

St Mary's, Hardwick

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December, 2014



Team Vicar

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St Mary's Hardwick is part of the Lordsbridge Team of 11 parishes.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Purpose of the PCC

St Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Vicar, the Revd. A Myers, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, socials and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and Churchyard.

Organisation of PCC and sub-groups

PCC members (from Jan to APCM 2014)

Team Vicar & chair: Revd. Alison Myers

Church Wardens: Thelma Westbury (Treasurer)
Chris Ford

Deanery synod rep: Thelma Westbury
Lois Frettsome

Team Council rep: Sue Cornwell

Elected members: Michaela McNeill (until APCM 2014) (Secretary)
Lois Frettsome (until APCM 2016)
Sue Cornwell (until APCM 2016)
Helen Harding (until APCM 2015)
Jeff Jones (until APCM 2016)

PCC members (from APCM to end of 2014)

Team Vicar & chair: Revd Alison Myers

Treasurer: Clare Bigg

Church Wardens: Thelma Westbury
Chris Ford

Deanery synod rep: Thelma Westbury
Lois Frettsome

Team Council rep: Sue Cornwell

Elected members: Michaela McNeill (until APCM 2017) (Secretary)
Clare Bigg (until APCM 2017)
Lois Frettsome (until APCM 2016)
Sue Cornwell (until APCM 2016)
Helen Harding (until APCM 2015)
Jana Callus (until APCM 2017)
Jeff Jones (until APCM 2016)

The method of appointing the PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election on the PCC. There were fifty-four on the Electoral Roll in 2014.

The Local Ministry Team

The local team consists of Alison (the vicar), Chris and Thelma (churchwardens), Jill Chatfield (Associate Minister) and Michaela McNeill (Authorised Lay Minister). The team meets every 3-4 weeks to oversee the week-by-week running of the church: primarily organising services, pastoral care, and the coordination of other church-run activities; and to pray together for church and community.

The Events Committee

The Events Committee consists of Anne Jones, Caroline Edgley, Thelma Westbury, Sue Cornwell, Joan Segrave and Lois Frettsome. As vicar, Alison is an ex-officio member. It meets around 5 times a year to plan fundraising and social events.

The Standing Committee

This is the only committee of the PCC required by law and consists of the Team Vicar, the churchwardens and two representatives of the PCC. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions of the Council. Meetings of the standing committee are called only when required.

The LOTS Team

The 'Last of the Summer Wine' Team work in the churchyard and environs on a Thursday morning and have responsibility for their upkeep. Core members are Peter Cornwell, Jeff Jones, Roger Worland and Dave Muncey though others join them from time to time.

The New Church Hall Team

This group is working towards replacing the portacabin. During the year it divided into two subgroups and recruited some new members. Currently those involved are as follows.

Planning Group - Ali Marcus (co-chair), Tonio Callus (co-chair), Alison Myers, Peter Cornwell, Jeff Jones, Chris Bell & Jim Barnard (since Feb 2015), Malcolm Farmer (to December 2014)

Fundraising group - Clare Bigg, Jana Callus, Ali Marcus

The Team Council

This body of lay and ordained people from across the Lordsbridge Team meets 3 times a year to discuss matters of team-wide interest and to be a sounding board for new ideas and proposals. It is a means of reporting to and from PCCs and as a source of new initiatives. Hardwick is represented by the Team Vicar and a lay person.

The Bourn Deanery Synod

Bourn Deanery Synod meets three times a year, and is made up of clergy and representatives from the parishes in the Deanery. The business part of the meeting consists of a Treasurer's report, the Rural Dean's notices, Team updates and a report from the Diocesan Synod representative. This is followed by a speaker on a topic of common interest. This part of the meeting is open to others.

Reports of Church Life

PCC Meetings

In 2014 the PCC met 5 times for a full evening meeting. Business included discussion of plans for the new church hall, plans for and launch of Pippin's, a faculty to cover work on the fabric recommended by the quinquennial inspection, final discussion of congregation action ideas and publication of Mission Action Plan for 2014/5. This was alongside regular review of worship, and updates on finance, Sunday Club activities, local church & community events, and the maintenance of the building.

Worship

Stats for 2014

'Usual Sunday attendance' (avg across the year ex. specials) – 32 adults, 7 children

Number who came to church for Easter Day – 64

Number who came to special services in Advent

Public - Carol service, carol singing, Christingle, fun morning – 150

Organisations - School event, uniformed organisations – 310

Number who came to a service on Christmas Eve/Day - 108

Clare writes:

'It's not just a dreary routine', said one member of the congregation. So what makes our worship neither dreary nor routine?

We learn new songs as well as singing beloved 'golden oldies', and are skilfully led by our musicians. The words of the services reflect the seasons of the Christian year, helping us to focus on different aspects of our faith while retaining a familiar structure. The All Age services enable everyone to participate at an appropriate level (while giving space for a friendly chat with your pew neighbour if you are quick with your paper folding!) We have an excellent team of preachers who teach us and make us think, and perhaps think differently; they motivate us to try to live better, without making us feel discouraged. Many people contribute to our services (preparing the church, reading, leading intercessions and welcoming among other things) to make every member ministry a reality. The new Sacred Space evening services offer a different way of worshipping, and the annual joint service at Comberton Village College reminds us that we are not just a small congregation but part of a much larger, vibrant community of believers.

And mostly, it is the experience of the love and acceptance of God that makes worship joyful and refreshing.

Prayer

Wednesday morning prayer lasts just half an hour and consists of a short liturgy, bible reading and a time of prayer for the world, our nation and our local community. People pray aloud or in silence as they prefer, and the atmosphere is relaxed. The Prayer Calendar helps us ensure that every street in Hardwick and every member and activity of the church is prayed for regularly. We also pray with people from other Lordsbridge parishes at the Call to Pray evenings in Coton.

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

This has been a very quiet year for marriages in the church, we only had 3. There were 3 funerals, 2 of which were in the church and 7 baptisms, 3 under a year and 4 between 1 and 4 years old.

Pastoral care

Michaela McNeill, our Authorised Lay Minister specialising in Worship Leading, has been going into people's homes to give them Home Communion once a month. These are people who are no longer able to attend church and so this gives them a link to the church and that they are still involved. Michaela, along with the Evangelical Church, visits Gracefields Care Home to do a short service for the staff and residents once a month.

Butterflies is a bereavement group that was set up by Gill King, who is an Authorised Lay Minister in Coton. This is a group which is open to all, whether or not they attend church, in the Lordsbridge Team who have suffered a bereavement of a family member or a friend. They meet on the first Thursday of the month in the Parish Room in Coton.

Ecumenical links

Alison Myers writes:

In 2014 we continued to develop and run a number of joint inter-church projects under the strapline 'churches working together for Hardwick'. These include Pippin's, visiting Gracefields, the Wednesday Club church youth group, the Friday evening community youth group, the Good Friday reflection trail, work in the school with year 6 students and in the pre-school with those leaving for the Reception class. In addition members of both (and sometimes other) churches join us for Wednesday Morning Prayer.

Churchwarden's Report for 2014

Thelma writes:

The contents all the various other reports will have covered the happenings during the last twelve months, but none of these would have been possible without the help of all those people who volunteer to help in so many ways. The readers, sidespeople, those who lead intersessions, clean the church, arrange the flowers, provide the music, serve refreshments every Sunday morning, run the Sunday Club and turn up to services and events, no matter what the weather, though this last year the weather has been reasonably kind to us (another reason for thanksgiving).

You will have seen from the reports that the LOTS group have been busy again this year, taking over the work concerning the upkeep of the churchyard and portacabin area, the spring flowers and new hedging attest to this, and being responsible for the grasscutting. I must mention Jeff Jones who has been involved with so much of the care of the fabric of the church, dealing with the quinquennial report, applying for grants, and obtaining faculties, overseeing the tree maintenance, and by doing so has taken a great load off of the churchwarden's shoulders.

Looking forward to 2015 I seem to sense a fresh enthusiasm, with new members joining our congregation, the Sunday Club raising money for charities, the success of Pippins,

and after so a long the distinct possibility that the New Community Hall is really attainable.

This is due in no small part to the enthusiasm and support from Alison and her family, and not forgetting all the visiting clergy, especially Jill and Adrian Chatfield. Without all this help St. Mary's would not be able to achieve what it does each year.

There is one sad note, that we have to say goodbye to our ordinands, Charles and Paul who have joined in so wholeheartedly with us during the last year. We wish them Godspeed to wherever their journey in the church will take them and their families in the future.

Chris and I would like to thank you all for your support, and for making what could be a difficult job one that we both enjoy.

Fabric of the Church

During the year there has been some progress regarding the work outlined in the Quinquennial Report of September 2012. Henry Freeland, the author of the report was appointed as architect to provide the detailed specification necessary to petition the Diocese of Ely for a Faculty of approval for the work. He subsequently invited three appropriate contractors to submit quotations for the work and with his recommendation the PCC provisionally approved the most financially competitive bid. By October the Diocesan Advisory Committee had approved the proposed works and following additional consultation with numerous other bodies, including English Heritage, a formal petition was made to the Diocesan Registrar in London. A critical element of this application was that details of the work had to be posted at the church for 28 days so that any objections could be lodged and documentary proof of its display was subsequently forwarded to the Registrar. The final outcome is currently awaited.

In conjunction with the above, a Project Enquiry Form was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund with the hope of securing grant aid to carry out the proposed work. HLF regarded the work as a collection of individual maintenance items rather than an urgent project of structural significance, which unfortunately would not meet its requirements to be considered for grant aid. Additionally, it saw the work as having limited benefit to the community. It was suggested that only if some urgent structural work on the church could be identified would the HLF consider an application.

Churchyard and LOTS team

At the end of 2013, the contractor who had mowed the churchyard for many years and other areas in the village for Hardwick Parish Council, decided to retire. The obvious solution was to employ the same contractor that the Parish Council had decided to employ. This turned out to be a disaster, with the grass being mown very intermittently and in a very haphazard way. Eventually his services were disposed of when the LOTS group agreed to carry out the mowing and the kind donation of an additional mower by Lois Frettsome will undoubtedly make the operation far more efficient. The planting of flowers in the churchyard and the Sunday school garden, including snowdrops and cowslips, has continued. A statement of account regarding the objectives of the LOTS group for the entire area around the church has been prepared and the group is now regarded as a sub-committee of the PCC.

The LOTS group had a very successful meeting with a representative of the Cambridgeshire Wildlife Trust to discuss attracting wildlife to the site. For example the construction and positioning of nesting boxes was a consequence of this. Roger Worland, one of the LOTS team, has very kindly donated a child's play house to the Sunday school garden.

St Mary's Church Sunday Club

Peter & Ali write:

The Sunday Club continues to thrive. It is a wonderful time of the week which many of us look forward to. The club still has massive and very faithful support from the teenagers and the congregation. We continue to follow a set pattern outlined last year.

This year we made our own Nativity figures and painted them beautifully. We made a stable which can be dismantled ready to be used again next year and our Christmas focus was on the Giotto paintings from the Scrovegni chapel in Padua.

We had much appreciated visits from Charles, Paul and Howard as well as some of the more regular visitors from the congregation.

One of the highlights of the last two years has been the sharing and preparing of food like Simnel cakes and Christmas cakes. We cooked lamb and ate Mazzo bread for the Passover meal and on the day that we cooked sardines on the fire outside, we had the story of the feeding of the five thousand. By the end seemed as if five thousand had shared and tasted the beautifully cooked sardines!

Ali and Peter would like to say a very special thank you to everyone who contributes to Sunday Club, especially to Alison Myers, without whose support and encouragement we would be so much the poorer.

Young people

Ben writes:

In 2014 the young people continued to help out as leaders at Sunday Club. Memorable points include the sausage brunch after church at the end of the summer term and the bonfire party at Peter's house. Lydia became a regular young leader in 2014 alongside Jacob, Christina, Claire-Louise and me. We are also involved in the planning meetings which is always fun.

Wednesday Club is an inter-church group of around 8-10 young people who live in Hardwick (4 from St Mary's). We met fortnightly in term time led jointly by the youth workers Amy Snaith (HE church) and Emma Slater (Lordsbridge) with help from our very own Charles and Paul (ministerial students). There have been a number of lively discussions some issue based, such as on drink and drugs, and some starting with Bible passages. We enjoyed Charles' session on the contrasting theology/philosophy of Johnny Cash and Lady Gaga.

Sometimes, some of us go to Lordsbridge's Illumin8 café – monthly activities and chat with a Bible talk based in Harlton – or to Illumin8 worship – termly worship for Lordsbridge youth. We sometimes go to Thirst – a monthly inter-church youth service

that takes place locally – and I joined a larger group from the Lordsbridge area to go to the inspiring Soul Survivor Christian youth festival in the summer.

Tuesday Link Group

This has been meeting in Coton every second and third Tuesday of the month. It has been led by Gill King of Coton and Lois Clark of Dry Drayton, both Authorised Lay Ministers specialising in Pastoral Awareness. The group have covered various Bible passages and in 2014 joined with a Lent course which was entitled Another Story Must Begin which was based on the musical Les Miserables. During Advent, the Link Group were part of an Advent course which was led by Alison Myers and Rebecca Gilbert, the new vicar in Coton.

Fundraising Events during 2014

A lot of very successful events have been held this year which have attracted not only Church members but people from the wider community.

The Annual Fete in June was well attended and it was great to have new volunteer helpers on the stalls. We hope to have even more volunteers this year as the Fete will be WW2 themed, following a VE day dance on 9 May. The Fete is the main fund-raising event of the year and we are hoping to top £2000 in 2015.

The Safari supper in July was a very enjoyable evening as always.

The Summer Concert with the Finkel brothers and Jeanette Langford was a lovely evening – thanks to Alison and Boyd for allowing us the use of their garden. The weather was kind and it was a lovely setting for picnics and good music, accessible to all ages - a venture worth repeating.

We had an extremely enjoyable Harvest Supper with 'Peregrine'. We hope to book the Cambridge University Ceilidh band again this year.

The Christmas Coffee Morning was another very sociable occasion with hand-made Christmas decorations for sale.

The Church provided the (excellent) refreshments at the Christmas Bazaar in Hardwick school.

Carol-singing round the bonfire was again popular with mulled wine and mince pies to encourage. Chris even managed to find new recruits for the Church choir!

The final event of the 2014-15 year was the Quiz Night in February. This was a great evening with more tables booked than last year and hence, more profit.

Many thanks to all who have given of their time, expertise and cooking skills to help make all the events successful and to raise much needed funds for St Mary's.

Pippin's Cafe

Anne Jones writes:

Pippin's was launched in June of last year following lots of discussions and meetings. The idea came initially from Alison Myers and Steve Gaze who felt that a community café would be an asset to the village of Hardwick, to provide a meeting place and to offer care and friendship. This developed into a joint venture between the Community Association, St Mary's Church and the Evangelical Church.

The Steering Committee consists of Alison Myers - Chairman (St Mary's Church), Steve Gaze - Vice Chairman (Evangelical Church), Anne Jones - Secretary (Community Association), Ruth French (Hardwick Community Primary School) and Gino Starace - Treasurer.

The Management Team consists of Anne Jones, Claire Bigg and Julie Coulson.

Why Pippin's? - it reflects the identity of Hardwick, which at one time was a small village with many apple orchards, pippin being a variety of apple and company referring to friendship, showing the ethos of the community café.

Before the launch of Pippin's, a lot of work was necessary to refurbish the Community Room as it was in need of a facelift. This meant that we needed funds to enable this to happen. We were delighted to obtain funds from the following, for which we are truly grateful:

Hardwick Parish Council	£1800
Hardwick Trust Fund	£1795
Ely Diocese Mission Fund	£1000
Cambridge Building Society	£421.32
(Cash for the Community)	
Hardwick Sports & Social Club	£250

As a result, we were able to decorate the Community Room and purchase new curtains and blinds. Also, we were able to purchase all the necessary equipment to run a café, as well as new crockery and cutlery, which is in the community kitchen, to be used by the community as well as Pippin's.

To enable Pippin's to operate, we needed volunteers to help run the café and bakers to bake our home-made cakes and biscuits and I am pleased to say we currently have 24 helpers and 19 bakers. Many of these have a Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering. In March we were inspected by SCDC as part of the National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme and we were awarded a score of 5 from the Food Standards Agency, which is the highest score.

We are now open on the first Saturday of every month from 10am - midday and it is proving to be very popular. We sell Fairtrade tea and coffee and homemade cakes and biscuits. The bakers claim the cost of the ingredients only, which enables us to keep our costs down as we are a non-profit making enterprise. Any profit that is made will be used to further improve our facilities.

"Pippins is a real success story and a welcome addition to the things that go on in the village."

Lordsbridge Team and Team Council

The Lordsbridge Team consists of eleven Church of England parishes covering an area of approximately ten square miles, just west of Cambridge. Lead Ministers in 2014, of whom three are full time stipendiary, were as follows:

- Hardwick – Revd Alison Myers
- Barton – Revd Corin Redsell (to Oct 2014); Revd Becca Gilbert (from Oct 2014)
- Caldecote with Childerley – Revd Mike Booker
- Comberton - Revd Mike Booker
- Coton – Revd Alison Myers (to Oct 2014); Revd Becca Gilbert (from Oct 2014)
- Dry Drayton - Revd Alison Myers
- The Eversdens (Great & Little) – Revd Charles Fraser
- Harlton – Derek & Jennie Tombs (to Oct 2014); Revd Becca Gilbert (from Oct 2014)
- Haslingfield – Revd David Lewis (to Oct 2014); Revd Becca Gilbert (from Oct 2014)
- Toft (LEP) - Revd Mike Booker

Sue writes:

I have attended two meetings this year as the Hardwick representative. We have recorded on a timeline all the events and activities which have started or grown significantly during the life of the Lordsbridge Team - there were many. Discussions included the possible format of the 5th Sundays, the idea of a team pilgrimage, youth ministry and the funding for and work of Emma Slater, the team's youth worker.

Bourn Deanery Synod 2014

Bourn Deanery Synod meets three times a year, and is made up of clergy and representatives from the parishes in the Deanery. Hardwick PCC is entitled to two lay representatives on the Deanery Synod. The business part of the meeting consists of a Treasurer's report, the Rural Dean's notices, Team updates and a report from the Diocesan and General Synod representatives. This is followed by a speaker on a topic of common interest. This part of the meeting is open to visitors.

In March after the coffee break, Professor Mike Higton spoke on the new ministry training awards, and his job of bringing all the different sections together under one roof at Durham University. In July Yvonne Quirk, the Bishop of Ely's Adviser in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults gave us an interesting talk about her work in the Diocese. There are regular training courses for safeguarding co-ordinators working in the parishes.

November brought a change in venue, we met in Cambourne Church and it was the turn of Hardwick's Synod reps to provide the refreshments. Becca Gilbert was introduced to us having joined the Team as Team Vicar, especially for Haslingfield, Barton, Coton, and Harston. The guest speaker for the evening was the Venerable Alex Hughes, Archdeacon of Cambridge. He spoke of "Unbelief and Belief". He is very involved in working on the Bishop of Ely's Diocesan Strategy, based on Vision, "We need to be deeper in spirituality, broader in our engagement with society and stronger in our discipleship". The Strategy will be discussed in Deanery Synods, and PCC meetings in the new year, so that an online response can be completed, in early Spring.

St Mary's Church Community Hall

Ali writes:

The last year has definitely been one of two contrasting halves for the working party. Initially, having obtained preliminary plans for a hall to accommodate approximately 60 people from Dilwar, a colleague of Malcolm Farmer's, we consulted with a South Cambridgeshire District planning officer regarding the position of the building on site and to obtain some pre-planning advice. His recommendation to position the building towards the west end of the site brought into sharp focus the possible conflict between our desire to make the most of our outdoor space and the restrictions that come with building in a conservation area.

The group's progress over the spring and summer of 2014 was slow for a variety of reasons. In different construction methods very protracted and Dilwar moved away from the area preventing us from continuing to utilise his services. In addition, Malcolm Farmer announced his intention to step down as our leader at the end of the calendar year having ably steered us through the project for so long.

As the challenges grew we even began to doubt the support of the church community. Thus, for a while in the autumn we questioned the feasibility of the project.

Fortunately, with Alison's gentle leadership we used this difficult time to reorganise and focus firmly on what we could do as individuals, listening to God, working together and reaching out to our network of friends and acquaintances. Indeed, with our new focus, since September of 2014 to date progress has been rapid and pleasing:

- Tonio introduced us to Lesley Gawn, a local civil engineer who brought fresh eyes to the project. He listened to all of our requirements and suggested reconfiguring the building and altering the access to the site to allow us to position the building in the north-eastern corner. This allowed us to maximise the grassed area and keep as many trees as possible.
- Ali and Tonio agreed to work together to lead the planning group.
- Clare and Jana are leading the fundraising side of the project including strategy and applications (more than £4000 raised to date specifically for upfront planning costs).
- Peter and Jeff with the LOTS group welcomed a representative from the Wildlife Trusts to give us advice on conservation of wildlife on the site.
- Peter and Jeff have re-routed the pond drainage channel to improve drainage on site.
- Ali and Tonio had an informative and productive meeting with Pam, a retired planning officer and friend of Alison's to discuss the details of a planning application.

- We have presented the new plans drawn up pro bono by Lesley Gawn (and now displayed in the Portacabin) to the congregation who received them enthusiastically.
- Using the new plans, Ali has prepared and submitted a full planning application (pp-03980085) to the District Council for which we are now waiting to receive feedback.
- We are planning for the next stage of the project which is to draw up detailed plans of the building incorporating all of our design requirements ready for building regulations and obtaining quotes for building materials, fixtures and fittings and labour.

We are looking forward to the next year of wider consultation, planning and building.

Treasurer's Annual Report 2014

Clare writes:

First of all I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to Thelma for her painstaking and thoughtfully paced initiation into the dark arts of accounting. She has been patient, knowledgeable and efficient with my many queries.

Income

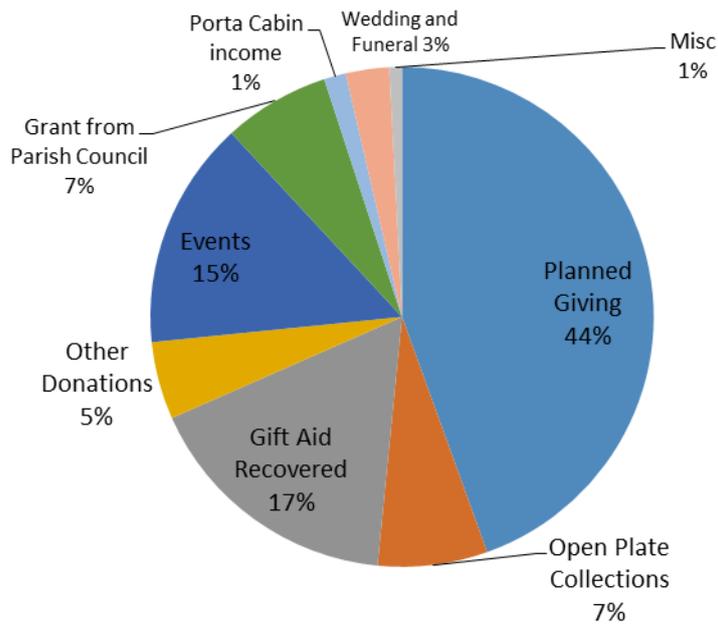
<u>INCOME</u>		<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Fabric Fund</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Planned Giving	(note 1)	£11,502.85		£11,502.85
Open Plate Collections		£1,822.95		£1,822.95
Gift Aid Recovered	(note 2)	£4,094.07	£252.50	£4,346.57
Other Donations		£765.51	£530.00	£1,295.51
Events	(note 3)	£2,401.36	£1,414.05	£3,815.41
Grant from Parish Council		£1,769.91		£1,769.91
Porta Cabin income		£362.35		£362.35
Wedding and Funeral fees		£724.00		£724.00
Misc		£175.40	£32.38	£207.78
<u>Grand Total</u>		<u>£23,618.40</u>	<u>£2,228.93</u>	<u>£25,847.33</u>

(See figure overleaf)

Note 1: Thanks also go to the congregation and friends since, as you can see, giving accounts for over half our income. It is especially helpful to have many planned givers using standing orders or the envelope scheme as this helps make our income predictable.

Note 2: Gift Aid adds significantly to the value of gifts, and members of the congregation are encouraged to sign a Gift Aid form. Loose cash in the Sunday collection plate can now also be Gift Aided which is an added bonus.

Note 3: It is also easy to see the significant contribution from events for which we owe a debt of gratitude to the hard-working committee.



General Fund

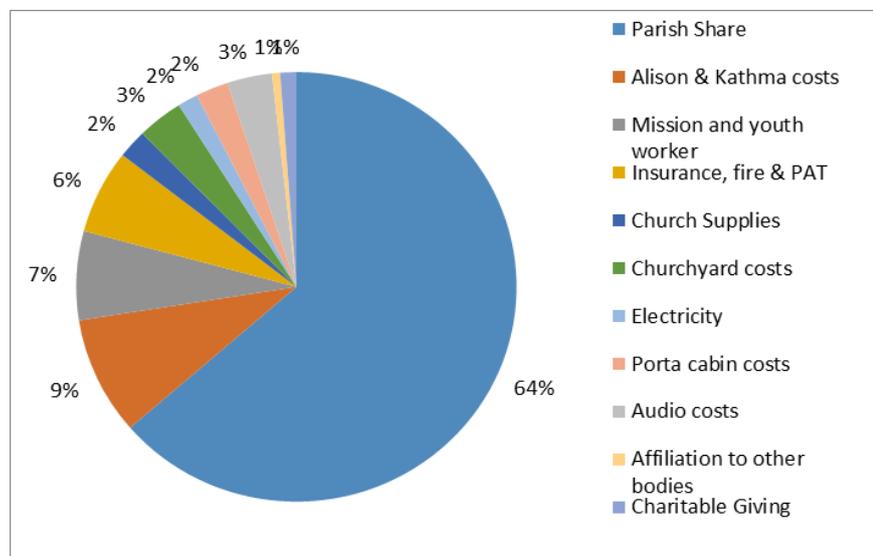
Event	Profit
Fete	£1,540.66
Bazaar	£178.00
Harvest Supper	£153.00
Dec Coffee Morning	£186.70
Concert	£313.50
Xmas cards	£29.50
TOTAL	£2,401.36

Fabric Fund

Event	Profit
Christmas cards	£154.65
Coffee morning	£250.00
Quiz night	£613.14
Pampered Chef	£141.26
Safari Supper	£295.00
marquee hire	£-40.00
TOTAL	£1,414.05

Expenditure from the General Fund

Parish Share	£16,065.50
Alison & Kathma costs	£2,243.49
Mission and youth worker	£1,688.79
Insurance, fire & PAT	£1,596.80
Church Supplies	£541.04
Churchyard costs	£853.29
Electricity	£377.01
Porta cabin costs	£606.10
Audio costs	£829.91
Affiliation to other bodies	£152.42
Charitable Giving	£298.00
TOTAL	£25,252.35



The Parish Share accounts for nearly 2/3 of our outgoings, and we can expect this to increase in years to come. Mission expenses includes £1100 for Pippin's start-up and £300 as our contribution to the Lordsbridge youth worker. This is set to rise to £500. The cost of insuring the church is kindly covered by a grant from the Parish Council, who have also contributed in the past to the cost of grass cutting. Thanks to LOTS, churchyard costs are set to be reduced next year, as they are now doing the mowing. The electricity bill is almost certainly on the low side: Thelma has undertaken heroic battles with our new supplier, and we hope that now we are being billed correctly. The portacabin costs include the new water heater. Affiliation to other bodies includes our contributions to Lordsbridge, Bourn Deanery & Hardwick Community Association. Charitable giving comprises £120 to Action Aid, £103 to Embrace the Middle East and £75 to the CMS Christmas Appeal. There were other charity donations eg the Skipathon which didn't go through the PCC books.

Expenditure from the Fabric Fund

A total of £6420.10 was withdrawn from the Fabric Fund to cover the costs of the work on the trees, architect's fees relating to Quinquennial Work and legal fees relating to ownership of the carpark and garden area.

Overall Picture

Our total of our assets (General Fund, Fabric Fund, Sunday School Fund and cash) at the start of the year was £15,200 and this was reduced to £9,383 by the end of the year. This reduction can be accounted for by the unbudgeted bill for tree work (£4608) and the fact that we received a grant of £1000 for Pippin's in 2013 which we spent in 2014. While we cover the regular ongoing costs through congregational giving at the current level, we have a wishlist which will require some creative fundraising. Considering the generosity shown in the past, and the commitment expressed for the future, I think we can go forward with some confidence under God.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Clare Bigg, Michaela McNeill, Thelma Westbury, Chris Ford, Peter Cornwell, Ali Marcus, Jeff and Anne Jones and Ben and Alison Myers for their contributions.