

Oakham  
Team  
Ministry

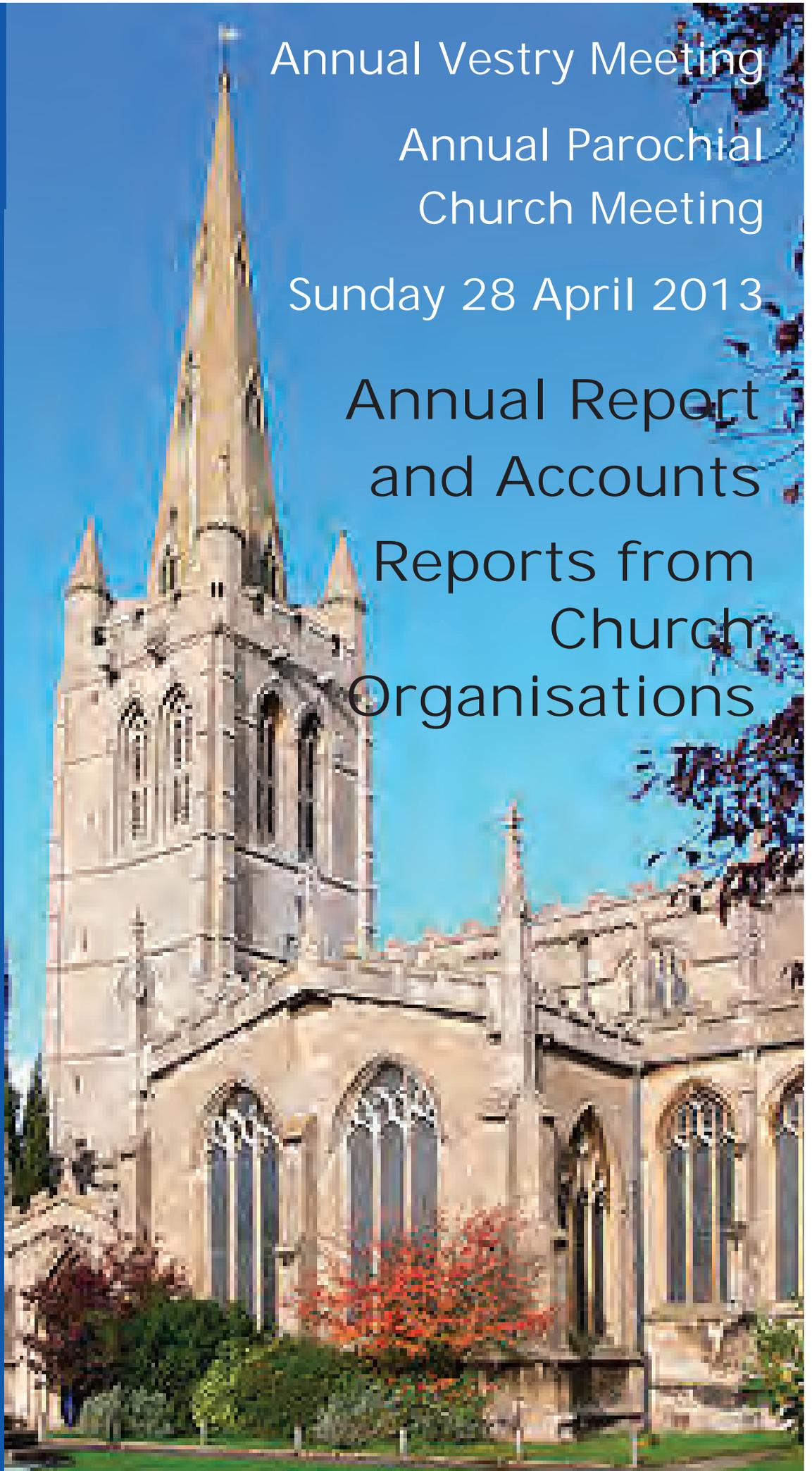
# All Saints Oakham

Annual Vestry Meeting

Annual Parochial  
Church Meeting

Sunday 28 April 2013

Annual Report  
and Accounts  
Reports from  
Church  
Organisations





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## Annual Vestry Meeting 2013

A meeting of Oakham parishioners will be held at 11:00am on Sunday 28th April 2013 in All Saints Church for the election of Churchwardens.

### Agenda

- 1 Prayers
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Minutes of meeting of 1st April 2012
- 4 Election of Churchwardens
- 5 Election of Deputy Churchwardens

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2013

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting of members of the Church Electoral Roll will then follow

### Agenda

- 1 Presentation of the new Electoral Roll
- 2 Minutes of meeting of 1st April 2012
- 3 Election of PCC members
- 4 Finance: to receive Church Accounts and appoint an Examiner
- 5a Vicar's Report
- 5b PCC Planning Project
- 6 PCC Secretary's Report and reports from other church groups (see booklet)
- 7 Deanery Synod Report
- 8 Election of Sidespersons
- 9 Other matters  
(any items should have been notified, where possible, to the chairman or secretary in advance)

## Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting 2012

**1st April 2012 at 11.35 am**

**Present:** Canon L T Francis-Dehqani (Chair), 80 Parishioners.

The Meeting began with prayer.

**Apologies:** Mr & Mrs Bush, Mrs R Falconer, Mrs A Venning and Mr & Mrs Wareham.

**Minutes:** Proposed (D Ufton) and seconded (M Tomalin) that the Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 17th April 2011 were a true and accurate record of that meeting. Carried nem con.

**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 should be considered by the PCC at its next meeting. This was agreed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.45 am.

# Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2012

1st April 2012 at 11.45 am

**Present:** Canon L T Francis-Dehqani (Chair) and 80 Parishioners

**Apologies:** Mr & Mrs Bush, Mrs R Falconer, Mrs A Venning and Mr & Mrs Wareham

**Electoral Roll:** At 16th March 2012 the Oakham All Saints' Electoral Roll contained 320 names. The addition of retired clergy would increase this number by 18 to 338. The Electoral Roll Officer Richard Davies, who compiles the Roll in consultation with the Stewardship Secretary, was thanked for his work.

**Minutes:** Proposed (P Hill) and seconded (P Munro) that the Minute of the Annual Parochial Meeting held on 17th April 2011 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 2015: Dr S Cheverton, Mr S Long and Dr M (Tony) Edgar.

**Treasury Team's Report:** John King referred the meeting to the comprehensive details given in the Annual Report Booklet, and highlighted the key figures in the annual accounts. In view of the lack of funds for fabric the continued importance of the Stewardship scheme could not be over emphasised. The year-end balance of £53,790 gave a too favourable picture since it contained the Church Hall balance of £19,616 which was ring fenced for the Hall. It was a requirement of the Charity Commission that the accounts reflected the Hall fund.

M Tomalin asked a question concerning the justification of the Diocese for increasing our Parish Share by 5.4% and wondered whether Diocesan expenses had been trimmed at all. The Vicar replied that whilst the full payment of our share was an absolute priority, nevertheless there was currently in place a Diocesan Parish Share Review Group looking at a number of issues. For example, most of the fees received from the high volume of weddings and funerals were remitted to the Diocese, which was in addition to our full share payment. The capping of the share calculation for large parishes was also on the agenda.

Proposed by J King and seconded by P Kinal that the accounts be accepted as a true statement of the financial position of the church. Carried nem con.

The Vicar expressed gratitude for all the work done by the Treasury Team during the year.

**Appointment of an Examiner:** Following Mr Gibson's decision to step down as Examiner, a replacement was needed to cover the next annual accounts (2012). The PCC was requested to pursue this need as a matter of some urgency.

**Vicar's Report:** The Vicar referred to his comprehensive report in the Annual Report Booklet. Despite a year of staffing changes it was commendable and encouraging that the number of worshippers averaged 210 adults and 20 children each week. Service patterns and a team-wide review of family services would be addressed during the latter part of 2012. The PCC Planning Meeting arranged for May 8th would be looking at ideas and priorities of many aspects of Church life, from delegation of duties to the serving of coffee after the main Sunday morning service. The Vicar expressed his gratitude for all the work done by the Clergy Team, the Readers, licensed Evangelists and Retired Clergy, together with the many members of the congregation who give of their time and talents.

Mr S Bruce (Churchwarden) expressed the thanks and appreciation of the whole congregation for the Vicar's ministry over the past year. It was a privilege to have him as their Vicar.

PCC Secretary's and Other Reports: These had been issued earlier in the Annual Reports Booklet.

Diocesan Synod Representative J Tomalin brought the meeting's attention to the Diocesan Synod Report in the Booklet, with the reminder that the position of women in the episcopate still had to be finalised.

The elections for members of the Diocesan Synod from the Deanery Synod would take place in October 2012.

A number of questions and opinions were put forward by parishioners on the way in which communicants went to and from the altar. Mrs J Richardson asked for a précis of the minutes of PCC Meetings to be published in the Church Magazine. There were concerns expressed about the suitability of serving coffee in the Mayhew Room after the main Sunday service, especially about hygiene and safety issues. It was suggested that alternatives could be considered. This would be an item on the PCC's Planning Meeting agenda.

It was agreed that members of the ASK Group should be commended on their Palm Sunday presentation.

**Election of Sidespersons:** The following list of parishioners had been submitted by Lyn Everitt for appointment as sidespersons for 2012-2013: Audrey Austen, Kathryn Collinson, Andy Compton, Dennis Corton, 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, Sue Reilly, Brian Rose, Elizabeth Smith, Ron Streeter, Michael Timms, John Tomalin, Marilyn Tomalin, Alex Uff, Jackie Vecqueray, Mike Vecqueray, Des Wareham, Brenda Weatherhogg and Patrick Wilson.

Proposed by P Wood, seconded by K Andrews. Carried nem con.

**Final Prayer:** There being no further business the meeting closed with prayer at 12.35 pm.

# Vicar's Annual Report

*Canon Lee T Francis-Dehqani*

In 2005 I wrote my first Annual Report as your Parish Priest. I was wondering how we have changed and what signs of development we have seen. In this report I am revisiting the challenges that we set for ourselves then and how things currently stand. I reported then on SEVEN main areas and identified FIVE priorities.

## 1 – Worship

In 2005 I wrote: *Every annual report I have written or will write begins with worship.* It remains true. Our worship daily, through regular celebrations of the Eucharist on weekdays and at 8am and 10.30am on Sundays to our high festivals of Easter and Christmas, all seek to form us into what we truly seek to be; The Body of Christ.

It was my primary aim in 2005 *to provide worship that is accessible* and our parishioners must judge that. In this last year we have continued with a wide range and types of services. It is not easy to provide exactly what everyone wants. In the separate report on our year long consultation process you will see a high degree of appreciation of worship.

I want to record my sincere thanks to all who make worship here possible and profitable. To our Director of Music, **Mr Kevin Slingsby** and the choir. He will report elsewhere and I would encourage anyone who wishes to join to choir to be brave enough to do it! Also he explains the reasons why we are making increased use of photocopy hymn sheets. We have discussed this at length in PCC and I entirely am in agreement with it. This is a decision we have taken for good reasons, namely to allow a flexibility in hymn choices beyond our current books.

I also record my thanks to the servers and vergers, flower team, bellringers and the sidesmen and women who work so hard to ensure all areas of our worshipping life are so well looked after. Our Head Sidesman (she doesn't like sidesperson or any variant!) **Mrs Lyn Everitt** steps down this year and I record my sincere thanks for her dedication, especially in all the extra civic services she has covered over these last five years.

I am also grateful to all the coffee team and **Mrs Jill Welsh** who coordinates them. Together they help us offer a time for meeting each other after church at 10.30. we have tried differing ways of managing this over the last few months. From 14th April

we will be introducing a new system, initially on a trial basis. This will mean that coffee will be served at the Mayhew Room door, people will be able to have coffee in the narthex with the access to the Mayhew Room restricted for access to the toilet. This will avoid the increasing crowdedness of this room and also allow the children and adults drink to be served from the same place. To facilitate this, those leaving immediately after the service are asked to leave through the South Door where I will greet them.

## 2 – PCC

One of the most significant changes in my time here has been the legal requirement that has restricted churchwardens terms of office and our local convention to rotate PCC membership by three yearly terms of office for PCC members. I am grateful to all who serve on PCC and especially for new members who join us.

It is a challenge for all of us to ensure our structures entirely reflect our needs at any given time. In 2005 we introduced a number of Forums – Worship, Pastoral Care, Children and Young People and Adult Education. The first two have worked well, the latter two were envisaged more as a cross team initiative and are perhaps now better served in new forms, I address the issue of new working groups in the Consultation report.

**Wardens:** I am well served by the Churchwardens **Mr Stan Bruce** and **Mrs Margaret Pattinson**. I have appreciated their dedication; they have been unfailing in their attention to their duties. After 5 years of service Mr Bruce retires and a new Warden will be elected at the Annual Meeting. I record my very sincere thanks to both of them and especially to Stan on his retirement from office.

## 3 – Ministerial Team

In 2005 I commented on the huge potential of a mixed clerical and lay team, and I have not been disappointed. In the separate report you can read the changes we have had in

this last year. I simply record that we would not be the vibrant place we are without the huge amount of work from my ministerial colleagues both lay and ordained. 2012 saw the retirement of one Reader (**Mr Nick Holford**) and in 2013 another (**Mrs Debbie Marsh**), we need to continue to think of who else might be being called to lay or ordained ministry.

It is a mark of the Bishop's confidence in the Team and particularly the potential of the work at Oakham that a Stipendiary curate has been placed here. I greatly enjoy overseeing this ministerial formation. Dominic (like Hildred and Susie before him) is NOT an extra pair of hands to be deployed to fill gaps in service provision, he is here for training and also to develop his own ministerial style. It is a privilege to do this work, although it is a great deal more onerous than it has been in generations gone by.

## 4 – The Team Ministry

I served from 2004-2010 as Priest in charge as we awaited the legalities that formed the Team Ministry in Jan 2011. It is a joy now to be the Team Rector with all the incumbent responsibilities it brings. Team Ministries are not as "in vogue" as they once were. The Church of England defines a Team Ministry as:

*a formal collaborative ministry established, by a pastoral scheme, for the area of an existing benefice or a new benefice, formed by union or other re-organisation of existing benefices, in which the cure of souls and pastoral care of those in the benefice are shared.*

This sharing needs to be found in the DNA of Teams and it is what I have worked for since I came. I believe we have made huge strides towards it and I remain utterly committed to it. I have served all 18 years of ordained ministry in Team settings and I believe this way of working allows for the mutual support and encouragement of ministers and the better coordination of mission and pastoral care. Teams are often criticized for the multiplication of meetings and the danger



of inter-team tension hampering mission. I am acutely attuned to these potential problems but believe that the possibilities for growth outweigh them. I see our Team Ministry as a vital contribution to the Christian witness of our County, but parishioners should recognize the huge amount of energy and work it takes to lead a Team of this size.

## 5 – Children and Young People

We need only to look across to the Play and pray area or listen to children as they report on their Sunday School activities to see the results of our work with Children. Over 270 children from local schools will have taken part in activities in our church during Holy Week. This work, ably overseen by Revd Dr Dominic Coad, our curate, is a wonderful testimony to the increased scope of our work with local schools.

Pram Service and Tiny Tots are real opportunities for contact and influence with a wider range of families. For the second occasion in my time here we celebrated a baptism in Pram Service which was a real joy. Thankyou to **Mrs Jenni Duffy** who has organized Pram Service so well for so long and **Mrs Denise MacDonald** for her well appreciated care and attention to Tiny Tots.

I am enormously grateful to **Mrs Alison Long** for coordinating Sunday School and all who help and teach BUT we need more helpers. Some leaders are moving or retiring and if this vital work is to be as effective as it can be we need people to help and to teach. We also need a new coordi-

nator. This is wonderfully exciting and valuable work; all interested are invited to a meeting at the Vicarage on **Friday 19th April at 8pm.**

We take the implementation of our Safeguarding (Child Protection) Policy very seriously and all our helpers are CRB checked Our policy makes the welfare and safety of children our paramount concern. This is overseen effectively by **Mrs Anne Venning** and **Mrs Sally Corton** to whom I record my thanks.

In the Autumn we propose to have a Youth Intern placed here to work with young people over 11. This is part of the Diocesan scheme whereby a youth work student is placed for 25 hours per week in a parish. We have made budgetary provision for this, but now need to identify suitable accommodation.

## 6 – Pastoral Work

In 2012 at Oakham there were 41 funerals, 16 weddings, 56 Baptisms and 2 confirmations. All of this takes very careful preparation and follow up. In reading the report of the Pastoral Forum, skillfully chaired by our Assistant Priest **Revd Hildred Crowther**, you will appreciate the extent of this work, which is often unseen. In the consultation report you will see that we seek ways of even greater coordination of Pastoral Care.

In these last 9 years on of the areas we have concentrated on is the more focused preparation of wedding couples. I myself see every couple in the Team where there has been a previous marriage to ensure a consistent operation of the Diocesan policy, which is generous and gracious. In

addition we have introduced a day long wedding preparation session which we run twice yearly. Around 20 couples attend over any one year and we have indications that it is found helpful. Our annual service for the bereaved at All Souls and our new bereavement group are just the outward manifestation of ongoing pastoral work in this area.

Hildred's report will outline the ways in which we coordinate this work. I reiterate her appeal that the clergy should be kept informed of those people who need visiting or Communion at Home. The Clergy cannot do all of this themselves so we are grateful to our lay ministers and others who help.

## 7 – Adult Education and Outreach

It is encouraging to read the reports of Home Groups, Lent Groups and the Healing Prayer Group. I am aware this work can feel unsupported and I commit myself to looking at a new type of course or lectures in the coming year. I know they have been appreciated in the past and we did not have one this Autumn. I encourage Parishioners to consider joining such a group which would also need new people to lead and host.

## Five Priorities

In 2005 I identified these priorities:

- (a) A Worship Centred Community
- (b) A Collaborative Ministry Team
- (c) A developing, coordinated grouping of parishes
- (d) A learning, nurturing people
- (e) A place where children our welcomed and nurtured.

We have made progress in each area. If I were to give an old fashioned judgement in the style of a School Report. Perhaps I would say *Some progress noted, still work to be done if they are to achieve their full potential.*

Finally, there are a lot of thanks in these reports but I must single out the work of our Assistant Priest **Revd Hildred Crowther**. We can easily forget that Hildred is non stipendiary. That means that she is both unpaid and also only meant to work part of the week. Hildred frequently works beyond what we have any right to expect of her. She is constantly loyal and supportive and I owe her a huge debt of gratitude.

# PCC Consultation – March 2013

Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani – Team Rector

## Process

In May 2012 the Parochial Church Council spent an extended period looking at the strengths and weaknesses of our church life. It was a very encouraging time together. The Vicar's working priorities 2004-2012 were summarised as

- **Team** – Building a healthy Team Ministry
- **Families** – Sunday and midweek provision for Children and Young People
- **Worship** – Sunday worship, including music and preaching that is accessible and uplifting
- **The Fringe** – To engage those beyond regular churchgoing .–
- **Handing On** – Securing our future esp in Parish finances, buildings and staffing.

The PCC identified their aspirations to be :

**Christ-centred**  
**Inclusive**  
**Welcoming**  
**Community focussed**  
**Child friendly**  
**Listening**  
**Loving**  
**Outward-looking**  
**Sharing our faith**  
**Generous**

After discussion at the following PCC we sought the views of the congregation on what we did well and where we could develop our life together.

## Survey

We made a simple survey asking how far people shared these priorities, how they felt about worshipping at All Saints and what they felt we did well and where they would like to see changes. This survey was available throughout the early Autumn and the responses collated and considered by PCC in November.

We received 55 responses which represent 71 individuals. In addition 11 members of the PCC had input in the initial consultation evening along with the 3 clergy. 12 responses are from people under 50 and 43 from those over 50.

### **Question 1 How do you feel about worshipping at All Saints Oakham?**

The aim of this question was to root opinion and future planning in the experience of worship and people's reaction to it. At least 43/55 responses report positive feelings about worship. Within these responses mention is made of Welcome, Spiritually uplifting and feeling comfortable and settled.

### **Question 2 Do you recognise the priorities the Vicar has thus far**

### **identified? Do you welcome them**

This question seeks to use this period of future planning as a continuation and development of work already carried out. Most people understood the path of parochial development over these last years and no one distanced themselves entirely from the direction we have moved in. There was a particular welcome for work with young families and changes to worship.

### **Question 3 & 4 What we do well and what we do less well.**

There has been extensive consideration of the views expressed, which were encouraging and insightful. Many areas were identified, too many to mention.

Things that were appreciated included:

**Children including Sunday School**  
**Worship (esp variety)**  
**Welcome**  
**Music**  
**Preaching**

Things identified as possible areas for improvement included:

**Work with teenagers 20s**  
**Attracting Volunteers**  
**Publicity/Communication**

## Future Priorities

Some major areas where we need to do DIFFERENT THINGS in each and to FOCUS on them

### **COMMUNICATIONS.**

To set up a working party to review our printed and on line communications.

### **PASTORAL CARE.**

To affirm the good work of the PASTORAL FORUM, continue its over-

sight and refresh its membership.

### **CHILDREN & YOUTH WORK.**

To achieve the placement youth intern and set up an ADVISORY GROUP.

To be part of the Team review of Church @ 4 and make decisions thereon.

To recruit new Sunday School Co-Ordinator.

### **WORSHIP**

To refresh the membership of the Worship Forum, especially seeking a representative of 8am congregation

To set up and contribute to a Team Wide Worship Planning Group.

### **SPACE**

In view of the many discussions on use of space, we need to consider how to best assess our use of space and options for change. To explore bringing in a consultant to help work out possibilities

## Conclusion

This process has allowed us to give concentrated time to considering our future together. Currently the Diocese is encouraging all parishes to produce a *Growth Action Plan (GAP)* which seeks to grow each church in numbers, in discipleship, in evangelism, in community engagement and in confidence. Our consultation process means that we have gone a long way to produce our GAP. The groups established will feed into this process.

I will take questions and comments on this report at the APCM.

# Ministry Team

*Canon Lee T Francis-Dehqani – Team Rector, Chair Ministry Team*

The Ministry Team has undergone more changes this year.

In March 2012 **Revd Janet Tebby** was licensed as Team Vicar with responsibility for the parishes in the north of the Team.

In July we celebrated the ordination of **Revd Dr Dominic Coad** as a deacon. Dominic trained at Westcott House Cambridge and is settling into a busy and varied team. We are expecting Dominic to be ordained priest on 29th June at Peterborough Cathedral and preside at his First Mass on 30th June, 10.30am at Oakham.

In August **Mrs Madeleine Morris** our Licensed Pastoral Minister gave birth to George, she has been spending more time with him and he is now one of our most regular worshippers! Madeleine still helps with a proportion of our Pastoral work.

In September **Mrs Jenni Duffy** was licensed as an Evangelist at a wonderful service in Peterborough Cathedral. Jenni is well known in the parish especially through her leading of Pram Service for many years. She is already building up great networks with young families. At the same time

**Mrs Marilyn Tomalin** retired as Parish Evangelist after 14 years' service. Marilyn was one of the very first licensed Evangelists and we paid tribute to her effective work at Harvest festival.

At the beginning of December **Mrs Debbie Marsh** was selected to train for the ordained ministry. She will begin her training in September 2013 at Westcott House, Cambridge. We rejoice with her and there will be an opportunity for us to say farewell to her later in the year.

In the end of December, **Mr Nicholas Holford** retired after six years of service. We said thanks to him at a service in Langham in January.

It is a real mark of our growth and our Team identity that we now have 5 Clergy, 4 Readers, 2 Parish Evangelists and a Lay Pastoral Minister. We meet regularly to share our ministry and seek the support of others. One



*Licensing of Revd Janet Tebby - March 2012*

of the very important features of Team working is praying together. We do that daily in churches throughout the Team but we join together for the celebration of Communion on Thursdays at Oakham at 8.30am. A special intention of this service is to pray for each other and our work. One of the ways you could support us is by joining us in this service.

I record my thanks to all my colleagues. They are a joy to work with and share with me the joys and sorrows of ministry.

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## Licensed Evangelist

*Jenni Duffy*

It has been 6 months since I was licensed at Peterborough Cathedral in a beautiful and emotional service, I am so grateful for the support I have received from Marilyn, Lee, the Ministry team, PCC and all of you.

Many people have kindly taken the time to enquire as to how I'm getting on and by far the most frequent question I get asked is "What exactly is a Licensed Evangelist?" Well.... put simply, a Licensed Evangelist is someone who reaches out to those on the fringes of church (those who do not attend church regularly or at all), encourages others to see God at work in their lives and promotes evangelism within their own community. The specific role of a Licensed Evangelist will depend on their particular gifts, experiences and the needs of their church and community.

My role will focus primarily on building relationships with children and families through pastoral work like the Pram and Toddler Services, organising the Travelling Nativity, work with

Baptism families, the "Experience Easter" event and the new Church@4 services taking place across our benefice. I will also be involved in facilitating small groups and assisting with the "Come and Chat" group which provides support for people who have been bereaved. Through these activities I have the opportunity to come into contact with people I wouldn't ordinarily have the chance to meet and to build relationships which, in time, may lead to deeper conversations about faith, God's love and sharing the Good News.

This year we had 3 Travelling Nativities going around the parish during Advent, a record number of 69 families hosted the knitted sets for one night each (please see the photographs in the children's area) My

thanks to Pamela and Denise for their help.

Special thanks must go to the dedicated team of people who keep contact with our Baptism families. Anniversary cards are sent out for four years following the Baptism in addition to newsletters and invitations to special events. We have 105 families on our list and there have been 30 new Baptisms in the last year. It was wonderful to see so many of these attending the Christingle and Crib Services.

Evangelism is indeed an exciting journey; I would love each and every one of you to join me in sharing the Good News, showing God's love and helping to build His kingdom here on earth.

# Music

*Kevin Slingsby, Director of Music*

You will read elsewhere in these reports of the outcome of the recent PCC consultation about the strengths and weaknesses of our church life – one of the priorities over the last few years has been to engage in worship which is accessible and uplifting, and music plays an important part in that, along with liturgy and preaching. The views expressed in the consultation suggest that worship in general, and preaching and music in particular are things that we do well, and I would like to reflect on how we have achieved that with the music particularly, not so that we can bask in any glory, but so that we can plan effectively for the future to make things even better.

## Music as part of worship

I say music ‘particularly’ because I believe that the first important reason that makes our music effective is that it is not considered just on its own. Liturgy, preaching and music form three foundation stones for our worship, but they do not each exist in isolation. Rather, they should interlock and enhance each other, each supporting the others in a variety of ways.

The variety of worship styles that we endeavour to enable, both at All Saints and in the wider team, will all include a different balance of those three elements – for example, the carol service at Christmas has a strong liturgical structure and lots of traditional music but no preaching; a typical Church@4 service on the other hand has very little liturgical structure and more modern music, but relies on a strong but simply presented message; the 8am communion service has a very traditional liturgy and a sermon, but no music; and on Good Friday we see one hour where liturgy and music are at their strongest, followed by two hours where the preaching takes over as prime ingredient.

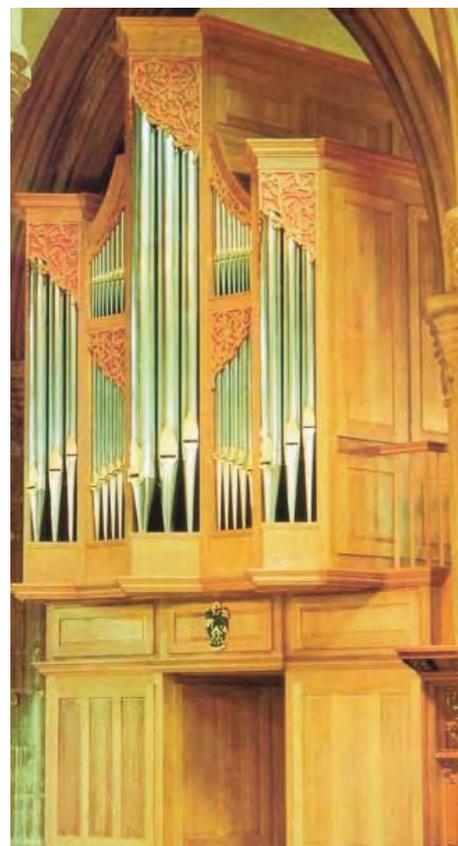
Whatever the style of worship though, it will only be at its most effective if all three elements have been planned with their interaction with the others at the heart of that planning. For the music, that means considering the style of the service, the needs of the liturgy at different times during the service, what the message of the sermon will be, what the readings are saying, practicalities such as making sure the offertory hymn is not too short, ensuring that music for choir and congregation is balanced appropriately, keeping a balance of traditional and more modern hymnody for the congregation, and so on.

## Planning together

Secondly, I believe that the best music will not result from insular planning by me as director of music – for that reason I value tremendously the input that results from various sources, for example – the regular meetings of the Worship Forum (and I think the planned instigation of a team-wide worship planning group is an excellent initiative); planning meetings between myself and the Team Rector and other members of the clergy; feedback from members of the choir; informal chats with members of the congregation; regular planning meetings for Laudamus, the team choir, over a pint in the Wheatsheaf – all of these are important in keeping a handle on the overall picture. It always gives me a moment of excitement when someone suggests a new hymn or piece of music that I have not come across before!

## Hymnody

Thirdly, and relating particularly to congregational participation, it is important that we keep abreast of developments in the field of hymnody. It would be so easy to choose the hymns every week from those well-known and loved favourites contained in our two hymn books, the *New English Hymnal* (published 27 years ago in 1986), and its more ‘modern’ companion *BBC Songs of Praise* (now 14 years old – published in 1997). The guide produced by the Royal School of Church Music month by month is always an excellent starting place, keeping abreast as it does of developments in the church music world, but it is just a starting place, and by its very nature cannot be all things to all men, but using it does highlight the inadequacy of our current hymn books, and we owe it to ourselves to be open to make use of the wide range of material now available. So how do we do this? Well, as I write



this, I have in the bookcase behind me three shelves of different hymn books – various versions of *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, including *Common Praise* and the 2010 supplement *Sing Praise*, and just joined hot off the press by the 2013 *Ancient & Modern – Hymns for Refreshing Worship*; numerous editions of *Hymns Old & New* from the Kevin Mayhew stable, including the 1996 edition currently used at Whissendine and Market Overton as well as the later 2004 and 2008 versions in both their Anglican and Catholic guises; four volumes of *The Source*, the collection of Worship Songs and Hymns made by Graham Kendrick; five volumes of *Songs of Fellowship*, the latest published in 2011; *Hymns of Glory Songs of Praise*, the latest 2008 incarnation of the Presbyterian Church Hymnary; complete *Mission Praise* and *Junior Praise* – they are the main ones but there are others!

As well as all the printed hymn books, a lot of the material is available in digital format – for example we have access to the *Digital Song Book*, with music and words for all 2200 items in *The Source*, online access to *Mission Praise*, and digital versions of *Sing Praise* and (soon) *Ancient and Modern*. This makes it much easier to produce word sheets, and more importantly, indexes of material enables easy and swift access to hymns suitable for particular themes or seasons or relevant to particular biblical references. In addition, I keep a spreadsheet which lists all the hymns in the books we use regularly (currently 4195 hymns, but with more waiting to be added) to assist in the planning.

We could attempt to keep up-to-date with our hymnody by replacing our hymn book with a more modern one. If we were to do that, then I think the new 2013 edition of *Ancient & Modern* would be the one to choose. If we were to do that, 250 copies at £12.50, with the introductory 25% discount, would cost **£2343**. However, we would still be restricted to the contents of just one hymn book, however good, and we would probably be looking to replace it again in 20 years' time at the outside. The alternative is to print our own hymn sheet every week, which at the current cost of 1.3 pence per double sided sheet, for a generous average of 175 sheets per week for 20 years would cost **£2438**. A very comparable figure, and just £120 per year. Even if you add to the argument the alleged waste of paper, then reflect that 250 copies of a new hymn book would contain about 120,000 sheets, whereas 20 years of printed hymn sheets would be 180,000 sheets – yes, more, but not significantly so.

## Participation

My fourth point of reflection concerning the quality of our music concerns the participation of those involved in it. I started my report last year with a slightly negative comment about the difficulty in persuading people to make the regular commitment to being members of the choir or music group, and that continues to be the case. I am extremely grateful to all those members who give unstintingly of their time and talents, and I am very conscious of the pressures on those who have other commitments

but nevertheless give of their services as and when they can. The fact that choir is often small in number from Sunday to Sunday puts added pressure on those who are there, and I am sure that there are many others in the congregation who would be able to make a significant contribution by joining us, and enjoy themselves in doing so.

However, we do continue to enjoy a larger choir on special occasions when Laudamus, the Team choir, enables choir members from across the Team to join together. Over the last year, such occasions have included the Advent Carol Service, Carol Services in Oakham, Whissendine & Market Overton, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, Ash Wednesday, Dominic Coad's welcoming service, the Civic Service for the Queen's Jubilee, as well as the regular Fifth Sunday Team Services. The choir have also taken part in the Feast Weekend concert at Market Overton and the Peterborough Diocesan Choir Festival. In September we held an 'Open Choir' Music Sunday, when a good number of people came to join us for the afternoon rehearsal and following Evensong to experience it first-hand, and as a result there have been a few new members, both at Oakham and in the villages.

I have concentrated in my report this year more on the wider aspects of music in our worship at All Saints rather than the specifics of the last year, and in a year when our Team Rector has reflected on his eight years here, and when the PCC has undertaken a widespread review of our church life, that is perhaps appropriate, particularly as I have now been here eight years myself. I would echo Lee's school report style words, *Some progress noted, still work to be done if they are to achieve their full potential*.

Finally, I would like to express my particular thanks to Paul Butler, who has been a tremendous support in my work, particularly in accompanying choral services, when I know that he will not only do an excellent job on the organ, but will usually also be one step ahead in dealing with all eventualities!

I look forward to the future as we further develop our work at All Saints with a sense of excitement and challenge.



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## Electoral Roll

### *Richard Davies – Electoral Roll Officer*

The total number on the Roll at 16th March 2012 was 320, and since then 4 members have died or moved away and 7 new members have joined, making the total at 15th March 2013 323.

Of those 285 are resident in the Parish, and 38 are non-residents.

The Electoral Roll is compiled in close consultation with the Stewardship Secretary.

For the future (2013 - 2020), in 2013 a completely new Roll is being prepared, and on 15th March, with another two weeks to go before the deadline for registration, 187 have renewed while there are 46 new enrolments.

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## Good News Van

### *Catriona Drye*

The Good News Van is a Christian Lending Library with books, DVDs and CDs with a Christian foundation. There are biographies, prayer and missionary books, as well as novels and other interesting subjects. We meet monthly; mostly on the 3rd Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm either at 25 Willow Crescent or in the Common Room at St. John and St. Anne in South Street, next door to the Fire Station. Anyone is welcome to attend.

## Worship Forum

### *Canon Lee T Francis-Dehqani – Chairman*

The Worship Forum aims are to reflect on the worship pattern offered at All Saints and act as a reference group for the vicar in developing 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.

One of the main tasks is to review our Christmas and Easter Services where the large numbers show their popularity but we always need to review. In this last year we have changed the time and nature of the Carol Service, holding it in conjunction with Oakham Town Council. We have introduced more variety in the provision in Holy Week and Easter to allow differing village provision for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

In the Director of Music's report you will read a reasoned explanation for the occasional use of photocopied hymns sheets. Worship Forum has supported the singing a range of hymns that the required flexibility means these are often not found in

the existing hymn books. At the same time it is true that we have created a wide range of reusable orders of service. We now propose to amalgamate these in more substantial booklets each covering a season of the Church's year. We propose that the first of these will be ready hopefully for Ordinary time which begins in June or failing that for Advent.

There is a need to refresh the membership of this Forum and anyone interested should make themselves known to the Vicar or Wardens. Parishioners are encouraged to continue to make their views on worship known through the Forum or the PCC to which it reports.

## Bell Ringers

### *Louis Totaro – Tower Captain*

I would begin by saying that 2012 passed relatively uneventful, but I'd be fibbing! During the year, the Oakham team rang for a total of 7 weddings and played host to several visiting groups of teams, accommodating over 90 people, which comprised not only of ringers but their wider spectating entourage too.

Of course I cannot omit to mention that the Olympics was the main highlight of 2012 and Oakham Tower played its due part. Like many other churches across the UK, we not only rang to welcome the Olympic torch passing through our town and the gem of our county on 6th July, but we then rang in the early morning of 28th July, to mark the Opening Ceremony. Let the Isle be full of noises!

In respect of our peal of bells, these remain in relatively good and ringable condition but constant maintenance is required and it is likely that several items will require the attention over the course of the next 12 months.

Practice nights on Tuesdays remain well attended and I am happy to report that we have been maintaining a good standard of ringing. 2012 has somewhat been a 'lean' year in attracting new faces to ringing but we

have recently been fortunate to welcome my partner, Helen Brooks, who only started to learn last December and is already showing encouraging signs of becoming a natural! On behalf of the ringers, I wish her all the best of luck and hopefully look forward to see her join us ringing on Sunday mornings too.

For us, attracting new learners to join us is our top priority. 2013 marks my 20th year of ringing, following on from a long line of ringing family members, particularly my late Grandfather, Bob Hoy, who himself was a Chorister, Bellringer and previous Tower Captain of Oakham. Unfortunately, he did not know that I took up ringing until after his death in 1993 but from the stories I hear from my fellow ringers, I understand better how much campanology is a wonderful and fulfilling past time and stands as testament to the working life of the church and call-

## Sidesmen

### *Lyn Everitt*

The team of sidesmen works as smoothly as ever and the marshalling system, introduced a couple of years ago, seems to be going well. Busy times, i.e. Christmas and special services are also well covered, for which I am grateful.

This year we have had 1 new recruit. Robert Goodwin was moving to Scotland, so Stuart Long has taken his place. Right now we have a full complement, but 3 sidesmen are stepping down at the APCM. Looking for volunteers!

At present the roll call is as follows:

Audrey Austen  
Kathryn Collison  
Andy Compton  
Dennis Corton  
Richard Davies  
Richard Day  
Gerry Duffy  
Helen Durham  
Lyn Everitt  
Rebecca Falconer  
Ken Gilman  
Peter Hill  
Joan Jervis  
Ron Jervis  
Stephan Johnson  
Peter Kinal  
Stuart Long  
Jack Pearce  
Sue Reilly  
Brian Rose  
Elizabeth Smith  
Ron Streeter  
Michael Timms  
John Tomalin  
Marilyn Tomalin  
Alex Uff  
Jackie Vecqueray  
Mike Vecqueray  
Des Wareham  
Brenda Weatherhogg  
Patrick Wilson

Des Wareham and Helen Durham are leaving the rota, but I am grateful for the efforts they have put in and help they have been.

My thanks to everyone.

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ing the community to worship.

I would encourage anyone to come and have a go. Our practice night is held every Tuesday 7.30pm – 9.00pm and our Sunday Morning ringing commences at 9.55am.

# Pastoral Forum

*Rev. Hildred Crowther – Assistant Priest.*

The Pastoral Forum acts as a support to me in my pastoral role & as a sounding board when new ideas are floated eg. the listening course & bereavement group. (see on) It is also a confidential arena that allows news of changes in circumstances of parishioners to be shared & highlighted according to need, so that, where appropriate visits can be arranged. Thus we co-ordinate some, but by no means all, of the pastoral care that happens in our parish.

We arrange for the Reserved Sacrament (home communion) to be taken regularly to the chronic sick and housebound, and also to those who're temporarily unable to come to church due to illness or injury. However, keeping up with a congregation as large as ours is a huge task & we can't do it on our own. We need each one of you to be extra eyes & ears for us & to let us know when you become aware of someone in need or indeed if you are in need yourself. If you are unable to come to church through illness or injury, you can ask us for communion to be brought to you at home until you're ready to return to church. Alternatively, if you notice that someone who usually sits near you in church has been absent recently & you don't know why, please let us know. People in need of care will continue to slip through the net if you don't play this vital role. My contact details are on the front of the pew sheet or you can always speak to me on the Sundays when I am at All Saints. Alternatively, you can contact any member of the forum – Debbie Marsh, Gill Bruce, Denise McDonald, Pamela Woods and Monica Compton.

In addition to all of this there is a huge amount of pastoral care facilitated by the other members of our clergy & ministerial team as and when the need arises. A good proportion of this, though not all, is generated through the occasional offices – funerals, weddings and baptisms.

All pastoral care is confidential, so unless a recipient chooses to tell you, you'll never know that it happens.

There is also a good deal of informal care generously provided by members of our congregation, to neighbours, to other members of our church family and to other parishioners. This is vital work & also it goes

on quietly behind the scenes & we're indebted to those who give so generously of themselves & their time.

It is a characteristic of the Anglican Church that our care reaches out to none church families and is therefore in itself a form of mission.

You may recall that in the Annual Report for 2011 we said that we were in the process of setting up a Bereavement Group. Unfortunately, at that time it failed to get off the ground as we had too few volunteers to make it viable. However, the good news is that this is now up and running. In the autumn we held a short course on basic listening skills, using material obtained from the Acorn Christian Listening Foundation. This was well attended and people found it very worthwhile, discovering new things about themselves. Some were surprised to find the skill of listening to another person for just 3 minutes very difficult. For others the surprise was that there are different ways of listening and that we need to use different skills in different situations. Out of this we had sufficient volunteers to start the group. We considered various venues in which the group could meet, including our own Church Hall, but in the end, at Lee's suggestion, decided to ask the Revd Russell Parker of Oakham Methodist Church, if we could use their premises. He was delighted that this work was to be undertaken and has very generously given us the use of their all their facilities free of charge. Invitation cards were printed & sent to all the next of kin of those for whom we had held funerals in the last year. The next of kin of those for whom we've held funerals since then have been given invitations by the minister taking the funeral. This will be on going. The Methodist Church have been in-



vited to do the same.

The Forum decided to call the group "Come and Chat" and we meet monthly at 2.30pm, on the first Thursday of the month (except in April this year when, because of Easter, we'll meet on the second Thursday, April 11th). The group is informal and people can sit and chat over a cuppa, with no need to explain themselves as everyone who comes has recently been bereaved. If they feel the need for a more in depth conversation we have more experienced listeners and I will be at every meeting bar one. If you would like to come, please feel free to do so. You will be very welcome. If you know of anyone who would benefit from attending the group, please point them in our direction or better still, bring them along yourself. Again, we rely on you to spread the word.

As I'm sure you'll know by now, Debbie will be leaving the parish in the summer in order to begin her Ministerial Training. Naturally, we're all delighted for her and thank her for the huge contribution she's made to the Forum, the Church and the town. However, the remaining members of the Forum would very much like the much loved tea parties that she initiated and ran to continue. We are currently discussing how we can achieve this so if you feel that you would like to help we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Finally, we would like to express our grateful thanks to Catriona Drye, who recently retired from the Pastoral Forum, for her hard work and the much valued contribution she made over several years.

## Sunday School

*Alison Long*

We currently welcome an average of sixteen children to our weekly Sunday school sessions, which is I think the highest number since I have been involved. The ages of the children range from three to eleven, and we try and cater for them all in the activities we provide.

We are still using the lectionary based Roots scheme, which gives us a web resource to draw on as well as a bi-monthly magazine of ideas and suggestions.

This year we have enjoyed our barbecue in the summer which was a great success and much enjoyed by all (despite the wind!) The children also had a visit from Father Christmas at our Nativity rehearsal, which was very exciting and another great day out at the Panto

We have a great team of wonderful helpers and leaders, but this year our numbers are dropping, as we are losing a helper in March and a leader and two helpers from September.

With these high numbers of children, we really need to have a large team so that we can ensure we have three people on the rota each week.

Although our sessions are just forty five minutes in length, this may be the only time in a child's week where they have the chance to talk about God and explore some of the stories and ideas that us adults may know so well and take for granted.

Therefore, I appeal to anyone who feels that they could help out with Sunday school to come forward. The children in our Church family are an amazing bunch of characters, and it's a real privilege to spend this time with them.

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## Tiny Tots

*Denise McDonald & Alice Clarke*

The most striking feature of the year has been a slow but steady increase in the number of children attending on Thursday mornings. We now think it a slow week if fewer than 25 are present and our highest total was 51 for Father Christmas's annual (and much appreciated) visit.

Ours is a fluctuating clientele, since children grow up and go to school, families move in and out of the area, while not everyone has the same needs, but the steady core of our group indicates a real social nexus.

We like to think that our group provides friendly support for mothers who need it and a little relaxation for those under pressure. We do not operate in isolation. During the year many visitors, expected and unexpected, pass by us. We welcome them all with the offer of a cup of tea or coffee. Most surprising perhaps last year was an OFSTED inspector (we are not liable to inspection). She was looking at the provision of other services for children in Rutland and wanted to meet child minders. So we

gave her a cup of coffee, introduced her to the child minders present and the mothers, fathers and grandparents, giving her the chance to ask what she wanted. We occasionally get visitors who do not realise the purpose of the group and think it is a coffee morning or the like. We give them a drink too and try to explain that they don't have to pay! We are also glad to provide for the various workmen around the church and hope we don't get in their way too much!

The pattern of the year does not change a great deal because it is broadly seasonal with craft activities and story generally themed. Apart from Father Christmas's visit, two of our most important events are the

## ASK

(All Saints Kids)

*Guli Francis-Dehqani*

Over the past year All Saints Kids (ASK), which caters for young people aged 10-15 and has been running for just over 3 years, has continued to meet usually once a month during the Sunday morning service.

Already small numbers have decreased further but we have retained the interest of a core membership of 3 or 4 who seem to value and appreciate meeting together. We have always relied on members of the congregation to offer sessions and this has become increasingly difficult over the past year as fewer people are volunteering. We are also aware that there are several younger children from Sunday School who will soon be ready to join ASK and this will change things considerably for the older ones. We are beginning to think about how to manage this transition. As ever, we are in great need of offers of help to run sessions and ideas for how to keep our young people interested and motivated enough to keep coming. One highlight this year was the parish confirmation service, followed by lunch at the Vicarage for ASK members who were invited to "Grill the Bishop"! The annual BBQ and the joint pantomime trip with Sunday School and the Friends of All Saints also took place again this year and we are looking at the possibility of a trip to Greenbelt this coming summer.

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Toddle Waddle in spring, which this year raised a very creditable £518 for the Meningitis Trust and the Teddy Bears' Picnic to end the summer session. Alas, once again the weather was not kind enough to have it outside but the Teddies didn't seem to mind. We also recognised the Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics.

Finally, as always, our most grateful thanks go to the mothers and other carers without whose friendly support the group would have no spirit. We love to see you each week.

# Pram and Toddler Services

*Jenni Duffy*

We are very pleased to be celebrating our 13th anniversary in May. At present we have 24 children registered and welcome about 3-7 children per week with their mums, dads or other carers. We have had a lot of older children graduate to big school and are enjoying seeing the growth of the new group and being involved in their discovery of the Bible and stories Jesus told.



Lee once again very kindly hosted the summer picnic at the Vicarage and we had a lovely afternoon with our teddies (zebra... giraffe...) sharing our holiday memories, renewing friendships and looking forward to the new term ahead. Activities this year have included making a burning bush, Joseph's coat of many colours, angels which helped to decorate the Church's Christmas tree and yummy jam sandwiches.

Pram Service has now joined Facebook – like our page (Oakham Pram and Toddler Services) and you will receive updates and other exciting news.

New faces on our staff rota include: Oakham school pupils, Jessie & Luca, who help us as part of their community service and guest leaders this year: Freya Osiatynski and Helen Durham – our grateful thanks to all of them. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved for keeping our group running smoothly

and sharing their gifts and time so generously.

The new prayer time we introduced last year is going well – a small, but dedicated team meet to pray for our work at Pram Service, the families we serve, our own families and the wider church. Please join us if you would like to or ask us to include any items

of prayer for you.

As always, visitors to our services are most welcome. We would love to have you join in our praise and worship and if you are a child at heart and enjoy a bit of creative mess – come and see what we get up to in our craft slot!



# Churches Together in Oakham and District

*Patrick Wilson*

Meetings of the Churches Together Committee were held in March, September and November, 2012, and in January 2013, with the Revd. Russell Parker (Methodist Church) in the Chair.

A refreshment tent was manned by CTiO at the very successful Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in Cutts Close, on 5th June. A tree, to mark the Jubilee was planted at the Brooke Hill Community Wood.

A Prayer Breakfast, to mark the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held in the Victoria Hall on 19th January, 2013, which was attended by upwards of eighty people, despite the very snowy weather. The speaker was Sister Rachel Overton.

Other CTO involvements during 2011 - 12 included:

Christian Corner and service details in the Rutland Times.

Lent lunches. Shortage of volunteers

to help with the organisation of these and the Advent lunches caused the suspension of the latter and a new arrangement by which responsibility for Lent lunches would be taken, a week at a time, by different churches.

Weekly Prayer Meeting and short service, on Wednesdays at 12.00 pm, in the Congregational Church. [For this greater support would be welcomed.]

Support for the Drop-in Centre in the Congregational Church Hall. [Although additional help is always welcome, particularly with the catering, it is pleasing to record that more than 40 volunteers, representing all the churches, help with this project.]

Publicity for Christmas Services.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, with the Prayer breakfast on 21st January, 2012 substituting for the Unity Service of previous years.

Annual Pulpit Exchange during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Good Friday Walk of Witness.

Lent House Groups and Palm Sunday Joint Worship.

Christian Aid Collection.

Women's World Day of Prayer.

Welcome packs, via the County Council, for families moving into Kendrew Barracks.

Floral decorations and service at Oakham Congregational Church, to mark the 350th anniversary of the Act of Uniformity.

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## Diocesan Synod

*John Tomalin – Diocesan Synod Representative*

Two meetings were held in 2012

### 24th March

#### **Bishop Stopford School, Kettering**

In his Presidential Address +Donald stressed the importance of maintaining institutions to support relationships. He stated that "Society needs its institutions for stability: take them away suddenly or change them too quickly and life rapidly becomes unsafe," and "when governments change the education system or the health service too rapidly, or restrict religious freedoms or redefine marriage we most certainly need to be on our guard." +Donald's full address can be found at [www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/synod1.pdf](http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/synod1.pdf)

Synod then debated the motion "That this house approve the draft Act of Synod adopting the Anglican Communion Covenant". The motion was carried in all three houses.

The Archdeacon of Northampton outlined the Diocesan Board of Education's approach to the current and frequently-changing developments in school structures nationally. The Board has agreed to support schools

moving to Academy status as and when the schools themselves feel this is appropriate. But the situation has been complicated by the fact that many village primary schools are too small for Academy status and need to join with others in "Multi-academy trusts" (MAT) but that government will not allow Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled schools to be in the same MAT, necessitating a further structure to enable MATs to join in "Local Collaborative Trusts" to achieve the necessary support on the ground.

### 6th October

#### **Malcolm Arnold Academy, Northampton**

Canon Margaret Johnson and Mr John MacMahon were elected as Diocesan Vice-Presidents for clergy and laity respectively.

Synod received the final report from the Parish Share Review Group. Parish Share income only paid for half the diocesan budget; the balance came from external sources, internal activities and reserves.

The Group had re-assessed the current Parish Share formula which had been introduced in 2008, which had resulted in a year-on-year rise in the amount collected for all but one of the last five years, despite the recession. The figures suggested that now was not the right time to make radical changes to the current system. The recommendations were approved by Synod.

The motion that this synod (a) approves the proposed budget for 2013 as outlined in the 2012-14 Budget Book; (b) authorises the Diocesan Board of Finance to expend a sum not exceeding £12 million in 2013; and (c) notes the budget position for 2014 was passed nem con. For further details see [www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/budget2013](http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/budget2013)

In response to a question it was pointed out that each PCC has a duty to register any chancel repair liability that exists.

Note that all Diocesan Synod reports are available at <http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/finance-and-administration/synods>

# Deanery Synod

## *John Tomalin – Lay Chair, Rutland Deanery*

There were four meetings in 2012-13.

### 10th May

#### **Empingham**

Meg Dyer (Diocesan President MU) gave a presentation on the work that the Mother's Union carried out in the diocese, nationally and worldwide.

The appointments of Revd David Nichol (Empingham) and Revd Marcus Purnell (Cottesmore) were noted as was the licensing of Revd Janet Tebby (Whissendine), and Revd Dominic Coad (Oakham).

### 5th July

#### **Ketton**

The deanery Eucharist was presided over by Revd Andrew Rayment. There was a good attendance and the address was given by the Ven Gordon Steele, the newly appointed Archdeacon of Oakham.

### 20th September

#### **Great Casterton**

Synod was addressed by Revd Sarah Walshe and the Revd Ian Watt both of whom work at Stocken Prison. They talked about their collaborative work with other faiths and the rewards and challenges of 'supporting all under their care of whatever faith, or none'. A priority in their work is the

resettlement of inmates at the end of their terms – volunteers would be welcomed to assist in this programme.

There was discussion on the recent General Synod vote on women in the episcopate and the representation on General Synod by lay and clergy members elected.

### 15th November

#### **Oakham**

A highly entertaining and informative talk was given by Revd Sarah Brown on the Farm Crisis Network (FCN). Outlining the area of operation and the role of FCN Revd Brown detailed some of the work that this Christian organisation, with a Christian ethos, had helped the farming community through various crises including flooding, foot & mouth, avian influenza and blue tongue. She indicated the stress and anxiety on farmers and others by the ever increasing burden of EU rules and regulations.

### 21st February

#### **Oakham**

The retiring Archdeacon of Northampton, Christine Allsopp addressed synod on her perceptions of the diocese and her time spent on General

Synod, in particular her involvement with the issue of women in the episcopate.

In particular she was excited by the growth and development in the young and lay ministry and, secondly in the half time priests who were being increasingly used to carry out changes identified in parish profiles. She was however concerned by the vulnerability of the urban and rural parishes with small congregations, the cost of building maintenance and resistance to change.

The Archdeacon then described the passage of the legislation for women in the episcopate through General Synod and the voting pattern that ensued. She suggested that opposing views should be challenged more robustly and that the focus should be on the next elections for General Synod in 2015. The views of those standing should be clearly made and candidates should be required to be open to questioning by the electorate prior to the election.

The next meeting of Deanery Synod will be on 16th May at Gt Casterton; adult education and ministry training by Canon Liz Holdsworth, Diocesan advisor on Adult Education & Ministry Training.

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## Church Hall

### *Peter Kinal*

I am pleased to report another successful year for the Church Hall. Both regular and occasional bookings held up well, despite difficult economic conditions, and the Committee has been able to transfer £2,500 to the PCC.

Maintenance costs have been covered, with Stephan, our cleaner and maintenance man being able to undertake much of the work himself, without the need to call in professional assistance. My thanks are due to him, as well as to all members of the Committee; but especially to our Treasurer, John Denny, who has continued to deal with our accounts most

efficiently, despite not always being in the best of health.

Comment has been made about the availability – or non-availability – of the Hall for church groups and events. The Hall cost £3,600 to run last year, which together with the sum transferred to the PCC, comes to more than £6,000. This sum comes from lettings. Church groups have the

use of the Hall for no charge, when it is available – though it is generally hoped that such groups may feel able to make a donation. This hope is seldom realized! It is clear, therefore that lettings - especially regular lettings - will take precedence, unless a decision be made that Church funds be allocated to cover costs.

# Stewardship

## Gordon Woods

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 about £3000 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. A personal thank you to all donors.

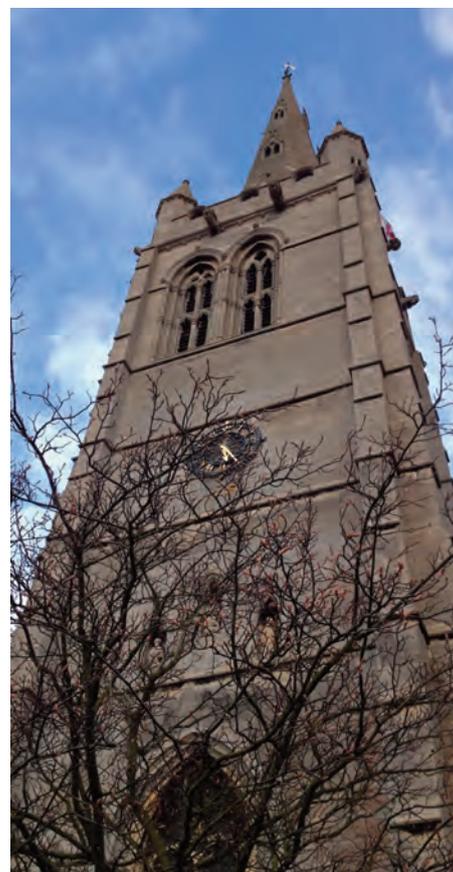
Some statistics; there are about 320 people on the electoral roll, 140 give by bankers order, 51 give by weekly envelopes, 5 by annual cheques or which represents 260 people when spouses are included. About ten donors are not on the electoral roll,

including retired clergy who are not listed on the roll.

The stewardship presentation of November 2011 was fully implemented during spring 2012 and since then there have been more new donors than people moving away.

New boxed envelopes will have started after Easter, I wonder whether there will be more because of new givers or less because of ..... Meanwhile I can always be confidentially approached about methods of giving on 01572 755371.

The table below shows a summary of the results of the stewardship campaign compared to the actual figures for 2011/12 and the budget for 2013.



All Saints' Church Oakham Accounts Summary c/w Stewardship Campaign	2011 actual	2012 actual	Stewardship Campaign	2013 budget
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### EXPENDITURE GENERAL

<b>PARISH SHARE</b> Our contribution towards the cost of providing ministry and pastoral care in the parish	£80,629	£83,300	£85,000	£87,015
<b>WORSHIP AND MISSION</b> The cost of our Church services, music, charitable giving and youth work	£16,858	£21,457	£22,000	£23,510
<b>RUNNING EXPENSES</b> The cost of heating, lighting, insurance, administration and minor maintenance	£24,508	£27,863	£30,000	£31,696
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE GENERAL</b>	£121,995	£132,620	£137,000	£142,221

### INCOME

<b>PLANNED GIVING</b> including regular, one-off donations and Income Tax recovered	£92,044	£109,980	£128,000	£115,000
<b>FUND RAISING</b> For both General and Fabric Funds	£2,719	£2,489	£2,000	£2,000
<b>INCOME NOT BY GIFT AID</b> including collections, donations, grants (general and fabric but not including those specific to specific projects) and fees from weddings and funerals	£31,829	£31,448	£32,000	£30,010
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	£126,592	£143,917	£162,000	£147,010

### THIS LEAVES FOR:

<b>ESSENTIAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR</b> The amount that we have been able to transfer to the Fabric Fund in 2011 and 2012 and budget for 2013 to spend on essential works	£0	£8,950	£25,000	£2,000
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# Fabric

## Vyv Wainwright – Benefice Surveyor

It's been a busy year! When I took on this role I undertook an inspection of the building and picked up a copy of the last Quinquennial Report by our architect, Jane Kennedy, and set about working my way through the list of works identified or repairs required.

### Stonework Damage

One of the things I noticed during my inspection was the damage being caused to stonework on the north side of the church by cement pointing that had been used in the past. Unlike traditional lime pointing cement pointing causes considerable damage to stonework. This year the cement pointing has been removed and replaced with lime. During the course of this work some of the stonework collapsed as it was so badly damaged, so it was necessary to replace it to maintain the integrity of the building.



*Damaged stonework*

### West Door Steps

The steps to the West Door have been re-set in order to allow better access for wheelchair users and those with impaired mobility. We could not ramp down to Church Street because of the lack of space so the steps were re-positioned to allow access from the south side. One of the next jobs is to finish the work to the doors so that wheelchair users can open the doors, this will improve our compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act.

### Nave Floor

The floor in the nave is currently being re-laid and repaired, this year we are repairing the tiles in the main aisle only. This work is being done in sections to accommodate worship and other planned events. We are particularly grateful to Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Fund for making a grant of £7,000 towards the cost of this work.

### Lighting

We are looking at improving the lighting for the lectern and pulpit and hope to install new lights very soon.

### Boiler

There are other challenges which we are working on. One of the most difficult is the damp in the boiler house. This is affecting the performance of the boiler as the damp air is causing components to rust, resulting in breakdowns and costly repairs. At the moment we have received two quotes for remedying the damp; both of which involve 'tanking' the boiler room walls. There is quite a difference between the quotes so a third quote has been sought.

### Other Work

The lightning conductor has been tested and the test has identified various works which are required. Fortunately the firm that tested lightning conductor removed the shrubs from tower.

This year we have also done repairs to the base of the spire.

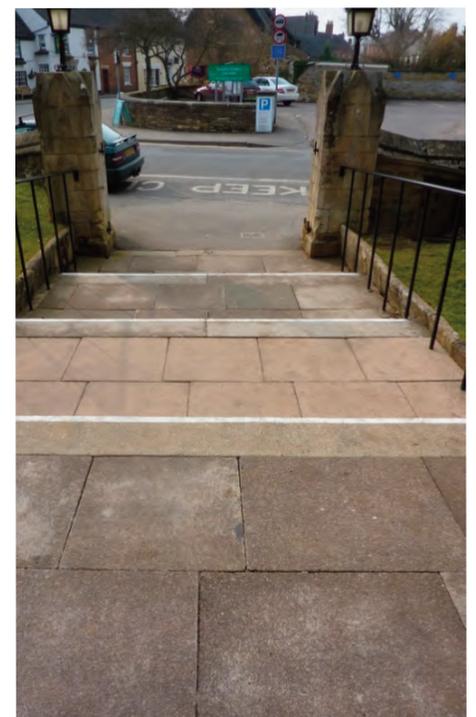
Our insurers have instructed us to ensure we have access to Health and Safety expertise. We have obtained a quotation from a suitably qualified health and safety consultant and now need to decide if we will make use of his services.

As I prepare this report we are awaiting our next Quinquennial Report which I'm sure will make interesting reading.



*Tiles in the nave being relaid*

Finally many thanks are due to all those wonderful worker bees (you know who are) who have been on hand to help with little odd jobs and bits and pieces. Your kind help is very much appreciated.



*The newly re-set steps to the West Door*

# Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings

*Stan Bruce*

The annual check of the contents of the church against the inventory in the Terrier revealed no major discrepancies.

Relatively few minor repairs have been required during the past year. The faulty extractor fan in the toilet has been replaced; small repairs have been carried out to pews and floorboards; hassocks have been repaired where necessary and spaced out evenly in the pews; the white lines on the steps leading from the street to the west door have been repainted; a fault with the floodlights has been dealt with, and repairs to the boiler have been carried out on more than one occasion.

We are delighted that, thanks to the generosity of an individual donor and the Concert Committee, we have recently acquired staging which has already proved its worth in greatly improving visibility, particularly when the children are doing a presentation in church.

It is gratifying to see work in progress on renovating the tiled floor in the nave, and we look forward to the an-

ticipated transformation.

I would like to pay tribute to all those who work so hard to keep the church and churchyard clean, tidy and presentable, and to those who assist in so many practical ways: the vergers, the sidespeople, the cleaners, the brass cleaners, the flower arrangers, the coffee team, the catering team, the welcomers, the security and visitors team, and so many more who, often unseen, give of their services so willingly, and to Vyv Wainwright, our Fabric Officer who carries a great deal of responsibility that might otherwise fall on the shoulders of the churchwardens. A special thank you is due to Malcolm and Sheila Hardy who have recently retired from heading up the cleaning team, a role they have occupied for the last five years or more; the numerous comments in the Visitors Book speak volumes for the visible effects of their dedication to this task. We are most grateful to David Kirtland for taking over this

role, and I know he would be grateful for additional help in the areas of the church which at present have no-one assigned to clean them. We are also in significant need of volunteers to sit in church for an hour or so during the week, to welcome visitors and to provide a measure of security. Sincere thanks also to Lyn Everitt who has headed up the sidespersons team for the last four years, but is now stepping down; we are grateful to Andy Compton for taking on that role. I am very grateful to Des Cook who in recent months has taken over responsibility for regulating the timers for the boiler and the floodlights, and to Richard Morris who has kindly agreed to head up the team responsible for the PA system.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support and encouragement during the years that I have been churchwarden, and trust that you will continue to offer the same support to my successor.

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## Concerts Society

*Christine Carlin & Kevin Slingsby*

All Saints continues to be a popular venue for concerts, and the staple diet of Wednesday Lunchtime Concerts and Bank Holiday Organ Recitals has been supplemented by a number of evening concerts during the year.

A highlight of the year was Handel's Messiah at the end of March, performed by the Cantus Choir and Orchestra, which was well-supported and profitable. In April, Robin Ward's return visit for an evening concert was less well attended, but enjoyed by those who were there. We again promoted an Organ Recital as part of the Oakham Festival in June, which this year was given by Paul Butler in aid of LOROS, and which raised a substantial sum for them and was enjoyed by a good audience. In December we were grateful to Carline Trutz, Richard Coxon and Fraser Graham for their splendid Gala Evening including some favourite operatic moments.

Regular Organ Recitals have taken place on Bank Holiday Mondays, given by Jemima Stephenson (Easter), John Keys (May Day),

Stephen Binnington (Spring) and Tom Bell (Summer), and audiences have continued to enjoy a variety of music, enhanced by the large screen view of the recitalist. Lunch in the Church Hall afterwards is always a good opportunity to meet the recitalist (as well as subsidising the costs). Our thanks go to the performers and to the lunch organisers and helpers. Generous donations to the retiring collection are becoming ever more important as fees become higher!

Wednesday Lunchtime Concerts have continued throughout the year – an excellent variety of music has been enjoyed by good audiences – and we are grateful to Peter Davis and the Music Department of Oakham School for arranging these in term time.. We are also grateful to Matt Sammy for arranging concerts by Catmose College Students in July

and December, and to all the other performers who give of their services during the year. One particular highlight was the Girls' Choir of Sct. Jørgens Church from Aabenraa, Denmark, who visited Oakham as part of their tour of the UK. New performers are always welcome in the school holidays – please contact Kevin or Christine if you are interested.

The programme of concerts is organised by a small committee: Kevin Slingsby (Chairman), Christine Carlin (Secretary), Paul Butler (Treasurer), Ingrid Heldt and Rosamund Wells (Oakham School), John Linford and Linda Browne. John and Linda (who has been on the committee since its inception in 1998) have retired this year, and we thank them particularly for their valuable work and support.

# Walking Group

*Dennis Corton*

The group has now completed three years since its formation in April 2010 and numbers have steadily increased but with a nucleus of stalwart walkers. We have been able to find a different walk most months but, because of wet conditions, some have inevitably been walked twice.

The walks take place on the fourth Thursday of each month and vary between five and seven miles. They have been lead by Stan and Gill Bruce, Gordon Woods, Peter and Helen Hill, Mike Crowther, Paul Butler, and Sally and Dennis Corton. They were centred on the following areas-

- Market Overton
- Uppingham
- Exton Park
- Knossington
- Fotheringhay
- Hemingford Grey
- Castle Bytham
- Hallaton
- Easton on the Hill
- Hambleton Peninsula

Our lunches have always been jovial affairs. Either at cosy hostelries or on one occasion Uppingham Church Ladies very kindly provided for us. We went alfresco in the summer months with our own picnics and more recently a "Bring and Share Lunch" was organised by Gill and Stan.



We are always very conscious of the weather but we have been incredibly lucky and the wet weather gear has seldom been used. During the walks there is always lots of chatter, topical conversation, good natured banter,

enjoyment of the rolling countryside and appreciation of the old villages with all their charm, character and history.

The June walk ventured a little further afield to Hemingford Grey, where we started our walk with a guided tour of the '12C Manor House' once the home of Lucy Boston, author of the children's book, 'The Children of Greenknowe'. After the walk along the river we returned to the Manor to enjoy its delightful gardens.

For the last two years our walks have been recorded on photographs by Robert Goodwin but alas he and Dawn have now moved to Scotland. We are however trying to maintain his photographic standards as a record of our walks.

Details of the walks are published each month in the pew sheets for two Sundays prior to the event. New members are always most welcome, simply turn up at the appropriate start point suitably attired (with a packed lunch from April to September).

We look forward to you joining us.



## Flower Guild

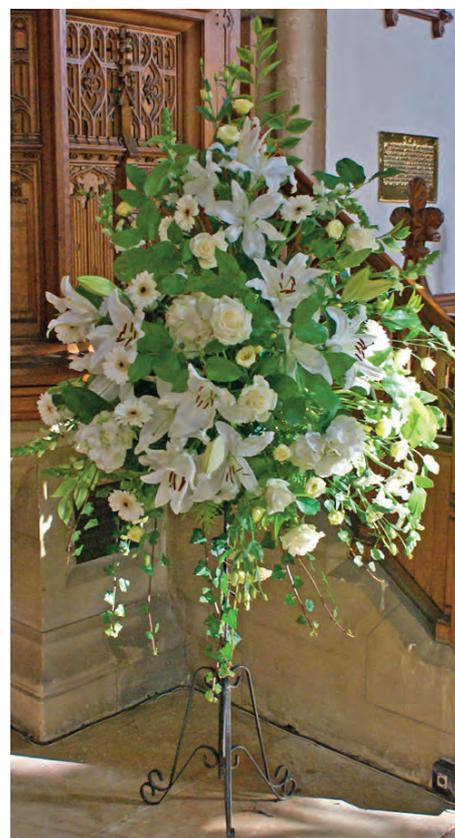
*Edwina King*

Once again I would like to thank the members of the Flower Guild for their continued support decorating the church to the usual high standard and for the friendly and helpful way in which everyone works together. I have had many lovely comments about the flowers from parishioners and visitors to the church.

I would like to thank Betty Tidd for continuing to do an excellent job maintaining our financial records. A most sincere thank you also to Joan Plester, her husband, and all those who help for all the hard work which goes into making our annual coffee morning such a success. Joan has

raised large amounts of money over the years, which goes towards paying for the oasis and high altar flowers throughout the year.

Sally Blythin, who volunteered to join the rota for high altar pedestals, has been a most welcomed addition to our members.



We are always pleased to welcome new members either for help at Festivals or those who would be interested in joining the rota to do high altar pedestals maybe once or twice a year.

We hope 2013 will continue to be a successful and happy year.

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## Catering Committee

*Gill Bruce*

The Catering Committee has met three times in the past year to plan the refreshments for our special services and to discuss related issues.

At the beginning of July we provided refreshments after Dominic's welcome service and later in the month organised the Church picnic.

In September we provided cupcakes after the morning service when we welcomed Jenni Duffy as our new Parish Evangelist and thanked Marilyn Tomalin whom she was succeeding.

We provided food for Kevin's special Music Sunday in September.

In October Susan Tomalin made us a superb cake for the Confirmation Service.

At Christmas for the first time we served mince pies and drinks after the Carol Service.

Marilyn Tomalin made her usual tasty simnal cake for the Mothering Sunday service in March.

Deanery Services that we were involved with were the Wardens' Admission Service in June, and the Deanery Synod meeting in October.

We have had further discussions regarding coffee provision after the 10.30 service, and, because of the congestion in the kitchen, the March PCC meeting has decided to trial

serving coffee for both adults and children in the area between the kitchen and the choir vestry.

Marilyn Tomalin will be taking over leadership of the committee after the APCM and I am very grateful to her for being willing to take on this responsibility. I would like to thank all the committee members for their support in so many different ways, and also members of the congregation who have so willingly provided home-made refreshments for these special occasions.

## Home Groups

Between 50 and 60 members of All Saints regularly attend one of six different Home Groups in or around Oakham. Three of the groups are led by members of All Saints who have submitted the following reports:

### **6 Peterborough Avenue Home Group**

*Patrick and Marjorie Wilson*

The main study this year was of the book of Isaiah. We were blessed by the glorious language and powerful message of the prophecies and of the details given of the coming Messiah. We found the richness of the spiritual truths in this great book quite stunning.

During the autumn semester we enjoyed a couple of DVD presentations to do with living in these times and in emphasizing the greatness and goodness of God. Then we benefited from a series of meditations given by members of the group on fairly randomly selected incidents or themes from the Bible. We were pleased and astonished at the insights that emerged.

Throughout we have drawn encouragement and satisfaction from the opportunities that our meetings have given for strengthening friendship, learning from each other and praying together.

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

*Catriona Drye.*

This group meets at 10 am on the second and fourth Tuesday in each month. We look at various parts of the Bible and learn of its relevance for us today. We have some interesting discussions and make some surprising discoveries. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Catriona Drye and you will be made most welcome.

### **Ashwell Road Home Group**

*Stan and Gill Bruce*

During the past year we have continued to meet fortnightly, and our studies have centred mainly on the Book of Joshua. Despite our familiarity with many of the incidents recorded in the book, we have been thrilled at the new insights gained and, as always, struck by the contemporary relevance of the text to society, to the church and to our lives. How appropriately has the Bible been described as a mine with hidden treasures waiting to be unearthed! Not only has our

knowledge of the Scriptures deepened, but our fellowship as a group has been enriched.

For our summer outing we joined up with the Willow Crescent Group and enjoyed a delightful cruise on the Grand Union Canal on a beautiful day in August. We hired the two narrow-boats owned by the Baldwin Trust for the day. Some of us started from Thurmaston, and the rest of us started from Pinder's Lock at Barrow-upon-Soar, all meeting up for a picnic lunch at Moutsorrel. We also enjoyed a social evening together in January when we shared a variety of delightful international dishes.

Towards the end of each meeting, we focus briefly on news of a particular Christian activity or Mission Society. For several weeks, members of the group shared the results of their research into the various organisations that All Saints supports through its Mission Giving. We take a particular interest in Send a Cow, and have followed with great interest the progress of one particular Ethiopian family from poverty to self-sufficiency.

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## Mothers' Union

*Pamela Woods*

The Mothers' Union has flourished in the past year.

Our membership is now 33 as two members were enrolled at the end of 2012 although one has not been able to continue with her membership. We still have two men and three indoor members. 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 was about 17. Visitors are always welcome to join us.

Throughout the twelve months the meetings had a variety of topics including Rutland Reminders, a talk about the Mothers' Union led Bye-Buy Childhood campaign, and an excellent afternoon concentrating on the Olympics and Christians in Sport when we were pleased to welcome children from the Burley Road School to tell us about the Olympic values.

Another meeting explained the importance of the Five Objects of the Mothers' Union. During the year we had two Communion services, one in Advent taken by Revd Brian Nicholls, and one during Lent taken by Revd Janet

Tebby, when we also had an interesting talk about Janet's life and her call to be ordained. A former teacher in Uganda spoke about his life, work and Christian involvement out there over many years and a member, Ruth Maguire gave us an in-depth talk about tracing her family history.

The AGM took place in January after an enjoyable lunch for members and visitors. At that meeting Meg Dyer took over as Branch Leader. We joined with other members in the Deanery for the Quiet Morning lead

by Rev Audrey Atkinson. The Diocesan Festival was a joyous service at the Cathedral in September. Once again the outing was arranged jointly with The Friends of All Saints and the visit was to Warwick with a church tour, tea at The Lord Leycester Hospital and evensong. Fund raising took the form of knitting and selling Easter Chicks and the money raised went to support holidays given by the MU to needy families.

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 three Travelling Cribs visited many families in the Parish, which is a good means of outreach and is appreciated by the host families.

## Fairtrade

*Denise McDonald*

During 2012 support for Traidcraft at All Saints was, once again, excellent. My thanks as ever go to everyone who continues to (and those who have started to) buy, not only from the regular Sunday morning outlet but during the year by ordering directly from me. The average per Sunday morning for purely food sales was just under £23 with the amount for Christmas purchases being nearly £1017!

During 2012 I visited St Mary's at Ashwell, this is now a regular feature and I take the stall to them 3 times a year, normally to join them for their Harvest celebration in October and then again in January and June. The stall is always very well supported by the congregation in the village. My thanks go to all of them.

Fairtrade is now also a regular feature of the Lent lunches with the tea, coffee, sugar and chocolate biscuits all being Traidcraft products as well as the presence of the stall on a weekly basis. Once again after I set out the goods the stall is then manned by John Ansley, my grateful

thanks to him. Last year there were 5 lunches with the average sales per week amounting to just under £22.

The donation box is still in operation and when full I will send the contents to Traidcraft Exchange. I have however recently sent a donation to them of £160. Traidcraft has also introduced a recycling appeal whereby people can send them unwanted and broken jewellery which can then be turned into cash again enabling them to help more people work their way out of poverty and have hope for the future.

Last year following on from the success of the meaningful chocolates at

Christmas The real Easter Egg was introduced. Over 80 million Easter eggs are sold in the UK every year but the Real Easter egg is the only one that tells the Easter story. In 2012 Traidcraft sold all of their stock and hope this will continue year on year. Some of the stock made its way to Rutland and I'm sure was enjoyed by children and adults alike!

Given all the above the total sales for 2012 were £3616.22 – not quite as high as 2011 but never the less still absolutely brilliant. I look forward to reporting a similar figure for the next year with your continuing support.

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## Parish Nursing and Dropin Centre

*Debbie Marsh, Parish Nurse*

This is the last annual report for Parish Nursing in Oakham as I will be leaving in September to commence my training for the ordained ministry.

The one-to-one work, which is obviously confidential, will cease and people will seek support and advice from other services from both inside and outside of the church.

The group work of the healthy walking group, the Dropin Centre, and the afternoon tea parties will all continue.

### Healthy Walking Group

The healthy walking group, which meets on Tuesday morning at 10.30am at the community room of the Spire Home sheltered housing complex on Barlow Road, will be led by Georgie Lankester (01572 756755) and new people are always welcome. The walk around different parts of Oakham lasts about 50 minutes and then everyone has a drink together before leaving by 12noon. There are usually about 12 people (20+ if everyone came) and there are some interesting conversations as well as seeing nooks & crannies of Oakham not usually found.

### Dropin Centre

The Dropin Centre held every

Wednesday at the Congregational Church Hall 10-4pm will be run by Helen Shea (01572 720473) and overseen by a Steering Committee of representatives from each of the churches in Oakham. This Steering Committee will report back to Oakham & District Churches Together and the finer details of responsibility for the project will be finalised before Debbie leaves.

### Sunday Tea

The occasional Sunday afternoon tea parties held in All Saints Church will continue under the direction of the Pastoral Forum which is led by Revd. Hildred Crowther, and it is hoped that the next one will be in early summer.

### Thank You

On a personal note, I would like to thank Lee, the churchwardens, and Oakham PCC, for taking the risk in trusting and supporting me back in 2005 to venture into this new and exciting ministry.

I have had an amazing time and have grown so much from the experience

which has empowered me to truly use my nursing skills alongside my faith to reach out and make a difference in people's lives. Most of all I pray that I have been able to make the love of God real for people, especially those who are normally outside the reach of our church community.

Thank you all so much and may God bless you richly as you continue to be a blessing to others in this wonderful place of Oakham,

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## Bungoma

*Debbie Marsh*

Our link continues, and I intend to do a full report and presentation to the church in the summer about my work in Bungoma and the future of Oakham's link with this work alongside the Peterborough Diocesan link with the Diocese of Bungoma

# Friends of All Saints

*Beryl Kirtland, Chairman*

It is a pleasure to report another very busy and successful year for The Friends with a good calendar of varied events.



The Spring Outing was a local visit to Lyddington Bede House followed by a guided talk around Stoke Dry Church with afternoon tea being served in the church by the ladies of the village. An excellent spread achieved from so few houses!

A Novel Day Out saw a Mini bus (hired from VAR for the first time) and cars go to Eastwood, Nottinghamshire to discover the heritage of their famous writer, D.H. Lawrence. The coal mining town often reflected upon in his writings has paid good homage to D.H. Lawrence's memory in Durban House and The Birthplace Museum. The Durban House Bistro was an excellent venue for lunch and tea. Some people even found time to walk The Blue Line Trail to see many places associated with Lawrence's early life.

Our combined outing with The Mother's Union was to Warwick in June for a tour of St. Mary's Church, burial place of Earls of Warwick. There were varied options for visiting to follow before meeting at the historic Lord Leycester Hospital, a Retirement Home for ex-servicemen, for tea. Then it was back to St. Mary's for evensong.

We were fortunate to have Rev. Dr. James Saunders as our speaker at our summer lunch, this year at Launde Abbey. Although the menu did not quite turn out as promised the addition of a birthday cake and the compensation that followed made amends. We will be returning again soon.

The Beauvale Ensemble entertained us in The Church Hall playing a range of medieval, classical and folk music arranged for recorders with some vocals and guitar. A 'proper homemade tea' followed.

The Annual Tide Dinner was at lunchtime this year at the Harbour Restaurant. Whitwell. Tricia Lawrence, Send a Cow Ambassador, was the speaker for a very worthwhile cause. So successful was the time and venue that our Tide dinner will now become The Tide Lunch.

Never before has there been a coach trip in November. The venue of Chatsworth, with the magical Christmas theme of Pantomime and Dames, meant that the coach list was full by September. No one was disappointed at the display and the visit to the Farm Shop.

The January Pantomime was more popular than ever with over 60 people enjoying Mother Goose.



Another sell out, as usual, was The Shrovetide Party, now in its 20th year.

I would like to thank the Committee for their help in organising these events, and members and friends for supporting them. Without them we would not have such a successful programme.

At the Friends' AGM I will ask for members' support of the Committee's proposal to make a substantial financial contribution towards the restoration of the Nave tiled floor to its former glory. The PCC have been asked to investigate the cost of new churchyard notice boards which could then also be supported by The Friends.

We hope existing members and any new members will find the programme for 2013 equally interesting as we celebrate the existence of 20 years of The Friends.



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

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

### **Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2012**

#### **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 approved by the Church Commissioners established the Team Ministry with effect from 1 January 2011.

Bankers are HSBC at 1 High Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire. The examiner of accounts is Mr Trevor Hughes. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is charity no. 1129880.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2012 or commenced serving during 2012 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent	Revd Canon L T Francis-Dehqani, Chairman
Assistant Priest	Revd H A Crowther
Curate	Revd Dr D Coad (from July 2012)
Wardens	Mr R S Bruce, Mrs M Pattinson
Readers	Mr A V Wainwright, Mrs D L Marsh, Mr D Pattinson, Mrs J Duffy (from September 2012)
Representatives on Diocesan & Deanery Synods	Mr G T Woods, Mr J Tomalin, Mrs M Tomalin, Mrs Y Nicolle-Anderiesz, Mr D R Cook, Mr K P Andrews, and Mrs K E Goodwin.
Elected Members	Ms H Durham, Mrs H Bush, Mr J King, Mr D Corton, Mrs A Venning, Mr M G Vecqueray, Mr P S Hill (Treasurer), Mrs M Davis, Mr P J Kinal, Mr S Long (from April 2012), Dr S Cheverton (from April 2012), Mr V Hall (to April 2012), Mrs H Wareham (to April 2012), Dr T Edgar (from April 2012), and Mr D J Ufton (Secretary)

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

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged 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 or three PCC appointed members, meeting ahead of each PCC meeting. In addition the PCC receives reports from forums which oversee worship, pastoral care, children and young people, and adult education in the parish. A PCC member is appointed as Benefice Surveyor with responsibility for oversight of the Church fabric, and gives regular updates to the PCC on areas of work requiring attention.

#### **Objectives and activities**

All Saints PCC has the responsibility for 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 responsibility for All Saints' Church Hall, Oakham.

## **Achievements and performance**

Church attendance: In December 2012 there were 327 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll. Eighteen names were added during the year and 3 were removed either through death or moving away from the parish. The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 216 adults and 25 children, with these numbers increasing during festivals.

## **Review of the year**

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

During the year the Parochial Church Council met on six occasions, with an average attendance of 21 members. Normally meetings are held every alternate month. During 2012 an additional meeting was held in early May which was attended by 24 members. The main purpose of the meeting was to identify plans for the future, concentrating on the good and not so good aspects of what we did and what we wanted. A summary of the main areas and conclusions of these discussions was published in July, together with a response form which was designed to ascertain the general views of the congregation. The target date for a final report with recommendations to be presented to the congregation was set as the APCM in April 2013.

The Standing Committee was made up of the statutory appointments of the incumbent, churchwardens, secretary and treasurer, with the addition of Mr D R Cook, Mr P J Kinal, Mr K P Andrews (to April 2012), and Ms H Durham (from May 2012). Prior to each PCC meeting members received an up to date financial report, and the treasurer commented as required on any specific aspects which needed to be brought to the PCC's attention.

During the year there was much discussion and consideration of fabric issues, made difficult by the lack of funds for most major items. Repairs were carried out on the stonework of the north transept. There is a concern about the egress of damp into the boiler room which still has to be resolved. A grant from the Cory Environmental Trust was of great assistance in 2012 and a grant from the Rutland Historic Churches Trust has been arranged for work in 2013. The assessor from our insurers, the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company, carried out an inspection of the Church and Church Hall for the first time since 1996. His report was detailed, and amongst other items has led to a phased increase of insurance premiums.

The results of the Stewardship Campaign were finalised in January 2012, with the resulting achievement of 57% of the target increase. Detailed discussions took place during the year on Mission Giving, Parish Share and Wedding and Funeral Fees. The Safeguarding Policy of the Church was reviewed in May.

Finally since March 2012 the minutes of the latest PCC meeting have been displayed on the notice board by the north door. Notification about each forthcoming PCC meeting and also the availability of the latest minutes has been placed on the Sunday Pew Notice Sheets.

### **Derek Ufton (PCC Secretary), February 2013**

## **Risk Management**

Major risks have been identified, and where found procedures are in place to manage those risks.

## Financial Review

In 2012, total Receipts were £157,675 and are detailed in the financial statements. £88,494 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 net result for 2012 was a surplus of £12,718 (2011 deficit of £7,658).

### In the General Fund:

the Stewardship Campaign resulted in total gifts, donations and tax recovered of £125,981 (2011 £108,302). Additional major contributions came from the Church Hall (£2500), the Concert Society (£1000); and additional grants from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (£3234) and the Cory Environmental Trust (£3000). A continuing drive to keep down expenses was successful in many areas, leading to a total expenditure of £132,619 (2011 £120,095). Areas of major increase were Ministry Team Expenses £5194 (2011 £3331) due to a full year with a full Ministry Team; Childrens Groups and Youth Work £3993 (2011 £760) due to reserving £2250 for a Youth Worker; Gas £7333 (2011 £5708); and Minor Maintenance and Equipment £2893 (2011 £932), which was largely electrical rewiring, lighting and boiler maintenance. These results enabled £8950 to be transferred from the General Fund to the Fabric Fund in line with budget.

### In the Farbic Fund:

The transfer, together with Grant income allowed essential major repairs to be made to the external stonework (£8404). At the end of 2012 £14,774 is available for major work planned for 2013.

### From the Vicar and Wardens Fund:

gifts were made totalling £1000 to support Reverend Hildred Crowther in her pilgrimage to the Holy Land and our new Curate, Reverend Dr Dominic Coad, towards the purchase of computer equipment.

**The Church Hall** generated a surplus of £2090 after transferring £2500 to the General Fund.

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 balances carried forward to 2013 are:	Restricted funds	Nil
	Designated funds	£29,867
	General funds	£14,936
	Church Hall funds	£21,706
	Total	£66,509

### Reserves policy

The Parochial Church Council is aware of the need to increase the reserves in both the General and Fabric Funds. This was addressed, with some success, as part of the Stewardship Campaign launched in November 2011. However, this still needs focus in order to cope with general increases in costs together with above inflation increases in gas, electricity and insurance.

**Peter Hill and John King, March 2013.**

**Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Monday 11 March 2013  
and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani (PCC Chairman)**

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ALL SAINTS' OAKHAM

### Statement of financial activities for the year ending 31 December 2012

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2012 £	Total 2011 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Voluntary income	2(a)	128831	2308	8634	139773	113501
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	8056	1000		9056	9374
Income from investments	2(c)	25			25	23
Income from church activities	2(d)	8821			8821	8847
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>145733</b>	<b>3308</b>	<b>8634</b>	<b>157675</b>	<b>131745</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Costs of generating voluntary income	3(b)	122			122	203
Fund raising costs	3(c)				0	0
Church activities	3(a)	134624	1577	8634	144835	139199
Governance costs	3(d)				0	0
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>134746</b>	<b>1577</b>	<b>8634</b>	<b>144957</b>	<b>139402</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>						
<b>BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		10987	1731	0	12718	-7657
Transfers between funds		-8950	8950			
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>2037</b>	<b>10681</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12718</b>	<b>-7657</b>
Balances brought forward at 1 Jan 2012	7	34604	19186	0	53791	61448
Balances carried forward at 31 Dec 2012	7	<b>36641</b>	<b>29867</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>66508</b>	<b>53791</b>

Notes on pages 6 to 10 form part of these accounts

## Balance sheet at 31st December 2012

	Note	2012 £	2011 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash in Bank		39703	35525
short term deposits		33865	30740
Debtors and prepayments	4	4331	3578
		<hr/> 77899	<hr/> 69843
<b>less LIABILITIES</b>			
creditors-amount falling due in one year	5	11390	16052
		<hr/> 11390	<hr/> 16052
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
Total assets less current liabilities		<hr/> 66509	<hr/> 53791
<b>Represented by:</b>			
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>			
UNRESTRICTED		36642	34605
DESIGNATED		29867	19186
RESTRICTED		0	0
		<hr/> 66509	<hr/> 53791

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Monday 11 March 2013  
and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani (PCC Chairman)

**Notes to the financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2012**

## **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.

### **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 2012

### 2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2012 £	Total 2011 £
2(a) Voluntary income					
Planned direct giving					
Gifts by Gift Aid	80948			80948	67801
Gifts not under Gift Aid	2559			2559	1739
	<u>83507</u>	0	0	<u>83507</u>	<u>69540</u>
Other direct giving					
One-off donations by Gift Aid	7920	1008		8928	4100
Plate collections not by Gift Aid	11694			11694	13575
Other sundry donations not by Gift Aid	1748	1300		3048	2267
	<u>21362</u>	<u>2308</u>	0	<u>23670</u>	<u>19942</u>
Income tax recoverable	21112			21112	19519
Other voluntary income					
8 Grants	2100		8634	10734	4500
9 Legacies	750			750	0
	<u>2850</u>	0	8634	<u>11484</u>	<u>4500</u>
Total voluntary income	<u>128831</u>	<u>2308</u>	<u>8634</u>	<u>139773</u>	<u>113501</u>
2(b) Activities for generating funds					
Fund Raising events	8056	1000		9056	9374
2(c) Income from Investments					
Interest	25			25	23
2(d) Income from church activities					
Fees (for funerals, weddings etc)	6061			6061	6639
Hire of church/ hall	2760			2760	2168
Other	0				
	<u>8821</u>	0	0	<u>8821</u>	<u>8847</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>145733</u>	<u>3308</u>	<u>8634</u>	<u>157675</u>	<u>131745</u>

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2012

### 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2012 £	Total 2011 £
3(a) Church activities					
Ministry					
Parish Share and Deanery quota	83300			83300	80629
Ministry Team expenses	5194	1000		6194	3331
	<u>88494</u>	<u>1000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>89494</u>	<u>83960</u>
Worship					
Organist, choir and music	6376			6376	6014
Altar requisites	2691			2691	2293
Other	483			483	1296
	<u>9550</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9550</u>	<u>9603</u>
Faith development					
Children's groups and youth work	3993			3993	760
Christian Books for resale	188			188	0
Other	30			30	81
	<u>4211</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4211</u>	<u>841</u>
Outreach					
Donations					
10 Evangelism and mission	6800			6800	6997
Baptism, marriage, bereavement groups	232			232	456
	<u>7032</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7032</u>	<u>7453</u>
Church running expenses					
Gas	7333			7333	5708
Electricity	3012			3012	3519
Water	88			88	83
Insurance	4532			4532	4345
	<u>14965</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14965</u>	<u>13655</u>
Church building and land					
New building & other major works				0	0
Moveable furnishings and equipment	90			90	0
Building maintenance, minor equipment	4991	577	8634	14202	18184
	<u>5081</u>	<u>577</u>	<u>8634</u>	<u>14292</u>	<u>18184</u>
Administration					
photocopying	1373			1373	1808
bank charges	660			660	521
other	3258			3258	3175
	<u>5291</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5291</u>	<u>5504</u>
Total cost of church activities	<u>134624</u>	<u>1577</u>	<u>8634</u>	<u>144835</u>	<u>139200</u>
3(b) Costs of generating voluntary income					
Stewardship expenses	122			122	203
3(c) Fund-raising trading costs					
3(d) Governance costs					
Fees of independent examiner					
Total resources expended	<u>134746</u>	<u>1577</u>	<u>8634</u>	<u>144957</u>	<u>139403</u>

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2012

### 4 DEBTORS

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2012 £	Total 2011 £
Income tax recoverable				0	0
Accrued Interest				0	0
Prepayments	0			0	1083
other debtors	4331			4331	2495
	<u>4331</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4331</u>	<u>3578</u>

### 5 CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accruals for utility and other costs other creditors:	1760			1760	1800
Funds held as agent				0	0
other	9630			9630	14252
	<u>11390</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11390</u>	<u>16052</u>

### 6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

Debtors	4331			4331	3578
Cash and short term deposits	58693	14875		73568	66265
	<u>63024</u>	<u>14875</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>77899</u>	<u>69843</u>
Current Liabilities	11390			11390	16052
	<u>51634</u>	<u>14875</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>66509</u>	<u>53791</u>

### 7 SUMMARY OF FUND BALANCES

	Balance 31.12.11 £	Transfers £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Balance 31.12.12 £
Unrestricted Funds	34605	-8950	145733	134746	36642
Designated Funds	19186	8950	3308	1577	29867
Restricted Funds	0		8634	8634	0
Total Funds	<u>53791</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>157675</u>	<u>144957</u>	<u>66509</u>

### 8 OTHER VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2012 £	Total 2011 £
Grant from Church Estates		2400		2400	2400
Grant from Church Estates for Music	2100			2100	2100
Grant from Cory Environmental Trust		3000			
Grant from Listed Places of Worship Scheme		3234		3234	0
	<u>2100</u>	<u>8634</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10734</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.

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2012

### 9 LEGACIES

Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2012 £	Total 2011 £
			0	0
			0	0
0	0	0	0	0

### 10 MISSION GIVING

	2012 £	2011 £
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#### INTERNATIONAL

MU Literacy & Development (Burundi, Malawi, S Sudan)	250	
TESS (Educational Support, Uganda)	250	250
Teso Dev Trust (Clean Water)		250
MAF (Dental Safaris to Chad, Refugee support in S Sudan)	100	
Barnabasfund (Aid for marginalised and persecuted)	100	
USPG Anglicans in World Mission General Fund	600	500
Julian Lott	400	400
Send a Cow	250	250
Bungoma Link/Nurse	750	900
Mission Aviation		100
Diocesan Missionary Fund		30

#### NATIONAL

SSAFA	250	210
Ordinand Support	600	600
Church Urban Fund	250	200
Parish Nursing	250	350
Bible Society	250	250
Stamford Food Bank	400	
Peterborough Soup Kitchen		400

#### LOCAL

Baldwin Trust	200	
Opportunity Chalet Rutland & Melton	500	500
Launde Abbey	200	
Churches Together in Oakham	400	400
Drop in Centre	200	250
Homeless Support	50	100
Scouts	200	200
Guides	200	200
Rutland Reminders	150	
Walsingham Lamp		50
Kainos Community		310

6800

6700

## **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 2012, 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 TL Hughes  
11 Lodge Stables, off Burley Road  
Oakham  
Rutland, LE15 6DH

4 March 2013