

running to the glory of God.

**2011**

**Parish of St. Peter & St. Paul**

**Blandford Forum**



**Annual General Meeting  
of St Peter & St Paul  
Blandford Forum**

**Thursday 31st March 2011  
7.30pm  
At Blandford Parish Centre**

The Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Blandford Forum  
Annual General meeting in Parish centre  
7.30pm Thursday 31st March 2011

**Agenda**

Opening prayers

**Meeting of Parishioners**

1. **Apologies**
2. **Minutes of previous year's meeting**
3. **Election of Church Wardens**

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes of previous years meeting**
3. **Church Business**
  - a Church Accounts
  - b Appointment of Independent Examiner
  - c Election of PCC Members
  - d Election of deanery Synod Members
  - e Appointment of Sidepersons/Welcomers
  - f Electoral Roll
  - g PCC Report
  - h Deanery Synod Report
4. **Any Other Business**

To be received at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

**b Inventory and Terrier**

Over the past year the Churchwardens have devoted a lot of time to updating the 2010 Inventory; meticulously detailing, photographing and numbering each item in the Church. This information has been recorded electronically ensuring that future Churchwardens can access an electronic version of the Inventory, thereby making it easier to produce yearly and to keep updated. A list is being produced of those items shown in the old Inventory which can not be identified as still being in the Church. This could be a result of duplication in the Inventory as it is not also clear under which Section an item should be recorded.

**The following were photographed and numbered:**

All items made of:

- Metalwork
- Woodwork
- Textiles/Vestments

**The following were simply photographed:**

All items made of:

- Stone

**The following are still to be gone through:**

- Books and registers
- Photographs

Liaising with Churches Together, the Churchwardens were also able to find new homes for some of the old Hymn & Prayer Books.

## **a2 Parish Centre report - Centre Management Group**

**Dan Roberts**

Upon the completion of the Parish Centre in February 2010, the CMG took over the responsibility for issues relating to the building, usage and general management of the Centre from the Hall Steering Group., and has met monthly since then usually before PCC meetings. We have discussed and resolved all manner of issues, from the lengthy teething problems with the ground source heat pump to setting hire charges and generally fixing stuff (for more details see me afterwards!).

Until October 2010, this group was chaired by Bob Henley, who did an excellent job and I would like to express our sincere thanks to him for all the hard work he put in, especially to ensure that contractors continued to fulfil their obligations to us in resolving a number of key building operation issues. I would also like to thank Su Tomes for her hard work and crucial involvement as CMG secretary until September 2010.

I took over as Chairman of the group towards the end of 2010 and ever since I have relied extremely heavily on the fantastic efforts of David Rake, our Centre caretaker, and Jill in the Church office who between them managed to keep the Centre running so smoothly. David has happily come out at all hours to open and close up, and does an amazing job at looking after those who choose to use our Centre. He has also taken over the role of key liaison with the contractors and John Turnbull. Jill also has given herself tirelessly to the management of bookings and customer relations, and my thanks go to her for all her hard work, and for managing to learn how the system works so quickly.

After just over a year of successful operation, we continue to be proud of this gift of the Centre that God has given us, and we as the CMG will continue to do our best to ensure that we continue to use this gift wisely. However, we are but a small group - thanks also to Heather Stringer at this point for her dedication in looking after the Centre finances and to Jenny Marsh who keeps us Food Hygiene literate and compliant - and so would welcome you if you would like to join us in helping to keep the Centre

## **5. Church Community Life**

a	Rainbows	Rosy Coldwell
b	J Team	
c	Incredibles	Julian Barker
d	Thirst	Neil Scott
e	Guides	Heather Stringer
f	Brownies	Ruth Jones
g	Mothers Union	Chris Long
h	Mission Support	Various
i	Church Music & PA	Jackie Poynter, Clive Newlin
j	Prayer Ministry Team	Rosy Coldwell
k	Pastoral Care Team	Rosy Coldwell
l	Bell Ringers	Percy Towler
m	Flower Team	Norah Saynor
n	Girls @BFPC	Claire Storey
l	Outreach pastor	Dan Roberts

## **6. Church Fabric and Care**

a	Buildings Report	Church report Parish centre Report
b	Terrier and Inventory	

## **7. Rector's Report**

a	Report
b	Questions

**Closing Prayers.**

**Minutes of the Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday April 29<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 7.30pm**  
**At Blandford Parish Centre, Blandford, Dorset**

**Present:** Tim Storey, Anita Oliver, Dan Roberts, Heidi Roberts, David Rake, Angela Hird, Heather Stringer, Sara Loch, Tony Coldwell, Rosy Coldwell, Pat Ellen, Clive Newlin, Stuart McAinsh, Gillian McAinsh, Norah Saynor, Geoff Peach, Elizabeth Dunn, Christopher Dunn, Janet Dominy, Peter Dominy, Jenny Pope, Sylvie Edwards, Jacqui Poynter, Jenny Marsh, Peter Marsh, Mary Henley, Mark Riley, Julian Barker, Norman Long, Caroline Telford, Bob Henley, Sue Barker, David Crompton, Judith Crompton, Muriel Read, Percy Towler, Christopher Coldwell

**Apologies:** Rodney Smith, Su Tomes, Nicolas Saynor, Jean Peach, Roger Brown, Eileen Brown, Claire Storey, Louise Moogan, Gail DelPinto, Chris Brown, Graham Poynter, Chris Tomes, Jennie Rake, David and Joy Wheaton

Rev. Tim Storey welcomed everyone to the meeting which he opened with prayer.

#### **Meeting of Parishioners**

- 1 **Apologies** were noted.
- 2 **Minutes** of the Meeting of Parishioners 2009 were accepted and signed as a true record.  
Matters Arising - Building committee has been functioning during 2009.
- 3 **Election of Church Wardens**  
Pat Ellen has decided to stand down as church warden. Tim thanked her for all her work. Sara Loch and Gail DelPinto have been nominated as wardens. They were both duly elected.  
Carolyn Telford, Heather Bignold, Rodney Smith, Ted Green, Stuart McAinsh and Pat Ellen all agreed to stand as Deputy Church Wardens. They were duly appointed and Tim thanked them for their work each week in church.

#### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

- 1 **Apologies** for absence are set out above.
- 2 **Minutes** of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2009 were accepted and signed as a true record.
- 3 **Church Business**
  - a) **Church Accounts.** Heather Stringer, our treasurer, explained that due to various circumstances our church income has dropped substantially. Tim told the meeting that letters are going out to all members of the congregation regarding the current financial situation  
Peter Marsh asked about the Endowment Fund. Heather and Tim explained that this relates to the Parish Centre - a sum had been held in

full shape and it has enabled me to give time to work out what I believe God is saying to us about the way in which we might begin to see our Vision statement fulfilled. It has been a particular joy that the work I have been doing for Moorlands has helped with this considerably, and the research and reflecting has brought us to a place where I hope we can now step forward with the Outreach Plan as you will hear it outlined at the AGM this evening. The Free Lunch events on Saturday mornings at the Parish Centre have been immensely successful, as was the opportunity we had to give out free soup to those in need in the run up to Christmas - especially the hard working postmen and women on the memorable day of Alpine level snowfall on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2010. It was also a real pleasure to be able to deliver 'Thank You' tins of chocolates to the hard pressed community services of fire, ambulance, police postmen, hospital workers and grit lorry drivers on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> December thanks to financial contributions made by the Home Groups.

## **6 Church fabric and Care**

### **a1 Church Buildings Report - Sara Loch**

During the year the Building Committee has organised:

- the running repairs to the building such as replacing light bulbs, with many thanks to the team;
- the repairs to the boiler needed at the beginning of winter;
- the fixing of the door and doorframe into the Julian chapel;
- the replacement of the lead stolen from the Julian Chapel roof;
- the sorting and clearing of the organ gallery;
- and the, as yet unfinished, shoring up of the cupola.

## **M Outreach Pastor - Dan Roberts**

It was summer 2010 that I recall standing at the front of Church trying to explain how God had led my life into a different direction, and I was now going to take on a part time voluntary role within the Church as an Outreach Pastor. This was to fit alongside a part time teaching job at Milton Abbey (part time it turned out meant 6 days a week and 40+ hours - an intriguing definition!), and a desire to study for an MA in Applied Theology over the next 3 years at Moorlands College in Christchurch.

Now in March 2011, I look back on what has been an amazing last 8 months in my life and I thank God for the opportunities he has given me to serve Him in so many varied ways.

I want to say the most enormous THANK YOU to all those who responded so generously to my appeal for help to pay my fees at Moorlands. The step down to part time paid work meant that I had no idea where the money for these fees might come from, but thanks to the miraculous provision of God through many of you who gave anonymously to support me, I will never for the rest of my life forget how amazing it was to hear, on two separate occasions now, that when the fee bill was due, the exact (and I mean exactly - to the penny!!) money had been given to enable them to be paid. I have had an amazing time at Moorlands so far, having now attended three study blocks (a total of 7 days) and I have now completed the first module successfully, and gratefully received an overall score of 67% for my efforts. I now have one study block and one assignment of 4500 words left (having completed 4 totalling 12500 words so far) in this academic year, but to my great relief I am fairly sure I will pass overall and make it into year two. This leads me to plead again for your assistance if you feel able - in September and then again in February 2012, I will receive a fee bill of £850 per module (£1700 for the year) and I rely with confidence on God's provision for this. With regards the role of Outreach Pastor, this is now taking

retention, and a sum lent by the PCC for start up costs. These are held in the Endowment Fund. Heather thanked Peter Marsh for examining the accounts. David Rake proposed that the accounts be accepted. Angela Hird seconded. Unanimous vote in favour. Tim thanked Heather, Rodney Smith and Di Jack for their work with the church finances.

**b) Appointment of Independent Examiner.** Peter Marsh was appointed as Independent Examiner.

**c) Election of PCC Members.** Louise Moogan and Angela Hird have stood down. Roger Brown, Gail DelPinto, Anita Oliver and David Rake have come to the end of their term. Five nominations have been received and Sue Barker, Gail DelPinto, Sara Loch and Mark Riley were elected onto PCC for three years, and Anita Oliver was elected for one year.

**d) Election of Deanery Synod Members.** Pat Ellen and Clive Newlin are still our representatives until 2011, and there is still one vacancy.

**e) Appointment of Sidespersons/'Welcomers.'** Tim explained how important this role is in the life of the church and thanked them all for their work.

### **9.00am service**

Nick & Norah Saynor

Muriel Read

Pat Ellen

Ted & Thelma Green

Chris & Norman Long

Geoff & Jean Peach

Chris Goby

### **10.30am service**

Fiona Mephram

Iris Pugh

Heather Bignold

Christopher & Elizabeth Dunn

David Rake

Sylvie Edwards

Rodney Smith

Sandra Aldridge

Graham Poynter

Paul Hooke

Emma Adlem

Su Tomes

Pat Ellen

**f) Electoral Roll** - membership stands at 119. Three people have left but have been replaced leaving the numbers static.

**g) PCC Report** - report attached.

**h) Deanery Synod Report** - report attached. Peter Dominy noted that the reference to Chris Dominey should read Stephen Dominy.

**Any Other Business** - there were no items of AOB.

**Church Community Life** (All reports included in booklet)

Tim explained the concept of 'Messy Church' as linking Rainbows with 2<sup>nd</sup> service of the month, which is hoped to run from September 2010.

Judith asked for adult helpers for a new initiative - kids@thecentre. Pat Ellen expressed her appreciation for the help with prayers and readings from Thirst and Incredibles during services. Tim explained that the PCC will be reviewing mission giving. Elizabeth Dunn asked if answered prayer could be shared regularly. Tim agreed that this was a good idea. Norah Saynor highlighted the urgent need for new members in the flower team.

## 6 Church Fabric and Care.

### a) Buildings Report

**Church Report.** Tim explained that the PCC are actively looking into the removal of the cupola, which is intended to be part of a major church refurbishment project. The finances have been put aside to pay for removal of cupola.

**Parish Centre Report.** Tim thanked the Hall Steering Group for all their hard work on the Parish Centre project.

**b) Terrier and Inventory.** Pat Ellen and Sara Loch have checked the inventory. The inventory will now be computerised making future checks easier.

## 7 Rector's Report

Tim likened church life to caring for a garden, relating it to the story of Eden, and spoke about the 'planting' and 'nurturing' that has been happening in the church since the weekend away in 2009, with the need for "proactive" rather than "reactive" gardening. Part of this has been included in the fundraising efforts for the Centre, and now that we have the Centre we can use it for outreach, with many events already planned. He thanked Gail DelPinto, Kevin Humphreys, Roger Brown, Judith Crompton, David Rake, Dave Griffiths, Heather Stringer and Bob Henley for their efforts as part of the Hall Steering Group.

Tim shared how the relationships he has developed in the town are bearing fruit, including being chaplain to the Mayor, being an Army Chaplain (Blandford Camp), and being part of Blandford Leadership Forum, which has been looking at future of late night shopping, Ken Reynold's work and the Leisure Centre.

Tim thanked Rosy Coldwell, Peter Dominy, David Wheaton, Jennie Rake, Osbert Tun Pe, and Mark Riley for their support and also Su Tomes, Louise Moogan and Di Jack for the valuable work they do in the office.

Tim explained that there was letter being sent to all members of the

have tried to organise the work load as efficiently as possible but need to have a drive to recruit more help in the near future.

It is important to stimulate our creative skills from time to time. Last summer Alison and myself took part in Witchampton Flower Festival in June. This is a major creative challenge as we have opted to do an Interpretation design. It is very good for our morale to represent Blandford Parish Church at such a high profile Flower Festival where visitors come from all over the world. It is also very enjoyable for us to mix with other flower arrangers from the diocese. We are busy planning the design at the moment.

We are self-sufficient. Our main funding comes from the coffee mornings. We try to keep expenses down by making maximum use of local resources and we are trying to be more ecologically aware. Our aim is to reflect this in both our weekly and festival displays.

Norah Saynor

## n Girls @ BFPC

2010 has continued in similar ways to last year with a series of evenings when we get together to socialise and do something together. The year began with a Bowling evening up at the camp and since then we have been for a walk at Pamphill, enjoyed summer drinks at Sara's (inside because of the English Summer!), a Chinese Meal, a Christmas meal at Prezzo and we sang along to "Mamma Mia" in the Centre. Thanks to everyone who has been a part of the events in 2010/2011 - a programme for this year will emerge soon!

Claire Storey

Several visiting bands have come to Blandford to ring in the towers and there has been a small number of weddings for which the bells were required.

Because of the adverse weather conditions over the Christmas period ringing for carol services was limited. However on New Year's Day a peel was successfully rung by the band raised by Mr William Bosworth.

The East Dorset branch of the Salisbury Guild of Ringers held their AGM at Blandford and the Branch Service was held in the Parish Church. The Reverend Tim Storey officiated. A cooked supper was provided by the Blandford Band for some fifty ringers in the Parish Centre, where the kitchen and sitting accommodation proved to be a perfect amenity.

The overhaul of the bells in the belfry continues to await the work on the cupola and roof of the tower.

Percy Towler

### **m Flower Team**

I would like to start by thanking a number of people. Firstly we are very grateful to Janet Palmer for leading the group so successfully and efficiently in recent years. We are very glad that she is going to continue to help us. A huge thank you is due to Thelma Green for all she has contributed to the flower group for many years. We miss her and her lovely flower arrangements very much. Also thank you to Diana Trenchard and Ruth Joy for all their valuable help.

Our numbers have now dwindled to seven. The group would not survive without our willing volunteers from Blandford Flower Club because we only have four church members. We

congregation regarding the church finances, and he urged everyone to consider their response carefully.

He then highlighted the priorities for 2010 -

- **Finance** - the need to get the finances right so that we can get on with working for the kingdom.
- **Prayer** - Anita Oliver has been appointed as prayer co-ordinator to encourage us to focus on prayer as a growing priority.
- **Vision** - Dan Roberts will be leading a Vision Group to ensure we are fulfilling our vision.
- **Buildings** - We will soon need to deal with the cupola and launch the appeal for the church building.
- **Staffing** - There is a desire to employ a youth worker but although the PCC have been looking at options, we are currently not in a position to go further due to finances.

Tim explained that the Parish Centre will be the vehicle for the outworking of the Vision and will be at the heart of all we do, and it is important that it is used for growing the kingdom.

Peter Dominy thanked Tim all his hard work in the life of the church.

Tim closed the meeting in prayer at 9.00pm

## Reports 2010/11

### Background

St Peter & St Paul's has the responsibility of working with the incumbent, the Rev. Tim Storey, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Centre. We are part trustees of the John Iles Barnes Ecclesiastical Trust.

### Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Incumbent:	Rev. Tim Storey
Curates:	Rev Rosy Coldwell
Churchwardens:	Gail Del Pinto Sara Loch
Deanery Synod Reps:	Pat Ellen Clive Newlin
Elected Members:	Pat Ellen Clive Newlin Bob Henley (resigned October) Heather Stringer Dan Roberts Mark Riley Sara Loch Sue Barker Anita Oliver David Crompton (resigned October)

### k Pastoral Care Team

The PCT have continued to offer willing help and support to many parishioners throughout the year whether or not they are church members. Since extra training on bereavement counselling Rodney and Sandra are assisting Rosy and Christopher and Elizabeth with visiting those who have been recently bereaved. Louise and Sylvie have attended the LPA course during the year and are now ready to help in specialist areas of pastoral care such as hospital visiting and baptism preparation and follow up. Jennie and David have an ongoing ministry of pastoral care for those who come into their shop and want to talk. Rodney and Sandra, along with their home-group organised a Christmas Tea for senior citizens at the Parish Centre and hope to hold another one soon. Members of the team are now helping at Rainbows and Messy Church. These are but a few examples of the ongoing pastoral care offered by the team to give thanks for. Rosy is very grateful to the office team for helping to coordinate the pastoral care whilst she was recuperating from an operation last year and would like to extend thanks to Su Tomes for all her help in this respect before she began her teaching job.

R.Coldwell

### l Bell Ringers

Bell Ringing has continued throughout the year on Sunday Mornings when there have been enough ringers for the purpose. Ringing practice is held on Thursday from 7.45 - 9pm on a weekly basis, although this is moved to Bryanston Church on the third Thursday of the month to make use of the stimulating equipment installed there.

It is only because of the support the Blandford Band receives from ringers of nearby parishes that it is possible to provide a bell-ringing service to the Church. The need for more ringers in Blandford is more pressing than ever.

## **PA - Clive Newlin**

Over the past year we have all become more competent at operating the system, with less glaring mistakes. Yes there have been issues, but all are being addressed, and with musicians taking a more proactive role in setting up and putting away when required the task of the PA operator is becoming much easier.

There are still some improvements that it would be good to make like replacing our slowly dimming projector, but future budget and the Church restoration will dictate the timing, and none of which would be considered critical.

## **j Prayer Ministry Team**

The PMT continue to offer prayer ministry at the end of each 10.30am service and there has been a steady but rather limited response. We all pray that this ministry can be developed and grown and we are discussing and praying about this when we meet as a team for prayer. During these meetings we have studied some of Alison Morgan and John Woolmer's training manual 'In His Name' for healing prayer teams. Rosy hopes to invite one or two leaders of prayer ministry teams from other churches for the team to hear how they are developing their prayer ministry, particularly extended prayer ministry in the home. Rosy is grateful to Peter Dominy for leading the PMT for three months last year while she was recuperating following her operation. In January both the PMT and the PCT had a party to celebrate the ministry they had been able to offer in the Lord's strength and in the power of the Holy Spirit. RC

## **Standing Committee**

This Committee is required by law. It consists of the Rector, Wardens, PCC Secretary and Treasurer and is empowered to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the Council.

## **3 Church Business**

### **a Church Accounts**

The detailed 2011 financial accounts are published separately. The accounts include our General Fund and Deposit Account, but also the Fabric Fund.

### **Audit**

Mr Peter Marsh has undertaken the task of Independent Examiner. We thank him most sincerely for taking this on.

### **f Electoral Roll**

The Electoral Roll has been updated and final numbers are 127.

## **g PCC Report 2011 - Anita Oliver(PCC Secretary)**

The PCC has met nine times since the last AGM and the attendance has been 80%.

During the past year the PCC has -

- Reviewed mission support.
- Liaised with the Building Committee regarding the day to day maintenance of the church building, and considered plans to repair the cupola.
- Endeavoured to work within the self-imposed budgets for the ongoing ministry of the church.
- Received and discussed reports on prayer, outreach and the Deanery Strategy and Action Plan.
- Liaised with the Parish Centre Management Committee regarding the day to day running and maintenance of the Parish Centre.
- Received and discussed regular reports from the Vision Group.
- Reviewed fees for weddings and funerals.
- Discussed plans for the Parish Weekend.
- Reviewed the church booking policy.

## **i Church Music & PA**

### **Worship in Church- Tony Coldwell, Jenny Pope, Jackie Poynter**

The pattern of 2 morning services has remained the same since last year, but now a monthly evening service - "Venue" has been added. This means a full range of musical styles, both modern and traditional, can be explored and enjoyed by all.

Tony Coldwell has continued to play the organ for the 9am service. Music groups lead the other services. A new plan made last September, was to have 4 music groups, one for each week, to facilitate monthly planning. As there are only 2 leaders, and 2 pianists at present (Jenny Pope and Jackie Poynter) the plan has been difficult to organise at times! However, Chris Newman, Clive and Ann Newlin will be helping in leadership this quarter from May to August, which will help us. The new rota has catered for 20 different singers/instrumentalists, a very encouraging number. Those who have attended a weekly practise have grown in confidence and in their musicianship, learning to praise the Lord together.

A small choir sang a selection of Christmas songs at the Carol services at Langton Long, and at Blandford. This contribution to the worship was well received.

We are most grateful for 2 separate love gifts. Firstly, a new keyboard for the Parish Centre, and secondly some new music stands and microphone stands. These gifts have made an enormous difference to organising music at the Centre, and we praise God for this provision for our needs

some time in hospital. We continue to pray for him and his family, for those at St Mary's School and for the people of Sudan at this sensitive time.

### **CMS/MAM 2010/11 -Rosy Coldwell**

During the past year the PCC considered the church's giving and decided that we would continue to support CMS and our mission partners Nick and Kate Wooding and family. We receive regular letters from the Wooding family who are in Uganda telling us of Nick's work at the university hospital in Kampala, Kate's teaching on health and hygiene and support for HIV victims, their involvement with the local church and with preaching, and also the children's progress at school.

Rosy attended the CMS Day 50 last May in Oxford, a day of recommitment to God's mission, of celebration of the integration of CMS and SAMS, and of commemorating the launch of the new CMS mission community. She hopes to stay with the Wooding family this May when she goes to Uganda to witness something of their life and work and, upon her return, she will report back at a BFPC mission weekend in June.

### **CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE - Osbert Tun Pe**

Monthly Prayer meeting is held every month, this has been happening for the last 2 years. There are different members from local churches who attend. Three main organisations come for the evening. Open Doors, Barnabas Fund & CSW. Differnet organisations take turns in leading the meeting. It is well attended. This year we are having a speaker from CSW—Mr Benedict Rogers. Other speakers are planned quarterly throughout the year.

### **Deanery Synod report.**

There were only two business meetings in 2010, the first at Blandford St Mary, where Canon Woodward told us about his visit to the Sudan and the preparations for the elections, the last was in November at our Parish Centre where the main topic was dealing with Debt the speaker worked for Christians Against Poverty. The main event was in May and took the form of an exhibition entitled "A Celebration of Ministry", subtitled what we do well and how we do it, which showed the various innovative ways that the churches of the Deanery had developed to engage more closely with their communities. It was held in the old Milldown Middle school, which could not be much further from the centre of Blandford, so the hoped for influx of local non church goers did not happen, however .....

There were stalls from many of the benefices within the Deanery and it was encouraging and often inspiring to see how the smaller rural churches were making the most of their opportunities without being constrained by lack of funds. There were those who had developed a Sunday service at least once a month led by the laity which explored topics that were of interest to locals - not necessarily church goers and they had found talents within their church that they had not previously recognised; those who had concentrated on engaging with the young people of their village using craft to illuminate the gospel message - this was particularly well set up with videos and samples of the children's work; those who had seen a lack of facilities in their community and were providing a meeting place for the lonely, some with lunches or coffee; there was talk of providing a space and volunteers to keep a post office alive; there were those who were keen to raise the profile of mission work overseas; those who organised flower festivals and art shows to attract locals into their churches and many more such initiatives. Our stall featured our network of home groups and

attracted a considerable amount of interest. Each group had been asked to say something about their particular interests and focus, so folk could see and understand that we were about a great deal more than just being bible study groups.

Bishop Graham talked to us about “The ministry we need for the mission we have” and after lunch he joined the children’s ukulele band to sing and play He’s got the whole world in His hand. It was a brilliant day to get to know each other, see how others deal with their problems and encourage each other.

As Deanery Synod representative for more years than I care to remember I would like to commend to you all the developments that have been evident in the last couple of years. Thankfully we corporately are no longer obsessed by our financial state alone, but are beginning to recognise our mission.

Pat Ellen

## **5 Church Community Life**

### **a Rainbows Report for BFPC AGM 2010/11.**

It was a day of celebration when Rainbows was able to move into the Parish Centre for their Friday morning events. There is plenty of space in the Galilee Hall for the children and parents and everyone seems to have a happy time each Friday morning chatting and playing, drinking cups of tea and coffee and eating toast! During the Summer months we hope to spread out into the garden as well. Rainbows is grateful to Langton Nurseries for the donation of a small willow tree which we can use as a prayer tree. The parents can write any prayer request down and peg it onto the tree. At the end of each Friday morning we have a time

So I turned to God. I asked him if we could keep you and that you would never leave because I’ve already lost one Dad figure and I don’t want to lose another.....You changed my life and help me turn it around.....”

I hope and pray that as a church we regularly remember the work of The Blandford Youth Trust and that we are able to continue to provide the trust with financial support.

### **SUDAN Link Report 2010/11 - David Rake**

As you will know this has been a momentous year for the people of Sudan. The Referendum held in January following the six years of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement resulted in the people of Southern Sudan voting to separate from the North. The planned date for the official establishment of new country is July 9th and in the meantime major border agreements have to take place.

The Church in Sudan is arguably the only institution that reaches into just about every community in the South and its positive influence is highly valued by the South's government.

For some 38 years the Diocese of Salisbury, later joined by the Diocese of Bradford, has supported the Episcopal Church of Sudan as partners, working closely with Christian Aid and Tearfund.

At BFPC our specific link is with the Province of Rokon and this year the PCC has been able to send the sum of £1590 which we request will be used for the benefit of St Mary's School in Rokon.

We know that the Bishop of Rokon, Bishop Francis Loyo has not been in the best of health in recent months and has spent

The 2 paid workers are Ken Reynolds and his wife Trish. Ken carries out the “face to face work” with vulnerable students at The Blandford School while Trish works on a part time basis providing Admin support and exploring funding avenues. Recently an unpaid volunteer has been assisting Ken with his caseload of students.

The project has been running for 9 years. In addition to providing 1:1 support for young people, Ken also runs weekly Drop In sessions, staff training sessions, trains and supports students who act as peer mentors, meets parents and accompanies students on some school trips. At the beginning of this term Ken was providing on-going support for 88 Blandford School students on a regular basis. Ken also carries out Year 6 transition work helping vulnerable Y6 children to make the transition from primary to secondary education.

The project is currently funded by a number of partners such as The Blandford School, Connexions, Woodard Charitable Foundation in addition to being supported by local churches. Funding is always a significant issue for small localised charities such as The Blandford Youth Trust and it is feared that in a climate of financial restrictions, donations to the Trust may decline.

The work carried out by BYT helps many young people at The Blandford School to resolve their own problems and difficulties and signposts other students to sources of further help and support. It is impossible to measure the benefit of this support but several students have expressed their thanks for Ken’s support on Facebook or by email. The following is taken from a message from Sophie to Ken on Facebook:

“I have never really been a believer of God and never really thought I would be. Well not until recently. When I got told about you leaving I was devastated. I didn’t know what to do.

of communal singing accompanied by Sam (one of the Dads) on keyboard or Rosy on guitar. At the end of each term we also have a short service celebrating Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays followed by a lunch party. The Children’s Centre staff have offered their advice and support and there are many pastoral opportunities presenting themselves during Rainbows sessions. More and more parents are enquiring re the Christian faith and baptism for their little ones. Please pray for the leaders in this vital ministry. Rosy would like to extend thanks to all the team which includes Lou Moogan, Eileen Lancaster, David Rake, Lorraine Baskott, Marion Warren and Heather Thow.

R.Coldwell

#### **b J Team 2010/11**

J Team runs on most Sundays throughout the year for the 2 to 11 year age group, normally splitting into 2 groups (Splash up to about 7 years and Xtreme the older ones). Attendance continues to fluctuate widely (all ages) which makes it more difficult for leaders to plan rewarding sessions and for friendship groups to establish.

We continue to use Urban Saints / Energize web-based Material with the older group and separate material with the younger group that is focused on their age group.

In the autumn we ran several kids@centre evenings which were great fun with children hunting for bugs; playing on the wii; a blindfold treasure trail and lots of ice creams and sweets. Many thanks to all those who helped and to Judith Crompton who set the idea rolling.

We said thank you and goodbye to Judith earlier this year, after years of hard work she is greatly missed by the children and the other leaders.

Many thanks to Sue Barker, Sam Newman and Fran Rough who have stepped up to fill in the gaps. Sue largely leads the older group and

Sam the younger.

Thank you to all the adults and older youth who help. Please continue to pray for the leaders, helpers and our children.

Su Tomes

### **c    Incredibles 2010/11**

This time last year, I reported that membership of the Incredibles, our group for 11 to 14-year-olds, had dropped to 8 members or so. Though “natural” progression of members into and out of the group would have kept numbers constant, a couple of families have moved or withdrawn, reducing the numbers further to 5. I also reported that we had been unable to recruit a third leader for well over a year, and this remains the situation. Once a month we meet jointly with the J Team, who also suffer from shortage of leaders, to provide scope for leaders to take a week off or to fulfill other duties in Church. There is no doubt that further leaders would give us more scope to meet at times other than on Sunday mornings, for social events or midweek activities.

We continue to meet in the Parish Centre, where we have discussed a variety of topics. We currently parallel the themes and readings used in the Church services, but tailoring the teaching to the age group. We hope this gives continuity with the all-age services and means that parents and children have studied the same material on a Sunday morning. We have also taken our turn at helping to lead the all-age services.

We continue to sponsor Glendy Yadira Gomez Sanchez in Honduras through the Compassion organisation.

This summer we are taking a group from Incredibles and Thirst to the Soul Survivor festival at Shepton Mallet.

at the Mothering Sunday Service. Wessex Water recently took some church publicity photos of our members; we look forward to seeing the result.

### **g    Mothers Union**

We continue to meet in the Parish Centre, the 2nd Thursday in the month at 2.45 pm. Our meetings are very informal with updates on the work of the M.U. from Salisbury & the Deanery where upon we pray for our members home & abroad using our wave of prayer books. We also help on M.U. projects when possible. We enjoy the fellowship over a cup of tea. We welcome any body to join us. Chris Long

### **Church Cleaning Team**

Five of us meet each Monday to clean the church. We lost Eileen Brown recently, but Pat has joined us, which was good. We enjoy each others company and usually manage a cup of coffee afterwards! We recently enjoyed a belated Christmas lunch out . A lovely group has formed . There is always a welcome to anybody who would like to join us. Chris Long.

### **h    Mission Support**

#### **BLANDFORD YOUTH TRUST (BYT) - Trustee Juliet Wareham**

Since taking over from David Crompton, I have attended 2 meetings of The Blandford Youth Trust trustees. (I am currently attending as a BFPC representative, not as a full trustee).

At both the meetings (14/12/10 & 8/3/11) we have been presented with Workers' Reports and have spent a good deal of time discussing financial matters.

2011

**f Brownies 2010/11- Ruth Jones (Tawny)**

Monday 17.50 - 19.20 hours Parish Centre, Blandford.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> year in the centre, my, doesn't time fly. We continued to celebrate our centenary year of Girl Guiding with our sister Rainbows, Guides, Senior Section, leaders and Trefoil Guild. We had a great time at Paultons Park; we wanted to stay longer to have a go on the Cobra! Our Pageant at Bournemouth AFC was a real good success; some of our girls performed on the marked section of the football pitch celebrating the 60's. They looked great either as a flower, puppet, a uniformed member or an enterprising woman of the 60's dancing to Lulu, & Puppet on a string. They had 3 minutes of fame!

During this year we have done lots of badges such as Brownie Traditions, Brownies Skills, Home Skills, Cooks, Swimming, Adventure, Adventure On and most recently The Royal Wedding Challenge.

The older Brownies are working towards their Go for it! Brownies badge; and are moving on to Guides after the Easter break. We are working towards our World Culture badge exploring different cultures within the world. We are looking forward to our Art/ Craft badge later in the season.

We celebrated our Thinking Day (22<sup>nd</sup> February) with the rest of the division this year at Charlton Marshall church and hall. We enjoyed getting to know other members with tea; cake, ask questions about each other and a great sing song.

We have joined in the St Georges Parade, Remembrance Sunday Parade, Harvest Festival, Christingle and look forward to helping

**d Thirst 2010/11**

Thirst is the activity for the 14+ age group and is lead by Neil Scott and Maddy Lewis-Smith (Josh Tun Pe is taking a brief sabbatical in Africa!) in the Parish Rooms. We began the year by looking at some of the key 'supporting characters' in the New Testament, such as Paul, Peter, James and Mary. The idea was to put some flesh on the bones and start seeing them as real people rather than as e.g. 'one of the disciples'. We looked at their personalities, actions, what happened to them after the resurrection. We then cast a film, choosing actors to play them, so that they would again become more distinct from each other. For example, the late Richard Harris has been cast Paul, Robert Downey Jr. As Peter and Rhod Gilbert as John (a bit grumpy but warm hearted, you see?).

This term we have looked at a more diverse range of topics including other faiths, anger and The Bible. Numbers are down quite a lot as many of our members have gone off to university and socials have been a bit thin on the ground though we did do a Christmas lunch with DVD.

Thanks for your prayers and do continue to pray for us.  
Neil Scott

## e Guides

### 2<sup>nd</sup> BLANDFORD (PARISH CHURCH) GUIDES REPORT for 2010

There are currently 33 Guides (aged 10 - 14), 1 Young Leaders (16-18 yrs) and 5 adults that meet every Monday evening during term time at the Parish Centre. Our first meeting at the Parish Centre was marked by the presentation of the 'Baden Powell Challenge to three of our older girls, now Young Leaders.

We have had a full and varied programme with the girls planning their own activities on subjects ranging from our Guiding Centenary to Chocolate & Glamour!. Regardless of the subject 'food' usually features as one of their chosen activities! Many badges have been earned. Interest badges gained include Craft, Camper, Outdoor pursuits, Traditions of Guiding and after attending a course at the Fire Station the Fire safety badge. The Guides have also participated in a lot of things in addition to our Monday evening meetings.

We are registered as a 'Parish Church' unit and we have encouraged our members to come along to the family services. We led the prayers and acted as welcomers for Harvest and we prepared the posies for Mothering Sunday. We also take our turn on the Saturday morning rota, serving the community. This also acts as a useful starting point for the guides to learn basic tea & coffee making skills. This year, in recognition of celebrating our Guiding centenary we were asked by our Town's Mayor, Esme Butler, to be one of her charities. This has involved us attending various civic events, mainly helping to provide refreshments. Other community service activities have included taking part in the clean up

Blandford campaign and joining the residents of Station Court at Christmas to lead the singing of 'traditional' carols.

Our residential experiences have given the guides the opportunity to be independent. Camping was experienced on Brownsea Island, at Brown John's copse scout camp site near Warmwell and in the Summer four of our members plus two Guiders attended the national Centenary Camp near Leeds. This was an international camp where they joined over 4000 participants from many different countries. A group of older Guides also took part in the Malvern Challenge, joining Scouts & Guides from around the country. We finished our residential events for the year with a Christmas weekend at the Parish Centre featuring a full Christmas Diner, secret santa, party games, a movie and a trip to Warmwell for a ski-lesson & to go ski-bobbing. The event concluded at church for this year's Christingle service.

We attended many additional activities arranged specifically to celebrate our Centenary. These included a day trip to Paultons Park with 4000 Guiding members from all over Dorset and a Pageant held at Bournemouth football ground where each Guiding area in Dorset was tasked with depicting famous women of the past 100 years. Our role was to focus on the 60's. We were also asked to join North Dorset Scouts for their St George's Parade, held in Blandford, where we performed a sketch on how Guiding began. Our centenary celebrations concluded with 'Vision 2010' an event held at Blandford Camp, where at 20:10 20/10/2010 we all renewed our Guiding promise and received a special promise badge.

These many activities enjoyed by the Parish Church Guides have contributed to another busy year.

**Heather Stringer**

Guide Guider - 2<sup>nd</sup> Blandford (Parish Church) Guide Co. March