

# Annual Report and Financial Statements for the parish of St Mary, Kingsclere

## For the year ended 31st December 2012



Handbell Ringing to celebrate the Opening of the London 2012 Olympic Games - July



Palm Sunday Procession - April



Christmas Tree Festival - December



Confirmation - February

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## **Highlights of 2012**

- ❖ Alpha Course and follow up events and courses
- ❖ Embedding of Lay Pastoral Visitors team
- ❖ Another successful Fete
- ❖ new Welcome boards and mat
- ❖ Confirmation of 2 adults and 3 young people in February
- ❖ Encouraging attendances at Remembrance and Christmas services
- ❖ Christmas Tree Festival – another first for St Mary’s and much enjoyed by all

## **Introduction and statutory information**

The parish of Kingsclere is one of two parishes which together make up the United Benefice of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley, within the Diocese of Winchester, within the Church of England. The Incumbent is the Rev Lucy Thirtle. There is an Assistant Curate, Rev Trish Bancroft, licensed to the benefice for a limited period as part of her training.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. It has the responsibility of working with the incumbent in promoting the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical – together with care of the church buildings and churchyard.

Kingsclere PCC has defined its mission as **“to live and share the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in and around Kingsclere, in partnership with other Christian churches in the village.”**

The parish church is St Mary’s which is situated on Newbury Road, Kingsclere. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Fox’s Lane, Kingsclere, Newbury, RG20 5SL.

The membership of the PCC during 2012 was follows:

Vicar (Chair)	Rev Lucy Thirtle
Curate	Rev Trish Bancroft
Churchwardens	Janet Sturgess Les Wallace (until May 2012) Eileen Selsey (from May 2012)
Deanery Synod Members	Chryssie Green Nicholas Selsey 1 vacancy
PCC Members	Diana Hughes (until April 2012) Neville Hughes (until April 2012) Sandy Liddeatt (from April 2012) Debra Power (from April 2012) Anthony Savin (Treasurer) Mary Sneyd Maggy Wallace (from April 2012) 7 vacancies
Secretary	Emma Rivers

With effect from April 2012 PCC members are elected for a three year term according to the Church Representation Rules.

At its APCM in 2005, Kingsclere passed a resolution to set a limit of 3 years for continuous service (unless elected in another capacity) after which an individual would be required to step down for a minimum of 1 year. This has been in operation since April 2006

#### **Officers:**

- Vice Chair – Neville Hughes (until April 2012) Maggy Wallace (from April 2012)
- Emma Rivers, Benefice Administrator, acted as secretary for the year
- Tony Savin continued in the role of Treasurer.
- Chrissy Green was re-elected as Electoral Roll Officer.

#### **Sub-Committees:**

The PCC fulfils its responsibilities by delegating to various Sub-Committees.

The **Standing Committee** is a statutory sub-Committee and made up of the Vicar and Churchwardens (ex-officio) and at least two PCC reps.

Nick Selsey and Tony Savin (Treasurer) were elected as the reps to the Committee at the post-APCM PCC meeting on 20 April. However, owing to the small size of the PCC the Standing Committee did not meet during the year.

Other Sub-committees or task groups were:

- **Fabric Sub-committee** (From April 2012: Eileen Selsey (Chair); Nick Selsey; Janet Sturgess; Rev Lucy)
- **Fete Sub-committee** (Sarah Mussett (Chair), Sarah & Graham Hewitt; Karen Moore; Anthony Greayer; Kirsty Wise, Victoria Fletcher, Rev Lucy)
- **Benefice Outreach Group** (Rev Trish Bancroft (Curate), Susie Sainsbury (AHwH), Georgie Selby (AHwH), Maggy Wallace (K), Bryony White (K), Emma Rivers (K), David Goodfellow (K))
- **Finance and Fundraising Working Group** (Tony Savin, Eileen Selsey, Rev Lucy, Tony Matthews, Debra Power, Clive Mussett)
- **Tower Management Committee** (Laurie Harris (Chair), Les Wallace, Rev Lucy, Janet Sturgess, Fiona Sawyer & Chris MacPherson (editors))

Reports from these and other groups appear later on in the report.

#### **What has the PCC done during the year?**

The PCC met 6 times during the year in addition to a brief meeting following the Annual Meeting to elect officers. The level of attendance was over 85%.

The following matters were handled by the PCC during the year:

- welcoming arrangements were reviewed resulting in re-ordering of furniture at west end of St Mary's, purchase of welcome mats and 2 A-frame publicity boards and new guidelines for welcomers and sidesmen
- Bryony White's application to explore a call to Reader ministry was supported
- a hiring agreement for the Kingsmill room was approved
- the Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection policy was reviewed
- the Keystone Project group was disbanded with responsibility given to those dealing with Fabric and Finance generally to include Project matters within their brief
- Fabric sub-committee was re-constituted under leadership of Eileen Selsey (see above)

- approval given for purchase and installation of replacement safe (following break-in in 2010)
- the insurance position with regard to bell tower activities, tours and visiting bands of ringers was considered and robust regulations put in place
- approval given for Christmas Tree Festival
- delegation of authority given for expenditure of up to £500 to Vicar, Churchwarden and Treasurer
- a Finance and Fundraising working group was set up

In addition regular reports were received from the Treasurer, sub-committees, the Foundation governors of Kingsclere Primary School and the Deanery representatives to ensure that the PCC were monitoring and supporting all the activities being undertaken in its name.

A full report of Fabric matters discussed and progressed is included under the report of the Fabric Sub-committee.

The PCC also expressed its desire at various times to support the legislation for enabling women to be bishops and, following the defeat of the vote in General Synod in November, sent letters to the Archbishop of Canterbury-elect, the Bishop of Winchester and the MP for Hampshire North West as well as the Culture and Equalities Secretary urging them to do whatever possible to ensure new legislation could be brought forward as soon as possible.

*Rev. Lucy Thirtle, Chair*

**The above report was adopted by PCC at its meeting on 13 March 2013**

**Signed:**

**Chair**

*Lucy Thirtle*

## **Churchwardens' Report**

Supported by Rev Lucy, the organization of responsibilities has been different this year with Nick Selsey working alongside church wardens with special responsibility for fabric.

It has been a busy year for us all and we thought we would give you a flavour of our range of duties.

We have our more public role with one of us acting as duty Churchwarden for main Sunday services. We try to ensure that these services run smoothly, checking that all the lay participants in a service (readers, intercessors, welcomers, sidesmen, sound system monitors) are present.

In addition, much is done behind the scenes, and we take this opportunity to say 'Thank you' to everyone (too numerous to mention by name) who has helped and supported us in so many ways. This behind the scenes work has included:

Early in the year we had a Parochial Visitation on behalf of the Archdeacon. This was to physically check all our records, books, documents and valuables, to ensure they were still there and that records are being properly maintained. We are pleased to report that the visit went well, and that our records are correct (for which, many thanks to Emma Rivers).

We have signed a formal Loan Agreement with Winchester Cathedral to enable them to continue to look after our valuable silverware indefinitely.

We have obtained a settlement of the insurance claim with EIG following the burglary in 2011. This has enabled us to buy a new safe and apply for Faculty permission to replace the communion silverware.

In addition:

On a regular basis we:

- meet with Rev Lucy and the Churchwardens of Ashford Hill and Headley to discuss matters relating to our United Benefice;
- meet with Rev Lucy and Nick Selsey as the Fabric Subcommittee of PCC (see further down for full report);
- attend PCC meetings;
- liaise with the Bellringers on all matters to do with the safe and efficient running of the tower, and when there are visiting ringers;
- work closely with Finance Working Group.

*Janet Sturgess & Eileen Selsey*

## **Spiritual life – Worship, nurture and prayer (Living the gospel)**

### **Regular Worship and Pastoral Offices**

Our pattern of services continued unchanged this year. This provides for a mix of Communion and non-Communion worship in a broad range of styles thanks to the contribution of three Authorised Lay Worship Leaders whose committed contribution is much valued.

A highlight of the year was the Confirmation Service in February at which we welcomed the Rt Rev Peter Hancock, Bishop of Basingstoke. Two adults and three young people were confirmed at that service. Once again we were pleased to join four times in the year with our Roman Catholic and Methodist brothers and sisters for worship – see Partnerships section further down. 22 baptisms (including 3 adult); 7 weddings and 19 funerals were conducted for the parish during the year (not including those in Ashford Hill with Headley).

*Rev Lucy*

### **Children at St Mary's – Junior Church**

Our children regularly meet on the first Sunday of the month, and have great fun learning about different themes. Often the sessions are based on the readings from the lectionary, but during the year we also ran some "Godly Play" sessions which allow children to ask questions and respond to stories, encouraging their spirituality. These sessions were very well received, and produced some lovely results. Children are always keen to share what they have learnt and made with the rest of the congregation when we return after communion.

*Sarah Mussett & Emma Rivers, Junior Church Leaders*

### **Prayer Circle**

This is a small co-ordinated group of eight parishioners, who pray regularly, at home, for individuals, where prayer has been requested (usually through Lucy or Trish), and for all aspects of our Benefice and community. Many are included for long periods, if that is needed. All requests are treated with great confidentiality and sensitivity. If anyone feels they may like to be part of this, they would be very welcome.

*Bryony White*

### **Worship at Rose Hodson Court**

Monthly Songs of Praise services continued through the first part of the year, led variously by Rev Lucy, Rev Trish, Fr Patrick (RC) and various Methodist ministers. Unfortunately, there was no one to step into Maisie's shoes as coordinator in RHC and due to this as well as other factors, it was decided from autumn onwards, that this would become a quarterly service to be held for Easter, midsummer, Harvest and Christmas. The Carol Service at Christmas followed by refreshments was well attended and enjoyed. Holy Communion continues at present on a monthly basis but, since the summer, has been maintained solely by Rev Lucy and Rev Trish.

*Rev Lucy*

### **Music**

This year our choir said goodbye to Katherine and Michael Best. Katherine had been our Head choir girl and Michael a very lively member of our choir. Although they are both missed we have added Lucy and Robin Hambidge to our ranks who are very enthusiastic and who both have the potential to be excellent singers. Katy Jones has now taken over as Head Choir girl and has recently gained her Pale Blue ribbon. Jane, Don and Margaret continue to be regular singers and Nick helps out when he can. Thank you to all of you.

We did not take part in the RSCM Festival as our numbers were low and the music rather too challenging for a weekly choir practice.

At Christmas we sang in both St Mary's and at Ashford Hill, (augmented by Kingsclere Singers) with the new junior choir members taking on 'Once in Royal' with great enthusiasm! The Carol Evening (as part

of the Christmas Tree Festival) with the Kingsclere Singers was very well attended though disappointingly there were very few children. Our thanks to Gill, Vanessa and Paul who have stepped in to play for us on several occasions. Long may they be around to help out!

*Hazel O'Leary, Organist & Choir Leader*

### **Flower Arranging Team**

Our "Sign the Rota Get-Together" for 2012 was held in February and also involved discussion, a demonstration, tea and cakes. All agreed that the rota had run smoothly and that our aim to provide the church with fresh flowers throughout the year had been met. Everybody much enjoyed Denise Allen's skillful demonstration of two horizontal table arrangements and the questions and answers that arose. The ever-rising cost of this year's flowers has been mainly paid for by the arrangers themselves, with grateful thanks due to church members for contributing towards the extra arrangements at the festivals of Easter and Christmas. It is this generosity of money and time from so many people that has enabled St Mary's to be beautifully decorated. Long may it continue.

*Linda Elvin, Suzy Stokoe and Eileen Selsey*

### **Tuesday Bible Discussion Group**

A small group of members meet each Tuesday usually in Jill's home. The group read sections of the Bible and then take time to discuss it, giving their reactions and feelings towards the passage. The members have each chosen topics when we feel we would like to discuss certain areas of the Bible in more depth, or feel that something is challenging us and so want to discuss it further with friends. This enables us to tailor the discussions to the needs of the group rather than following a set pattern. During 2013 we will join in the Lent discussion group "Glimpses of God" being held at Rose Hodson Court.

*Jill Donoghue*

### **St Mary's Belltower**

The ringing band continues to grow in strength and now boasts 13 Kingsclere members. The two most recent recruits joined as a result of the August Bank Holiday Fete Tower Tours. Both are progressing well and joined the band for the first time for Sunday service ringing on 20th January. Members from Burghclere Tower continue to support our weekly practices for which we are very grateful. The average weekly attendance is around 12 persons. Although ringing suffered over the Christmas period because of illness Sunday Service ringing has been maintained all year, generally with enough ringers to ring at least six bells.

During the year the PCC voiced concern regarding insurance for ringers' and visitors' safety in the tower. Time has been spent discussing and agreeing policies and procedures to address these important issues and the Kingsclere Bell Restoration & Management Fund (KBRMF) committee now has three PCC members. The final documents are to be presented to PCC members at their next meeting for ratification. The KBRMF AGM was held on 21.1.13 at the Vicarage.

The leaking roof continues to trouble the fabric of the tower; notably the stairs and walls leading to the belfry. Occasional ladybird infestations invade the belfry and need removing. Despite an overhaul of the bells in February 2012 faults relating to 'oddstruckness' continue to challenge ringers. Matthew Higby Bellhangers will attempt to correct these electronically during the next maintenance visit. A new stay was fitted to the three to replace a cracked one.



## Wedding and Peal Ringing in 2012

During the year local ringers rang to celebrate six weddings. A peal was rung on 14th June to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Seven quarter peals were rung during 2012 to mark various events.

- 5th February - For Baptism and Confirmation by Peter Hancock, Bishop of Basingstoke, also for the Accession to the Throne of Queen Elizabeth II in November 1952.
- 5th June - for the Diamond Jubilee
- 16th July - To celebrate the birth of Marley Whan on 8 July to welcome him into the world. (first grandchild for Maggie Hiller, ringer at this tower).
- 30th September - For Harvest Festival, and also the 45th Wedding Anniversary of Paul and Wendy Myers (Paul is a local ringer at Whitchurch).
- 15th October - To celebrate Rev Lucy's 50th birthday.
- 19th November - For the wedding of Catherine Gardner (younger daughter of Gill Gardner) and Stuart Ovington which took place in Tadcaster, Yorkshire. Also in memory of David Wills, former deputy headteacher at Kingsclere Primary School.
- 24th November - In thanksgiving for the life of Sylvia Brooker, a long time worshiper at St. Mary's, on what would have been her 85th birthday.

The tower was open for 'Tower Tours' during the August Bank Holiday Church Fete as usual.

Handbells were rung by members of the congregation at 8.12am on 27th July along with many others all over the country prior the Golden Jubilee River Pageant, and also at Christmas to entertain members of the Newbury Visually Impaired Group.

*Maggie Hiller, Tower Secretary*

## **Pastoral Care**

The Pastoral Care Team\* continue to support Rev Lucy and Rev Trish in pastoral care matters. Those who are housebound or in need of some form of pastoral support are visited on an ad hoc or regular basis, as necessary. Visits are informal and can take whatever form is needed...usually incorporating a drink and a chat. Individual team members have undertaken various short courses on topics such as supporting people through bereavement, or with Alzheimer's, during the year. Such information is then shared with the team. Please contact Rev Lucy or Rev Trish in the first instance if you, or someone you know, would welcome a visit.

*\*The team: Rod Eldred, Steve Green; Sarah Musset, Mary Smith, Mary Sneyd, Janet Sturgess, Di Tait, Maggy Wallace, Bryony White.*

*Maggy Wallace*

## **St Mary's Guild**

2012 was dominated by the sad loss of our leader Sylvia Brooker. As a founder member of St Mary's Guild Sylvia's dedication to the Guild and St Mary's church in general was immeasurable and we have much for which to be grateful to her. She also organised the rota for the twice yearly visit for service in the Cathedral Refectory and the highly successful bric a brac stall at the church fete.

Due to the atrocious weather our two planned garden parties were cancelled, but with successful fundraising events we were able to donate £657 to various charities, including our local charity Living Paintings, a fantastic amount for a relatively small group. Guild members led by Joy Gill produce mystery boxes for the church fete which is always a popular attraction. For the second year running we won £50 on the Keystone Lottery.

We are most fortunate that Pam Kitch has volunteered to lead our group for 2013 and we look forward with optimism.

*Janet Sturgess*

## Outreach (sharing the gospel)

### **Benefice Outreach group**

The Outreach team, under the guidance of Rev Trish, have had a busy year. Following on from the success of Alpha in January, a number of further planning meetings have resulted in a range of offerings across the benefice. These have included some structured events such as the Emmaus Courses; the first one was in July 2012, and was run by members of the Outreach Group, the theme being 'What is Church'. This followed on with 'Growing in the Scriptures' which was run in Advent by Rev Lucy and Trish; and one on 'Knowing the Father' to be run in Lent 2013 by Georgie Selby and Maggy Wallace.

Emma Rivers led a Time Out day at the beginning of Advent.

Informal events have included the 'Priests in the Pub' initiative: an opportunity for Lucy and Trish to meet people on an ad hoc basis in The Swan Inn. We are carrying on our outreach into 2013 with support for café church style services at Ashford Hill

*Maggy Wallace*

### **Kingsclere Church of England Primary School**

KPS has three governors nominated by St. Mary's, reflecting its status as a Voluntary Controlled School. For 2012, they were Rev. Lucy Thirtle, John Liddeatt and Nick Selsey. As governors, their role is to see that KPS maintains its particular Anglican ethos and that this contributes towards school improvement, as well as, with the other governors, overseeing the development of a safe learning environment for children.

2012 was a tumultuous year. In February we had an OFSTED inspection, after which we were found wanting on a number of levels, and were given a formal 'Notice to Improve'. In July, having laid the foundations for future improvements, Mr. Duncan Wood, our long-standing Head teacher, retired. In September we were joined by Ms Lucy Chambers, who stepped in as Interim Head Teacher, and KPS has benefited throughout the school from her experience. After a rigorous and formal selection process, Mr Steve Wells, currently Deputy Head, has been appointed Head Teacher and will take up his new post at the start of the Summer Term 2013.

Despite this background of change, KPS pupils produced their best SATs results at KS2 for many years, ahead of both the Hampshire and National averages. Supported by exceptional work from all of the staff, overall behaviour and achievements have remained impressive. Since the end of 2012, KPS has had a further OFSTED inspection, and we have been judged to have made solid progress.

Rev Lucy and Rev. Trish continue to lead regular whole-school acts of collective worship at the school and for Harvest, Christmas, Easter and at the end of the academic year to say goodbye to the Leavers, the school holds its main Act of worship at St Mary's. Demand for places remains strong and prospects for further improvements are good.

*Nick Selsey, Foundation Governor*

### **ABC**

During 2012, the children attending ABC continued to enjoy their time of worship. Our services usually see around 15 children enjoying stories, games and songs – as well as prayers and our lovely blessing. During the year the sessions have been mainly based on New Testament stories such as "Jesus calms a storm", "a King on a donkey", "God's breath in the world" and "feeding the 5000" (after which the children enjoyed a picnic!) along with the seasonal Easter, Harvest and Christmas services. The children enjoyed a fantastic day-trip to Finkley Down Farm in April - we held a short ABC service in a barn to begin with, and then had lots of fun exploring the farm, feeding the animals and thanking God for the signs of "New Life" that they saw in all the baby

animals! We have had several new ladies come to help with the refreshments at our services. It is such a valuable part of the session, and lovely to be able to show other members of the congregation what goes on at ABC!

*Jane, Hazel, Lucy, & Emma (the ABC Team)*

### **Saturday Coffee at St Mary's**

Many thanks to all who support the Saturday coffee mornings, especially the small core of very loyal helpers who give their time to make delicious cakes and serve the coffee. Thanks also to our regular customers who attend despite snow, ice or high water of which we had plenty in 2012. Steve and Chrissy Green very generously donated a state of the art coffee machine which is a great asset and we are most grateful to them. Without the invaluable help of Tom & Mary, Eileen & Nick, Barbara, Mary Smith, Rosemary, Jill and Monica and the late Sylvia Brooker this outreach project could not have taken place.

*Janet Sturgess, Organiser*

### **Children's Society**

After 10 years of fundraising effort, Janet Sturgess has handed over the baton to Sue Grove-White. The Christingle Service held in December was well attended and £122.59 was kindly donated by those who came. So far, half of the collection boxes have been gathered in with a sub-total of £248.71 already deposited.

*Sue Grove-White, Organiser*

### **Christmas Tree Festival**

The church was full of colour and light from 14-17 December, as we hosted our first ever Christmas Tree Festival. Twenty six trees adorned the church and glittered and sparkled (battery lights only!!) throughout the long weekend – green, red, magenta, gold, white, yellow, turquoise, silver.

The creativity of the decorators was truly inspired – a red, white and blue paper tree topped by the Eiffel Tower from the Twinning Association; the local Players filled their tree with nursery rhyme and panto characters; the Library hung books and DVDs in abundance; Jam and Jerusalem were the themes for the WI's creation. Bare willow twigs came from the Cricket Club with cricketing quotations hung in profusion. Ordnance Survey maps cut into Christmas Tree shapes adorned the local Walkers Group tree, together with compass and walking stick. Who would have thought of whistles and black balls to decorate the tree for the Football Club? An apple a day (on the tree) keeps the doctor away was the theme from the Medical Centre. The Bell-ringers had golden bells and the Singers had golden instruments – all so beautiful. The Junior Church tree was done entirely by the children and stayed in church over the Christmas period.

Far too many to mention individually – but so much talent – so much effort. Visitors all had their special favourites but everybody loved them all. Three went for silent auction, and, together with the superb raffle prizes and amazing cakes provided for refreshments, contributed to raising approximately £800. It was a wonderful weekend. We will do it again.

*The Christmas Tree Festival Team*

## **Partnerships**

### **Ashford Hill with Headley**

In addition to the regular meetings with the Vicar of the four churchwardens, the main joint benefice activity is the Outreach Group. However, worshippers from both parishes travel to a church in the other one either occasionally or regularly as well as supporting other church family events.

*Rev Lucy*

## **Whitchurch Deanery Synod**

St. Mary's PCC is represented on the Whitchurch Deanery Synod by Rev. Lucy, Rev. Trish, Chrissy Green and Nick Selsey. One of the principal functions of the Deanery Synod is to facilitate the transmission of information, views and opinions between the parishes (in particular the lay members) and the Diocesan leaders. Like any other representative system, this is a work in progress, but we are well served by our Diocesan Representatives, in terms of them keeping us informed.

The three meetings held during 2012 attracted an average attendance of 25, including both clergy and lay representatives; far from 100% attendance. Common threads were discussions on deanery and diocesan finance (never enough funds, but the situation is not as parlous as it might be), our continued links to the Mityana Diocese (generally uplifting and optimistic) and the question of representation/influence on Diocesan matters. Our representatives at the Diocesan Synod were elected, to serve for the next three years.

Throughout the year we have benefited from presentations and discussions on specific subjects. These have included ideas of clustering in the Whitchurch Deanery (as clergy numbers fluctuate), Adult Discipleship (taking the church outside Sunday services; events are being planned over two weeks in 2013), a new Parish Giving Scheme (updating and simplifying the administration of church members' gifts), feedback from Bishop Tim's presentation to the Deanery on 13th November (synod members were very encouraged by his vision and enthusiasm) and, in the first meeting of 2013, Youth and Children's Ministry (support in reaching the younger members of the parish).

The subject of Women Bishops exercised Deanery Synod members. In 2011, the Diocesan Synod had voted with a slight majority in support of the legislation then proposed for enabling Women Bishops. At the June meeting, Rev. Lucy reported, with heavy heart, on fresh amendments to the relevant measure passed by the House of Bishops. In November, the General Synod failed to pass the relevant measure, by a narrow margin; Winchester representatives voted in a manner that was not representative of the expressed wish of the Diocesan Synod. We are promised early developments in 2013.

*Nick Selsey, Deanery Synod representative*

## **Ecumenical links**

Once again, four acts of worship during the year saw members of our three denominations in the village coming together. These were for the Women's World Day of Prayer, the Good Friday United Act of Worship and Witness; evening services on Pentecost and on the Feast of Christ the King (with an Advent theme). We celebrated Pentecost with nibbles and fizzy in St Mary's churchyard and said goodbye to Rev Peter Catford (Methodist). In September Lucy, Trish, & Patrick were joined by Valerie Fisher who, though officially retired, has taken on oversight for Kingsclere Methodists in addition to several other congregations in quite a wide area. Valerie was keen to be a part of our happy ecumenical fellowship.

*Rev Lucy*

## **Resources (supporting and enabling the mission of the church)**

### **Fabric Report**

The demands of keeping a building like St Mary's open and running – and not least, improved, are considerable. By way of an insight into what is involved, the following is probably a not exhaustive list of what we have done in the past year.

Under 'routine maintenance' we have:

- changed light bulbs;
- ensured tea/coffee/cleaning materials etc are available in kitchen;

- had fire extinguishers serviced;
- had portable electrical appliances checked;
- had the central heating boilers serviced;
- carried out ongoing modifications to the sound system (many thanks to Steve Green) to make sure it complies with current regulations;
- with thanks to Tom Sneyd, cleared drains, soakaways and all gutters;
- again with thanks to Tom Sneyd, Diana Tait and Rod Eldred ensured that the area around the church is kept clean, tidy and free of weeds and (with the Parish Council and the help of others) that the trees in the churchyard are under control.

Under 'major maintenance' we have obtained DAC approval and agreed quotations for:

- gutter repairs and clearing moss from roofs (for both of these items we are waiting for confirmation of a start date from the contractor);
- repairs to the stonework around the vestry door (we have applied to Basingstoke and Deane BC for a grant towards the cost of this work);
- repairs to a stained glass window in Chancel (to be completed when the weather warms up).

Under 'improvements' we have:

- had a new hand rail in the organ loft installed and painted;
- obtained DAC approval and installed a hand rail on the steps from the kitchen to the Kingsmill chapel;
- obtained DAC approval and purchased and installed a new safe in the vestry;
- bought 40 chairs for the Kingsmill Room;
- bought 4 small tables for the Kingsmill Room;
- continued discussions with DAC and our architect to try and find a solution for new flooring in the Kingsmill Room;
- re-started procedures for Faculty approval for kitchen improvements, a new screen at the east end of the Kingsmill Room and redecoration of the Kingsmill Room.

Under 'emergencies' we have:

- pumped out the boiler room after it became flooded (with thanks to Paddy O'Leary), and called in the heating engineers to restart the boilers (clearance of sump in the boiler room is now on the routine maintenance schedule);
- had the water heater in the kitchen repaired, and the water pressure improved.
- had three doors in Kingsmill Room and toilet repaired after torrential rain caused flooding
- with the help of Mary Sneyd, cleaned the church while we look for another cleaner.

Other 'work in progress' includes:

- creating disabled access to Kingsmill Room – our architect has advised on this, and we are now proceeding to quotations and DAC approval;
- organising essential repairs to the Tower roof and the stair turret roof to keep the water out. This means setting out specifications, getting quotes, seeking DAC approval and getting the work done;
- organising essential repairs to the buttress next to the Kingsmill Room door. Again, this means setting out specifications, getting quotes, seeking DAC approval and getting the work done;
- starting the process of replacing the lighting and electrics in the main church: this means finding a suitable consultant to help us create appropriate technical and aesthetic specifications, getting quotes and seeking DAC approval.

So if we sometimes seem a bit distracted, please forgive us.

## **Finance and Fundraising Report**

This group was set up during the year with the brief to look at the church finances necessary for enabling the ongoing ministry of the church as well as routine church bills, major repair and restoration works and future developments.

An outline budget was prepared for 2013 which included some of the more urgent work required to the fabric of the church, and this gave an indication of the funding needed over and above our current level of regular income from planned giving, collections, fees etc. Various ideas are now being explored for raising the necessary funds, including grants, contributions from FOSM, in addition to the usual helpful contribution from the Fete etc. The group has committed itself to running a programme in 2013 to encourage regular givers to review giving, as well as reaching new givers.

*Eileen Selsey*

## **Celebrations in Light**

Bookings for floodlighting the church have been steady during the year, even with the electrical problems. Evidently the ants were working when the lights were not! The majority of those affected by the partial blackouts understood our problem, only one accepting the offer of a refund. At the end of the year I handed over responsibility for the bookings to Sarah & Andy Bates. It has been a happy and rewarding ten years for me – even with the “blips”. I am sure the celebratory lights will continue to shine in Sarah & Andy’s capable hands.

*Maisie Lawrence, Organiser*

## **Keystone Project**

The Keystone Project Committee was set up in 2010 to kick start our long-term strategy to refurbish St. Mary’s and to make it fully fit for use as a centre of worship and of the community in Kingsclere. While the Committee no longer meets formally, as most of the original members are also on the PCC, separate accounts are maintained and our work continues.

As reported in detail in the accounts for this and previous years, Keystone has raised around £28,000. To date, new lighting and heating have been installed in the Kingsmill Room, and new chairs and tables purchased. The next major item of expenditure is new flooring in the Kingsmill Room: until this is done, other improvements are held up, but, until we resolve major technical problems, we can’t get this done! However, we now have a specialist architect to advise us and we persevere!

We are currently seeking quotations for works to modify the Kingsmill Room doors (the outer door and the door to the chancel) to make disabled/wheeled access easier.

Looking ahead, we shall find a specialist lighting consultant to advise us on installing new lighting and electrical systems in the church. What we have now needs to be replaced, as a matter of some urgency, but it needs to be done in a way that will enhance St. Mary’s, an ancient Grade II\* listed building. Once that is done, we can look to redecorate the interior of the church.

*Nick Selsey - Keystone Project*

## **Kingsclere Tower Magazine**

The Tower continues to thrive and remain solvent.

The main news this year is that Fiona and Christine have decided to retire as Editors. The process to appoint a new Editor is being carried out at the moment and we hope to have someone in place by the summer.

Kingsclere Tower Current Account January to December 2012

	Income
£5,164.05	Opening Balance on Current Account
£6,971.00	Advertising Revenue 2012
£3,239.00	Early Advertising Revenue 2013
	Expenditure
£655.20	Typesetter
£760.00	Kingsmill Room Rent
£5,000.00	Transfer to Community Reserve Account
£297.24	Printer Maintenance
£2,867.04	Stationery
£5,794.57	Closing Balance on Current Account

Kingsclere Tower Community Reserve January to December 2012

	Income
£2,300.68	Opening Balance on Savings Account
£5,000.00	Transferred from Current Account
£2.73	Interest
	Expenditure
NIL	
£7,303.41	Closing Balance on Savings Account

*Les Wallace, Treasurer, Tower Management Committee*

### **Fete Sub-Committee**

We held another successful fete in August and once again broke the record in terms of proceeds. We could not achieve this without the hard work of the committee members and all the dedicated stall holders. It is so impressive how everyone pulls together on the morning of the fete, at 8.30am it feels positively chaotic but by 12 noon everyone has come together to produce a fantastic looking fete.

The months of hard work prior to the fete is clearly evident whether it's about plants and produce, creating delicious teas/cakes or great fashion/home accessories. This year we were delighted to announce a new cake competition which proved a great success in terms of doubling the numbers of cakes to sell but also introducing a new activity, we are hoping to build on this for next year. We hope 2013 will be as successful and look forward to welcoming new committee members with new ideas!

*Sarah Mussett, Chair of Fete Sub-Committee*

### **The Kingsmill Room**

The Kingsmill Room continued to be used by regular groups throughout the year but, from a financial point of view, it is underused. The room could be a more valuable income generator but would require us to have a (probably paid) caretaker. We look forward to promoting it for wider use when all the proposed improvements are done (see Keystone Project). The new light

stackable chairs and additional tables have been an improvement and it remains a very useful resource for the church.

*Rev Lucy*

### **Churchyard Wild Flower Area**

Among the 54 flowering species present, Yellow Trefoil, Red Clover, White Ox-Eye Daisies, Golden Catsears and Purple Knapweed gave us the main summer display with Butterfly, Common Spotted, Bee and Pyramidal Orchids adding that special touch. Tall grasses plus Spear Thistles and Greater Willowherb flourished in our newer wild flower area during the extra wet summer following an increased early spring display of snowdrops.

The eye-catching colours of a Chicken-in-the-Woods at the base of the yew tree in the summer made up for a later lack of other fungi.

Despite poor weather, Meadow Brown, Green-veined White and Brimstone butterflies were present. Among the visiting ten bird species we had a hungry Sparrowhawk, a Robin that was interested in ants found in a floodlight while it was being cleaned and a singing Blackcap.

*Ralph Cook, Plantsman*



***St Mary's Church  
Kingsclere***

**Financial Report**  
*Year ending  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2012*

**St Mary's Church, Kingsclere**  
**Financial report for the year ended 31.12.2012**

**GENERAL FUNDS - INCOME**

	<u>2012</u>		<u>2011</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Voluntary Receipts</u></b>				
Gift-aided Planned Giving	23,940.47		22,043.64	
Tax Recovered	6,421.90		6,901.46	
Collections	10,898.39	41,260.76	8,414.09	37,359.19
<b><u>Other Voluntary Income</u></b>				
General Donations	4,202.64		1,649.38	
Fees	3,617.00		3,952.00	
Legacy			12,500.00	
Grant FOSM - Weather Vane		7,819.64	100.00	18,201.38
<b><u>Fund-raising Activities</u></b>				
Fete	7,494.03		7,415.91	
Social Committee			448.76	
Pudding & Games			181.00	
Christmas Tree Festival	879.75			
Come Dine with Me	90.00			
Kingsmill Hire	1,192.00		1,423.00	
Lights	1,026.50		1,341.00	
Sat/Sun Coffee	1,473.29	12,155.57	1,164.05	11,973.72
<b><u>Miscellaneous</u></b>				
AH/Headley share of expenses			719.57	
AH/Headley share of Salary			592.80	
Insurance Re Silver	10,000.00			
Ordination	485.00			
Other	201.09		78.46	
Interest on CBF Funds	48.02		37.90	
Inc. In value - Investment A/C	7,261.06	17,995.17	-	1,428.73
<b>TOTAL GENERAL INCOME</b>		<b>£ 79,231.14</b>		<b>£ 68,963.02</b>
<b><u>Restricted Funds - Income</u></b>				
Choir Fund	-	-	-	-
Flower Fund	110.00		524.00	
Income/Int on School a/c's	95.11		75.60	
Keystone Project - Net Surplus	1,614.43		5,710.16	
Keystone Project -Grant		1,819.54	7,796.40	14,106.16
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£ 81,050.68</b>		<b>£ 83,069.18</b>

**St Mary's Church, Kingsclere**  
**Financial report for the year ended 31.12.2012**

**Expenditure**

	<b><u>2012</u></b>		<b><u>2011</u></b>	
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Ministry</u></b>				
Diocesan Share	41,077.00		38,330.00	
Clergy Working Exps	2,412.44		2,224.99	
Admin costs	3,498.67	46,988.11	3,096.00	43,650.99
<b><u>Building Costs - Maintenance</u></b>				
Electricity	1,052.31		1,465.04	
Gas	1,433.49		1,072.80	
Insurance	3,346.47		3,119.23	
Water rates	86.50		79.20	
Electrical Repairs	1,528.78		603.78	
Fire Equipment	136.32		93.48	
Repairs	1,397.39	8,981.26	405.00	6,838.53
<b><u>Upkeep of Services</u></b>				
Altar	204.25		212.43	
Organ Tuning	320.76		481.14	
Organists	35.00		50.00	
CCLI/RSCM Fees	341.93		311.86	
Training	142.00			
Other	350.16	1,394.10	564.45	1,619.88
<b><u>Miscellaneous</u></b>				
Synod Fees	90.00		90.00	
Fete Expenses	1,213.19		1,150.84	
Charity				
Coffee purchase	179.30		103.64	
Insurance Excess	100.00			
Ordination			530.33	
Dec. In Value - Investment A/C			705.95	
Other	590.07	2,172.56	861.78	3,442.54
<b><u>Mission</u></b>				
<b>TOTAL GENERAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>£ 59,536.03</b>		<b>£ 55,551.94</b>
<b><u>Restricted Funds</u></b>				
Choir Fund	95.80		42.20	-
Flower Fund	151.80		538.02	
Purchase of School bibles	230.67		197.67	
Children's Church/ABC etc	60.35		-	
Keystone Project - Kingsmill Room		538.62	7,796.40	8,574.29
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£ 60,074.65</b>		<b>£ 64,126.23</b>

**St Mary's Church, Kingsclere**  
**Financial report for the year ended 31.12.2012**

**MOVEMENT OF FUNDS**

	<u>Balance @</u> <u>01.01.12</u>	<u>income or</u> <u>inc. Value</u>	<u>Expenditure/</u> <u>drop in value</u>	<u>Balance @</u> <u>31.12.12</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b><u>Restricted Funds Account</u></b>				
Free School Trust	913.17	8.05		921.22
Sunday School Fund - Lloyds	1,351.99	87.06	291.02	1,148.03
Nave Chair Fund	490.00	-	-	490.00
Legacy Fund	12,500.00		489.60	12,010.40
Flower Fund	275.38	110.00	151.80	233.58
Choir Fund	66.80	-	95.80	(29.00)
Keystone	18,929.17	* 1,614.43	-	20,543.60
<b><u>General Funds - Investments</u></b>				
CBF Deposit Fund	5,441.93	48.02		5,489.95
CBF Investment (Shares)	49,216.71	7,261.06	-	56,477.77

\* Breakdown shown in accompanying sheet

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities at year end**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2012 Y/E</u>	<u>2011 Y/E</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Lloyds TSB	9,738.27	12,704.98	22,443.25	12,547.60
Santander	22,680.68		22,680.68	20,327.90
CBF Deposit Fund	5,489.95		5,489.95	5,441.93
CBF Investment Fund	56,477.77		56,477.77	49,216.71
Free School Trust		921.22	921.22	913.17
Free School Sunday School Fund		1,148.03	1,148.03	1,351.99
Keystone Accounts		20,543.60	20,543.60	18,929.17
	<b>£ 94,386.67</b>	<b>£ 35,317.83</b>	<b>£ 129,704.50</b>	<b>£ 108,728.47</b>

**Creditors**

British Gas Business	Gas Supply	220.06
Winchester Diocese	Fees	171.00
<b>Total Creditors</b>		<b>£391.06</b>

**Debtors**

Ashford Hill & Headley	Recoverable Expenses	4,901.39
<b>Total Debtors</b>		<b>£4,901.39</b>

**Financial report for the year ended 31st December 2012 prepared by Anthony Savin,  
Hon Treasure to the PCC**

<b>Kingsclere St. Mary's Keystone Accounts 2012</b>					
<b>Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ending 31st December 2012</b>					
<b>2011</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
£184.75	Burns Night - Provisions	£155.50	Donations (Gift Aided)	£265.00	£967.00
£80.00	Burns Night - Piper	£80.00	Donations (Not Gift Aided)		£50.00
£350.00	Basingstoke Male Voice Choir		Church Guides	£17.50	£95.50
£28.00	Garden Safari - Expenses		Grant from "The Tower"		£5,000.00
£166.40	Quiz Night - Provisions	£66.27	Grant from "The Friends of St Mary's"		£1,000.00
£38.38	Quiz Night - Prizes	£38.73	200 Club Subscriptions	£1,128.00	£1,203.00
£181.11	Keystone Carols - Mulled Wine etc		Burns Night	£702.00	£565.75
£600.00	200 Club Prizes	£600.00	Basingstoke Male Voice Choir		£590.25
£859.00	Purchase of Keyboard		Garden Safari		£738.50
	Purchase of Chairs (Kingsmill Room)	£1,965.36	Quiz Night	£573.10	£695.90
	Purchase of Tables (Kingsmill Room)	£340.75	Keystone Carol Concert		£404.41
			Auction of Promises (In conjunction with FKS)		£2,494.81
			That's Entertainment (In conj: with 2 Charities)		£1,213.76
			Gathering In		£193.10
			Sale of Piano		£300.00
£7,796.40	Transferred To PCC		Plant Sale	£346.30	
£5,710.32	Surplus/Deficit Transferred to/from Reserves	£1,614.43	Christmas Tree Festival	£186.00	
			Come Dine with Me	£1,105.96	
			Tax Refund Gift Aid	£429.32	£414.74
			Interest on CBF Account	£107.86	£67.64
<b>£15,994.36</b>		<b>£4,861.04</b>		<b>£4,861.04</b>	<b>£15,994.36</b>
<b>Balance Sheet at 31st December 2012</b>					
	<b>Reserves</b>		<b>Represented by</b>		
£13,218.85	Brought forward from 2011	£18,929.17	Current Account	£305.17	£9,502.52
£5,710.32	Nett Surplus/Deficit for year	£1,614.43	CBF Account	£19,821.11	£9,713.25
			Tax Refund Gift Aid (not yet received)	£429.32	£253.40
				<b>£20,555.60</b>	<b>£19,469.17</b>
			Less- 2013 Income received in 2012 (200 Club)	<b>-£12.00</b>	<b>-£540.00</b>
<b>£18,929.17</b>		<b>£20,543.60</b>		<b>£20,543.60</b>	<b>£18,929.17</b>
Dated 15/02/13			Signed Neville V. Hughes		
			Honorary Treasurer - Keystone Project		

**St Mary's Church Kingsclere**  
**Financial Report for the year ended 31.12.2012**

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**Charity Giving**

**Payments passed through Bank Accounts**

Collection and Event paid to British Red Cross	1,042.00
Collection and Event paid to Basingstoke Food Bank	132.40

**Not passed through Bank Accounts – Receipts Supplied**

Collection at Remembrance Day to British Legion	396.75
Christian Aid collections paid direct	375.00
Children's Society Box Collections paid Direct	248.71
Children's Society Christingle Service Collection	122.59
Church Christmas Card proceeds paid direct to Church Urban Fund	186.00

**Total**      **£2,503.45**

**2012 Financial Report**

**Treasurers Comments**

The Keystone Project continues to successfully raise funds and this year has funded the upgrading of tables and chairs in the Kingsmill Room.

During the year our investments made a recovery from the losses of last year and showed an increase of £7,261. And we also received £12,292 from our insurers in respect of the burglary in 2011.

There has been an increase in our general assets during the year of £20,976 which in part is due to the increase in the value of our investments; however it should be noted that we also are anticipating further costs to set against burglary in 2011 which were part of the insurance claim.

Voluntary receipts continue to increase this year and also there has been a substantial increase in general donations. The income from the fete was similar to 2011.

Clergy working Expenses and Admin costs are shown higher than last year but this is due to Ashford Hill & Headley proportion not being recovered in 2012. This will be corrected in 2013

Overall this year our normal activities managed to make a small surplus

Overall the accounts this year are more positive than last year as the first results can be seen of what is an ongoing strategy of implementing projects to increase our income

Prepared by

*A. Savin*

A. Savin

Hon Treasurer to the P.C.C

25<sup>th</sup> March 2012

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE PCC OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, KINGSCLERE**

This report on the accounts of the P.C.C. for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 and including the accounts of the Keystone Project to the same date is in respect of examination carried out under regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the Central Board of Finance. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the P.C.C. and a comparison of the accounts with those records.

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
  - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and
  - b. to prepare accounts 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.



**Leonard Potts**

**28, Garrett Close  
Kingsclere  
Newbury  
Berkshire**

**Date**

25/03/2013