want to remind us of are Isaiah 35 and Ephesians 3. They are pivotal in giving us a vision of what it is to be a community that communicates the love of God; a community that is a place of healing and restoration that is centred around Jesus.

Firstly, Isaiah 35 paints a picture of the sort of transformative community that I believe God wants St Stephen's to aspire to be. Secondly Ephesians 3 is mine, and I hope your ongoing prayer, for St Stephen's. In it Paul prays for Ephesians Christians that they would (i) be strengthened and empowered by the indwelling of Christ by his Spirit; (ii) that they may be rooted and grounded in love; (iii) that they may know Christ's love in all its dimensions and (iv) that they may be filled up with the very fullness of God. What a prayer, what a vision of what we and the church can be! Just imagine a church where we knew God's strength, love, power and fullness in this way. Talking of imagination - Paul ends his prayer: *"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask*

or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Prayer changes situations and changes us, so let's be earnest in prayer - that St Stephen's would be a beacon of God's love, a place of encounter with Jesus in all his fullness and a place of enabling and empowering. I would also ask you to be open to what role God might be asking you to play in being part of the answer to this prayer - Whether within church, at work, in your leisure activities or at home. Please join me in praying this prayer for St Stephen's and in being expectant that as we pray God will answer us!

To help facilitate this we have introduced some new opportunities for corporate prayer together; namely morning prayer on Monday mornings at 9am, a Healing Service once a term and our monthly 1:1:1 prayer time - Once a month; One Church; One hour. These have been very powerful times and I would encourage you to come along. I would also commend to you what Marge Hitchmough described as a well kept secret at St Stephen's that is our Thursday morning communion at 10am. This is a quiet, simple service of communion which is a real oasis week by week.

The new scripture that I believe God has given to us is from Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding". Trust means putting full weight on and giving our whole life to the Lord - our plans, hopes, ambitions, family, possessions - everything! We put our trust 'in the Lord' - in the one who is Lord of all creation, sovereign, almighty, merciful, compassionate etc. We do this 'With all your heart' - with all that I am - my intellect, my emotions, the very essence of all I am. And 'lean not' - this is the opposite of trust; 'on your own understanding'. Our own understanding is at best limited, we see through a glass darkly, we only see in part because we don't know what the future holds and at worst our understanding is flawed and influenced by mixed motives and the voices of others with equally partial understanding.

I believe that this call to grow deeper, to trust more fully in the Lord and less on our own wisdom, will require us to practice some spiritual disciplines. I don't think there is any short cut to developing a deeper relationship with the Lord. We have to cultivate good habits and disciplines that create space for God in our lives. Finding time to be still and silent are vital. Many of us need the courage to stop - to wait and be still. This is not an optional extra for those with plenty of time on their hands but absolutely vital if we are to grow in our faith. God most often speaks to us in that still small voice and if we don't make any time to be still - we will miss out on the fullness of what God has for us.

The other discipline is that of service. We are called to be servants as Jesus was a servant. Jesus came to serve and freely offers us his love, grace, mercy, acceptance, approval because it is in his nature and character to do so. The practices of stillness and service will require self-discipline and self-denial - but this is the call to us who desire to follow in Jesus' footsteps.

On our PCC away day we also discussed the values that we had formulated two years earlier. After some discussion we felt that they were values that did reflect our character as a church and that they were not totally aspirational - bearing no relation to reality! But equally we do not want to be complacent in thinking that we have somehow arrived. Just to remind you, our values as a church are as follows: (i) Centred around Jesus; (ii) Building Right relationships; (iii) Welcoming and open to all; (iv) Encouraging

Every member ministry; (v) Open to the work of the Holy Spirit; (vi) Generous; (vii) Compassionate.

In September we re-launched our home groups with some groups multiplying and others forming. The existing groups were also reformed by asking each member if they wished to stay as part of a particular group. We now have a total of 10. We have more people in Home Groups - at the last count we had close to 100 adults part of a Home Group. On top of this we have our two youth bible study groups. I think this is quite remarkable in a church with an electoral roll of 160. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of our home groups leaders and hosts who do such a fantastic job of being servant leaders to these groups and providing a space where people can both be nurtured in a loving and supportive environment as well as being challenged in their daily discipleship. It has also been fantastic to see several home group members planning and taking part in services including leading and preaching.

There have been changes in some of the key ministry and leadership roles this year and there will be more changes ahead. We have seen changes in the office, children's work and will be seeing change in our youth ministry. As I write we are in the process of advertising a new role of Youth and Children's director that builds upon Lee and Laura's work and seeks to bring a new more coherent shape to the whole youth and children's ministry. See Robins PCC report for further information. There will also be changes in our PCC and wardens team. I will speak more of these verbally at the APCM as well as thanking the many folk who need our particular thanks.

We have seen a growth of new members on our electoral roll of nine new members but have also seen people move away or leave this life to be with the Lord. This doesn't reflect the much greater increase we have had in the number of children coming to junior church over recent months. For this reason the PCC are beginning to explore ways of increasing the amount of available space to accommodate these growing numbers. Three possibilities are (i) a temporary classroom where the current store is and (ii) creating a space in the chancel with a glass partition and sound proofed curtains and (iii) extending the old choir vestry. We haven't lost sight of our original desire to join the two buildings together and are also looking at plans for this.

The office has continued to become much more of a central hub for all that is going on at St Stephen's. I am extremely grateful to Jo Long for developing a broader and larger role and for her generosity in extending her time until Jenny Parsons started. I am also grateful to our office volunteers Dianna Harding and Helen Brading for ensuring that the office has been open more than would have otherwise been possible. See Jo's report for more detail.

We continue to have an ever growing fringe of people of all ages who are in regular contact with St Stephen's and who more importantly are building relationships with church members. Let's pray that all of these people may be drawn closer to Jesus - whether it be through Noah's Ark, Rainbow, Pamper Evening, Holiday Club, Saturday morning football and occasional events (e.g. Time out for Christmas), KidsPriase, school assemblies and lessons, ministry to care homes and Hasleway, Men@St Stephens, Prime Time events, Alpha, Parenting Course, Celebrate marriage, weddings, baptisms and funerals, Christmas Services or our youth events. In addition each of us are uniquely placed to show the love of Jesus to the particular networks of people that we know - family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues, college friends, those we meet as we go about our daily lives. It is important that in all of this activity, we don't lose sight of the

fact that all we do is for God's glory: to announce and build his Kingdom with Jesus as the King.

Last year I posed three challenges to you and me for the coming year. It seems to me that they are still very relevant in light of all that I have written above.

1. Give everything you have to God in prayer - acknowledge that it is all His anyway and ask the Lord how you can best use all that He has given to you. Live life as a gift and not a possession. Is there anything that makes you reluctant or hesitant to go deeper in your relationships with Him and others?

2. Ask the question: what is God calling me to do? - ask the Lord if there is anything He is specifically calling you to do. Are you in the right job? Could you work less hours and give more time to serving the community or church? Is he calling you to spend more time with certain members of your family or friends? Is He calling you to get involved in local politics or a voluntary organisation? Is He calling you to have more fun and join a club or other activity?

3. Take responsibility for your own learning as a disciple - we are all called to be disciples and to make disciples. As a church we can provide teaching through sermons, supporting materials and home groups etc, but only you can make the choice to be an active learner (that is the definition of a disciple!) Together we need to learn to submit; surrender and walk in obedience to the Lord. It might be that some of you want to be accountable to two or three others in a prayer triplet or core group. Please speak to Danny or Giles if you are considering this.

Let's pray that we would be a learning church - where there is a hunger to know more of God both through study of his Word and through experience of the power of the Holy Spirit and of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. I think that we have made some progress in this area with our Mission of God Teaching series and the accompanying bible study notes.

So, as we look ahead to the future, there are some exciting possibilities ahead as we build upon all that God has been doing in our midst. I am looking forward to seeing lives continuing to be changed by the transforming love of God, to journeying together as we seek to be authentic and obedient followers of Jesus in our daily lives - in the highs and the lows, the joys and the sorrows. The desire of those of us who serve and lead you is that we would create the right conditions in which we can grow and flourish as a healthy church, rooted in the word of God and led by his Spirit so that together we can grow deeper, rooted, grounded and established in the love of God so that we "*may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you [we] may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*" Ephesians 3:17-19.

Danny Wignall, March 2011

CURATE'S REPORT - APCM 27th March 2011
--

It is not an easy task to sum up my impressions of the last nine months in a few paragraphs particularly when they have been your first in ordained ministry and served within a church as latent with energy as St Stephen's undoubtedly is. We find ourselves in a church that has an instinct for growth, we seem to look for more and expect that

God has so much for us. But just like a gangly teenager getting used to new horizons and new challenges we can feel both exuberant as well as uncertain about the future.

I think that is why I overwhelmingly come back to a sense that we are called to be nurtured by God and by each other as we move forward and grow into the new body that God seems graciously to be giving us.

Of course at a personal level St Stephen's is very much a place of nurture and growth for me. You have nurtured and shown your care for us as a family and Danny has been a generous brother and mentor giving me both, time and space and opportunity and encouragement to develop my role within the church.

With the benefit of this support Ross Cunningham and I have started 'Dads and Lads' football which has grown from the two of us to regularly a dozen dads and their children some of whom have joined our beefed up curry nights and even begun to join us on Sunday mornings for worship. We have now secured Deanery funding support to spend on equipment and promoting the mission to the local schools. Michelle, Lee and Laura have all been subjected to my temporary oversight of Youth and Junior Church and born it with admirable stoicism and support. You have all been hugely encouraging of my attempts to lead and preach regularly at St Stephens and the likes of Erika Glaysher and Elizabeth Lockwood have shown me what a joy and privilege it can be to serve the elderly community in our parish. Whilst not exhaustive these have all been areas of growth for a new curate.

But I genuinely believe this is more than simply a personal experience projected onto our corporate life as a community. Nurture, even with teenagers (so I am told) requires that we hold in tension two often diametrically opposite forces. Firstly nurture is about care, ensuring that we create a safe and secure environment but it is also about creating sufficient space for each of us to take risks, to try something new in the full knowledge that it may not always be perfect.

My strong sense is that we are being called to be a nurturing church in which all share a responsibility to care and nurture each other. In our midst are those who are going through great growth spurts and our role as a community is to encourage them to be even bolder and reach for the next branch up.

And hasn't it been exhilarating to watch serving ministries move to greater depths, to see preaching and teaching ministries launched, to see our young people lead us in sung worship or play an integral role in making Junior church a fun and loving environment for their younger peers. We rejoice with those who are experiencing this kind of growth.

But for every person who is reaching for the next branch we must also recognise that there are those in our midst who are experiencing a time of pain and confusion, those who are weary and in need of a time of rest, those who are finding it hard to articulate how they feel about what faith might mean for them.

Amidst these tensions we must be a church that is broad enough, wide enough and deep enough to carry us all forward together. A church that, as Lee reminded us so well last month, can stand both sides of the cross; knowing both the reality of those who suffer as Christ suffered and the joy of those who are bathed in the resurrection glory of our Risen Saviour. I love learning and growing with you all and bless you for allowing us as a family to journey with you.

Giles Carpenter, March 2011

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2010

The Finance Team and Auditor

In my fourth year-end report as Treasurer, I can report that I continue to be ably supported by Michael Clark (Paying in) and Jo Long (Paying Out). I quite simply could not do it all on my own and we really do work amazingly well together, in amongst our busy lives. The financial affairs of the church would be much harder work without all of their continued support.

In addition to the finance team a separate stewardship committee continues to meet from time to time with a focus on wider initiatives such as funding the curate's housing needs and promulgating the importance of financial stewardship throughout congregations. With three children under 5, their support in reaching out to potential new givers is also very welcome.

As for the 2010 accounts, I am pleased to be able to report that Chris Elsey of Barter Durgan & Muir has again agreed to conduct the independent examination.

Assets

We do not show the Church, graveyard or Cross in the accounts as these are considered by the PCC as consecrated land or inalienable to that land.

The PCC owns Flats No 2 and 3 in Glovers House opposite the church. One flat is occupied by the Youth Minister and his wife and the other is let on a commercial basis. The value of the flats is shown on the balance sheet. We continue to show the valuation provided by Keats Estate Agents at January 2008. Last year I took the view that any valuation in such uncertain financial times would be close to meaningless and I continue to hold that view, albeit that a valuation at the end of 2011 may now be a better yardstick for the accounts in due course. The accounts have been presented to the Independent Examiner on this basis.

The PCC were trustees for the Pitcairn Trust which was set up in order to provide an income for the maintenance of the Pitcairn graves. This trust was unwound in 2010 with the held of the Diocese as the income was minimal. The terms of the trust provided that a majority of the capital was paid to the PCC upon unwind. £249 is shown as a loss in the accounts (Statement of Financial Activities) as this sum was retained under the terms of the original Pitcairn will. The funds received were paid into the maintenance fund and used for the maintenance of the Church and its grounds.

The PCC arranges and pays for insurance on both the Cross and the Church and maintains Employers Liability Insurance cover for both buildings.

Income

We receive some income that is restricted and some that is unrestricted. These are shown separately in the accounts. Where money is given on a restricted basis, broadly, it cannot be used other than for the purpose it was donated. Good examples of restricted income are the money we receive into the building fund and the organ fund.

The general voluntary income (direct giving) for the year (£160,854) was a little down from last year ((£166,941) but this was expected, as the previous year was inflated as a result of one-off items.

The restricted income for repayment of the redevelopment loans and general contribution to the building fund (£39,148) was down against last year (£81,594), again as a result of the previous year's figures being inflated by one-off pledges to this fund.

The restricted income into the organ fund was only £265 (compared to £4,474 in 2010). This was mainly due to the fact that the original target cost of engaging the organ restorers had been reached.

Overall the number of donors has remained roughly constant, although we were blessed with a few more donors after the 2010 stewardship initiative. It is worth reminding ourselves that the tax we reclaim accounts for around 20% of our giving income. The accounts will show that the figure is around 15%, however, this hides the fact that a small but increasing number of donors choose to give via their employers (GAYE) or via CAF, where the payment received is made "gross" i.e. it effectively includes the tax element already.

Our Glovers House flat (No 3) was not tenanted for the entire year on the basis that it was on the market for sale. When it became apparent that it would not sell, the flat was re-tenanted. The rental income is lower as a result.

The accounts show a marked increase in income from "Youth Club". This is the terminology used in the accounting software to describe our Amplified activities. The reason for the marked increase is that I have encouraged the Youth ministry team to use the Church bank accounts to bank "subs" and pay expenses for one-off trips and activities (such as PGL holidays) rather than through a separate account. There is a consequent increase in "Youth expenses" as a result.

We have a relatively healthy bank balance (£130,408) (£173,500 in 2010). However, £66,449 is set aside for restricted purposes (organ, building and curate fund). Of the unrestricted funds (£63,958) more than half of this (£32,839) is set aside to settle various items due in 2011, including accrued but unspent outward giving. The maintenance fund ended the year with a positive balance of £12,683 (£14,591 in 2010) to fund maintenance projects during the forthcoming year (such as the redevelopment of the CROSS kitchen). The general fund ended the year with a positive balance of £19,687 (£10,008 in 2010). This balance may sound high but with church activities costing (on average) £14,000 a month, we are still a little short of the PCC's prudent target of £28,000 to cushion us from unexpected costs.

The statement of financial activities shows net incoming resources of £49,553.

Outward Giving

We allocate 10% of our regular income (as well as any special collections and the Christmas collections) to be given to a broad range of Christian and secular charities and projects locally, nationally and internationally.

Overall, at the end of 2010 £20,365 was available to be given to our selected causes including funds held over from prior years. The majority of this money (£19,800) was

paid out in January to the chosen causes. The Christmas collections raised a fabulous £730 which was donated equally to CRISIS at Christmas and the Children's Society.

The accounts do not show all of the money that the church donated during the year (totalling £22,000) including £1,800 each to 12 organisations throughout the year. These organisations were: China Heart, EMCF International Church Derby, Age Concern Haslemere, Chernobyl Lifeline, Christian Missions Charitable Trust, Church Mission Society, Foundation for Reconciliation and Relief in the Middle East, Latin Link, Open Doors, Tear Fund, Mr and Mrs Rocke and Crossways Counselling Service. This is not shown in the accounts because this expenditure was primarily from our 2009 outward giving accrual.

It is worth remembering that we also expend money on a number of causes and projects which are outwardly directed but which for historical reasons are not classified as outward giving by St Stephens. Examples of this would be significant parts of the children and youth ministries.

Expenditures

The general account expenditure directly relating to the work of the Church in 2010 decreased this year to broadly the same level as 2008, 2009 being affected by some one-off expenditure such as the coffee facilities at the back of the church which were funded by additional one-off contributions to the Church.

Reserves

The sum of £7,000 is set aside annually for contribution to the relatively new estate maintenance fund. Expenditure on this fund is managed by Duncan Long. Under his careful stewardship, this fund is beginning to grow again at the same time as important maintenance projects completed. At the end of 2010, the maintenance fund cash balance stood at £12,683. This fund has enabled the funding of new Church gutters and new heating in the Cross. Since July 2010, an additional £2,000 a year will be set aside into this maintenance fund to defray future maintenance costs associated with the curate's house, Sunvale. £1,000 was transferred into this fund in 2010.

The Cross

The Cross has once again been run at a loss (£7,527) as a stand alone building. The "rent" from the Nursery School for 2010 (£5,500) remained at the same level as 2009. The "rent" is designed to broadly reflect the costs associated with that building and the proportion of time utilised by the Nursery School. It is recognised that this level of rent is not yet set at a commercial level, in part because the building does not meet generally accepted commercial standards but also as a recognition that the Nursery School is an important part of the Church's activities and outreach. The loss is larger this year, mainly due to the costs of installing new heating in the CROSS.

Building Fund

Committed pledges during the year from members of the congregation and one off donations towards the building fund amounted to £37,121. The original 4 year pledges were in large part renewed in June 2008 for a 4 year period and the new normal annual pledge receipt (including tax). We now enter the final year of the pledge where income

from existing pledges drops to £20,300. I would like to use this report to thank all those who have supported this fund during the last 7 years and continue to do so.

At the end of 2010, we had a total debt of £12,000. After fully providing for this debt, the building fund for new growth stands at £45,136, which is a tremendous achievement.

The remaining accrual relates to part of the Cross roof and continues to be provided for in full. This accrual will be reviewed again during 2011.

The Rainbow

The Rainbow Nursery School made a surplus this year of £5,818 after paying £5,500 for the use of the CROSS. It does, however, carry forward an accrual of just over £3,000.

The Rainbow Head reports in more detail on the activities this year in her report.

Diocese Parish Share

This amount, at £65,604 is our largest expense. It will reduce slightly in 2011. It pays for the salary, pension and housing expenses of our clergy, the training of new clergy, the central expenses of the diocese in Guildford and a subsidy to the parishes which do not cover their costs. It did not rise as a result of our new curate joining in July 2010.

It is worth mentioning again that this is not something we can opt out of unless we do not want to have a Vicar and from a Curate! When one considers that we have the full use of two large buildings, the full time service of a resident dedicated Vicar and Curate and access to the resources of the diocese for £65,000 it is not an unreasonable charge. We just need to make the best use of the resources at our disposal.

Curacy

A separate restricted fund has been set up in the accounts to fund the current and possible future curacy. The PCC agreed to a 4 year curacy on the basis that we would fund the costs by selling one of the flats in Glovers House. Unfortunately, the market was against us and we failed to sell. We are currently funding the curacy expenses (curate expenses, housing expenses etc) from our cash resources but it is not expected that we will be able to do so indefinitely. However, we do rent Sunvale from the Diocese at a low rent and this is helping us get through this period.

Ed Walker

St Stephen's Church Shottermill PCC

Printed: 22/03/2011

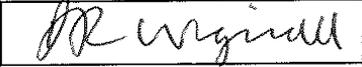
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Income Funds	Endowment Funds	Total this year	Total last year
Incoming Resources					
Voluntary income	160,854	39,148	0	200,002	248,535
Activities for generating funds	142	142	0	284	0
Investment income	5,218	0	0	5,218	8,011
Incoming resources from charitable activities	9,564	0	0	9,564	3,307
Other incoming resources	100,388	0	0	100,388	90,259
Total Incoming Resources	276,166	39,290	0	315,456	350,112
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating voluntary income	-13	0	0	-13	46
Fundraising trading costs	0	0	0	0	0
Investment management costs	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	176,226	-565	0	175,661	194,361
Governance costs	1,186	0	0	1,186	1,399
Other resources expended	89,070	0	0	89,070	84,097
Total Resources Expended	266,469	-565	0	265,904	279,903
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before Transfers	9,697	39,855	0	49,553	70,208
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds	1,965	-1,000	-965	0	0
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/losses	11,662	38,855	-965	49,553	70,208
Other recognised gains/losses					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	0	0	0	0	0
Gains and losses on investment assets	0	0	-249	-249	0
Net Movement in Funds	11,662	38,855	-1,214	49,303	70,208
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward from previous year	315,164	8,464	1,214	324,842	
Total funds carried forward	326,826	47,319	0	374,146	

St Stephen's Church Shottermill PCC

Printed: 01/03/2011

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Income Funds	Endowment Funds	Total this year	Total last year
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	290,000	0	0	290,000	290,000
Investments	0	0	0	0	0
Total fixed assets	290,000	0	0	290,000	291,065
Current assets					
Stock and work in progress	0	0	0	0	0
Debtors	5,708	665	0	6,373	14,063
(Short term) investments	0	0	0	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand	63,958	66,449	0	130,408	173,500
Total current assets	69,666	67,114	0	136,781	187,563
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	32,839	19,795	0	52,634	136,786
Net current assets/(liabilities)	36,827	47,319	0	84,147	50,777
Total assets less current liabilities	326,827	47,319	0	374,147	341,842
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	0	0	0	0	17,000
Provisions for liabilities and charges	0	0	0	0	0
Net assets	326,827	47,319	0	374,147	324,842
Funds of the charity					
General fund	19,688	0	0	19,688	10,007
Designated funds	307,139	0	0	307,139	305,157
Restricted income funds	0	47,319	0	47,319	8,464
Endowment funds	0	0	0	0	1,214
Total funds	326,827	47,319	0	374,147	324,842

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print name	Date of approval
	E WALKER	7/3/11
	D WIGNALL	7/3/11

St Stephens Shottermill PCC Notes to the accounts for the period ending on 31 December 2010

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005);
- and with Accounting Standards;
- and with the Charities Act 1993.

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years (except for the following).

Creditors: amounts falling due after one year were overstated by £2,000. That figure has been re-stated as an amount falling due within one year i.e. within 2010.
--

Note 2 Accounting policies

This standard list of accounting policies has been applied by the charity. Where a different or additional policy has been adopted then this is detailed in the box below.

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming

resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity.

Donated services and facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Investment income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

Investment gains and losses

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

Investments

Investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

St Stephen's Church Shottermill PCC

All fund codes consolidated

	<u>2010</u>		<u>2009</u>	
Voluntary Income				
Donations - GAYE	14,797		14,454	
Donations - CAF	9,774		8,890	
Donations - GA standing orders	109,430		103,616	
Donations - GA envelopes	5,670		5,291	
Donations - NO GA envelopes	12,706		12,316	
One off Gift Aid	5,310		50,428	
Cash collections	4,292		3,881	
One off gifts (no GA)	6,486		5,174	
Donation - Organ fund	950		1,650	
Tax recoverable	29,987		40,067	
Grants	600		950	
Legacies	0	200,002	1,818	248,535
	-----		-----	

Investment Income

Deposit interest	313		67	
Bank interest	4		254	
Dividends	6		45	
Income from investment property	4,895	5,218	7,645	8,011
	-----		-----	

Income from Church Activities

Youth club	2,647		40	
Junior church	0		24	
Holiday Bible Club Income	1,264		825	
Hall hire	1,566		1,484	
Prime time income and ladies outreach	1,825		32	
Service fees	750		902	
Insurance claim	1,145		0	
Other	367	9,564	0	3,307
	-----		-----	

St Stephen's Church Shottermill PCC

All fund codes consolidated

Other Income:	<u>2010</u>		<u>2009</u>	
Rainbow fee income	97,481		87,392	
Rainbow other income	2,907	100,388	2,867	90,259
	-----		-----	

Costs of Generating Voluntary Income

Stewardship costs		-13		46
-------------------	--	-----	--	----

Fundraising Trading Costs

Fundraising costs		0		0
-------------------	--	---	--	---

Church Activities Costs

Giving – home	2,128		1,295	
Bank charges / interest	922		1,080	
Giving - overseas	469		45	
Parish contribution to diocese	65,604		63,376	
Giving - unallocated	19,511		24,513	
Vicars expenses	2,824		2,582	
Vicarage expenses	705		131	
Flat 3 expenses	614		675	
Flat 2 expenses	1,036		829	
Youth worker expenses	2,854		1,739	
Repairs & maintenance	12,101		8,127	
Church Insurance	1,830		1,696	
Church Gas, Electricity, Water	4,404		3,515	
Curate expenses	2,071		0	
Curate housing expenses	1,359		0	
Church Office Telephone	359		342	
Office costs	299		737	
Postage, copying & stationery	2,954		1,747	
Administrator salary	2,693		2,693	
Church Cleaning	850		650	
Children's worker salary	4,867		4,867	
Youth worker assistant salary	4,800		4,920	
Youth Minister salary & NI	18,445		18,333	
Youth expenses	3,850		2,165	
Liquid expenses	2,580		2,400	
Youth work - training	0		453	
Youth work - DNA	2,867		1,792	
Children's work expenses	340		714	
	-----		-----	

St Stephen's Church Shottermill PCC

All fund codes consolidated

	<u>2010</u>		<u>2009</u>	
Holiday Bible Club expenses	966		717	
CROSS hall costs	192		550	
CROSS Hall Gas, Electricity, Water	3,523		4,478	
Cross Hall Insurance	927		927	
CROSS Hall Cleaning	2,778		2,271	
Alpha and Ladies Outreach	1217		0	
Prime Time	550		0	
Worship & Music Group expenses	682		1,303	
Magazine, pew sheet, publicity	360		409	
Books and resource materials	1,003		428	
New Equipment	3,361		5,547	
Training costs	150		300	
Costs of disposal	199		0	
Services - speakers fees	107		107	
Upkeep of service	1,285		681	
Organ expense	(4,975)	<u>175,661</u>	25,227	<u>194,361</u>
Rainbow admin, fees, training,	776		1,949	
Rainbow equipment & materials	9,707		2,001	
Rainbow food and milk	0		1,100	
Rainbow outing gifts & parties	0	Other resources	20	Other resources
Rainbow salaries, wages & NI	76,374	Rainbow only	75,402	Rainbow only
Rainbow - other expenses	2,213	<u>89,070</u>	3,626	<u>84,097</u>
	-----		-----	

Governance Costs

Independent examiner fee	1,175		1,350	
PCC governance costs	11	1,186	49	1,399
	-----		-----	

Note 5 Support costs

Not used

Note 6 Details of certain items of expenditure

6.1 Trustee expenses

Details of the amount of any payment or reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses made to trustees or to third parties for expenses incurred by trustees. If no expenses were paid, please enter 'None' in the appropriate box(es).

	This year	Last year
Number of trustees who were paid expenses	4	3
Nature of the expenses	Vicar, curate youth and children work expenses	Vicar, youth and children work expenses
Total amount paid	£8,089	£6,530
Limited to above expenses for materiality reasons.		

6.2 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Details of the amount paid for any statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by your independent examiner or auditor. If nothing was paid please enter NONE in the appropriate box(es).

	This year £	Last year £
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	1,175	1,000
Other fees (for example: advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	0	0

Note 7**Paid employees****7.1 Staff Costs**

	This year £	Last year £
Gross wages, salaries, benefits in kind and employer's national insurance	107,179	106,125
Pension costs	0	0
Total staff costs	107,179	106,125

7.2 Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	0	0
Charitable Activities	18	18
Governance	-	-
Other	-	-
Total	18	18

Note 8 Grant making

None

Note 9 Tangible fixed assets

9.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	290,000	-	-	-	-	290,000
Additions	0	-	-	-	-	0
Revaluations	0	-	-	-	-	0
Disposals	0	-	-	-	-	0
Transfers *	0	-	-	-	-	0
Balance carried forward	290,000	-	-	-	-	290,000

The PCC owns Flats numbers 2 & 3 in Glovers House, both of which were refurbished during 2002/3. For the purposes of these accounts a valuation of £290,000 was provided by the letting agent in 2008, which compares favourably to the advertised sale price of Flat 3 when it was marketed during 2010. One flat is occupied by the Youth Minister, the other is let for the short term at a commercial rent. The Flats are not held as investment assets. No further valuation has been obtained at this time pending a calmer property market in 2011.

Note 10 Investment assets

10.1 Fixed assets investments

	£
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	1,065
Add: additions to investments at cost	-
Less: disposals at carrying value	(965)
Add/(deduct): net gain/(loss) on revaluation	(249)
Carrying (market) value at end of year	0

The investment related to the Pitcairn Graves Trust and consisted of 96 shares in CBF Church of England Investment Fund. These funds were in trust to provide income to maintain the "Pitcairn" graves. The graves were renovated as part of the redevelopment project and the income from the trust was used to defray some of the costs of doing so. The graves are now maintained by the local council. Guildford Diocese assisted with the wind-up of this trust during 2010. The loss on this investment is because not all of the funds were returned in cash to the PCC due to the particular terms of the Pitcairn will.

Analysis of investments

	10.2 Market value at year end	10.3 Income from investments for the year
	£	£
Investment properties	-	-
Investments listed on a recognised stock exchange or held in common investment funds, open ended investment companies, unit trusts or other collective investment schemes	-	-
Investments in subsidiary or connected undertakings and companies	-	-
Securities not listed on a recognised Stock Exchange	0	0
Cash held as part of the investment portfolio	-	-
Other investments	-	-
Total	0	0

Note 11**Debtors and prepayments**

Analysis of debtors	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Trade debtors	-	-	-	-
Amounts due from subsidiary and associated undertakings	-	-	-	-
Recoverable gift aid	3,810	11,510		
Other debtors	830	695	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	1,733	1,858		-
Total	6,373	14,063	-	-

Note 12**Creditors and accruals**

12.1 Analysis of creditors	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Loans and overdrafts	12,000	78,000	0	17,000*
Trade creditors	-	-	-	-
Amounts due to subsidiary and associated undertakings	-	-	-	-
Accrued external giving	20,365	24,854	-	-
Other creditors	830	695		
Accruals and deferred income	19,439	33,237	-	-
Total	52,634	136,786	0	17,000*

12.2 Security over assets

Nothing to disclose

Note 13 Endowment and restricted income funds

13.1 Funds held

Brief description of the following type of funds held:

- permanent endowment funds (PE);
- expendable endowment funds (EE); and
- restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity (R).

Fund Name	Type PE, EE or R	Purpose and Restrictions
Building	R	Redevelopment of the building and fabric of the Church and the CROSS
Endowment	PE	Pitcairn Graves Trust
Organ	R	Redevelopment and maintenance of the Church Organ
Curate	R	Funding of curacy

13.2 Movements of major funds

Fund names	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Building (restricted)	9,080	37,121	(1,065)	0	0	45,136
Endowment (restricted)	1,214	0	0	(965)	(249)	0
Organ (restricted)	(617)	1,905	4,975	0	0	6,264
Legacies (designated)	2,069	0	0	(2,069)	0	0
Maintenance (designated)	14,591	1,611	(12,415)	8,896	0	12,683
Glovers (designated)	290,000	0	0	0	0	290,000
General (undesignated)	10,008	174,166	(164,985)	498	0	19,687
Curate (restricted)	0	265	(3,345)	(1,000)	0	(4,080)
Rainbow (designated)	(1,503)	100,388	(89,070)	(5,360)	0	4,455
Total Funds	324,842	315,456	(265,904)	0	(249)	374,146

The increases in the organ fund largely relate to the settlement (and waiver of outstanding costs) of a dispute with the original organ builder.

13.3 Transfers between funds

From Fund (Name)	To Fund (Name)	Reason	Amount
General	Maintenance (designated)	Annual transfer approved by PCC	7,000

(undesignated)			
Curate (restricted)	Maintenance (designated)	Annual transfer (pro-rataed)	1,000
Rainbow (designated)	General (undesignated)	Rainbow "rent"	5,500
General (undesignated)	Rainbow (designated)	"Contribution" for salary costs	220
Endowment	General (undesignated)	Closure of fund	5.82
Endowment	Maintenance (designated)	Unwind of Pitcairn Trust	815.70
Endowment	General (undesignated)	Closure of fund	143.24
Legacies (designated)	General (undesignated)	Approved by PCC 20 March 2010	2,068.59
Rainbow (designated)	Maintenance (designated)	"Contribution" towards drainage	80

Note 14 Transactions with related parties

If the charity has any transactions with related parties (other than the trustee expenses explained in note 6) details of such transactions should be provided in this note. If there are no transactions to report, please enter "None" in the relevant boxes.

14.1 Remuneration and benefits

The amount of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to a trustee or other related parties by the charity or any institution or company connected with it.

Name of trustee or connected party	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value	
		This year £	Last year £
None			

14.2 Loans

Details of and amounts owing to or from the charity's trustees or other related parties by the charity at the year end.

None

14.3 Other transaction(s) with trustees or related parties

Please give details of any transaction undertaken by (or on behalf of) the charity in which a trustee or related party has a material interest. None

Note 15**Additional Disclosures - Rainbow Nursery and CROSS Hall**

The following are significant matters which are not covered in other notes and need to be included to provide a proper understanding of the accounts. If there is insufficient room here, please add a separate sheet.

The Rainbow Nursery

As The Rainbow is wholly owned by the Church, its accounts are fully consolidated with those of the church. Accordingly, payments between the Church and the Rainbow for items such as "rent" are shown the Church Accounts. Management accounts for the Rainbow alone would show the following:-

	2010 £		2009 £
Income from external sources	100,388		90,259
Total income	<u>100,388</u>		<u>90,259</u>
Expenditure on external items	89,070		84,098
Rent and other costs paid to St Stephen's	5,500		5,500
Total expenditure	<u>94,544</u>		<u>89,598</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u><u>5,818</u></u>		<u><u>661</u></u>

The CROSS Hall

Since 28th February 2004, financial matters relating to the CROSS building have been included in these accounts

	2010		2009
Rent received externally	1,566	-	1,484
Insurance claim	1,145		
Rent received from Rainbow	<u>5,500</u>	-	<u>5,500</u>
	8,211	-	6,984
Cleaning	2,778	-	2,271
Utilities and insurance	4,450	-	6,159
Maintenance	8,510*	-	1,939
Administration	<u>0</u>		<u>550</u>
	15,738	-	10,369
Surplus / (Deficit) on CROSS operations	<u><u>(7,527)</u></u>	-	<u><u>(3,385)</u></u>

Maintenance during the year included £6,051 of work to renew the heating system.

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

Last year, 2010, the Electoral Roll was revised and the total was 154. It has been updated again this year and 3 names have been removed and 9 new people added.

This gives a new total for 2011 of 160. If you would like to be included in the electoral roll, please fill in the relevant form at the back of church and pass it to Jenny Parsons.

Jo Long

PCC REPORT APRIL 2010 - 2011

- Vicar: Danny Wignall
- Elected PCC Members (max 14): Robin Andersen, Lynne Brown, Annie Barnsdale, Nicky Lee, Ian Gee, Sarah Weldon, Vanessa Clothier-Pratts, Jill Soar, Peter Aucamp, Duncan Long, Lynda Kay
- Co-opted/ Ex-officio PCC members: Ed Walker, David Bennett, Tony Owen, Lee Nancarrow, Ross Cunningham
- Church Wardens: Andrew Lee and Colin Short
- Synod Reps (max 3): Jean Burchell and Ericka Glaysheer
- Retiring members: Robin Andersen, Lynne Brown, Annie Barnsdale, Colin Short, Jean Burchell, Ericka Glaysheer
- 5 vacancies for PCC
- 3 vacancies for Deanery Synod

The PCC have had seven meetings in the last year. Below are some of the key areas that we have been discussing.

Curate housing

For the first half of the year we had a pressing need to find and fund the house for our new curate Giles. Several members (including Nicky and Jill) were very active in attempting to sell our flat and find a new house in which Giles could live. The PCC discussed many options, resolutions and did a significant amount of praying. God answered those prayers through an amazing set of circumstances so that we had a house for Giles just in time!

Church services

As you would imagine as a PCC we like to represent the congregations views to feedback which elements of services are working well and which can be improved. We have discussed the success of our family services, which really help with imbedding our outreach for new families (see below). We've recognised new things we can try to start services on time and change the format of notices (after Junior Church leave). We also recognised the need to bring our two services together and encourage fellowship in the coffee time between the 9 and 10.45 (the church is now considered a quiet time between these services).

Buildings

The PCC have been regularly calling on our buildings super hero, Duncan, to help keep the church in good condition. Duncan, with help from others, has done a tremendous service this year in implementing a number of big jobs in the church, including:

- New heating in the Cross, including the redecoration after this

- Planning the new kitchen in the Cross (to be installed in April)
- We have a new floor cleaning contract and cleaning equipment to keep our church floor sparkling
- New guttering for the church
- All the other small/medium size maintenance jobs.

We are considering plans to increase our accommodation to help alleviate the space constraints we have on an ever growing Junior Church, X Stream, Youth Work and Rainbow. This need is becoming more pressing given the success and expansion in all of these areas. We will also be looking at the re-ordering of the current office space.

Outreach

We discussed that we have had a lot of new joiners in church this year. As a church we do a lot of outreach and recognise that Rainbow, Noah's ark, events such as the pamper evening and dads football are really bearing fruit. This is then backed up by our friendly congregation and good facilities that we have in the church particularly for young families (Crèche, Junior Church and Youth facilities).

Staffing

In the last year we have a new curate, a change to the children's and youth structure and a change in administrator. Giles has hit the ground running and made visible impacts in many areas, he has also taken on an oversight role in Youth & Children. We were also delighted to welcome Jenny Parsons into the role of administrator from the beginning of March. Thanks to Jo and Vanessa for their previous and continued service in these areas.

Ministry and Mission focus areas

The PCC have taken on a new structure which is designed to ensure we have involvement and feedback links with all areas of the church. Each PCC member represents a 'Mission and Ministry focus area' and is responsible for updating the PCC on any major events, concerns or feedback. The PCC role is seen as more of an encouraging role in this respect rather than a position of authority. In addition each PCC meeting (by rotation) will have a particular focus on one or two of the areas so that we can engage in a deeper discussion on church areas at various points in the year. More information on this will be circulated shortly

This is my last report as PCC Secretary (for now) and I would like to thank Danny for all of the support and encouragement he has given me in the role.

Robin Andersen, PCC Secretary, 6th March 2011

REPORT ON THE CHURCH FABRIC

This is a short update on our buildings.

With the replacement of the gutters being completed, the damp patches around the walls were allowed to dry, these were then repaired and painted.

The long drawn out saga of the damaged floor was finally concluded. We had new Baptistry covers made and installed, various cracks repaired and a complete sand and re-seal. Both of these items were covered by the builders latent defect warranty.

We now have a comprehensive maintenance contract in place for the floor that includes four specialist cleans per year and a bi-annual re-seal, this, along with regular cleaning with our own machine should keep the floor in a far better condition.

The main project last year was the installation of a modern heating system in the Cross instead of the old gas heaters, which has made it far more efficient, we also freshened up the paint work.

This year we are planning to replace the kitchen in the Cross, this work will start when Rainbow finish for the Easter holiday.

We are also considering the urgent need for extra space. The number of young people attending on Sunday mornings is growing quickly, the PCC has been tasked to investigate the various possibilities ASAP.

Andrew Lee, Colin Short, Peter Soar and Duncan Long

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

As the parish of Shottermill we are part of the Church of England and of the Guildford Diocese. We are also part of a regional group of churches called the Godalming Deanery. The Deanery Synod consists of clergy and parochial representatives from the seventeen parishes in the Godalming Deanery which stretches from the Sussex Border to the Hogs Back.

The synod meets three times a year and receives information from the Diocese for onward transmission to their PCC's and parishes and discusses and plans matters of common interest. We also receive feedback from General and Diocesan Synod.

All clergy are members of Synod and lay people are elected by their respective parishes – our lay members are Jean Burchell and Erika Glaysher. However they are both stepping down this year and we have 3 vacancies – please speak to Danny or Lynda if you are interested in becoming a rep. Our Rural Dean is Rev John Fellows who is the Rector of Compton. At the start of each meeting, the vicar of the host church explains a bit about the life and mission of the church. This year the meetings were at Chiddingfold, Shottermill and Godalming. At each meeting 'Mission' is on the agenda. During the year the Deanery Mission fund became active with each parish being asked to contribute annually a sum equal to 1% of their parish share to the fund which will be used for mission purposes across the Deanery and which any parish can apply for. We have been the recipients of £300 from this fund to provide equipment for the ever expanding Saturday morning football for parents and their children.

At the next meeting Synod will discuss and vote on General Synod's proposals for women to become Bishops.

Danny Wignall

RAINBOW NURSERY REPORT

Once again I am very pleased to be presenting a report from the Rainbow Nursery School which now in its fourteenth year.

The Rainbow is an important aspect of St. Stephens outreach to children and families in our neighbourhood, a way in which we can offer a valuable practical service and seek to bridge the gap between church and community.

We evolved from Noah's Ark in 1997 and since that time we have worked with hundreds of children, seeking opportunities to share the love of Jesus with them, their families and friends. From an educational prospective we work hard to provide a first class professional service creating an exciting and inviting environment in which children can feel safe to discover and explore the world around them, developing the many skills they will need to mature into happy, successful individuals who have thirst for learning, and we hope, a heart for Jesus. What a privilege and an honour it is to be involved with a child in this way and to be helping to lay down the foundation stones upon which their lives will be built.

Not all the staff come to this church or any other so it is really important that we continue to maintain and build upon the links we have established. Danny, Giles and Michele Webb visit the children regularly to tell stories, to sing and pray with them, Ann Fitchett and Helen Brading pop in to see us and through these ladies and the remainder of The Rainbow Support Group we are able to tap into the many gifts and talents of Maura, Donna, Robin, Louise, and Jean Clark too. We also have Kids Praise service once a month when we invite children and their families into church and a fledgling prayer group. We are involved in the occasional Sunday Service, perform the nativity and have themed activity mornings twice a year at Easter and Christmas.

With regard to practicalities we operate to capacity and are fully booked for this academic year and next. In our parent survey we scored very well in all aspects of the care and education we provide.

We are fully staffed. In addition to the team, we currently have two school students on work experience and two adult students training for their NVQ3. We have a volunteer kitchen helper on a Tuesday and are looking forward to working with Morag Dalton who has recently offered to support some of the children requiring extra help. We have gone from a staff shortage to staff abundance in only few months. How blessed we are!

Financially we remain solvent, but in order to do this we have had to be prudent in our expenses and our salaries. The government's "free" funding in the form of the nursery education grant for 3 and 4 year olds has had a severe effect on small groups such as ours. We are not permitted to charge top up fees but for every government funded child (in contrast to a non-funded, fee paying child) we lose over £1 an hour. Multiplied by up to 19 children per 6.25hr day this amounts to a great deal of lost income. We have needed to ask our parents and carers to help make up the difference through voluntary contributions which I am most thankful to report most of them have done. We have also had our training grants reduced or withdrawn so the financial picture for 2011-2012 is not looking good. However money has never been an issue for us God has always provided and I know he will continue to do so.

We enjoy the pleasure of many outings and visitors, but one of the regular highlights remains our visits to Shottermill House where in addition to singing and chatting to the residents we are now able to meet with several older members from our own

congregation. It's always a profoundly moving experience to witness the very old, meeting with the very young and a special blessing for all of us.

Our social and fundraising committee continues to work hard on our behalf capably led by Sarah Tubb and a group of parents. You would be most welcome to come along to any shared events and we publish them as and when they occur via the pew leaflet and Good News.

Thank everyone for your continued support for the school. If you would like to become involved in any aspect of nursery life I'd be delighted to speak to you. The more St Stephen's representation we have the more we can do, and the more we become involved as a church, the greater our impact can be in not only raising our own profile in the community, but that of Jesus too.

Hilary Owen

WORSHIP & MEDIA REPORT

There have been no major changes to talk about for this year; rather, we have had a year of building on our existing foundations.

However, there have been some new services added to our regular pattern - the 1:1:1 prayer meetings on the first Monday evening of every month, and the Healing Services, which have been sprinkled throughout the year - both types of service have times of intimate, sung worship.

The "Time and Space for God" services, which used to occur every month on a Sunday evening, are no longer running. The church leadership are looking into the possibilities for replacing this with something new.

St Stephen's are also running regular "New Wine Leaders" lunchtime events, every couple of months. These attract 10-20 church leaders from the South East area, who come to have lunch, have a time of refreshing worship (led by our musicians), plus prayer and fellowship.

Our Sunday Morning services have seen growth, both in terms of the number of people attending, but more importantly, spiritually - in many recent services people seem to have been experiencing God on a much deeper level, something that Danny was praying about at the start of the year. This is so exciting! It was truly wonderful to see about half the congregation queuing up to receive prayer at a recent 10:45 service.

Plans for Improvements

As always, there are plans for changes and improvements! As well as the long-awaited lowering of the projector screens, we plan to try and install a large TV screen at the back of the church, near the baptism font, so that people can still read the baptism words when they are facing the font. It will also help the service leader/preacher to see the song and liturgy words when they are standing up front.

Sam Harding

During the past year, Andy has been holding weekly mentoring sessions with Sam Harding, to discuss all aspects of worship leading and song writing. It has been beneficial to both people! And we are delighted that Sam has been offered a position as a Worship Leader at Pioneer Church, Leatherhead, which he will be starting in September.

And Finally

A huge thank you to the whole team - you know who you are - and a special thanks to Jim Honeywood, who works twice as hard as everybody else, sometimes leading worship at both the 9am and 10:45 services on the same day.

Andy Rigby

JUNIOR CHURCH and YOUTH MINISTRY OVERVIEW

Following the reordering of responsibilities and leadership of Junior Church at the turn of the New Year I have been providing oversight for our Junior Church and our Youth leaders. Whilst I have had some experience of working with youth and children as a lay leader in my previous church this is not an area I am greatly experienced in and I am immensely grateful to Lee and Laura, Michelle, Vanessa and Peter and Lisa and others for helping me, by their deep commitment to the young people in their care, to begin to get a clearer picture of how we might continue to build on the wonderful foundations that have been laid down already.

The changes that we had already undergone, with Michelle taking the leadership of Junior Church, Vanessa focusing exclusively on the wonderful work she is doing with Noah's Ark and the creation of Xtreme by Peter and Lisa have combined with Lee and Laura's decision to move to a new job in June. Put together these changes have provided the catalyst for rethinking the way we coordinate and support our work among children and young people across the full age spectrum from crèche to our young people now at University.

As a consequence and after much discussion and prayer in leadership and PCC we have decided to appoint a youth and children's director to provide hands on support for all our volunteer leaders working in this area. Clearly we are not looking for someone wearing their pants on the outside of their trousers, there will naturally be a limit to both their sphere of expertise and ability to have hands on involvement with each age group however after consultation with the Diocesan Youth Adviser there are several precedences for this role from elsewhere in the diocese that are working highly effectively. We have advertised the roll and aim to make an appointment following interviews scheduled to take place in May.

Giles Carpenter

YOUTH WORK REPORT

Amplified

If any of you have ever talked to us much about Amplified you will know it is the one group that wears us out the most! We certainly have a bunch of active young people and every Sunday and Thursday Lee and I prepare ourselves for an avalanche of noise, activity and fun! Amplified is our youth group for 11-14 yrs olds (yrs 7-9) and we meet

ever Sunday morning during church and every Thursday evening. On Sunday mornings we take turns leading the group with Caroline Bell. Sam Harding, Pip Tauwhare and Georgie Carruthers often help us out too - such a blessing!

In our last APCM report you will have read that we started a two-week cycle - a "God Slot" one week and an activity the next. The idea behind this was to really encourage our young people to invite friends and to be doing things that would attract someone who has never been to church before. In this way a newcomer could enjoy a bowling trip, get to know everyone a bit and then join us for a God slot once they are comfortable. This has worked really well - we have had at least 12 new faces come through our doors (they are not all committed members yet!) which has been absolutely awesome. Still, our biggest struggle is getting young people to commit to Amplified on a weekly basis, as most young people have other school or sports related commitments throughout the week.

Since September 2010, Pete and Lisa Aucamp started a group called X-Stream which is a group for young people in years 5 and 6 that runs every Sunday morning. From our point of view this has been really beneficial in that there are now clear boundaries as to when it is time to move up a group (in the past we had young people wanting to move up to Amplified as soon as they turned 11, even if they were still in year 6. This created some problems in Junior Church and Amplified).

Last year we ran an event called "Xmas Factor" for all the 11-14s in the local area - the youth workers from St Bart's, Three Counties and St Stephen's all got together to plan and run the event which aims to bring our young people together so they can get to know other Christians in the area and to build friendships with each other. The Xmas Factor was not very well attended, so our decision was to put on one more joint event to see if it was worth carrying on (the first can be hard to get off the ground after all). Thankfully "Reindeer Rave" went down a storm! This Christmas event was held at Kings Road church in the basement - we had a DJ, games, competitions, short talk and lots of comfy sofas and beanbags - and it was a huge success. We can see many more joint events happening in the future (there is talk of us all heading down to Portsmouth for an evening at PlayZone)!

In May last year we took our young people to PGL - our yearly weekend away haunt. We had so much fun together and once again beat some fears and bonded as a group. This time we also introduced God Slots - two sessions addressing the issue of peer pressure and what God has to say about it (we looked at the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego).

Amplified is always a challenge - we constantly have to come up with new and exciting ideas that will motivate our young people and teach them about the truths of the Bible. It is a true privilege to be such a part of their spiritual and social development.

Liquid Youth

Liquid Youth is for 14-18yr olds (years 10-13) and meet every Sunday evening in the basement at Kings Road Church. There is so much to say about this inspiring and vibrant group of young people and what they get up to. In September 2010 we started a Youth Alpha course. This lasted 10 weeks and was such a great opportunity for our young people to invite friends while they took on leadership roles in the small groups. We also spent some time going back to basics with worship, prayer and ministry. We now have a stable, committed bunch of young people who have a good understanding of the basics of Christianity and what it means to live for God. Right now we are looking at

the Ten Commandments and using “J John’s Ten” to help us communicate their importance and relevance to the group.

Once or twice a term we run an outreach event called Glimpse. This started in December 2008 and is still an occasion that pulls many young people from our local school (mainly Woolmer Hill) that would not normally attend any other church events. We have seen some great responses to the testimonies and Gospel talks and are excited about the number of new faces we see at this event.

Lads and girls cell groups still run on a weekly basis. This is an awesome way for our young people to go deeper into God’s word and to support and encourage each other. We also try to get everyone to take on a section of the evening, plan and prepare it, and then deliver it to the rest of the group. This way everyone is involved and given an opportunity to develop their leadership skills.

Worship School took a break for a while when interest significantly dropped. However, since January, Sam Harding has brought it back and running it on a different day seems to have improved attendance - we’ve had some great teaching and jamming sessions already! Hopefully Worship School will inspire our young people to get involved in playing in the worship band at Liquid, doing PA and SongPro, writing songs, leading worship, etc. We have some great talent that needs to be used for God’s glory!

This year we will be going to Dalesdown Christian Centre again for our annual weekend away. The theme will be “Telling Others” and we will be welcoming a guest speaker and worship leader who will be joining us for the weekend, along with Jo and Donna, our resident cooks! The weekend away is always a wonderful time of spiritual development and having fun as a group. So far every year we have seen young people become Christians at Dalesdown - so it is definitely an exciting time for everyone. And of course the Talent Night, wide game and hot chocolates don’t disappoint either!

Schools

Our schools work is similar to what it has been over the past two years. We still do assemblies and a lunch club at the Royal School and teaching and detached at Woolmer Hill.

Recently we have also done enrichment days with a focus on Hope For Justice, a charity that seeks to put a stop to human trafficking. This involved a huge team of people from Haslemere coming into the school to spend a whole day with Year 10s/11s doing various workshops with a purpose to raise awareness of human trafficking. Lee and I headed up the music workshop and we had the opportunity to take the students away to the studio at the Wey Centre to record one of the songs that they wrote.

The work we do in our local schools is so important in building relationships with young people and building bridges between school and church events.

The Wave

The Wave summer event happened again in the last week of July 2010 (the third year running) with a vision to love Haslemere through action. Its slogan is now “A Helping Hand” and its reputation is growing rapidly. A big marquee was set up on Lion Green which we used as our central base for morning worship and training, and where we also held the cafe and evening entertainment throughout the week. Every afternoon a number of teams of adults and young people went out to serve our local community in various ways - car washing, gardening, holiday club, etc. This year The Wave summer

event is going to see a few changes - the holiday club will be ecumenical and held in the marquee and we are hoping to have more varied evening entertainment. We're also encouraging more adults to step up and take responsibilities on as we want to move away from this being a youth/youth worker led event.

As you know, The Wave does not just happen once a year. Every other weekend a group of people get together to serve the community on a Saturday morning. We did a flyer drop recently to offer our help and we are really seeing that The Wave has made a positive mark on Haslemere - people know about us and trust us. We currently have a long list of jobs that need doing and our biggest struggle is always man power. It is such a privilege to be a part of something so incredible - seeing people's eyes light up because we've helped them in some way is extremely rewarding and it is so good to know that God can make a difference in these people's lives through our actions.

Finally, a note to say THANK YOU to everyone at St Stephen's Church who have prayed for and supported the youth work in so many ways. I know we always say it, but we really couldn't do it without you! Although we have our tough times, God is always good and has blessed us with so many amazing stories of huge provision, lives changed for the better, relationships with God deepened, victories, challenges overcome, and the list goes on. Thank you for being a part in it all with us!

Lee & Laura Nancarrow

X-STREAM REPORT

X-stream was borne out of a desire to meet the needs of our tweenagers, those members of our church family who were not quite ready for secondary school programmes and who had outgrown junior church. The creation of this group enabled both our much younger church members and our youth to benefit from more tailored teaching. X-stream is regularly attended on Sundays by seven delightful boys and girls in school years 5 & 6. We fall under the larger umbrella of Junior Church. Our aim is to help our members develop and grow in faith, form a peer group and to have fun through creative expression. It is also during this time that some members of our group elect to take their communion course. We are a small team of leaders, Lisa & Peter Aucamp and Rachel Carpenter, limited to a tiny space with few facilities. We are delighted that our tweenagers once again enjoy coming to church, feel valued and love spending time in each others company. Our hope is that this group will continue past its first year trial but it is dependent on space, group numbers and adult help.

Lisa Aucamp

JUNIOR CHURCH REPORT

In the last few months, numbers of children have increased significantly, as new families have arrived at St Stephens - which is very exciting, if challenging! Fortunately, this has coincided with growth in the team, with two new parent members this term, and others offering to help, (and to be recruited next term!)

We have also been blessed with additional support from five youth helpers, two of whom, Sophie, and Ella, are able and willing to lead. (Sophie has led a Splash session this term, and Ella is waiting to). This is especially great for the children, and I am so

grateful to all of them for their commitment and enthusiasm.

Just to explain our structure: The Crèche runs for babies and children, aged 0 - 2 and a half, then JC is divided into 3 groups, following Scripture Union teaching material for each age group, and from which we take our group names, (note the watery theme!): Bubbles, for Pre-schoolers, aged 2 and a half -5, Splash for 5 - 8s, and X-Stream for 8s - 11s.

We have done a series on David, Jonah and are currently doing a series of Jesus' parables.

At Half Term, JC joined forces with Amplified for a Kids' Breakfast, which was enjoyed by one and all, and we have recently had our first Global Poverty Prayer Week JC Special. During this session, we looked at the differences between rich and poor, focussing on a farmer in Malawi. The children engaged really well with this.

It has long been on my heart to help the children to become more aware of God at work in his world, beyond our own country and culture, and to be inspired to pray, and I would like to see us doing more of these sessions, on a regular basis. The children's prayer life is another aspect of JC that we would like to encourage creatively.

We are hoping to run an Easter Craft and Activity morning, following the success of previous years, and see this as an important outreach event in the JC calendar.

I would like to thank everyone on the team, for their gifts and talents that they share with the children, for the many hours they give, not just on the Sunday sessions that they run, but in all the unseen preparation that goes into each one, and to all their goodwill and ongoing commitment.

JC is thriving, thanks to them, and without their help, it would be impossible to provide such a valuable and vital service to our church family.

Michele Webb.

NOAH'S ARK REPORT

Noah's Ark is going from strength to strength and this week we had 34 children sitting down at snack time!

The team are all so dedicated and pride themselves in providing a welcoming warm place for parent/carers to bring their children to chat and play each week. In the last few months our new parent/carer intake has risen dramatically, which is a credit to the work they do.

It is fantastic that we are able to represent the St. Stephen's Church family in such a positive way through our out reach work with young families in the community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the team- Rachel Carpenter (our new addition!), Jean Clark, Emma Cunningham, Holly Day, Ann Fitchett, Barbara Gittins and Jean Van Jeffries. Also a big thank to all those who have been so supportive of the Children's Work over the past two years.

Vanessa Clothier Pratts

OUTWARD GIVING

The Outward Giving group has met formally just once during the last year to discuss, plan and make decisions for our outward giving. We have kept in touch by e-mail, informally discussing issues arising from these meetings and some related issues, such as guest speakers, teaching on missions and emergency giving. The main things to report from the last year are the consistency and continuity of our giving to our regular causes and the continued commitment of the church to keep both local and international missions as a focus.

The current members of this group are:

Danny Wignall
Fiona Short
Ed Walker
Neil Wilson
Giles Carpenter
Jenny Parsons

Michelle Webb who was with us for a short time has resigned due to her commitments to the Children's Ministry. Jenny Parsons has joined the group - welcome!

The accounts do not show all of the money that the church donated during the year to local and international ministries (totalling **£22,000**) including **£1,800** each to the 12 organisations we support throughout the year. Other smaller 'one off' donations have also been made, for example to Lucie Barnsdale with 'Stop the Traffik'.

Regular giving to local and international charities/ministries continues to be over a three year cycle and then reviewed. Our main criterion for supporting these ministries is a strong link with the people of St Stephens. Recent submissions have been made concerning ministries/churches that would benefit from our support & will be discussed in the light of our current commitments at the next meeting.

Ministries supported:

Adam and Karina, Derby
Age Concern
Chernobyl Children's Lifeline
CMCT (Colleen Redit)
C.M.S. (Grace How)
FRRME (Canon Andrew White)
Latin Link (Cowan family/Lizzie)
Open Doors
Tearfund
Rocke Family
China Heart

Link

Laver's House group
Vanessa Kemp
Liza Caie
Fiona Short
Laver's House group
Jo Long
Richard Parker
Anne Osborne 3CC
Michele Webb
Neil Wilson
Neil Wilson

We have continued to have speakers with a Missions focus linked with our causes and plan to keep this going.

On a personal note I am disappointed I have been severely hindered by time constraints and would like to have been able to do more with this group. I feel that there has been a lack of progress because of that.

Neil Wilson

THE PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM

What a friend we have in Jesus ... what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!*

During this last year it has been encouraging to see a steady increase in the number of people coming forward to receive prayer and we ,as a Team, feel it is a great privilege to serve the Lord and His people in this way.

As part of our ongoing training we invited the Rev. John Ryeland from the Christian Healing Mission in London to come on May 8th last year and provide a day's teaching on "A Fresh Look at Healing". The meeting was attended by over 40 people representing 10 different congregations. John divided his teaching into two sessions - "Experiencing Jesus" and "Faith and Power in Prayer". John taught with gentle authority based on his long experience in this area of ministry and it was a blessing and encouragement to us all. The Team were commissioned for service by Danny at both Services on the following Sunday.

The Ministry Team is available to offer prayer at both the 9.00 a.m. and 10.45 a.m. Services, as well as at Special Services such as the Bereavement Service in November and the Healing Services which now take place on the 4th Sunday evening every month.

Lastly I would like to thank the members of the Team who give such faithful service in this important role within the church family: Hilary Bicknell, Jean and Michael Clark, Julian Dilkes, Vanessa Kemp, Jane Kent, Maura Howard, Dave and Helen Mitchell, Tony Owen, John and Jeannie Postill, Jane Saunders, Jill Soar, Pauline White, Neil Wilson.

Jean Clark

THE MARRIAGE COURSE

It is a delight to have Maggie and Roger Grimshaw enthusiastically helping us run these valuable courses. They attended the Marriage Conference at HTB last Spring and returned convinced of the importance of this ministry.

During the Summer we advertised an Autumn Course to be run at St.Stephen's. Sadly only four couples applied, so we moved the Course into Roger and Maggie's home. The couples met on the ground floor for their welcome drink and to collect their meal which they took to the privacy of their table-for-two, complete with flowers and candles and gentle background music; as close as we could get to an intimate date night for two! Then it was upstairs to the lounge for the video presentations before returning for their times of private sharing about the issues the Course was raising for them. After the usual cautious start, all the guests relaxed and they soon started to extol the benefits that the Course was bringing into their marriages. Unusually, we had to postpone the final session due to the 'wrong sort of snow' in early December - so a Course that started in early October finished in early January.

Well over 100 couples have now benefited from the Course, and we look forward to running further Courses in the near future. We have learned that the most successful way of persuading couples that the Course would be a great blessing to their marriage, is the enthusiastic commendation by friends - so please, if you have been blessed by the Course, please tell your friends! If any of you are interested, please ask any of us for

more details. Or if you would like to join a course please let Michael know, and he will contact you as soon as we have arranged a Course, and give you a priority place on it!

Michael and Jean Clark, Roger and Maggie Grimshaw

PRIME TIME REPORT

2010 had a variety of interesting events, with high attendances at very many of them. Probably the highlight of the year was the trip to Bletchley Park which despite the long coach journey to and from was immensely enjoyed by those who came. You will have read the report on this and other events in Good News. A big thank-you to those who have written reports and also to Bill Kennedy and Michael Clark for taking photographs.

We were very pleased with the total raised in the summer for Open Doors' Great Tea Party of over £300. Again the outing to Lurgashall open air theatre proved very popular, with seriously comical over-acting in "Come-on Jeeves". This year's play "Fawlty Towers" should be a really good tonic for depression!!

The event which attracted the most people was the very interesting talk given by Elizabeth Lockwood in November, followed by a Ritz-style tea. In January we laughed and revelled with great gusto (aided by a glass of wine, or two or three!). Sunday lunch at Branksome in February was another well attended event - we took over one large room of their restaurant and enjoyed an excellent carvery.

The Prime Time committee have come to the conclusion that most of the people in St Stephens are happy if the event includes good food!

Please continue to encourage us by supporting our events. It is also great to have feedback from you as to which events you prefer and also your suggestions for new ones. Please also remember that part of the aim of Prime Time IS OUTREACH and to this end please be prayerfully considering who you can invite to our events.

My thanks to all the Prime Time Committee who work so hard to arrange our monthly events. Our committee meetings are without doubt the most fun ones I have ever attended!

Vanessa Kemp, Chairman

PASTORAL CARE REPORT

I have been struggling a bit to know what to put into my report this year -not because nothing has happened but because it mostly happens without me hearing about it! I am sometimes asked to co-ordinate a transport rota or to signpost people to specific sources of professional help, but generally speaking pastoral care happens consistently and quietly.

We had some quite sustained bad weather this winter, but as in previous years there was little for me to do as everyone who might have been vulnerable had been taken care of. It would be easy to take this for granted and imagine all communities function like this, but I know from the work I do in other areas that this is not always the case. It is lovely

therefore to know that St Stephens is a community that cares not just for each other but for those around us.

One of the other ways in which this happens regularly is in our care homes. There are a number of members of our congregation who give their time to visit the elderly or those who cannot get to church. For example Erica Glaysher and her team (Maggie, Lynda and Anne) deliver posies to Chestnut View every Friday. Erica also visits midweek with her dog and they are also involved in arranging a Sunday afternoon service which happens monthly in rotation with the Methodist Church.

Many of you are involved in other care homes, in taking out home communion, in helping with transport and visiting the elderly, sick and bereaved. Thank you for all you do - you probably have no idea how much it is appreciated and what a difference it makes to those on the receiving end. Please see below for more detailed reports.

If you would like to be more involved in Pastoral Care in our Parish, you may like to consider doing A Pastoral Assistants training. This takes place over a year and is run by the diocese. If you are interested please talk to Danny, Giles or myself. Both Hilary Owen and Annie Barnsdale have done this in the past so you might also like to speak to them for first-hand experience of what is involved.

Danny and Giles are keen to involve those who have done some training with our pastoral team in funeral and baptism follow ups as well as responding to any other known needs. We will be holding some additional pastoral training on two Wednesday mornings this spring - 4 and 11 May - on being alongside those who are dying. We will probably follow this with some more training in bereavement and loss. Please let me know if you would like to attend. We will probably hold this at Wychwood, Scotland Lane but I will confirm nearer the time.

Thank you all for making my job such an easy one.

Jane Saunders

CARE HOME MINISTRY REPORT

Home Communion

A service of Holy Communion is provided once a month to the residents at Home Green, Holy Cross Hospital, Chase House, Brownscombe House and Shottermill House. Over the last year a team of 8 people from St Stephens have served some twenty elderly or disabled Christians in this way helping them to feel that they are still part of the body of Christ even though they can no longer get to church. The staff of the care homes and the residents of Home Green are extremely kind and encouraging in their support for the visits we make, bringing together those residents who want to receive Holy Communion and providing space and equipment to make the Communion Service as beautiful and meaningful as if it was taking place in church.

Sarah Weldon

Chestnut View

Chestnut View Care Home, situated next to the Tesco Supermarket, is also a part of St Stephen's church family and a team of four of us from St Stephen's, visit there every week taking posies of flowers to all the residents. Every second week I bring my two

dogs along to the Home to visit a small number of the residents who get a great deal of pleasure out of the contact with the animals.

We also hold a church service with Holy Communion there on the fourth Sunday of every month, in the afternoon, which is led either by St Stephen's or by the Methodist Church and for that we bring together all the residents who would like to attend. A lady comes to play the keyboard so that the residents can enjoy some familiar hymns.

All the residents who attend these monthly services appreciate them so much, but they involve a good deal of work for us moving furniture and bringing residents to the lounge. It would be wonderful if anyone else felt like coming along on any fourth Sunday to help us. And if anyone felt like helping out occasionally preparing the weekly posies that too would be much appreciated. Please get in touch with me.

Erika Glaysher

CHURCH OFFICE

This year has again seen changes in the office. I have carried on the role of administrator through to the end of February with the help of office volunteers. I am very grateful to Helen Brading, Diana Harding and Michael Clark for their continued support.

As usual it has been a very busy year, with weddings, funerals and the confirmation service to produce order of services for. The church directory has been updated and reprinted. A major plus side for the office is the replacement printer which is much more efficient. The database is being produced and updated. The office continues to be the centre of church activities with many things being coordinated and entered onto the busy church calendar.

As you are all aware by now Jenny Parsons has taken over the role of Church Administrator from the beginning of March. This will enable the office to be open for more hours per week and Jenny brings with her a wealth of experience. The office will now continue to expand and join up more dots of church life.

Jo Long

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

During 2010 the PCC was registered as a charity in its own right with the Charity Commission with number 1134016. The members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity. When planning our activities for the year, the trustees consider the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church community through:

- worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- provision of pastoral care for people in the community.
- missionary and outreach work.