



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CHESTERTON, CAMBRIDGE

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009**

Signed on behalf of the PCC

Patricia Abrey, Churchwarden

Geoff Peel, Churchwarden

Administrative information

Church name: St Andrew's, Chesterton.
 Address: Church Street, Chesterton, Cambridge.
 Incumbent: Rev'd Nicholas Moir
 Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, Chesterton Road, Cambridge.
 Solicitors: Messrs Taylor Vinters, Merlin Place, Milton Road, Cambridge.
 Surveyors: January's Chartered Surveyors, York House, Dukes Court,
 54-62 Newmarket Road, Cambridge.
 Independent Examiner: Mr Jim Griffiths, 341 Hills Road, Cambridge.
 Charity Registration No: 1130805.

Trustees of the St Andrew's Church Trust and the St Andrew's Churchyard Charitable Trust are:

Mrs M White	Chairman
Mrs C Dawson	
Mr J Marsh	
Mr D A Dazeley	Secretary

The first named Trust has wide powers to assist in the promotion of Christianity at St Andrew's and the second Trust is responsible for the maintenance and improvement of the Churchyard.

Statistics

		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Communions									
	Sundays & Holy days	4915	4764	4980	4912	4794	4767	4758	4952
	Home	275	321	292	195	228	331	297	303
	Weekday	359	305	345	244	311	169	246	232
	Total	5549	5390	5617	5351	5333	5267	5301	5487
Baptisms		17	23	20	21	6	26	22	33
Weddings		14	6	14	13	6	7	16	12
Funerals									
	Home	22	14	15	16	14	6	16	12
	Away	33	30	16	15	5	10	10	12
	Interment of ashes							5	2
Confirmation		1	8	1	3	7	0		5
First Communion		5	5	7	3	6	0	8	3

P.C.C. MEMBERSHIP 2009*Ex Officio - Ministry Team*

The Rev'd Nicholas Moir
The Rev'd Dorothy Peyton Jones
The Rev'd Alasdair Coles

Ex Officio – Wardens

Patricia Abrey
Geoffrey Peel

Ex Officio Synods

Bridget Trump
Philippa Brice

Co-opted but electable

Simon Peyton Jones (Treasurer)
Sue Richards (Secretary)

Elected with a three year term.¹

1. Maggie Fernie (2007)
2. Margaret Hiley (2007)
3. George Kendall (2007)
4. Claire Lea (2007)
5. Mary Pountain (2007)
6. Mary Allwood (2008)
7. John Reynolds (2008)
8. Jean Jackson (2009)
9. Ruth Jones (2009)
10. Chris Lamaison (2009)
11. David Stollwerck-Boulton (2009)
12. Gillian Wallace (2009)
13. Sue Wrenn (2009 for one year only)

Invited to attend

Chris Pountain – Director of Music
John Marsh – Organist
Eleanor Whalley – Hall Manager

¹ Elected Members of PCC A resolution that we should aim to have 15 elected members was duly proposed and carried. (APCM Minutes 2001)

Vicar's report

Perhaps the most enduring memory of 2009 is 'the river of life' that flowed from the altar and out through the church, not least because it brought together so much of our thinking, reflecting and praying over the first half of the year.

Lent had taken us into the desert. The chancel was transformed into a sandy wilderness where there was space for reflection with the aid of Arvo Part's hauntingly spare music. Six Lent groups (involving 60+ people) took up the theme in a course entitled 'Athirst for God'. As an oasis during this time, 67 of us (including 16 children) went on a first for St Andrew's, a Parish Weekend at Launde Abbey in Leicestershire, where we enjoyed a fabulous time of friendship, refreshment and spiritual nourishment with the help of our speaker, Adrian Chatfield.



In the Easter-Pentecost season the desert turned into a spring that became a well of healing for Pentecost – when three of our children were admitted to Communion and, in the week following, five of our adults were confirmed (and one baptised). Leading up to this the candidates joined with others in short introductory courses on the bible and prayer. Our regular house group and other learning opportunities continued through the year. The Film group stopped meeting at the end of the year (but with plans afoot to use films in slightly different way), 'Hard Questions' has been bursting at the seams, and the Book group continues.

The 'river of life' drew in a wide band of people in its construction and was put in place for the Chesterton Festival (4 July), a new community event that we helped to pioneer. St Andrew's played host to a very large number of visitors that day and it was good to be able to communicate something of our life and vision through what they experienced in the church.

Much of the donkey-work for the Festival was done by Gillian Wallace who was employed in a part-time post co-sponsored by church, hall and the new Chesterton Community Association. The Festival was the culmination of her work, but she also helped to plan and see through other community events such as the 'Flippin' Marvellous' pancake evening and the early morning May Day event by the new bridge.

Gillian's post was one of the things to have come out of our Mission Action Planning process. The PCC had identified a number of areas for growth (under the headings of 'roots', 'branches' and 'reach') but also realised that we needed to invest in some labour in order to get there. Our major appointment of 2009 was of a pastoral coordinator, employed for ten hours a week. This position was advertised and an open appointment process was conducted with the help of the Rural Dean. Dorothy Peyton Jones was duly appointed and took up her new role in the spring, alongside her part-time Police Chaplaincy post. Dorothy has already made substantial inroads into many of our

'branches' objectives: helping church members to know each better (by issuing an updated parish directory, by producing photograph albums and by instituting a 'label Sunday'), integrating newcomers (redesigning the welcome card and following up with visiting and welcome lunches), and by co-ordination of our ongoing pastoral care. She has also initiated a new group primarily for older folk in the parish, *Silver Threads*, which now meets monthly in the Hall.

One other major new initiative for 2009 was the summer Holiday Club. *Showstoppers* ran in the week running up to the August bank holiday weekend. 30+ children and a large team of helpers had an immensely enjoyable time of games, activities, craft, drama and bible-based learning sessions. It was rounded off with an act of All-age Worship in the Hall on the Sunday morning.

Following last year's success, St Andrew's played host to an *Alpha* course again in the autumn. Having outgrown the Robins's home, it met upstairs in the Hall. Having initially seemed smaller in uptake than last year, in the end numbers were up and the feedback was highly appreciative.

2009 marked the 900th anniversary of the Diocese of Ely. As well as joining in some of the diocesan activities and celebrations, St Andrew's marked this by a series of Sung Eucharists (with New Voices) that reflected the music and spirituality of different periods throughout those years, from the medieval to the twentieth century. In September we also welcomed Bishop Anthony to Chesterton, on his great walk from Ely to Cambridge. This was his last visit to us before his retirement.

Music has continued to play an important part in our church life. The youth choirs continue to thrive: the junior youth choir sang *Joseph* for a concert in November and the senior youth choir gave a wonderful performance of Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* during the week before Christmas.

But we have also sought to provide for our young people who are more interested in sport than music: the sports club (9-13s) is now firmly established once a month, as is the post-Family Service football on third Sundays.

St Andrew's continued in seeking to be outward-looking in our focus. Our Mission and Giving group organised a number of giving days and events. Our Harvest celebrations were focussed on a Tear Fund project (*Make life flow* – that river again....) bringing clean water and sanitation in the Diocese of Kigazi, south-west Uganda. The Harvest supper and the Sunday collection raised £2,180, but even this magnificent sum was beaten by the money given at the May Gift Day for 'Mercy Ships' - £2,574. We also gave money to USPG (for a women's centre in South India), and to other regular causes (the *Transitions* project based at the Romsey Mill, A Rocha and WinterComfort). Overall, our giving to missions and other organisations totalled over £9,500. And, on top of that, we gave and raised several thousands more for Azul Wasi, the Blue House orphanage we support in the Cusco region of Peru.

And that brings us back to the river. The vision at the heart of our church was, and is, to let the life of God flow out to a needy world, starting with Chesterton, but flowing out to the world's farthest parts. It is humbling to realise that Azul Wasi is built largely from the moneys given and raised by us – which means that our love is not just words but is making a real difference to young lives across the seas.

Treasurer's report

Here are some particular points worth noting about income and expenditure for 2009.

- ◇ We made a net deficit £2,940, having budgeted for a deficit of £2,500. Expenditure was significantly more than anticipated, including
 - £1,200 on our project officer Gillian Wallace
 - A sharp increase in gas and electricity costs (£1k over budget, but there may have been some over-billing)
 - Large expenditure on the fire alarm (£1.5k over budget).
 - We started supporting our loyal flower group financially, rather than expecting them to buy flowers (£600).

However, income too was higher than expected, due almost entirely to generous donations from the congregation (budget £77k, actual £81k, including tax recovery).

- ◇ The current account also shows income and expenditure of around £6.5k on the parish weekend at Launde Abbey.
- ◇ We received £6,000 from SNAP, towards the £60,000 they are paying off over 10 years. At the end of 2008 they still owed £30,903.28.
- ◇ We began a major building project (see the fabric report below), having decided to fund it nearly 100% from existing church reserves. We nevertheless invited donations from the church and community (via Chesterton Chimes) and received £2,438 in donations.

This expenditure exhausted the (restricted) Fabric Fund, with the balance being taken from the (unrestricted) Capital Fund.

- ◇ We raised a total of £7,420 for good causes, including nearly £4,000 for the Azul Wazi (Blue House) project. Adding a further £4,000 from PCC funds, we gave a total of nearly £13,000 to good causes, running down the Azul Wazi fund somewhat.
- ◇ During the year St Andrew's was responsible for collecting money for the following charities, which was sent direct to the charity and therefore did not pass through the Church accounts:
 - **Christian Aid week** £3,291.68 (co-ordinator Margaret Partridge; £3,044.96 in 2008, £3,162 in 2007, £3,065 in 2006, £3,481 in 2005, £2,874 in 2004)
 - **Barnardo's**: £215 (co-ordinator Pam Fry; £230 in 2008, £222 in 2007, £270 in 2006, £301 in 2005, £240 in 2004)
 - **Children's Society**: £329.31 (co-ordinator Margaret White; £327.01 in 2008 £308.25 in 2007, £333.68 in 2006, £313 in 2005, £319 in 2004)

Fabric and building report

The major activity of 2009 began in the autumn with a programme of works highlighted by our last quinquennial inspection. This required the erection of scaffolding to the tower, spire and south aisle. The works, due to be completed early in 2010, included the following items:

- Rebuilding the parapet that runs down the edge of the south aisle roof
- Replacing rotten timbers underneath the north aisle
- Re-pointing areas of the south aisle and tower walls
- Repairing stonework on the spire and tower where it has crumbled away
- Repairing gutters behind the tower parapets and directing the lead chutes so that the water does not come down the walls
- Conservation work on the interior of the tower and one of the north porch windows
- Repairing the timber floor in the tower
- Restoring the weathervane, giving it a new head and completing its tail feathers
- Repairing the boiler room and sealing off the steps
- Conservation works on the Anna Maria Vassa memorial and two of the floor ledgers in the church
- Repainting of rain water pipes

The PCC accepted the tender of Lodge & Sons and appointed them as contractors; the work was supervised by our architect, Sarah Dani, of Freeland Rees Roberts. The value of the contract, subject to additions and subtractions, was just short of £105,000 (the lowest tender). In the course of the work some things did not require as much attention as had been thought, but these have been counterbalanced by other items that have been dealt with (including the re-leading of one of the tower windows, the provision of a safety rail and safe access to the tower parapet, and a cowl to the boiler flue chimney). The quality of the workmanship has been excellent and the contractors' staff have been friendly, co-operative and sympathetic to the rhythms of church life. At the end of December the following work still remained

Repairs to the base of the spire, rainwater goods and stonework/pointing

- Repairs to the boiler house
- Some repointing on the east wall of nave and work on the boiler flue chimney
- Ground level (and below) drainage on the south side

The initial tender was for £105,000 plus VAT (mostly this should be reclaimed), plus fees. The works have nearly but not quite finished, more or less to budget.

Part of the contract included the installation of a security system on the roof. This includes cameras that are monitored and two-way sound, so that intruders can be deterred from both their intended theft and any consequent damage.

No work has been carried out on our stained glass. A report received in 2008 had recommended repairs costing £21,132 plus VAT, but a second company who visited never submitted a report despite much chasing. The architect has been asked to commission two further reports from other companies.

Our architect submitted an accessibility audit in January 2009 that, among other things, highlighted the need for permanent disabled access through the north porch and the need for an accessible toilet facility. Three sites were proposed for the latter: at the back of the north aisle, at the base of the tower and in a new extension around the south door (echoing the north porch). All three of these are problematic and have not found favour with the PCC – which has now proceeded to consider the possibility of relocating (and rebuilding) the organ and locating facilities in the organ chamber. This will be investigated during 2010. Preliminary costings suggest that such a reordering project may cost in the region of £200,000, half of which may be met from reserves, but leaving a sizeable portion to be raised from donations, grants and fundraising.

The organ has suffered this year from a malicious act of vandalism that led to several thousands of pounds worth of repairs. But it is also suffering from its age: with one or two additions, the organ is now over 70 years old and a rebuild is overdue.

Further break-ins to the vestries have led to new security measures. The clergy vestry has been given an extra lock and a new (very) secure cupboard. Access for most people is now through the choir vestry where valuable items are no longer stored.

The fire alarm has proved problematic in 2009. Excessive call-out charges in 2008 led us to a change of service contract but did not free us of repeated failures of the system (involving, on two occasions, the calling out of the fire brigade). The current company believe that our alarm has been activated by interference from another local system and recommended the reprogramming of our units. This work was authorised but not completed until January 2010.

An experimental reordering in the north aisle has seen the children's area moved forward and pews to the east of it turned southwards. This will be the subject of a temporary reordering application in 2010 when a dais and narrower nave altar will also be experimentally introduced on an Archdeacon's licence. We have continued to experiment with the layout of the chancel, combining a more classical ordering at the east end (for daily prayer) with some varied use of the carpeted area. *Nick Moir*

Deanery Synod Report

The Synod has met twice. In May, the Bishop of Huntingdon, the Right Reverend David Thomson, gave an address on the subject of prayer in Michaelhouse. In October at St. Luke's Canon Chris Savage, Chaplain to People at Work, spoke on a Christian response to the Financial Crisis. Pippa Brice has replaced Clare Baker as secretary. Canon John Binns of Great St. Mary's is chairman. *Bridget Trump*

St Andrew's Hall Project

Overview of the Year and Staffing

2009 saw a change of gear at the Hall, not least because we began the year with three more members of staff on the pay roll! Geoff Peel retired at the end of 2008, but generously stayed on into 2009 to polish off our End of Year Accounts and hand over his mantle to Claire Pembery, our new Finance Officer. Claire's



arrival was accompanied by that of Liz Tinkler and Gillian Wallace, both of whom were employed on six-month contracts as Hall Manager's Assistant and St Andrew's Project Officer respectively (both part-time roles). This new staffing structure was experimental – the previous 'Hall Manager's Assistant' role had incorporated many of the tasks now being shared between three individuals – and in the case of our Project Officer we were test-driving a three-way appointment model whereby Gillian spread her allotted 12 hours per week between Hall, Church and the then embryonic Chesterton Community Association whilst being answerable to them all. No small challenge, but one to which she proved herself more than capable of rising. As an unexpected bonus, Rob Parker-Mcgee joined us for a month in June/July, coming down from Mirfield, Yorkshire to fulfil an ordination training placement at St Andrew's. Rob rolled up his sleeves straight away to plunge headlong into Chesterton Festival preparations and the construction of the River of Life. He also assisted with a plethora of everyday happenings in and out of the office, all with jovial ease and graciousness: his presence was a Godsend.

Whilst we ended the year with just Eleanor and Claire, it was very valuable to have an enlarged the staff team for the time that we did: amongst other benefits, the extra manpower allowed us to work in closer collaboration with partner organisations and set down foundations for large-scale community activities which we hope will go on to become annual events, and this would not have been possible without extra folk around to pioneer such initiatives.

Usage and Building

Usage of the facilities continued to flourish, with enhanced possibilities being provided by the removal of the partial partition separating Rooms 2a and 2b at the end of spring. The change resulted in a room that is much more suitable for meetings, training sessions and exercise classes than it was previously, and was received with universal acclaim. The ever-widening range of groups meeting at the Hall continued to enrich those of us who have contact with those they drew in, and also guarded against the potential drop in rental income threatened by the recession: our income stream comes from a huge variety of sources, rather than leaving us dependent on one 'key' hirer.

Finances

The Hall Accounts for 2009 are presented as part of the Church's Financial Report. In its fourth year of operation the Hall once again generated a surplus. Rental income increased by more than £10,000 since 2008 due to increased usage as hire rates remained unchanged. Other monies came from donations, grant applications for a number of events and bank interest, as well as the on-going generous assistance with maintenance costs from St. Andrew's Church, which is most appreciated.

Overall the year resulted in a surplus of close to £8,800. Although this is less than that achieved in 2008, in the current economic climate and in light of some one off maintenance works undertaken during the year, we feel very encouraged.

For the first time since opening our hire rates have been increased for 2010 but research shows that these remain very reasonable compared to similar local venues. We therefore hope that they should not deter any of our current or future users.

Activities

As mentioned, 2009 saw the advent of a number of first-time community activities initiated by Hall and Church which should now become annual fixtures: a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party, a Mayday celebration and June's Chesterton Festival.

As well as the enjoyment these brought for those attending, the events forged new links and strengthened existing ones between ourselves and other community organisations and individuals in the area. Local community development was helped as a result, and we ended the year with a much greater sense of the possibility of collaboration with our neighbours than we had when we began it. Good news – and thanks to all involved!

Claire Pembery and Eleanor Whalley