



All Saints' Church
Preston on Tees

All Saints' Church
Annual Report 2010

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INTRODUCTION

Chairman's Report

In last year's report I wrote:

We cannot say hand on heart that many people have found faith here recently and that is certainly a matter for the whole church to pray about. I am sure we would all like to see more people coming to a saving knowledge of Christ and I believe that, as we come together before God and pray with passion and faith, we will... Our mission states where we are, but our vision is about direction... Where, under God, are we all going? That is a matter I think we need to address as a church and we will be setting about it this spring.

Clearly, the Big Thing last year at All Saints' was agreeing, under God, just what that direction should be. The Vision Day in June was a significant milestone for us in the context of our recent history.

After a presentation on what vision is and what major issues All Saints' faces, people met in discussion groups, fed back, ate together, met in groups and fed back again. By the end of the day we had agreed a Vision Statement and had thought about how it might impact every area of church life.

So this is the direction we are heading in:

We believe that God is calling us to four years of outreach with the objective that every household

in our parish should know that we are a vibrant Christian community ready to

- pray for them
- serve them practically and
- invite them to encounter Jesus Christ.

Alpha, Journeys, detached youth work and so on obviously fit straight into this vision, but we need to see that *outreach is not just about evangelistic programmes arranged by "someone else"*. The New Testament model is different so it is essential that, as a church, we are all equipped to share our faith simply and naturally - and that we all adopt more outwardly focused lifestyles. That means change for a lot of us and that may not be comfortable - as the *Just Walk Across the Room* series has highlighted.

So far, as part of the Vision Plan we have set up a Vision Fund, we have distributed an Alpha invitation and a Special Edition *In Touch* to every home, we have run a successful Alpha course, home visits to families attending Flame have begun and three teaching series have taken place.

Planned for this year;

- Journeys (April-May)
- more teaching on prayer, practical service and personal evangelism
- a practical service mission around the parish in May
- Marriage Course (June-July)
- 2 more Special Editions of *In Touch* (April and September)
- Alpha (October-December)
- An evening with comedian and magician John Archer (December)

It has been wonderful to see several people come to new faith in Christ or come back to church after a time away. Let us give thanks and glory to God and pray faithfully that we will see much more.

John Lambert

Treasurer's Report

I would like to start by thanking everyone who has contributed financially to All Saints' Church during 2010. Many of you give regularly either directly through your bank or through the envelope scheme which means that we are able to claim Gift Aid on nearly all of these gifts.

Last year, we received just over £130,000 from congregational giving which was increased to almost £170,000 with Gift Aid. Other income sources such as rent from Church House gave us total income for the year of £182,000.

After giving away the first 10% of our income, we gave £73,000 to the Diocese, around £30,000 on general running costs and £56,000 on mission. Our total expenditure for the year was just under £177,000 meaning that we ended the year with a surplus of £5,000.

Our plans for 2011 require us to be able to generate almost £190,000 income, which at current levels is not going to be a possibility and the PCC have approved a budget with a potential deficit of £10,000 by the end of December. I know that some people have already reviewed their giving and I am grateful to those of you who have responded. Please give generously throughout this coming year so we can realise all of the plans we believe God has for us during 2011.

For more details, please see my more detailed report in the Financial Statements.

John Belmont

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC has a total of 19 members this year and consists of the clergy and churchwardens of the parish, together with a number of representatives of the laity elected at the annual parochial church meeting of the parish or laity who are members of Durham Diocesan Synod or Stockton Deanery Synod from All Saints. Formally, the PCC are trustees of All Saints and are responsible for our financial affairs and the care and maintenance of the church fabric and its contents. Overseeing the church's finances has been a major part of the PCC's work during 2010. Other matters dealt with at PCC during 2010 have included:

- Appointment of new members to the Ministry Development Team
- Vision Day preparations and support of development of 3 year Vision
- Gift day
- Update on "Choose Life" and decision to employ on 20 hours / week on a permanent basis an additional youth pastor
- Noise complaint resolution
- Environment group
- Continuation of progress on quinquennial report actions on the condition of our church building and prioritising the required repairs, with particular focus on church roof state
- Approval of various formal process eg drivers' bank and children's activities and leaders

Please pray for us. We really appreciate your support.

Margaret Vaughan

Ministry Development Team (MDT)

The MDT prayerfully considers what God is calling All Saints' to do, encourages every-member ministry and thinks strategically about refocusing or resourcing existing ministries. The MDT is a think-tank with an advisory role; it is not an executive body.

In 2010 the MDT spent considerable time praying over and looking at the Vision and how it should be kept on track and developed. I envisage that this will continue throughout the life of the Four-Year vision.

Last year the MDT:

- organized an excellent open-to-all prayer evening
- recommended to the PCC that a Hardship Fund be set up to help people in need
- conducted an in depth review of the 10:30am service following static or declining attendances
- recommended wholesale changes to the 10:30am All-Age service (now relaunched as 'Engage')
- reviewed home groups and recommended John Benjamin as Home Group coordinator
- examined provision for music in worship at all three services
- conducted an in depth review of the 6:30pm service which was becoming 'stale'

I would like to express my thanks to all who serve on the MDT and particularly to Tim Emerton, Sandra Griffiths, Rob Pepper and Nicky Pepper who stood down during the year.

John Lambert

Deanery Synod

The first Deanery Synod after the Parish's AGMs was held in May at Ian Ramsey School. Linda Ross (Lay Chair) welcomed new members. Janet Wilson the new Head teacher of Ian Ramsey gave her view on the future of the school and explained how it would sit alongside the Christian community. She presented an inspired and passionate vision of the school being a 'Virtual Learning Environment' operating alongside a 'Christian Learning Environment'.

The July Synod gave us a chance to hear Anna De Lange of the Diocesan Liturgical Group and her presentation "Wings for Worship" or how the laity can be involved in worship.

The September Synod welcomed the Area Dean, David Brooke back from his sabbatical, but the main focus of the meeting was finance. Margaret Vaughan gave a 'State of the Nation' address on the Deanery and Diocesan finance and also spoke about Parish Shares for 2011.

The November Synod had a visit from David Granath, the Director of the Hospital of God, Greatham, who spoke about the work there and how individuals can become involved.

The January meeting looked at some smaller items but mainly focussed on the year ahead and the implications for the Deanery, which I believe will see the Deanery plan once again become the main focus of Synod's discussions.

Gillian Clayton

General Synod

Most of the time at the July 2010 meeting was taken up with working through the details of the legislation concerning women bishops. Many amendments had been proposed aiming to strengthen the position of those who feel they cannot accept this change, but the outcome was that the dioceses may make their own arrangements under a national code of practice. This final draft is ready to go out for local discussion. Other legislation covered clergy pensions, job-sharing in ordained ministry, and fine-tuning of the marriage regulations, whereby a couple can ask to be married in a church where they have a connection, rather than only where they live, as under the old rules. As is traditional at the end of the five years' lifetime of the synod, we had a late night revue performed by the folk with musical, satirical or comical talent – this year there was even a ballroom dancing display by the religious affairs correspondent of the Times. I was sorry to say goodbye after 25 years to many friends, both staff and colleagues. David Brooke, our Area Dean, and Fran Wood from St John's Egglecliffe have been elected and I wish them well.

Janet Atkinson

Operations Manager

We have had another tricky year in terms of maintenance and improvements around the church and centre, with projects still being hampered by a general lack of funds, this continues to be a challenging concern. But all is not doom and gloom, we did decorate the Narthex and Chapel and several of the staff members were successful in obtaining external grant funding to widen their areas of ministry.

I would like to thank the many volunteers on the Sunday rotas, without these people our regular Sunday worship could not operate in anything like its current form. I would also like to thank Bruce Merrick as he retires as church warden for his valued support and assistance over the past three years.

You may by now know that I am leaving my employment here at All Saints to work at A Way Out based in Stockton, I would like to thank you all for your support and assistance over the past 5 years, I have enjoyed my time here but look forward to the new challenges ahead.

Rob Pepper

Fabric Report

Electrical.

The nave lighting has continued to be unsatisfactory. The ideal answer would now be a replacement system but this must wait for funding, meanwhile we are supplementing with portable uplighters. Thanks to John Doherty for his continued work on PAT testing.

Windows.

These were the subject of part of our Quinquennial report and those on the car park side of Church need particular attention. It is hoped that we may be able to obtain grant funding to carry out some of this work.

Vicarage

We feel that the Standard of doors and windows at the Vicarage, which are relatively new are not of a very good standard and have brought this to the attention of the Diocese.

Terrier & Inventory

This has been completed and a few items no longer needed have been passed to other churches. Everything else is in order.

Grounds

Once again we appreciate the amount of assistance given to us by a band of snow clearers during the winter weather, thanks too to those who cut grass and clear litter. If you can join them, please let us know.

Thank you

To Sandra, Rob & Assistant Wardens for all their help

Quinquennial Inspection and Maintenance

For about 20 years now we have had problems with our Church roof. These have been brought to our attention in Quinquennial reports, in addition to our own maintenance checks. From time to time tiles have been replaced and various

'patch – up' work has been done. In the past year we have had to have some more costly work done and on taking advice, both from a roofing contractor and the Diocesan Architect we now need to seriously consider replacing all the tiles and possibly some of the timbers. This will, without doubt be a costly job and if we proceed we will need to look for funding and for interest free loans from friends. In order to bring the roof up to modern standards we would also need to install insulation material, which would, together with proposed window work mentioned in the Wardens report help to make our church warmer. We will shortly be going out for

Estimates and the P.C.C. will then consider the way forward. The alternative is to continue patching but as we have already seen, eventually this will not be a satisfactory solution and in the long term is likely to cost more. We will keep you informed.

Bruce Merrick

Publicity and Communication

Over the past year the Publicity & Communications group has comprised a small team of volunteers who are mainly involved in the production of In Touch. We produce ten issues of this every year, primarily aimed at the congregations of All Saints' and St. Mary's, and distribute around 300 copies monthly (combined e-mail and printed). We rely heavily on contributions from church members and have been blessed with some fantastic pieces, so a big thank you for those. During 2010 we launched a new look and revised layout style for In Touch. Working with All Saints' vision, we are keen to feature testimonies of the great things happening in the church's groups and members' activities.

A separate version of In Touch was produced in December. This was professionally printed in colour and distributed to all households in the parish to promote All Saints' and the various groups, activities and services on offer over the Christmas period. We aim to produce these three times per year, with the next example ready for Easter.

Elsewhere, we have been involved in the design and production of a new 'Welcome' sign in the Narthex, and designs for new noticeboards fronting Yarm Road.

Matt Falcus

WORSHIP GOD

Music Group

09:00 Worship

Worship at the moment continues to be mainly keyboard led with regular input from the Choral Group. The team of musicians has changed slightly; we said goodbye to Kathy Beaumont and Olaolu Adeboye and have welcomed Janet Smith onto the team, joining Pam Rushton and Lucy Falcus. We also have regular input from Andrew Killick, Sue Jennings and Matthew Falcus who sing or play various instruments. We continue to use the most recent Mission Praise hymnbook and this has enabled us to expand the range of songs sung, aiming for a good mix of older hymns and newer songs. It is great to have singers and musicians taking part in the worship and if there is anyone interested in joining the 9am worship team please talk to me to find out more!

Lucy Falcus

10:30 Worship

12 months on and the band dynamics have changed yet again, and continues to do so...but we are called to lead worship so we pre'ss on, not dragging our heels (2 Chronicles 29:11 TM) but spurred on by God's Spirit fueling our desire to meet with Him in His House on a Thurs eve / Sun morning. Our desire / goal is still to praise God, to meet with Him and to help others step into His glorious presence and to taste of His goodness (Psalm 34:9 TM), through musical worship. Every week we bring what we have to God; our gifts, time, open hearts, to share within His presence (1 Corinthians 14 : 26 TM) and every week we are so Blessed by our God who gives us infinitely more when we seek His face with "all our hearts" (Jeremiah 29:13 TM) As a band we have decreased but our awesome God has increased doing amazing things within the 10-30 congregation. Thanks God for an amazing year of more of You through less of us ! "May You be even greater" (Malachi 1:5 TM) in 2011.

Deb Hird

18:30 Worship

What a wonderful thing it is to have the freedom to worship our King! I've loved leading the 6:30pm worship team, and the team as a whole with Debbie this year. We have a very versatile, talented worship group in our church. The team has dramatically shrunk during the course of the year, which has created an organisational challenge when preparing the rotas and bands, but we have managed to achieve a quality sound week after week.

I would love to hear from anyone who feels called to be part of the worship group. We have started a new style of worship meeting once a month at the 6:30pm service. We basically don't plan much, have no sermon and just devote the whole evening to worship, prayer, meditation, ministry and whatever else the Holy Spirit feels like doing. I will try to get the dates in the newsletter, and would love to see you there, it is a special time.

I'm excited about what God is going to do this year in the worship life of our church.

God Bless.

David Benjamin

Choral Group

For those of you not familiar with what we do, we are a group of 22 people who lead sung worship in a fairly (but not entirely) traditional way roughly three times a term at both All Saints' and its sister Church, St. Mary's Long Newton as well as on other occasions, such as weddings.

A couple of new departures:

- We have sung part of the liturgy at communion services to a number of different settings. John Lambert suggested that it would be good to sing it to familiar hymn tunes. Richard Spratt has put in a lot of work to make this possible and by the time you read this we will have tried it out.
- Another 'new' for us will be to lead a service of choral evensong on Palm Sunday (17th April) in the afternoon. This follows a suggestion from one or two people and support from many more who said they would welcome and come to such a service.

Many people enjoy singing but say 'O I can't really sing' and are completely wrong. We love God and we love singing. Our ministry is to combine the two. If you feel the same come along on a Friday to All Saints' library at 7.30 pm and see if you would like to join us.

Brain Wake

Prayer

"When I work, I *work*. When I pray *God* works."

When I read this proverb on holiday last summer the Lord challenged my busy, activist approach to life and got me back to setting aside the first full hour of every day to seek him and intercede. Oh, that God would graciously renew our pursuit of his presence and our zeal for his fame!

No church that is seriously going forward ever does so prayerlessly. Regular, committed, united, believing intercessory prayer is one of the key ingredients to a healthy, growing church.

On May 1st last year, all our services were centred entirely on intercession. It's the only time we pray as a whole church and we will repeat that this year. The prayer breakfasts have continued once a term and are now organised by Sola Adeboye. Since December, people have been gathering at 5:00pm on a Sunday afternoon in the chapel to pray for 90 minutes – and the effect on the evening service has been noticeable.

One of the suggestions on the Vision Day was prayer walks around the boundaries of the parish – an idea we will try to put into action this year.

John Lambert

Puppet Team

Over the past year we have had varied opportunities as a team to use the puppets to glorify God including at the Daisy Chain Open Day, the Glow Party, the family services at church and a performance at the Christmas Eve service.

In addition, a group of us went to the New Wine Summer Conference in Newark and had great fun working with the 3-4 year olds as part of the Pebbles team. We were also asked to showcase two of our songs at the One Way UK Training day held at the Oakwood Centre in November. In January we ran a puppet workshop and performed "Voyage of Discovery" as part of a children's party organised by the Parish Church.

The puppet team currently consists of Lucy Killick, Kathie and Ben Lambert, Euan Gordon, Louis Govier, Joseph Major, Jan, Sarah and Rachel Peters and myself. Karen Killick is also part of the team but has had time out since last summer due to other commitments.

Please pray for us as we seek to develop the puppet ministry and glorify God through all that we do.

Chris Peters

Flowers

Two highlights of this year were Easter with Dawn and Matt's wedding and Emma Bailey's wedding on 24th July. Six of us arranged Emma's flowers, many of which had been specially grown for her by John Doherty. Another highlight was the flower arranging workshop at Home and Away which proved very popular.

As many flowers as possible are grown locally in gardens and allotments. Also occasionally Sylvia (Wilson) is given flowers by Sainsbury's for use in our church. The rest of the flowers we buy.

There are basically two of us (Rosy Doherty and Karen Lamb) arranging all the flowers every week, usually for 2 hours on a Friday or a Saturday. I am very grateful to Karen for her help, enthusiasm and creative skills.

The congregation must however understand that we are sometimes ill or on holiday and need back up. Help is urgently needed especially at major festivals

It took me 2 solid days to decorate the church for Christmas. How refreshing it would be if there were 10 flower arrangers at Easter. The whole church would be decorated in 2 hours!

On a more positive note, thank you for your favourable comments about the flowers which give great encouragement.

Rosy Doherty.

MAKE DISCIPLES

Just Believe

The last two consecutive years most of our Y6 children left and moved up to Youth with a successful transition. This left us with a smaller group. Our decision to merge the Just Believe groups and create a more vibrant feel has benefitted us. This also eased the Leader / child ratio. We now have a more effective use of time and energy. As we pray we see families joining our church and Children coming to Just Believe from Flame. As ever, All Saints and myself are blessed to have an amazing team of passionate and committed Children's leaders and helpers. If you see them please praise and encourage them as they work so hard at keeping the Just Believe Ministry alive and relevant to Children. In brief: within Just believe there is a new development with the birth of 12 Tribes. It's a united, multi church, children's ministry event that will hopefully spread across the Teesvalley. Would you like to know more? You're welcome to chat with me over a coffee. My prayer: that God continues to draw people from our community, that we are open, full of love and receptive to whoever walks through our doors.

Julia Taylor-Powell

Youth Church

Our youth church continues to evolve and we are beginning to see some fruit from our youth congregation. We spent last year looking at various aspects of the Holy Spirit and more recently we have been exploring the fruits of the Spirit which has included a couple of guest preachers.

We have felt God stirring us about the young people taking more of a lead in all aspects of youth church and since the turn of the year, we now have a regular format for our weekly youth church gatherings. The first Sunday of the month we run workshops where the young people prepare and practice their contribution for the following week's youth service which is led entirely by the young people. The church 'Engage' service is on the 3rd Sunday and the youth team lead the youth service on the 4th Sunday giving our young people the chance to worship and connect with God without the pressure of leading any part of the service.

We believe youth church to be an important part in discipling and equipping our young people ready for them to feed back into the adult congregation both in the near and long term future.

Tim Wye-Williams

Young Adults

The Young Adults continue to meet each Monday night, alternating between socials (to build community, friendships and encouragement within the group) and Bible Studies (going deeper in our relationships with God, meeting with Him, learning more about Him, and supporting each other in prayer). Everyone in the group takes turns to lead the sessions and they usually plan the study according to what God is putting on their heart at that time.

This year we held a couple of special evenings, where we did something a bit different. One evening was spent writing encouraging messages to other church groups and praying for them. Another was 'Bless the Church' evening, where we wrote Christmas cards to everyone in the Church, and we also held our annual Link Romania night. The Young Adults all brought gifts, and we were able to make 10 shoeboxes to send to families in Romania for Christmas.

My prayer for this year is that we are led by the Holy Spirit, follow Him with boldness and really move forward in our journey with God.

Young Adults is open to anybody in their 20s and 30s. Please speak to me if you'd like to know more

Kathryn Belmont

Homegroups

This year has significant changes due to a number of leaders standing down, resulting in changes in leadership and in some cases the closing of the groups. I thank Andrew, Carol, Tim, Rob and Nicky for their service and welcome Gill and Brian and Pam.

We now only have two evening and three afternoon groups plus Kathryn's youth group. Moves are afoot to restart the Young Adults group.

Most groups are fairly full and we are seeking more leaders so that we can embrace as many people as possible as the groups are an important part of church life, being an integral means of communication and fellowship.

In recent weeks some groups have used "Just walk across the room" as a theme, exploring basic personal evangelism.

I hope to visit all the groups in the near future to familiarise myself with the ongoing work and see in which ways we can, collectively, enrich the church fellowship.

My thanks to all those leading the groups and to those who participate.

John Benjamin

Library

There are now 1684 books held in the Library, 49 having been added this year. Most of these have been donated and only a few bought. I must confess that surgery on both of my knees has resulted in the Library being neglected this year. However there seem to be more people borrowing books. The returning of borrowed books is still a problem so I would urge people to return books as soon as they

are read. Sermon CDs are still being held and though there are few signed out a large number are missing so if anyone has one of them please return them immediately. Gill Wake.

Gill Wake

Bookshop

The Church Book Stall was the original vision of Kathryn Belmont and was started in July 2008. Books are selected on a sale or return basis from the Baptist Tabernacle Book Shop and are changed quarterly. Books can also be ordered on request.

The Baptist Tabernacle sells the All Saints Church Book Stall books at a 10% discount. This allows the Book Stall opportunity to donate books to the Church Library, and not undercut the Baptist Tabernacle Book Shop. When specific promotions are made, such as, 'Just Walk Across The Room', books were sold at cost price.

During 2010, the Book Stall has moved from the small coffee lounge to the main hall used for coffee after services. It aims to be available after both the 9.00 and 10.30 services. During the week, books are kept in a bookcase in the reception area and are available from Sandra Griffiths during office hours. Since the beginning of 2010, over 120 books have been sold.

Future plans for the Book Stall in 2011 include:

The establishment of a rota of people to assist with the Book Stall;

Regular book reviews by members of the congregation to be shared on the Church website; In Touch magazine and pre-Church power-point presentations.

Caroline Ryder-Jones

Launch Gap Year

Launch represents an excellent opportunity for young Christians to gain practical ministry experience, work in a dynamic local church team and broaden their Bible knowledge. Unfortunately, since Hannah Jackson left in 2008, there has been no leadership for Launch and no applications either. So we have not had a Launch team for two years in a row now. If anyone has ideas on how we might raise Launch's profile and recruit for it in the wider church, please see Rob Pepper or me.

John Lambert

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

Toddlers

I have been encouraged to see our 2 weekly toddler group sessions continue to flourish this year. Average attendance is 80 – 100 toddlers/carers each session. Many newcomers have joined us, and we have said sad farewells to those leaving for nursery. It is lovely for me to meet up with some of the toddlers again when I go into their school, and a good way of keeping a link with church. Sessions include lots of time to play, juice and biscuit time, and song time. Special events have included a Teddy bears picnic, and Christmas parties, which went well. Opportunities have arisen to build relationships, share faith, pray for people, and invite them to church activities. It's been encouraging to see quite a lot of people from toddlers continue to attend Big ted, Play and Praise, and family events. A number of families are also having their children baptised at our church and I have started going on Baptism visits with Sylvia, which is a really helpful way of getting to know the families better. It's encouraging to see such `fruit`. Please pray that there will be more to come. Thank you to my wonderful toddler team.

Jan Peters

Play and Praise

Play and Praise is a weekly event for under 5's and their carers. It has been running for just over a year and it's been so exciting and encouraging to be involved in it. God gave me the vision for Play and Praise, so it's no surprise that, as a team, we have clearly felt His presence and blessing upon it. We have a regular attendance of between 75-105 people which is very encouraging, and keeps us on our toes! Each session includes worship time with songs, instruments, bible stories acted out with puppets and more! Then we have more fun with craft, play time and refreshments. There is a lovely, friendly, community feel to the whole session, and a good mix of people, some who have a Christian faith, and those who are not Christians, but love to come along. As a team we seek opportunities to chat informally to the adults about faith, and offer prayer when appropriate.

We also pray that seeds of faith will be sown in the lives of the gorgeous toddlers who come along. A huge `Thank you` to the wonderful team who help with setting up, and running the event.

Jan Peters

Big Ted

Its been an interesting year. We have been seeking God about the development of this ministry to pre school people and their carers in the light of the huge success of 'Play and Praise'. Big Ted remains very popular but, in keeping with our four year mission plan, we decided to take Big Ted 'Out'. November brought an opportunity for a pilot visit to Preston School which was really well received by the staff and children. It's rather more work and organisation to make sure we have all our equipment but in February we took the famous bear to The Links school where many children were delighted with the story of Zacchaeus. We are continuing to make links with local nurseries so that on the third week of each month we can take Big Ted out on Wednesday and stay in church on Thursday. It remains our aim to build relationships with the children and grown ups and to help them grow in faith. If you have time to help on Thursday with moving tables and chairs or in the kitchen there's lunch in it for you.

Sylvia Wilson

Events for Children and Family

In the past year `The Club` family events have continued to prove popular in February and October half terms, attracting 250+ per event, mainly from the local area. It's always a joy to look around and see families mixing together in a safe environment, enjoying all kinds of fun activities. I believe its important for us, as Christians to promote family time, and play our part in providing it. The `Glow` party in October also proved very popular with families and it is important that we can provide a fun, safe alternative to Halloween activities. One highlight was the puppet performance, which enabled us to share the Gospel message in a fun, non- threatening way. They are the best evangelists at our family events! All the family events have provided great opportunities for us to serve our community, build relationships, share faith, and invite people of all ages to other church activities. From all the positive feedback we get its clear that the community appreciate us running such events, and the efforts of the wonderful team who help run them. So `Thank you` team! Please pray that God will continue to guide and bless ministry to families.

Jan Peters

Flame

Once again God continues to drive forward his vision to engage with the children he loves. God is faithful and since Flame has started(8 sessions) we have seen over 130 children attend Flame. Over half have continued to come every single week. Most have been regularly since it started. Our Flame team continue to be one of the biggest blessings, giving time, encouragement, energy, commitment and love to a constant growing number of children in Eaglescliffe, Hartburn, Yarm, InglebyBarwick, Bishopsgarth, Fairfield and Stockton.

Linda Errington and I have started Home visits and have seen over 60 children at their homes. The response to this is simply awesome. God opens doors and we have seen the children of families

come back to the Kids clubs. New relationships have sparked up and this is only the beginning. We're praying for a home visiting team. For open doors and continual guidance in displaying Gods greatness and healing power to children and the families we meet through home visits.

Julia Taylor-Powell

Choose Life

This past year has seen significant growth in the life of the youth work both numerically and spiritually. Our weekly activities continue to be very popular with over 200 young people on our Friday night, 360 register. Our weekly drop in and rock solid clubs on Wednesdays have enabled us to build good relationships with some of our younger un-churched teenagers and we are now running 3 well attended life groups (homegroups).

Highlights from last years' calendar include a visit from an American Mission Team where we ran 'The Ultimate 360' event, a trip to Alton Towers, visits to various youth events and we even had 2 of our young people on work experience with us. A couple of fundraising days and some generous donations enabled us to make our annual trip to Soul Survivor where we took 26 young people with 6 of them making a first time commitment!

We also had a regular group of young people visiting our evening service over the past year where some good relationships have been formed and we have had some opportunities to share the gospel with them. We are hoping to make significant progress with this group this coming year.

Tim Wye-Williams

Connect

It has been a brilliant year for this group! Connect is the umbrella term for all activities involving the retired members of our community. Activities include the Tuesday Lunch Club, Gentle exercise and Seated exercise followed by soup, a roll and cake on the first Tuesday of the month. We also had a 'Home and Away' holiday event in the summer- which we plan to run again this year. All of these are contributing to building up a community of people from inside and outside the church.

The service before the lunch club provides an opportunity to get to know God for people who would not necessarily come on Sunday. Sylvia has become someone well known to them and a point of contact for their families, resulting in deepening relationships and chance to discuss faith.

The plan is to provide more opportunities to meet and develop these relationships with a section of the community that is often neglected by the world. Numbers average 40-50 for the lunch club and new helpers for cooking, serving, driving or co-ordinating would be welcomed! Please talk to Sylvia if you think you can spare any time.

Sylvia Wilson

All Saints Kings Academy FC

Sadly, the team played its final game in the North East Christian Fellowship League last season. After an excellent previous couple of years, we were proud to finish 3rd in the Premier Division in our first season in the top division. Unfortunately, in the latter part of the season, we were struggling more and more for regular players and time constraints on various people involved in running the club meant that we had to take the decision to fold as a team.

Hopefully, there will be an opportunity for the team to reform in the future but at present there are no plans afoot.

Thank you to everyone involved in running and supporting the team which had seen some memorable occasions and helped to build some good relationships with some lads in the local area. We were able to share the gospel regularly with them and we were successful in coupling a Christian ethos through the team with some silverware along the way

Tim Wye-Williams

Primary Schools

This past year I have continued to enjoy leading regular assemblies in two of our local primary schools – Preston, and St Marys, Longnewton. Thank you to John Taylor and Susie Green who also lead assemblies. I also enjoy teaching the old testament `Bible Explorer` course to yrs 5 & 6 pupils in local schools. This 5 week course gives lots of opportunity to bring the bible to life through drama, puppets, competitions, games etc.

A couple of schools have visited our church this year and enjoyed having a tour, asking many questions, and eating lots of biscuits! I was given a great opportunity recently when invited to a school to chat to yr 3 & 4 children, about what the Bible means to Christians. The Big ted team have recently started going into local nurserys and we are being received enthusiastically, which is exciting. I feel it's a privilege to be given the freedom to share the christian faith and stories from the bible with so many children in our schools, especially in this present climate of political correctness. Please pray that the doors remain open and many seeds of faith will be sown.

Jan Peters

Walkers

Another year of interesting walking with a few new faces occasionally joining us. The stalwart team of walk leaders has taken us on walks varying from 4 miles (suitable for accompanied children) to 11 miles, though this last was travelled by only the leader and one walker. We've walked in the Osmotherley area on several occasions, in Nidderdale, Brancepeth, Sildon, West Burton, to name a few. The weather has been both bad enough to cause a change of plan, and so good that no one wanted to end the walk.

After a walk in December we ended with Gluwein at John and Rosy's house, complete with slices of stolen.

We had a weekend away in Draughton last November, where again most walked but some due to injury, rested, venturing only to Skipton for the famous market. We are getting so well known from our stays here that we are almost regarded as regular worshippers in the local church!

In February we held our Annual Meal in the Centre, which was very successful, and in March we go away for another weekend, again to Alston in Cumbria.

We welcome new members of any ability.

Pemma Littlehailes

Rainbows

The Centenary of Guiding certainly had a big impact on our Rainbows as, through joining in local, County and even National events they realised what a huge organisation Guiding is. In February some joined the Brownies for the 'One World One Beat' Arts Festival, trying their hand at Morris dancing and music making with boomwhackers. In April they joined two hundred other Rainbows from Cleveland for 'Rainbows Go Wild' where the theme was animals. Highlight was being able to touch and hold some unusual animals. Continuing the animal theme they joined their sister Rainbows and Brownies from Tees West for a trip to Monk Park Farm and then enjoyed bug hunting at the Ecology Park at Urray Nook with members of Eaglescliffe District. A late night in October for the Centenary Finale at the Tall Trees Hotel didn't deter the Rainbows from renewing their Promise with their sisters in Guiding. And of course the year wouldn't be complete without a trip to the pantomime!

A variety of challenge activities at unit meetings meant they all completed the Adventure 100 Challenge badge.

A huge thank you to Rebecca Craig for her support during this special year for me and Girlguiding Cleveland.

Christine Brooks

Brownies

2010 was Girlguiding's Centenary Year which meant that there more events and opportunities on offer than usual. In February we took part in a National 'One World One Beat' Arts Festival, in March our girls enjoyed a "Sleepover with the sharks" at The Deep in Hull, then in May we took part in the County 'Brownies Take over Storyland' event with activities related to various famous authors. Our own Pack Holiday had 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' as its theme. A group of older girls were part of the Brownie sub-camp at our County Camp in Durham where tobogganing, archery and crate-stacking were popular activities. Some also spent a night under canvas at the National Camp at Harewood House before visiting Fusion, another huge Arts Festival with unusual acts and street artists. The Centenary year culminated with all girls from the Division renewing their Promise at the Tall Trees Hotel with a national link-up with our Chief Guide. Throughout the year all the girls took part in the Adventure challenge and gained one hundred points and yes, another badge!

A special thanks to Tracy Ellis, especially this year, my first as County Commissioner, for all her support with the unit

Christine Brooks

Guides

Our Centenary year started off with a party, Sammy's 18th , and seems to have involved a lot of cakes and party games. We have spent time looking at the traditions of Guiding and encouraged the girls to get more involved in the running of the section; this culminated in the brilliant sessions the girls organised and ran themselves.

Sleepovers at the Deep and Dorman museum were enjoyed by all, even if there wasn't a lot of sleeping involved. The county camp at Durham however was a much more civilised affair, with everyone exhausted and asleep by 10.30! But the highlight of the year, for those lucky enough to go, has to be the long awaited trip to Our Cabana in Mexico. In 7 action packed days they scaled mountains, pyramids and skyscrapers, visited museums and churches and learnt more than they will ever need to know about cacti. A fantastic experience made even better by a visit to a local school where they practiced their Spanish and entertained the children with the Hokey Cokey. Next year, we hope to get our camp permits and to continue these trips by taking the girls down to the Big Gig in London

Community Action for Energy Eaglescliffe

This is All Saints' Church Energy Outreach following Archbishop Rowan's advice that God is not going to rescue us from the mess we are making of His creation. We believe that the church should be the centre of the community's efforts to encourage a smaller impact on our planet.

The past year has seen the group make spectacular progress. From a non-existent start we have really got recycling going strongly in both church and church centre.

We held two large outreach events last year; the first to encourage energy saving and the second to help people go 'on-line' to see how they could reduce their energy bills. Both were announced by circulating leaflets to all 1500 homes in the parish. Both events attracted a good number of people.

Two 'Walk to Church Sundays' were held and the carbon savings calculated at almost ½ tonne all together.

We have 10 Smart Electricity meters out in the community helping people to learn where they are wasting electricity.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the commissioning of our 9.45 kW Solar Photo Voltaic generator installation on the centre roof all paid for from grants.

John Doherty

CARE FOR THOSE IN NEED

Pastoral Work

Pastoral care is central to the work and witness of All Saint's Church in this community. Although each member of this church is privileged to play a part in this, we also have a dedicated team of eleven people, who meet to pray for the people they support and to receive training and encouragement.

Since September, I have taken over the role of Pastoral Team Leader, having completed the Authorised Pastoral Assistants course. I continue to work closely with Sylvia, meeting weekly to pray and assess the pastoral needs of All Saint's Church. The 'Pastoral Drop In' session continues every Monday morning and is a popular meeting place for approximately a dozen people. A confidential prayertime is available.

I attend Core Staff Team meetings regularly in order to communicate current pastoral issues. It is important to communicate the pastoral needs of those in difficult situations. It is also important that confidentiality is maintained at all times.

All the Pastoral Team are trained listeners and in prayer ministry. The work they do can be difficult at times, but very rewarding. They continue to be a blessing to All Saint's and their work is very much appreciated.

Karen Snowden

Pastoral home Visiting

Home visiting continues to be done by both the clergy and the pastoral team members. A recent initiative is a box for home visiting requests, which was publicised in the In Touch magazine. The box is kept at the main entrance to church with clear instructions how to use it.

Home visits can be very uplifting for both the person being visited and the visitor. It is a real privilege to be asked to visit someone in their home.

Karen Snowden

Men Who Care

We have had another industrious year thanks particular to a core of faithful members who attend nearly every working party. Paul Wheeldon joined us and has done some sterling work, we could do with a few more in his age group or younger. Our work has in the main been at Daisy Chain with some evenings at the Blind Society. Work has also been done by some individuals on behalf of the Pastoral Team. Some of our members helped at the 2010 Daisy Chain Open Day again. We have done a large amount of painting but have recently

felt we could get work with Pickford's as we've been moving furniture etc. from the farmhouse at Daisy Chain into the new offices. The former offices will then be decorated and become meeting rooms for parents and supporters plus pastoral care. We also meet socially four times a year and this year our programme has included a talk by John Lambert, a quiz and social at Longnewton including a talk by Brian Foskett of Sowing Seeds and a walk around historic Yarm. At Christmas we made our Annual visit to Bridge House Hostel to sing Carols and take gifts to residents.

Bruce Merrick

Mission Giving and Support

We meet about four times a year to discuss support for Mission Organisations at home and Abroad. We now have six active members on the Group including myself as chairman. We now support four main Foreign Missions :- O.M.F Diaspora, African Pastors Fellowship, C.M.S and UFM. The Richardsons who we supported through Crosslinks moved on last year and Philip is now studying for a PhD in America and Fiona is still producing children and Youth programmes for Tanzania, supported by Scripture Union. We are still giving some support to Philip and Fiona on an ad hoc basis and some support to Scripture Union Tanzania

and this will be reviewed during this year. Our main U.K support goes to Sowing Seeds and A Way Out as well as smaller amounts to a number of other organisations including Daisy Chain, Durham – Lesotho Link, Tearfund and others. Our Mission Board in the Centre keeps everyone up to date with what is going on. Please look at it and pray for the people concerned
If you would like to know more, please contact me.

Bruce Merrick