

St John's Church Hazelwood

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

26th April 2012

Reports for 2011/2012

Vicar's Report 2012

This is my first report to the APCM as Vicar in this benefice. At the end of April, I will have been the Vicar here for 8 months, and I would like to express my thanks for the very generous welcome that myself and the family received on our arrival. I am grateful for the support of my family – Sarah, Alice and Samuel – and I am grateful for the support of the churchwardens, PCC, congregation and wider community over these past months.

I understand that the arrival of a new Vicar may bring with it anxiety and expectation – what will the new person be like – will we get on – will we like him – will he like us – will everything change – will nothing change – and maybe others that I've not thought of.....

I hope that these concerns have proved to be unfounded – and that we are at least starting to get to know each other – and that we are getting on okay.....

When I announced in my previous parish that I was leaving to take up this post as Vicar – a friend gave me a little book called 'Hit the ground kneeling' written by Stephen Cotterell, Bishop of Reading. This is obviously a bit of a play on the phrase 'hit the ground running' a phrase that is often used when a new person is needed for a job – what we need is someone who can hit the ground running – have we heard that before? Doesn't this sound appealing – giving the sense of motion and progress – of someone who will come and take charge, someone who will be busy. But all the busyness and action doesn't bring the guarantee that the movement is in the right direction. So a mark of Christian leadership – Stephen Cotterell suggests, is finding time to stop and pray – to hit the ground kneeling.

He gave this example – when you move to a new house with a new garden, you are a bit foolish if you rush in and dig up the garden before you have watched to see what grows there. Why? Because 99 times out of a hundred, there was another gardener there before you – so it is wise to wait and see what has already been planted, where and when it will bloom, and what will bear fruit. He suggests that it can take a whole year of carefully tending what you have received before you can begin to see what might usefully be done next. Even then, you need to remember that you are building on another person's work.

These words have been in my mind these past 8 months as I have tended the garden with the help of the gathered community, but in the months ahead, we will need to look together at how we take these parishes into the future. While there are substantial works to be completed on the fabric of the church building, and money to be raised to pay for this work, there is also the need for us to look at the life of the church and our place in this community. There are undoubtedly challenges ahead, but there are also many opportunities, and there are some wonderful resources in the parishes, not least in the congregations gathered.

This isn't an exercise in asking people to do more, or take on extra responsibility – it is more about refocusing the effort already being made on to the areas that will produce the most fruit. And it isn't something that we do alone. We work together as church community, and we work together in the power of God. I pray that we will rise to the challenge and that this church may long continue to be a place where God's love and grace can be found.

Rev. David Railton

Vicar of Hazelwood with Shottle, Holbrook and Milford

Electoral Roll

There are 52 names on the Electoral Role

Sheila Deacon

Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31st December 2011

Financially 2010 has been a good year for the Hazelwood PCC accounts.

There has been a total income of - £33,739
and a total expense of - £29,698
giving an excess of - + £4041 (plus investment income of £1,273)
A total of - + £5,314

It has been necessary to transfer £2,000 from the deposit account but it has been possible to return £3,000 to the deposit account. This includes restricted donations of £3,000.

The assets held in the current account and deposit account has therefore increased from - £20,802
Dec 2010 to £26,116 Dec 2011

The current account stands at £3,794 on 31st Dec 2011. (liabilities for the month of Jan 2012 amount to £2,600 including £1,317 Parish Share and £393 for unpaid cheques issued before 31st Dec 11.)

The liabilities for the year 2012 amount to £38,993 being the parish quota of - £15,800 (£1,317 per month) and Ecclesiastical Insurance - £1,800 approx., unpaid cheques £393, £18,000 Electrical rewire and £3,000 redecorating the Church.

Income from Gift Aid Tax recovered, Gift Aid donations, magazines, floodlighting and fund raising events have all been maintained to a high level. Income tax recovered from Gift Aid amounted to £3,074 (From Regular Giving Jan – Dec 10 was £1,652 and from the envelopes 2011 was £1,422).

Further amounts are due to be claimed amounting to £1,661. (£505 Envelopes and £1,156 Regular Giving.) From April donations are claimed at the reduced rate of 25 pence for each £1 donated (previously 28 pence)

The PCC has benefited this year from a total sum of £4,269 in fees for weddings, funerals and baptisms and £1,938 in donations related to these services. Allowing for PCC expenses of £2,263 this amounts to a 'one off' net gain of £3,944. Most of the donations received this year were equally from Weddings and Funerals. The total amount that was donated or passed to charities during the year amounted to £1,257.

The major expense this year has been The Parish Share (£16,923) and the upkeep of the church (£4,987) which includes the Insurance (£1,815) and Electricity/Water (£1110).

The excellent result is thanks again to all the efforts of everyone who contribute in all that they do for the Church.

John Chadwick, Treasurer

Deanery Synod

The Synods took place on 27th Jan, 24th May and 12th Oct. Themes discussed during these meetings included the prior setting up and progress made by the MMAs bearing in mind that some churches, but not our own benefice have opted out of MMAs. Our new Vicar's licensing and institution was announced along with two curacies. Another notable discussion concerned the position of women in the Episcopate, the General Synod having already voted in favour of women Bishops. A special code of practice morally binding only, is proposed for those who cannot accept the authority of women Bishops.

At the October meeting it was suggested that Christian message could well be brought to the forefront of our minds by using "Social Media" such as twitter and facebook. That approach has already been adopted, one is given to understand, in other C of E churches.

Three Synod meetings are arranged for 2012 but at this point in time Hazelwood has no Synod members to represent its views.

June Bowley

MMA Representative Report

We continue to support the MMA and have really appreciated their support during the Inter-regnum. Representation has been by rotation.

PCC Report

The PCC has 17 members (including the Vicar). Steve Bacon continued in the chair during the inter-regnum and Rev David Railton took the Chair at the September meeting. Thanks were expressed by the PCC and the Diocese to Steve Bacon for his excellent work during the period.

There were 8 meetings during the year and the attendance levels were generally good. Following the arrival of Rev David Railton responsibilities have returned to normal and the Standing committee has been maintained.

The PCC members continue to be active in supporting Church events and trying to make sure that the organisation operates efficiently and meets any required legislation. Rev David Railton has introduced a theological item on each agenda and work is starting on the MAP process.

The PCC has approved / dealt with the following matters.

- 1) Approved and supported the ongoing electrical work.
- 2) Approved and supported the redecoration work.
- 3) Developing fund raising ideas to finance 1 & 2 above.
- 4) Continuing to support the Deanery Synod and MMA.
- 5) Continuing to ensure legislative requirements are met.

Minutes continue to be published on the website.

David Shaw, PCC Secretary

Churchwardens' Report

During the interregnum services were organised efficiently and took place according to our usual rota thanks to the support of various retired clergy, lay preachers and the odd DIY service. Organists have also been successfully found for services since October 2010 but despite advertisements a permanent replacement has not yet been found.

September last year (thankfully) saw the arrival and installation of David Railton which has substantially reduced the burden or responsibility for the Church Wardens.

It is pleasing to report that weddings in the Church are on the increase and we have a record number planned this year and 3 already booked for 2013. These events, together with Christenings provide an opportunity for attracting new members to the congregation.

The Diocese requires returns at various intervals throughout the year and these are completed and returned within the time period stated. (Lent & Easter return due 4 May).

An inventory check was conducted upon the arrival of David Railton.

A Faculty was obtained on 17/1/2012 for redecoration and following the quinquennial insurance inspection a Faculty for rewiring was obtained on 6th March 2012. These works are due for completion in May and appropriate certificated will be returned to Church House.

The funds from several successful fund raising activities this year will be channelled into payment for the above essential works.

In the forthcoming year, once the rewiring and decorating are completed, it is planned to undertake a review and update of the grave yard plan and records.

Other issue which may require some funds and attention in the forthcoming year are:-

- (i) Bell ropes replacement
- (ii) Repair to false west end door (exterior)
- (iii) Resurfacing footpaths (with gravel)
- (iv) Repair of alter frontals

Tessa Hibbert, Colin Kitchener

Support for Mamelodi, South Africa

Support for our link schools in Mamelodi, South Africa has continued through the year. The Mamelodi Trust continues to support five schools – three primary schools, one school for children with special educational needs and one secondary school.

The library at Zakhele Primary School is now complete with a very large number of new books being provided by the Trust as well as being donated by other organizations. The Trust has helped to refurbish the school library at Stanza Bopape Secondary School and to provide a substantial number of new books to replace the existing very old and out-of-date books. We continue to provide a small monthly bursary for Koketsu, the first pupil from Meetse A Bophelo Primary School to reach university and this year we are also helping another student from the township, Semakalong, to attend university. The Trust makes a monthly contribution to the feeding scheme for pupils at Stanza Bopape Secondary School. This helps to provide a meal each day for those pupils who don't get much, or anything, to eat at home.

In 2012 we are hoping to make grants to all the schools to help them with various projects which will improve the learning opportunities for the children.

We will be running the usual Wine Tombola in aid of the Trust at the Derbyshire Food Fair at Kedleston Hall on 26/27 May and any donations of a bottle of wine would be most appreciated! Each bottle donated generates £10 for the children in Mamelodi.

Staff, pupils and parents in Mamelodi are remembered regularly in church prayers and church members have been generous in their continuing support of the Trust. We are very grateful for this support and thank everyone who has been involved this year. Thanks too are due to Valerie Thorpe for her sales of cards in church which supports the Trust. This ongoing financial and prayer support from the church and its members is much appreciated, not only by the Trust but also by the teachers and young people, including Koketsu and Semakalong, in Mamelodi.

Steve and Mary Bacon

Sunday School and Young People's Group

Hazelwood Sunday School has kept with the familiar routine of meeting on the first Sunday in the month over 2011/12. The meetings usually include a bible reading along with a craft activity which the children enjoy proudly exhibiting in church to the congregation. We also assisted in the making of Christingles for the Christingle service.

As we finished for the summer we enjoyed outdoor games in the field and a picnic.

We continue to share the involvement between Steph Varney, Louisa Keighley, Rachel Rogers, Wendy Sanby, Isobel Wagstaff and Jackie Bryan. Fortunately there are still six of us which does keep the momentum going and makes it a real team effort. We are also joined by another 2 keen mothers who also help out.

Two of us recently attended a First Aid course at Church House.

We still have a range of ages of children; the oldest girls are now 15 and youngest 4 years of age.

At the Church Fete in July we were delighted with the provision of a marquee which turned a wet afternoon into a fun attraction with something on offer for all. The children sold refreshments, body transfers, painted nails, bran tub dip, nails in the colander, as well as a hook a duck game which proved popular with the young ones.

Isobel Wagstaff & Jackie Bryan on behalf of the Sunday School 6

Parish Magazine Report

The Parish Magazine has been issued monthly during the last year, edited by Valerie Thorpe up to and including the October magazine and from November by myself. The masters are delivered to Roger Allan who has continued to look after the photocopying. These copies are then collated by John and Eileen Chadwick and then distributed by a team of volunteers. For the magazine to be distributed by the 1st of the month I do need to receive all copy by the 20th of the month, at the latest, preferably earlier.

At the end of last year Linda Bowley retired from her post of organizing the magazine advertisers and John and Eileen Chadwick have, since that time, taken on this task which includes collecting fee monies for these adverts. Valerie Thorpe has continued to collate the adverts for inclusion in the magazine. Last December Linda also retired from her post of organizing the monthly sponsorship of the magazine covers and from December I have taken over this role myself. Mike Bowler has continued to organize the week by week sponsorship of the flood lighting. Although both Mike and myself do have a few regular sponsors we do find that on a regular basis we have to advertise for more help.

During the interregnum the "Vicar's" letter was produced by a volunteer providing the contribution each month with Tessa Hibbert finding clergy, readers, and organists for the services. In September we welcomed the Reverend David Railton and since that time he has produced the framework for the services, the Vicar's letter and many other pieces of copy. Tessa has continued to find the readers for each service.

Elaine Clarke

Church website

The Hazelwood Church website continues to be updated on a monthly basis and always shows details of all the church services and other events for the current month. It also gives lots of background information about the church.

The new design of website introduced last year is working well. During the year, some of the graphics have been improved and new information has been added.

During 2011 a total of 5,060 visits were made to the website which is a big increase over the previous year's figure of 3,600 and indicates that people find this a useful means of locating information about the church. It is interesting to note that, on average, 296 different people used the website each month which means that some people make multiple visits.

Any suggestions for further information which could be provided by the website are always welcome.

The website can be found at: www.hazelwoodchurch.org.uk

Steve Bacon, Website Editor

Hazelwood Walking Group

The group continues to meet on the first Wednesday of every month (weather permitting!). Thanks go again to those who have selected the routes and eating places. As usual we have done a great variety of walks and seen many different types of pubs. It is also very pleasant to have retired walkers joining us for the lunches.

The Christmas lunch was held in March and was the usual "all ticket" event.

Any new walkers are welcome please feel free to come along please contact John Chadwick.

Mary and David Shaw

Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adult Protection

As most will be aware there was a major issue which came to a conclusion with a court hearing in November 2011. It has therefore been an extremely busy and stressful year which has now thankfully come to an end apart from the ongoing christian support we provide to the person in question.

Throughout and following the above events, representation regarding 'process' which we had substantial reservations about were made to the Archdeacon. Our concerns were eventually supportively received and this has resulted in a major review of guidelines being offered to CYP Officers throughout the Diocese via a working group. As CYP Officers we have been requested to act as 'readers' to the outcome of this working group when the time arises.

As a result of the whole CYP process across all agencies becoming unwieldy and taking on a 'life of its own' having been over zealously interpreted, the Government are carrying out a major review of statute which may result in substantial changes to which will radically change the CYP process.

For the time being no specific issues are ongoing and we await further communications from Church House.

Please see next page for review of actions.

Sally and Colin Kitchener

**St John's Church, Hazelwood
Health and Safety (Children and Young Persons/Vulnerable Adults)
Action Plan/Annual Report 2012**

** Applies to both Hazelwood and Shottle Churches

HAZARD (as identified in report)	ACTION REQUIRED	TARGET DATE	NAME OF PERSON	DATE COMPLETED	ONGOING ACTION/ REVIEW DATE
**Fire evacuation notices	Need installing/updating as required	3 months	JChad/CKitch/JHinnels	June 2012	Annual check March 2013
**First Aid Box	Restock according to legal requirements	3 months	CKitch/SKitch/JHinnels	June 2012	Annual check March 2013/Ongoing restock when used
Gravestones	Regular Inspection	3 months	JChad/CKitch	March 2012	Regular inspection when 'gardening'
Cellar/boiler room	Protective netting inspection	3 months	JChad/CKitch	March 2012	Regular inspection when 'gardening'
Main entrance path	Treat with cleaner	As required	JChad/CKitch + others on rota	Sept 2011	Regular maintenance when required
Advice to Sunday School	Advise Sunday School Teachers of relevant issues	ongoing	D Railton/Church Wardens		Advise any new adults concerned with CYPs**
**Warning sign for Smart water system	Ensure notice supplied displayed in prominent position as required	ongoing	JChad/CKitch/JHinnels	March 2012	Annual check sign still viable March 2013
Electrical rewiring	H&S inspections prior to each service during rewiring and redecorating process	March - May 2012	CKitch/DRAilton	March - May 2012	CEK/DR to inspect prior to services/usage on each occasion
Disabled toilet alarm	To be installed with rewiring and checked annually	Annual check	CKitch/DRAilton	n/a	March 2013

No further H&S issues reported
List to be updated as issues arise

List updated March 2012 for AGM