



**OAKHAM  
TEAM MINISTRY**

**All Saints Oakham**

**CHURCH  
REPORTS FOR  
2010/2011**

**PLEASE BRING THIS BOOKLET WITH  
YOU TO THE MEETING**

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2011. 10:45am**

**The Parish of All Saints', Oakham.**

Annual Vestry Meeting.

A meeting of Oakham parishioners will be held at 10.45 a.m. on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2011 in All Saints' Church for the election of Churchwardens.

Agenda

1. Prayers
  2. Apologies
  3. Minutes of meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2010
  4. Election of Churchwardens
  5. Election of Deputy Churchwardens
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The Annual Parochial Meeting will then follow:

1. Presentation of Electoral Roll
2. Minutes of meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2010
3. Election of P.C.C. members
4. Finance: to receive church accounts and appoint an Examiner.
5. Vicar's Report
6. P.C.C. Secretary's Report and reports from other church groups (see booklet)
7. Deanery Synod Report
8. Election of Sidesmen
9. Other matters (any items should have been notified, where possible, to the chairman or secretary in advance)

## **Contents**

Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting .....	5
Minutes of the Annual Parochial Meeting .....	6
Vicar's Annual Report .....	9
Ministry Team Report .....	16
All Saints Worship Forum Report for 2010 .....	19
Pastoral Forum Report.....	21
Report on Furniture, Fixtures and Fixings.....	23
Fabric Committee Report.....	25
Deanery Synod Report 2010 – 2011 .....	26
Electoral Roll Report .....	28
Stewardship .....	29
Church Hall Report.....	30
Diocesan Synod Report for 2010 .....	31
Its Only Fare (Fair Trade).....	33
Flower Guild .....	34
Choir & Music Report for 2010 .....	35
Bell Ringers Report 2010/11 .....	37
All Saints Concert Society Report for 2010 .....	38
Sunday School Report .....	40
All Saints Kids (ASK) Report.....	41
Pram and Toddler Services .....	42
Tiny Tots Report.....	43
Home Groups .....	44

All Saints Oakham, Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2011.

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Mothers' Union Report 2011 ..... 46

The Friends of All Saints Church, Oakham ..... 47

The Healing Prayer Group..... 48

The Alpha Course ..... 48

Churches Together in Oakham and District ..... 49

Parish Nursing Oakham..... 51

Bungoma Update ..... 53

Parish Evangelist Report ..... 54

Catering Committee..... 56

Walking Group Report ..... 57

List of Sidespeople 2011 ..... 58

**Section 2: Annual Report for Charities Commission.....Page 59 / Page 1 of Section 2**

## **Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting**

18th April 2010 at 10.50 am

Present: Revd Lee Francis-Dehqani in the chair, 67 Parishioners.

The meeting began with prayer.

Apologies: Mrs Carlin, Mr & Mrs Davies, Mr & Mrs Goodwin, Mr & Mrs Vecqueray, Revd & Mrs Drye, Mrs Watchorn, Mr Hart, Mrs Weatherhogg, Mrs Skillington and Mrs Willows.

Minutes: Proposed and seconded that the Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 5th April 2009 were a true and accurate record of that meeting. Carried.

Election of Churchwardens: Having been correctly nominated and seconded Stanley Bruce and Margaret Pattinson were duly elected as Churchwardens for Oakham All Saints Parish Church.

Election of Deputy Churchwardens: The Chairman asked that with the permission of the Meeting the election of Deputy Churchwardens would be considered by the PCC. Agreed.

Vote of Thanks: The Chairman offered a vote of thanks to both Churchwardens for their help and support during the past year. Special thanks were given to Gordon Woods who was standing down after serving for six years as Churchwarden.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.00 am.

## **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Meeting**

18th April 2010 at 11.00 am

Present: Revd Lee Francis-Dehqani in the chair, 67 Parishioners.

Apologies: Mrs Carlin, Mr & Mrs Davies, Mr & Mrs Goodwin, Mr & Mrs Vecqueray, Revd & Mrs Drye, Mrs Watchorn, Mr Hart, Mrs Weatherhogg, Mrs Skillington and Mrs Willows.

Electoral Roll: At 26th February 2010 the Oakham All Saints Electoral Roll contained 304 names. Details in the Annual Reports Booklet from Richard Davies, Electoral Roll Officer.

Minutes: Proposed and seconded that the Minutes of the Annual Parochial Meeting held on 5th April 2009 were a true and accurate record of that meeting. Carried.

Election of PCC Members: Having been duly proposed and seconded the following were elected to the PCC until the APCM in 2013: Mr Corton and Mrs Wareham. The Chairman thanked retiring members for their support and hard work during their period on the PCC.

PCC Secretary's and Other Reports: These had been available for parishioners prior to the meeting in the Annual Reports Booklet. The reports were accepted by the meeting.

Mr Linford referred to the Choir and Music Report and said that additional members in the choir would be very welcome.

The Chairman said that more servers were also needed.

Mr Tomalin (Deanery Synod Lay Chair) reported that Canon Stephen Evans (Rural Dean) would shortly be moving to London and therefore a new Rural Dean would be appointed.

Mr Waites asked whether there were plans to tidy the Lady Chapel, perhaps relocating the library. He also asked whether there were detailed drawings and material samples available for the proposed reordering of the Trinity Chapel. Mrs Kirtland referred to the Friends Report and the Chairman reminded the meeting that Sophie Hacker's detailed proposals would be presented to the PCC at the May meeting (24th May). The scheme would then be put on display in Church. It was agreed that the Lady Chapel item would be discussed in the PCC.

Vicar's Report: The Vicar's Report had been circulated in the Reports Booklet. He looked forward at last to the finalisation of the Team Ministry within the next few months. It will also be good to welcome the Revd Bob Mackrill to the Team in May. He emphasised the importance of the Team, both clergy and lay members, and recorded thanks to Jay, Hildred, Susie, and Wardens Gordon and Stan, as well as Joy who is standing down from the position of Treasurer.

Finance: Annual Accounts and appointment of Examiner: The Treasurer presented the annual accounts which had been circulated previously in the Annual Reports Booklet. She highlighted the 2009 surplus of £3000, a great improvement on the budgeted deficit of £5000. Mrs Cant also pointed out that Restricted Funds now stood at nil. Proposed by Mrs Cant and seconded by Mr May that the accounts be accepted as a true statement of the financial position of the Church. Carried.

Proposed by Mrs Cant and seconded by Mr Hill that Mr Gibson be appointed Examiner for All Saints Parish Church Oakham. Carried.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the triennial Stewardship Renewal Campaign would be held in 2011. Planning for this event would probably be carried out in the autumn of 2010.

The Vicar again expressed formal thanks to Joy Cant for her work as Treasurer which had always been carried out to a very high standard. The new team to undertake the work of Treasurer consisted of Messrs Hill, King and Revd Canon Wilson.

Election of Sidespersons: Mrs Everitt presented the following list of parishioners to be appointed as sidespersons for 2010: Audrey Austen, Margaret Burgess, Kathryn Collison, Andy Compton, Richard Davies, Richard Day, Gerry Duffy, Lyn Everitt, Rebecca Falconer, Robert Goodwin, Peter Hill, Joan Jervis, Ron Jervis, Stephen Johnson, Peter Kinal, Yvette Nicolle-Anderiesz, Jack Pearce, Roni Proctor, Sue Reilly, Brian Rose, Elizabeth Smith, John Tomalin, Marilyn Tomalin, Alex Uff, Jackie Vecqueray, Mike Vecqueray, Des Wareham, Brenda Weatherhogg and Patrick Wilson. Carried.

There being no other business the meeting with prayers at 12.00 noon

## Vicar's Annual Report

This is a somewhat unusual annual report, in that I am writing it whilst on sabbatical leave. I write it knowing that I will not be with you to present it. Nevertheless I wanted to not only thank Almighty God for all the blessings of working in this place, but also to express my sincere gratitude to all with whom I have the pleasure of living and working. I will use the same headings as last year and finish with a few sabbatical interim reflections.

### WORSHIP

During the last year numbers at worship have been very encouraging, between our three services we have an average Sunday attendance of around 220. Numbers at the 10.30am service continue to show healthy numbers of young families. We should not forget the very faithful attenders at 8am and evensong. Both of these quieter more traditional services are deeply valued by many people and I am committed to them.

There will be a need to review our service provision in particular with regard to new printed booklets, which is planned to be rolled out between Advent 2011 and Summer 2012. I continue to be grateful to all who support the worshipping life of this Parish, not least **Mr Kevin Slingsby** the Director of Music, the choir, vergers, bellringers, readers, intercessors, servers, flower guild and many others.

It is not unusual for Worship to be the area of keen disagreements and occasionally complaints. I am always keen to hear feedback on our worship provision. This is best done through the Worship Forum, which meets roughly quarterly. I take all comments most seriously, but I do insist that these are attributable to the parishioners concerned. Anonymous moaning through directed to me through others is rarely helpful.

### PASTORAL CARE

I continue to marvel at the opportunities for outreach to our wider community through baptisms weddings and funerals. Our numbers of weddings continue to be high and in 2012 we intend to fully implement the new procedures for wedding ministry that have received such good publicity in the national press [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org) Similarly the good work we

do at keeping in touch with baptism families is a real credit to all those involved. Furthermore it is humbling when I receive the deep gratitude of families for the funeral ministry of all our clergy and Readers. In all these ways we make a deep impression on our town.

As with so much of our work I am deeply indebted to the other members of the Ministry Team, Retired Clergy and members of the Pastoral Forum for their support and assistance in the delivery of pastoral care. In particular the Pastoral Forum, Chaired by Revd Hildred Crowther, is a very effective way of organizing the high volume of work. Because of the sensitive nature of Pastoral Care membership of this Forum is small and by invitation, but anyone who wishes to contribute to this area should speak to Hildred.

There are areas where we can expand and refine our work. I want to pay tribute to the work of all those involved in the ecumenical project *The Centre*. It is an example of an innovative way of serving our community.

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

I firmly believe that Christian communities grow and mature when individuals meet together in small groups to pray and learn together and thereby find mutual support. The ongoing work of our home study groups and in particular our Lent programmes do much to enrich our common life. When people say they don't feel integrated within our church family, my response is always to encourage them to join a group. In my sabbatical absence I am grateful to Mrs Gail Rudge for organizing the Ecumenical Lent groups which will be studying the Bishops Course on the Bible [www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/lent2011.pdf](http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/lent2011.pdf)

Autumn 2011 will be focusing on Confirmation and Enquirers groups. The Bishop has made a very welcome change to the policy on confirmation and he will be confirming more regularly *in parishes*. He will be presiding at a Team service of Confirmation on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am at Oakham** Even now I want to encourage any who are interested in baptism or confirmation to speak to me on my return, or to inform the Parish Office, I would also love to see those who would like to reexplore their faith commitment, make renewed public professions or be received into the fellowship of the Church of England. Anyone can join our groups, they will be timed to suit as many people as possible.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Elsewhere in these reports, you will read of Children and Young People's work.. Our Pram Service is a particular source of encouragement to me as they have developed new leaders who have taken over from Jay and covered my sabbatical leave. Sunday School consistently has around a dozen children present and ASK is a real contribution to keeping our older children and young people involved.

Parishioners will know that I have consistently sought to prioritise our engagement with children and young people and sought in particular to make our Sunday worship as open and welcoming to young families as possible. From time to time there are issues which arise where some parishioners complain about the noise and behaviour of children. Sometimes this is justified and much more often it is not only unjustified but it can endanger the hard work of making ourselves open to families. With all the pressures of modern day parenting, financial, educational, marital and much else, the church needs to be a non-judgmental, welcoming and accessible place for children. If it is not (and in past times and occasionally still Oakham Parish Church has not felt so) then we cannot be surprised at the national decline in the numbers of children at church. Again people with concerns about this should raise them with me **directly** and not through others.

## TEAM DEVELOPMENT

It has been a long time coming, but we **finally** became a legally formulated Team ministry on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011. This means:

- We are formally known as *OAKHAM TEAM MINISTRY*
- We are made up of 10 churches (Oakham, Braunston, Brooke, Langham, Hambleton, Egleton, Whissendine, Teigh Ashwell and Market Overton.
- Each Parish Church retains its own PCC, Officers and finances.
- We work together on Mission and other Team wide provision.
- The Clergy and Ministry Teams are aimed at joint planning and mutual support.
- Permanent Staffing is a Team Rector (Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani) two Team Vicars (TV1- Revd Bob Mackrill, and TV2- Revd Jay Ridley until his retirement on 31/01/2011). Each Team Vicar retains ministerial responsibility in designated villages (TV1 Whissendine, Teigh Ashwell

and Market Overton TV2 Braunston, Brooke, Langham, Hambleton and Egleton) The Team Rector is Vicar of Oakham.

- Other staff members - Revd Hildred Crowther (Assistant Priest SSM) Revd Susie Parsons (Curate SSM) as well as all lay ministers are licensed to all churches in the Team. Some members will primarily focus on particular Parishes or projects.
- A pattern of clergy/ministry team meetings is established
- We are supported by a Team Office based at Oakham,, which is funded by an apportionment of costs.
- The Diocesan Share is allocated to the whole Team and divided between us (see below)
- Team Wardens meet once or twice per year for review

### **MINISTERIAL SUPERVISION (see also separate Ministry Team Report)**

I am grateful to Ministry Team members of the, for their generous offering of time and skills. Those who officiate at services do so with skill and the support we receive from each other is an important aspect of all we do.

The Ministry Team has seen opportunities and challenges in this last year.

- It is a joy to see how both our curates have developed in their ministries. Susie was priested in July and it was an occasion of great joy when she presided at Communion for the first time. Not long after this, Susie had surgery which combined with complications has prevented her from returning to work. Although restricted greatly we still count her as a full member of our Team.
- Revd Hildred Crowther has been with the Team since her ordination in July 2008. The Bishop has agreed to her appointment as Assistant Priest in the Team and licensed her in January. I am very pleased that we will benefit from Hildred continued ministry in the Team, which has been so welcomed and which has been such a support to me personally.
- The appointment of Revd Bob Mackrill to the northern villages of the Team has been greatly welcomed by all. His period of sick leave from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 is currently on going.
- The retirement of Revd Jay Ridley was long planned for the end of January 2011. With the current clergy sickness and my planned sabbatical (see later) Jay has agreed to stay on until the first week of May when he and Sylvia will then move to their well-deserved retirement in Worthing.
- Our prayer for Susie and Bob is that they are soon well enough to resume their ministries. For Jay that his retirement is long and fulfilled, and for Hildred that she will continue to be fulfilled in the additional responsibilities that she will be given.

- We need to recruit a replacement for Jay. I hope this will take place this Autumn. It is always difficult when a Team is not fully staffed and I understand the frustrations that can arise. A goodly extra amount of work also falls on the remaining clergy and lay ministers which requires sensitive handling.
- All our Lay members have continued to be faithful and productive in their ministries. As part of my sabbatical leave I have dedicated one week to meeting with each member by way of review and reflection. We will do this by meeting together one on one at Launde Abbey.

### **FINANCES & FABRIC**

The Annual Reports are attached to this report. You will see that whilst they are healthy the future needs careful planning. In this incoming year we face two important tasks.

(a) As a Team Ministry we need to establish a reasonable and sustainable approach to the distribution of Share payment. There are differing abilities to pay within our parishes and this will be factored into the allocation. At the same time, we are committed to pay 100% of the Diocesan Share request. The Parish of Oakham cannot reasonably be expected to pick up shortfall of underpayment in any village

(b) We will undertake a Stewardship Campaign later in 2011. This is vital to our ongoing financial planning. Stewardship is about asking **each** committed parishioner (**every single one**) to seriously consider their level of giving to the Parish Church. It is undoubtedly the case that many of our Parishioners faithfully and sacrificially give of their financial resources. It is also the case that many others do not. We will need to look at the financial task which faces us in planning 2012-2015. Each existing will need to review our giving in light of our own financial circumstances and the needs of the Parish. And the Parish will need to ensure that new givers are encouraged to come forward and take their responsibility in this task. **We must not underestimate the importance of this.**

PCC is planning a stewardship campaign to run through September and early October 2011. If you are interested in joining a small group to plan this please speak to myself or one of the Wardens. And remember that each of us can review giving at any time. Are **YOU** giving realistically to the Parish?

We are very faithfully served by a Treasury Team of **Mr Peter Hill, Mr John King and Canon Michael Wilson** to whom I continue to be grateful.

I also remain very appreciative of **Mr. Victor Hall** for chairing the Fabric Committee. You will see his report elsewhere but I wanted to particularly commend the work that has improved Disabled Access at the West End. I know there are ongoing differences of opinion on the progress of the proposals to reorder the Trinity Chapel. This project is still being pursued but has been delayed because of my sabbatical. I envisage that the PCC will return to this in June and July.

### **MY SABBATICAL**

I reported last year of my planned sabbatical leave and although at times I was fearful that it may not materialize. Thanks to the support of Jay, Hildred, the lay minsters, Wardens and the retired clergy I have been on three months Sabbatical leave since 2<sup>nd</sup> February. This has been deeply appreciated and funded by the Diocese along with two grants from Ecclesiastical Insurance and Jerusalem and Middle East Church Trust. I have been looking at issues of Reconciliation in both Northern Ireland and Israel/Palestine. The early part of this period I spent in Ireland, walking and spending time with several projects working in Catholic/ Protestant reconciliation. It was a time of deep revelation and encouragement for me. This was followed by several reading weeks in various places in England, including a week with the sisters at Derby. The whole period will culminate when I travel to Jerusalem for Easter. I have always wanted to journey through Holy Week in this holiest and yet most divided of places. I know I will benefit greatly both from the liturgical life of the various church communities in the Old City but also from my contact with the “living stones” of the church communities. There will be plenty of opportunity for me to share the fruits of this sabbatical experience with the wider team parishes.

### **FINALLY**

This last year has seen changes in my own ministerial responsibilities. In July I was appointed Rural Dean of Rutland and in November I was installed as an Honorary Canon of Peterborough Cathedral. I have been very touched at people’s good wishes as I take on these tasks and humbled by the confidence the Bishop has placed in me. Whilst there is more for me to do, I firmly believe that the priorities of the Parish are the most pressing. I assure you of my continued attention to these. Clearly changes are necessary in order for me to undertake the extra work asked of me. For this reason following changes to the Charter of St John and St Annes Charity it is now possible for me to appoint a nominee to act in my place, I intend to do this upon my return. I know the Charity has long associations with the Parish but pressures on my time has meant that I have not felt able to prioritise this work. Other Parishioners - Mr

David Pattinson, Mrs Helen Bush and Mr Keith Starling from Egleton also serve as Governors. I hope to be able to announce my nominee in June.

I continue to be well supported by two very loyal and able wardens **Mr Stan Bruce** and **Mrs Margaret Pattinson**, to whom I am deeply grateful.

Above all I am blessed with a very loyal and understanding family. It is not always recognized the pressures that come from living in the Vicarage and I owe more to Guli my children and also to Margaret my mother in law than I always recognize. Particularly through my sabbatical Guli has never complained even when I have seemed to be constantly away. By the time of the APCM her appointment to a half time Diocesan post will have been announced where I know she will make a significant contribution.

In my sojourns in several religious communities in these last weeks one of the things that I noticed most is the monastic tradition for ending services. The officiant says *May the Divine assistance remain with us always.* to which the community members reply *and with our absent sisters/brothers.* I feel this way about each of you. You are keeping Lent as I, though absent from you, keep Lent. You will journey through Holy Week as I will journey apart but connected. Our joy though separate is yet undivided Pray for me your "Absent Brother"

Canon Lee T Francis-Dehqani  
Team Rector  
Eve of St Patrick 2011(appropriately)

## Ministry Team Report

This has been a year of real highs and great joy coupled with the sadness that two of our colleagues remain on long term sick leave.

To the delight of the whole team, our licensed lay ministers, Readers, Vyv Wainwright, Debbie Marsh, Alan Rudge, Nick Holford & David Pattinson, Parish Evangelists Marilyn Tomalin & Gail Rudge, and Pastoral Assistant Madeleine Scott all decided that they would like to continue their ministries as members of our team and were accordingly relicensed by the Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Revd Donald Allister on May 15<sup>th</sup> at Peterborough Cathedral. The gifts and abilities that they bring with them enhance the ministry we are able to provide in the benefice. Vyv Wainwright remains as General Secretary of the Diocesan Readers Board, while Nick Holford has, this year, been appointed its Treasurer.

There was much rejoicing in the 4 parishes at the Northern end of the benefice when their 10 month long wait for a new Priest ended on May 30<sup>th</sup> and Revd Bob Mackrill was licensed as our new Team Vicar by Bishop Donald at St. Andrew's Church, Whissendine. The Ministry Team were also delighted to welcome their new colleague but sadly Bob has been on sick leave since the beginning of January and is likely to remain so for some time to come. We pray that he is now well on the road to recovery.

On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June in a wonderful service at Peterborough Cathedral, Revd. Susie Parsons was ordained Priest by Bishop Donald. The next morning, she joyfully celebrated her First Communion at Oakham, in the presence of many of our Church family and of her former Church family who had travelled from Somerset. Afterwards, many of us enjoyed the summer sunshine with her at a Parish Picnic lunch in the Church grounds. Sadly, Susie has been off work since the following Wednesday. We pray for her return to health and ministry.

In the autumn, we were all delighted when it was announced that our Team Rector, Revd Lee Francis-Dehqani, had been made Rural Dean. Soon after, Lee gave us cause for more celebration when he was honoured by being made a Canon of the Cathedral. He was licensed by Bishop Donald at Evensong in the Cathedral on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Just before Christmas, and to my delight, it was announced by the Bishop that he was to make me an Assistant Priest in this Team Ministry. Bishop Donald licensed me, at was for me an emotional and humbling occasion, at Evensong on 27<sup>th</sup> January at All Saints Church, Oakham

and I look forward to the privilege of continuing to serve the people of this benefice into the future.

For the whole of this year, Revd Jay Ridley has been looking forward with great anticipation to his well earned retirement on 30<sup>th</sup> January when he and Sylvia would relocate to a new home by the sea in Worthing. When the great day arrived the benefice joyfully celebrated his 40 years plus of ordained ministry, 10 years of which he has served in this benefice, as he presided at a service of Holy Communion at All Saints Church Oakham. Nearly 400 people turned up to honour and support him including parishioners from Langham, Braunston, Brooke, Hambleton and Eggleton who he has served so well and unstintingly for so long.

At the end of the service Jay was presented with a painting by a local artist, depicting each of his 5 Churches, and Sylvia with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. Afterwards, 250 people sat down to a delicious lunch at the Victoria Hall. However, the edge of sadness that we would have inevitably felt at that service and lunch was minimised as Jay and Sylvia have so generously offered to stay in Oakham to cover Lee's Sabbatical & so that Jay can help by taking Sunday services in Whissendine, Ashwell, Teigh and Market Overton. Jay's last service will be on Low Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> May after which he & Sylvia will finally depart for Worthing. We will miss them both immensely but wish them God's blessing as they embark on this new stage of their lives.

In view of the current sickness in the team, Lee went through much soul searching about whether it was right for him to take his much anticipated Sabbatical leave. However, with the encouragement of members of the team, Jay's generous offer to stay and finally, at the insistence of the Bishop, he finally departed at the end of January, heading off to his native Ireland for 3 weeks to walk in the footsteps of St. Patrick and to take part in a silent retreat.. His plan is to then return to England to study at various libraries and Retreat Houses before travelling to Jerusalem to spend Easter there. He will be back in Church on May 15<sup>th</sup>. We wish him rest and refreshment, growth and renewal and a closer walk with God and look forward to hearing about his experiences after his return. We are deeply indebted to our lay ministers and our retired clergy who have taken on extra responsibilities during this period so that our usual pattern of services across the benefice can be maintained. Without them & Jay this would not have been possible.

Our Ministry Team consists of a diverse bunch of people from differing backgrounds, as were the disciples and as are all our congregations, but who have one thing in common – the desire to grow closer to God coupled with a yearning to serve him better by working with his people to draw them closer as well. To help us in our efforts to do this, we continue to meet as a team

on Thursday mornings to share in Holy Communion and monthly at our Staff Meetings. Both these occasions also provide opportunities for mutual support and encouragement.

Revd. Hildred Crowther

Assistant Priest

Lent 2011

## **All Saints Worship Forum Report for 2010**

The Worship Forum exists to reflect on the worship pattern offered at All Saints and to act as a reference group for the vicar in developing the service provision. It is chaired by the vicar and its membership includes the Churchwardens, The Director of Music and representatives of the Ministry Team and PCC.

An important task of the Forum is to review the service provision at the major festivals of Christmas and Easter. These are well supported at All Saints, but we must be open to ways in which we can develop and improve them. At Christmas, our Midnight Mass is always a big 'showpiece' service, while the Christmas morning service is attended by families, and we perhaps need to consider how we could make it better meet the needs of families. Increasingly popular is the Christmas Eve crib service, and equally we need to consider how to ensure that we make that a good experience for the many people for whom it will be their only church service at Christmas. Another topic of discussion has been the possibility of making the carol service a more town orientated occasion.

In Lent, Holy Week and Easter, we have looked to focus on the major services as Team wide events – starting with the Ash Wednesday eucharist, then the Maundy Thursday liturgy, the Good Friday liturgy and devotions and the Easter Dawn service, enabling members of the congregation to experience that whole journey in a meaningful way.

The week by week services are also an important part of the Worship Forum's remit, and we have given due consideration to such matters as choice of hymns, the role of choir and servers, provision for children, use of incense, and so on. It is never possible to keep everyone happy, but we very much welcome feedback from members of the congregation on these matters. The Forum considers worship at Oakham, but this of course includes the ways in which we operate as part of the whole Team Ministry, and how Team services fit into the pattern.

One particular topic of discussion, which will be ongoing in 2011, is the provision of service booklets and other printed material. We have developed the current series of seasonal service

books over a number of years, and hope to consolidate these into a more permanent collection with a more consistent house style during the coming year. We occasionally produce one-off hymn sheets, which enable us to use a wider range of hymns, and we would like to look into perhaps combining this with the weekly notices into a single document, again adopting a consistent style.

As a Parish and as a Team we are indebted to so many people who bring their skills and talents to our worship – not only the clergy and readers who lead our worship, but to the Director of Music, the choir and music group, the bell ringers, servers, vergers, readers, intercessors, flower guild, and sidespeople we give a most genuine THANK YOU. Worship is not a performance but rather an offering and it is all the more lovely when this offering is the work of so many hands.

Revd Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani, Chairman & Kevin Slingsby, Director of Music

## **Pastoral Forum Report**

In the early summer, a decision was made that the Pastoral Forum would join forces with the Parish Nurse Steering Committee. After several years of loyal service, several members of the Pastoral Forum decided to take this opportunity to retire. We are grateful to them all for their dedicated service over the years.

The first meeting of the newly convened Pastoral Forum was held in July. We now meet monthly, instead of bimonthly as before, and have agreed that our remit is “to provide and co-ordinate Pastoral Care, incorporating listening, spiritual and practical help for those in need in our Church family and in our community.”

One of the first projects we initiated was to design, and have printed, invitation cards for our All Souls Service which will be used from this year instead of letters. They will be sent to those who have come to our ministerial team for the funerals of their loved ones for the last 3 years, rather than only for the last year as is currently the case. From this year we will be inviting the local funeral directors for the first time.

In January, we held a meeting for those in our congregation who had filled in the “yellow forms” last year, volunteering to help those who may need help with shopping or those who are sick or housebound, who may appreciate a visit. We also combined this with a gathering of those who have volunteered to help run a Bereavement Support Group which we hope will get off the ground in the summer. At the time of writing, these volunteers are in the process of completing their CRB forms. We are grateful to Sally Corton and Anne Venning for their help in this. In addition, we have arranged a training course for those who have agreed to help with the Bereavement Support Group. This will be run by Revd. Lesley McCormack. Lesley has 25 years experience in Hospital and Hospice Chaplaincy. We are extremely grateful to her and to our volunteers, without whom none of this important work would be possible.

We are also in the process of designing, and having printed, invitation cards which the Clergy and Readers who take funeral services, will be able to give to the next of kin at funeral visits. People will be free to join the group at whatever stage in their bereavement journey suits them best. The group will offer unthreatening social contact with others in similar situations and a chance to chat over a cup of tea. At every meeting there will be one or two people who will be able to offer more in depth listening and spiritual help if required. If anyone else would like to help

with this group, please let me know so that you can join in the training sessions which will be held in July.

We feel that we have been able to make real progress over the last nine months and look forward to a profitable year ahead. We have been helped in this as communications have been much better recently and we are now hearing of people in need of visits. When CRB clearances come through for our volunteers, those visits will begin.

Hildred Crowther.

## **Report on Furniture, Fixtures and Fixings**

### **Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010**

The contents of the church were checked against the Terrier. No major discrepancies were found.

Necessary maintenance jobs and minor repairs implemented during the past year have included:

- refitting lock on sound-system cupboard
- fitting new lock inside choir vestry
- repairs to light fittings
- repairs to floor in the south transept, and to a pew in the nave
- cleaning of kitchen carpet
- cleaning of gulleys around church
- removal of blockage from downpipe on north side of church
- hymn book repairs
- draught excluder on west door
- repair of severed cable to floodlights, and replacement of burned-out fuse
- annual check on sound system and on security system
- weeding of Garden of Remembrance and cutting back in shrub borders.

Significant improvements to our facilities have included:

- new floor covering in kitchen
- new baby changing unit in toilet
- replacement of electric urn with water heater
- provision of disabled access via the west door.

After a delay of several months, we were eventually able to enlist the help of a pest control officer who has effectively succeeded in eliminating the long-standing problems caused by doves roosting in and around the south porch.

Our sincere thanks, as ever, are due to all those who give of their time and energy so regularly and willingly to keep the church tidy and attractive for worshippers and visitors alike: to Malcolm Hardy and the team responsible for cleaning the floors and furniture, the brass-cleaning team, Edwina King and the flower-arranging team; to Brenda Weatherhogg and the team of vergers who ensure that everything is in place for the regular services; and to Mike Vecqueray who ensures we are kept well-supplied with candles, wafers, communion wine etc. A special thanks to Victor Hall, chairman of the Fabric Committee, who has been so heavily involved in seeing through the first phase of the disabled access project during this past year. We are grateful, too, to those who help with security by taking turns to sit in church for an hour at a time. There are several more opportunities for those who would like to help in any such practical way, and particularly in the maintenance of the Garden of Remembrance and the area immediately round the church. The churchwardens would be delighted to be able to talk with you about ways in which you could be involved.

Stan Bruce

## **Fabric Committee Report.**

Three major projects were undertaken in 2010:-

The disabled access work at the West entrance was carried out making it easier to enter the church through the west door. However, the second phase involving power-operated inner doors has been deferred until we have a satisfactory solution, and adequate funds are available.

Removable bollards have been installed at the entrance to the Old School driveway to prevent unauthorised car parking on the churchyard, which had become a significant problem.

The War Memorial was cleaned and restored by a specialist firm.

These last two projects were paid for, in full, by Oakham Town Council.

Maintaining an historic church like All Saints' is costly and we can soon spend £1000 on seemingly minor work. Over the last two years, projects such as the boiler, have depleted the reserves in the Fabric Fund significantly. Therefore, unless we receive donations or bequests, we will only carry out essential repair or replacement work in 2011, and then, only if we can afford it. I would ask everyone to think about this; short-term economies usually result in greater cost in the long term.

Victor Hall

Chairman, Fabric Committee.

## Deanery Synod Report 2010 – 2011

The main features of the past year have to be the movement of diocesan and parish incumbents and the final resolution and implementation of the Rutland Deanery Plan.

The Right Reverend Donald Allister, was consecrated Bishop on 25<sup>th</sup> March and installed at Peterborough on 17<sup>th</sup> April. Those who were able to attend these services witnessed very moving and enthralling occasions with all the majesty the Church of England can display. + Donald has expressed his two main themes as being church unity, both within the Church of England and the wider ecumenical area, and to reverse the decline in church attendance. We also saw the departure of the Bishop of Brixworth, Bishop Frank White, to Newcastle. A new appointment to this post has just been announced as Canon John Holbrook.

Closer to home, we saw the departure of the Rural Dean, Canon Stephen Evans, to Marylebone and the appointment of Lee Francis-Dehqani as the new Rural Dean. Lee was also made a Canon of Peterborough Cathedral shortly after.

Within the Deanery there have been several staff changes. The Revd Bob Mackrill was appointed to the Oakham team with responsibility for Whissendine. The Revd David Everitt retired from Ketton which has since been well supported, along with other parishes in that group, by Canon Michael Wilson. The Revd Richard Lubkovski was also appointed to the Cottesmore group of Parishes

The Deanery Mission Plan has, at last, been largely put in place with the creation of the Oakham Team Ministry, the Cottesmore and Empingham groups, and the addition of Haringworth to the Lyddington group. The Mission Plan will continue to be developed as indicated by Bishop Donald. Canon John Holbrook, the next Bishop of Brixworth, will have a significant role to play in its development of mission plans across the diocese.

During 2010 Deanery Synod met four times:

- The February meeting, at which the speakers were due to be Paul Middleton from the DAC's office and Sir Clifford Boulton from the RHCPT, being cancelled due to snow.
- The May meeting was addressed by Revd Phillip Davies, Schools Development Officer who spoke about how religious education is taught in different types of schools.
- The Deanery Eucharist was held in July at Oakham. Canon Stephen Evans presided as this was to be his last deanery function before his move to London and + Donald was in attendance and preached.
- The September meeting was addressed by Bishop Donald who outlined his thoughts on his mission and the direction in which the diocese should develop. Previously held views regarding church closures and reduction in clergy numbers were dispelled. Very

favourable comments were received following this meeting regarding Bishop Donald's approach and his communication with the audience.

- The November meeting was addressed by Andrew Reid, Director of Music at Peterborough, who spoke on how to include music in services, especially where there was no regular organist. This was an enthusiastic presentation with plenty of audience participation. The evening concluded with a service of Compline.

Synod meetings have been well attended. It is important that this continues as in the next year some important and contentious issues will need to be decided upon, including that of women in the episcopate. I would encourage anyone with an interest to stand for Deanery Synod and to get involved.

## **Electoral Roll Report**

**Total at 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010** **304**

Since then: 8 members have died or moved away

15 new members have joined

**Total at 14<sup>th</sup> March 2011** **311**

The electoral roll is compiled in close consultation with the Stewardship Secretary.

R. M. Davies

15<sup>th</sup> March, 2011

## Stewardship

Stewardship means we recognise that we look after what gifts God has given us and we choose to return some for His work through this church.

All Saints costs over £2000 per week and a good deal of work to run. People give in different ways, time, skills and money. Just considering money, we rely on direct giving either in the weekly offering or via bankers order which is usually Gift Aided so the income tax paid can be recovered. Planned regular giving helps our cash flow.

Some statistics; there are about 310 people on the electoral roll, 123 give by bankers order, 55 give by weekly envelopes, 6 by annual cheques or which represents 245 people when spouses and older children are included.

Why is there a difference? The electoral roll lists some people who have stopped coming through infirmity or indifference but still live locally; next year we have to start afresh on the electoral roll. Some either give in an unplanned, unrecorded way which means any tax paid is not recoverable. Perhaps some come to church but do not give. On the other hand there are ten planned givers who are not on the electoral roll.

There will be another TRIO (The Responsibility Is Ours) presentation in the autumn to increase the overall giving. Meanwhile Gordon Woods can always be confidentially approached about giving on 01572 755371.

Finally, please be aware that the statistics quoted above are almost certainly inaccurate because of complications like people giving by two methods, people moving into and out of the parish, but the general pattern is correct.

Gordon Woods

## **Church Hall Report**

Firstly I should like to thank all members of the Committee for their hard work during 2010. A special thanks is due to John Denny, our treasurer, also to Patrick Wilson and Stephan Johnson for all their hard work on maintenance jobs during 2010, and to Barbara Blaber, whose sterling work as Cleaner ended recently, when she moved to live in Hampshire. Stephan has kindly stepped in to do the cleaning from now on.

During the year we have arranged for the Hall to be re-decorated, have repaired guttering and washbasin and tiling in the disabled toilet, and have replaced the car parking signs. (Please note, only 2 places.)

On the bookings side, it is noticeable that fee-paying bookings have slowed considerably in the latter part of the year, resulting in a drop of income of £1,500 since 2009. We were able to make donation of £1,500 to PCC funds in 2010 and we continue to put funds aside for future maintenance. However, both these outgoings will need to be reviewed if the decline in bookings continues through 2011. The Hall is still used free of charge by church-related groups.

Finally, should like to add thanks to all those who, by contributing cakes and tea, enlivened the start of Church Hall Committee meetings.

Peter Kinal

(Chairman)

## **Diocesan Synod Report for 2010**

The Synod met twice; first on 24<sup>th</sup> April and 9<sup>th</sup> October. The meetings were held at All Saints' Primary School, Northampton. Recorded attendance on 24<sup>th</sup> April was: 3 bishops, 24 clergy and 62 laity. Mrs. Anne Toms welcomed Bishop Donald Alister to his first meeting at Diocesan Synod as Bishop of Peterborough. Also welcomed was Bishop George Mechuma newly elected Bishop of Bungoma visiting the Diocese.

Brixworth Deanery members led Synod in worship. Bishop Donald in his presidential address expressed his thanks for the hearty enormous welcome he received over the last few weeks. He spoke about two themes from the charge he had received from Archbishop of Canterbury which had been circulated to Synod members. This was on unity and church growth, both required openness to change. He spoke of God's call continually to his church to reform its self. To go back to its roots continually, to speak out about the lost and bring them home. Continually to meet the needs of a broken world and continually to bring more people to God's love, presence and acceptance. After his address Bishop invited members to ask questions. Five asked and response was given.

Bishop Frank presented "Moving Forward with Hope", a report on Diocesan Strategy 2005-2010. Synod then split into small groups to discuss their intentions that the Diocese, through Deanery and Diocesan Synod may take to ensure such diverse innovative activities to be celebrated and valued and also be accounted for in planning terms.

Diocese Stewardship Funding Officer, Paul Adams, presented his report "Giving for Life" written by the National Stewardship Committee and the subsequent debate at General Synod and moved the following motions:

"That this Synod affirming that God gives abundant gifts to us, individually as a church that we are stewards of all that God has given us."

- (A) Encourage children and young people, as disciples of Jesus Christ, to participate in God's mission in the world. God in Christ who made himself poor so that we might become rich.
- (B) Challenged church members to give 5% of their income to and through the church to help God's kingdom.
- (C) Encourage "Giving for Life " a guide for prayerful discussion and action.

The motion was carried overwhelmingly with one abstention.

### **October 9<sup>th</sup> 2010**

Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October at Bishop Stopford School, Kettering. Attendance: 2 bishops, 37 clergy, 55 laity. Anne Toms welcomed Bishop Donald of Peterborough and also Bishop George of Bungoma. The Corby Deanery members led the Synod in worship. Mr. Peter White was licensed as Diocesan Youth Officer (Partnerships). Bishop Donald in his presidential address paid tribute to Bishop Frank's services to the Diocese as Bishop of Brixworth and then described the process of his successor. He detailed two changes in job description. The ending of the geographical element of the post and a leadership focus on a strategy for growth.

Bishop Donald spoke about reshaping structures to reverse decline for more, rather than fewer clergy to help grow the church. Teaching of discipleship to be stressed in the coming year. Membership was urged to pray for growth and the need to restore our confidence.

Finally Bishop spoke on recent discussions and the need for Christians to stand up and be counted. He commended the "Not Ashamed Campaign" and urged engagement in debate on public expenditure. On the latter the need to argue and campaign that the vulnerable are not hit by cuts in expenditure as a fundamental mark of civilised society.

Bishop Donald responded to questions.

Yvette Nicolle-Anderiesz

## **Its Only Fare (Fair Trade)**

During 2010 sales of Fairtrade goods amounted to a wonderful £3,318.04. This averages out at £276.50 a month. Many thanks to all the people who have made this possible – not just here at All Saints Oakham but the other Churches and organisations I was involved with during the last year.

The last year saw a continuation of the stall being run at All Saints on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays as well as my termly visits to the good people of Ashwell. Once again I paid a visit to Ryhall – again to join them for their Harvest celebrations.

Fairtrade beverages, sugar and chocolate biscuits were once again used for the Lent and Advent lunches as well as a regular stall being held. Many many thanks as ever to John Ansley from the Methodist Church for so ably manning this for me. Sales at the lunches continue to grow – the average for Lent during 2010 was £15.74 and Advent £14.74 which is very good when you consider the extremely cold weather we experienced during December.

The card and gift ordering service I offer during the Autumn is becoming very popular and sales from this were once again high.

A new venture in 2010 was a stall being held at the Pentecost Party In The Park. Unfortunately I was unable to attend but did supply the goods for it to be very kindly run by members of OBC- my thanks go to them, they sold goods amounting to £38.40 on the day and hopefully made a lot more people aware of the Fairtrade mark as well. The Fairtrade Foundation has reported that Fairtrade sales rose by 40% in 2010 which is very good in these difficult economic times.

I also made a “guest “ appearance at a Pram and Toddler service in the autumn, it was very encouraging to see the next generation being so keen to support Fairtrade.

During 2010 I was very pleased to be able to make a donation of £100.00 to Traidcraft Exchange – Traidcraft’s charity and the UK’s only development charity specialising in making trade work for the poor. This donation will help to ensure that Traidcraft Exchanges vital work in the developing world continues.

As always many thanks to every one who continues to support Fairtrade in what ever way they can

Denise McDonald

## **Flower Guild**

We finished 2010 with the wonderful floral displays in Church for Christmas, having maintained the usual high standard throughout the year.

The Flower Guild had their annual re-union in December, which everyone who attended enjoyed and it gave members the opportunity to plan and discuss the rota for 2011.

I would like to thank Betty Tidd for agreeing to continue as Treasurer who does an excellent job of maintaining our records.

A big thank you must go to Joan Plester for continuing to arrange the annual coffee morning which raises much needed funds to enable the Flower Guild to do the high altar pedestals throughout the year.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the members for their hard work and dedication, coming together on Festival Days throughout the year, to make the church look beautiful. I would also like to thank those members who arrange the high altar pedestals on a rota basis.

The Flower Guild currently has 22 members, including new member Rita Butler who is most welcome.

We hope 2011 will continue to be a successful and happy year and we are always pleased to welcome new members either for occasional help or, more especially, those who volunteer to do the high altar flowers.

Edwina King, Co-ordinator.

## **Choir & Music Report for 2010**

The choir plays an important part in the worship at All Saints, and although it has been a year of change we have continued to fulfill that role. We were sorry to see the departure of several members during the year, including some long standing stalwart members, for various good reasons – Barrie and Barbara James, Victor and Christine Hall, Barbara Blaber, Louise and Lydia Freeman – and we thank them all for their dedicated service to the choir over many years. However, during the year we appealed for new members, and have been successful in recruiting a number of people who have joined us on a regular basis as well as a number of others who are happy to come and swell the numbers on special occasions.

In an ideal world, all choir members would attend all services and practices, but in today's world this is not often possible, and we must accept the fact that people will feel comfortable giving different amounts of commitment to the choir, and if we are to maintain a choir at all we have to plan what we can achieve in our worship accordingly. Over the past few months we have achieved this on the whole, with the choir maintaining a presence and singing an anthem at the main morning service, but we have had to acknowledge that the anthem at evensong will become a rarer beast except at the monthly choral evensong.

Having said that, we have had a year with a number of memorable highlights, and concentrating resources on these means they have equaled or surpassed those of previous years. The major festivals of Easter and Christmas were once again highlights, particularly the Liturgy on Good Friday and the Christmas Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

The year began in January 2010 begun with a splendid celebration of Candlemas at Whissendine, and a year later in January 2011 this was topped by an exceptional service on the occasion of Jay Ridley's retirement. Both of these happened to be 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, when we normally combine the resources of the Team Choirs to form Laudamus, the joint choir. Ash Wednesday was another Laudamus event, when we joined forces at Brooke. Other highlights of the year involving Laudamus were the licensing of Bob Mackrill at Whissendine in May, the Confirmation service at Oakham in June (when we also welcomed choir members from other

churches in the Deanery) and the Advent Carol Service, as well as fifth Sundays in August and October at Oakham.

The music group has continued to play at the family services on the third Sunday, and I am grateful to the dedicated but small band who enhance the music at those services in such a special way. Palm Sunday was a rather special occasion, when the evening ecumenical service involved all our musical resources – joint choirs, music groups from Oakham and Langham, with both organ and piano, which I found particularly moving.

None of this would be possible without the support of each and every member of the choir and music group, and also those who sing regularly at our other team churches. We also express a big thank you to our organists, in particular Ivan Linford, John Norris, John Linford and Paul Butler, and finally to our team of clergy and readers for their support in what we do.

Kevin Slingsby, Director of Music

## **Bell Ringers Report 2010/11**

On the whole it has been more of a quiet year for All Saints bell ringers

We have continued to see a steady stream of visiting ringers to All Saints during the year. Only one Peal was rung during the year by a visiting team and this was a completely new method to mark the 476<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Oakham School. Consequently, 'Archdeacon Johnson's Surprise Major' will now be a new edition for any enthusiastic ringer across the country and beyond, but it is a pleasure to know that it was rung on our bells for the first ever time.

Our Peal of bells has really only required general maintenance for much of this year, with the replacement of two new ropes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. More notably, Oakham's bells celebrate their centenary in 2011 and service of dedication will be held later in the year along with an afternoon of ringing for all members which have supported us over the years.

The last few months has seen the clock experience much fluctuation due to its regulation and necessary fine adjustment. We are in the process of consulting our engineers in the effort of rectifying this.

We are pleased to welcome Rosie Wilkinson to the Oakham Team. Rosie is the granddaughter of Peggy Jennings who has been a dedicated member of our team and the Rutland Branch of Bell Ringers for many years. Rosie enjoys coming to ring with her grandmother and is progressing nicely and it has been a pleasure to see her 'skill' develop in recent months.

We are also pleased to report that Araminta Mathias (Tower Captain of Hambleton Church) successfully rang a quarter peal inside of Plain Bob Doubles (5 bells) last October and is already beginning to ring more challenging methods. Similarly, David Brignall (who is currently attending Hull University) rang very well inside to a quarter peal of Plain Bob Triples last September.

Practice nights on Tuesdays are attended well by local and visiting ringers and we regularly have enough to ring 6 bells, but as an 8-bell Tower we would welcome new recruits so that we can all enjoy a full complement more regularly for us to begin to ring more challenging methods. Everyone is welcome to come and have a go. Our practice night is held every Tuesday from 7.30pm until 9.00pm and our Sunday Morning ringing commences at 9.55am.

Louis Totaro, *Tower Captain*

## **All Saints Concert Society Report for 2010**

We have enjoyed another good year, with well supported Wednesday lunchtime concerts, and we are grateful to Peter Davis and the music department at Oakham School for arranging these during term time and providing such a wealth and variety of music, and for making the concerts such an important link between the school, the church and the town. We are also grateful to Matt Sammy and the music department at Catmose College for providing concerts when Oakham are on holiday, notable in July, and also to the numerous other performers who have given their services during the school holidays, which has enabled us to maintain the weekly series of concerts throughout the year.

The Bank Holiday Monday organ recitals have continued to thrive, and have become part of the cultural calendar of Oakham. They are not cheap to promote, as good organ recitalists can rightly command a good fee, and the cost is subsidised by the lunches held in the church hall afterwards (as you will see from the attached accounts). We have a loyal band of supporters, but it would be good to see a few more people there, and perhaps more realistic contributions in the plate afterward. Our thanks go to the recitalists (who invariably enjoy coming to play our splendid organ) and to those who organise and help with the lunches afterwards. The audience experience has been improved this year with the purchase of a new projector and screen so that we can see the performers clearly as well as hear them!

There have been other concerts during the year – the Tallis Scholars Summer School concert, which is always a favourite, concerts during the Oakham Festival including an evening organ recital by Ivan Linford, the Friends' Gilbert & Sullivan concert, a harp recital by Robin Ward (who later returned as part of the lunchtime series), and various school concerts.

The programme of concerts is organised by a small committee, who would like to express their thanks to everyone involved in them, and who in turn are to be thanked for their hard work. Barbara Blaber, who has given great service as chairman, moved away in December, and we thank her particularly and give our best wishes to her and Dennis in their new life. The other members of the committee – Linda Browne, Christine Carlin, John Linford and Kevin Slingsby (who has taken over as chairman) – have now been joined by Ingrid Heldt (replacing Barbara) and Rosamund Wells (as representative of Oakham School music department), and we look forward to their expertise helping us to moving forward in 2011.

Christine Carlin, Secretary and Kevin Slingsby, Director of Music

# All Saints Oakham, Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2011.

All Saints Concerts Society

Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2010

## INCOME

### Bank Holiday Recitals:

	Recital	Lunches	Total	
05 Apr	301.30	97.50	198.70	
03 May	115.80	109.00	224.80	
31 May	103.92	115.10	217.02	
09 Aug	156.05	109.00	265.05	
	<u>474.97</u>	<u>430.60</u>	<u>905.57</u>	905.57

Wednesday Throughline Recitals:	1,505.47 *
Oakham: School re PRS fees	476.99
Oakham: Festival	780.00
Harp Recital	20.00

TOTAL INCOME 3,197.97

## EXPENDITURE

	£	£	
Recitalists	815.00		
Cost of lunches	<u>180.60</u>	995.60	
Performing Right Society		627.01	
Donation to Oakham P.C.		500.00	
2x new A-Boards		138.04	
New Projector & Screen		489.96	
Treasurer's expenses	10.00		
Secretary's expenses	<u>10.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>	2,770.61

EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE 427.36

Opening Cash & Bank Balances 3,063.00

Net provision for income & expenses 7.57

Closing Bank Balance 3,497.91

### Note:

\* The sum of approximately £298 in Gift Aid Envelopes was received in addition to income shown here. Envelopes are passed immediately after receipt direct to Church Funds.

JOHN LIMFORD

Treasurer

23rd January 2011

### Independent Examiner's Report to All Saints Concerts Society

I have examined the above Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2010 with the books and records of All Saints Concerts Society and confirm that they are in accordance therewith.

*W. James*

31st January 2011

## **Sunday School Report.**

We currently have twenty five names on our Sunday school register and of those an average of between ten and fifteen children attending each week.

Our members vary in age, but tend to be between three and seven years old, which means we are increasingly having to tailor our sessions to work for younger children. We are still using the lectionary based Roots, which gives us a web based resource to draw on as well as a bi-monthly magazine of ideas and suggestions.

The children enjoy starting with a game, and a chat about what has been happening during the past week. Then, the session will generally take the form of a Bible story and related craft activity, which can be proudly shown off in Church at the end of the service!

The purchase of a new cupboard this year has made storing and keeping a check on our resources so much easier, and has meant that we could retire the old chest, finally freeing up the pegs for the children to hang their coats on!

During the past year, we celebrated the end of term and the First Communion of some of our children with a barbecue at the Vicarage. The sun shone, and a good time was had by all. We are hoping to repeat the event again this year. The Nativity was very much enjoyed by all who took part, and a few of our children even played the handbells for Jay's retirement!

We are lucky to have many fantastic leaders and helpers, and I am ever grateful to the time and effort that they give every week. Hopefully, they are all creating special memories of Sunday school for the children of our Church family, which will stay with them throughout their lives.

If you feel you have the time to help out too, please get in touch.

Alison Long.

## **All Saints Kids (ASK) Report**

All Saints Kids (ASK) is a group that meets usually once a month during the Sunday morning service and caters for children between the ages of 10-15. ASK has been running since January 2010 and we now have a core group of about 6-8 children who benefit from it. We rely on the skills of people from the congregation who have generously offered of their time and provided sessions as diverse as clay modelling, hand bell ringing, designing a church, yoga & mediation, bible study, diet and healthy eating, flower arranging and much more. We are keen to include anything that interests the children and can provide an occasion for them to think about life and faith. But crucially we are providing a forum for the children to make friends at church so that they want to continue being part of the All Saints community. We have also arranged some social activities such as a summer BBQ and a joint pantomime trip with Sunday School and the Friends of All Saints. We hope to publicise the next programme more widely through Oakham Church of England school in the hope that we might encourage more young people to join. We are always on the look out for anyone who might have a session they could offer.

Guli Francis-Dehqani

## **Pram and Toddler Services.**

We celebrated the 10th birthday of our Pram & Toddler Services in May 2010. The celebrations went off in style with helium balloons (thank you Marilyn) and a delicious cake (thank you, Susan) to also celebrate the baptism of Iona Simpson which took place during the service. Invitations were sent far and wide, to everyone who has been a part of our sessions over the past 10 years. We were delighted to welcome over 70 adults and children (some parents without their now school age children and a few of those who came out of school especially to celebrate with us – thank you!) A big thank you to all who contributed by making food and helping with preparation and to Lee for leading a very beautiful service and baptism – one not to be forgotten.

We were very sorry to say goodbye to our pianist Tina Roberts, but wish her well with her new job and thank her for playing the piano so beautifully for us.

New faces on our staff rota include: Oakham schoolgirls Maddie Hopper, Moira Johnson & Ellie Besant who help us as part of their community service and Nathan Ellis & Stephen Tatlow, also from Oakham School, who have kindly been playing the piano for us during their free periods. We are very pleased to welcome Sally Farr to our helpers rota and Paul Butler as our new pianist. Paul will join us for his first service on the 28th March, he will play for the majority of services but we do need a pianist to fill in the other dates, please contact me if you feel you could help with this.

It is always a special treat to be able to welcome guest leaders, this year we say thank you to Caroline Simpson, Freya Osiatynski & Megan Davis for their enthusiasm and creativity.

As always, visitors are most welcome. Come and hear a bible story, praise God in song, pray and make something to take home during our activity time. Then there is an opportunity for a chat over some coffee or tea while the children get a chance to play.

Jenni Duffy

March 2011

## **Tiny Tots Report.**

We normally meet in the church on Thursday mornings during school terms. A small time change has meant that we now operate from 9.45 – 10.45 a.m. and this seems to have been entirely acceptable. The Autumn Term was particularly busy with thirty or more children each week. We have a core of 15-20 regular attenders and as many more who come according to their other commitments. We have gained support partly from the unfortunate closure of two other providers who operated on Thursday mornings and partly from the fact that our details are now on Rutland on-line and on Netmums, thus providing links to the wider community.

The programme tries to follow the passage of the seasons with craft and stories themed to life as young children experience it. Thus in the Autumn we include changing leaf colours and fireworks. In the Spring we included daffodils, chicks and lambs while Summer concentrated on outdoor activities such as gardening and going to the seaside. The build-up to Christmas included a much appreciated personal appearance by Father Christmas with presents. In the Spring our biggest success was the “Toddle-Waddle” which is a sponsored walk to raise funds for the Meningitis Trust. Last year we were able to raise the amazing sum of £564, which, when gift-aid benefits were included, meant the charity benefited to the extent of about £700, a truly amazing total. The Summer ended with a Teddy Bears’ picnic. The bears all seemed to find this a very gratifying occasion in view of the plentiful refreshments provided.

Every child who attends comes naturally with a parent, grandparent or carer. Many of those who attend regularly become our very good friends and all are willing to give a helping hand wherever it is needed. We really appreciate their efforts. Some of the mothers who come are new to the area or, in the case of a first child, very anxious to be sure that they are doing the right things. We like to think that within our friendly group they can find company, help and reassurance when needed. At present we include a number of relatively young children, so we have several years of steady activity to look forward to.

Denise McDonald,

Alice Clarke.

## Home Groups

Between 50 and 60 members of *All Saints* regularly attend one of six different Home Groups in or around Oakham. One is an ecumenical group that was formed from an Advent group many years ago; two others are led by members of other churches; the other three are led by members of *All Saints*. All three of our own groups are now at full capacity, but a new group, which has emerged from the recent Alpha Course, is currently getting under way and expects to meet once a month under the leadership of Des and Pam Cook.

The *All Saints* leaders have submitted the following reports:

### **Willow Crescent Bible Study Group**

We meet at 25 Willow Crescent, the home of Douglas and Catriona Drye, at 10 am on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

At the moment we are looking at some of the Old Testament characters, and discovering some very interesting facts.

Over the years we have found this an excellent way to look at the Bible and hopefully help each other to understand it better and make it relevant to our daily lives. It has also been a good way to get to know each other better, giving support in difficult situations and in times of joy.

Catriona Drye

### **Peterborough Avenue Fellowship Group**

Apart from breaks during Lent (for the Lent groups) and over the Summer holiday period, this home group has continued to meet fortnightly at the home of Patrick and Marjorie Wilson and to flourish. Membership is now up to fourteen and it includes members from the Roman Catholic, Methodist and Baptist churches in Oakham, as well as from *All Saints*, of course. There seems a good chance that it will be possible to split and to form a second group in the foreseeable future.

Themes or topics looked at over the year have included: Ecclesiastes; Questions we ask; Questions God asks; First and Second letters to the Corinthians. Patrick Wilson

### **Ashwell Road Home Group**

Over the past year the group, meeting fortnightly, completed working through the second half of the Book of Acts. We found the studies extremely rewarding and were struck again and again how applicable the Bible is to us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Although our studies in Acts had spread over many weeks, we felt working right through it had been very worthwhile.

Since the New Year our studies have been centred on the Book of Psalms, focussing particularly on the different types of psalm that we find in the Psalter, which cover the whole range of human experience and realistically portray the highs and lows, the doubts and fears, and the joys and sorrows that we all face at some point in our lives. The group has welcomed several new members in recent months and we are now at full capacity.

Towards the end of each meeting we have shared news of Christian workers and projects locally, nationally and internationally. Occasionally we have welcomed a visitor, such as Val Thomson from Friends International, an organisation which works amongst international students up and down the country, who spoke about her work on one of Nottingham University's campuses. For the past year we have been taking an active interest in the work of Send a Cow and have been able to help towards the support of a family in Ethiopia through our 'coffee contributions'.

We enjoyed a couple of social occasions during the year. In the summer we visited our former verger Mary Collins in her new home in Bedford, where, after a pleasant walk in the nearby park, we shared a delightful meal together which Mary had cooked for us. In December we met together for another meal when we found ourselves acting as 'guinea pigs' while Marilyn tried out the recipe which was later used at Jay's Retirement Meal!

Stan Bruce

### **The Good News Van**

This is a Christian lending library which comes to Oakham on the third Tuesday evening of the month, alternating between 25 Willow Crescent and The Common Room, St. John and St. Ann, South Street.

The books cover all kinds of topics: biographies, prayer, spirituality, novels, etc. There is also a children's section.

All are welcome.

Catriona Drye

## **Mothers' Union Report 2011**

The Mothers' Union has flourished in the past year. Our membership is up to 35 as three members have transferred from other branches. We still have two men and four indoor members, and one long serving member died during the year. The Corporate Communion services held once a month at St. John and St. Anne are well supported and the average attendance at meetings last year rose to about 18.

Our monthly meetings had a variety of topics including Church Bellringing, a talk about our new link branch in Likoma Island, Malawi and Church Music from the Reformation. A members' afternoon was popular, with readings on a Spring or Easter theme. Another meeting explained the importance of the Five Objects of the Mothers' Union. We held a Communion service in November on Armistice Day which was taken by one of the chaplains at RAF Cottesmore, followed by a talk on Remembrance. In January this year we enjoyed a fish and chip lunch followed by some DVDs; the one about Likoma being particularly interesting. The joint outing with the Friends was to Lincoln and was enjoyed by all.

We had a number of occasions when we joined with other members in the Deanery. The Festival was held at Empingham in May, and in October the Quiet Morning was at Uppingham. Oakham invited members in the Deanery and other friends to join them in August on Mary Sumner Day. Having found out that there was a joint branch with Egleton a hundred years ago, we had a marvellous celebration service. This was held at Egleton Church on a sunny afternoon with Jay taking the service and the Diocesan Chaplain, Mandy Cuthbertson, preaching. Tea, with a celebratory cake, was then enjoyed by everyone.

As Mothers' Union is concerned with family life, we value the opportunity to keep in touch with many young families by providing help at the Pram Service where we enjoy the contact with mums and toddlers. Also, in Advent each year, the two Travelling Cribs visit about 60 families in the parish, which is a good means of outreach and appreciated by the host families.

Pamela Woods

## **The Friends of All Saints Church, Oakham**

The Friends enjoyed an excellent programme last year with a good variety of events bringing pleasure to many and reward to those who organised them.

The Shrovetide Party has become a sell-out event. Not surprising with such good food and relaxed entertainment with Gordon's quizzes.

Stamford provided interest for 35 members with a tour of Browne's hospital and two other churches.

Three coach trips took place. The Woodall Spa and Tattershall outing stirred memories for many and made us thankful that we do not have 600 bats in our church! Lincoln is a fascinating town to visit and our guide showed us things in Lincoln Cathedral that the general visitor would never have discovered. For those who went to Windsor it was a magical day with perfect weather and evensong at St. George's Chapel a highlight.

£103.50 was raised at The Historic Churches Lunch and Talk, again with a full complement of diners.

Normanton Hall proved to be such a good venue for The Tide Dinner that we have decided to return there again this year.

Highlight of the year was The Gilbert and Sullivan Concert in October. 238 tickets sold raised £1721. An excellent evening was enjoyed by all.

48 people, old and young enjoyed Jack and The Beanstalk at Peterborough's Key Theatre.

After discussion of the financial position the committee recommended to the recent AGM that £16,000 should be given to The Trinity Chapel refurbishment project. This was ratified.

Jean Morris, Malcolm Hardy and Jenny Mallet resigned from the committee this year. I thank them for their positive contribution. Roni Proctor has become Secretary.

There is another varied programme planned for 2011 and I hope that I will see many members and friends at those events.

Beryl Kirtland Chairman

## **The Healing Prayer Group**

The Healing Prayer Group has continued to meet for prayer and Bible study on the third Thursday evening of each month. On first Wednesdays, at 12.00 pm, there has been a short service for healing and prayer, with laying on of hands if requested.

Membership of the group has been fairly small and new members are always welcome.

We have been privileged to have had the unfailingly reliable and committed leadership of Sylvia Ridley for many years. Her example and her encouragement have been inspirational, and we are sorry that, with Jay's retirement, she will perforce be leaving us.

Patrick Wilson

## **The Alpha Course**

An Introductory Supper for 13 was held in Stamford Road in January 2010, as a result of which a course was run by Pam and Des Cook, mentored by Alpha old-hands Marjorie and Patrick Wilson. Unlike most Alpha courses - which aim to outreach to non-Christians - our course was attended by 11 All Saints members from a broad range of backgrounds and ages.

Meeting for supper only one Friday a month (to make the course more accessible for those with work and family commitments) we considered the questions we wanted to discuss around the Alpha topics.

Our Away Day in summer 2010 was at Launde Abbey, led by Ian and Gill Jones from All Nations, Leicester. Finishing in early 2011, members speak of having benefitted from the discussions and are now taking taking this fellowship forward as a new monthly home group.

Des Cook

## Churches Together in Oakham and District

Meetings of the Churches Together Committee were held in March, September and November, 2010, and in January 2011, with Pastor Trevor Wilson of the Congregational Church in the Chair.

Of the several united activities that occurred during the year, the most notable was the Family Fun Day and Party held in Cutt's Close on Pentecost Sunday. The brunt of the organisation for this highly successful event was borne by Mrs. Suzanne Johnson and members of Oakham Baptist Church, but with valuable input from all the churches, as well as the local Police and Fire Service. A wide variety of displays, childrens' activities and refreshment stalls, together with live music and a free barbecue, drew a large crowd, for an afternoon that was also blessed with perfect, sunny weather.

A Children's Holiday Club, again fronted by Oakham Baptist Church, was organised during the Summer holidays.

Other CTO involvements during 2010 - 11 included:

- *Christian Corner* and service details in the Rutland Times.
- Lent and Advent lunches.
- Weekly Prayer Meeting, on Wednesdays at 11.30 am, in the Congregational Church.
- Support for the drop-in Centre in the Congregational Church Hall. [For both the above greater support would be welcomed.]
- Publicity for Christmas Services.
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, with a Unity Service at All Saints church, Braunston.
- Annual Pulpit Exchange.
- Good Friday Walk of Witness.
- Lent House Groups and Palm Sunday Joint Worship.

- Christian Aid Collection.
- Women's World Day of Prayer.

A Churches Together Prayer Breakfast is planned for 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2011. Meetings have been held with a view to establishing a Street Pastors scheme for the town.

At the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2011, Mrs. Ruth Maguire announced her forthcoming retirement as Hon. Secretary for Churches Together, following five years of much valued service.

Patrick Wilson

## Parish Nursing Oakham

I find it hard to believe that it is 5 years since Bishop Frank commissioned me to start a Parish Nursing Ministry in Oakham. In many ways I feel that I have only just begun and yet in others it feels like I've never not done it!

How is my time spent?

- I continue to see individuals either regularly or occasionally according to their needs. I tend to 'fill the gaps' that other organisations can't for whatever reason. These 'gaps' could be practical (accompanying someone to a hospital visit, assisting with medication), emotional (listening ear, shoulder to cry on), or spiritual (sharing holy communion, praying, working out where God is in a situation)...
- The weekly 'Walking Together' group continues to meet on Tuesday mornings, there are around 20 people 'on the books' and each week we have a nucleus of about 12/13. We have walked in all weathers and only had a break when the snow was very bad before Christmas. It is as much a social thing as keeping fit. Please ask me if you'd like to know more.
- Networking with other local organisations eg; Age Concern, Spire Homes, Rutland Community Spirit, health & social services, the list goes on...
- Drop in Centre on Wednesdays at the Congregational Hall. After starting with a throwaway comment at the first Hope 08 meeting in December 2007 this project continues to go from strength to strength. It is supported by nearly 50 volunteers aged from 18-89, mainly from the churches in Oakham but also some non-Christians. The morning caters for around 45 people who enjoy tea/coffee and homemade scones, we serve up to 56 freshly cooked lunches each week, occasionally we have to turn people away but we try to squeeze them in whenever possible. Most of the people who come live alone, or one cares for the other, so to sit and be served and to eat in the company of others is a real treat. During term time, as part of their volunteering/community work, we have students from Catmose College who help with waiting on tables, and sometimes they have enjoyed it so much that they come to help in the holidays too. We are now opening in the afternoons until 4pm and whilst it is still a place where **all** are welcome we are trying to be 'young people friendly' with toast/fruit smoothies/milkshakes and also offering health advice consultations. Catmose College

closes at 2.10pm on a Wednesday so we are hoping this will prove to be a growing resource for the young people of our town and also a place where generations comfortably mix. I could go on and on but ask me if you want to know more or come along and see for yourself.

Joining together with the Pastoral Forum has given the ministry a stronger foundation in All Saints and is helping us to develop a better framework for supporting parishioners and also for reaching out into the wider community.

Immediate future plans include resuming the Sunday afternoon tea parties, and developing links with other local Christian nurses to promote further growth of Parish Nursing Ministry in Oakham and Rutland .....

**Debbie Marsh**

## Bungoma Update

I first visited our link Diocese in Bungoma in October 2006, since then I have visited a total of 7 times the last visit being in February 2011. My main focus has been in promoting and developing Parish Nursing there but I also developed link a between Oakham and a Parish there called Kapkateny.

I originally chose this link because I was so inspired by the headmaster of the Secondary School there, a man called Sylifano Tindi. Catmose College were keen to have a link school and it made sense to be linked with the same place. However during the election troubles at the end of 2007 Tindi was driven out of the school in fear of his life. The government made him headmaster of another secondary school and because of the friendship that has developed over the years between him, myself & Gary the link between this school and Catmose College continues to develop.

Unfortunately the link with Kapkateny Parish has faltered, this is a very difficult area to visit and to develop relationships with. It is a very poor area with a shifting community, and although things are improving we felt that another link project could be found for Oakham which would be better for both sides. When I say 'we' I am referring to conversations I had with Bishop Donald, Lee, & Bishop George. I have always been very aware of half finished projects when I visit and I went out in February this year hoping to identify a project that we could support and encourage it to be seen through to completion. This I hope I have done.

The project is to build a medical centre which will grow into a hospital. It is to be built on land that was donated to the church in 1983 by a local Christian man, an important factor when investing in a building for the future. Recently there has been a new road built (the first for very many years in the area) which has improved communications between Bungoma and Kimili towns. The land where the project is to be built is a place called Chebukwa. It will be named after the man who has donated the land – The ACK Frederick Kwata Mission Hospital (ACK stands for Anglican Church of Kenya). The money that Oakham Parish Church has set aside for Bungoma from last year's mission giving will be sent out next month and all future giving to Bungoma will be used for this project until it is completed. When Lee returns from his sabbatical I hope to speak at Deanery Synod and propose that Rutland Deanery supports this project. The other few Bungoma links in our deanery have also faltered in the last year and I hope people will agree that it would be good for as many parishes as possible to work together, along with the Diocese of Bungoma, in support of this worthwhile project.

## Parish Evangelist Report

I am delighted to report that, following my piece in last year's APCM booklet, Jenni Duffy is now in training to take up the role of a Licensed Evangelist in the Oakham Team. Be assured, Jenni, of our prayers and support as you explore this ministry and calling.

For me, then, this must herald "wind down" time and a period to reflect on what God wants me to do next! (Those of you who know me well, also know that I am not good at sitting on my hands, nor holding my tongue..) However, change is always good, even though we may balk at it, and at this time of Spring cleaning, sometimes we need to be a bit ruthless about what we discard, to make room for that growth.

This year has seen very little change for your current PE; 12 volunteers still faithfully distribute letters and cards to over 100 baptism families, to the playgroups and to the Pram Service. There have been some huge celebrations of baptism outside the regular 10.30 slot, and some small intimate ones too. I trust that all have felt welcomed and inspired (thanks to Kevin for providing the music – it all helps to set the scene for those on the fringe of Church life).

I have also had the privilege of witnessing the Church of England in all its splendour – at Peterborough for my own relicensing, for Lee's introduction as Canon, for the installation of our Bishop, Donald; John and I also went to St Paul's for the legal bits of +Donald's new role. I do encourage you to find the time to visit your own Cathedral, and, if possible, to participate in one of these fine services – the C of E still knows how to uplift and inspire. And when on holiday, or just passing through, do join another congregation with open mind and joyful heart. "Change" is always challenging, but good for the soul!

Finally, new notice boards are appearing in Church – change! And we hope to clear away much of the clutter in the centre of worship (where is your notice board in your home? And the vacuum cleaner – but that is for another day!) Who reads a notice board? I used to work in Personnel Management, as it was then called, and we had the joke that, if you wanted to make something official, but be sure that no one knew of it, you put the announcement on the notice

board... Information passed by mouth and in the Pew notices is the best – for those of us “in the know” and part of the family. For those visiting Oakham, and those new to the area, and those suddenly inspired to inspect “their” Church, our news to them should be bright, accurate and vibrant. Hence there has been some revamping of the South Porch – the way our visitors and tourists mostly approach the building. I hope you like what our group leaders are displaying. But we are not – yet – the tourist centre, and there isn’t really the room or necessity for posters for every other happening in the area. The red boards can then be used for “in house” displays and information. I hope that you approve.

So is this my Swan Song report? Thank you for all your support and cooperation over the years, and for your prayers. Please continue to pray for those “on the fringe” of our Church life, and, as maybe you wonder what I may do next, **please continue to Listen to the Lord and His Calling of YOU. Jesus said to them “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord to send out labourers into his harvest”. Luke 10v2**

Marilyn Tomalin

## Catering Committee

A committee was formed last April to co-ordinate the catering needs of the church. It is mainly responsible for the special services or events that take place at *All Saints*, as regular functions (e.g. Lent/Advent Lunches, Friends of All Saints etc.) are catered for by their own committee members.

In June and July, *All Saints* hosted the Deanery Confirmation service, the Deanery Festival, and a Wardens Admission Service, and we provided refreshments after each service.

A church picnic was also held in June to celebrate Revd. Susie Parson's priesting. About sixty folk – the young and not so young – enjoyed their own picnics, together with strawberries and cream, in the church grounds.

In September Pamela Woods, with the help of Pam Cook, organised a Safari Supper for forty, starting with drinks at the Vicarage, and finishing with desserts at the home of Ian and Jan Williamson. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

Our most ambitious event by far was catering for Jay and Sylvia's retirement meal in January at the Victoria Hall, when 216 folk from the Benefice were treated to delicious chicken pies, and chocolate desserts or trifle. Our thanks go particularly to Marilyn Tomalin for organising this great occasion.

Finally, we as a committee would like to thank everyone who has provided food or helped in any way to make all of these occasions so appreciated by those who attended.

Gill Bruce

## Walking Group Report

The group was formed in April 2010 with the first walk around the Hambleton Peninsular. It was a glorious spring day and over a picnic lunch we discussed the format of the group and arrived at the following conclusions:

- Each walk would be approximately 5-6 miles long (conditions dependant) with occasional shorter and longer ones offered if appropriate.
- They would take place on the fourth Thursday of each month, normally starting at 10.30am, with the start point details given in the pew sheets.
- During the warmer months a picnic lunch would be taken and consumed during the walk. A welcoming pub lunch would be available at the end of the walk during the colder winter period.
- No sign up sheet would be required – walkers simply turn up at the start point suitably attired.
- Leadership would be by walkers voluntarily offering their skills and local knowledge.

During the year the walks have been lead by Dennis Corton, Gill and Stan Bruce, David Harris, Gordon Woods, and Peter and Helen Hill and have centred on areas around Launde Abbey, Exton Park, Burrough Hill Fort, Fineshade Wood, Manton, Lyddington, Market Overton and Somerby.

We have seen the seasons change, but have always been incredibly lucky with the weather and the general atmosphere during the walks is one of conviviality and well being. There is always lots of chatter, topical discussion, good natured banter, shared friendship, enjoyment of the pastoral rolling countryside and appreciation of the old villages with all their charm, character and history.

Since the inaugural walk our numbers have grown progressively but new members are always welcome and we look forward to new members joining us on the walks in the future.

Dennis Corton

## List of Sidespeople 2011

Audrey Austen

Margaret Burgess

Kathryn Collison

Andy Compton

Richard Davies

Richard Day

Gerry Duffy

Helen Durham

Lyn Everitt

Rebecca Falconer

Ken Gilman

Robert Goodwin

Peter Hill

Joan Jervis

Ron Jervis

Stephen Johnson

Peter Kinal

Jack Pearce

Roni Proctor

Sue Reilly

Brian Rose

Elizabeth Smith

Ron Streeter

Marilyn Tomalin

John Tomalin

Alex Uff

Jackie Vecqueray

Mike Vecqueray

Des Wareham

Brenda Weatherhogg

Patrick Wilson

## **Section 2: Annual Report for Charities Commission**

### **All Saints' Church Oakham – Annual Report of the Parochial**

### **Church Council for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010**

#### **Administrative information**

All Saints' Church is situated in Church Street, Oakham, Rutland. It is the central church of the Oakham Team Ministry, a group of parishes within the Deanery of Rutland in the Diocese of Peterborough, of the Church of England. A Pastoral Scheme established the Team Ministry with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010. Bankers are HSBC at 1 High Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire. The examiner of accounts is Mr E Gibson.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is charity no. 1129880.

PCC members who have served from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent	Revd Canon L T Francis-Dehqani, Chairman
Curates	Revd H A Crowther, Revd S Parsons
Readers	Mr A V Wainwright, Mrs D L Marsh, Mr D Pattinson
Wardens	Mr G T Woods (to April 2010), Mr R S Bruce, Mrs M Pattinson (from April 2010)
Representatives on the Diocesan and Deanery Synods	Mrs Y Nicolle-Anderiesz, Mr J Tomalin, Mr G T Woods (from April 2010)
Representatives on the Deanery Synod	Mrs P J Woods, Mrs M Tomalin, Mrs K E Goodwin, Mrs D A McDonald
Elected Members	Mr D J Ufton (Secretary), Mr P S Hill (Treasurer), Mr D R Cook, Mr K P Andrews, Mrs M G Davis, Mr V Hall, Mr P J Kinal, Mrs A E Long, Mrs S M Spector, Mr D Corton (from April 2010), Mrs H Wareham (from April 2010), Mr P Hart (to April 2010), Mrs J Cant, Mr M G Vecqueray (co-opted Administrator)

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC. The Standing Committee is made up of the incumbent, churchwardens, treasurer, secretary and two members appointed by the PCC. It meets in advance of each PCC meeting. In addition the Parochial Church Council receives reports from four forums which oversee worship, pastoral care, children and young people, and adult education in the parish. The Fabric Committee meets when required and reports to the PCC.

#### **Objectives and activities**

All Saints' PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Canon Lee T Francis-Dehqani, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for All Saints' Church Hall, Church Street, Oakham.

#### **Achievements and performance**

##### **Church Attendance**

There are 312 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 24 of whom are not resident within the parish. Fifteen names were added during the year and 13 were removed either through death or because they moved away from

the parish. The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 192, but this number increased at festivals.

## **Review of the year**

### **PCC Secretary's Report**

During the year the Parochial Church Council has met six times with an average attendance of 19 members.

The Standing Committee was made up of the statutory appointments of the Vicar, Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer, with the addition of Mrs S Spector, Mr K Andrews and Mr P Kinal (all three elected PCC members).

Each PCC meeting received an up to date financial report covering all aspects of the current situation. The Treasury Team was able to comment as necessary on any aspects which needed to be drawn to the attention of members, and deal with any questions. The Fabric Committee chairman was able to report on items which required further action or discussion by the PCC. Important issues were usually given in writing to members some days before the meeting so that adequate and proper consideration could be given before decisions were made.

Major items dealt with during the year included the completion of the project to install removable bollards to prevent unauthorised access to the Old School. This was a joint project with the local authority and Oakham School. The scheme for the reordering of the Trinity Chapel was progressed, with approval of the scheme being given in principle. Costs and scheme details would be considered at the May 2011 meeting of the PCC when a Faculty application would be made. The external work to improve the disabled access by the west door was completed. Some consideration was given to the best approach to replace various Church notice-boards and also to tidy up the Lady Chapel area. Replacement of the nave carpeting was approved in principle, with detailed ideas to be finalised. The proposed Pastoral Scheme was discussed further, with final approval being given by the Church Commissioners in December 2010 for implementation on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011.

The PCC usually meets every second month and minutes of the most recent PCC meeting are displayed on the notice-board by the north door.

Members will be pleased to hear from you on any issues or questions which you may have and which you wish to bring to the attention of the PCC.

**Derek Ufton (Secretary), February 2011**

## **Risk Management**

The major risks to which the PCC is exposed, as identified by PCC members, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

## Financial Review

Following the retirement of Joy Cant, after many years excellent service as Treasurer, All Saints' Church operates a Treasury Team consisting of Peter Hill, John King and Canon Michael Wilson. Peter Hill deals with all transactions including paying invoices, expenses and wages; summarising the transactions and reconciling them with the bank accounts. He also acts as the Treasury Team representative on the PCC and the Standing Committee. John King prepares the bi-monthly accounts and analysis for the PCC, the quarterly Benefice calculations, and the draft budget. He also prepares the draft annual accounts prior to consultation with Peter Hill and audit. Michael Wilson does all the administration for Mission Giving.

In 2010, total Receipts were £151,830 and are detailed in the financial statements. £81,783 was spent to provide Christian Ministry from All Saints Church including the contribution to the Diocesan Parish Share, which largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. The other Parishes in the Benefice contributed £9,704 towards the team expenses (total £91,487). The Parish Share increased by 11.8 per cent.

The net result for the year was an excess of £11,266. This is against a deficit last year of £37,111. The excess is due to the receipt of the Lister Legacy amounting to £18,771. Without this Legacy the deficit would have been £7,505.

Income over Expenses in the General Fund produced £871. (Last year £3,078)

Gifts by Gift Aid were up by £3,980, Income tax recovered is expected to drop in 2011 with the loss of Transitional Relief from April 2011. Receipts from the Hire of the Church/Hall decreased by £1,448.

Expenses that increased significantly were Parish Share by £8,048, Children's Groups by £899, Electricity by £1,856 (it was discovered that a faulty meter had previously undercharged) and Bank charges were £460 (not previously incurred). In addition £11,513 was spent on Phase 1 of the disability access project; and £1,010 was spent on oil filled candles for the high altar from the Lister Legacy.

Restricted funding and Expenses are explained in the notes to the accounts. No funds were brought forward from last year as a Restricted fund. The Grant from the Church Estates of £3400 was fully spent on the Fabric leaving a nil balance in the Restricted fund.

The balances carried forward to 2011 are:	Restricted funds	Nil
	Designated funds	£30,641
	General funds	£12,422
	Church Hall funds	£18,385
	Total	£61,448

### Reserves policy

The Parochial Church Council is aware of the need to increase overall income and to replenish the reserves in the Fabric Fund. This will be addressed as part of our Stewardship Campaign.

**Peter Hill and John King (Treasury Team), February 2011**

**Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 15 March 2011  
and signed on their behalf by Mr Stan Bruce (Deputy PCC Chairman)**

# PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ALL SAINTS' OAKHAM

## Statement of financial activities for the year ending 31 December 2010

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2010 £	Total 2009 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Voluntary income	2(a)	107313	21009	3400	131722	106846
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	2103	867	0	2970	3603
Income from investments	2(c)	26	0	0	26	205
Income from church activities	2(d)	17123	0	0	17123	16476
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>126565</b>	<b>21876</b>	<b>3400</b>	<b>151841</b>	<b>127130</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Costs of generating voluntary income	3(b)	139	0	0	139	258
Fund raising costs	3(c)	0	0	0	0	
Church activities	3(a)	125545	11491	3400	140436	163983
Governance costs	3(d)	0	0	0	0	
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>125684</b>	<b>11491</b>	<b>3400</b>	<b>140575</b>	<b>164241</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>						
<b>BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		<b>881</b>	<b>10385</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11266</b>	<b>-37111</b>
Transfers between funds						
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>881</b>	<b>10385</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11266</b>	<b>-37111</b>
Balances brought forward at 1 Jan 2010	7	29926	20256	0	50182	87293
Balances carried forward at 31 Dec 2010	7	30807	30641	0	61448	50182

Notes on pages 6 to 10 form part of these accounts

## Balance sheet at 31st December 2010

	Note	2010 £	2009 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible			
Investment		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors and prepayments	4	4035	4145
Short term deposits		44116	35721
Cash in Bank		20986	17447
		<u>69137</u>	<u>57313</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors-amount falling due in one year	5	7689	7131
		<u>7689</u>	<u>7131</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>			
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>61448</u>	<u>50182</u>
		61448	50181
Creditors-amounts falling due after one year		<u>61448</u>	<u>50181</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>61448</u>	<u>50181</u>
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>			
UNRESTRICTED		30807	29926
DESIGNATED		30641	20256
RESTRICTED		<u>61448</u>	<u>50182</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 15 March 2011  
and signed on their behalf by the Mr Stan Bruce (Deputy PCC Chairman)

# Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2010

## 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and SORP 2005.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

### **Funds**

Restricted funds represent (a) income from a trust which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust, and (b) donations or funds raising for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The fund may only be expended on the specific object for which they are given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance of the fund.

### **Incoming resources**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

During the year the proceeds of a Legacy were received amounting to £18770.91. These have been added to the Designated funds.

### **Resources expended**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

### **Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Moveable church furnishings - anything acquired prior to 2006 has been written off in the year of acquisition. From 2007 items of £1000 or less will be written off in the year of acquisition. More expensive items will be depreciated.

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2010

### 2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2010 £	Total 2009 £
2(a) Voluntary income					
Planned direct giving					
Gifts by Gift Aid	67020			67020	62690
Gifts not under Gift Aid	2652			2652	4099
	<hr/> 69672	0	0	69672	66789
Other direct giving					
One-off donations by Gift Aid	2000			2000	2350
Plate collections not by Gift Aid	12980			12980	10777
Other sundry donations not by Gift Aid	1497	978		2475	2775
	<hr/> 16477	978	0	17455	15902
Income tax recoverable	19064			19064	19155
Other voluntary income					
8 Grants	2100	1260	3400	6760	4500
9 Legacies		18771		18771	500
	<hr/> 2100	20031	3400	25531	5000
Total voluntary income	<hr/> 107313	21009	3400	131722	106846
2(b) Activities for generating funds					
Fund Raising events	2103	867		2970	3603
2(c) Income from Investments					
Interest	26			26	205
2(d) Income from church activities					
Fees (for funerals, weddings etc)	8384			8384	5641
Hire of church/ hall	8739			8739	10835
Other					
	<hr/> 17123	0	0	17123	16476
Total incoming resources	<hr/> 126565	21876	3400	151841	127130

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2010

### 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2010 £	Total 2009 £
3(a) Church activities					
Ministry					
Parish Share and Deanery quota	76513			76513	68461
Ministry Team expenses	5270			5270	5219
	<u>81783</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>81783</u>	<u>73680</u>
Worship					
Organist, choir and music	6527			6527	5975
Altar requisites	2152	1010		3162	3643
Other	531			531	292
	<u>9210</u>	<u>1010</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10220</u>	<u>9910</u>
Faith development					
Children's groups and youth work	1245			1245	346
Christian Books for resale	0			0	60
Other	5			5	0
	<u>1250</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1250</u>	<u>406</u>
Outreach					
Donations	0				
Evangelism and mission	7046			7046	6913
Baptism, marriage, bereavement groups	116			116	118
	<u>7162</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7162</u>	<u>7031</u>
Church running expenses					
Gas	7745			7745	8083
Electricity	3736			3736	1894
Water	81			81	77
Insurance	4216			4216	4151
	<u>15778</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15778</u>	<u>14205</u>
Church building and land					
New building & other major works	0			0	47379
Moveable furnishings and equipment	410			410	582
Building maintenance, minor equipment	5277	10481	3400	19158	6225
	<u>5687</u>	<u>10481</u>	<u>3400</u>	<u>19568</u>	<u>54186</u>
Administration					
photocopying	960			960	1044
bank charges	460			460	
other	3255			3255	3521
	<u>4675</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4675</u>	<u>4565</u>
Total cost of church activities	<u>125545</u>	<u>11491</u>	<u>3400</u>	<u>140436</u>	<u>163983</u>
3(b) Costs of generating voluntary income					
Stewardship expenses	139			139	258
3(c) Fund-raising trading costs					
3(d) Governance costs					
Fees of independent examiner					
Total resources expended	<u>125684</u>	<u>11491</u>	<u>3400</u>	<u>140575</u>	<u>164241</u>

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2010

### 4 DEBTORS

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2010 £	Total 2009 £
Income tax recoverable				0	
Accrued Interest				0	
Prepayments	87			87	212
other debtors	3948			3948	3933
	<u>4035</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4035</u>	<u>4145</u>

### 5 CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accruals for utility and other costs	1950			1950	1900
other creditors:					
Funds held as agent				0	
other	5739			5739	5231
	<u>7689</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7689</u>	<u>7131</u>

### 6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

Debtors	4035			4035	4145
Cash and short term deposits	35257	29845	0	65102	53168
	<u>39292</u>	<u>29845</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>69137</u>	<u>57313</u>
Current Liabilities	7689			7689	7131
	<u>31603</u>	<u>29845</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>61448</u>	<u>50182</u>

### 7 SUMMARY OF FUND BALANCES

	Balance 31.12.09 £	Transfers £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Balance 31.12.10 £
Unrestricted Funds	29926		126565	125684	30807
Designated Funds	20256		21876	11491	30641
Restricted Funds	0		3400	3400	0
Total Funds	<u>50182</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>151841</u>	<u>140575</u>	<u>61448</u>

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2010

### 8 OTHER VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	£	£	£	£	£
Grant from Church Estates		3400		3400	2400
Grant from Church Estates for Music	2100			2100	2100
Grant from Listed Places of Worship Scheme		1260		1260	
	<u>2100</u>	<u>4660</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6760</u>	<u>4500</u>

Church Estates Charity was formed from the sale of Church land over the years and a bequest from Royce for Church music. All revenue from investments is committed to the Fabric of the Church and to Church music.

### 9 LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	£	£	£	£	£
Rate				0	500
Lister		18771		18771	
	<u>0</u>	<u>18771</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>18771</u>	<u>500</u>

### 10 MISSION GIVING

	2010	2009
	£	£
<u>INTERNATIONAL</u>		
Julian Lott	250	250
USPG General Fund	550	550
Bungoma Link/Nurse	1000	1150
Mission Aviation	150	200
Mothers Union	250	300
Diocesan Missionary Fund	30	30
Send a Cow	290	
<u>NATIONAL</u>		
Church Housing Trust		500
James Macdonald	600	
Crisis at Christmas	400	
SSAFA	400	350
NHCPT		200
Parish Nursing	350	350
Victory Outreach		360
Bible Society	140	100
<u>LOCAL</u>		
Opportunity Chalet	500	500
Rutland Healthcare Support	320	
Evaluate		220
Oasis		300
Rutland Deanery Youth Mission Fund		100
Walsingham Lamp	50	40
Scouts	200	150
Guides	200	150
Churches Together	400	400
Drop in centre	220	
	<u>6300</u>	<u>6200</u>

## **Independent examiner's report to the PCC of All Saints Church, Oakham**

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2010, which are set out on pages 1 to 10, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

### **Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

### **Basis of this report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met;or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr A E Gibson  
14 Chater Road  
Oakham  
LE15 6RY