

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,  
PINNER**



***ANNUAL REPORT  
& ACCOUNTS***

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING  
18<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2010**

## **PARISH OF PINNER**

The Meeting of Parishioners will be held on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2010  
at 11 am in the Church Hall

### **AGENDA**

1. The secretary reads the notice convening the meeting
2. \* Minutes of the last Vestry meeting on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2009
3. Election of Churchwardens

.....

The Annual Parochial Meeting will be held on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2010,  
at 11.10am in the Church Hall

### **AGENDA**

1. The Secretary reads the notice convening the meeting
2. \* Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2009
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Report on changes in the Electoral Roll
5. Elections to the Parochial Church Council
6. Appointment of Readers to Parochial Church Council
7. Election of Sidespersons
8. A short Presentation by Rev'd Paul Hullyer and Morella Boon on Church Watch
9. \*Report on the Financial Affairs of the Church
10. Election of Independent Examiner
11. Questions
12. Any Other Business

**Item 2**

**PARISH OF PINNER**

The **Meeting of Parishioners** was held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 11.10 a.m. in the Church Hall.

**PRESENT:** The Rev'd Paul Hullyer (in the Chair), Shane Godbolt, David Poole, the Treasurer, the Secretary and members of the Church Council and congregation.

Opening Prayer was said by Rev'd Paul Hullyer.

There were no apologies for absence.

1. The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.
2. **Minutes:** The adoption of the Minutes of the last Vestry meeting held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2008 was unanimously agreed. The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting.
3. **Election of Churchwardens:** The Vicar said that Shane Godbolt and David Poole had agreed to remain in office, and both having been duly proposed and seconded were unanimously elected, unopposed.

This concluded the business of the Meeting of Parishioners.

.....

**PARISH OF PINNER**

The **Annual Parochial Meeting** was held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, at 11.20 am in the Church Hall.

**PRESENT:** The Rev'd Paul Hullyer (in the Chair), Shane Godbolt, David Poole, the Treasurer, the Secretary and members of the Church Council and congregation.

There were no apologies for absence

1. The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.
2. **Minutes:** The adoption of the Minutes of the Annual Parochial Meeting held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2008 was unanimously agreed. The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting.
3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:** None.
4. **Report of changes in the Electoral Roll:** Janet Huszczo reported that in the

year since the revision of the Electoral Roll on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2008, 25 new members had been added and 7 members deleted through deaths and removals. When the revision of the Roll was completed in April 2009 there were 357 members. A copy of the updated Electoral Roll is kept in the church on the library table.

Following the introduction on 1 October 2008 of the Church of England Marriage Measure, couples can now marry in a parish where one or both of them can demonstrate 'a qualifying connection' - they don't necessarily have to be living in the parish or be on the Electoral Roll. Just one of these connections has to apply:-

- one of them was baptised or prepared for confirmation in the parish;
- one of them has ever lived in the parish for six months or more;
- one of them has at any time regularly attended public worship

in the parish for six months or more;

- one of their parents has lived in the parish for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- one of their parents has regularly attended public worship there for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- or their parents or grandparents were married in the parish.

Janet then concluded her report by informing the meeting that further details about these rules can be found on the Church of England website. The Vicar thanked Janet for compiling and updating the Electoral Roll in addition to all the other clerical and secretarial work she undertakes so efficiently in the parish office.

**5. Elections to Deanery Synod:** An election was held to fill two vacancies. Dr Katherine Pinching being the only nominee was duly elected unanimously for a term of three years.

**6. Elections to the Parochial Church Council (PCC):** The Vicar on behalf of the congregation thanked Elizabeth Metivier, Anne Payne and Ian McDonald, who are standing down for their conscientious and prayerful service to the PCC.

An election was held to fill five vacancies and the following nominees were duly elected unanimously for a term of three years: - Lesley Almond, Ian Galloway, David Payne and Paul Wright.

**7. Appointment of Readers to Parochial Church Council (PCC):** The Vicar explained that responsibility for the appointment of Readers to the PCC rests with this meeting. It was proposed from the chair that Ann Fuller and Nicholas Ridge, as Readers licensed to the Parish, should be members of the PCC and was accordingly passed unanimously. Although Susan Cooper is a Reader she is already a member of the PCC in her capacity as a member of the General Synod.

**8. Election of Sidepersons:-** In addition to the list of Sidepersons / Welcomers displayed in the Church's south porch and in the church hall, Elizabeth Warren also volunteered to be nominated as a new Sideperson. Since the last APCM Ian Galloway, Ann Kopka and Jill Stokes were welcomed to the team. It was unanimously agreed that they all be elected *en bloc*.

The Vicar thanked the Welcomers / Sidepersons in particular for their cheerful welcoming and greeting for those who attend our services.

A special vote of thanks was given to those who had stood down during the year, some after many years of dedicated service. These were as follows: - Lady Florette Boyson, Lloyd Davis, Pauline Hammond, Jackie Herbert and Valerie Lewis.

**9. Presentation by Rev'd Paul Hullyer, David Poole and Shane Godbolt on: The Fabric of the Church – a Vision for the Next 10 Years:-**

The presentation was given in the style of the Vicar sitting in his study at the vicarage with his two Churchwardens. They are having a discussion about preparing a short presentation for the forthcoming APCM based on the Diocesan Architect's quinquennial report and estimates for the repair and maintenance of the Church.

The question was raised as to why we need the building for worship bearing in mind the hundreds of thousands of pounds required to repair and maintain it? The responses were as follows:-

- The Church, which is a Grade II listed building, has been a focal point at the top of the High Street for hundreds of years and a place of worship since well before 1321, when at that time the Church was rebuilt. This thread of prayer has continued through the ages up to the present time and hopefully beyond.
- Because of the building's spiritual presence in Pinner it should be maintained and supported.

- To fulfil that need it was felt that a ten to fifteen year plan has to be established clarifying what needs to be repaired and improved in order to maintain the church as a spiritual beacon.
- It will take some time to obtain estimates and plan fund raising to cover the cost of this wide-ranging project.
- Not only does the exterior of the building need to be preserved, but the interior must be made more warm and welcoming.
- The local community and organisations should be made aware of what has to be done to preserve the Church. In this respect everyone needs to work together, the Friends of Pinner Parish Church, the PCC, and young people of the parish. From these groups will be drawn a small representative committee of experts to establish and pilot this most important project.
- In reply to subsequent questions following the presentation, the Vicar explained the restoration work can be broken down into three main categories, (i) Repairs to the Tower, (ii) Repairs to the Roof and (iii) Redecoration. Repairs to the tower have been estimated at roughly £280,000 / £290,000, with the same for repairs to the Roof and possibly a little less for redecoration. Over the next year a decision has to be taken, after taking advice from experts, to deal with this, as either one project ,or split it into separate stages. There is also the problem of the crumbling pillars which still has to be resolved. The damage is caused by the concrete floor forcing moisture to evaporate through the pillars. It is the salts left behind which causes the stonework to crumble. Ideally it would be best to take out the concrete floor and replace it with either a York Stone or suspended wooden floor. This would be

expensive, but the less costly option which would only reduce and not cure the disintegration, is to place metal grills around each stone pillar. Resolving this problem is being handled by the Diocesan Architect and English Heritage.

- Fundraising will also need to be considered in the forthcoming months.

**10. Report on the Financial Affairs of the Church:** The Treasurer stated that he had four significant points to make –

(i) Planned giving by way of Stewardship is not increasing (ii) Non regular congregations are not contributing to the running of the church (iii) the 2008 surplus of income over expenditure is unlikely to be repeated in 2009 and beyond (iv) The capital reserves shall probably be needed to repair the church. In amplifying these points the treasurer thanked all those who give to the church as well as other numerous charitable collections which are held throughout the year. Never-the-less, giving through Stewardship enables the financial expenditure to be planned throughout the year. In 2007 total income amounted to - £182,100, but in 2008 this dropped to £181,000 with benefactors for different reasons cancelling their donations. These losses are not being replaced. The majority of the £181,000 was donated by relatively few families and individuals and therefore it is our task to increase the number of donors who see such regular funding as part of their responsibility as members of the Church.

There are those who are attending St Johns on an irregular basis i.e. weddings baptisms and funerals etc. who also need to be given the opportunity to make a financial contribution. Accordingly the PCC and the Finance Committee during 2009 will need to consider additional ways of fundraising.

Although there was a surplus in 2008 of £28,700 this was mainly due to a legacy of £15,400 as well as additional savings brought about by not having a Youth

Worker or Vicar for part of the year. At this point the Treasurer thanked Robin Youle, our Independent Examiner, who has done this task, without charging a fee and has thus contributed to a further saving of £4,000 in audit fees. Also Ian Trimmer, our new Assistant Treasurer, was thanked for providing some of his time at no cost to the church which will help to reduce the overall expenditure for 2009.

Finally the Treasurer explained that capital reserves built up from previous donations to St Johns were approximately £1,200,000 and comprised of three freehold properties estimated at £800,000 and in addition over £400,000 in cash and deposits. However, if these reserves are liquidated and the cash spent in forthcoming years then there will be a substantial reduction in income leading to deficits year on year. Although the Friends will help with meeting the cost of repairs and refurbishment difficult decisions will have to be made in funding the overall costs. In reply to questions the Treasurer explained that the net rental income based on what had been received in 2008 should remain approximately the same for 2009 on the assumption that all three properties remain tenanted. Nevertheless, investment income could fall by about £15,000.

Finally the proposal for adopting the Accounts for 2008 was unanimously approved.

**11. Election of Independent Examiner:**

As Robin Youle had already confirmed that he was willing to continue as the "Independent Examiner" for 2009 his election, after being duly proposed by the Treasurer and seconded by Susan Cooper, was unanimously approved.

**12. Questions:** A question was raised as to whether a faculty was required when replacing the electric light fitting above the vestry door. The vicar was unable to give an immediate answer, but promised to let the questioner have a reply at a later date.

**13. Any Other Business:** The Vicar took this opportunity to thank the congregation for their hospitality and also making the whole family feel so much at home following their move to Pinner. He also thanked, the churchwardens, Shane Godbolt, David Poole and Phil Lawder, the Treasurer Doug Yates, the Ministry Team and in particular Elizabeth Birch as well as all members of the Standing Committee and PCC for their support.

As there were no further questions or statements from the congregation the meeting closed at 12.25 pm.

## **REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL DURING 2009**

The PCC met 6 times during the year.

### ***Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009***

#### **Believing and Belonging**

“Believing & Belonging; living the Christian Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”. It is intended that this should underpin and inform all our work and become embedded in all we do as a church community.

APCM – facilities are to be made available to families in the Church Hall in order to encourage a good attendance.

#### **Lent Appeal**

Centrepoint Ealing has been chosen as the beneficiary of the 2009 Lent Appeal. (It is located in Northolt and the service accommodates 17 young people, primarily care leavers aged 16-21, for on average between 12-24 months).

#### **Financial Matters**

A legacy of £15,400 received during 2008 has helped to augment the cash reserves.

#### **Church Fabric**

It is proposed to place an openwork grating around each pillar which will stop any further deterioration.

The Friends of Pinner Parish Church are to be provided with a 10/20 year plan of maintenance and repair work for the church. The Friends have agreed to pay for repairs to the tower. It is not envisaged that work will start on the tower until 2010.

### ***Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2009***

- Repairs to the stained glass in the East Window are now complete.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Risk Committee:** The PCC agreed that a full system assessment of the church heating system should be commissioned as soon as possible and there should also be a timely annual system maintenance agreement put in place.

**Nurture, Education & Training:** Mark Arnold is arranging for a group visit to Wintershall to see the production of “The Life of Christ Passion Play” on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2009. A 29-seater coach has been booked.

**IT/Communications:** The Council thought that any redundant computer equipment belonging to the church should be donated to Computer Aid after ensuring that any hard drives were completely erased of data.

#### **Financial Matters**

The 2008 Accounts were approved unanimously.

An estimate for the refurbishment of the hall toilets was agreed thus enabling work to begin as soon as possible.

Estimates for the repairs and refurbishment of the church tower and a Fabric Development Plan were circulated to members of the Council. It was agreed in principle to form a small group to manage the project which will include the Churchwardens, the Treasurer, a representative of The Friends and others with appropriate knowledge and specialist skills.

### ***Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2009***

*David Payne and Ian Galloway joined the PCC at the APCM this year and three members retired – Elizabeth Metivier,*

Anne Payne and Ian McDonald.  
Katherine Pinching joined the Deanery  
Synod.

### **Believing & Belonging**

Three adults from the Christianity for Life Course are to be confirmed on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 6.30pm along with another two adults and nine children.

### **Committee Reports**

**PAC Communications Group:** It was agreed that a PAC notice board could be displayed in the South Porch.

**IT/Communications Group:** It was agreed that the church website address should be added to the new notice board outside the church.

It was noted that the website is well used.

**Youth Ministry:** Kidz Klub have high numbers attending every Sunday, on average 35 children.

**PAC Matters:** The PAC proposed that there should be a follow-up event in 2010/2011 to the highly successful Monastic Safari of 2007.

### **Church Fabric**

The striking mechanism of the church clock has developed a fault but will be repaired at no further cost, under an earlier guarantee.

- The central heating in the church has now been turned off for the summer and is to undergo a maintenance check.

### ***Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009***

**New Committee.** Agreement was made on setting up a Property Maintenance Committee which will oversee the maintenance of the church, its premises and properties. It was agreed that David Payne should Chair the Committee.

**Restoration Committee:** This Committee had its inaugural meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July. Quotes and estimates should become available during the summer.

### **Financial Matters:**

**Common Fund:** It was agreed that the 2010 contribution to the Common Fund will be £97,000.

### **Church Fabric:**

**Heating report:** The survey of the church heating has been completed. The survey indicated that with proper maintenance the heating system should last a considerable number of years.

**South Porch:** The tiles are to be repaired and properly sealed.

### **Any Other Business:**

**Church Watch:** Following a review of "Church Watch" it has been decided that although the church will remain open between 9am and 5pm as usual, those on watch must be in pairs.

### ***Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009***

- The date for the Confirmation Service 2010 is Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June.
- Lloyd Davis has been given permission by the Bishop to administer the Chalice.
- Helen Hutchins has requested permission to train as a Reader. The Vicar proposed that the PCC should endorse her application to the Willesden selection panel. This was approved unanimously.

**Believing & Belonging:** The "Open House London" day for the Church Hall was successful. Further thought will be given to enhance the experience at the next Open House London event in September 2010.

### **Committee Reports**

Property and Maintenance: It was agreed that an allocation of £2,500 be made for remedial work to the church grounds. The Property & Maintenance Committee will oversee the construction of a new wheelchair ramp for the South Porch.

Church Fabric: It was agreed that approval be given to the improvements to the church heating system at an estimated cost of £5,230.

Youth Ministry:  
Kidz Klub - Anita Lomax has joined the team as a helper with a view, after suitable training, of becoming a leader.

*Short Report of the Meeting of the  
Parochial Church Council on Monday,  
16<sup>th</sup> November 2009*

Believing & Belonging: It was confirmed that a “Commentated Eucharist” will be repeated again in 2010.

*(This to be on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 8pm).*

Church fabric: There are now thermostats on all radiators in the east end of the church and vestry.

Youth Ministry: The numbers attending SNIP Discussion are continuing to increase. The Pinner Association has given £300 to purchase an Air Hockey table for SNIP.

Committee reports:

Property and Maintenance:

An extensive reappraisal of the lighting system in the church is to be undertaken, with the possibility of using LEDs rather than conventional light bulbs. However, in the meantime a conscious decision was made not to use the up-lighters due to their expensive running costs.

*Audrey Taylor  
PCC Secretary*

## Vicar's Report

The Anglican social theologian Grace Davie, Professor of the Sociology of Religion at the University of Exeter, introduced into theological circles in the late 1990's the phrase "Believing without belonging". In her later works that phrase has been changed, and she now prefers the term "Vicarious Religion". By this she means that "*Religion [is] performed by an active minority on behalf of a much larger number who not only understand (implicitly at least), but who also approve of what the minority are doing*". As such, the functions of the minority can be described as being:

1. Performing ritual on behalf of others.
2. Believing on behalf of others.
3. Embodying moral and ethical codes on behalf of others.
4. Offering space for the vicarious debate of unresolved issues, (i.e., Sexuality).

All of the above are influenced and mediated by some discerning factors; Cultural heritage, the vicariousness of social tendencies, new cultural arrivals and norms, secular alternatives to religion, and a cultural shift from obligation to consumption. All of these are presupposed by the underlying question: Is Europe increasingly secular because it is European, or modern?

It is that shift identified by Davie from obligation to consumption that is perhaps the most marked of the above social tendencies. The move out of post-modernity and into the uncertain worlds of new economic demands, the influence of credit, familial re-structuring and breakdown, the increase of cultural influences, and the shift away from the "traditional" socio-religious norms and into a culture increasingly dominated by speed, celebrity and egotism makes demands upon the structures of society. It also makes demands upon the church, and forces us to identify with that vicarious religion: the minority performing functions on behalf of the majority.

The belief that the churches were always full is something of a myth. They have never been full, even when churchgoing was compulsory. Any brief acquaintance with the history of the Church of England will ensure that the reader is aware that what Davie has identified in our own age is, in fact, the normative pattern throughout the last 400 years. Within this Diocese of London there are many huge Georgian and Victorian church buildings, erected largely between 1816 and 1860, and designed to hold the urbanising masses that came in search of work. My own research over the past 10 years leaves me in no doubt that the image of the populace flocking to church on a Sunday is a false one, and especially in urban areas.

The change comes however, as some models of society change in the face of the wealth of opportunity that life offers. That is the challenge for the C21st church: how to belong before we believe, and in doing so challenge Davie's assumption, which she places before the world in precisely that it may be challenged. It is also designed to make us think.

The reality of Davie's statement that the church is that minority performing functions on behalf of the majority is without question. It is the result, increasingly so, of that shift from obligation to consumption. People no longer habitually attend church every Sunday, and whether we like that or not, that does not disguise the reality. However, the increasingly secularised population are increasingly being asked to discuss large and in-depth religious issues, but without the language that is required to enter the debate. The trouble with the rise of militant atheism is that it is a reaction to the re-emergence of religion and religious thought within the public arena. Those who disparage faith per se do not care for the belief and faith of the individual, as it is essentially a reactive movement.

So, what place the church in this culture of vicariousness of religious identification? The task of the church is to worship God. That much is clear. But a further task of

the church is not to make the world more religious but to make the world the world. The role of the Priest for example is not so much to “bring God into a situation” (God is there anyway), but to act as a “recogniser” who assists in religious discernment, and works with his or her brothers and sisters in Christ (or not) in discovering their own spiritual journey. It is the importance of taking time in order to theologically reflect upon experience both of self and others, and that is seemingly unfashionable within a world of speed and instant gratification.

For me, the church should engage with what Davie says, and do so with great seriousness. The church is not a post-modern institution, and it should not be afraid of engaging with the world on its own terms. It is simply wrong to view the church as something akin to a business institution, with corresponding management techniques and in thrall to the bottom line. In terms of engagement the church simply does not start from the place necessary to achieve those ends, and when it does, it either becomes caught in a cycle of endless agendas or “visions”, or just fails. We know from Proverbs that where there is no vision the people perish, but the life of faith is full of minute particularity which is surrounded by the messy provisionality of a life of faith. Modernity is the story of a people who chose their story when they had no story, and who are in search of a story in order to tell it. The church has been telling our story for the past 2,000 years, and it needs to continue to tell the story rather than anything else, for nothing else is as important.

And that’s the key. It is in telling our story of Jesus Christ, Incarnate, risen and ascended, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Person of the Trinity, that we not only act integrally to our belief but become attractive to others who may feel a belief stirring within them, but who do not yet belong. That sense of belonging is becoming increasingly important within a fractured society, and I have no doubt that as society continues to fracture along many socio-economic fault lines, the role of the church as storytelling and place of

journey will become increasingly important.

Place and locality are of great importance in displaying and making manifest the life of Christ through the medium of the church. The entire church is present in the local expression within a parish, and only if the local church can strive to be authentic in its worship, prophetic at heart, and attentive to Scripture and study, will it be able to breach that gap between believing but not belonging, or vice versa. The role of the church, after the worship of God, is to inhabit the place where it is located so that the fully incarnational ministry of Jesus Christ can be revealed: to learn to be where we are and to engage with our locality. In a church which is becoming increasingly congregational and polarised, I am convinced that a eucharistically –centred, liberal catholic, and inclusive church is such a place, for it offers a place where questions are not asked of individuals so that they may be seen as “one of us”. Nor a place where God’s unconditional love is rationed or withheld on grounds of sex, sexuality, colour or age. Nor a place where we belong only for ourselves, for the role of that minority is not only to act for the majority but also, crucially, to engage with it, that others may know the redemptive love of Jesus Christ. Within the legal boundaries to which Incumbents and parishes are bound, this is, I believe, the way forward.

There is much to develop together here in Pinner, but crucially, also much to build upon. The restoration project on our best mission statement, the building, is ongoing and necessarily slowly, for there is much to be attended to and strategies to be put into place for a way forward. We have costs for the tower, Lady Chapel, and floor, and are awaiting costs for the roof: all work in line with the 2006 Quinquennial. When we receive the latter, the PCC must begin to decide between the priorities that the Restoration group have been identifying.

Youth is also a great part of our mission, and the subject of our 2009 Stewardship

Campaign. Increasing numbers of young people aged 3-18 are attending our church in all that we offer, ranging from the Choir to SNIP on a Sunday evening, and this must be encouraged.

Our use of the church for an increasing number of musical occasions continues to develop, from the Music Festival's oratorios to Jazz and Chamber Music, and the range of evening services is developing, with Taize and Celtic Evening worship, as well as evening Youth services. Study is also important, and with the Parish retreat and (at least) 2 Saturday morning Bible study groups, Christianity for Life, and the House Groups, there is a framework to be built upon in our attention to study.

Having taken rather a theological line, I would like to end by re-stating my belief that the openness of Pinner Parish Church, whilst firmly retaining its Anglican identity, is an integral part of what it is to actually "be" church within a local community, not just in Pinner but anywhere. My profound gratitude in making this happen go to my colleagues on the Ministry Team, the Churchwardens and Treasurer, and to all members of the PCC, who, despite our disagreements from time to time, never cease to challenge me and to be generous colleagues. It is a great privilege to be Vicar here, and to see people develop both as individuals and as the wider congregation.

My love and thanks must also be given to Sarah, Tom and Toby, for their unfailing love, generous patience, and wise advice. As a Priest they, more than anyone else, help me in that process of recognition within discernment.

Fr. Paul.

## **CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Property and Maintenance Committee**

This new Committee was constituted to coordinate many individual areas of responsibility within the church. Its remit covers the terms of rental and maintenance of the three church properties, improvements and maintenance of the grounds and the interior of the church to include lighting, heating etc. but excluding fabric. Due to its wide remit, the committee works as three teams, each with their own leader; Property (David Payne), Grounds (Sue Sabry-Grant), Church Maintenance (Ian McDonald).

Initially, we focused on identifying health and safety matters requiring attention. These included a ramp from the South Porch into the church. Levelling and laying a proper surface from the Lady Chapel emergency exit to the South porch and covering the open steps down to the old boiler room. This work has been completed. We have also provided a new external notice board for the South porch, donated by a member of the congregation and working with Nick Ridge, the church heating has been improved.

Work in hand includes a detailed investigation to improve the efficiency and cost of church lighting, clearing the surface water drains, completion of the path from the Lady Chapel exit to the end of the church South wall and repair of the planter in the Peace Garden. In particular, to provide easy maintenance, we will be removing the 'undergrowth' of brambles, saplings etc. in parts of the grounds, rotovating, re-turfing and planting Spring bulbs.

In the longer term, we will be dealing with the replacement of the deteriorated church gate, the asbestos roof in the boiler house and new containers for the bay laurels along the North wall. We also intend to establish an archive in the church office for all work undertaken in the church. Regarding the properties, we have focused on up-grading 47 Chamberlain Way providing a new bathroom and kitchen, modern electric storage heaters and

remedial work on the patio area and roof. New tenancies were agreed for two of the properties.

If any members of the congregation identify other areas within our remit that require attention or would like to be involved by joining one of our teams, do please let me know.

*David Payne*

#### **Hall Committee**

The committee (Michael Hetreed – chairman, Dorothy Natrass – secretary, Robert Bunn – treasurer, Diana Bowles – bookings, Sue Bardwell – invoicing, Carolyn McDonald, Alison Hetreed, Anne Payne) has met 4 times since the last APCM. Only Alison is also a member of the PCC; she has represented the hall committee at the PCC to expand upon some items in the hall reports.

The hall building and equipment remains functional and has been in generally good order but for 3 elements:- cracks have again appeared in two of the large glass panels separating the side rooms from the corridor and these will be replaced shortly following due process of an insurance claim.

- the extractor fans essential to maintain the atmosphere in all the toilets failed in the autumn and required replacement of some elements, a disappointing 14 months after major overhaul.

- further cracks have appeared in the internal plasterwork at the north side and eastern end of the hall. These reflect ground movement to the north of the building and consequent movement of the hall structure that is not considered to threaten its integrity. The cracks will be made good and observation kept. Refurbishment of the panels and basins of the toilets mentioned in last year's report was completed in April/May. We, the church, own the hall. Let us please continue through careful use to look after it.

Financially, the hall has done well thanks in the main to the patient and tolerant

availability of Diana Bowles to take and organise hall bookings and the diligent and prompt dispatch of invoices by Sue Bardwell. The income from casual bookings for parties etc has again increased this year. We have gained also from the displacement of some Harrow College activities from their usual locations; some of these classes may now continue in our hall.

In August/September we were very sorry to lose the services to the hall (and church) of David Roker after 14 years. Owing the effect even upon him of anno domini he submitted with regret his resignation. After a fortunately brief interval and some local advertising the church was able to appoint Paul Hammond to a similar role to which he is becoming gradually acquainted.

In September the hall, specifically the 1992-4 extension, was once more open for one day of the London Open House weekend event and sharing its openness with the ever-open church. In 2010 we hope to participate on both Saturday and Sunday.

I anticipate that this will be the last report of this kind that I shall write as from April A.N. Other will assume the role of hall committee chairman.

*Michael Hetreed*

### **Mission & Charities Committee**

The Lent Project in 2009 was for Centrepoint Ealing. The charity accommodates 17 young people, primarily care leavers, aged 16-21, for on average between 12-24 months. The young people are referred into the service from the council's Social Services and Gateway Team through their Access to Resources Team. During their stay they have an individual support and development plan and work towards independence through a "Lifewise" programme of accredited workshops. Centrepoint needed CCTV to

provide protection for the vulnerable young people who live there. Young people were at risk in the dark when coming back to the building. They also needed to use CCTV internally as some of the young people have very troubled pasts and part of the work is to help them deal with the issues this can raise, which can manifest in quite challenging behaviours. The Chief Executive of Centrepoint launched the Appeal on the first Sunday in Lent. A total of £3,033 was raised.

This year £16,850 was distributed to various charities. These charities cover the old and the young, medical and relationship problems and home and overseas causes. Charities have been checked that they all produced receipts for our *donations*. *Suggestions are always welcome and we need new members.*

The Lent Appeal this year is for Bisee Books /Book Bus. This charity was founded in memory of a party of girls, one from Northwood, killed in a coach crash in their gap year in Ecuador. They were travelling to take part in a community project in Puerto Lopez. The charity helps schools in Ecuador and Zambia. Book Bus provides a mobile library service that promotes literacy within schools in underprivileged communities in Ecuador. At each school the Book Bus installs a reading corner and bookshelves stocked with children's books. The charity works with 100 pupils from each school which means that the BISEE Book Bus can improve the literacy of 2,500 children during the year.

*Peter Wilson*

### **IT/Communications Committee**

After the successful launch of the new website in the previous year, this last year has been one of consolidation and dealing with the often mundane tasks of keeping a website fresh and ensuring that other communication media are working well. So, we have been tidying up the website, constantly ensuring that things are in the right place and easily accessible and reminding those responsible for their

sections that the site is a living, current thing that has to be regularly updated. We have devised ways to keep the scourge of spam to a minimum and have sorted and restructured databases. We have replaced obsolete or exhausted equipment and got a laptop for the Vicar, which has made his life a lot better.

Janet and Howard have played a major role in this and our thanks to them for their hard work and application.

In the coming year, we will be looking at ways of raising our profile as we constantly work to ensure that more and more people know and understand what that old building at the top of the street is actually there for.

*Phil Lawder*

### **Social Responsibility Committee**

The function of this committee of the PCC is to draw together and highlight areas of concern where it usually affects pastoral matters or the wider community. We hold a “watching brief” over a number of activities. Groups and individuals function independently, unless it so happens that a matter needs to be brought to the PCC. We are most grateful to all our volunteers in their several roles for their faithful commitment.

a) Harvest: The appeal for 2009 was organised by Doug Yates on behalf of USPG. The produce donated in church was given to local residences and others; flowers were given to some 20 household members of the congregation.

b) KIT (Keep In Touch): The scheme, started some twelve years ago, continues to enable those who cannot attend church on a regular basis, if at all, to be kept in touch with church matters by the monthly visits of the KIT visitors.

c) Car Lifts: There are only a small number of people who, at present, require lifts and the rota is working well.

d) Christmas (PAC) Lunch: Was well attended in St John’s hall, as usual, with a large number of helpers, several from outside the parish. 2009 “under new management” was adjudged “as good as ever.”

e) PAC Welcome Lunches: This function for people on their own continues to be well supported at the Love Lane Methodist Hall.

f) Bereavement visiting: See separate report.

g) Marriage Preparation: See separate report.

h) Baptism Visiting: See separate report.

i) Committee members: Nick Ridge (Chair and member of PCC), Bridget Murray, Valerie Hastie and Paddy Haslam).

*Nick Ridge*

### **Stewardship and Youth Work Fund 2009**

Stewardship giving in 2009 amounted to £144,034 - an increase of just £1,335 on the 2008 figure. We were able to claim £38,690 gift aid and transitional relief on the donations. Following the 2008 Stewardship Campaign we received 127 pledges for 2009. During the year 218 people made donations. Our best estimate is that this represents 287 members of our congregation. Perhaps a slight cause for concern is that a third of our income was given by just 17 people.

Giving to the Youth Work Fund amounted to £4,550 by 29 people in 2009.

In the past we received generous funding for a fixed term from the John Lyon Trust towards the cost of youth work at St John's. We now have to cover the costs of our youth ministry ourselves. With this in mind the Stewardship Campaign in 2009, seeking funds for 2010, aimed at not just maintaining or increasing Stewardship giving but also at increasing giving to the Youth Work Fund. Our Youth Minister, Elise Allanson, produced an interesting report covering all aspects of the work with young people.

In response to the campaign, stewardship pledges were received from 137 people and the best estimate for 2010 is that stewardship income will be £148,000 with a possible shortfall of £4 – 5,000 based on past figures.

The Youth Work Fund now has 53 people giving monthly and in addition 26 people making an annual donation. The estimated income for 2010 is £10,500.

Information packs are available in the church porch all year and it is hoped that new donors will join both the Stewardship Fund and the Youth Work Fund during 2010.

*Morella Boon*

### **Children and Youth**



#### **Kidz Klub**

Kidz Klub runs every Sunday during term time. Our numbers continue to increase and we currently have 60 names on the register with a regular attendance of 35 or more children each week. I write all the materials that we use which follows the Lectionary. We start off together in the hall with a welcome, a song, a game and sometimes a DVD clip. We then go into groups to hear the story, play a game, have a discussion and do a craft. The first Sunday of every month we don't come into church but come back to the hall at the end of our session to sing and discuss what we've done in our groups. For the rest of the month we come into church during communion. Kidz Klub could not run from week to week without the fantastic talents of Howard Lush who provides music, song words and all things technical every Sunday morning. I also have a fantastic team of leaders: Brenda, Carolyn, Fannia, Andrea, Lesley, Geoff, Diana, Mike, Richard and Julie and a very committed group of teenage helpers. We also welcome Anita Lomax to the leader team. SPACE services are designed to be interactive and conversational to appeal to all who come and worship and are mainly led by the children. SPACE services are normally non-Eucharistic and include

singing, discussions, DVD clips, music and activity stations around the church. Over 2009 we celebrated SPACE SERVICES for Mothering Sunday, Good Friday, Trinity Sunday, Luke the Evangelist as well as our Kidz Klub Nativity Service.

*Elise Allanson*

### **11am Junior Church**

The number of leaders and those supporting has remained stable this year but the team is still seriously short of people. The children who are coming to Junior Church are from a younger age range now and sessions have been adapted accordingly. On some Sundays the numbers have been augmented with the children of visitors to our church: such additions are always welcome. As usual, leaders and supporters have done excellent work planning and running enjoyable sessions as well as giving help at short notice. My thanks go to them for their loyalty and their sterling efforts.

We have had our usual session each Sunday in term time; activities remain varied and include craft, artwork and drama amongst others. Last September, we stopped using the "Spirits of the Seasons" material as this had become variable in quality and we are currently utilising the materials Elise Allanson has been preparing each week. Everyone is very grateful to her.

We would be delighted to welcome anyone who might contemplate joining us, perhaps initially just to observe, to see if they feel they could make a contribution: we really do need more people, both on the rota and who might be able to help at short notice, to ensure that we can continue to have Junior Church.

*Jill Townsend*

#### **Kidz Klub Xtra**

Kidz Klub Xtra is an add on for Kidz Klub members aged 11 and above. We try to meet each term and usually head down to Starbucks for a discussion, a catch up and, of course, some chocolate cake! It is an

important time to get to know the older children better and for them to spend time with each other. It also acts as a supportive community, outside the family, when the children face times of change such as starting at a new school. We haven't managed to meet much over the year, but we did provide breakfast after the 9am service and we are currently planning our meeting for 2010.

### **SNIP**

SNIP is proving as popular as ever for those aged 12-18. We have 40+ names on the registers with 30 regularly turning up every Sunday night. We have a range of activities including badminton, table tennis, table football, PS2, hockey, football, board games and a chill-out room. As well as meeting in the hall we enjoyed lots of trips and activities including a trip to Noodle City, pancake flipping, an Easter Egg hunt, a quiz night, fireworks, a sports tournament, trip to the park, BBQ and a session where we questioned the Vicar! SNIP are involved in the life of the church through making breakfast after the 9am service during lent to raise money for the lent appeal and many SNIP members help with holiday club and Kidz Klub. My thanks go to Richard Hillman and Howard Lush who give up their evening to co-lead SNIP. This year SNIP put together their own Youth Service, on the theme of 'asking for help' which involved members of SNIP putting together and leading parts of the service. Members of SNIP also set up a Facebook page so we are able to keep in touch throughout the week and holiday. This is also great for me to let the teenagers know what is going on. When I first went on the page it was fantastic to read the tag line: "SNIP is the coolest thing in the whole entire world..... makes Sundays good".

### **SNIP Discussion**

SNIP Discussion happens regularly after our main SNIP meeting. We spend 20 minutes having a (frequently lively) discussion on a varied set of topics such as 'What are the three main issues teenagers face in this day and age?', 'A discussion on things Jesus did that impressed

people/shocked people/angered people' and 'Celebrities – do we have the right to know everything about them?' The number of teenagers staying to participate in the discussions grows every week and is a great opportunity for the young people to air their opinions and listen to each other.

### **Holiday Club**

Having started receiving e-mails from parents wanting places at Christmas, it seems odd that it's all over now. Following the success of last year's club (Junior Heroes), this year's club was Monsters Stink! We spent the week exploring the Christian faith through 'monsters' we sometimes face in our everyday lives. We looked at Adam and Eve being tricked into disobeying God by the serpent; Joseph being bullied by his brothers; Gertrude the lost sheep and Jesus being frightened in the Garden of Gethsemane. Each morning we surfed to Monster Beach, did a Mr. Motivator style workout, played lots of messy games (many involving some revolting food), danced fantastically (some of us in a chicken costume), made some spectacular crafts and watched clips from the Disney Pixar film Monsters Inc. This year Robyn Wilson made her debut at Holiday Club and ran puppet workshops with each of the age groups. The 9-10s group made rod arm puppets, the 6-8s made pop-up puppets and the 4-5s made shadow puppets. On Friday we had a huge Monster Party to celebrate our brilliant week. As a special surprise the cast of High School Musical (strangely resembling a rag tag group of leaders and helpers) performed a dance choreographed by Emma Bowles, which went down very well with the children. If you were in Pinner around midday you'd have seen one hundred children pour out of the church hall dressed in fantastic outfits and painted very odd colours! If you'd been in Pinner any later you'd have seen 30 plus leaders and helpers leaving dressed in fantastic outfits and painted very odd colours too!

On Sunday, holiday club week was celebrated with a special Monster Service, followed by a yummy breakfast! I must take this opportunity to thank my fantastic

team that worked tirelessly throughout the week to make it so brilliant. So, thank you to: Brenda Allanson, Catherine Almond, Diana and Emma Bowles, Maureen and Lauren Craddock, Matt and Beth Gandy, Rachel and Peter Hedderick, Richard Hillman, Francesca Hopkins, Father Paul and Thomas Hullyer, Jane Humphris, Chris and Anita Lomax, Rory McCabe, Rebecca Maggs, Katherine Makris, Elizabeth Metivier, Lucy Pinching, Jacqui Richardson, Nick Ridge, Ben Schrodel, Emily Stokes, Natasha and Jamie Wait, Becca White. Another thank you goes to Heather Brassey who not only co-ordinated her team who made us lunch every day, but also baked (and iced!) 140 fairy cakes on Thursday night for Friday's party. Thank you to Margaret Birkinshaw, Ann Fuller, Dorothy Natrass and Jill Stokes who prepared refreshments for all the children each day and to everyone who cut out, sharpened, collected, dropped off or picked up something for me in the lead up to the week. A big thank you to the ridiculously talented Michael Betts, Beth Stobbart and Ollie Yank who joined me on stage each day, threw pies and water at me but in return put their hands in "sick", had cold baked beans and yoghurt thrown at them and made the children laugh. May I also take this opportunity to thank Father Paul for all his support of holiday club and to let people know that he is the first Vicar to be a holiday club group leader (a big undertaking) as well as helping throughout the set up weekend. My final thank you is to Howard Lush who was with me from set up at midday on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July to the take down on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July and not only took on a group, but made all the technical things happen too! Summer 2009 saw a record number of children in attendance and spaces were filled up quicker than ever. It brings together a huge number of people from different generations, with an age range spanning more than 50 years. Thank you for taking time off from your jobs, time out from your school holidays, caring for all the children, cutting holidays short, sharing your vast array of hidden skills and talents and supporting me throughout the club. The week has been exhausting but fantastic fun and a huge success thanks

to all the support the church gives to it. But your support is still needed, maybe now more than ever, as Holiday Club is only going to get bigger and better!

### **Links with the Community**

We already have strong links with several schools in Pinner and the surrounding areas – Reddiford, West Lodge, Bishop Ramsey, Pinner Park and John Lyon – and are striving to build links with other schools. I go into the schools regularly for assemblies, school trips, school events and lunch clubs. At Bishop Ramsey I co-lead two lunchtime clubs for years 7 and 8 (aged 11-13) and years 9 and 10 (13-15). The club includes games, discussions, DVD clips and prayer. I also co-lead the Christian Union at John Lyon. As well as regular assemblies, Reddiford have invited me on many school trips to get to know the children even better. During 2009 these included seeing Horrible Histories live on stage and visits to the Roald Dahl museum and Legoland. We also regularly welcome schools into church for Harvest and Easter celebrations as well as concerts and other school occasions. Over Christmas the Scouts, Nower Hill, Heathfield, Reddiford and Pinner Parish Pre-School came into church for their celebrations.

Christingle was again packed this year. This service is an important part of the church's outreach: for a large number of families it is the only service they attend throughout the year. We made a few changes to the service which included giving out the (unlit) Christingles on arrival rather than people moving around the (non-existent) aisles to collect them during the service. I also put together outreach packs which were given to every child who doesn't attend the church regularly. The pack included a welcome letter, a flyer about the children's activities at church, a Christmas craft, stickers and a booklet of puzzles.

In June 2009 nine young people were confirmed. The confirmation course ran for seven weeks and followed the Youth Emmaus course.

Our local community links are constantly strengthening, in particular being part of the Pinner Safer Neighbourhoods team

who work with people throughout the community and Pinner Police to make Pinner a safer place to be. I have also been involved with the planning and execution of several community events including May Time Revels and the PAC (Pinner Association of Churches) Fun Day.

*Elise Allanson*

### **Pinner Nippers**

Pinner Nippers is a voluntary run parent/carer baby and toddler group, which has been running since 1984 in the church hall. There is one session each week held on Monday morning from 9.30 – 11.15.

We take children up to aged three. We can take up to 30 parents/carers with their children. We are members of the “Pre-School Learning Alliance” and as such are insured and abide by their regulations.

The fee for the term is £25 per family. The group welcomes new members and operates a waiting list. It is recommended that you register your interest at least nine months before you require a place.

There is tea/coffee/juice and biscuits at each session as well as the provision of a wide range of toys for children. There is also an activity table with play-dough, drawing and crafts. For the last 15 minutes of each session we have a music time with songs and rhymes. At Christmas we hold a party with a ‘surprise’ visitor!

As a parent/carer run group, we are all allocated a week each term on the rota where we help to set up the toys and serve drinks and snacks.

The group’s aims are to provide an opportunity for parents/carers to meet others in similar situations and to encourage the children to develop their social and all-round development in a friendly environment.

For details please contact Danielle Musto on 07932 799056.

*Danielle Musto*



### **Pinner Parish Pre-School**

We currently have 7 staff on our payroll, which allows us to offer a staff ratio of 1 adult to every 4 children. All our staff have the relevant early years qualifications.

One staff member left in October 2009 after only 12 months, so we needed to seek a replacement, this we achieved in January 2010 and she is settling well into the pre-school routine.

There are 28 children on our register at the moment. Tuesday to Friday we usually have 25 children at each session, however, on a Monday we only have 12 when we use one of the small side rooms. Unfortunately we are currently under subscribed, but are working hard to increase our numbers from Easter.

We will be recruiting new parents onto our committee for the start of the new curriculum year in September 2010; we already have several interested parents willing to take on roles.

Our fundraisers have held several different fundraising events which have been very successful during 2009, which have provided the group with much needed additional funds.

We always look forward to our Fun Day in May, it is hard work but again we are hoping this will prove to be an enjoyable event for the local community.

*Susan Smith*  
*Pre-School Leader*

But perhaps, 30 years on, we need to have a re-think?

*Nick Ridge*

## **GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Lay Assistants and Servers**

Lay Assistants and Servers are those who assist in our liturgy, the Servers with the ceremonial and symbols of our faith, Lay Assistants more with the ministry of the Word and with the distribution of communion, the latter being what they are specifically licensed to do by the Bishop. 2009 will be particularly remembered by the impact that safeguards against swine 'flu had, which meant that many of our people had no liturgical function for several months, which I believe was sad and dispiriting, however necessary.

**Servers.** It was good to welcome Alastair Poole, who is becoming a really useful Server, and Ian Galloway at 9.00, with Mary Lawrey able to support Richard at 11.00. However, availability at 11.00 has reached an all-time low and this must, of course, include the move of David Birch to Wantage though early 2010 has provided some welcome signs of growth and unexpected support. I do not think it was to do with the recession, but we shall see how 2010 works out. Elise is also encouraging some of her 'flock' to "think about it".

**Lay Assistants.** I have mentioned the swine 'flu effect, and we now hope that is behind us. Elizabeth Catto feels it is right to 'cut back', but her doing so emphasises that many of the newer Lay Assistants feel their role only to be at 9.00am; the versatility available from some of the longer serving members is falling on a smaller group. Aidan Smith, also, will now assume an entirely priestly role. I hope that time and changing circumstances will encourage people to accept "a bit of a challenge" - some I must acknowledge already, but more is needed.

I hope and pray that "the signs of growth" continue, and that we are able to maintain that level of support to which we have previously become accustomed. But it can only come from you, the congregation.

### **Baptism Visiting**

In 2009 there were 11 baptisms, some of them at the 9 o'clock service and a few at 11am. There were also 11 in 2008.

I continue to send out cards and church information to children on the anniversaries of their baptisms.

I would like to thank all the baptism visitors for their help in preparing families for baptisms. If anyone would like to become a baptism visitor, please contact me. It involves only a few hours a year, at your convenience, and is a worthwhile and pleasant outreach. I would especially like one or two more visitors for the 11am service.

*Gill Yates*

### **Bereavement Visitors**

Although there continued to be a reduction in the number of funerals conducted by our parish clergy in 2009, the number of bereaved people in our community who were supported by our visitors increased. This is due to a significant increase in referrals from Harrow Bereavement Care, most of which came from local GPs.

We had nine active bereavement visitors from our parish (including one for children) in our team and were pleased to welcome two recently trained bereavement visitors from St. Luke's RC Church who have joined our team for group support.

We held our annual Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving for the Departed at the end of October and the Lights of Life Tree was placed in the Lady Chapel in December. Both of these were much appreciated and reached out to the wider community.

Harrow Bereavement Care is still without a co-ordinator due to insufficient funds for

a salary. However, our dedicated Management Committee, recently appointed Hon. Treasurer Roger Lester and the trainers were able to provide ongoing support and training, thanks to the financial donations received from local parishes and others. The main speaker at our annual conference was the journalist and broadcaster Bel Mooney who entitled her talk 'Good Mourning'.

*Bridget Murray*



### **Pinner Guild of Church Bell Ringers**

The current band now totals fifteen active ringers with one in the process of learning. It is a healthy situation and it is rare that we are unable to ring for morning and evening Sunday service. Interest in learning to ring has never been greater and a number of church members have expressed their desire to join us. Chris Lomax, Tower Captain, will be offering a new learners' session shortly.

We were pleased to host the Western District's Annual District Meeting on 14 February 2009 which included a service and provision of tea. On 21<sup>st</sup> February, a visiting band rang a peal of Pinner Delight Major (yes an actual method with this name!) in memory of Don Knights and Ken Sanders who served the Pinner ringers for over thirty years, as Ringing Master and Tower Captain respectively. The band included Don's son and grandson and Ken's son. This important event is commemorated with a peal board in the West Porch. It was purchased from Don's legacy to Pinner Bell Ringers and was blessed at a service on 15 November, attended by many family members and current and past Pinner Ringers. We then shared a lunch which was very much appreciated by all who attended. Our annual dinner was again held at the Tai Pan restaurant in Northwood in March.

We invited members of the public to view the ringers in action for both the St. George's Day celebrations and Pinner Pantomime evening. In general, the people of Pinner love the sound of our bells and we are always encouraged by the number of visitors to the tower on these open days. The ringers' outing was to the Cotswolds with lunch at Stratford-on-Avon. In order to maximize on availability of ringers, this again took place in October. The 2nd October has been reserved for this year's outing, venues have yet to be decided, but do put the date in your diary!

Finally, the bell ringers' reading for the 'Nine Lessons and Carols' service was read by Paul White, our thanks to Paul for this.

Chris Lomax has devoted much time to the teaching of learners in our Tower and without his expertise in this field we would be a considerably depleted band of ringers. Our grateful thanks must be extended to him for his hard work and dedication.

Anne Payne



### **Choir and Church Music**

Music continues to be a vital part of the life and witness of our church. In August a group of 45 people stayed for a week in Gloucester at a Bible College and the choir sang the daily services in the glorious Cathedral. It was very good to see the congregation swollen by a large coach load of our parishioners on the Saturday and several other parishioners at our concert in Ross-on-Wye on the Friday. The 'day off' was spent on various quite strenuous activities in the Forest of Dean which involved getting wet and muddy with the Vicar and yours truly leading the winning raft building team in a race on the lake! The Music Festival in June was again well supported and able to make a

donation of some £7,000 to the selected charity 'for dementia' despite the recession and the drop in sponsorship we suffered. I would like to thank the team of helpers at the concerts and the members of the small working committee for all their efforts. One cold Saturday in January we welcomed over 50 members of the Organ Club to see, hear and play our organ – it was a good occasion and many appreciative comments were received about both the church and the organ. The choir itself is doing well with 20 youngsters on the 'top line' and a reasonably strong supportive adult section. We had four Bishop's Awards and two Dean's Awards in the annual RSCM examinations and these were presented in St Paul's cathedral in November at an Evensong. There is one group of people we owe a great deal to for the continued existence of our Junior Choir - it is Mums and Dads – not only for being their parents, but for the ferrying to and from the church twice and very often three times a week of their children. In addition under Pam Stephen's guidance they provide the main bulk of helpers for refreshments during the Music Festival, after the Carol Service with mulled wine and mince pies and for the Venable's Awards presentation. Our thanks and appreciation to all of you. In conclusion a date for your diary – **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July – our choir singing Evensong at 5.00pm in Westminster Abbey – please do your best to come and support us.**

*Michael Turvey*

### **Christianity for Life**

Our ninth 15 week "Christianity for Life" course, based on the book, "*Emmaus, the Way of Faith*", began on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2009 and ran on Mondays till June with breaks for half terms, Easter and Bank Holidays. Starting with 6 sessions on basic Christian belief, the course moves on to our growth as Christians and finishes with 5 sessions on *Living the Christian life*.

Our then comparatively new vicar joined the team of leaders/facilitators for most sessions. Elizabeth Birch led the session

on the Bible and Valerie Wright from the Grail led the session on Prayer. As well as leading the session on Sharing Communion, Fr Paul presided at a "Commentated Eucharist" open to all members of the congregation which was well attended and much appreciated.

There was a good balance of people wanting a refresher course and people who were fairly new to the Christian faith. Three course members were confirmed on 21<sup>st</sup> June. When we had a reunion in September many of the group wanted to stay together and they have now formed a housegroup.

Thanks to the leaders, Morella Boon, John Canvin and Peter Ellis, for helping to create a safe place for discussion, learning and sharing but also for leading sessions, giving lifts, printing handouts, preparing the room and organising refreshments and washing up. Thanks to Paul for giving input when needed but also for being part of the group. And of course thanks to all the course members whose readiness to be open and to contribute to discussion made Monday evenings such a worthwhile experience.

*Ann Fuller*

### **Nurture, Education and Training Group**

Members: **Rev'd Paul Hullyer, Mark Arnold, Ann Fuller (convenor), Shane Godbolt, Elizabeth Metivier**

2 PCC Committees merged in 2008 to form this group. It receives updates on activities such as the *Christianity for Life* course and the housegroups (reported elsewhere) The group reflects on what is happening in several areas of church life, and new initiatives are discussed and suggested. The group is not responsible for their implementation. The group met 3 times in 2009.

#### **1. SHARING VALUES AND VISION**

(Jan) The group recommended that work be done on orders of Baptism to make them more accessible to families unfamiliar with church services. (May) The group wondered if there might be another

Baptism reunion service (and perhaps a Marriage reunion service?)

(Jan) The group wondered if Quiet Days and a parish retreat could be arranged (Retreat now arranged for October 2010)

(Jan and May) A 'Talents Directory' was suggested consisting of a questionnaire designed to elicit people's skills, interests, hobbies, occupations etc. in order that we can better understand the great wealth of talents, gifts and expertise that could be called upon.

## **2. SUSTAINING GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

(May) Paul's plans to lead a Bible study on the Book of Jonah on 4 Saturday mornings in the autumn were reported (implemented October 2009)

(May) The group looked at re-ordering the information on the first 2 pages of the bulletin to avoid confusion over Sunday readings (implemented following week)

(Oct) Material from the Christian Healing Mission was circulated. A good source of information on the healing ministry is [www.burrswood.org.uk](http://www.burrswood.org.uk)

(Oct) Paul reported he planned a series of Saturday morning Bible studies on Ruth early in 2010 (implemented Feb 2010)

## **3. IDENTIFYING NEW INITIATIVES**

(Jan) Mark Arnold brought leaflets about an open air production of the Life of Christ at Wintershall (implemented: a coach went on 27<sup>th</sup> June)

(Jan) Elizabeth Birch proposed to lead parish Lent study groups to supplement the PAC discussion groups (implemented: 2 groups studied Bp Stephen Cottrell's book *The things he carried*)

(Jan) Paul would preside at a "Commentated Eucharist", part of the Christianity For Life course but open to all (implemented: 40/50 attended on April 28th)

(Jan) The group welcomed the suggestion at the 20/01/09 PCC of a tour of the

church and a display to coincide with the September Open Weekend

(May) Compline was said after the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Holy Week Eucharists and was attended both by those who stayed on after the Eucharist and by those who came specially. It was also said on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

*Ann Fuller*

## **Church Cleaning**

This report does not cover the vestry cleaning for which there is a separate report by Dorothy Natrass on the work done by her and her team.

There is little new to report. We still remain in need of help for general church cleaning and we are hoping that this coming year will see more systematic arrangements in place. We are indebted to all who quietly contribute to keeping things spic and span wielding a duster, taking round the vacuum, sweeping the entire church floor (special thanks to Sue Sabry-Grant and Mary Thomas for taking this on at Christmas!). Thanks also to Ann Kirkley for keeping the children's corner clean and organised. We are very grateful for everyone's contribution.

If anyone else can offer help this would be most welcome in caring for our beautiful, ancient church, which gives pleasure to so many visitors and worshippers each year.

*Shane Godbolt - Churchwarden*

## **Vestry Cleaning**

Our vestry cleaning has been slightly under par for much of this year as David Witney has been incapacitated and we have no reserve. Nevertheless, our voluntary cleaners have kept the vestry very clean and tidy. Maureen Craddock has kindly taken over the cleaning of the clergy vestry which relieves the time pressure on Wednesday mornings. It would be encouraging to have one or two more helpers to continue the good work in 2010 and beyond. Many thanks to

Morella Boon, Maureen Craddock,  
Jeannine Lawder, Muriel Lawrence, Helen  
Spark and David Witney.

*Dorothy Natrass*



### **Church Library**

Three cheers for a tidy Vicar! The west end of the church is now simply and clearly arranged and the Church Library is once again fully visible. The library budget is modest but new books are purchased twice a year, usually before Advent and Lent and I continue to be grateful for donations to the library. Similarly, suggestions for additions to the stock are welcome. The subscription to "The Tablet" (which is placed on the library table) will not be renewed, to save money. In these days when many Christian bookshops are struggling or closing down I feel it is even more important that members of the congregation have access to religious books and the library has a good loan-stock, built up over the years, which everyone is very welcome to make use of.

*Margaret Birkinshaw*

### **Church Watch**

It is the aim of the church watch team to cover most hours from 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday. At times in 2009 a substantial number of these hours were covered by seventeen people. John Taylor was a welcome addition to the team.

During the year we had an interesting talk from Nick Tolson of the National Church Watch organisation on "Personal Safety for Church Watchers". Besides giving some useful tips on personal safety he also expressed the view that a church watcher should not be alone on duty, the other person could be another church watcher or someone doing another task in the church. Later in the year this was discussed at a PCC meeting and it was decided that we

must move towards covering the sessions with two people.

We move into 2010 needing more volunteers willing to spend an hour or more once a week, with a colleague, welcoming visitors and keeping an eye on the church. Our thanks go to Bobbie Watson who has decided to leave the team after many years service.

*Morella Boon*

### **Creative Workshop**

The small group (Joy Chittleborough, Margaret Birkinshaw, Betty Warlthier, Jenny Lawrence) meets on Thursday mornings twice a month in the Church Hall. Good progress is being made on the two long kneelers, one of which is nearing completion.

*Jenny Lawrence*

### **Church Flowers**



It will be Ash Wednesday tomorrow, and for the duration of Lent the church will be without the usual flower arrangements. The flower arranging Team agreed that it is beneficial to have a break. We will re-assemble, refreshed, on Easter Saturday to decorate the church in readiness for Easter day.

Since my last submission three of our ladies have had to stand down and we do miss having Cecily, Rosalind and Dorothy on the Rota, but are very grateful to them all for their generous input. Thank you Cecily, Rosalind and Dorothy, and if at any time you would like to join in the general fun you know you will be most welcome.

In the last week I was delighted to welcome Joy Daffon and already she has got off to a flying start with an all red pedestal arrangement. Thank you for

joining the Team, Joy. It would be very good to have a few more ladies or gentlemen joining the Team. Throughout the year we have had a number of requests for flower arrangements to mark a variety of occasions. Most welcomed were the people who came forward just before the Music Festival in June to request and pay for flowers for the duration of the Music Festival. Their requests were for flower arrangements to be placed on the window sills, in celebration of anniversaries, and to commemorate their loved ones. Without this addition to the funds, the church would have been quite sparsely decorated for the Music Festival week.

From the month of May, and continuing through to October there are a number of weddings. Although we have not been approached with a view to decorating the church for any of the weddings yet, when we do decorate for a wedding, a small surplus is created in the account and thus flowers can be maintained through leaner periods when there are no special requests.

It is greatly appreciated when our efforts are noticed and favourable comments are received, it makes all our hard work really worthwhile.

Thank you to all the members of the flower arranging Team for your time and creative input.

I would love to hear from anyone who would like to take up their secateurs and join us to keep the pedestals, the window sills and the porches decorated with fresh flowers whenever the opportunity arises. Please give me a call and I will be happy to show you the ropes.

Finally, should you have a request for flowers, please note that cheques should be made payable to "CHURCH FLOWERS".

*Maureen Wilson*

### **The Friends of Pinner Parish Church**

Registered Charity 298048

Over this past year the Friends have continued to raise money by a programme

of nine social events. In February we held a ploughman's lunch at which a former British Airways air-hostess gave a talk on her experiences. We went to Gloucester by coach to hear our choir sing Evensong in the cathedral and our year ended with a film show given by the Harrow Cine and Video Society. Three further events were run on our behalf.

As you will learn from another item in this Annual Parish Report the church is in need of repair and the Friends will play their part in supporting this.

New members – of all ages – are always welcome to join us. If you are not yet a member, I ask you, please, to consider becoming one. I hope to hear from you and welcoming you.

*Ronald Haslam*

### **Home Communion**

The seven home communion visitors continue to take communion to many people in the parish, both on a regular and short-term basis.

*Jenny Lawrence*

### **House Groups**

The house groups provide support and fellowship to members, as well as offering opportunities to study, discuss and pray together. Some groups have designated leaders who are responsible for organising and preparing sessions; others share the responsibility for choosing material and presenting it. Leaders/facilitators of the 5 long running groups are Pat Gowman, Len and Margaret Reed, Nick Ridge, Mary Wright and Ann Fuller.

2009 has shown encouraging signs of growth: membership of the groups is now around 50. The group formed in 2007 led by Mary Lawrey and Helen Hutchins is now meeting regularly. Chris Lomax has brought to us the group which he led at his last church. Members of the 2009 Christianity For Life course have formed a

new group. Contact persons for this group are Marilia Perrett and Suzanne Burke.

Paul and Ann met the leaders/co-ordinators in January 2009 and also in October 2009 when Paul recommended two books by Archbishop Rowan Williams and suggested groups might revisit familiar passages of Scripture (for other material see below).

Most groups meet monthly and study a variety of materials. Some use the York Courses (an audiotape/CD and booklet with questions for discussion) Some read a book, others do Bible Study. Some invite visiting speakers or watch videos/DVDs. Some finish by saying Compline together. One group has enjoyed a housegroup Communion. Several groups have been out for a meal.

New material added to the housegroup resources in 2009 includes :

January 2009: **Two sets of the York Course Faith, Hope and Love**

October 2009: **Two sets of the York Course When I Survey**

**October 2009:** CD and transcript of interview with Archbishop Rowan Williams: *Rowan revealed:*

**October 2009:** CD course of *The Return of the Prodigal Son* based on the Rembrandt painting:

I should like to thank all the leaders/co-ordinators/contact persons(!) and the hosts for creating a safe place where members of our congregation can explore and deepen their faith and support each other.

Thanks also to Margaret Birkinshaw for her continuing help in cataloguing the material, to be found on the bottom left hand shelf of the church library.

*Ann Fuller*

### **Marriage Preparation**

Five marriages took place here in 2009 and four couples were able to attend one session of marriage preparation on their own as their weddings were widely spaced

throughout the year and there were insufficient numbers to meet in a group. Each couple seemed to appreciate the opportunity to reflect on their own particular interaction and we are grateful to our leaders for the expertise they have developed during the years they have undertaken this work.

*Bridget Murray*

### **Pinner Parish Review**

As I write, a questionnaire is being prepared to include in the next edition to enquire what readers think of their parish magazine. Constructive replies will be invaluable in publishing what you want to read. On request, we have started to include a religious dictionary. The regular number of monthly copies printed has been increased from 250 to 300 during the year and Gordon Williams has been a welcome addition to the editorial team who are the vicar, youth minister, parish administrator, Margaret Birkinshaw and Anne Davis. I thank everyone for their continued support in providing informative and topical articles and encourage those who haven't written anything yet to have a go!

*Joy Chittleborough*

### **Sacristy Rota & Sacristan**

On behalf of the congregation I would like to thank the 11 people on the sacristy- rota who week by week clean, polish and refill the Holy Vessels with wine and wafers. Their duties have been a little confusing, although lighter during the swine-flu emergency but have now returned to normal. Similarly I thank Betty Wartier for continuing to launder the weekly bag full of small linen, which was smaller for a while but back to full capacity now. We would be grateful for offers of extra help on this team.

### **SACRISTAN**

As you are probably aware Father Paul likes to have a tidy church and vestry, so please, please will you take home your jackets, scarves, gloves and umbrellas! If

left too long they will find their way to a charity shop.

Also, when you have made use of the water fountain, would you please dispose of the empty cup in the blue waste bin in the vestry or the white one in the south porch, and not leave it on window sills, tables or seats for someone else to tidy up! Would all servers please make sure when vesting, that they have tied their girdles up so that the tassels are well clear of the floor as they are getting very dirty and take a long time to dry after washing.

On a happier note we are very lucky to have received the gift of a beautiful new silver ciborium, which makes a matching pair at 9am Eucharists.

I am very grateful to Joy Daffon for the repairs she continues to make to the kneelers in church. It is a mystery to know how and why the hooks and rings disappear so regularly. Joy has also begun to repair the damaged hymn-books, which have been mounting up in number since we lost the services of Keith French. I am sure she would be glad to have help with this project, which could be done one or two at a time in your own home.

I wish to thank my deputy, Elizabeth Metivier for her continuing help during a very difficult time for her.

*Maureen Craddock.*

### **Three Faiths Dialogue between local Churches, Mosque and Synagogues**

A visit to Harrow will soon remind you that you live in a society of Many Faiths. If you stop to look up you may see the Minaret of the new Harrow Mosque being built. A visit will be arranged when completed. The purpose of the Three Faith Dialogue {Christians, Jews and Muslims} is to help in the better understanding and love of our many neighbours. Four meetings are generally held each year either Wednesday evening or Sunday afternoon. Plus some other activities; details are always given in the Pew Sheets. After meetings, tea and Kosher cakes are served

Last April some of us attended [Yom HaShoah} an evening of commemoration, at Pinner Orthodox Synagogue, 'Making Hatred History'. The main speaker was Dr Eva Schloss an Auschwitz Survivor and step sister Anne Frank. Then in November, at Pinner Free Church, a talk was given by Dr Joseph Newman on the 'Ins and Outs of the Jewish Calendar'. This gave us incites into how, the Lunar and Solar Calendars are combined to fix the various celebrations. A talk mathematicians would have liked. During 'Inter Faith Week', held the November of each year, we were invited to attend 'Shabbat' morning service at Kol Chai Jewish Community at Hatch End. Everyone was very friendly and helped us through the service. Afterwards there was time for coffee and a chat with members. January of this year at the Methodist Church, a talk was given by Azmat Ali, a member of Harrow Central Mosque. He spoke about his, 'Personal Experience of the 'Haj'. Muslims are expected to visit Mecca once in a life time if circumstances allow. All were impressed with the sincerity and organisation required. The talk may be repeated as attendance was low due to the snow on the ground. In February, after the completion of this report, a talk is being given by 'Catherine Widdicombe' on her Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella; one of the great Christian holy places.

Hope to see you sometime at the meetings.

*Alan Johnston*

## Item 9. The Financial Affairs of the Church

### Treasurers Report and Summary Accounts 2009

The full statutory accounts and annexes audited for 2009 are being made available separately with only a summary being presented in the Annual Report. Further copies of the full report can be obtained from the Church Secretary.

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) combines all the activities into a single statement differentiating between Unrestricted and Restricted Funds.

At the end of 2009 total fund balances stood at £ 1,236,949 distributed as follows:-

<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
General Fund	£ 70,537	£55,956
Special Receipts Unspecified	£112,519	£112,519
Hall Committee	£4,182	£2,993
11am Refreshments	£ 563	£327
Capital Reserves	£219,881	£219,881
Fixed Assets	£797,064	£795,141
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>£1,204,746</b>	<b>£1,186,817</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		
Special receipts Nominated		
Jazz in church	£23,662	£23,837
Tower Bell Ringers	£1,446	£1,335
Flower Arrangers	£345	£531
Music Festival	£500	£0
Quinquennial Works	£2,050	£2,050
Youth Minister Salary	£0	£14,391
Music Bequest	£200	£747
IT Software/Web Training	£4,000	£4,000
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>£ 32,203</b>	<b>£46,891</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>£1,236,949</b>	<b>£1,233,708</b>

### Review of the Year 2009

**Total Incoming Resources** in all funds of £322,178 (2008 - £358,458) exceeded expenses of £318,937 (2008 £329,779) by £3,241

The major item affecting income was much lower interest rates on our deposited funds but keeping expenses under control enabled the end result to be a small surplus, rather than the deficit which was budgeted.

The highlights in **Incoming Resources** were:

- Planned Giving under Gift Aid increased by a small amount although offset by a reduction in non gift aided giving- a net decrease of £534. The loss of major contributors for all manner of reasons is not made up by giving from new members of the congregation. Continued non growth in this area is one of our major problems.
- Gift Aided tax refunds continued to benefit from the increased refund holiday and rose from £37,782 in 2008 to £38,445 in 2009 an increase of £663.
- Special Receipts fell from £12,966 in 2008 to £7,992 in 2009, a decrease of £4,974 as a result of generally lower donations for particular projects.
- Collections fell from £32,237 in 2008 to £26,934 in 2009, a decrease of £5,303 due to a decrease in giving for the 2009 Lent & other projects.

- Rents from houses were down by £2,636 or 10% as a result of void periods and a rent deferral in December 2009
- the decrease in event receipts of £3,955 was mainly due to a reduction of £1,985 in consolidated income from the Jazz Fund and a reduction of £1,926 in Music Festival receipts .
- there were no legacies bequeathed to the church in the current year while in 2008 legacies bequeathed totalled £15,418
- our Interest income showed a major decrease from £22,210 in 2008 to £5,353 in 2009 , a decrease of £16,857 in the current year due to the much lower prevailing interest rates available.
- Hall Contributions increased by £5,891 due mainly to initially unforeseen business arising with Harrow College
- a long standing endowment was included as an incoming resource and capitalised on the balance sheet totalling £2,870.

**Resources Used** declined from £329,779 in 2008 to £318,937 in 2009 in overall terms. The highlights here were:-

- A decline in grants payable due to the reasons outlined above, totalling a net decrease of £8,850
- An increase in ministry costs owing to charging the first full year of the youth minister in 2009 versus only the last four months in 2008 accounting for an increase of £11,924
- Generally lower costs of activities such as Jazz, Music Festival and other areas amounted to the reduced level of expense and donation outgoings of £8,738.
- Overall Church and “curate house” upkeep costs were flat but with significant variations in individual areas such as church running expenses, church maintenance and invested property maintenance.
- Total fees payable for administration are running at a lower level than the previous years by an amount of £7,236

#### **Reserve and Reserve Policy**

The reserves we maintain are as stated in last years accounts

- General Reserve which contains non-restricted reserves which are not allocated elsewhere.
  - Special Purposes Fund for legacies received and any sums donated or allocated generally with certain objectives.
  - Capital Reserves for funding expenditure of a capital nature
  - Ancillary activities includes the sums held by Jazz in Pinner, Bellringers and Church Hall committee
- And then there are a number of Specifically Restricted Reserves where money has been given and its expenditure restricted to specified matters.
- “Reserves” also obviously exist in the form of the “curates” houses.

The church, like other organisations, needs to secure its future and ensure that we can weather a downturn in our normal income pattern or some unexpected, immediate or exceptional need for expenditure.

#### **The outlook for the future**

Our budget for 2010 shows a deficit of £21,000 but this does contain estimates for stewardship giving that appear too high, from the pledges received, by as much as £6,000. In addition the Hall Committee does not believe that they can necessarily maintain the 2009 income level. So flat income, yet increases in costs in a number of areas, lead to a deficit. Our expenses budgets contain an unusual amount of planned expenditure in Church building and grounds maintenance which the PCC may decide should be spread over a longer period. We might well be incurring unbudgeted expense in surveying fees etc in planning for remedial work on the Church Tower, Roof and Lady Chapel. We have assumed that such expense, if incurred, might well be met by The Friends.

Douglas M Yates  
 Hon. Treasurer  
 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2009**

		<b>2009</b>		<b>2008</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds (inc fixed assets) £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds £</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Donations, gifts, grants, legacies	2(a)	203,229	16,680	219,909
Activities for charitable objects	2(b)	3,360	33,866	37,226
Activities for generating funds	2(c)	32,056	0	32,056
Investment income	2(d)	29,715	402	30,117
Other incoming resources	2(e)	2,870	0	2,870
		0		0
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>271,230</b>	<b>50,948</b>	<b>322,178</b>
<b>RESOURCES USED</b>				
<b>Cost of generating funds</b>	3(a)	328	0	328
<b>Charitable expenditure</b>				
Grants payable under charitable objects	3(b)	112,849	10,019	122,868
Cost of activities in furtherance of objects				
The Ministry	3(c)	36,993	0	36,993
Support costs for services	3(d)	25,105	2,148	27,253
Activities	3(e)	1,351	31,979	33,330
Building costs	3(f)	0	0	0
Upkeep	3(g)	78,436	0	78,436
Management and administration	3(h)	18,811	918	19,729
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>		<b>273,873</b>	<b>45,064</b>	<b>318,937</b>
<b>NET RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		<b>-2,643</b>	<b>5,884</b>	<b>3,241</b>
<b>TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS</b>	6	20,572	-20,572	0
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>		<b>17,929</b>	<b>-14,688</b>	<b>3,241</b>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>17,929</b>	<b>-14,688</b>	<b>3,241</b>
<b>BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY 2009</b>		<b>1,186,817</b>	<b>46,891</b>	<b>1,233,708</b>
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2009</b>		<b>1,204,746</b>	<b>32,203</b>	<b>1,236,949</b>

## BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2009

	Note	2009 £	2008 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Fixed Assets and Investments	7	797,064	795,141
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Prepayments	8	2,583	3,812
Debtors	8	11,234	8,600
Short term deposits		417,132	395,619
Cash at bank and in hand		20,664	46,108
		<u>451,613</u>	<u>454,139</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors due within one year	9	2,563	2,097
Deferred income & Accruals	9	9,165	13,475
		<u>11,728</u>	<u>15,572</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		439,885	438,567
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>1,236,949</u>	<u>1,233,708</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
	10		
Unrestricted		407,682	391,676
Restricted		32,203	46,891
Total Restricted and Unrestricted		<u>439,885</u>	<u>438,567</u>
Capital Funds		797,064	795,141
Total		<u>1,236,949</u>	<u>1,233,708</u>

## **Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church**

We are very grateful for the work that Stuart Natrass, Barry Griffin and Nick Ridge have put in to improving the heating system in church. The comfort level is much improved from several changes that have been made. We are most grateful to Barry Griffin for generously waiving his fee for the survey and report on the central heating system.

We have started to look at a sustainable and simple lighting system for the Church to fit in with the restoration project.

Many of the maintenance jobs have now been passed to the Property and Maintenance Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr David Payne and they have made an impressive start to work on the church.

Following the retirement of David Roker we were very pleased to be able to appoint Paul Hammond, who previously worked for the church on roofing projects, as his replacement.

The investigations into the cause of the spalling from the pillars is ongoing – the expert has visited again and has suggested some possible solutions which are being included in the restoration project.

We have created a plan for future work and this is being worked on by the Property and Maintenance Committee and the Restoration Group in tandem.

*David Poole*

## **Report on the Harrow Deanery Synod March – November 2009**

The first synod to report on was in March at St Andrew's, Roxbourne. The incumbent, Revd Christine Rablen, gave a parish profile: the church was opened in 1957 replacing a mission station of 20 years. There had been an increase of social housing in the parish, which contained 6 schools with some 14,000 pupils. The area is multi-ethnic and multi-religious, which created varied school presentations. The church is looking at the possibility of a youth worker.

The 2 Deanery representatives on General Synod then spoke on a recent meeting. Susan Cooper stated that the Diocese should have more representatives on Synod, to reflect the great diversity of ethnicity within the Diocese. Clive Scowen said that the issue of women and the Episcopacy was further discussed, along with the Church's response to the credit crunch, and guidance was given by the archbishops on giving, which should always be sacrificial.

Martyn Eden from Emmanuel Northwood then gave a presentation on Christianity and the Workplace. He asked us to consider what is work? It is not only the job that brings in the income, but covers many other activities. What damage can work do with long hours causing ill-health? How can we support people doing long or unsocial hours, such as doctors, nurses, those in entertainment – do we hold services when they are free? There was the issue of work and mission – how do we behave and do we reflect Christ in our work? The synod split into 6 discussion groups based on geographical position of churches in the deanery.

The July Synod took place at St Albans, North Harrow. Unusually, the meeting began with a presentation by Revd Phil Stone, Area Dean of Brent, on Welcoming – do people feel God's welcome when they attend church? A video clip of "Mr Bean" showed problems visitors face. Phil stated there are 3 stages: Belonging, Believing and Behaving – people should feel they belong and experience a family community. Church members must show hospitality to visitors. They then journey towards belief and a lifetime training in behaving as a member of God's Kingdom. Looking at churches – are they well signposted? helpful and smiling welcomers at the door? is there a welcome pack to take away? do we look out for strangers over coffee? Synod members were asked to share these thoughts with their PCC and church. The Hillside allocations were then discussed at length. The Standing Committee had recommended the £2000 sum should be divided among the 4 submitting churches. An amendment was tabled which was passed 24 in favour, 18 against and 5 abstentions. This agreed that £800 be given to St Peter's, West Harrow, for a coffee machine to be used in

outreach to mothers and toddlers, pre-school groups and the elderly; £400 to St Mary's, Harrow on the Hill, for 2 mobile microphones to augment their audio system in services and youth work; £400 to All Saints, Queensbury, to re-furbish the children's corner with furniture and toys; and £400 to EDIFY at Emmanuel Northwood for equipment at youth services and evangelical events.

Clive Backhouse presented the Deanery accounts for 2008 and noted there had been a small surplus of £290. A parish profile was presented by Revd Joan Foster of St Albans to finish the evening. The church was built in the late 1930s, and the congregation come from a variety of places and cultures. There is a strong Eucharistic tradition in the services, and the worshipping community enable people to offer a wide range of gifts. Recently, Open Church times were set up, staffed by church members, enabling more accessibility for the community, and Sunday school members have increased. The church is seeking a part-time Youth Worker and supports a church in Malawi. An open space has been created between church and hall as a multi-purpose area and friendly "encountering" space.

St Paul's, South Harrow, hosted the November meeting. After Synod business when Robert May was elected the new secretary, there was a parish profile presented by the vicar, Revd Ian Dowsett. The church was built in 1928, consecrated 10 years later, and the old mission hut still exists used by the scouts and guides. There is a charismatic ministry, particularly in the family service, with a strong prayer emphasis and close ties with local schools. There are strong inter-faith links in the multi-cultural parish, and a new curate, Andrew Cooper, was appointed in July.

After refreshments, there was a presentation by Brian Cuthbertson, Head of Environmental Challenge in the diocese. The Church of England has a Seven Year Plan for climate change and the environment, and is divided into 3 sections: (1) basis for environmental action (2) environmental record of the Church (3) the challenge for future Church action. Firstly, the report states the world faces a crisis of ecological disintegration and depletion. A collective effort is needed to avert further climate change, to protect the earth's rich resources and wildlife habitat, and help people suffering from environmental change. The

Bible emphasises the goodness of creation and Christians are called to protect God's world and live in the hope of God, through Christ, to liberate us from the excesses of the pursuit of human consumption. We should be good stewards of God's world, while advocating economic and social action that promotes justice and decent living standards for all. Secondly, the Church has been speaking out on environmental issues since the 1970s, culminating in the launch of "Shrinking the Footprint" campaign in 2006, which aims to reduce carbon emissions of its buildings and mission work. In a programme over the coming years, the Church aims to put Christian values into action. Several dioceses, such as Newcastle and Exeter, have responded by improving energy efficiency in clergy houses and incorporating solar panels on church roofs.

The challenge before the Church is to a reduction of 80% in its carbon footprint by 2050. In its Shrinking the Footprint (StF) it will continue to improve the efficiency of buildings and by 2016 all dioceses will have established a blueprint for energy reduction. StF will work with educating young people and encouraging dioceses to become Fair Trade partners by 2016. StF will build bridges in local communities, improve communication via media, develop ideas within inter-faith links, and hold Creation Time festivals and services, artistic events and commission new art works, hymns and choral pieces.

*Stephen Brown*

## The Pinner Association of Churches



### Christians in Pinner Working Together

#### PAC REPORT FOR 2009

**THE PINNER ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES** is the name given to the six churches in Pinner who are in covenant with one another to further Christian unity, as proclaimed in the Scriptures and who "seek not to do separately those things that can better be done together", as stated in the Covenant, which can be found framed in the Hall lobby. Each church has two representatives on the Executive, which meets about five times a year. The clergy meet regularly and the chairmanship of the Executive rotates round the churches. I had the privilege of representing St John's as chairman during 2009. The new chairman is Anne Bek of St Luke's Roman Catholic Church.

Dialogue with other faiths is an important aspect of the PAC. In January, Dr Chris Hewer, an authority on Christian/Muslim relations, spoke at St John's on "What our Faiths can contribute to the Future Well-being of UK Society". There is a fuller report on the **Three Faith Dialogue** elsewhere in the Annual Report and Accounts.

There is a flourishing **Coffee Shop** held every Friday morning at St Luke's Parish Centre, and during the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** last January, a simple lunch was held there and £255 was collected for **Christian Aid** and **CAFOD**. Likewise, on September 25 over £540 was collected for **Macmillan Cancer Relief**.

On January 24, I accompanied Angela Achenbach (St Luke's) and Joyce Eavis (Pinner Free Church - Baptist), the Joint Honorary Secretaries, to the conference held in central London by **Christians Together in North London (CTNL)**. Each ecumenical group was invited to give an account of its partnership and activities. It was gratifying to

see that the PAC was one of the most active associations, partly helped by the geographical proximity of most of the churches.

Since the Millennium we have supported **THATCH (The Homeless and the Churches in Harrow)** by helping towards housing young people locally. The **YMCA** have now taken over this role so we will continue to support this organisation on an ad hoc basis.

**LENT in 2009** was a highlight in the churches for getting together to discuss our history and the problems which we all confront in the future. The series "**Challenge of the Changing Church**" was held weekly in the different churches. In Lent 2010, members of the churches will meet in house groups to study the York course "When I survey..".

**CHRISTIAN AID** was marked by an informal lunch at St Andrew's in March, with a Christian Aid speaker, and the churches during **Christian Aid Week** in May, collected over £6,000 through house to house collections and outside Marks and Spencer's and Tesco. There is a fuller report on Christian Aid elsewhere in the Annual Report and Accounts.

**The Good Friday Silent Walk of Witness** has now become a regular feature in Pinner, when the congregations of the six churches walk silently from Little Common Park, with prayer stops on the way, and finish with the warm hospitality of the Coffee Shop at St Luke's, in the form of hot cross buns and coffee.

**PENTECOST** marked the **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the first meeting of the PAC. A **Worshipping Together Service** was held at Pinner Methodist Church, Love Lane, and an anniversary cake cut by ministers after the service. Subsequently, photos of this event appeared on the new **PAC Website** which was launched - largely owing to the good offices of Howard Lush of our church - on this propitious occasion.

On July 4, the annual **Summer Fun Day** took place in Pinner Memorial Park. Earlier in the year, it was uncertain whether it would take place owing to the closure of the Youth Centre. But due to the good will and co-operation of Pinner Village Hall, this became the centre from which activities took place. It

was a huge success, supported by many local families and friends in the local community.

Unfortunately, there were no **SONGS OF PRAISE IN THE PARK** because of the absence of refreshment and toilet facilities. Next year, however, with the re-opening of West House, this event seems planned to go ahead as usual.

Also in July, **Pinner Helping Hands** held their annual fund-raising coffee morning at Pinner Methodist Church, Love Lane. This voluntary body provides drivers for the elderly and frail to get to hospital appointments, etc, and to the regular **Welcome Lunches**. A fuller report on these is included elsewhere in the Annual Report and Accounts. PHH also provides volunteers to do simple DIY jobs for this section of the community.

In November, the **Harrow Apollo Male Choir** gave a highly enjoyable concert in St John's church to raise funds for the PAC. This was the suggestion of Denis Argent, PAC Treasurer, who not only contributed to the singing, but was rewarded by the raising of over £440.

This year, November 15-21 had been declared **Inter-Faith Week**, and one of the celebrations was an invitation to local Christian churches to participate in the Shabbat morning service on November 21 at **Kol Chai Hatch End Jewish Community Synagogue**. We were all made very welcome. The service was explained as we went along and ended in giving a sign of peace and Kaddish, when we shared bread and wine together!

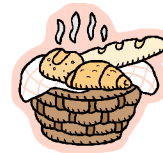
Events leading up to **Christmas** were PAC Carol Singing on **Pinner Pantomime Night** on November 26, and the always well-attended **Carols by Torchlight** by the Christmas tree in the High Street. The children sang together and accompanied the carols with manacas and tambourines. For the second year running, Pinner Free Church (Baptist) invited everyone back for mince pies and mulled wine.

Finally, the annual **Christmas Lunch** at St John's, for those alone at this time, was beautifully organised, from potato peeling, cooking the turkeys to transport and goody bags, and very much enjoyed by grateful

guests, judging by the appreciative letters received after the event.

So once again, a successful and active year for the PAC. St John's will be hosting a **Worshipping Together Service** at Pentecost in 2010, so do come along and join us at this and many other PAC events.

*Wendy Myers*



#### **PAC Welcome Lunches – 2009**

There were 6 Lunches and a Christmas Nativity Play and 50 – 60 guests each time. About half were transported by Pinner Helping Hands' drivers.

This completed 15 years of Lunches and we compiled a short recipe book which was sold in aid of our costs – raising £150.

*Elizabeth Catto*