

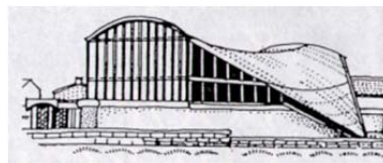
The Parish Church of St John the Baptist

Ermine, Lincoln

Annual report



A celebration
of St Johns in 2010



THE PARISH CHURCH OF St JOHN THE BAPTIST

**with St John the Evangelist,
Ermine Lincoln**

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

Sunday March 27th 2011 at 11:30am

1. Opening prayers and apologies
2. Election of two churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Sunday March 27 2011 at 11:35am

1. Apologies
 2. Minutes of the previous annual meeting
 3. Vicar's address (given as the sermon earlier)
 4. Reports
- The reports are not individually listed in the agenda, but will follow the alphabetical order in which they appear in the body of the annual report.*
5. Election of 4 members for the PCC
 6. Election of treasurer
 7. Election of sidespersons
 8. Election of 2 representatives for the Deanery Synod
 9. Appointment of external examiner for the accounts
 10. Matters arising from the previous annual meeting minutes
 11. Date of the APCM in 2012 (*Suggestion: 17 March 2012*)
 12. Any other business

Please note that if you intend to raise any issues under this heading that the chair is to be informed 3 days before the date of the meeting

13. The grace

Fr Stephen writes:

A year ago, I was on sabbatical leave for three months. For much of this time I was at home. And many evenings I would go into my study and glance across at the church. And on most occasions the lights were on. Something would be happening in the church: a study group, a service, choir practice, St John's Singers, Pathfinders. Night after night the lights in the church showed the community that here something was happening, here something is alive, here God is present, the lights shining in the darkness to show that presence. At the same time, the lights would be on in the church hall for brownies or guides, for dancing, for quizzes, for parties; again the lights testifying to an active presence, an active Christian community working in and with the community.

The church is an iconic building within the estate, one that everyone knows, even if they only know it as "the church with the funny roof"! But the church stands to testify to something much bigger than the building. It stands with its funny roof to testify to the action of God in our community and the work, faith and prayer of his people who worship here week in, week out, day in, day out.

And that daily ministry touches so many lives. Children in our schools, our elderly people in our residential homes, people celebrating new birth or the coming together of a couple in a marriage, people sorrowing over loss of a loved one, people just needing a touch of God's love. It is very difficult to quantify such work in many ways because it is not just the vicar's ministry, but the ministry of the whole people of God here at St John's, each of us contributing in some way to the work of Christ in our midst. And when I was on study leave, it was good to know that the ministry of the people here carried on each and every day, touching lives, and looking always for the presence of God in each and every situation.

Towards the end of the year heavy snow caused us, like many other places, a number of problems and we were forced to cancel services, a theatre trip, school visits and services at Ruckland Court and Ermine House. The snow also had an effect on our figures for December, but overall our attendance figures are slightly down on previous years. This is part of the ebb and flow of a congregation such as ours, but we also have to remember that the church community is bigger than just those who attend on Sundays. Our community extends through the tape ministry, through our work in the elderly people's homes, to our housebound communicants, to the young people who make up Pathfinders, to the school Christmas Carol service, to the lunch club members and reaches through the work that we do in the community with many groups and individuals. They may not all turn up on a Sunday, but they are just as much part of the St John's family as those who do. We were delighted early in the year to receive a substantial bequest from the estate of Flora Scarborough, one of the residents of Ruckland Court, and that money is being put towards the access path renewal and church hall decoration.



One of the key elements of St John's is its close connection with the community, and in many ways we hold the story of the community in our archive, an archive that is both unique and irreplaceable. In 2010 we continued to develop our online archive, with a number of documents now available from our website. This is a major piece of work and we are grateful to Andrew Jackson and his colleagues at Bishop Grosseteste University College for their time and expertise in scanning a very large number of documents and to Daniel Holt for maintaining and developing the site. As there is very little otherwise available about the history of the estate, it is important we make the resources that we have more widely available so that people have access to the story of both the community and the church. We were delighted to welcome Fr John Hodgkinson back to St John's in the summer to launch his account of the very early history of the church; this sold very well indeed and created a lot of local interest. I have also been very involved with the launch of a new website for the estate which went online late last year.

National interest in the church and its design was reflected in a meeting of the national Church Buildings Council Conference here in September. We welcomed over 100 delegates to St John's from all over the country to hear presentations about twentieth century architecture and to enjoy the building. Conference delegates were very complementary about the building and our maintenance of it and the welcome they received here.

The building does continue to challenge us in many ways and requires much work to maintain it. We have of course committed ourselves to seeking alternative energy sources, but unless we can find a way of retaining the heat within the building (all that glass and concrete does not help in any way!) then it is difficult to see how we might proceed further with these aspirations for the building. We are committed to replacing the access path with a more

suitable surface and are looking at ways in which we can (such as the draught-proofing of the front doors) take this agenda forward. We will be applying for a renewal of our eco-congregation status in 2011.



In 2010, we also looked again at how we develop as a church into the future, particularly as we look forward to our 50th anniversary in just two years time. In that discussion we tried to listen to the Holy Spirit speaking to us and we are still at the time of writing reflecting on that experience. Many students who come to St John's on placement characterise the church as a servant church, a church that exists above all for God, but also one that seeks to serve Him faithfully, and through Him, serve his people whoever and wherever they are. This is clearly the right priority (!) but it presents us with a challenge to live up to that calling, as a community, and as individuals.

Our listening to God is a key part of our life. Before our Sunday service the clergy, servers, choir and readers spend 10 minutes in stillness preparing to lead our worship. Most Fridays, our prayer group meets in stillness to hold before God those people and issues that need our prayer. Every other month the healing prayer group meets in stillness to hold the following Sunday's prayer for healing service before God. Last year, a group spent a day in stillness at Sacrista Prebend retreat house in Southwell reflecting on the Lord's Prayer. In September we held an all day prayer vigil for the peace of the world. All these activities help to anchor what we do and what we have here in prayer and I hope that we can continue to be a praying presence within the community as the lights I saw last year showed so very clearly.

Last year, we said a couple of farewells. Pat Taylor moved to Yeovil to be near her family. Pat has been a key part of the church community for so many years, undertaking so many different roles and tasks from churchwarden to choir and from treasurer to the lunch club. In a

letter he wrote to her to wish her well, Bishop John said: "In a church without pillars, you have been a pillar of the church". We wish her well in her new life.

Sadly, we also said farewell to Vera Gregory, another faithful Christian soul, who died just before Christmas. Vera has been so much part of the fabric of St John's for over fifty years, a founder member of the Mothers' Union here, and active in so many ways, helping to build the body of Christ here on the Ermine.

I am most grateful to my colleagues, Fr John and Melanie, Stephen Crosby, Sue Brennan, Pam Beattie, Jackie Howell and to the churchwardens for so ably guiding the parish through my time away and giving of their time so freely in so many ways throughout the year. As you may be aware, Susan Fleshbourne steps down as churchwarden this year, and I would particularly like to thank Sue, an exemplary churchwarden, who will be much missed in this role, for all her hard work and support.

As we look towards our 50th anniversary, we have much to give thanks for and much to look forward to. The anniversary will be a great opportunity to celebrate the contribution of the "church with the funny roof" to the life of people on the Ermine estate, but I hope and pray that we do celebrate that contribution each and every day through our action, our prayer, our worship and our fellowship. Thank you for all you do for God at St John's and may he continue to bless us and work in and with us to his praise and glory.

Every blessing

Fr Stephen

Archive group

We made a lot of progress last year in the scanning of the material we have in our archive. Andrew Jackson was able to arrange funding for the scanning to be done at Bishop Grossteste University College and we have already placed a number of items on to the website. Ian Young has also rearranged all the hard copies we have to make them more accessible. This is an important area of our life as there is very little information otherwise available about the estate and what we have is a unique archive. Many thanks to Daniel for all his hard work in setting up and maintaining the e-archive.

Fr Stephen

Children's Society

It is good to be back again at St Johns after my travels. It was an experience which I have no wish to go through again ("nuff said"!). The annual box opening resulted in a total of £420.69 being raised and another proof of the generosity of all concerned. I was asking last year if anyone was willing to take on this job as I was concerned about my age and the possibility of not being able to carry it out satisfactorily. Recent events have shown how prescient I was. I am very pleased to say that Ros Millward has kindly agreed to take over. I have been advised that it is preferable to have one opening a year instead of two. The boxholders advisory group have suggested having a second box to take any overflow. If you are in that position, then do ask Ros for an extra box. I end my spell as box opener with thanks to everyone who collects for the work of the Children's Society. You have been truly magnificent and for which I am very grateful. I know that you will afford Ros the same generosity as you have always shown me. Thank you.

Dick Rooke

Choir

This has been a year of gradual progress for the choir in terms of providing support for the congregation and introducing more music to add to the worship. We have also very much appreciated the chance to engage in choral evensong. We had two such services last year and look forward to another in May. Evensong is a beautiful act of worship and worth working on! We are always keen to invite new members and have been very glad to welcome Nkeche Iyamah to our numbers. On the other hand, we have lost Pat Taylor, and miss not only her strong voice, but also her personality! I am glad to hear that she has joined a choir at her new home. Of course, we are grateful to Sue Young for her support at the organ. She also makes a great contribution to the life of the choir in so many ways, not least with her sense of humour! Once a month we also have the opportunity to sing with a string quartet – we are very grateful for their part in the worship.

Terry Millward

Churchwarden's Report

There have been no major undertakings on the fabric front this year but the Access Path and Hall redecoration (see below) are in hand. Work done in 2010 is as follows.

Carpets: The carpets in the church have been steam cleaned. Boilers Hot water boilers have been installed in both the church and church hall - a significant improvement to the provision of refreshments in both buildings. Also, this alleviates health and safety concerns of Olive and others.

Heaters: Two heaters have been installed at the back of the church with thanks to Paul Cartwright. Some additional work was and is required to stop the heaters tripping out. This involved replacing the grills to improve circulation of the air as well as moving the sensors within the appliances. Paul is also working on the heaters behind the altar.

Hot Cupboard: A grant from the Bishop of Grimsby has enabled a hot cupboard to be installed in the Hall kitchen. This has made a significant improvement when preparing meals for the regular lunch clubs and parish events. Acolyte Candles have been refurbished. A Sacristy Bell has been mounted in the vestry and is now in regular use to announce the start of church services. Access Path Resurfacing of the access path is planned. Design work and estimates are in hand. The plan is to use a hardwearing resin similar to that used near the Bishop's Palace. There is a possibility that the Cory Trust can help with the funding. Hall redecoration is planned with estimates having been obtained. The legacy received last year will be used to fund this. Draught excluders for the church door have been installed.

Peter Sherlock & Sue Fleshbourne



Church Hall report

It has been quite a busy year for bookings in the Church Hall with, in particular, quite a few more private bookings in 2010. I do however have to offer an apology as I failed to send out the invoices for November until this year. This means that the hall income in the accounts for the year is understated by £654.00. Janet Ashton still remains the highest hall user followed by the Thursday /Saturday dancing group. There are still times when the hall is not used, particularly during the daytime, if anyone knows of any suitable groups looking for a regular or one off meeting place please could you point them to the Church website or ask them to contact me. The hall is in fairly good condition except for the paint work in the main hall. The water boiler in the kitchen has been replaced and hall users have much appreciated the new plumbed in unit.

Liz Straw

Clergy/readers group

The clergy and readers meet together regularly to discuss developments in the church, to share our ministry and to be open to God. The group was joined by the churchwardens during Fr Stephen's sabbatical. In 2010, we held a study day, led by Fr Andrew Tyler, to think about how we work together, our strengths and our weaknesses. This was felt to be a very useful day and has helped us to think about how we work together as a team.

Fr Stephen

Craft and Chatter

Craft and Chatter was set up by Sue Brennan and Jackie Howell to provide an opportunity for crafters to get together. The meetings are informal and they are held on Thursday evenings in the Mary and Martha Room, from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Although there is sometimes much more 'chatter' than 'craft', there are exchanges of ideas, materials, and techniques. Projects can then be continued at home and brought back to show. Jewellery making, card making, knitting, and sewing projects have been shown and worked on. Craft and Chatter has also provided a place to discuss the role of crafts within our fundraising here at St John's. Several people have made suggestions of items to sell, some of which have been taken up already, others are on the list for future occasions. If you would like to come along to the group, please look out for dates of future meetings in the bulletin. You are welcome to work on your own project, to make items for sale, or simply to come along for a chat and to see what others are doing.

Melanie Jackson, Sue Brennan, Jackie Howell

Deanery Synod

Over the year Deanery Synod has received regular updates from the Mission and ministry group as well as Diocesan Synod and General Synod. Obviously finance has been an on-going topic and as part of that this year the contribution of each church to Deanery expenses has halved. This has primarily been due to minutes, agenda's and other documents being circulated by email and therefore reducing the cost of the postage and paper required. Deanery Synod has discussed a range of different mission and ministry formats and has been fortunate to have had a range of different speakers. Again the important work of lay ministers within our parishes has been highlighted as well as the work of the clergy. Synod has agreed an aim over the next 5 years to reduce the number of stipendiary clergy within the area to 8.6 from the current 10.6. This will mean that when, or if, a stipendiary priest moves from a parish the deanery will assess the needs of that parish to ascertain if that position should be filled in the same way as before or if the needs of the parish could be met in some other way. This was stressed as an aim over 5 years and that it might not necessarily happen, or over the five years continue to be considered necessary, but that at the moment it would seem to be a sensible aim. New ways of being church were also discussed and Synod was invited to think about the new ways other deaneries are approaching issues of how to function in the modern world. We will continue to think about new ways we can approach worship and mission in our area.

Tabitha Holt

Electoral Roll Report for 2010-2011

This past year has seen 4 people taken off the electoral roll. This now leaves 83 people on the electoral roll.

David Fleshbourne (Electoral Roll Officer)

Ermine Churches Together

I continue to meet regularly with the URC and Methodist ministers on the estate and to plan joint activities and worship. It is important for us to communicate effectively between the churches, not only so that we let one another know what is happening, but also that we can hold one another and our church communities in prayer. Last year we welcomed a new Methodist minister, Revd Mark Stennett, to Ermine West Methodist Church.

Fr Stephen

Hospitality And Fundraising

Fundraising

2010 has been an enjoyable year for us. Our events and parish meals out have been well attended. We also went bowling again this year, it does seem to be a popular evening out. We had our quiz night earlier in the year which was well attended, we also held the uphill churches together quiz night in the church hall and won the cup again which we thought was fantastic, I would like to say thank you to all who were involved in the quiz and helping us with the refreshments. The Bingo and coffee afternoons are still being held in the church hall, we all enjoy a game of bingo and conversation, it is always a very sociable afternoon. The Easter and Christmas raffles were very well supported by our church and the community, We made a record this year with the Christmas raffle, we raised more this year than what we usually raise, so I would like to say thank you again, we are very grateful for your support as it is a very important part of our fundraising. We have held a couple of coffee mornings this year to help raise funds for the church and charities, thank you to the people who have held these either in the church or in their homes.

Hospitality

We always enjoy preparing our parish lunches, and refreshments for our fund raising events. We also have made teas and coffees for visitors to our church this year, on two occasions we have made teas and coffees for just over a hundred people, it was certainly different but enjoyable. I would like to say a big thank you to all who are on the hospitality and fundraising group for all your hard work and support for each other, and also thank you to everyone else for their support.

Sue Fleshbourne

Johns Juniors

Johns Juniors to date has 3 leaders and 1 helper. To date the children attending JJs varies. Our themes have been centred usually around the Lectionary reading in church, with just the odd one that doesn't. We do however, follow the Lectionary when it is possible. We continue to meet in the church hall on a weekly basis. We have been using a laptop and projector on occasions to present the Bible stories to the children. Emma-Ackland-Snow has been leading JJs and I would like to thank her greatly for this. Emma did this last year with guidance from

both Pam Beattie and me supporting her. Emma has continued to do this overseen by me. Debbie Povey and Peter Wise have been equally supportive of Emma and me in JJs and also supported by assisting in JJs on a regular basis. Peter has always been a great support and welcomed us. We thank him for this.

Paul Cartwright

Lunch Club

In 2010 the Lunch Club continued to grow. We served a two course lunch for up to 40 people on the first Thursday of the month. Also during 2010 saw the introduction of a lunch on the third Wednesday of the month. Alongside Sue, Olive and myself, three students and a teacher from St. Francis Special School came and helped prepare and serve the dinners, then washed up afterwards. The students were doing this as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award, a project in the community. From January to June we had Alex, Alexander and Gabrielle. On their last time with us, we made certificates for them and asked if Bishop John could join us for lunch and present these to the students. I am very happy to say he did and took the opportunity to join each table to talk to them. At the end of his visit it was made known to him that one of the ladies there used to be the housekeeper at the Bishop's House. Bishop John invited her back with him to meet his wife and have a look around. This she did and also had a cup of tea with them. Dominic, Thomas and Aiden joined us in October and will be with us until June 2011. We also have the addition of a new hot cupboard which Paul has fitted in the kitchen. This enables us on the day to prepare most the food ahead of time and keep it warm until we are ready to serve. We applied to the Bishop of Grimsby for a grant to help with this and luckily for us we fitted the criteria. At this time we would like to take the opportunity to thank three other members of our congregation who come to help us with the serving, Irene Crosby, Chris Priestley and Julie Wain.

Sue Fleshbourne, Olive Musson and Cay Sherlock

Mother's Union

Few in number but strong in faith and fellowship is how I think we can best describe our Mother's Union meetings over the past twelve months. A small group of us have met regularly on eleven of the twelve months of the year; December defeating us with the snow. Once again we have been inspired, touched and entertained by the variety of speakers we have had to our meetings. Following on from the meeting we had in May when we met with the Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. The parish agreed to send the used postage stamps we collect in church to the organisation along with used ink cartridges to help raise funds for the organisation. An important part of our programme is meeting together with fellow deanery members. We have done this on two occasions as we came together for a Eucharist service followed by tea and when we hosted the Deanery service. We have continued to collect items for the Women's shelter, to serve refreshments at St. Benedict's Centre and some members have knitted bonnets for the special care baby unit at Lincoln Hospital. At the end of the year we embraced the Mothers Union national campaign Bye Buy Childhood collecting signatures

and distributing cards. As the year came to a close we were saddened to lose one of our founder members Vera. A very gentle and caring lady, who had joined as a young wife and continued to be part of the monthly meetings until she died. The Mother's Union is an important part of any parish life linking us with a worldwide network of people and activities. We would love to see more people interested in what we do and what we stand for. The theme for 2011 is Faithful Relationships when we hope to explore further our relationship with God, with each other and our wider community.

Sheila Hoy

PCC

St John's church council (PCC) has continued to monitor and review our church's finances, the church building and our various activities. Among the many specific items which PCC considered during the past year were a change in gas and electricity suppliers and a change in the scheme for supplying fire extinguishers. It is expected that these measures will effect considerable savings. Our concern is always to try to ensure that the church is run as efficiently as possible. Constantly under review also are our care for children and vulnerable adults, and our regard for health and safety. The resurfacing of the access path has been an ongoing concern through the year, particularly after it was dug up for drainage repairs. This is one of those jobs that has to be done in a way that meets the approval of different authorities, and the delay recently has been in agreeing on the specification for the surface. Another ongoing issue has been the replacement of the heaters and of part or all of the wiring in the church. New boilers have been installed at the back of church and in the church hall, greatly to the convenience and safety of those who use them. As part of our outreach into the community, PCC authorized Paul Cartwright to investigate the possibility of holding a Songs of Praise service regularly in Ermine House and Ruckland Court. With the co-operation of a few choir members these are now established as regular monthly events. PCC have been treated to visual presentations on the work of the Johns Juniors group ("JJs") and on the work of English Heritage on the care of church buildings. Much work has been done on preserving, and making available for general use, items in the church archive. This covers various aspects of the life of the Ermine Estate, and is gradually expanding, with contributions being received regularly. A wealth of historical information is now available via our website: www.stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk

Ian Young

Pathfinders

Pathfinders to date have 7 regular members, with other intermittent young people who attend now and again but not on a regular basis. We have 1 leader Pam Beattie, an Assistant leader Paul Cartwright and one helper Nketchi Iyamah. We have Emma Ackland Snow and Tina Clerk who fill in for us if we are in need of another helper. The leaders and helpers continue to train in all areas of children and young peoples work and also attend many of these, which are run by Lincolnshire Council for voluntary children and young people's workers. Emma, Paul

and I completed levels 1 and 2 in training for children's and young people's work and were presented with our certificates in church. Three of us presented *One Friday Night* to the guides, which were received really well with great interaction and enthusiasm. *One Friday Night* is an interactive DVD that helps us to present Alcohol awareness to young people, which are greatly needed in today's society. At Christmas we made table decorations for the people who receive tapes from the tape ministry. This was received with smiling faces. Our agenda is varied from learning about our faith to Wii nights, health and beauty nights and movie nights. We have 2 members Tiana Clark and Bonnie Clark who wish to be confirmed. Our Songs of Praise service was centred around presenting the Gospel reading through song and dance which was acted out by Bethany Povey and Priscilla Clerk with a visual backdrop of song and pictures. We had a positive response to this. Some of our Pathfinders read for the first time at this service. We had a couple of Quiz nights also which were very well attended and we would like to thank David Smith for his hard work and fundraising, which was very much appreciated by all of us. The quizzes were fun, and varied and hot dogs were served at the last one. Jessica and David have now said goodbye to us. Thank you to Jessica Howell who was a great asset to us of knowledge, wisdom, and enthusiasm. We wish you well in your work with teaching for the future. The snow meant we couldn't have our usual party at the bowling alley this year. However we had a bring-and-share, and watched the recent film of a Christmas carol. We continue to meet in the church hall and we are sponsored for this from members of the congregation who have come forward to help us with the payments of the hall. For this we are gratefully thankful. It is very much appreciated. Pathfinders at the moment reflect a younger element from 9-17 years of age. We are hoping to plan a varied timetable for the year ahead and look forward in anticipation to what God has planned for us.

Pam Beattie



Prayer group

The Friday morning prayer group started meeting in the church, and now in the Mary and Martha room, many years ago. We try to meet every Friday between 10 and 11am, but the group is small and we come when it is possible, and always try to keep each other in mind if we are not able to be together. The style of prayer is based on the method used by the "Servants of Christ the King". We start by lighting a candle and bringing before God the needs of our parish – individuals, groups, issues we are dealing with at present. Then we have a short Bible reading or prayer and then 20 to 30 minutes silence, waiting on God, listening rather than talking, relaxing and de-stressing, keeping our minds as open as possible. This is such a different experience from praying alone or in our church services. After the silence, we share any thoughts that have come to us individually (no interruptions) – we try to give each other full attention. Then we discuss or comment on issues which have arisen and agree on any action that needs to be taken. All this is very confidential and private and hopefully benefits the parish in many ways – particularly through our relationships with each other and all the people around us. We hope that one day a few more people will join us and experience this particular way of praying.

John and Dorothy Clark, Sue Brennan, Gill Clayton-Hewson, Pat Taylor

St Anne's hospital

In October last year, we sent our last consignment of goods down to Southampton for forwarding to the hospital, the schools and the community along the lakeside in South West Tanzania. Over the years we have sent bed linen, blankets, knitted cardigans and jumpers, old glasses for the eye clinic, gardening tools, seeds, a duplicating machine, paper, files and a filing cabinet, pens, pencils and maths equipment for the schools, exercise books, instruction books and maths and English courses donated by the local schools, knitting machines, woodwork tools and so many, many bits of old equipment which people have finished using, two wheelchairs, several bikes. We will never know what changes these things have made to the lives of the people of Liuli and surrounding area and I want to thank you for the part you have played in helping me collect all of these goods and send them on the next step of their journey to poor communities in Africa. I know the people of Liuli thank you also. Mothers will have been able to give their babies new clothes for the first time. Children will have been able to have a desk in school all because you have been prepared to do something to make it happen. You have truly been good Samaritan. Thank you.

John Clark

St. John's Singers

St. John's Singers sang Donald Swann's "Song of Caedmon" on 27th June, with help from narrators Ian Young and Paul Barratt, and Caedmon's solo by Zoe Clayton. It was well attended. We are looking into what we should do next year.

Sue Young

Servers

We have a small but dedicated team of regular altar servers at St John's. Members serve God by assisting in the liturgy but also by working behind the scenes helping to prepare for, and clear up, after services. They fulfil a number of functions such as Crucifer (Cross bearer), Candle Bearer, Gospel Bearer and, at Benediction, as Thurifer (Carrying the censer). Last year we welcomed Hazel Barrett who joined our team. We continue to develop our new servers and four members of the team have now completed their training and were awarded their certificates at Candlemas. These are Bev Brown, Nketchi Iyamah, Hazel and Paul Barrett. If anyone is interested in serving please feel free to discuss this with a member of the clergy.

Paul Barrett

Stewardship report 2010

At the start of the year, there were 43 regular envelope givers, of whom 25 also 'Gift Aided' their weekly donations, thereby enabling the church to reclaim money from HMRC. We started 2011 with 36 envelope givers, 24 of whom 'Gift Aid'. We also had 8 'Gift Aiders' who pay by Direct Debit and this remains the same this year. Unfortunately, HMRC were not so quick at paying out our rebate in 2011 so although I submitted our claim earlier than in 2009, we did not receive any payment until early January. No doubt the bad weather was to blame!

It was however, worth waiting for because we received £3787.70. It's really important that we receive as much income as possible so if any one does pay Income Tax and doesn't already Gift Aid their donations, please have a word with me and we can soon rectify this! Please see the table at the end of this booklet for details of the amount of donations in the weekly envelopes.

Jackie Howell

Tape Ministry

At present there are 2 of us who take the tapes out to our elderly and housebound, this is on a weekly basis. We have to date 17 people on the list. Christine Priestly and I visit, and take a tape of the service, which has been recorded each week by myself with the help of Peter Sherlock who switches the tape on. Christine and I also take a weekly bulletin, and have a chat, when we visit. We also call and see 3 people who don't receive a tape, but enjoy seeing us each week. You can obtain a tape from the back of the church if you wish to listen to a recording again, this will be a recording from the previous Sunday.

These are at the back of the church next to the candle stand. Because of the contact with Ermine House and Ruckland Court with the tape ministry, I have been able to arrange 2 services in Ermine house and one up to now in Ruckland court. These are Songs of Praise services and are very well attended by the residents of both homes. Special thanks to Sue Young and Ian and members of the choir and congregation who do join us; all are welcome. We are happy to receive any donations for the tape ministry that you wish to make - these can be passed on to me, Christine Priestley, or Father Stephen.

Paul Cartwright

Website

Our website continues to be heavily used, with over 4000 hits through the home page last year. In 2010 we were able to start to add the material from our archive and this work is continuing – we still have a large number of items to add to the site. This is creating a lot of interest and is an important contribution that we make to the understanding of the history of the estate. Many thanks to Daniel who single handedly manages the website – offers of help would be very much appreciated.

Fr Stephen



22nd Lincoln Brownies

2010 was our 'Centenary Year' – and what a year it has been! Lots of activities took place for the Brownies and Leaders to get involved with. In February 2010 several of the Brownies attended a District World Thinking Day event at Bailgate Methodist Church Hall. This involved craft work, dancing, and we all formed the shape of 100! Five Brownies attended a District Pack Holiday at Trusthorpe in April. The theme for this holiday was Toy Story; and two Brownies attended a Pack Holiday with the Saxilby Brownies at Trusthorpe in July 2010, the theme for this was Robin Hood. The Brownies have worked on several badges throughout the year Toymaker (the Dolls House's went on display in the Church); Collectors Badge. We also worked on the 'Adventure 100' badge. The Brownies had to work on several challenges to earn 100 points – this included Pamper evening; dancing; food tasting. One of the challenges the Brownies had to work on was 'What if they were in charge at Brownies.....' Brownies have attended several Church Parade services throughout the year. As part of the Centenary celebrations, on Saturday 5 June 2010, several of the Brownies attended 'Party in the Park' at Grimsthorpe Castle. Various activities took place Pop Blast Entertainment; Cheer Leading; Gymnastics; Circus Skills; Bouncy Castle; Craft work; New Skills i.e. Archery. The weather was so hot! A good day was had by all. On Friday 25 June 2010, a District BBQ was held at Sudbrooke Campsite. Lots of good food, and campfire singing! On Tuesday 29 June 2010 the Brownies and Guides held a joint fundraising evening – this included stalls, raffle, refreshments and entertainment. On Sunday 18 July 2010 an Activity Day was held at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, which was all about Guiding throughout the years. We all went in the Victorian School Room; and then later on some Brownies had a chance to have a go at printing in the printing shop; also bell ringing; and various crafts. The Brownies attended for the morning, and thoroughly enjoyed the event. We started back to Brownies in September after the summer break. We started to work on the 'Friend to Animals' badge. We have still got some clauses to complete on this. Our Centenary year in October 2010 came to a close with 'Vision' our Centenary Finale at Lincoln City Football Ground on Wednesday 20 October 2010. The event was held from 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm. Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section, Young Leaders, Leaders, Trefoil Guild from Lincoln attended this event. There was a band, campfire singing, and John Marshall from Lincs FM was the compare for the evening. At 20.10 hours on 20/10/2010 everybody renewed their Promise at the event; a special centenary promise badge was given to each Brownie, and also a 'Vision' badge. The finale of the evening was a fantastic firework display. Each person received a goody bag. Everyone enjoyed the event. The Brownies made several Christmas crafts during the run-up to Christmas. Unfortunately due to the snow, our circus skills evening had to be cancelled, but this has been re-arranged for January 2011. Also because of the snow, the Brownies and Guides Carol Service/fundraising evening had to be cancelled. The Brownies and Guides attended the Pantomime at the Drill Hall on Tuesday 14 December 2010, (oh yes we did.....). Everyone enjoyed the performance of 'Dick Whittington'. We started back to Brownies on Tuesday 11 January 2011, looking forward to the new term, and the next 100 years of Guiding!

Louise Thompson

3rd Lincoln Guides Annual Report 2010

2010 was a special year for the guides as we celebrated 100 years of guiding. The centenary celebrations started in September 2009 with a launch party on the Lincolnshire Showground but were to continue through till October 2010. In February the guides joined brownies and guides from our district for a 'Thinking Day' celebration at Bailgate church hall. Thinking Day is when we think of other guides in the guide movement all over the world. The guides took part in activities and crafts. We finished with a Thinking Day ceremony and joined together to form the figure '100' to commemorate our special year. In March Pam and Paul, leaders of Pathfinders joined us for an evening. They gave a talk about internet safety. This was a very informative evening and made us aware of the dangers when using the internet and how we can overcome them. Also during this month after hearing of the Haiti disaster the guides decided to do a sponsored silence to raise money for the disaster fund. We raised £200! The guides were set an Easter challenge. They had to produce in their patrols a miniature Easter garden. The finished results were absolutely brilliant. At the end of April we took part in the St. Georges day parade held at the Lincoln Cathedral. At the beginning of June a few of the guides were fortunate to attend 'Picnic in the Park', a centenary celebration event. This was held in the grounds of Grimsthorpe Castle. The girls took part in numerous outdoor activities in the glorious sunshine. A fantastic time was had by all.

We also attended the district campfire and bar-b-que at Sudbrooke scout campsite. At the end of June we had an 'Entertainment evening'. The girls had been practicing for the performance for weeks and this was a big success. By doing this the girls earned their 'Performing Arts' badge as well as raising money for much needed guiding equipment. At the beginning of July we packed our buckets and spades, ordered the weather and set off to Trusthorpe for our Centenary company camp. We had an amazing weekend with lots of fun activities on the beach and not a cloud in sight!

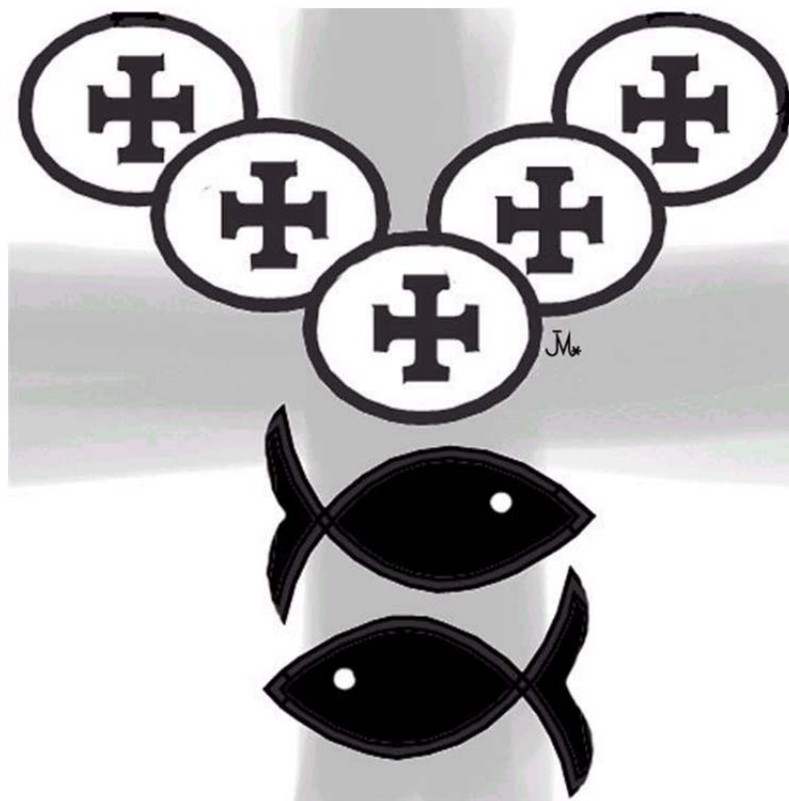
For the rest of the month the weather was kind to us and all our guide meetings took place out of doors. Firstly we held our sports night on the west common and finished off the evening with a bar-b-que. Then we joined 10th Lincoln guides and brownies for a campfire at Sudbrooke campsite

To celebrate the centenary year a special exhibition was held at The Lincolnshire life museum showing guiding over the past 100 years. We attended this and the girls took part in crafts, musical workshops, and lots of activities which represented 'Guiding through the Decades'. The girls earned a special decade's badge.

We finished off our summer term by attending the Lincoln Ghost Walk. This was Amy's last evening at guides. She had been my assistant guider for the past few years but had to leave us due to work commitments. We were all sad to see her leave. In October we attended our Centenary Finale called 'Vision'. This was held at the Lincoln City Football ground. Guides and brownies from all over the division gathered to sing songs, dance and listen to bands whilst counting down the minutes to 8.10pm when we all renewed our guide promise. This took place nationally as we all renewed the promise at 20.10 on 20th October 2010! The evening finished with a superb firework display. A fitting end to a fabulous year of celebrations. This

year was a special year also for Louise (brownie leader) and myself as we were both invited to receive long service awards for our leadership in guiding. These were presented to us at the annual review held at the Bentley Hotel, Lincoln in November. This was a grand occasion which seemed extra special as it fell within our centenary year. Louise received her award for 20 years and I for 30 years ! Our year continued and in November the guides worked towards gaining badges and 'Go For It' challenges. As part of the 'Glamourama Go For It' we had a visit from a beautician. She showed the girls techniques in skincare and applying makeup. Pam and Paul also returned to give the guides a talk on alcohol awareness .They showed a short film and then involved the girls in a discussion. Again it was a very informative, highlighting the dangers surrounding alcohol.Unfortunately our Christmas carol service was cancelled due to bad weather conditions and so was the guide and brownie 'Circus Skills' Christmas party. Luckily we managed to rearrange the party and this took place in January. It was a fun evening and the girls learned all sorts of skills including plate spinning, juggling, walking on stilts and tight rope walking ! Everyone had a brilliant time whilst also earning their 'Circus Skills' badge . During December we went to see the pantomime 'Dick Whittington' at the Lincoln Drill hall. This was our last guide meeting of our fun filled and very busy year! Even though we now have nineteen girls in the unit we still have vacancies for new guides between the ages of 10-14 years. We meet on Tuesday evenings between 7pm-9pm at St.Johns church hall. Please contact Vanessa Nicholson on 01522 543305 if you know of anyone interested in becoming a guide.

Vanessa Nicholson -Guide Guider



Week No	Date	Gift Aid £	Ordinary £	Total £
1	3.1.10	62.00	14.50	76.50
2	10.1.10	99.00	14.50	113.50
3	17.1.10	174.00	101.50	275.50
4	24.1.10	471.00	47.90	518.90
5	31.1.10	150.00	43.00	193.00
6	7.2.10	171.00	35.88	206.88
7	14.2.10	179.50	50.00	229.50
8	21.2.10	70.00	30.06	100.06
9	28.2.10	136.00	45.00	181.00
10	7.3.10	83.50	60.15	143.15
11	14.3.10	177.00	54.24	231.24
12	21.3.10	136.00	61.50	207.50
13	28.3.10	96.00	46.55	142.55
14	4.4.10	190.20	39.00	229.20
15	11.4.10	118.00	44.50	162.50
16	18.4.10	149.50	39.65	189.15
17	25.4.10	56.50	37.00	93.50
18	2.5.10	81.00	76.98	157.98
19	9.5.10	176.50	38.79	215.29
20	16.5.10	93.00	62.24	155.24
21	23.5.10	210.00	46.20	256.20
22	30.5.10	118.00	37.50	155.50
23	6.6.10	83.50	34.50	118.00
24	13.6.10	55.00	70.86	125.86
25	20.6.10	164.00	29.24	193.24
26	27.6.10	506.00	47.50	553.50
27	4.7.10	45.00	58.50	103.50
28	11.7.10	299.00	48.50	347.50
29	18.7.10	132.00	43.50	175.50
30	25.7.10	87.00	42.54	129.54
31	1.8.10	41.00	38.10	79.10
32	8.8.10	77.00	52.50	129.50
33	15.8.10	190.00	37.60	227.60
34	22.8.10	184.00	41.70	225.70
35	29.8.10	132.00	51.57	183.57
36	5.9.10	136.00	66.00	202.00
37	12.9.10	20.00	25.00	45.00
38	19.9.10	238.40	11.00	249.40
39	26.9.10	110.00	65.00	176.00
40	3.10.10	261.00	38.50	299.50
41	10.10.10	91.00	71.00	162.00
42	17.10.10	163.00	26.00	189.00
43	24.10.10	65.00	25.34	90.34
44	31.10.10	100.00	59.00	159.00
45	7.11.10	120.00	33.86	153.86
46	14.11.10.	77.00	65.00	142.00
47	21.11.10	170.00	60.85	230.85
48	28.11.10	74.00	14.40	88.40
49	5.12.10	78.20	24.05	102.25
50	12.12.10	147.00	16.50	163.50
51	19.12.10	330.00	82.39	412.39
52	26.12.10	100.00	29.00	129.00
TOTALS		£7473.80	£2336.14	£9809.94

GIFT AID AND PLANNED GIVING 2010

ANITA PAGE ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH CHURCH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2010.

I report on the accounts of the Church and hall for the year ended 31st December 2010.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the church trustees you are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report is made solely to the church trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. My independent examiner's report has been undertaken so that I might state to the church trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the church and the church trustees as a body, for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the statement I have given.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention, to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anita Page M.A.A.T
Association of Accounting Technicians
15th February 2011

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Licensed and regulated by the Association of Accounting Technicians to provide services in accordance with licence number 2919 details of which are displayed at the address shown.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS	2010			2009	
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming receipts from donors					
Gift Aid	13,203			5,739	
Planned Giving	2,372			2,891	
Service Collections	1,067			2,551	
Other collections	903			1,372	
Income tax recovered				1,702	
		<u>17,546</u>			<u>14,255</u>
Other donations					
Donations	16,538			1,277	
Specific Donations	0			0	
		<u>16,538</u>			<u>1,277</u>
Receipts from church operations					
Fees	1,934			1,578	
Other	1,242			889	
		<u>3,176</u>			<u>2,467</u>
Receipts from fundraising activities					
Fundraising	2,256			4,282	
		<u>2,256</u>			<u>4,282</u>
Receipts from Investments					
Dividends on investments	2,820			1,604	
Bank and Deposit Fund Interest	50			331	
		<u>2,870</u>			<u>1,935</u>
Other receipts					
Insurance claims	1,051	1,051		2,515	2,515
Total Receipts		<u>43,436</u>			<u>26,731</u>
PAYMENTS					
Donations to Charities	551	551			0
Church Activities					
Diocesan parish share	12,500			10,644	
Clergy expenses	1,125			1,737	
Cost of services	2,750			2,917	
Administration costs	2,650			1,711	
Running costs	5,141			2,340	
Repairs and maintenance	6,539			3,766	
Insurance	1,723			1,492	
Fitments	3,882			0	
Other costs	1,857			829	
		<u>38,167</u>			<u>25,436</u>

Total Payments	<u>38,718</u>	<u>25,436</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments	<u>£4,718</u>	<u>£1,295</u>
Excess of Payments over Receipts	<u>£0</u>	<u>£0</u>

COMMUNITY HALL

RECEIPTS

	<u>2010</u>			<u>2009</u>	
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts from Activities					
J.Ashton school of Dance	4,685			4,948	
Silhouette dance club	1,697			1,823	
Bookings	3,103			2,385	
Sundries	0				
		<u>9,485</u>		<u>9,156</u>	
Other Receipts					
Insurance claims	0			0	
		<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>9,485</u>		<u>9,156</u>	

PAYMENTS

Management Costs	1,261			927	
Running costs	3,519			1,878	
Repairs and Cleaning	1,464			5,392	
Insurance	851			785	
Licenses				122	
Fitments	1,702			0	
				0	
Hall Sundries	610			47	
Total Payments		<u>9,407</u>		<u>9,151</u>	
Excess of Receipts over Payments			<u>£78</u>		<u>£5</u>
Excess of Payments over Receipts			<u>£0</u>		<u>£0</u>

RESTRICTED FUNDS

RECEIPTS

	<u>2010</u>			<u>2009</u>	
	£	£	£	£	£
Charity collections and donations	1,065			2,114	
Church 50th Anniv				0	
Training Fund	20			0	
Youth group				0	
Wydale retreat	0			1,305	
Lunch Club	175			285	
Other Funds	0			0	
Total Receipts		<u>1,261</u>		<u>3,704</u>	

PAYMENTS

Charity collections and donations	551			1,717	
Church 50th Anniv				0	
Training Fund	280			0	
Youth group	57			0	

