



**The Parish Church of
Saint George the Martyr
Waterlooville**



**THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**

**Annual Report and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2009**

**The Reverend Mike Sheffield,
The Vicarage, 5 Deanswood Drive, Waterlooville PO7 7RR**

Banks:

**Lloyds TSB
Bank PLC
272 London Road
Waterlooville
Hants PO7 7HN**

**HSBC Bank PLC
312 London
Road
Waterlooville
Hants PO7 7DX**

**Mr Gordon Beer MA (Cantab) FCA
80 Moggs Mead
Herne Farm
Petersfield
Hants
GU31 4PH**

**THERE WILL BE A ST GEORGE'S ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH
MEETING ON SUNDAY 18th APRIL 2010 IN THE CHURCH
AFTER THE 10 am EUCHARIST**

A G E N D A

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
to elect two Churchwardens to serve for one year
4. MEETING OF ELECTORAL ROLL MEMBERS
Report by Electoral Roll Officer
5. Minutes of 2009 APCM and Matters Arising
6. Presentation of Audited Accounts and Treasurer's Report
7. Election of 4 PCC members
8. Election of Sidespersons
9. Reports from the Churchwardens, PCC Secretary and Treasurer and church groups
10. Appointment of Independent Examiner

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING of St George the Martyr, Waterlooville, held on Sunday 26th April 2009 in the church and commencing at 11.15 am. There were 70 persons present. The Parish Priest, Fr Mike Sheffield, was in the Chair.

1. **WELCOME:** Fr Mike extended a warm welcome to everyone to the APCM at St George's. He explained that there are two meetings, the first for the parishioners and the second for the congregation.
2. **APOLOGIES** were received from Bob and Sue Andrews, Sue and David Palmer, Sarah Hewett, Tasha Cook, Sarah and Keith Lewis, Fr Timon and family, Inara Nijkar, Jessica and Christopher Spurgeon, Don Lloyd, Nigel and Abi Morgan, Janet Johnson.
3. **MEETING OF PARISHIONERS:** although in this parish we elect Churchwardens to serve for 4 years they still have to be re-elected yearly. It is therefore necessary to ask whether you are happy for our two Churchwardens, Margaret Symonds and Richard Spurgeon to stay on for another year. This was unanimously agreed.
4. **MEETING OF ELECTORAL ROLL MEMBERS:** Rosemary Monk who is the Electoral Roll Officer said there are 166 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, 84 of these are outside the parish, 19 new members and 5 sadly removed through death. If anyone wishes to apply they can be added at any time during the year and agreed by the PCC.
5. **MINUTES OF THE 2008 APCM AND MATTERS ARISING:** There were no amendments and the minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Dick Handy and seconded by David Hodgins and agreed unanimously.
6. **PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND TREASURER'S REPORT:**
Carol McKells said that the preparation of the accounts had gone very well. She apologised that there is an error in the figure for Gift Aid tax recovery. This should read £8214, not £8488 but this figure has been corrected in her Treasurer's Report. She had nothing further to add and said if anyone wanted a full set of the accounts to let her know and she would run off a copy for them.

Fr Mike said the accounts are looked at at every PCC meeting. There was a big fall in the interest rates last year and there will be again this

year. He said you will remember that last year we were unable to present the signed audited accounts at the APCM as they had not been audited and we are extremely grateful to Gordon Beer who took this role on last year and again this year for the price of a few bottles of whisky so a really big thank you to him.

Fr Mike proposed a big thank you to Carol whose job of Treasurer is a difficult one.

Tony R-O, chair of the Fabric and Finance Committee commented that everyone is to be thanked and commended tremendously for all their giving. Thanks also to members of the Fabric and Finance Committee.

7. **ELECTION OF PCC MEMBERS:** First of all thanks to the PCC members who have met 10 times over the last year. We are losing David Cavey, Mabel Maginn and Denise Rosser this year so a big thank you to them at the end of their 3 years. Sadly we have also lost Leon Bartosiak and Elaine Shimbart so will need two more people to replace them. We therefore need 5 new members to serve on the PCC – 3 for 3 years and 2 for 2 years. This will be sorted out at the first PCC meeting. We have 5 people who have filled in forms and volunteered to join the PCC – **Dawn Hyett**, proposed by Anne Morgan and seconded by Jane Cook; **Colin Monk**, proposed by Barbara Clark and seconded by Linda Wainwright; **Barbie Lloyd**, proposed by Richard Spurgeon and seconded by David Palmer; **John Towns**, proposed by Jennefer Higginbottom and seconded by Tony Rice-Oxley and **Candy Williams**, proposed by Wendy Pearce and seconded by Margaret Deal. Fr Mike asked if everyone is happy to elect Dawn, Colin, Barbie, John and Candy to the PCC. This was proposed by David Cavey, seconded by Margaret Symonds and agreed unanimously. Fr Mike said that we now have our full quota on the PCC.
8. **ELECTION OF SIDESPERSONS:** Dick Handy read out the full list of names of people on the sidespersons rota. Dick said we do need a replacement for Leon who was a sidesperson for many years. Fr Mike asked whether there was anyone else who would like to be added to the sidespersons list – no-one volunteered. Acceptance of the list of sidespersons was proposed by Adrienne Bridger, seconded by Lynn Winter and agreed unanimously. If anyone else would like to join please see Fr Mike or Dick Handy.

9. **INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:**

Churchwardens: Full report in the APCM report. Margaret said she would like to add grateful thanks for the services of our Clergy and their wives and Tony Rice-Oxley for following through the actions from the Quinquennial report and for all he does in chairing the Fabric and Finance Committee. Fr Mike explained about some of the items which came up in the report which need to be addressed over the next 5 years.

Secretary/Treasurer's Annual Report: Jane Cook said there was nothing further to add to this report. Fr Mike expressed thanks to Jane for her work as Secretary of the PCC.

Fr Mike advised that Sandra Hewett, as well as being **Child Protection Officer** and **Youth Coordinator** will also be **Vulnerable Persons Coordinator** and will be going on a course to find out about this.

Website – Fr Mike said that John Johnson is in charge of this excellent website and should be congratulated.

Tony R-O said that there are worries about the **Magazine**. Businesses are in trouble in this present climate and around 6 of the major advertisers have dropped out. He asked that if people are getting any work done they look in the magazine and tell the firm that is where they have seen their advert.

Servers - Fr Mike read out a nice letter from the Bishop who had enjoyed the Confirmation Service on 23rd April and congratulated the servers and musicians.

The full reports are available in the Annual Report which you have downloaded or received a hard copy of. Fr Mike asked if anyone had any questions and none were put forward.

Fr Mike thanked all the clergy – Fr Timon whose ordination to priest will take place on Saturday 4th July at 6 pm at the Cathedral and he will celebrate his first mass on the Sunday at 11 am (to give his family / friends time to get to Waterlooville) followed by a BBQ lunch on the lawn outside. He will have his brother and father who are both ordained joining him in the service. Welcome to Bishop Godfrey and Sally and thanks for standing in and helping and taking a service on a Wednesday once a month. Also Fr Mark who is seeking a parish post

after leaving the Navy. A big thank you to Fr Ray and June who have been here a long time now for all they do.

10. **It is proposed by the PCC that starting at the APCM of St George's Church, Waterlooville in 2010, Churchwardens should be elected for a maximum of 6 years instead of the current 4 years. This brings St George's into line with the nationally recommended period of service.**

Discussion took place on the above.

Questions/comments as follows:

Winifred Mancz – will it not be harder to get Churchwardens for 6 years? Fr Mike pointed out that Churchwardens have to be re-elected every year so there is an opportunity for them to stand down.

Andrew Clark – he didn't think that would work because people wouldn't want to lose face by standing down.

Lynn Winter – thinks 6 years is too long a time.

Barbie Lloyd – totally agreed with Lynn, thinks people will commit for 4 years but not 6 years.

David Hodgens asked for the views of the current Churchwardens:

Richard Spurgeon - said he had done 4 years previously and 2 years away but does not really feel he is into the swing of it yet. There is a benefit with 6 years in terms of experience and getting to grips with the job.

Margaret Symonds – said she proposed to the PCC that Churchwardens are appointed for 3 years a while ago.

Anna Richardson – said Churchwardens do have the option to stand down.

Julia Spurgeon – said it would affect Richard as he would have to stand for 3 years plus a further 3 years if this came in.

Sue Hodgens – asked if there is any training for Churchwardens. Fr Mike said there is now and Richard and Margaret have been invited to a training course next week.

Winifred Mancz – said there is a good book available from the Bible Bookshop in Chichester which tells you all you need to know.

Andrew Clark – as the Treasurer's job becomes more and more difficult and if we are in the position that we don't have anyone to audit the accounts, the Churchwardens would have to take on this responsibility.

David Cavey – felt that although Churchwardens can step down after a year this would be a very difficult decision to take.

Adina Burton – felt that you might feel as if you were losing face if you gave up before your time.

Adrienne Bridger – understood that Churchwardens were elected for a year at a time and for a maximum of 6 years. Fr Mike said yes this

is correct as they have to be re-elected each year.

Vote on the proposal put forward by the PCC to change to 6 years – Those in agreement with this 22, those against 32. Therefore churchwardens will still be elected for 4 years but there is nothing to stop the PCC putting this proposal forward again next year.

11. **It is also proposed by the PCC that starting at the APCM of St George's Church, Waterloo in 2010, PCC members seeking re-election will be able to stand immediately. The current rule prohibiting for one year re-election to the PCC will be dropped.**

Colin Monk brought this to PCC and explained why.

Winifred Mancz asked if it is getting harder to get people to stand for things. Fr Mike said no that is not true but people are reticent to stand for things. Non-church voluntary organisations are looking at the churches with envy as so many people do voluntary work for the church. Fr Ray said he has worked in the voluntary sector since 1992 and it is very hard to get people to do things and the church leads the way. David Cavey said he has just come off the PCC and feels he should voice his opposition to it quite strongly. He feels that if the same people stay on the PCC for a long time other people will be worried about standing against them. Rosemary Monk asked if we are able to co-opt people with special talents on to the PCC and Fr Mike said yes this has already happened but they need to be co-opted each year. Up to half of the PCC members can be co-opted. Dick Handy said that today shows that we are still able to recruit the necessary numbers on to the PCC. Adrienne asked if there is an option that if no-one comes forward that someone already on the PCC could re-stand. As already said people can be co-opted.

Vote on the proposal put forward by the PCC that the current rule prohibiting for one year re-election to the PCC will be dropped. For the rule to be dropped 16, against 36. Therefore the proposal is dropped but there is nothing to stop the PCC asking for it to come back for discussion against next year.

12. **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:** That Gordon Beer be appointed as Independent Examiner for the next year. This was agreed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 12.25 and was followed by the Parish lunch.

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH – ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009

Background

St George's Church has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent (The Reverend Mike Sheffield) in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the churchyard and church hall. During 2009 St George's held two services every Sunday (a said Eucharist at 8.00 am and a sung Eucharist at 10.00 am). Normally there has been an evening service at least twice a month with one being traditional evensong sung by the Church choir. Other services have included Taize services, special festival services and a healing Eucharist. Our partnership churches were invited to the Taize services and there was a good response with refreshments after the service. The Sunday School and Youth Club were actively involved in the monthly Family Eucharists.

Membership

Members of the PCC are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The following served as members of the PCC:

Incumbent: The Reverend Mike Sheffield Chairman
Fr Timon Singh, Assistant Curate

Ex Officio: Mrs Jane Cook (Secretary)
Mrs Carol McKells (Treasurer)

Wardens: Mrs Margaret Symonds
Mr Richard Spurgeon

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:
Lindsay Chalk
Linda Wainwright

Elected Members:
Mr Dick Handy
Mr David Hodgens
Mrs Dawn Hyett
Mrs Barbie Lloyd
Mr Colin Monk
Mr David Palmer
Mrs Julie Spurgeon
Mr John Towns
Mrs Candy Williams

Co-opted Members:

Mr Colin Monk Co-opted Hall Chairman
Mr Tony Rice-Oxley Deanery Finance Chairman

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees/groups, which meet between full meetings of the PCC.

Church Attendance

There are 166 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, 84 of these are outside the parish, 19 new members and 5 sadly removed through death. The average weekly attendance, counted during October 2009, was 110 adults and 20 children including weekday attendances, but this number increased at festivals.

Review of the Year

The full PCC met 11 times during the year, with an average attendance of 75%. Fabric, Finance, Pastoral, Social and Fundraising and Hall sub-committees continued to meet in the interim, to enable items to be discussed in more detail, and reported back to the full PCC. The PCC will continue to invite outgoing Churchwardens to remain on the PCC for a further year to provide continuity.

Comprehensive budget accounts continue to be e-mailed to PCC members before the meeting to give people a chance to send any questions to Carol so they can be answered at the meeting and save time.

We have supported over 20 wide-ranging charities, both at home and overseas, in particular £416 to the Children's Society (a large part of which came from a very successful Christingle Service on Christmas Eve), £300 to our linked parish, St. Mary Axim, Ghana, continued support of four children under the African Child Trust Scheme. Other benefiting charities included Biblelands, Cardiac Risk in the Young, Practical Actions, MU AFIA, MU Mothering Sunday, Naomi House, Brooke Hospital, Rowans Hospice, Hannah's Holiday Home, Portsmouth Samaritans, Barnabas Aid, Water Aid, DEC/SE Asia Appeal, Havant Portage, Help the Aged, Children's Society, Bishop's Lent Appeal, Christian Aid, St Mary's Axim and Wessex Cancer Trust. These were all retiring collections. Money was constantly being raised for church funds over the year, in particular £3,110 at the Summer Fete, £1,579 at the Christmas Bazaar, £3,000 from the St George's Shop and £3,040 from the sale of plants, bulbs and votives throughout the year.

The giving through envelopes and banker's orders has increased to £30,518, excluding tax. The tax recovered on all Gift Aid donations for the year was £10,085. £803, excluding tax, was raised on the St George's Day Gift Day. Contributions on the collection plate raised £2,268.

£97,062 was spent to provide the Christian Ministry from St. George's Church, including the full contribution to the parish share of £49,541, an increase of 1.94%. Our remaining fund balances are invested with the CBF Church of England Investment. £5,000 was withdrawn in September 2009 and the £4,000 borrowed from Hall funds in 2008 repaid.

Mr Gordon Beer MA (Cantab) FCA, has again kindly agreed to examine the Accounts and the PCC are very grateful to him for the time he has spent on this.

The following has happened during the course of the year and most will be written about in more detail in the following reports:

- The Quinquennial inspection took place in November 2008. The work that needs doing is going to cost in the region of £50,000 and you will be hearing much more about this and how we are going to try and raise this money.
- The Parish breakfasts were still very popular and will continue
- Waterloo Music Festival – for the fourth year another very successful festival was held in June
- Two Christmas concerts were held on 4th and 7th December with local schools taking part. This was again very popular with over 800 people attending.
- Travelling Nativity again went round the parish during advent and was very popular
- The Mothers Union set up an Advent Journey in church which proved to be very popular.
- A 40th Anniversary Committee was set up to look at plans for celebrating this event during 2010/11 and several things are planned over the year.

On behalf of the PCC

Carol McKells, Treasurer
Jane Cook, Secretary

Signed: _____
The Reverend Mike Sheffield

April 2010

Treasurer's Report 2009

Incorporating all the Church group finances with the main Church and Hall Accounts, the final figures initially show a surplus of £11,640. If depreciation of the Church Hall at 2% amounts to £3123, the surplus reduces to £8,517. We must also take into account the successful results from Fundraising, as this cannot be relied upon every year. This exceeded budget by £3,800 and, together with the increased value of Investments at £4,200, the surplus is further reduced to a mere £500.

At the end of 2009 the PCC repaid the loan of £4000, which was borrowed from Hall funds in 2008. £5,000 was withdrawn from Investment funds initially to pay for work resulting from the Quinquennial inspection but work did not get underway as intended and it was therefore decided by the PCC that the Hall loan should be repaid.

For another year St George's hosted the Waterloo Music Festival and the PCC received a generous donation of £800 from that source. Other major donations received included £585 from the 100 Club, £1,000 from the Social & Fundraising Committee (including Friday Coffee Funds) and £300 from the Bonus Ball. Also donated to the General Account was £750 from the Charities Aid Foundation.

Donations from Planned Giving exceeded the budget by over £2,600 for which we received £10,085 in Gift Aid tax recovery, an increase on 2008 of £1871.

Interest on bank and building society accounts amounted to £75 and the value of PCC investments increased by £4,199. Taking into account the withdrawal of £5,000, the Investment fund is currently valued at £48,554. Throughout 2009 £2,373 was received as dividends.

Dividends earned on the Hall Deposit Account were re-invested and the current value of that account stands at £12,203. Over the year a net figure of £7,000 has been transferred to the Hall Deposit Account, which was achieved due to another successful year from Church Hall lettings

Fundraising again exceeded expectations by over £3,800. This was achieved by the dedication and commitment of all St. George's fundraisers, together with a very successful Shop. Costs for fundraising mostly covered the purchase of bulbs, for which the PCC earned £2,495 in bulb and plant sales, bringing a very good return on the initial outlay.

Charity giving exceeded £5,200 and we have supported a wide range of Charities both at home and overseas. Funds generated by the Wednesday Coffee Mornings have also supported a variety of Charities together with donations to the Church Hall.

The Accounts continue to include the 'Extra-ordinary' categories. These have again been used to record unbudgeted items. The major items of unbudgeted expenditure include £587 for repairs to the stained glass, £729 for memorials and £100 PCC donation towards Bishop Kenneth's retirement collection.

The budget for 2009 was again very tight. It is difficult to predict income based on the generosity of those who support St. George's Church, against the knowledge that expenditure is likely to increase each year. Forming a realistic budget may not always be possible but will hopefully guide us through the year.

My thanks go to the Fabric & Finance Committee for all the work they put in and also for their support, together with the support of the PCC. On behalf of St. George's Church, my thanks are also due to Mr Gordon Beer, MA (Cantab) FCA, for examining the Accounts for another year without charge.

A summary of the Accounts is shown overleaf and the full version is displayed on the Church notice board. Copies are available on request.

Carol Mckells
Honorary Treasurer to the PCC

**ST GEORGE THE MARTYR, WATERLOOVILLE
COMBINED ACCOUNTS OVERVIEW FOR 2009**

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	2009 YEAR TOTAL	YEAR'S BUDGET For PCC Account	2008 YEAR TOTAL
INCOME					
Planned Giving S/Orders	24,929.00		24,929.00	23,000	23,677.00
Planned Giving Green Env	6,494.00		6,494.00	5,800.00	5,899.68
Gift Aided Pink Envelopes	5,589.62		5,589.62	4,100.00	4,158.27
Gift Aid Tax	10,084.82		10,084.82	8,000.00	8,214.11
General Collections	2,267.57		2,267.57	1,200.00	1,502.25
Gift Days	803.00		803.00	500.00	545.00
Donations & Appeals	5,257.92	1,507.37	6,765.29	5,250.00	6,705.00
Liturgical Donations		710.62	710.62	750.00	
Bookstall	413.78		413.78	300.00	332.90
Parish Magazine Advertising	662.50		662.50	1,000.00	790.00
Parish Magazine Sales	494.29		494.29	400.00	452.04
Fees received (PCC)	5,178.00		5,178.00	3,400.00	3,061/00
Fees received (Assigned)	3,339.00		3,339.00	2,600.00	2,493.00
Fete, Bazaar, Fund Raising	11,815.31	1,232.48	13,047.79	8,000.00	9,100.84
Sales	3,040.37		3,040.37	2,600.00	2,620.26
Photocopying Income	401.20		401.20	600.00	440.79
Income from Investments/Bank	2,440.10	7.74	2,447.84	1,300.00	2,782.65
Unbudgetted items:					
Other Funds (Charities)		3,954.32	3,954.32		3,593.15
Hall Lettings	12,576.84		12,576.84		11,478.11
Youth Group Activities		1,331.88	1,331.88		2,849.54
Social Committee		593.88	593.88		
Ex.ord Income	2,050.52	100.00	2,150.52		16,264.06
Corrections and Adjustments					
TOTALS	97,837.84	9,438.29	107,276.13		106,959.75

**ST GEORGE THE MARTYR, WATERLOOVILLE
COMBINED ACCOUNTS OVERVIEW FOR 2009**

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	2009 YEAR TOTAL	YEAR'S BUDGET For PCC Account	2008 YEAR TOTAL
EXPENDITURE					
Parish Share	49,541.00		49,541.00	49,541.00	48,597.00
Gas/Elec/Water Insurance	2,861.09		2,861.09	2,600.00	2,776.56
Church and Grounds Maintenance	1,599.74		1,599.74	2,300.00	757.94
Clergy Expenses	2,976.06		2,976.06	2,800.00	2,723.18
Asst Clergy Expenses	1,856.68		1,856.68	1,200.00	
Liturgical Costs		1,528.21	1,528.21	1,200.00	1,229.14
Magazine, Bookstall & Bulletin	721.89		721.89	659.00	661.65
Piano and Organ tune	304.90		304.90	500.00	458.00
Honoraria and Salaries	3,044.00		3,044.00	3,000.00	3,297.50
Administration	1,738.36		1,738.36	1,880.00	1,912.96
Photocopier Costs	1,854.44		1,854.44	1,500.00	1,587.08
Assigned Fees	3,339.00		3,339.00	1,400.00	2,526.00
Fees paid out	885.00		885.00	1,000.00	930.00
Capitation Fee	80.00		80.00	60.00	60.00
Fundraising & Sales costs	906.24	580.00	1,486.24	550.00	
Unbudgetted items:					
Ex.Ord. Outgoing	2,473.94	100.00	2,573.94		19,860.73
Hall Running Costs	8,737.00		8,737.00		8,804.46
Hall Depreciation @ 2%	3,123.00		3,123.00		3,187.00
Youth Group Activities		1,142.18	1,142.18		2,723.59
Social Committee		969.36	969.36		
Giving to Charities		5,273.48	5,273.48		4,743.25
Bank Interest and charges					37.27
Corrections/Adjustments	0.50		0.50		
TOTALS	86,042.84	9,593.23	95,636.07		108,690.89

Churchwardens Report

"One morning a lady comes into the kitchen dressed in her Sunday best and ready for Church. She is worried to find her husband still in his dressing gown, unshaved and munching toast.

"Aren't you coming to church this morning?" she asks.

"No, I'm not going this morning. In fact, I'm not going to church anymore... at all."

"What do you mean, we've gone to church together all these years. Why have you changed?"

He pouts like a toddler and says, "It's Sunday. I'm tired. Other people get a lie in. I went last week. I'M NOT GOING!"

The lady replies, "Get upstairs and dress for church! You've got to go... ..you're the Priest."

I'm Richard Spurgeon.

Margaret Symonds and I have been the Churchwardens at St. George's through 2009. It's my turn to write the annual Churchwarden's report.

1. I need to thank everyone.
2. I must not upset anyone with an omission or a badly chosen phrase.
3. I have to mention the future without worrying everyone about money... (I'm sorry Margaret, I'm not sure I'll live up to these aspirations.)

Thank you to our fabulous clergy to Father Mike, Father Timon, Father Ray and to Bishop Godfrey. Thank you to their generous families whose support is so vital.

Thank you to the servers, so ably led by David Palmer. Thank you to the Church Band, to Cecil our Organist, and to the Church Choir. We are very fortunate that they give their talents to enhance the liturgy which we cherish. Thank you to June and Adrienne for all their work with vestments and candles and preparing the Church for services.

Thank you to the many people who clean and decorate the Church and gardens.

Thank you to our Sunday school and Youth club workers and parents.

Thank you to the PCC, our Secretary Jane and Treasurer Carol.

Thank you to all the sub committees and to the social and fundraising committee.

Thank you to the 'meeters and greeters' and to the sidespeople.

Thank you to the chalice assistants, those who deliver home communion, the readers and those who prepare intercessions.

What a list!

An indication of just how much is going on at St. George's.

I think we ought to give ourselves a pat on the back. A brief moment of self congratulation perhaps. A small indulgence to ourselves for our respective

contribution.

St. George's is vibrant, it welcomes newcomers and old friends to a tremendous variety of worship and community events. Busy and loud family services, quiet and reflective Taize services - a balance of modern and tradition that both reflects our diversity and offers heartfelt worship throughout the Church year. It does this with your support - Thank you.

Some of 2009's highlights include the Eurovision revisited show - rarely would I congratulate any Welsh team but "Knock Knock... who's there?" came out on top after a fabulous evening's entertainment.

Then there was the Gourmet food evening, another event revealing this time that St George's has talent in the kitchen.

During the year St George's both held a preparation course and hosted a confirmation service.

I always felt privileged to meet and pray with Bishop Kenneth. I know that lots of you join me in offering prayers that he and his family enjoy a long, comfortable retirement.

Many congratulations to the candidates who were confirmed at that service. You will grow in the love of Christ. We hope that you continue that journey here at St. George's.

We continue to try and build healthy relations with our Kairos partner churches. Thank you Margaret for the work put in to ensure the success of the Horse Race Night and Tea party events.

St. George's was again well represented at both the Good Friday procession of the Cross and the Christmas Carol events with other Waterlooville churches. Taking our faith a few hundred yards into the shopping precinct can be challenging but there is no doubt that the Holy spirit works through us. If people outside the Church only see the closed doors, or us coming and going, they will never have their curiosity piqued. They might never hear that there are real people in their own community whose language is compassion, forgiveness, generosity and love.

Although it's out of date order I'd like to mention the two December schools carol concerts in the context of how St George's is thought of by the wider community. It is a great blessing for us to enjoy the singing of the visiting children but it is also vital that both the young and impressionable visitors and their families continue to receive a warm welcome and a positive experience here.

Continuing 2009's highlights, in June, Waterlooville Music Festival was again blessed with good weather, many fine performances and a delightful atmosphere. Thank you to everyone who contributed. The 2010 event is coming soon and your help this year will be gratefully received.

I am delighted to recall Father Timon's ordination to the priesthood and his first mass in July. What a pleasure it was to welcome so many of his friends and family here. I'm sure that you will join me in congratulating Father Timon on his first months in this ministry and to wish him the very best for the future.

It is with great sadness that I include in this report a reflection on some dear friends who passed away last year. Especially Leon Bartosiak and Sue Palmer. Both Sue and Leon contributed very generously to the life of St. George's. That their deaths were so sudden increases the shock and deepens the hurt. Our love and prayers go to their families and friends. As to the future - have faith - we will meet the challenges.

You will hear in great detail over the coming weeks that we need to change the scale of our planned giving. Repairs to the tower roof will completely wipe out the Church's modest reserve funds. We shall need in future, not only to raise sufficient for our yearly needs, but enough to restore those reserves in time for the next major expense. It is both bad planning and an unfair burden on the fundraising committee to ask them to shore up St. George's finances year after year. We must dig deep and give the Church all that it needs through planned giving. That way we will be free to concentrate more energies on building the positive, vibrant, compassionate and welcoming community that Jesus calls us to be.

Margaret stands down from Churchwarden at the APCM and I would like to express your gratitude for all that she has contributed during the last four years - Thank you."

Richard Spurgeon

St George's Church Hall Report

As the Hall approaches its 100th birthday there appears to be a never ending need for TLC.

Last summer saw the need to replace the rotten floor in the old back kitchen with a new solid concrete one. We took the opportunity to take out the old sink and cupboards and have now been able to turn it into a store room thus freeing up the Committee Room for use.

The roof continues to give cause for concern with leaks appearing every so often. This is mainly caused by the nails which hold the slates rusting away.

The hall is regularly used during the week and here my thanks must go to our cleaner, Viv, for always keeping it looking so clean. My thanks also go to Anne Willoughby for continuing to look after bookings and to David Cavey for all his work in sending out accounts and looking after the books. Without their support, and the help of other members of the Committee (Tony Rice-Oxley, David Palmer, Julia and Richard Spurgeon and Denise Rosser), my role as Chairman would be very arduous.

One problem that we continually face as a Committee is the waste of gas and electricity where users leave the hall and do not turn off fires or lights. Could I please ask all users to make somebody responsible for checking these so that we do not get nasty shocks when the bills arrive.

Colin Monk
Chair, Hall Committee

The Mothers' Union Branch Report

Our year commenced with the formal admission of two new members, Audrey Mentor and Gillian Griffiths and the commendation of Wendy Clark, who had earlier been admitted at another branch. Peggy Thomson has received her long service certificate from the President, Sheila King. Membership stands at 23, including two Diocesan Members, Rosemary Monk and Candy Williams and our three Indoor Members, whom we visit as often as we can. We provided a 90th birthday cake in QA hospital for Vi Nicklen. She has subsequently moved to a nursing home at Horndean. **We all need to seek new members if the Branch is to survive beyond its 100th year.**

Shortly after becoming a member Gillian Griffiths took on the role of Hon Treasurer, for which we are very grateful.

Fundraising this year included a Coffee Morning, prior to the AGM, in aid of our 100th birthday fund. A delightful Garden Party, held in the garden of Pam and Eric Dinneen, raised £266.98 for the MU Overseas Fund. An anonymous gift of £100 was generously donated to this good cause by one of our members.

In May Margaret took part in a sponsored walk around part of Portsmouth Harbour. £142 was raised to help a family to attend the AFIA Holiday in August. Sales of Christmas Cards and Calendars raised over £350 and £55 was collected as gift aided donations on behalf of St George's Baghdad. We supported our church by running Homemade Cake stalls at the Summer Fete which raised £189.65 and at the Bazaar which raised £139.36. We thank all who baked for and packed and served on these occasions. Many bags of bedding, clothing, books, toiletries and a Christmas Hamper have been sent to the Havant Women's Aid [Refuge] together with a Christmas card for each family. Letters of grateful thanks have been received.

Our programme commenced with the annual Epiphany Party, to which women from The Sacred Heart Church, Waterlooville Baptist Church and MU members from Denmead, Christ Church and Cowplain were welcomed and

at which each person received a small gift. Some of us attended the Advent Service to which we were invited by the Branch at Cowplain.

We lunched at the Fox and Hounds Pub, Funtington, before proceeding to West Dean Gardens, for our Branch Outing. There we found an unusual exhibition of memorial stones, placed all over the grounds. Compline was held in the West Dean Church, after tea and before departure.

Once again we held a Quiet Day, at the restful home of Pam Dinneen. It was led by Sally Ashby. Before she slipped away she left us each with a poem, written by the Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy, upon which to meditate. Our Lenten Meditation was led by Sue Smith and we spent an afternoon considering the theme for the year, 'The Cost of Relationship, led by Anne Compton, our Diocesan Training Officer. Several outstanding talks were enjoyed. Audrey Mentor described her early life in China and her work with the charity 'Save the Children'. 'Street Pastors of Portsmouth' was the title of a very enlightening account by Elly Muluamey. Our Curate, Rev Timon Singh, assisted by members of his family spoke to us on 'The Wood of the Cross' and gave each of us a copy of a poem 'The Wood of Salvation' which he had written for us.

We tried a new venture, with limited success. The Committee Members held an evening 'At Home', with supper provided, to which the women of St George's congregation were invited. It was held at the home of Jennefer Higginbottom. Sandra Goodey from Botley Branch helped with the entertainment.

The Mary Sumner Day Service held at St Philip's Church, Cosham was well attended as was the Lady Day Service at St Nicholas Church Centre, Bedhampton. Whilst there we said 'Goodbye' to our retiring MU Chaplain, Canon Bruce Carpenter. We welcome Revd Barry Smith as our new Chaplain.

We enjoyed a short summer service and Strawberry Tea at All Saint's Church, Catherington. A few of us attended the Barn Dance, held in the Dockyard in aid of AFIA. Several of us joined the Havant Deanery Outing to Sherborne whilst in August 3 of us went on a tour of Mary Sumner House before attending Evensong in Westminster Abbey. A good number attended and participated in the Wednesday Eucharist at the Cathedral last January. Seven of us went by coach to the MU General Meeting, which was held in the Fairfield Hall and three of us were thrilled by the outstanding Flower Festival and entertainment in our Cathedral last July, where the MU provided the beautiful refreshments. Sadly only three of us were at the MU

Diocesan Festival Service at Portsmouth Cathedral in July. We must do better this year.

The year ended with a short Advent Service after which members read seasonal items of poetry and prose of their personal choice.

We thank June Bradley for generously supplying us with tea and biscuits at the branch meetings. We also thank our Hon Secretary, Jean Goddard, who faithfully remembers every birthday, and other events too with a card. I thank all members for their unfailing support in all we endeavour to do. Visitors of all ages and gender are welcome to our meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of each month, in the Hall at 2.15 pm.

Remember the Family Fun Day, Saturday 22nd May and our 100th Anniversary Service on Sunday 21st November. Please invite your family and friends to these events.

Margaret Symonds
Branch Leader

Pastoral Committee

We have continued with our popular Taize style services and increasing numbers, especially for our last service, gives this style of worship an added value to our church community

Again we hosted the very popular and successful School's Music Concert at Christmas, this year surpassing all expectations. Because of the number of schools involved it was decided to hold two separate concerts and in doing so we saw over 800 pupils and family attend.

In the run up to Christmas in 2009, we continued the successful "Shoe Box" collection for parcels of toys and presents to be sent to poorer countries.

Our Parish Breakfast events continue to be very successful and well attended. Although there is no charge, monies raised through donations help to provide funding for some of the smaller expense items, this year purchasing some additional Service Books for younger children.

The St George's Church Prayer Card for visitors and congregation continue to be very popular and we are still working on producing Post Cards of our church which can be purchased by congregation or visitors.

Through the next year we will continue to develop an enhanced "Welcome Booklet", Church Postcards and support to the 40th Anniversary celebrations being planned for 2010. We are also in the process of producing copies of all of our Sunday Service books for the visually impaired and will analyse requirements for other materials to be produced in larger print sizes.

My very sincere thanks to all those on the Pastoral committee and all of you from the congregation who have assisted us throughout the year.

Richard Handy
Chair of Pastoral Committee

Youth Coordinator

Since my last report things may be taking a slight change. I will continue to visit Youth Groups if I can, but I am busy with lots of other things. It has been suggested that I have a photo of myself put on the Youth Club & Sunday School boards and maybe at the back of Church, with an explanation of who I am, along with my contact details. If any problems arise, I will then take it to the Pastoral Committee and non pastoral items being further carried to full PCC. I hope to continue with this role to keep our children and young people happy and safe.

Sandra Hewett
Youth Coordinator

Child Protection

As you are all aware there is a legal requirement that all volunteers who work with children and young people are checked by Criminal Records Bureau (C.R.B). Since my last report I have continued to be very busy checking volunteers in their new roles, processing the necessary forms which I then validate and send on to be counter signed by the Diocese of Portsmouth. The forms are then sent to the C.R.B for clearance. This process is still running smoothly, I hope to continue this role with the support of the PCC and Pastoral Committee.

Sandra Hewett
Child Protection Representative and Validator

St George's Ladies' Group

St George's Ladies Group meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Their selected charity for 2009 was the "Hampshire Air Ambulance".

We had a varied year starting with a talk on the Arboretum Memorial by Owen Neal and an Auction and Cheese and Wine evening in January. In February Fr Ray Chapman came and gave us a talk on "Life in a Mine" and Kevin Barnett talked about Portsmouth Water Company. In March Gordon Humby gave a talk on the RSPB and the Rev Alan Martin a talk on Jerusalem Botanic Gardens. In April we had Skittles at Southwick Park and Mr Lee came and gave us a talk on Gosport and Fareham Inshore Rescue. In May Jane McBride talked to us about Solent Fuchsia Club and we had a Dragon Ladies visit. In June Paul Bowers gave a talk on the Inca Trail and on the 11th June we had our AGM and Bring and Buy.

On the 9th July we held our end of season supper before the summer break. We started back in September with a talk by Ma Simon Parsons on British Wireless for the Blind and a talk by Ruth Warren on Mishaps of a Church Organist. In October Tony Rice-Oxley came and talked to us about the House of Wax History and Sarah Sencott on Canine Partners Assistance. In November we had a talk by Owen Rugby on Old Hall Tableware and an Open Meeting with the Phoenix Singers. On 3rd December our Christmas dinner was held at the Hoggs Lodge.

Mrs Anne Brown
Chairperson

George's Men

Over the course of the last year George's Men have continued to meet monthly with a varied and enjoyable programme.

Early events included a winter get together at the vicarage, a cribbage evening and Stations of the Cross followed by a social evening.

In May we visited the FFF Brewery in Alton where a tour was followed by the provision of generous samples and buffet. (The lengths some people will go to in order to try and get their products into Waterlooville Music Festival!)

Summer meetings included cricket at Glendene and croquet at Edge of Beyond, both of which were followed by a barbecue. In June we were invited

to share Fr. Timon's journey from his early days in the Punjab to his arrival in Waterlooville, a fascinating evening.

In the autumn we joined with the Tweenies for a pickle evening (no not the alcoholic type, well not initially anyway) and also had the opportunity of sampling the 'Rhythm of Life' where Don Lloyd put us through our paces.

The final meeting was our Christmas skittles evening at the Barley Mow in Walderton. While the level of skill displayed by the 22 who attended varied considerably the supper and fellowship was greatly enjoyed by all.

All men who worship at St George's are welcome at any of our meetings.

David Cavey
George's Men

Tweenies

You'd think that with so many of the Tweenies possessing lovely singing voices, that Nigel Morgan could have been able to stomach the Sing-a-Long a Mamma Mia which Anne hosted at her house in February. However, it was quite a noisy evening - we sang our little hearts out and never saw Nigel for the whole evening!

The Tweenies followed a do-it- yourself Lent course and this was well received during March. We had quiet evenings, noisy evenings, teach-ins and discussion. Everyone felt that there was something for them.

Yet again the evening walk in June was rained off - I said this in last year's report, so better luck in 2010. Neither was the weather inviting enough for a swim at Jane Rice-Oxley's house in June, so we barbequed instead. Rumour has it that Jules went swimming, (but no-one saw her!) Funnily enough, the chocoholic paradise evening with a chocolate fountain in the autumn was very popular, as was listening to Fr. Timon's account of his trip to the Holy Land.

A minibus load of Tweenies played skittles at Walderton in November and this was followed in December with a pre-Christmas games evening. Some Tweenies finished up with lots of prizes, but I was assured there was no cheating going on - I wonder....

What has been good this year has been the continuing number of original members - some of whom have retired, changed jobs, had grandchildren, but

also an influx of new members. This keeps the group fresh and on its feet. Long may the members encourage each other in friendship and fellowship.

Lynda Sheffield

Walsingham Cell Report

It was with great excitement that 23 pilgrims set out for Walsingham in April. The reason for the excitement was the presence of many new pilgrims - Fr. Timon, Noreen, Tabitha and Benjamin, Abi Morgan, David Cavey, Margot Farrell, Dawn Hyett, Lindsay Chalk, Jules Shepherd. We travelled with our friends from St. Alban's, West Leigh and St. Faith's, Havant.

We are always lucky with the weather and yet again, the sun shone on us. The outdoor processions were enhanced by St. George's enormous contribution - that of the numerous and dignified serving team. Fr. Timon, being the only deacon there, was invited to deacon at the main mass. St. George's congregation was very proud.

Accommodation was varied this year, but the ladies did rather well. The 6 noisy ones were banished to a separate house over the road. This house was soon affectionately known as 'the Hen House!'. We won't comment on the numbers of visitors, or the number of bottles that appeared to enter.

Yet again, it was a great weekend and the Walsingham prayer cell has a membership of 25. This meets a few times throughout the year. More information from Lynda Sheffield.

Lynda Sheffield

Holy Dusters

We have four teams cleaning the church, which works out just over an hour each per month – not much to ask people to volunteer – men or women. We like the church to look clean and welcoming all the time especially as the church is open every day from approximately 9 am to 3 pm. We hope you will call in and ensure everything is all right!

Contact Adina or Tony R-O if you can help us.

Adina Burton

Church Flower Fund

With thanks to the small band of people who keep the Fund afloat, for donated artificial flowers and for the invaluable help of the flower arrangers.

June Diaper and Lynn Winter

Bible Reading Fellowship

Sixteen people now regularly subscribe to the Bible Reading Fellowship New Daylight notes. The group discount rate for the new subscription year starting in May 2010 is £3.80 per copy issued 3 times a year. I can easily organise any of the BRF notes for new subscribers on request at any time. Please ask.

Linda Wainwright

Deanery Synod Report

There have been 4 meetings during the past 12 months, the first at St Francis Leigh Park on 7th July 2009. The Rev'd Canon David Isaac, Head of Mission and Discipleship at the Diocese gave a presentation about his team responsible for liturgy, vocation/ordination, healing, spirituality, resources, youth work and lay discipleship. Booklets about training courses available for both lay and clergy members are issued regularly and sent to parishes. The Strategy for Ministry for Mission project was announced. There will be a series of consultations for everyone in the Diocese on how ministry lay and clergy can be deployed and developed. A report by Angela Herring on the Koforidua Palm Oil Plantation project stated that £2,000 had been sent and used to pay for a pump, housing for a labourer/security guard and some equipment. Various elections for lay and clergy representatives for Diocesan Synod took place and Deanery finance report circulated confirming capitation fees of £1340 had been paid in full. The first part of the Kairos Buildings Phase had been completed in most parishes with group partnership meetings to follow.

The second meeting was held at St Thomas Bedhampton on 24th September. Archdeacon Trevor Reader commissioned the new Area Dean, Rev'd Jonathan Jeffery (previously Paul Moore). Rev'd Anne Lindsay, Hospital Chaplain for Portsmouth NHS Trust at QA Hospital gave a very informative talk explaining the mission of the chaplaincy team (6 chaplains and 40

volunteer assistants at present) is to provide spiritual support for patients, families and staff of all faiths or none. The team enjoy good relations with the Trust and are involved in planning meetings. Because of the patient confidentiality there is a need for the patient, relative or friend to contact the team. On finance £3,000 had been sent to Koforidua to start the stipend project. Strategy for Mission for Ministry meetings had looked at the challenge of reduction in stipendiary ministers – 40% of clergy are due to retire in the next few years. Working in partnerships and clusters was discussed as well as looking at financial implications, boundaries, vocation and leadership. A summary of the findings will go to Diocesan Synod in November. A short update on Kairos Building Phase was given – some areas are falling behind. The West of Waterloo Development plan for a church school and funded community worker still stand. However Southwick Estate are now unwilling to change their parish boundaries. Introduction of a timed agenda proved very successful at this meeting.

The next meeting took place at St George's Waterloo on 25th November. We extended a warm welcome to Synod members and issued a leaflet about the parish to everyone emphasising our mission and community work. Sue Rodgers gave a presentation on the workings of General Synod. She is one of 3 elected clergy (Ven Peter Hancock, Rev'd Canon David Isaac and Rev'd Canon Bob White). General Synod meets twice yearly (London and York) and discusses legal and financial issues, forward view vision and world-wide issues. The meeting acted out complicated voting procedures and motions need to progress from PCC to Deanery Synod to Diocesan Synod via the Diocesan Synod's Standing Committee, the Bishops Council and if passed there to General Synod. She also spoke later in the meeting about her involvement in the appointment of the new Bishop. Angela Herring gave a report on Koforidua and her visit to Ghana in October - £3,000 for the Stipend Project has now been received. Various elections took place – Anne Stunt remains Deanery Secretary and Alan Elliott from Rowlands Castle becomes Deanery Treasurer with Tony Rice-Oxley remaining as Chair of Deanery Finance Committee. Rev'd Tim Jessiman will serve on Deanery Pastoral Committee. Finance capitation fees to remain at £20 per member for 2010. PCCs congratulated for keeping parish share payments up to date and figures for next year now finalised. Report on Strategy for Ministry for Mission to manage declining numbers of stipendiary clergy drew attention to Dec/Jan Pompey Chimes article outlining ideas and explaining options of Ministry Teams, Group Ministry, community and Minister models. Flexibility will be needed and PCCs are to discuss and report back before end of March 2010.

The final meeting was at St James, Emsworth on 25th February 2010. The Area Dean Jonathan Jeffery gave a presentation on Strategy for Ministry for

Mission emphasising this is to drive change (ie coping with fewer stipendiary clergy) in a managed way to equip the church for mission in the 21st century. The feedback from parishes and individuals will be collated, the Dean overseeing and consulting with our new Bishop and Diocesan Synod will make their recommendations later in the year. The Rev'd Tim Jessiman gave a presentation on Back to Church Sunday which this year will be on 26th September. The theme is "Come as you are" and one to one invitations are proposed. In 2008 37,000 people came and in 2009 105,000. All parishes are encouraged to participate and posters, invitation cards and a training DVD are available for use. On finance 2009 Deanery Accounts duly examined and PCCs thanked for meeting parish share payments in full. Tony Rice-Oxley thanked for his work as treasurer as he stands down from this role. Koforidua Palm Oil project continues but the Stipend project is completed with the addition of £2,000 raised by the Koforiduanans themselves to add to the £3,000 Havant Deanery sent. The Kairos Buildings Phase completed. No enthronement date set yet for new Bishop, Christopher Foster.

Linda Wainwright and Lindsay Chalk

St George's News and Website – www.stgeorgesnews.org

Over the past year the magazine has continued to be supported with a range of interesting articles, for which we are most grateful. We always need new and different material for publication and welcome new contributors particularly, but it is necessary for copyright reasons that items forwarded for publication are original or carry the author's permission.

Advertising has grown following the slump caused by the 'credit crunch' and we are now getting back to near full capacity.

The area of greatest change has been with the website which for 2010 has received a complete makeover bringing it fully up-to-date with a sharp new design and slick navigation. Additions include a much improved photo gallery which will be kept up-to-date with photos of recent St George's events; please help by sending us your photos for inclusion (email to feedback@stgeorgesnews.org) Photos of children need parental permission please.

We have also added a message board forum, where you can post Announcements and News, information and discussion about church organisations, or just chat. There is also a Prayer Group forum. The forum

also contains an RSS News feed facility. This is the place to go for advance notice of what will be going on.... Please take a look and use it to the full!

If you would like to read the Sunday Bulletin before you get your copy on Sunday (or if you are going to be away) then you can read it on the website... Keep up to date with the church diary, all that is happening is listed on the church diary and calendar. Please help us keep this up to date - if you are organising church activities email the date and time (and any subsequent changes) to feedback@stgeorgesnews.org Please help us keep the website calendar accurate.

There is the facility to donate on-line, and of course every magazine is there, going back to 1997. We will be looking at further new innovation and development of the website over the coming year.

Finally, an appeal to please join the St George's News email address system – we are trying to get everyone with an email to have a St George's email address so that it is easy to know where to send an email to anyone – if you are yet to register please do so by sending your email address to feedback@stgeorgesnews.org ... and if you already have a St George's News email address, a reminder please to let us know if your primary email address changes. Adding you email also gets you on to the circulation list and you will receive important and urgent church messages from the Vicar.

Thanks for your support – if you are interested in the magazine and would like to get more involved please let us know.

John Johnson

St George's Servers

St George's is extremely fortunate to have a dedicated group of servers who are prepared to assist in the sanctuary. There are many churches that are envious of the position we find ourselves in, having said that anybody who would like to become a server would be welcomed.

Following on from their confirmation last year, Bethany Sadler and Ben Trimby have joined the serving team. As with all new servers they start as acolytes (candle bearers), and will eventually learn the different roles. Norman Linney who has served for many years at St George's has decided to hang up his alb. Thank you Norman for your dedication to the St George's serving team.

Our serving team still comprise the majority of those attending the monthly Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary's meetings. This gives servers the opportunity to meet servers from other churches in this worship-focused organisation. The guild also arranged a skittles evening as a social event after the service in July, with Lindsay Chalk gaining the highest ladies score.

Various members of the serving team attend the Walsingham Pilgrimage on the weekend after Easter. Imagine how proud Fr Mike must have felt to see all the servers who went (Anne, Abi, Candy, Lesley, Lindsay and Dick) serving at the Saturday evening Eucharist, with Fr Timon as Deacon. In addition, Lesley also was thurifer on the Sunday morning service.

I am grateful to Amy, Francesca, Wendy, Martin and Ben for performing the role of boat girl/boy over the last year. If any other young child would like to perform that role, please let me know, and I will fit you into the rota.

Sorting out the rota can sometimes be a challenge, and I am grateful to Anne and Abi who have assisted me in this task.

I am extremely grateful for the support of my fellow servers over the last year, and especially for each and every one of them for serving at Sue's funeral, for Tony in playing the background music, and for Adrienne in singing in the choir. Thank you also for the support given to me by Fr Mike, Fr Timon, and Fr Ray in what has been a difficult year for me.

It is a privilege to be head server at St George's, and I will continue to undertake this role to the best of my ability.

David Palmer
Head Server

Sunday School

Numbers in Sunday school have slowly increased throughout the year and there are some 30 children on the register. Although it is rare that we see all the children at the same time, most come whenever they are able and we are glad to see them.

During 2009 we have been using a very colourful publication from the Light range produced by Scripture Union. Comprising of 'Bubbles' for 4-5 year olds, 'Splash' for 5-8 year olds and 'Xstream' for 8-11 year olds. Each child has a workbook containing age appropriate materials on various themes. (For example during Lent we have been looking at life in the desert, following

Moses and the Israelites in the wilderness). Each Leader has a manual to compliment the children's workbooks plus extra resources and ideas. The books are, however, quite expensive and the PCC kindly agreed to give us a budget of £400 per annum. The majority of the cost will go on the books with a little left to replenish sundry stationery items.

After discussion with the parents, it was agreed to start Sunday school earlier, at 9.45 am in order that we could fit in all that we need to do before coming into church. Three quarters of an hour goes extremely quickly.

In church, the children have settled into the routine of sitting in the front pews and trying to follow the service. Ever adaptable, they all join in when asked during the Family Eucharist's, thinking especially of the four young angels at the November Family Eucharist. The children performed a traditional Nativity at the Crib Service, a thoughtfully acted witness to our visitors.

Some 25 children, Sunday school and a few friends, attended a half term activity "Journey Through Lent", that produced some excellent points of meditation for us all, striking crown of thorns candleholders for the Lent candles, the effective wilderness scene by the Altar and a splendid re-enactment of the temptations of Jesus.

In order to encourage a spirit of giving during Lent, the children made and sold cakes on 'Mothering Sunday' in aid of Naomi House.

During 2009 the Leaders changed slightly. Lindsay Chalk stepped down due to other commitments. Thank you Lindsay for your help and support. As from October, Dawn Trimby has taken a year off to study and we are grateful to Tracy Allison and Louise Shier for their help. Also to Dawn Hyett who steps in from time to time.

The Sunday School Team

Youth Club

The current membership of the club stands at 18 which reflects 10 who have left during the year and 6 who have joined. It is good to see that 4 of the 6 joiners are church based children. We lost Lizzie Poad (though she still comes to church from time to time) Faye Sears who emigrated to Dubai, Leonna and Caitlyn MacGuire, Katie Wood, Zoe Green, Lauren Trimby, Elliott Crook, Alice Arnold and Sophie Aparo. The new intake comprised of Bethany Sadler, Amy Shepherd, Natasha Jones, Yolanda Musonda, Molly Jones and Lucy Burt.

We continue to operate most Friday evenings with the menu much as before with quizzes, party games and sports games, (badminton, hockey, football, volleyball etc.) cooking, skating, ten pin bowling and swimming, party nights as well as our traditional beach party and video evenings (to name but a few).

We were able to undertake our usual Fordingbridge visit this year with a party of 12 children enjoying the delights of Moors Valley Country Park for a day and then, after morning Eucharist at the Fordingbridge church, a cycle ride across the new forest on a gorgeous Sunday morning.

As we were unable to undertake a canal trip this year our annual March fund raising event was in aid of all three of the St. George's Youth Groups. This was a very successful evening with £125 being raised for each of the three groups. In addition our regular November bonfire night event raised £130 for Naomi House slightly down on last years £175.

As we trialed last year, Jane and I have decided to stand down from running the club and we will be 'retiring' at the end of July. So far we have not found anyone to take over lock stock and barrel although Fr Timon has stood in on one or two occasions for us. But now is the time for someone to come forward to take the club over possibly to a different format from that we have used for the past 17 years. We are happy to help from the sidelines if so required.

Again we must thank our helpers without whom Youth Club would not be able to exist. Many people come along to help but again we must name Jane Cook who is there every week, Fr Mike, Fr Timon, Candy and John Williams who are there most evenings and several parents who come to support on a regular basis.

Again a final thank you to the hall committee and the PCC for their support of the youth club and to the congregation for their interest and backing.

Tony Rice-Oxley

St George's Choir

We continue as a small but committed group, doing our best to enhance the worship at St George's.

Highlights of our year have been the Easter, Advent, Christmas and Taize services; the Advent and Christmas carol services being particularly well

received again this year. We also enjoy singing Choral Evensong on a regular basis.

Members of the church choir also enjoyed being part of the larger Waterlooville Music Festival Choir singing at the "Opera Choruses Scratch Concert" in June and the "Songs of Praise" in July at which Cat sang her solo so beautifully.

Youngsters lead increasingly busy lives, trying to juggle all their various activities and schoolwork and we thank our younger members for the commitment they show to the choir.

We would like to thank our occasional singers who join us for special services/events. It would be great to swell our numbers on a more regular basis. We meet on Thursday evenings from 6.30-7.30 pm. All ages and abilities are very welcome. If you enjoy singing come along to a practice and join in, we'd love to see you.

Finally a big thank you must go to Cecil Wilman for his dedication as Director of Music and to the clergy for their constant support.

Julia Spurgeon
Junior Choir Trainer

St George's Band

After Sue Palmer sadly passed away, Rachel Palmer took over her Mum's duties in running the church band. Julia Spurgeon and I supported Rachel through this difficult period, during which time Rachel did a wonderful job completing the organization and running of the very successful Harvest Festival Concert, which had been Sue's project. Rachel expressed her wish to continue with the band; but it became apparent that whilst Rachel was at Canterbury University it was a little difficult for her to give the church band the level of support that she felt it deserved.

After long discussions between Rachel, Fr Mike Sheffield, Julia Spurgeon and myself it was agreed that I would take over the band, and Rachel would support me when she was home. I immediately agreed and have taken the band, with Julia's help, for services since.

Sue's legacy to the band is the folder/library of music to cover many of the hymns which we are asked to play, where there is the need I arrange the music to add to this and /or to suit our musicians.

Since November 2009 there has been a slight increase in the number of band members. We now rehearse at 9am on the mornings of Family Services only. I would like to recruit at least another six musicians, so if anyone has an instrument and can play to a standard where you can read and play a simple part, we'd love to include you.

Don Lloyd

St George's Social and Fundraising Committee

Burn's Night was on January 24th. A full house ate, drank, danced and made very merry. The proceeds were split between St George's and The Twinning Association. The show in February was Eurovision Revisited. It was a lively evening running through many of the Eurovision entries. Food was served in the interval. The Gourmet Evening in March had a splendid mix of food from Russia, America and India. Everyone got into the spirit of the affair and dressed up and presented their food from decorated stalls. The Seder Meal took place on Easter Saturday providing an important part of the Easter week.

The Parish Lunch in April hosted 39 adults, 14 guests and 2 children. An excellent meal was served with aperitifs before and wine with the meal. The proceeds provided the £100 first prize for the fete. A travelling supper took place in May. Guests gathered at the church hall for aperitifs and starters. Then they split up to go to different hosts for a main meal with wine. Following that they made their way to the Vicarage for desserts and coffee. It made £68.

The Parish coach trip was to Arundel Castle. It was a splendid visit with too little time to get round to everything. As a plus there was a gathering of vintage cars lining the road up to the castle entrance. We ended the day with an Evensong at Walberton Parish Church.

The fete took place on the opening day of the Waterlooville Music Festival. It was a beautiful day with lots of visitors who dropped in on their way to or from the town which was humming with various musical acts. £2095 was raised for church funds. In July we had the Kairos Tea party for our local Old Folks and were entertained by a magician. On July 5th it was Fr Timon's first mass. Afterwards we celebrated with wine, cake and nibbles on our sunlit lawns. In July Sue and David Hodgins hosted another lovely Strawberry Sparkle in Catherington. It was a perfect summer's evening and Evensong was celebrated in their beautiful garden. It raised £120.

Stansted Musical Extravaganza was cancelled and so a few brave St George's members decided to hold it at Glendene. Everyone arrived with chairs, tables and picnics and listened to music which they had chosen. The weather had been iffy but improved during the evening justifying their faith.... Well done!! The Charity Shop in October was an enormous effort by a large team of people who ran it for 2 weeks. It was amazing how much was moved in and out in that time. I think we all enjoyed it and made lots of new friends. It raised £3,000. In November there was a Kairos Partnership race night. It is good to see local churches joining together to have some fun.

On December 5th we had our Church Bazaar which sets us thinking about Christmas whilst raising important revenue for the church; £1549. We had our normal delicious punch and mince pies after the carol service. Our Friday coffee mornings continue to provide revenue for the church as does the Bonus Ball club, Hundred club, Table Top sales and Plants. The Film Club enjoys a wide variety of films though its membership has not grown.

Another energetic year, hope you enjoyed it!

Jane Rice-Oxley

St George's 100 Club and Accounts

As you will see from the accounts over the page, the 100 club has been able to make a donation of £584.59 to Church funds this year. Unfortunately this is slightly below our potential of £600 plus interest as we have sadly lost a few of our long standing members this year. We currently have four spare numbers so if anyone would like to join please let me know. To those of you who are members, thank you for your continued support and yes, I know, your number never comes up, but maybe this year you will be lucky! Finally I would like to say a very big thank you to our young people who managed to pull Rosemary's numbers out 4 times last year!

Colin Monk

ST GEORGE'S 100 CLUB						
ACCOUNTS						
1 JANUARY 2009 TO 31						
DECEMBER 2009						
EXPENDITURE			INCOME			
PRIZE MONEY PAID OUT		£580.00	BALANCE AT 1.1.09		£344.00	
DONATION TO PCC		£584.59	SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID		£1,174.00	
BANK AT 31.12.09		£357.00	BANK INTEREST		£93.59	
CASH AT 31.12.09		£0.00				
		£1,512.59			£1,512.05	
ADDITIONAL INFO						
MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP			LIST OF WINNERS			
			JANUARY	18	R. BULLOCK	£10.00
JANUARY	98			74	L. TOFT	£5.00
FEBRUARY	97		FEBRUARY	35	A. CLARK	£10.00
MARCH	97			11	R. CHAPMAN	£5.00
APRIL	99		MARCH	66	R. MONK	£75.00
MAY	97			34	G. HANLON	£15.00
JUNE	97		APRIL	79	T. SINGH	£10.00
JULY	97			20	R. MONK	£5.00
AUGUST	97		MAY	1	D. LLOYD	£10.00
SEPTEMBER	97			20	R. MONK	£5.00
OCTOBER	97		JUNE	97	S. PALMER	£75.00
NOVEMBER	94			63	A. BURTON	£10.00
DECEMBER	94		JULY	83	V. DAVIES	£10.00
				19	G. JONES	£5.00
		1161	AUGUST	14	A. WILLOUGHBY	£10.00
				96	D. PALMER	£5.00
			SEPTEMBER	20	R. MONK	£75.00
				23	B. CHAMBERLAIN	£10.00
			OCTOBER	26	A. WILLOUGHBY	£10.00
				54	G. GRIFFITH	£5.00
			NOVEMBER	39	R. SPURGEON	£10.00
				31	J. SYMONDS	£5.00
			DECEMBER	35	A. CLARK	£100.00
				34	K. CLARK	£60.00
				85	T. SHEPHERD	£30.00
				69	S. ALLISON	£10.00
						£580.00

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