



# *The Parish Church of Keswick St. John Annual Report Booklet 2009/10*

*including the Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2009 for the  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting following the Sung Eucharist on 25 April 2010*

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## **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.*

The year for me was marked by sadness. The sadness being the decision that the Sisters would close their house in Keswick. Most of you reading this will have had a longer association with the Sisters of the Holy Name than myself, but for me, and my family, they had become neighbours and friends. As we all know they gave to St. John's a unique spiritual identity, it was not overt or demonstrative, as is increasingly the norm, but a quiet, prayerful, witness, which is far harder to replace than much of the more raucous manifestations of modern Christianity.

The closure of Holy Name House impacts upon us in other ways, some of them yet to be realised. It seems certain though that the Church (nationally!) will retain the house. This has to be good news. There were those who were anxious to sell it to the highest bidder (there being no shortage of interest). Nonetheless we have already lost a valued meeting place, and issues like access and parking loom.

Our want of a meeting place has been partly offset by the lovely new area created at the rear of the church. We are indebted to Richard Critchley whose original plans became the basis for what has been achieved. The work is of an excellence also. It would not have proved possible financially without Mrs Graham's generous bequest. This, coupled with various efforts from within our congregation, has enabled us to significantly enhance our building.

Outside we have extended the graveyard and now employ contractors who are intent on doing a good job. This to me, in spite of a flurry in the press from the artificial flower brigade, comes as a great relief.

*Canon Stephen Pye*

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF KESWICK ST JOHN**  
**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**STATEMENT OF FUNDS AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

<b>2008</b>		<b>2009</b>
	<b>PERMANENT ASSETS</b>	
	<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
<b>11,043</b>	<b>TOTAL PERMANENT ASSETS</b>	<b>12,311</b>
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	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
	<i>Investments administered by the Parochial Church Council</i>	
	<u>Shares (at current value)</u>	
12,816	1,408 Ordinary shares CBF Investment Fund	14,287
—	4,350.28 Ordinary shares CBF Investment Fund	44,143
12,816		58,430
	<u>Current Accounts</u>	
92	Petty Cash Float	90
—	® CBF Deposit Account - General Fund	3,006 ®
7,093	- General Fund	28,961
—	® Cash at Bank - General Fund	— ®
2,589	- General Fund	3,489
4,376	® CBF Account - Restoration Fund	160 ®
14,150		35,706
	® = restricted funds	
<b>26,966</b>	<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>94,136</b>
	<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
—	Sundry Creditors	—
—	<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	—
<b>26,966</b>	<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>94,136</b>

I have examined the books and records of the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Keswick, St John for the year 2009 and certify that the Receipts and Payments accounts for the year and the Statement of Funds as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 are in agreement with the books and records.

*Glenda Holme* (Mrs.)

*15 January 2010*

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF KESWICK ST JOHN  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF KESWICK ST JOHN  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

<b>2008</b>		<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>		<b>2009</b>
	<b>VOLUNTARY INCOME</b>			<b>PROPERTY EXPENSES</b>	
10,297	Church Cash Collections	8,948	6,214	Churchyard Maintenance	7,958
3,514	Weddings & Funerals	1,243	3,378	Church Maintenance	784
33,859	Planned Giving	33,263	4,193	Church Insurance	4,365
220	One Off and Annual Donations	760	3,173	Heating, Lighting, net.	3,084
9,432	Tax Recovered on Gift Aid	9,469	809	Servicing Organ and Piano	963
3,151	Sundry Donations	2,681	17,767		
60,473		56,364			17,154
	<b>OTHER ORDINARY INCOME</b>			<b>OTHER ORDINARY EXPENDITURE</b>	
4,826	Fund Raising Events	4,914	4,468	Parish Expenses	4,035
1,599 ®	Charity Appeals	1,386 ®	4,165	Upkeep of Services	3,991
1,559	Church Rentals/Charges	1,263	501	Stationary & Office Expenses	343
3,394 ®	Gift Day (including Gift Aid Tax recovery)	4,621 ®	242	Publicity	259
1,499	Parish Magazine	1,847	1,517	Parish Magazine	1,834
4,495	Fees	3,764	3,057	Donations to Charities – from Church	2,451
15,460		17,795	1,390	– from Funerals	551
17,372			150	Clergy Fees to Diocese	0
	<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>		39	Sundry Expenses	52
1,343	Dividends and Interest	2,875	704	Cost of Parish Activities	353
546	Trusts	563	553	Training & Education	234
1,889		3,438	16,786		14,103
<b>79,734</b>	<b>SUB TOTAL OF ORDINARY INCOME</b>	<b>77,597</b>	<b>47,563</b>	<b>DIOCESAN QUOTA</b>	<b>47,600</b>
	<b>EXTRAORDINARY INCOME</b>		<b>82,116</b>	<b>SUB TOTAL OF ORDINARY EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>78,857</b>
135 ®	Grants	385 ®		<b>EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE</b>	
—	Legacies	83,959	—	Major Repairs/Installations (Signboards)	1,557
960	Specified Gifts	810	—	Children's Corner	15,041
863 ®	Special Appeals	382 ®	—	Extension of Churchyard	6,662
61	Other Funds Generated	538	100	Purchase of 4,350.28 Shares in CBF Inv't Fund	40,000
2,019		86,074	100	Other Extraordinary Expenditure	—
<b>81,753</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>163,671</b>	<b>82,216</b>		63,260
463	<i>Excess of Expenditure over Income</i>	—		<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>142,117</b>
<b>82,216</b>		<b>163,671</b>	<b>82,216</b>	<i>Excess of Income over Expenditure</i>	21,554

® = Restricted Income

**ACCOUNTS**

1. Thanks to a significant legacy received during 2009 we are in a more comfortable position financially than in any other year since I became Treasurer, and for some time before that. Please see the Statement of Funds.
2. Our Net Assets have increased by £68,437 in the year, including growth of more than 10% in the value of our investments in the CBF Investment Fund.
3. In addition we have completed two major works that we have aspired to for some time, namely the Children's Comer and the extension to the Churchyard. We have also erected new notice boards.
4. Conversely, it is worrying that our voluntary income has fallen by £4,000 across both our planned giving and other collections. I am not sure whether to be glad or sad that there were significantly fewer funerals in 2009.
5. Other ordinary income is fairly static, but investment income is up due to the increase in our investments, leaving our total ordinary income down by £2,137. We must take steps to improve this situation.
6. The cost of churchyard maintenance is up by £1,744, but this has brought about a clear improvement in the state of the churchyard. The cost of Church maintenance was surprisingly low, but bills for roof repairs have still to be paid.
7. The cost of producing the Parish Magazine increased by 21% after a similar increase in a previous year. Our editor is looking at ways to contain this cost.
8. Donations to Charities were sadly down by £1,445, partly due to fewer funerals and also fewer Special Appeals. We should really be looking at increasing our aid to charities and those less fortunate than ourselves.
9. This all leaves us with a deficit on ordinary income/expenditure of £1,260, which is less than recent years, but we must take steps to convert this to a surplus in 2010 and maintain that thereafter.

10. Hopefully our more settled financial position will encourage us to extend our involvement with and mission to the people of Keswick in the future.

*Cliff Hale*

**BAND OF SILVER AND BRASSES**

There are three of us presently (Vicky Emley, Arthur Ibbotson and myself) who clean and polish the brass plaques and plates on the church walls, the candlesticks, collection plates and crosses in St John's church. We also polish the silver jugs, cups and communion plate. These jobs are tackled once a month at 9.00am on a Monday morning, throughout the year.

If you like to see the processional cross twinkling at you as it is turned in church or the collection plate shining as it is lifted high, please come to help us. We enjoy these jobs and so would you. Even the Vicar's aspersorium has a certain shine on it now after a year or two at St John's!

*Marjorie Brown*

**CAMEO LADIES GROUP**

Cameo is a thriving group and we have some lovely evenings of fellowship and friendship.

The speakers are varied and in the past year we have had some excellent talks and demonstrations.

It was of concern that we might not manage without the facility of HNH, and we are so grateful to the Sisters for their ready and generous hospitality over the years; however having had several meetings in the back of church we find it very good and we have kept the same numbers, usually about 20 per meeting.

I would like to say again that it is an open meeting and ladies are at liberty to bring friends along whether members of our church or not. All are very welcome, and I would also like to reiterate that if only one or all of the meetings appeal please feel free to pick and choose. We only charge £1.00 for funds to buy tea and biscuits and a token gift for the speakers.

Thank you to all who support me in this venture, I could not manage without you.

*Stephnie Critchley*

### **CHARITIES, MISSION AND FAIR TRADE SUB-GROUP**

This sub-committee was formed four years ago by the vicar to alleviate the PCC from arrangements for charity donations, mission work and Fair Trade issues, thus leaving it more time for other church business.

In the past year a retiring collection for Haiti was arranged. During a sermon by Revd Dr David Edwards he spoke of Human Trafficking, and this prompted a collection for a Christian project in Birmingham, which was campaigning against this and trying to help women in abusive relationships.

Back by popular demand was the church Christmas card. Again this designed and made by the Sunday school children. It raised a good sum for the Keswick Flood Relief, the charity chosen by the children. The last charity collection this year was the Lent CMS boxes.

The committee is now in the process of organising two exciting projects. One is a CMS link with a mission worker in Uganda and the Sudan, and the other to be a Friendship Link with St. Peter's church, Kells. Details of these will be in a parish magazine article written by Rosemary Elliott.

*Jean Hall*

### **CHOIR**

On a week-by-week basis we have a regular four-part choir of seventeen members. Many of the choir have struggled with health concerns this year, which has affected a number of people's capacity to maintain the weekly commitment on a Sunday and for Friday's practice, as a result our membership has fluctuated from time to time.

We were delighted when Sue Lake decided to stay on last year, Sue has been a regular member of our augmented choir for a number of years and it is great to have her with us permanently! In the New Year, Clyde and Diana Mitchell

decided to stay on 'full time' after augmenting with the choir for the first time at Christmas. We are very pleased to add another alto and tenor to our number!

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

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

Altos: Penny Dutton, Stephnie Critchley, Liz Hale and Diana Mitchell.

Tenors: Ray Trickey, Roger Purkiss and Clyde Mitchell.

Basses: Cliff Hale, Bob Bryden and Alan Daniels.

'Augmenting' for Easter and Christmas continues to be a regular feature of our choir year. Personally, I found the Carol Service this year particularly moving and it is the first time the singing of the choir has moved me to tears (happy ones!). It was great to have John with us to play the organ, which meant I could sing carols for the first time in ten years! Hooray! A big thank you to every singer and musician (plus the clergy!) who contributed to making this service such memorable worship.

On another matter, you may recall that our church was visited by an anonymous 'researcher' who wrote about their experience of worshipping at St John's some time later. This was a slightly daunting wait...! However it was very pleasing that they were so positive about the choir and commented very warmly about the 'harmonies' and quality of singing, particularly during communion. This was a great confidence boost for us all.

Finally, I would like to end my report by thanking the entire choir for their fantastic commitment and energy even in the face of significant health issues which many members have experienced in these past twelve months. I have really appreciated the special effort you have made to continue to sing when you have been able. Well done everyone.

*Rachel Head*

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN KESWICK AND NEIGHBOURHOOD

Three go to CTIK from St. John's: Vicar Stephen Pye; Reader Susan Leighton; and Bob Bryden. This year's chairman is Father Sharrock of Our Lady's Church; the secretary is Revd Jennet McLeod (Methodist) and treasurer Barry Cox (Bassenthwaite).

The 2009 Keswick Floods and the response of Churches Together is the headline news. In the September before the floods Roy Ellis of the Methodists represented CTIK in drawing up the Keswick Emergency Plan. When the floods came the plan was half finished!

So what did Churches Together do? Quite a lot!

1. The Methodist Church and Keswick Convention took in evacuees.
2. St Herbert's turned itself into an Emergency Centre putting on a hot lunch on the first flood Sunday. Soon it was declared the an official "Flood Support Centre" – daily hot lunches were provided free for about three weeks.
3. Finally, St. Herbert's continued its work providing information and a meeting place right up to the first of the Lent Lunches. As Father Sharrock said, "Thanks needs to go to so many of our churches who have worked together so easily and joyfully in waves making soup, giving hospitality and most importantly, spending time with those who had been flooded for the second time."
4. Other initiatives included church donations to Keswick Lions; a cloths store; a Christmas Toy store.
5. For the future Roy Ellis and Father Peter Sharrock of CTIK are key members of the Keswick Flood Recovery Group – St. John's will shortly hear about what more we can do next time...

*Bob Bryden*

## CHURCHWARDENS

This has been another interesting year, and we don't know where the year goes. We would like to thank everyone who is part of our church

family, for their help, encouragement and support.

- Resolve leaking roof, caused by storm damage.
- Carryout general housekeeping & clean up after children's area re-vamp.
- Last September the Fabric Committee had a working party with eleven volunteers. Everyone happily helping with the various jobs that needed doing both inside and outside the church.

The big improvement within the church last year was the re-ordering of the back of church which included the massive improvement to the children's area which was made more comfortable for children & adults and increased in size. The children's area has been invaluable at a number of events in the church where there have been a lot of children and the area has coped with it.

We would like to thank Cynthia for the gift of monies from the Tea Fund towards buying toys for the children.

*Martin Head & Ann Clinker*

## CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

This year has seen additions to the contracting team. The difference in the standard of upkeep has already been commented on very favourably though it was sad that upset was caused by implementing churchyard 'bylaws' more rigorously than of late without prior warning. This is a difficult area. The atrocious weather last autumn led to the ground being so soft that a number more headstones became unsafe and had to be laid down.

The working party continues its monthly efforts to tackle those areas that are outside the remit of the contractors. At present we are working on the southern boundary of the 'new' graveyard by cutting back a wildly overgrown beech hedge and removing self set trees, brambles, raspberries, nettles and so forth, not to mention general rubbish. Recently we have tackled the 'no man's land' area between the beech hedge on Borrowdale Road and the iron railing behind it, an area full of brambles and general rubbish.

More daffodils were planted last autumn and, at last, after the long cold winter, they are coming into their own.

The surgery alerted us to an outbreak of Japanese Knotweed along part of our joint boundary with them. We took immediate steps to clear the boundary so that we can better check for and implement control measures against this pernicious weed. The surgery is doing likewise.

Julia has very kindly taken over the Sisters' former role of feeding and watering us, this, as well as her being a very active member of the group and we are most grateful and VERY appreciative. Talking of the group, there is always room for more members (any volunteers?). It is, admittedly, rather hard, dirty work but it is also very rewarding as we can always see an improvement at the end of the morning!

A very warm thank you to all who brave the weather and the roughness of the work – you know who you all are!

*Penny Duttson*

### **ELECTORAL ROLL**

At the APCM in 2009 the number of people on the Electoral Roll was 128. During the last twelve months circumstances have changed for some members of our congregation, not least with the closure of Holy Name House. These changes mean that people moving out of the Parish are no longer eligible to be on the Electoral Roll. As a result Sisters Julie, Constance, Irene and Marjorie have all had to be removed from the list. Also some people have moved home to different parts of the country - Linda Ball, Denny and Ian Gaudin, as well as Sally and James Walker and their children.

During the year one of our members died and one person has completed an application form to be included on this year's Electoral Roll. This results in the total for this year being 119.

If you, or anyone you know, attends St. John's and is not yet on the Electoral Roll, an enrolment form is available from myself

*Ann Goodfellow*

### **FLOWERS IN CHURCH**

We now have five regular members of the Flower Team: Bridget Connolly, 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 lovely the flowers are in our Church.

Extra help has been provided by Anne Clinker, Christine Harper, Susan Leighton, Valerie Molly, Susan Page, Margaret Purkiss & Cynthia Scott and some of the Sunday School children at Easter, Harvest and Christmas, which is very much appreciated.

I would also like to thank the congregation for the donations they give towards flowers, and those who regularly provide us with greenery on these special occasions.

For most of the year the flower arrangers provide their own flowers for the designs they arrange. A few years ago I introduced a scheme whereby you could make a contribution for flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a birthday, anniversary etc on a specific date and we would make an arrangement for you at the Altar. I would be grateful if you would consider doing this, as 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**

2009 was a year of growing fellowship and study in the Springs Road Home Group, but it was also a year in which an important decision had to be made.

In the summer months we wrestled with two contrasting books – one by the agnostic broadcaster John Humphrys and the other by Archbishop Rowan Williams. John voiced his doubts about God, and Rowan tried to answer him! These were tough sessions, and it wasn't

always clear what the Archbishop was saying, but we were greatly helped to understand the issues, share our own feelings more deeply and grow together in faith.

In the autumn of 2009 we examined in prayerful detail the Book of Genesis, discovered how and when its various stories and themes moved from oral tales to written scripture, tried to guess the identity of the authors (which might of course have included Moses) and – most important of all – were impressed by its message. Or – messages? It was a fascinating voyage of exploration, moving on from the milk of childish Bible knowledge to the meat of adult Christian understanding.

But, as the year passed by, one thing became increasingly clear to me. Sadly, the time has come to discontinue our meetings. We are all growing older. Numbers attending have been dropping, and fewer people seem able to commit themselves to attending every meeting. We all lead busy lives and often priorities clash. I am deeply grateful for the support of loyal friends, but Genesis – as well as being in one sense the first (book of the Bible) will also be the last (home group).

I am very sorry to announce this, as I know what pleasure and enlightenment the group has brought over the past 10 years. And – maybe there is no such word as ‘never’. I love teaching, and if there was a proven demand for it in the future I shall be the first to respond.

*David Edwards*

### **JULIAN GROUP**

Thomas Merton has written that prayer is “not just a formula of words or a series of desires springing up in the heart – it is the orientation of our whole body, mind and spirit to God in silence, attention and adoration.”

During the last year the Julian Group has met most first and third Wednesdays in the month at 7:30pm in Holy Name House and then in the ‘red corner’ in Church, which proved equally helpful for us. To get the necessary “orientation” we begin with an introduction based on scripture and a prayer led by a member in turn. This is followed by 30 minutes silent

prayer, ending with the Lord’s Prayer and the Grace. We remain a small group but are happy for anyone to come and join us rejoicing in the presence of God.

*Brian Selvey*

### **MEN’S GROUP**

The group has continued this year with a variety of meetings in which the Breakfast Meeting held in the Rembrandt Restaurant was the most popular. The speaker was David Marshall who gave us an insight to his previous work as Chaplain to the Arch Bishop of Canterbury.

Other meetings included a visit to The Mining Museum at Keswick; a return trip to The Calvert Trust, thanks to Alan Daniels; an audience with Stephen Pye; Christmas Dinner at Morrels and a slide presentation from Brian Selvey on China

Visits to Keswick Mountain Rescue and The Haig Museum at Whitehaven are planned and as last year joint meetings including visitors and women with the addition of food seem to be the way forward for the group which has seen regular numbers fall this year

*Peter Graham*

### **MOTHERS’ UNION**

Are you looking for a group to join? We meet in church, in the afternoon at 2:00pm. We have a hymn, some prayers and a speaker, followed by tea and refreshments, usually homemade ones. The talks are followed by questions and discussion, always lively and pleasantly informal.

The Mothers’ Union theme for this year is Relationship not Rules and reflects MU’s own endeavours to embrace a changing world and different styles of living. Care for families and Christian values are, of course, always at the forefront of the movement. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from January to March and October to December. This pattern was devised originally to fit in with the needs of members who were B & B owners and it seems to work well still.

About four times a year we share meetings with our friends from Borrowdale & Braithwaite and

Crosthwaite MU groups. These joint meetings are very enjoyable also, as there may be up to 40 people in St John's church or, if we are invited out, similar numbers in Crosthwaite Parish Room or Braithwaite Church Hall.

Mothers' Union is, of course, a worldwide movement with many projects in childcare, education and support for families, undertaken in over 70 countries. Numbers joining MU are increasing in Africa where the constant problems of HIV/AIDS, famine and malaria need to be addressed on a daily basis and they are.

You can read about MU schemes in place, in our own country and abroad and, indeed, a lot more, in Families First, the MU magazine on the church notice board.

We are delighted that our own membership has been maintained at a steady 18 with the advent of four lovely new members and two already enrolled MU members from outside Keswick. This is very welcome new blood and already these people are making an outstanding contribution to our meetings.

On 20th March nine of us took our MU Banner to the Diocesan meeting at Cartmell Priory where the Bishop officiated and the Rector of Cartmell gave a very fine address.

The 2010 MU Programme is on the church notice board, left of the north door. Why not join us if you are interested? You will find an enthusiastic and a true welcome.

*Marjorie Browne*

## **MUSIC IN CHURCH**

The season began with a concert by "Sabrina Brass" from Shrewsbury on Easter Sunday evening, an innovation which proved most successful despite there being a concert at the Theatre on that same night. We then played host to Keswick Choral Society who gave their annual spring concert in the church. Unfortunately the folk concert by Elaine Davidson in June, was less well attended, which was a great shame, as it was an enchanting evening much enjoyed by the audience. In July Jonathan Kingston from Bromsgrove Parish Church displayed the versatility of the St. John's organ in a very fine recital much enjoyed by all

those who attended. August saw a welcome return of Keswickian Jonathan Sparey, this time with his wife Elizabeth as accompanist and their friends the Swedish Soprano Sylvie Söderlund and the pianist Kathleen Dodds. On the fifth of September we had a delightful concert by three sopranos Fiona Weakley, Julie Leavett and Frances Chiasson who are all well known as soloists in the area, the wonderful acoustics which we so much enjoy in this church made this a memorable evening. On the nineteenth of the same month it was a real pleasure to see the church full of enthusiastic young people who had come to support their teachers in the ensemble of "Two Violins and a 'cello". On Sunday, October 11th the annual choir concert was made very special, as it was Rachel Head's tenth anniversary as Director of Music at the Church. A week later we had a concert by the Colwyn Male Voice Choir. The choir has sung in the church on a number of occasions and this concert was much enjoyed and well attended. A hugely enjoyable postscript to the season was the concert of Venetian music by the Wordsworth Singers in January. A full church enjoyed hearing music, which exploited the resonance of St. John's and showed the enduring popularity of choral concerts.

Concerts at St. John's are a very important part of our fund raising efforts with many of the musicians giving up their time free in order support the church. It has therefore sometimes been disappointing and perhaps embarrassing that our own support for some of those concerts has been lacking. However, this year the concerts did raise enough money to pay for the tuning and upkeep of the organ and piano. It would be good to think that in future they will be better supported and raise even more money. Finally can I thank Cynthia Scott and Ann Williamson along with all the others who have so kindly provided much appreciated refreshments for all these events.

*John Green*

## **PARISH MAGAZINE**

The cost of the magazine has remained the same this year but we have changed the production method to keep costs down and this work was

put out to tender. There is room for improvement in the quality of some of the advertisements (all which help cover the costs of the magazine) but it is hoped that this will gradually be rectified as new artwork is obtained. With a new editor and circulation overseer it has to be said that there has been/is a very steep learning curve and apologies are due for the hiccoughs that have occurred to date. The present editor would like to thank both Susan and David Leighton and Mrs Pat Branthwaite for the help and encouragement received when taking over the editorship.

The costs of the magazine and diocesan insert are now covered fully by the advertisements and magazine subscriptions. This is despite the fact that there are fewer advertisements this year. The number of subscribers, too, has fallen slightly as various people have moved away from the parish.

It is your magazine and the content is largely up to you! Book reviews, poems, prayers, anything that you think would be of interest or help to readers would be warmly welcomed. On this subject, it will have noticed that the submission date for articles has been brought forward to the 15th of the preceding month. The editor looks forward to hearing from you.

*Penny Duttson*

### **PASTORAL TEAM**

The Pastoral Team has met around every eight weeks during the past year, and has aimed to be part of the support network for those who have been unable to get to Church for varying reasons.

We have found over this last year that the number of people from the congregation who might benefit from a pastoral visit has increased to the extent that we have not been able to do this as often as we would like.

So as a response to this increasing need, we are looking to extend the Pastoral Ministry of the Church in the near future, as the present team of Stephen Pye, Jean Hall, Jacqueline McQueen and myself are all aware of own limitations. In aiming to increase the team we would be looking to those who are already known for their gift of

being able to come alongside and support others, and who also have the time available to visit a number of people on a regular basis.

Although we are seeking to increase our pastoral team in order that we might be more vigilant in this work, we are also dependent on the Church congregation letting us know who might be in need of a visit or phone call. And this is something that we encourage you to do by passing on concerns and requests to Stephen Pye (72130), Susan (75195), Jean or Jacqueline.

*Susan Leighton*

### **PCC REPORT**

Since the 2009 AGM there have been six meetings held. Items which have been discussed are: -

- a) There has been much discussion on the maintenance of the graveyard. Wilson's have completed work to create a new burial area. George has also attended a meeting with council officials to discuss receiving financial help with maintenance of the graveyard. The graveyard is currently being maintained by Mr Hardman Mr and Mrs Corfield everyone is exceptionally pleased with how it has improved.
- b) The Church is no longer able to use Holy Name House and it is still to be confirmed how the building will be used.
- c) Cynthia Scott and Debbie Rackham have stepped down as foundation governors at St Herberts School. Rachel Frampton and Alison Lamont have been appointed.
- d) A Christmas card was chosen by the PCC with a painting of the Church as it had not been possible to take a suitable photograph.
- e) A Stewardship campaign is currently being written. Geoffrey Hine addressed the PCC on how to draw this up.
- f) New notice boards have been purchased.
- g) It was agreed that the Christingle would be joined with the crib service this year on Christmas Eve.
- h) The children's area has been completed and proving very popular with the children. The cupboards from the rear of church were sold

at auction and the pews that were removed have been taken by F & W Green.

- i) Gary Ion has been chosen as a CMS link missionary. Gary Ion builds schools in Uganda. His family live in Penrith so it is hoped he will be able to visit the church with updates of his work.
- j) The possibility of using an administrator has been discussed to assist with paperwork.
- k) Val Montgomery has become stewardship recorder.
- l) A link parish with St Peter's Kells near Whitehaven is currently being pursued.
- m) The cost of a grit box for the outside of the church is being investigated.
- n) The PCC has agreed that the garden fete will take place in the vicarage garden this year if the Holy Name House garden is not an option.

*Rachel Frampton*

#### **PRAYER GROUP AND PRAYER CHAIN**

The Prayer Group continues to meet on most Thursday mornings at the back of church, from 9:30 to 10:15 - and a bonus of meeting at this time is that the heating is on for the morning Holy Communion service!

At full strength there are eight of us, but not all are always available, so if you can only come sometimes, don't let that stop you coming when you can. Some of us take turns to lead, but there is no pressure to do other than say your 'Amen' if you feel diffident about praying aloud. God hears the prayers of our hearts and knows what we are about to say anyway.

We pray for our parish and community and the world, or whatever is on our hearts.

The Prayer Chain is quite separate from the Group, and we rely on YOU to make the requests, for anyone in need or to give thanks. Stephnie Critchley and Susan Leighton start off the chains. Again any more people who would like to join would be most welcome.

Prayers in both the Group and the Chain are totally confidential.

*Sheila Scott*

#### **SIDES PEOPLE**

The work Sides People do is greatly appreciated and a major asset to the smooth running of each of the services. It is a great opportunity to welcome visitors and get to know people.

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

*Martin Head & Ann Clinker*

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday school has continued with similar numbers of children. Some of the older age group are, however moving on and staying in church. The little ones are really growing into the younger session.

A highlight as always was an excellent Christmas Nativity, beautifully performed by the younger members. The musicians among the group did a great job at accompanying the congregation for the first verse of 'O Come All Ye Faithful' at the carol service.

Some of the group enjoyed, in July, a walk around Derwentwater, which helped raise funds for the area at the back of church. This facility now in very good use at Sunday services.

We have planned a trip to Carlisle in May to go Ten Pin Bowling, an ideal activity to suit the wide age range we are catering for.

Finally as always my thanks to all who contribute with their time & talents.

*Cathy Hooper*

#### **TAPESTRY MUSIC GROUP**

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

For this past year we have continued to be a well-balanced trio!

Rachel Head – keyboard, Brenda Bryden – flute and Rosemary Goodeve – flute.

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 2010/11.

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

*Rachel Head*

#### **TEA FUND**

The past year has been another busy but successful one. I know how important it is to many members of our Church Family to be able to enjoy refreshments and a chat with friends after the morning service. This is only made possible by your continued help and support and for this I am very grateful. It was lovely to welcome some new volunteers to our "team" and we are always happy to welcome more!

Although the income from Concert Refreshments has been lower this year we have still been able to donate £300.00 to the children's corner for the purchase of new equipment and we have also bought cold meats etc. for the lunches that many people have enjoyed during the year. The balance of the Tea Fund account as at 29<sup>th</sup> March 2010 stands at a healthy £644.09.

My sincere thanks to everyone who helps, in any way, to make this important part of our Church Life possible. I look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

*Cynthia Scott*

#### **TINY TOTS REPORT**

As always, we meet with great enthusiasm and lots of activity. The group consists of some eight children with their Mums, Grans, Aunts and other carers alternate Wednesdays in term time. Everyone gathers in the children's corner, which is greatly appreciated. A safe place to run, play and listen. The children choose who will take the little Altar cloth, the bell and the Cross to the chancel which they carefully place on a small table at the foot of the Sanctuary steps. We then quietly go up to the altar where Stephen or Rosemary lights a candle. The bell is rung and everyone sits down for the story. We have talked about people from the Bible who loved God and helped others both from the Old Testament and the New Testament. This last term we had stories about Moses, Elijah, Queen Esther, Mary Jesus' Mother and Mary Magdalene leading to the Easter Story. A song is sung accompanied with great gusto on the percussion. Then it's time for quiet prayers ending with The Lord's Prayer, the Blessing and the candle is blown out. Always an enjoyable activity! A quiet walk is attempted back to the children's corner where the activity consists of picture making, sticking and gluing, or making models. A welcome drink and a biscuit follow with a cup of tea and chat for the adults. Then games in the Church and it's home time.

This summer, our two senior members, Jacob and Tilly, move on to Reception, so the age range will be much younger.

Tiny Tots is open to any child from birth to school age. We encourage all those babies who have been Baptised to come as well as any friends from other churches and no church.

*Rosemary Elliott*



**AGENDA FOR THE VESTRY MEETING AND THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING – SUNDAY, 25 APRIL 2010**

**VESTRY MEETING**

1. Attendance
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Sunday, 26 April 2009
3. Appointment of Churchwardens

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

1. Attendance
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Sunday, 26 April 2009
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 Side Persons
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.