



The Parish Church of Keswick St. John Annual Report Booklet 2008/09

*including the Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2008 for the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting following the Sung Eucharist on 26 April 2009*

THE PREFACE

*The Mission Statement of the Parish Church of Keswick St John –
In friendship together we resolve to:-
Worship God, serve the community and share our faith in Jesus Christ.*

It doesn't seem a minute since I wrote my last report. How fast the years go! Since I last wrote I have noticed that at our main Sunday service more people are attending, on average our congregation have risen by about 10%. It is lovely to see new people in church as well as our visitors many of whom appear very regularly. We will in the course of this year be making better provision for our children, as well as making the back of the church more attractive by creating a clearly defined and comfortable children's area and installing new display boards and storage facilities. This year money has already been raised for this project but we still have a substantial way to go. We must constantly examine our churches to see that we are helping all who come to worship

On a sad note the Sisters will leave in June. They have informed the life of this parish for over 25 years as well as the diocese at large. In my short time here they have been a great help, but more their presence has been a source of great spiritual comfort. I realise the same thoughts are shared by many of you. The future of Holy Name House remains to be determined, and, in large part is out of our hands; nothing will be rushed into though. The consequences of losing HNH though, and its impact on this parish, should have been examined long since!

So it may be an interesting year ahead. I suspect also it will not be far into the future before we have to take on responsibility for other parishes. This will mean we will need more people to consider what they can do for our church through their time and talents. To help this process we are embarking on a stewardship campaign. Please pray for its success, and pray that more people will become involved in the life of this church so that we can face the future with confidence and be worthy witnesses to our Lord Jesus.

Canon Stephen Pye

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF KESWICK ST JOHN
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF FUNDS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2008**

2007		2008
	PERMANENT ASSETS	
	<i>Investment trusts administered by the Carlisle Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd.</i>	
	A total investment of 1213.25 ordinary shares in the CBF Investment Fund.	
Current Value of Ordinary Shares in CBF Investment Fund		Current Value of Ordinary Shares in CBF Investment Fund
15,057	TOTAL PERMANENT ASSETS	11,043
	CURRENT ASSETS	
	<i>Investments administered by the Parochial Church Council</i>	
	<u>Shares (at current value)</u>	
17,474	1408 Ordinary shares CBF Investment Fund	12,816
	<u>Current Accounts</u>	
100	Petty Cash Float	92
1,000 ®	CBF Deposit Account - General Fund	— ®
8,366	- General Fund	7,093
398 ®	Cash at Bank - General Fund	— ®
2,105	- General Fund	2,589
2,645 ®	CBF Account - Restoration Fund	4,376 ®
14,614		14,150
	® = restricted funds	
32,088	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	26,966
	LIABILITIES	
10,000	Creditor – Medium Term Loan, Carlisle DBF	10,000
10,000	5 years from Sept 2002. Repaid to date	10,000
—		—
—	Sundry Creditors	—
—	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	—
32,088	NET CURRENT ASSETS	26,966

I have examined the books and records of the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Keswick, St John for the year 2008 and certify that the Receipts and Payments accounts for the year and the Statement of Funds as at 31st December 2008 are in agreement with the books and records.

Glenda Holme (Mrs.)

23 January 2009

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF KESWICK ST JOHN
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2008**

2007		2008	
	VOLUNTARY INCOME		
9,749	Church Cash Collections	10,297	
3,837	Weddings & Funerals	3,514	
30,279	Planned Giving	33,859	
1,652	One Off and Annual Donations	220	
8,830	Tax Recovered on Gift Aid	9,432	
1,774	Sundry Donations	3,151	
<u>56,121</u>			60,473
	OTHER ORDINARY INCOME		
3,081	Fund Raising Events	4,826	
484 ®	Charity Appeals	1,599 ®	
1,383	Church Rentals/Charges	1,559	
3,534 ®	Gift Day (including Gift Aid Tax recovery)	3,394 ®	
1,480	Parish Magazine	1,499	
5,498	Fees	4,495	
<u>15,460</u>			17,372
	INVESTMENT INCOME		
1,278	Dividends and Interest	1,343	
485	Trusts	546	
<u>1,763</u>			1,889
73,344	SUB TOTAL OF ORDINARY INCOME		79,734
	EXTRAORDINARY INCOME		
120 ®	Grants	135 ®	
209	Legacies	—	
140	Specified Gifts	960	
417 ®	Special Appeals	863 ®	
112	Other Funds Generated	61	
<u>998</u>			2,019
74,342	TOTAL INCOME		81,753
2,627	<i>Excess of Expenditure over Income</i>		463
<u>76,969</u>			<u>82,216</u>

® = Restricted Income

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF KESWICK ST JOHN
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2008**

2007		2008	
	PROPERTY EXPENSES		
6,291	Churchyard Maintenance	6,214	
1,079	Church Maintenance	3,378	
3,917	Church Insurance	4,193	
2,655	Heating, Lighting, net.	3,173	
592	Servicing Organ and Piano	809	
<u>14,534</u>			17,767
	OTHER ORDINARY EXPENDITURE		
3,986	Parish Expenses	4,468	
4,331	Upkeep of Services	4,165	
476	Stationary & Office Expenses	501	
413	Publicity	242	
1,526	Parish Magazine	1,517	
1,349	Donations to Charities – from Church	3,057	
1,466	– from Funerals	1,390	
183	Clergy Fees to Diocese	150	
70	Sundry Expenses	39	
1,063	Cost of Parish Activities	704	
1,135	Training & Education	553	
<u>15,998</u>			16,786
<u>45,871</u>	DIOCESAN QUOTA		<u>47,563</u>
76,403	SUB TOTAL OF ORDINARY EXPENDITURE		82,116
	EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE		
200	Loan Interest	—	
<u>366</u>	Other Extraordinary Expenditure	<u>100</u>	100
566			
<u>76,969</u>	TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>82,216</u>

BAND OF SILVER AND BRASSES

There are four of us presently in the team. Once a month we meet in church, usually at 9:00am on Mondays. Vicky Emley and myself clean the silver Communion Plate, rinsing well anything used for drinking. Then we polish the brass candlesticks, the Processional Cross and the large Filigree Cross. This latter cross was once Mary Bluff's pride and joy and now it is mine. Arthur and Pearl shine up the brass plaques and commemorative plates on the walls, and any other brassy bits in the church and finally the hanging lantern in the Lady Chapel.

We find Bovril very sustaining. If you can find it in your heart to help us for half an hour a month, every now and then, I can promise you a warm welcome and as much Bovril as you can drink.

Marjorie Browne

CAMEO LADIES GROUP

CAMEO is a happy and friendly group and it continues to thrive. We have a good mixture of speakers and subjects, some of them from our own church family, which is lovely.

There is always a warm welcome for new members and if you would like to join, just come along to any of the meetings. If you would like to bring a friend, all are welcome whether church member or not.

As this is the last report before the Sisters leave Holy Name House, we would like to say a very big thank you for all their unstinting hospitality, Thank you!

Stephnie Critchley

CARLISLE DIOCESAN SYNOD

In Carlisle Cathedral on 8th November 2008 there was a large Survival to Revival Celebration. An opportunity to look back on 4 years work, to give thanks for all that has been achieved, and to look forward to growth in the areas of Youth, Rural and Vocation in the years 2009-2011 (see Carlisle Diocese cards available in Church). During this service each Rural Dean laid a stone at the foot of the Cross with the name of each Parish written on it. Our 'stone'

was a piece of Borrowdale Slate, and yes Keswick St John was written on it (I checked).

Much has been said at Diocesan Synod level in Carlisle regarding Fairtrade beginning at home, and at the Synod on 14th March this year, a motion was passed to call the national supermarket chains to apply "Fair trade" principles in their dealings with the UK farming sector, and a call made on Church members to use their purchasing power to support local farmers and food producers.

There was a motion moved that the Synod urge the Government, in these times of recession, to implement the planning and development of a high-speed rail link from London to the North-West and Scotland. In this way economic and social development might be strengthened, and employment opportunities sustained.

Also support was given to the work of the University of Cumbria (this Synod took place at the Newton Rigg Campus), and links between the University and Diocese are being strengthened.

The Diocese of Carlisle has now produced a 'Statement of Environmental Policy', a copy of which may be borrowed from me by anyone who is interested. This policy was approved in November 2008.

Susan Leighton

CHARITIES, MISSION AND FAIR TRADE SUB-GROUP

Various fund raising activities have supported our Charities and Mission activities. Donations have been made to the Church Urban Fund, World Vision, Church Mission Society, emergency appeals for disasters in both Pakistan and the Congo, and our 'children's corner'.

Funds for the children's corner have been raised through the young people's sponsored swim; a coffee morning arranged by Pearl Wilson, and a Beetle Drive organised by this sub-group. Our young people again designed and produced our church Christmas card. The money raised from this has been sent to support the St. George VI School for disabled and hearing-impaired children in Zimbabwe, a charity chosen by our young people themselves. Rosemary Elliott

undertook a sponsored walk for the Church Urban Fund. Our diocesan commitment was for £250 p.a. for three years, but through the generosity of members we will have raised in excess of £1,100 over the three years. The Prayer group's successful coffee morning, held in Holy Name House, raised money to support the work of the Basotho Educational Trust.

It is heart-warming to see church members engaged in arranging and supporting these various fund raising activities. Thank you. You enable St. John's to support a range of organisations engaged in Christian humanitarian work. This year we have also become aware of contributions from visitors, regular and casual. All are welcome as members of our Church family.

The church continues to use Fair Trade tea and coffee, and provide information about Fair Trade through the Parish magazine. It is hoped that there will be further growth in the St. John's support for Fair Trade, perhaps through the provision of Traidcraft Fair Trade biscuits for coffee after some morning services. Traidcraft is a Christian organization.

Undoubtedly we will have emergency appeals for unexpected disasters during the next 12 months. The economic crisis facing the whole world will put ever-greater demands on organizations working to alleviate poverty, at home and abroad. Our prayers for those in greater need than ourselves will continue to be necessary, as will our generosity.

Ailsa Benson

CHOIR

On a week-by-week basis we have a regular four-part choir of fifteen members. Last year Sister Constance returned to the Community in Derby and both Hannah Leighton and Hannah Roberts 'retired' after many years of singing in the choir. We wish them all the very best in the future.

This means that our choir membership at time of print is:

Sopranos: Mary Davies, Margaret Purkiss, Sandra Train. Pam Scriven, Vicki Emley, Brenda Bryden and Abbie Wood

Altos: Penny Duttson, Stephnie Critchley and Liz Hale

Tenors: Ray Trickey and Roger Purkiss,

Basses: Cliff Hale, Bob Bryden and Alan Daniels

We were pleased to welcome back Liz Hale after Christmas. It is particularly good to have a 'trio' of altos...!

'Augmenting' for Easter and Christmas continues to work well and enables 'singing in the choir' to be inclusive and flexible. I would like to thank established choristers for continuing to come back over and over again! And I am always delighted when 'new faces' still join us. It was particularly pleasing to have such a large number of augmented choristers for Christmas. Thank you for your support!

This year marks my tenth year in the role of 'Director of Music'. Where has the time gone...? I really value my role within our church community and feel privileged to contribute to the weekly worship. I am very much looking forward to our Tenth Anniversary Concert on Sunday 28 June 6pm and hope you can support us - See you there!

I would like to end my report by thanking all the choir for their huge commitment and energy, and their openness to welcoming others and making them feel at home. Well done everyone. I am looking forward to moving into our eleventh year together!

Rachel Head

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN KESWICK AND NEIGHBOURHOOD

St John's CTIK members are our Vicar Stephen Pye, Reader Susan Leighton and Bob Bryden. If all the church 'reps' attend the 'full house' of clergy and lay people is 27. The clergy also meet separately as an 'Upper House' in the Keswick Clergy Fraternal. Clergy and lay people meet at least three times a year in the CTIK Council. The CTIK chair changed over in September when Jill Sturges completed a two year duty and Father Peter Sharrock of the Catholic Church took over. Our secretary is the

Revd Jeanette McCleod (Methodist) and treasurer is Barry Cox (Bassenthwaite).

Activities 2008-09 have included a CTIK stall at the Christmas Fayre; Christmas Eve Carolling in the Market Square; the annual Barn Dance; a public course exploring the community; Lent Lunches; and Christian Aid Week which raised a record total of £7,400. All this in addition to regular united services as Christians Together share worship by moving around to our member churches.

Bob Bryden

CHURCHWARDENS

This has been an interesting year with lots to learn and do. We have been helped and encouraged by the support of everyone who is part of our church family here at Keswick St. John.

Apart from attending regular meetings with Stephen and doing our best to make sure things and people are in the right places on a Sunday morning, we have covered a wide variety of activities which have included:

- Meeting and talking with others that are involved in the well being of the church, which has helped us to appreciate the unseen work they do.
- Keeping an eye on the birds in their nest neatly built just inside the porch door.
- Changing light bulbs and batteries.
- Having a better idea of how the sound system works.
- Consulting with the police about management of theft from the offertory box and candle stand. Along with drinking problems and associated litter being left in the church grounds.

Our lives are busy and we are sorry that we were unable to continue with the Fabric Committee meetings, we are planning to re-commence in May.

We have received a letter from the Diocese Advisory Committee saying they have approved the P.C.C's proposal to create a defined children's area, display area and proper storage space and cupboards at the rear of the church.

The PCC hope to commence this work later in the year.

We would like to thank Richard Critchley for the amount of time and work he has put into this project. Supplying us with excellent drawings of the alterations and work needed to be done.

We will be very sad to see the Sisters of Holy Name House leave us in June. They are very much a part of our community joining us in some of the activities we hold. However, we must remain positive, for God works in mysterious ways – as one door closes another one will open.

We are a busy church hosting and organising many different functions. Our church provides a wide spectrum of activities from Barn dances to Beatle drives and a Summer fete to many classical concerts. God willing, these and maybe more will continue.

Ann Clinker & Martin Head

CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

Perhaps we have had a wetter summer than last year's ...but I can't remember one. One of the results was that the grass simply could not be cut.

This year, Martin Hardman has taken over the contract maintenance of the churchyard. Already, with a week's fine weather, we can see a difference in the state of the grass. Let's hope for a better summer so that the improvements can gather pace.

More bulbs were planted in the autumn – in the northeast angle of the church, near the top of the steps. We should have a similar number to plant this coming autumn – probably in the corner on the south west side.

The team has put in a great deal of hard work; mostly removing ivy, pruning and weeding along the terrace and below the terrace wall. Next we hope to clear the hedge along the church lane boundary again. This will be followed by work along 'our' side of the Borrowdale Road and, generally, in the 'new' churchyard.

Sadly, we did not see the early purple orchids last spring. However, on the plus side, neither

did we see much ragwort. If the grass cut early, we may start to see some wildflowers colonising various areas.

There is a continuing problem with people taking short cuts across the grass and out on to the (road) end of Holy Name House/Vicarage drive. This has led to damage to newly planted shrubs. It may be that a temporary fence will be required until the shrubs get established.

The working party soldiers on, almost whatever the weather, and it is very helpful having a break, half way through the morning, when a hot drink at the Sisters' helps thaw out frozen fingers and toes. As you will realise, we have again enjoyed the hospitality of the Sisters at coffee times (with home made cake). We do appreciate this break and shall miss them sorely when they go back to Derby at the end of May (and not just for the refreshments but for the lively conversations, too).

In last year's report I asked 'where do we go from here?' with regard to the churchyard. To date, apart from the working party, there have been no suggestions. Do we assume from this, that whatever is decided with regard to its long-term future, there will be complete acceptance?

Penny Duttson

ELECTORAL ROLL

Last year at the 2008 APCM the number of people on the Electoral Roll was 118. Two members died during the year, Isabella Fisher and Muriel Worthington. We welcome onto the Electoral Roll 12 new members which means that the total now stands at 128. If you attend Keswick St. John and have not yet enrolled please ask me for a form if you would like to be included.

Ann Goodfellow

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

We continue with six regular members of the Flower Team: Bridget Connolly, Ann Corry, Stephnie Critchley, Mary Davis, Christine Graham and myself. I would like to thank everyone for their continued support and

commitment. Many people comment on how lonely the flowers are in our Church.

Extra help has been provided by a number of other people at Easter, Harvest and Christmas, which is much appreciated. Thanks also go to the people who provide us with greenery at this time.

I would also like to thank the congregation for the donations they give towards flowers on these special occasions. Although for most of the year we provide our own flowers for the designs we arrange.

A few years ago I introduced a scheme where you could have an arrangement made in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a birthday, anniversary etc on a specific date. I would be grateful if you would consider this, it would help with the overall cost of the flowers and oasis throughout the year.

We are always happy to welcome others to the Team (men or women). You don't have to be an expert. If you would like to have a go, I will be happy to give you some help. Please see me in church or call me on 017687 76687.

Sue Lake

HOME GROUPS

After last year's euphoria interest in the Springs Road home group slightly declined during the 12 months since the 2008 APCM, but the quality of the discussions and the warmth of our friendships more than compensated for fewer numbers. And it has certainly been an 'exciting' year.

In the summer of 2008 we looked at the nature of God with the help of two of the most challenging books of the 20th century 'Your God is too small' by J.B. Phillips, and 'Honest to God' by Bishop John Robinson. Our minds were stretched and became more elastic as our faith became stronger! It really is important for Christians to 'put away childish things' as we encounter the 'gods' of the 21st century.

The autumn of 2008 was enlivened by another foray into one of the stranger books of the Bible – this time the incredible Book of Job. What an eye-opener! What beauty and spiritual power!

At times it was over-whelming to follow & share in Job's dawning understanding of the meaning of life.

The summer session of 2009 begins on Monday, 27 April at 2:00pm. We intend to look at the unbelief of a sincere agnostic, the broadcaster John Humphrys, and see if Archbishop Rowan Williams can help answer some of Mr Humphrys' questions. And in doing so our own faith will become stronger & deeper.

All are welcome to come, even if you haven't been before. And – how I wish there were more home groups of this kind in our parish. I am convinced that the future of the Church in our country lies in the encouragement of more and more small groups of this kind, meeting in people's homes & sharing fellowship on a personal level.

David Edwards

JULIAN GROUP

Most first and third Wednesdays in the month the Julian Group has met at 7:30pm enjoying the kind hospitality of Holy Name House.

After a scriptural introduction taken in turn by members we have 30 minutes of silent prayer – recollecting as in Psalm 46 “Be still and know that I am God.” In this way we recognise and enjoy God's presence and love for us. We conclude with the Lord's Prayer and the Grace. All are welcome.

Brian Selvey

MEN'S GROUP

We have held two joint meetings with CAMEO which included the last meeting of 2007-2008 – a visit to Hutton in the Forest and a Lent Quiet Evening which included a talk by Stephen Pye.

Our other meetings in 2008 were a visit to the Calvert Trust at Bassenthwaite, which included a meal and some indoor rock climbing; a talk by Stephen Pye on War Poetry; and finally our Christmas Dinner, again held at Castlehead House Hotel.

In the New Year the Mayor Roger Purkiss guided us through the work of Keswick Town Council at our Breakfast Meeting.

Our April meeting is a visit to Honister Slate Mine and in May there will be a joint meeting with CAMEO when there will be a talk by the British Divers Marine Life Rescue

Whilst the number of regular members fell slightly last year, the numbers at meetings rose due to the presence of visitors and women attending and this appears to be the way forward

Peter Graham

MOTHERS' UNION

The 2008 theme “Time for Relationship” provided a great deal on interest and variety. The year began with a flourish with Mick Guy and his Rescue Dogs. I wish that the church had been full of people to listen to his account of the training he gives and to meet these dignified and friendly animals.

In February we were invited to Crosthwaite. It was a pleasure indeed to listen to Dr. Edwards and to see his splendid slides. Everyone appreciated having the closing and opening services in Holy Name House. These were taken by Canon Brian Selvey and I know we will miss being able to go there in the future.

Rosemary Elliott spoke about her pioneering family, very relevant to our theme, proving once again that our own church members have so much to offer.

In May we travelled to Grasmere in a Furness Minibus to Rydal Mount also visiting the Nursery and Grasmere Church. We were delighted that Murial Strachan was able to give us the benefit of her research into the Wordsworth's family, whilst in the house. I hope everyone enjoyed the outing.

As winter approached, I was glad to see attendances at meeting increase as visitors appeared in Holy Name House to swell the throng. One brave man arrived on his own to listen to Chris Brookman's talk on “Badgers and Wild Life Law”, which was excellent. We were especially happy to welcome Stephanie Critchley and Sue Lake to our meeting in December. This Christmas meeting was a joy with mince pies, sherry and their super demonstration of seasonal flower arrangements. Altogether a very satisfying year. We have

some potential new members plus a steady group of loyal supporters. Do join us at any meeting if you are interested. The current year's theme is "Cost of Relationship".

We open again in October of this year in church (details on the notice board). Of course we will miss the support and friendship of the Sisters and indeed H N H itself. The end of an era, we all wish the Sisters God's blessing in their lives and future work. They will take our love and appreciation and leave us with many happy memories.

Marjorie Browne

MUSIC IN CHURCH

The Church put on or acted as host to nine concerts during the 2008 season. The season began with a concert by our own Choral Society in Keswick performing Faure's much loved "Requiem" and a piece by their conductor, Ian Hare "The Vale of Keswick". Later in the same month the Rotary Club presented a charity concert by the young German singer Annika Kaschenz accompanied on the piano by Francesco Attesti. As always the "Jazz Songs of Praise", in place of evensong, was very popular and this year featured the "Old Green River Band". We were once more fortunate to play host to the world renowned Fitzwilliam Quartet who have strong connections with this town. Their programme consisted of music by Purcell, Grainger, Mozart and Tchaikovsky and all, as we have come to expect, performed at the very highest level and would have graced any concert hall in the world. At the end of June our own choir and musicians put on another excellent concert for us all to enjoy. In July we were fortunate to hear an excellent recital by Ian Tracy, the organist of Liverpool Cathedral, with the young counter tenor Martin Howarth. This concert, given in aid of St. John's, St. John's in the Vale and Whythburn Churches, was most enjoyable although many would have liked to have heard a little more of our fine organ. It was a real joy to be able to play host to a concert in aid of the Calvert Trust when an excellent group of amateur string players called the "Sale Chamber Orchestra" gave us a memorable concert of works by Mozart, Grieg, Purcell and

Wren. In August we were privileged to hear another wonderful concert by the "Cologne New Philharmonia Chamber Orchestra, which, as usual, was very well attended. Finally the whole concert series was brought to a magnificent end with a performance of Handel's "Messiah" given by the Rural Choirs to an almost packed church.

John Green

PARISH MAGAZINE

As you may have noticed the magazine has gone up in price this year. This is so that the cost of the Diocesan insert 'The News' is now covered by the subscriptions rather than by the general Church funds. In a time of increasing demands on our money, we are grateful to all the subscribers for accepting this additional cost, and we are not expecting another increase for a few years.

Having said that, the magazine does need to continue to be worth the money it costs. Please send any items, articles, and suggestions about inclusions to the editor.

The magazine serves a number of purposes. Our readers from out of the area who have their magazine posted feel that it helps them to feel part of our community when they are able to visit us. For those who get their magazine delivered, it helps them to feel that they are still connecting with us. For many it is their opportunity to get their events promoted, check when they are on duty, or check out what is happening.

To help with the quality of the magazine we now have a new proof reader (beginning May), and if anyone else would like to be involved with the magazine distribution, please let me know.

Susan Leighton

PCC REPORT

Since the 2008 APCM there have been six meetings held. Items which have been discussed are:-

a) Photographs have been taken of the church in the snow however the sky was not very clear. The Christmas cards are still on hold.

- b) The church youth groups name and logo were decided.
- c) It was decided the contract for the churchyard maintenance would be ended and a new one drawn up and offered to Mr Hardman.
- d) Easter 2008 was reviewed and the numbers matched 2007. It was noticed the amount of visitors and less usual congregation.
- e) The change of the timings of evensong were discussed and agreed to change to 6 o'clock.
- f) The purchase of a new notice board has been discussed. It was felt that a board was needed to display information on services and concerts to attract the attention of passers by.
- g) Elections were made and Cliff Hale continued as treasurer. Rachel Frampton continued as secretary. Stephen Pye, Susan Leighton and Val Montgomery continued as deanery synod representatives.
- h) It was decided that instead of the usual harvest lunch a multi-national meal would be held at the St Herbert's centre on the 24th September. It was very successful.
- i) After much discussion final plans have been made for the rear of church. The faculty application is now proceeding and funds must be raised.
- j) After receiving the news that Holy Name House is to close the implications have been discussed. It has been proposed that a committee be formed by the diocese, including two PCC members.
- k) The survival to revival target was chosen to carry on with the alterations at the rear of the church.
- l) The Garden Fete was felt to be less stressful than in previous years and will continue this year.
- m) The priority of meetings of late has been how to decrease expenditure and increase income. A stewardship committee has been formed to discuss these matters further.

Rachel Frampton

PRAYER GROUP AND PRAYER CHAIN

A day hemmed in by prayer will not unravel.

The Prayer Group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30, at present in Holy Name House – and we thank the Sisters for the use of their chapel. Change of venue will be notified when appropriate. Different members of the group open and close each meeting. We are friendly and flexible – come when and if you can – everyone is most welcome and under no pressure to pray out loud. The prayers are for all aspects of life, our parish and wider community, and an opportunity to give thanks and praise to God.

The Prayer Chain works by Request. We rely on YOU to make the requests – for anyone in need, and to rejoice! Anne Corry is the one to contact initially, but requests come through others. There is always room to fit in extra “links”.

Prayers in both the group and the chain are confidential within each context.

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God. Dan 6:10b.

Anne Corry

SIDES PEOPLE

The work Sides People do is greatly appreciated and a major asset to the smooth running of each of the services.

We are short of Sides People. If you are interested or would like to know more please make yourself know to Ann or Martin

Martin Head & Ann Clinker

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school membership remains similar to previous years, but with encouragingly, continual feeding into the younger group from Tiny Tots.

There has been a change in teaching materials, as we now include “The Grid” (Scripture Union) to cater for the 11- 14year age group. It is a continual challenge to encompass the increasing age range within two groups!

Bowling was a great success last summer, and it is planned that we repeat this early in the

autumn. We are hoping to repeat the success of the sponsored swim and have planned to have a walk around Derwentwater ...distance covered no doubt equating to age! All this again will be in aid of church funds.

The Christmas nativity went down very well with the younger members excelling themselves & capturing the Christmas story so well. As always the older group made a great contribution with a novel version of The Twelve Days of Christmas. Their musical contribution was very successful too; it is lovely to see them share their musical talents in worship.

We were pleased to welcome Alison into the team of leaders, and Mary who has helped us out when we are stuck!

My thanks go to past and present Sunday school leaders for their time and commitment throughout the year.

Cathy Hooper

TAPESTRY MUSIC GROUP

Tapestry continues to support our worship during Sunday worship, Special Services, Convention Services and Songs of Praise.

We were sorry to lose both Hannah and Brian to other commitments. So for much of 2009 Tapestry has been a well balanced trio!

Rachel Head - keyboard

Brenda Bryden - flute

Rosemary Goodeve - flute

This year we have been experimenting with new songs and hymns plus learning some new settings. Our highlights for 2009 include playing at the Choir Concert and supporting the CTIK Epiphany Play at St John's amidst challenging theatre lighting!

We do enjoy playing together and I would like to extend particular thanks to Brenda (and Bob!) for letting us practice in their home. Brenda's hospitality does save heating the church to meet the needs of such a select group!

My thanks to Rosemary and Brenda for their commitment and musical efforts, we look forward to continuing to play in 2009/10.

If you play an instrument and would like to talk about joining Tapestry please speak to Rachel.

Rachel Head

TEA FUND

We have, once again, had a very successful year and I would like to thank everyone who has helped in any way to make this possible.

I feel this is an important part of our Church Family life and without your support it would not be possible.

From the Tea Fund this year we have purchased a new tea urn and donated £600.00 to the fund for the Children's Corner. The balance of the account at the moment stands at £726.75.

We are always ready to welcome new people onto the "team", and I hope the coming year will prove to be a success. Thank you all for your fellowship and support.

Cynthia Scott

TINY TOTS REPORT

The group of Tiny Tots, which meets at the back of the Church on alternate Wednesdays in term-time is growing! Recently four new families have joined us. This is excellent since Abbie, our oldest, will be going into Reception in September. As always, we start with a little procession down the aisle. Walking is the theory! A child carries the altar cloth, another the little wooden cross and another the bell. When everyone is seated on the mat in the chancel, the candle is lit on the big altar, the bell is rung and we are ready to start. Stephen or Rosemary tells a story on the theme for that term. All the stories are Bible based. In the autumn we talked about animals in the Bible ending with the animals found the manger at Christmas. Samson and the lion was a favourite. The Spring Term saw us talking about plants in the Bible. The last story is about people waving palm leaves as Jesus enters Jerusalem. This was presented as a puppet show and much vigorous audience participation took place! During the Summer Term, we shall be talking about people in the Bible who have been

healed with stories from both the Old and the New Testament.

When the story is told, we all sing one of the children's songs trying to link this with the story. When we related Noah and the animals in the ark, we sang, "Who built the ark...?" We usually sing the song then the adults sing it again with enthusiastic accompaniment on the percussion instruments. The story ends with a prayer, The Lord's Prayer and the Blessing.

The next event is the activity and you may have seen example of this stuck on the back cupboard. After sustenance in the form of a drink and a biscuit, and energy replenished, the children run... a favourite game is looking for hidden

pictures round the Church. Pictures to do with the story of the day. We ask the children to stay out of the Sanctuary. As Margaret Purkiss reminded the children when Victoria was visiting, "God wants a bit of peace and quiet!".

Sister Linda has been a valuable asset to the team. Val Montgomery has also been invaluable; she's been designing and printing the colourful posters.

As a visitor once said, "What a lot of children!" and it certainly seems so when there are about ten little ones and their Mums and Grans and carers.

Rosemary Elliott

AGENDA FOR THE VESTRY MEETING AND THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING – SUNDAY, 26 APRIL 2009

VESTRY MEETING

1. Attendance
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Sunday, 20 April 2008
3. Appointment of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Attendance
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Sunday, 20 April 2008
3. Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting
4. Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer
5. Election of Three P.C.C. Members
6. Presentation and Acceptance of the List of Sidepersons
7. Appointment of the Independent Examiner
8. Presentation of the Annual Report and Financial Statement
9. Sub Committee's
10. Resolutions for future P.C.C.