



**The Parish Church of
Saint George the Martyr
Waterlooville**



**Annual Report and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2006**

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**THERE WILL BE A ST GEORGE'S ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING ON
SUNDAY 29th APRIL 2007 IN THE CHURCH
AFTER THE 10 am EUCHARIST**

A G E N D A

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
to elect two Churchwardens to serve for one year
4. MEETING OF ELECTORAL ROLL MEMBERS
Report by Electoral Roll Officer
5. Minutes of 2006 APCM and Matters Arising
6. Presentation of Audited Accounts and Treasurer's Report
7. Election of 4 PCC members
8. Election of Sidespersons
9. Reports from the Churchwardens, PCC Secretary and Treasurer and church groups
10. Appointment of Independent Examiner
11. Comments from Parish Priest

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING of St George the Martyr, Waterlooville, held on Sunday 9th April 2006 in the church and commencing at 11.15 am. There were 69 persons present. The Parish Priest, Fr Mike Sheffield, was in the Chair.

1. **WELCOME:** Fr Mike extended a warm welcome to everyone to the APCM at St George's. He explained that there are two meetings, the first for the parishioners and the second for the congregation.
2. **APOLOGIES** were received from Wendy and Andrew Clark, Tasha Cook, Candy Williams, Sue Palmer, Pat Winter, Colin Monk, Amanda Jones, Sarah Hewett, Eric Dinneen, Jane Rice-Oxley
3. **MEETING OF PARISHIONERS** to elect two Churchwardens to serve for one year. Fr Mike thanked Richard and Tony for all the work they have done and thanks particularly to Richard who is standing down after completing his 4 years. It was Richard who interviewed him for the job of Parish Priest at St George's, welcomed him and has supported him since. He presented him with a gift from Gales Brewery. Fr Mike explained that the Churchwardens are responsible to the Bishop and are the immediate link between the congregation and the Bishop. We have received two nomination forms, one for Tony Rice-Oxley and one for Mrs Margaret Symonds. There being no other nominations, Mr Tony Rice-Oxley and Mrs Margaret Symonds were duly elected to serve for the forthcoming year. Margaret will take over as Churchwarden from Richard on 3rd June when she will be licensed by the Bishop.
4. **MEETING OF ELECTORAL ROLL MEMBERS:** There are 168 on the electoral roll, of whom 58 were not resident within the parish. Eleven new members have been added and five names have been removed through death and four have moved to another area. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Rosemary Monk for keeping the electoral roll up to date.
5. **MINUTES OF THE 2005 APCM AND MATTERS ARISING:** There being no amendments, the minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Winifred Mancz, seconded by Linda Wainwright and agreed unanimously. There were no matters arising.
6. **PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND TREASURER'S REPORT:** Carol McKells said that a full copy of the pre-audited Accounts have been on display in the Church for some time and individual copies distributed on request.

These accounts were approved by the PCC pending certification by the Accountants, Morris Palmer (Hants) Limited, which has since been obtained.

A summary has also been produced, which is attached to Carol's supplementary report, which will hopefully provide a quick reference and she wished to thank Tony Rice-Oxley for producing that summary. Tony said there was one change to the summary – Maintenance (includes paths) but it doesn't actually include it.

Carol thanked those members of the congregation who were able to respond to Fr Mike's presentation in February and increase their donations. There were a few responses but we still need to wait and see how that pans out.

Carol said that we see a regular number of donations via pink envelopes which are gift aided. Donations via green envelopes are around an average of 37 a quarter (of which last quarter, 24 were gift aided). There is also a number of standing order donations, and tax can be claimed back on all of them.

Carol took the opportunity of thanking Morris Palmer (Hants) Ltd, the firm of accountants that audit our accounts at no cost to us. They have had to work through an unfamiliar accounting system, which probably was not terribly easy. In particular Carol wished to thank Bridget Oberholster for her hard work and patience. Carol also wished to thank Linda Wainwright for her continued help and guidance.

There were no questions for Carol on the accounts.

Fr Mike said that the job of Treasurer is a very complicated and time consuming one and he wanted to thank Carol very much in her first year for all she has done.

7. ELECTION OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DEANERY SYNOD:

Thanks were expressed gratitude to Mrs Adrienne Bridger and Mrs Margaret Symonds for their work over the past year. Fr Mike emphasised the importance of representation on the Deanery Synod and pointed out that representatives are automatically members of the PCC. If Margaret Symonds was elected as Churchwarden at the meeting she had indicated beforehand that she would like to stand down as a Deanery Synod representative. Fr Mike asked if there were any nominations to take this position. As no-one came forward at the meeting he asked people to think about it and let him know if they are interested, otherwise a representative will be appointed at the next PCC meeting. The Deanery Synod representative is a link between the parish and the Deanery and from Diocesan meetings and vice versa. Meetings are 4 times a year maximum from 7.30-9.30 moving around different places within the Deanery. Tony said that as he is Finance Officer he is always at the meetings and would be happy to give anyone a lift if that is a problem.

Jo Guy asked what Synod actually means. Fr Mike said that Synod is something that has been happening since the early Church. It is a group of people meeting together to find a common consensus.

8. ELECTION OF PCC MEMBERS:

There were three PCC vacancies to be filled. Thanks were expressed to Dick and Lesley Handy and Rosemary Monk who are standing down at the end of their 3 years. Two people had already been nominated (Denise Rosser, nominated by Margaret and John Symonds, and David Cavey, nominated by Lynda Sheffield and Tony Rice-Oxley) and Fr Mike invited more volunteers. Mrs Julie Long offered, nominated by Ian Long and Jo Guy and as there were no further nominations all three were elected to the PCC, to applause. Thanks were expressed thanks to all who had served on the PCC over the last year.

9. ELECTION OF SIDESPERSONS:

Thanks were expressed to all the Sidespersons currently on the rotas. Dick Handy read out the list of sidespersons at the 10 am service. Jaye Warren asked that Bronwyn

Wood, Rosemary Goulding and herself be added to the list as the sidespersons at the 8 am service. Fr Mike asked that the list be accepted with these 3 names added. This was proposed by Fiona Ross and seconded by Mary Hutchings and agreed unanimously.

10. **PCC SECRETARY/TREASURER TO BE MADE EX OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE PCC**
Fr Mike confirmed that the Secretary and Treasurer would be made ex officio members of the PCC which gave them voting rights. There were no objections.

10. **INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:**

Fr Mike thanked all the people who had written the individual reports and thought that these annual reports showed what an enormous amount of work goes on and wished at this point to say thank you to all.

Churchwardens:

Richard said he would like to thank the PCC who welcomed him into the role which included Lynn Winter, Jaye Warren and Linda Wainwright and of course Fr Malcolm. He also thanked the current PCC who have kept him in check. He thinks the Church is in good shape and thinks that in order to get more people across the threshold we might possibly need to spend some of our reserves. There were no questions for the Churchwardens.

PCC Secretary and Treasurer:

There were no questions. Fr Mike expressed his thanks to Jane Cook who has just completed her first year as Secretary.

Church Hall:

Andrew Clark gave us a year's notice that he would be standing down as Church Hall Manager at this APCM. Fr Mike thanked Andrew and his family for the fantastic job they have done over the years that has left the hall viable and in good use. He also thanked Anne Willoughby who is the bookings secretary. Richard Spurgeon has volunteered to take over as Chairman of the Hall Committee at the first PCC meeting. He will appoint a team to run the Hall and report back to the PCC. *[Post meeting note: Fiona Ross asked it to be noted in the minutes that she and her family are grateful for the kind words expressed at the meeting].*

Child Protection Officer:

Sandra Hewett is the Child Protection Officer for St George's and the link to the Youth Council.

Church Watch and Holy Dusters:

Adina Burton said that two members are over 80 and she would like more help on the rota for cleaning the Church. If anyone is able to help please contact Adina.

Church Flower Fund:

A vote of thanks was offered to Yvonne Jones and her team who produce the wonderful floral displays week after week.

Magazine Committee:

John Johnson advised that with effect from February 2007 the magazine will come out once every 2 months at a cost of 35p per copy or £2 a year. There will be more pages in

it and Yvonne Jones will be asking people for articles to put in it. Julia Spurgeon suggested a full pull out child's centre page in the new magazine. Adina Burton asked whether we will lose any revenue from advertisers and Pam Hawton said that only one person has raised an objection which could probably be overcome. A volunteer was requested to head up the team of magazine distributors ie keeping lists of who they are delivered to, collecting money etc. Fiona Ross volunteered to do this. Thanks were given to Bill Hutchings, John Johnson and all who worked on the magazine each month.

St George's Servers:

Fr Mike thanked the Servers for all they do. They do a great job. Thanks also to June and Ken Bradley.

Sunday School:

It is good to see that the Sunday School seems to be growing. Wendy Pearce said that people enjoy seeing the young people's involvement in the services.

Youth Club:

Thanks were expressed to Tony and Jane Rice-Oxley, Jane Cook and all the helpers in this vital work.

Choir:

Thanks were expressed to Cecil and Julia for all their work with the Choir and Sue Palmer for her work with the Band.

Social and Fundraising Committee:

This Sub-Committee of the PCC does a huge amount throughout the year and raises a huge amount of money – thanks to everyone involved and all those who support it.

St George's 100 Club:

Thanks were expressed to Colin Monk who runs the 100 Club and raises so much money for Church funds.

11. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

The new PCC would consider approaching Morris Palmer once again.

12. COMMENTS FROM PARISH PRIEST:

Even if you don't watch it regularly, I'm sure you've seen the National Lottery on television. To begin with all the coloured balls are lined up neatly. Then, you may remember that on a given signal, all the balls are released. The camera focuses on them and you see all the different colours fall into that great rotating drum – "Genevieve", or whatever it's called.

As you watch, a steel arm comes from nowhere, grabs a ball and projects it upwards; and as that happens we're told that it's the 139th time that particular ball has been chosen on a Saturday night.

My days often start like that. There's a nice clear plan for the day, and then someone releases the balls. The day's plans get dropped into "Genevieve", and they spin round and round until that steel arm puts one plan on the top.

I've used the analogy of the lottery drum to illustrate just how frustrating it can be as a Parish Priest. Frustrating because there's so much in this parish to be done - you've told me about the things you want to be done, and I've seen other things that need to be done, but balls of other colours are constantly falling into the drum and a lot of those things are still rotating, waiting for that steel arm to project them forward.

Waterlooville though, is a very exciting place to minister, and last year in this "State of the Nation Address" I outlined my hopes to you. The first was to visit every person who comes to Church. That's almost complete now - except for those who for whatever reason don't want or can't have a home visit. Then came the MDA - the new building west of Waterlooville. It started off well and I attended lots of meetings about the plans, and especially about the Church school. For some reason it's all gone quiet - mainly I think because our Archdeacon was the link man between Grainger's, that's the developers, and the Church. With Chris Lawson gone, that link has dried up. I'm going to a meeting tomorrow, so may be it will get going again. We must make sure the Church is well represented on the various groups looking at this major development. For us at St. George's, it potentially means increasing the size of our parish by something approaching 50%. That's a lot of people - some 6 to 7 thousand, and we must make our own plans to welcome them.

Last year I said we needed a new notice board and new altar lights. Well the board is up - I hope you've seen it, and the lights are up. They'll be even better when they work! St. George's has been left open since last summer for people to come in during the mornings. I've seen, and I know you've seen as well loads of people coming in. May be they are Church members - may be they're not, but our open door gives them a welcome rather than a locked door which gives the message: "go away - this place isn't for you!" We've got new Baptism service sheets - thanks to Lesley and Rosemary and also to an anonymous donor for providing them. It's exciting and busy, but there's more. The new Youth Council is up and running; I've been invited into four local schools to lead services and I've been made chaplain of the Royal Naval Association in Waterlooville. It's been excellent to see Fr. Ray and June more involved now that Ray's back with us permanently.

With all those things happening in 2005, what can we expect to happen in the next twelve months? First the new hymn folders should be completed and brought into use. Next we'll get the health and safety policies for the Church and the Hall sorted out. Our Kairos partnership - Clusters are out now by the way - our partnership will have a full compliment of clergy again with both Denmead and Crookhorn appointing new incumbents: Denmead being installed in May and Crookhorn's in July.

Before I end, I want to say thank you to you, and to everyone who's been involved, or who will be involved with all the things I've talked about. It's not me - it's not my Church. You are St. George's Church and it's thanks to you that life here is busy, is manic sometimes, but is greatly rewarding and fulfilling. Thank you. Especially this year thanks to Richard. He interviewed me, welcomed me and has constantly supported me.

I want to finish by looking forward to two major occasions in June. First there's the Waterlooville Music Festival. That runs for 8 days in June, and we hope very much that hundreds of people - I do mean that, hundreds of people will come through our doors. Music, food and flowers may be the reason they come, but wouldn't it be wonderful if their first visit inside St. George's made them want to come back to join us for worship.

It's going to be a great time for us all, and I really do hope that it will put St. George's very firmly at the centre of our community.

The second occasion in June is of course far more important. I know that you'll join with me in wishing all the best to the people involved. I refer of course, to the reopening of Matalans!

May the Holy Spirit inspire us as we work together to further the Kingdom of God in this place.

There being no further business, Tony Rice-Oxley, on behalf of the whole congregation, thanked Fr Mike and Lynda for all they had done at St George's, and the meeting closed at 12.15 pm.

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees/groups, which meet between full meetings of the PCC.

Church Attendance

There were 164 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, of whom 54 were not resident within the parish. 8 were removed during the year through death and no-one officially asked to be removed from the roll. The average weekly attendance, counted during October 2006, was 130 which includes adults, children and weekday attendances, but this number increased at festivals.

Review of the Year

The full PCC met 11 times during the year, with an average attendance of 80%. Fabric, Finance, Pastoral, Kairos, Social and Fundraising and Hall sub-committees continued to meet in the interim, to enable items to be discussed in more detail, and reported back to the full PCC. The Youth Council was disbanded but Sandra Hewett carries on as Youth Coordinator visiting the youth groups from time to time. The PCC will continue to invite outgoing Churchwardens to remain on the PCC for a further year to provide continuity.

Comprehensive budget accounts continue to be handed out at the PCC meetings when the Treasurer is on hand to answer any questions.

We have supported over 24 wide-ranging charities, both at home and overseas, in particular £309.44 to the Children's Society (a large part of which came from a very successful Christingle Service on Christmas Eve), £101.45 to our linked parish, St. Mary Axim, Ghana, continued support of three children under the African Child Trust Scheme. Other benefiting charities included St Lukes Hospital, Bishop's Lent Appeal, USPG, Christian Aid, IDWAL, Breast Cancer Care, Rowan's Hospice, Portsmouth Samaritans, Two Saint' Centres and the Church Army. Money was constantly being raised for church funds over the year, in particular £2,410 at the Summer Fete, £2,050 at the Christmas Bazaar and £1,911 from the sale of plants, bulbs and votives throughout the year.

The giving through envelopes and banker's orders has increased to £31,075.83, excluding tax. The tax recovered on *all* Gift Aid donations for the year was £7,584.37. £511.40, excluding tax, was raised on the St George's Day Gift Day. Contributions on the collection plate raised £1,951.63.

£74,484 was spent to provide the Christian Ministry from St. George's Church, including the full contribution to the parish share of £45,501, an increase of 2.88%. Our remaining fund balances are invested with the CBF Church of England Investment and Deposit funds.

Dr Feri Eshraghi, FCA, examined the accounts for 2005 and very kindly agreed to continue for 2006.

The following has happened during the course of the year and most will be written about in more detail in the following reports:

- The Parish breakfasts were still very popular and will continue
- Kairos – several services have been held around the partnership churches of Christ Church, Portsdown, All Saints, Denmead, Church of the Good Shepherd, Crookhorn, St John's Purbrook and St George's this year.
- Waterloo Music Festival – the first very successful festival was held in June
- Memorial Wall with Edwards Funeral Directors where people can buy 9x4" bricks in memory of loved ones to go in the wall in the memorial garden
- A new external noticeboard at the front of the Church was erected during the year

- A baptismal tree has been put up in the church and paper doves with the name of the child baptised written on it are placed on it at every baptism.
- New spotlights were provided for the altar
- Christmas concert was held on 24th November for the switching on of the Waterlooville lights and was again very popular. We exceeded last year's total with around 450 people attending.
- Pastoral Visitors Groups were set up during the year for baptism and post funeral visits
- Travelling Nativity again went round the parish during advent and was very popular

On behalf of the PCC

Carol McKells, Treasurer
Jane Cook, Secretary

Signed: _____
The Reverend Mike Sheffield

April 2007

Treasurer's Report 2006

Incorporating all the Church group finances with the main Church and Hall Accounts, the final figures again show a deficit of £5,820. If depreciation at 2% amounts to £3,318, the overspend reduces to £2,502.

This year St George's hosted the Waterloo Music Festival and the PCC gratefully accepted a donation of over £387 from that source. Other major donations received included £594.80 from the 100 Club, £400 from Social and Fundraising which was towards new Church lighting. Also donated to the General Account was £800 from Friday Coffee Morning fundraising.

Donations from Planned Giving exceeded budget by over £2,000 for which we received £8,152 tax recovery (an increase on 2005 of £384).

Interest on bank and building society accounts amounted to £279 and the value of investments amounted to £74,254.27, for which £2,114.51 was received as dividends. Dividends earned on the Church Hall Deposit Account were re-invested and the current value of that account now stands at £5,958.51.

The fete, bazaar and other fundraising again exceeded expectations by over £1,500, as did the sale of plants etc by over £410.

Charity giving exceeded £3,628 and we have supported a wide range of Charities both at home and overseas. Funds generated by the Wednesday Coffee Mornings have also supported a variety of Charities.

The budget for 2006 has been very tight and in some areas impossible to keep. Income is difficult to predict and is based on the generous donations the Church receives and, with expenses constantly rising, it is difficult to balance the two. I hope that for 2007 the past year's experience will help to make it a better year.

On behalf of St George's Church, my thanks are due to Feri Eshraghi of Morris Palmer Chartered Accountants for examining the Accounts for another year without charge. My thanks also go to Gordon Uphill for his continued support this year and again to the PCC for their support and encouragement.

A summary of the Accounts is shown overleaf and the full version is displayed on the Church noticeboard. Copies are available on request.

Carol McKells
Honorary Treasurer to the PCC

Churchwardens Report 2006

In most Churchwardens reports much emphasis is always placed on church finances and, regrettably, this year is no exception. It is sad to say that St George's again fell into deficit for the sixth time in the past seven years. This effectively means that we are still eating away at our invested reserves. Whilst these may look the same year on year, they should of course have appreciated with the upward movement of the stock exchange. They haven't and again we have had to draw down from these precious reserves to meet our everyday financial requirements. We do not want to dwell any longer on this, except to ask again that everyone really reconsiders their giving, in full comparison to their other outgoings and adjusts their giving accordingly.

That said, 2006 was a very successful year in many ways. Our congregation grew with many new members. Our worship expanded into several new areas and we consolidated several others. We now provide a very broad range of exciting and interesting services from Said and Sung Eucharists to regular Evening services. Home communions continued to be delivered by both Priests and Laity. Our youth services are very popular with young and old alike.

Our social calendar is mentioned by many as being full and varied and in this context St George's provides a welcoming face to the many who pass through its doors every day of the week. Our Sunday breakfasts are very popular with our broad range of congregations.

Another major success was the Music festival. The organisation was slick and the various acts provided a good balance of music at both lunch times and in the evening. There was no particular profit or loss involved and indeed the small plus was retained in the Music Festival Accounts for next year. However the donation bowl was presented to the church at the end of the week and this covered the church's outlay in terms of copying, lighting and organ servicing. The banners and advertising are already under way in a hope to repeat this success in 2007.

Thirty six years has seen much wear and tear on the fabric of the building. Many architectural designs, thought to be the very tops in the seventies have begun to show their age and the difficulties in maintaining them. It is mighty hard to change a light bulb and almost impossible to wipe a cobweb from the high ceilings. However we have continued to make and mend on a small scale where necessary making notes of the larger and more costly looking work. We have had several roof leaks and the guttering is in severe need of attention. The closers on the heavy front doors fail frequently leading to a Health and Safety issue and the cracking floors and walls require constant ongoing monitoring. Our quinquennial is due soon and we must be prepared to find some money to put things in order.

The grounds have been tended by a small band of folk who mow and strim and tend the flower beds and the Garden of Remembrance and make the grounds attractive particularly for those who take their lunch breaks there. The front wall is proving to be a problem as the copings work loose and we must look to this before there is an accident there. It is now necessary to have a Health and Safety Policy in force and this complicated document has been drafted and is in the process of ratification.

Kairos had not moved greatly this year and we hope that a recent initiative whereby the Churchwardens from all 5 churches meet regularly will generate some interest and activities between the churches. Our worship side is already in place with plenty of joint services and great thanks go to Father Mike and the Priests of the other four churches who regularly arrange these services. Lent groups are now very popular and there are some 30 to 40 members of St George's currently involved in these.

The Churchwardens have investigated the possibility of leaving the church open more often to allow the public access for prayer and more general visits. Despite the risks in this process, we now encourage this and hopefully an open St George's will be a regular sight in Waterlooville. It is

interesting to note that our Insurers EIG actively encourage this and St George's will become only the second church in the Portsmouth Diocese to become enrolled in the Open Churches Trust.

Finally no Churchwardens report can conclude without thanks to all the people who work in so many ways to keep St George's running. Far too many of course to name individually but each day someone can be found working away at either cleaning, church watch, sacristans duties, practices, maintenance or some such. To those unsung heroes we say a big thank you. We would, however, like to name Fr Mike who has given his all to the progress that St George's has made over the year and we welcome the many innovations and activities that both he and Lynda have introduced. And finally a thank you to Father Ray who covers on the occasions when Mike is away or otherwise engaged in pastoral duties.

Margaret Symonds and Tony Rice-Oxley
Churchwardens

St George's Church Hall Report

After many years running the Church Hall, Andrew Clark retired from the post in 2006 and handed over to a new management committee in May. The new committee is very keen to record its heartfelt thanks to Andrew and family. Their careful stewardship has ensured that maintaining the fabric of the hall has been straightforward in the first few months.

The second vote of thanks that the committee wants to record, is to our marvellous hall cleaner – Viv. She works extremely hard, very early in the mornings to ensure that the rooms, toilets and kitchen are kept in great condition for our various hall users. We hope that she will continue to help us for years to come. Thanks also to Anne Willoughby who kindly maintains the hall timetable/diary and is the first public point of contact.

The committee has struggled to meet regularly and is grateful for the support of the PCC (from which most of its members are drawn) and the patience of the congregation. The committee will welcome any offers of support. When we did meet, we confirmed our desire to continue operating the hall with simple objectives.

Importantly, we view the hall as a venue for this Church, and its people, to interact positively with local people who do not come to St George's to worship.

Secondly we recognise that a lot of the organisations we host are themselves doing constructive work. The charity fundraising, youth work and encouragement of healthy living, for example, are themselves pastoral activities which the Church tries to support. (This leads to one of our greatest challenges – costing / pricing and setting the rent).

Thirdly, the committee has to balance those aims with the desire to provide a space for our own activities – coffee mornings, youth club, the summer fete, Christmas bazaar and so on.

So far the committee has continued to balance these aims much as Andrew did. Quite properly, the committee is being encouraged to consider the contribution the hall could make to Church finances and the longer term future for the fabric and development of the building.

Some new regular bookings have been accepted during the year, including a Friday afternoon dance class. Some approaches have been made by former users of the British Legion Hall which has recently closed. It appears that at least one new booking will result. Most hall users are a pleasure to work with, and the transition to new procedures has largely been simple. The change to simplified cash accounting has meant that some rents outstanding in January lowered the recorded income figures. Overall, comparing the income to outgoings reveals an operating surplus.

Priorities for the coming year include:

- 1) Better liaison with regular users
- 2) David Cavey has kindly offered to help improve financial control in the present accounting period and we are very grateful
- 3) Improvements to raise awareness of and to ensure better compliance with Church safety policies.

Richard Spurgeon
Chair, Hall Committee

The Mothers' Union Branch Report

Last August four new members were admitted and more recently a member has joined us from another Branch, bringing our membership to 28 (including 3 Diocesan Members, whose commitments to work prevent them from attending the afternoon meetings).

Our 3 IMPC members have been visited several times and they have purchased Easter and Christmas cards from the MU catalogue (see table at the back of the Church). Over £135 worth of Christmas cards were sold by the Branch. Our varied programme has included talks, games, outings and Deanery and Diocesan events.

Fr Mike chaired the AGM and the Revd Penny Payne led a lovely Lenten Meditation. The Deanery Lady Day Service was held at Blendworth Church. This year it will be held at St George's.

Talks varied from 'Answering God's Call', by Millie Hodgson, 'Our Links with Ghana' by Angela Herring, 'What the MU can achieve' by the Social Policy Leader, Val Franks. The very topical 'How big is your footprint?' by Anne Compton and 'From Pit to Pulpit' by Fr Ray on his birthday. We were honoured to have the Worldwide President Trish Heywood to preach at the Diocesan Festival Service at the Cathedral, where she spoke informally and answered questions after the service.

Our Branch outing in June was to Fordingbridge. Members from the local Branch joined us for a village pub lunch and after showing us wall paintings in a church hall and in St Giles's church accompanied us to a short service followed by tea in their church.

The Deanery outing was to Salisbury, where some of us had a conducted tour of the cathedral. Mary Sumner Day was celebrated by the Deanery at Denmead. As a Branch we were privileged to assist at the Midday Eucharist at Portsmouth Cathedral on 13th November. The MU regularly takes part in this service on the third Wednesday each month.

Fundraising events included the Subs coffee morning at Bedhampton, a Deanery Strawberry Tea at St Peter's Hayling Island and our own Overseas Garden Party held in the church grounds. In addition £100 was raised for AFIA holidays. Two of the members and three men took part in a 15 mile sponsored walk for AFIA, around Portsmouth Harbour, in appalling weather. They raised over £200. In June, 4 of us visited Old Alresford Place, the home of the MU. We had a pub lunch at Tichbourne and visited the village Church too. In August, 5 more of us went to London on a tour of The Mary Sumner House. We ended the day with Evensong in Westminster Abbey after which Canon Jane Hedges kindly invited us to tea in her home in the cloisters, where we met the family and dog. As one member remarked 'that was the icing on the cake'. We ended the year with an Advent Miscellany and mince pies.

Margaret Symonds
Branch Leader

Pastoral Committee

Following from our plans last year, we have now successfully implemented our pastoral Visitor groups as well as introducing our Baptism Tree.

We have continued with our very popular Taize style services which have been well attended from churches across our Kairos cluster. Our Parish Breakfasts also continue to be popular, providing a link between our 8:00 and 10:00 Sunday Services.

You will be pleased to know that the proceeds donated at our parish Breakfasts this year have gone to purchase 3 new Large Print Hymn Books as it was felt that the 4 we currently have was insufficient.

We have now completed our layout for a St George's Church Prayer Card for visitors and congregation which should be available shortly. We have also published a revised Youth at St George's leaflet which is available to all.

In the run-up to Christmas, St George's Church again hosted the Schools Music Concert prior to the lighting of the Waterlooville Christmas Lights. Although not a direct church event, the Pastoral Committee organised a support team to supervise attendees. We again had very significant numbers with over 450 children and adults present.

Looking to the coming year we are planning a Married Couples event in September aimed at couples who have married at our church over the past 5 years. We also intend to continue our periodic Taize style services as well as our Parish Breakfast events. We have further investigated the possibility of supporting a children's All Saints Day event as an alternative to Halloween and will be looking to implement some of our ideas this year.

My very sincere thanks to all those on the Pastoral committee and all of you from the congregation who have assisted us throughout the year.

Richard Handy
Chair of Pastoral Committee

Youth Coordinator

There has been a slight change since my last report. We do not have a youth council any more, it was run on the basis of one representative from each youth group i.e. Youth Club, would get together and discuss any problems they have or things they would like to do in church. It became a little difficult to get everyone involved together on the same evening, so with the help of the PCC it was decided that I have been given the title of Youth Coordinator and I will visit the youth groups on the evening they get together and chat with them there. If anything is brought up I will take it to the Pastoral Committee and non-pastoral items being further carried to full PCC. I hope to continue with this role to keep our children and young people happy.

Sandra Hewett
Youth Coordinator

Child Protection

There is a legal requirement that all volunteers who work with children and young people are checked by Criminal Records Bureau (C.R.B). Since my last report I have continued to be very

busy checking volunteers in their new roles, processing the necessary forms which I then validate and send on to be counter signed by the Diocese of Portsmouth. The forms are then sent to the C.R.B for clearance. I hope to continue this role with the support of the PCC.

Sandra Hewett
Child Protection Representative

Church Watch and Holy Dusters

We have 8 ladies keeping St George's spick and span every Friday on a rota basis. It is a peaceful and fulfilling job as we can see something for our work, and also we get the chance to meet people (if they want to chat!) who drop in to see the inside of the Parish Church. Some visitors become regular members.

We are hoping to open the Church every day, as it is there for everyone in Waterlooville and not exclusive to use, but the Church would have to be manned during school holidays and after school hours each day. This is to be discussed soon. Many thanks to my loyal gang!

Adina Burton

St George's Ladies' Group

The St George's Ladies Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday each month and has a membership of 45.

Our charity until our AGM in September is Naomi House. In January we went to the "Diamonds" Ice Show at the Brighton Centre and our second meeting was a Cheese and Wine with an Auction. Our 2 meetings in February were Boating for Disabled at Copnor Activity Centre and a talk by Don Mitchell on "A Taste of China". In March there was a Recycling Presentation and a talk by Mike Edwards on a Trip around India.

Our two meetings in April involved a talk by J Longyear on Special Occasion Cards and a Skittles Evening at Waterlooville Social Club. In May there was a talk by Mrs Pescot, a Wimbledon Umpire on "Anyone for Tennis" and also a talk by Mark Kelby on Broadmarsh Wildlife. In June Adina and Merle led a walk around Stansted and we held our AGM with a bring and buy. In July we had our end of year meal and then had a summer break.

Our new charity for this year is "The Rocky Appeal" and during September Mr Mick Lyons came and spoke to us about this charity. The other talk was by Laura Beal entitled "I was born in a Zoo". In October Sarah Ayrton came and spoke on "Return to South Africa" and Ken Yalden spoke on the Craft of knot tying. In November John Foster spoke on his hobby of Metal Detecting and the Phoenix Singers came. In December we went to the Red Lion at Horndean for our Christmas dinner.

Mrs Anne Brown
Chairperson

George's Men

It's often claimed by the press and media that churches, and the Church of England in particular, are lacking men among the members of their congregations. Sadly this is partly true as many men feel that church worship is for women only, and certainly a look at most church magazines reveals that the majority of groups and organisations are designed for girls and women. The reasons for

this are manifold and historic, although as church membership changes in the 21st century many churches are experiencing a percentage increase in the number of men regularly at worship.

St. George's Church is very fortunate to have a group of men who are seen as very much part of the worshipping community of the church. Some of these men have been church members for many years whilst others are relatively new to church life. The group George's Men exists to encourage men of all ages and church experience to meet together, to worship together, to work together and to enjoy one another's company.

During the last year George's Men took part in the Lent course "Where is God?" with each session being led by a different group member. The group was invited to visit the Mayor's Parlour in Havant and Oakleaf Brewery in Gosport. Other evenings included a croquet match, fishing near East Meon and an illustrated talk about the fire at Uppark House.

The group is open to all men who normally worship at St. George's Church, Waterlooville. The programmes are always available from the back of Church.

Fr Mike

Tweenies

Ask any woman 'What is your idea of heaven?' and most will answer with the two words PIMMS and PAMPERING somewhere in the sentence. 2006 started with the Pampering - a party at the Vicarage including massages, facials, manicures, and pedicures. The experience of seeing a Tweenie walk through the door having had a treatment was brilliant - they were either on Cloud 9 or else had toe-wedges stuck to their feet. Add a little alcohol and the evening went with a swing.

Lent followed and it was great that five of the members felt able to lead a session. This is an indication of how the group has grown in trust and confidence over the year. To discuss and pray together is very worthwhile.

Yvonne and Jane taught the group how to make kites and play croquet during the summer and that's where the Pimms came in. Laughter, rather than skill, played a great part. Jules and Tony led a trip to Sing - along - a Sound of Music, suitably dressed for the occasion. Walking through the streets of Winchester caused a stir! Later on in the year, Fr Mike spoke about the seven sacraments and tested everyone's knowledge. We all learned a lot.

Lesley treated us to an autumn barbeque, Rosemary taught us to make crafts for the bazaar, and the year finished with 27 of us going to Solo Mio for a Christmas dinner. Tweenies meet on differing days during the months, thus allowing members to come to some, if not all the events. Many thanks to all who arrange the very enjoyable evenings and here's to more Pimms and Pampering - but also Prayer.

Lynda Sheffield

Walsingham Cell Report

We had a very successful Walsingham Pilgrimage this year and no doubt you have all read Janet's very poetic but truthful account of our journey and weekend with St Albans and friends.

My new year's resolution must surely be to help organise the cell, so that we can resume our bi-monthly meetings and rosary again. I am sorry to say that I was reluctant to do this in 2006.

Yvonne Jones

Church Flower Fund

The flower fund has just managed to survive throughout 2006, due mainly to the donations of both money and flowers from a few people.

The Musical Festival was supported by two local traders to the amount of £300 and this helped with the displays throughout June.

Donations for Easter, Harvest and individual special days eased the flower fund along. Most of the monies banked from 2005 have been used now leaving only £44 in Nationwide for forthcoming displays, once the Christmas displays come down.

My grateful thanks go to June Diaper and a loyal team of six without whom the Church would not be decorated for festivals and special days.

Most of our flowers and oasis are purchased from the Friday market, mainly because they are the most affordable in these economic times.

The increase in Weddings is a great help and makes the fund stretch a little further as the cost of decorating the Church (Altar, Our Lady, St George and the Lectern) each year is approximately £1,000. Never yet have we had to decorate with foliage only, but it has come very near at times.

Yvonne Jones

Bible Reading Fellowship

On average 15 people continue to take the Bible Reading Fellowship "New Daylight" bible reading notes. These are priced at £3.50 per copy from May 2007 at group subscription rates and issued 3 times a year in May, September and January. Additional copies can be easily obtained on request. Sample copies are also always available from me.

Linda Wainwright

Deanery Synod Report

In January all churchwardens and Deanery Synod members were invited to a presentation of the Diocesan Structural Review given by Trevor Reader, encompassing the recommendations of the Dilloway Report and this was the main content of the final meeting of the year at St. Francis, Leigh Park on March 2nd. Dr Trevor Reader and Peter Hancock and their team were present to explain in detail and answer questions.

Dr Trevor Reader demonstrated the changes in the Diocesan central structure and explained that the central office had been under much stress with too few people handling too much work and that parishes wanted more support.

Michael Jordan was able to answer questions more fully and explain some of the finer details of the envisaged reforms. The Dilloway report envisages a complete reorganisation of the former Diocesan Boards into four teams:-

- Mission and Education
- Central Resources
- Mission and Society
- Mission and Discipleship

Each team will have a team leader with professional support being provided by an Archdeacon, except in the case of the Central Resources Team. The Diocesan Secretary, Michael Jordan, will provide professional support for the Central Resources Section and will also have managerial oversight for each of the teams. The Bishop's Council will meet 9 or 10 times a year rather than the present 3 or 4; each team will report annually to the Bishop's Council through their Archdeacon and the Bishop's Council will report to the Diocesan Synod. There would therefore be greater communication coupled with greater accountability.

It is also envisaged that there would be some sharing of resources and facilities with other Dioceses, i.e. Education will be shared with Winchester and all teams will work from the new Diocesan Offices – the former P&O Ferry Building. As these offices are open plan communication between the various departments should be much easier. The Diocese has purchased the building in conjunction with Portsmouth Housing and has the first two floors. It will no longer have to pay rent as at present for its offices and as there is plenty of spare office capacity there is also the opportunity to be revenue producing by letting out spare office space. Michael Jordan was extremely enthusiastic about this and envisages that the new scheme will be up and running by June 2006.

As well as sharing education facilities with Winchester it is also proposed to look at what other facilities could be shared with neighbouring dioceses resulting in a much slimmer, streamlined and more cost efficient administration.

Concerns expressed by members of Synod were - accountability if there were fewer boards and committees, the possibility of an excess of reports and paperwork, the physical effect on the deanery bearing in mind clergy redeployment, and the financial impact of the new set up. These were all addressed and members appeared to be satisfied with the answers

14th June 2006, Hart Plain Church, Cowplain.

The main item was a very interesting and informative presentation by Felicity Keeping on the Hampshire Family Mentoring Partnership. This is based on a New Zealand model and was being piloted in the Havant and Gosport areas. The scheme had been branded "Footprints" and was the result of a partnership between Barnados, Hampshire Children's Services and the Diocese of Portsmouth. The aim of Footprints is to help families referred by Children's Services, with the support and encouragement of mentors who will motivate them to help themselves. Mentors would be volunteers who could bring valuable life skills and experience to the scheme. They needed people like us and those in our churches to make the pilot a success and were appealing for volunteers.

19th September 2006, St. Mary's Church Hall, Hayling Island

Paul Moore introduced The Very Revd. David Brindley, Dean of Portsmouth Cathedral who had come to speak on the proposed redevelopment of the Cathedral. He spoke about the different groups of people that use the Cathedral. It is used as a parish church, serving a community of around 5,000 people and carries out normal Parish ministry. The diocese regularly use the Cathedral for special services like Licensing of Readers, installation of Archdeacons, ordinations, baptism and confirmation and it is used for meetings by a variety of Diocesan groups. Outside agencies also use the building:- The Rowans, the Royal Navy, other charities, schools, arts groups and tourists.

David presented impressions of the plans for the redevelopment of the Cathedral which included toilet and refreshment facilities, a visitors' centre plus the renovation of Cathedral House, and explained that £1.32m of the expected £2m cost had already been raised. They were looking to the parishes to help with the remainder of the cost on the basis that the Cathedral is open for use by all the parishes in the Diocese.

At this meeting we also discussed Clergy Pensions. David Williams presented an edited version of the original presentation on the subject and following a debate, Synod was asked to consider and answer three questions:

1. Should the present scheme be kept as it is, even if it costs more?

Yes: 2 No: 35 Abst: 6

2. Should the 'defined benefit' scheme be retained but changed as suggested?

Yes: 33 No: 7 Abst: 3

3. Should a different type of scheme be introduced instead, where the future employer contribution rate is fixed, but the risks entailed in ensuring that an adequate pension is provided are transferred from the employer to the clergy?

Yes: 1 No: 29 Abst: 13

With insufficient knowledge on the subject I was one of those who abstained on each vote.

22nd November, St. James, Emsworth

At this meeting Angela Herring from Denmead had come to speak about Idwal and strengthening links with Ghana. She presented 3 projects that are being considered in Koforidua and Bishop Francis had given her the task of asking parishes in Havant Deanery to support one or more of these projects.

- a) To equip the diocese's palm-oil plantation with buildings and basic machinery so that the oil can be processed and sold for the benefit of diocesan funds. The project would enable the diocese to sell the oil at a better price and provide for additional local employment.
- b) To build new diocesan offices in Koforidua, so they will no longer have to pay a high rent for inadequate facilities. They already have the land on which to build the offices.
- c) To set up a proper stipend fund and payment system for the clergy, who presently have to collect their stipend in person each month, sometimes travelling all the way to the diocesan office only to discover there are insufficient funds available to pay them. This would enable all clergy to be paid their stipends on time throughout the year and avoid clergy uncertainty and hardship.

These are very practical projects that Bishop Francis believes would help put the diocese on a better organisational footing for future ministry and mission.

Paul Moore proposed that we support these projects, the first two in full and commit to the third when costing is available. This was seconded by David Gibbons and Synod agreed unanimously to support the projects **as a deanery** as not all parishes may be able or willing to support. A resolution was passed to create a designated sub-fund for this purpose.

We had a report on the Deanery Partnership meeting which took place in October. There had been a real sense of progress and partnerships had moved on over the year since the Deanery Plan was passed. There was now a need to act on the ideas coming out of the meeting which included church involvement of the extended Schools scheme on Hayling Island, youth work in the Northern Partnership, shared marriage preparation and Lent groups.

We said goodbye to Georgie Black at this meeting. She has been Deanery Secretary for the past

8 years and is now retiring and moving to Scotland. She was presented with a bouquet and a gift from the Deanery.

Adrienne Bridger
Wendy Pearce

Magazine Committee

It is only right to pay tribute first of all to a loyal and stalwart member of the committee whom we sadly lost during the year, Bill Hutchings. Bill's expertise and sound advice over the years has proved invaluable and he is fondly remembered and sadly missed. It was Bill, too, who used to oversee the photocopying machine for the ten hours, every month, that it takes to produce St George's News.

We take this opportunity of welcoming Ian Long and Fiona Ross onto the committee. Fiona takes on the role of distribution coordinator and Ian will assist with the photocopying production.

By the time you will be reading this, you will have seen the first two copies of the new style Magazine. We hope that it meets with your approval. It is the culmination of a lot of thought, consultation and discussion and indeed has been the main item on the agenda in 2006. It should be recorded that all advertisers were contacted prior to definitely deciding upon the change from ten copies to six. The majority wished to remain as advertisers. It is appropriate here to express the sincere thanks of the Committee to Pam Hawton for her sterling work as Advertising Manager over the past few years. Pam has personally sought out prospective advertisers and even created a waiting list at one point! Pam has needed to now stand down and we will all miss her calm presence and sensible advice. Thank you Pam for all you have done. Tony has taken over the Advertising Manager role.

St George's News website – www.stgeorgesnews.org - has received a makeover. Here you can look through the past magazines going back some ten years, print out the latest Sunday Bulletin, research through Parish records, keep up to date with coming events on the comprehensive diary / calendar, and much more. There is an area dedicated to the Waterlooville Music Festival, and we are developing photo galleries of recent church events, and of interesting views of Waterlooville and the Church. Contributions to these photo galleries are most welcome, please e-mail to: feedback@stgeorgesnews.org.

A big thank you goes to Babs too for her continued high sales. We still need to increase distribution and so if you can assist by taking over an established round, please speak to Tony, John or Fiona. If you have an idea as to where a complimentary copy can be left, we would appreciate your suggestions.

Can we please encourage you to pay £2.00 annually? This will help tremendously and will mean you do not have to worry about finding change every other month. Fiona Ross, whom we are delighted has joined the Magazine Committee, has drawn up a distribution list and is overseeing the collection of the monies. She will be pleased to collect your £2.00.

We have started a readers' letter page and would again encourage your participation. If you are worried about making any spelling or grammatical errors, please do not be, as these will be corrected before going to print.

Many thanks to Rod Dawson for producing a new set of attractive and original covers. We are delighted that Rod has accepted the invitation to serve on the committee.

Please consider contributing an article and/or letter. We would welcome your comments and suggestions (so far it has been ominously quiet!). In order to sell well, we need the magazine to be the best possible, at the risk of sounding corny – “we cannot do it without you!” It is your magazine too.

Lynn Winter

St George's Servers

We were sad to lose Ken Bradley from our small team of servers in June. Ken had been a devoted servant of the sanctuary for many years and was a loyal and dedicated member. Laterly he served only at Wednesday Eucharists. Ken died peacefully after a happy day at the church fete and The Evening performance at the Waterlooville Music Festival. He is greatly missed. Adrienne has volunteered to help Norman out on Wednesdays now and that seems to be working well.

All the remaining servers have carried out their duties diligently and many have also agreed to take on the 8 am service to make the rota easier for those few who were already doing it.

We hosted the Guild AGM at St George's and supplied a very tempting ploughman's meal and wine. Fr Mike finished a very pleasant evening with benediction. St George's has regularly supplied the largest number of servers attending the Guild and it could be said that if it were not for St George's, the whole Diocesan Guild would fold. Guild evenings have provided many interesting services in out of the way places. We held the Guild Office in Haslar Chapel and a joint meeting with the Winchester Chapter at St Cross in Winchester. We entertained the Chichester Chapter at St Peter and St Paul in Wymering.

Incense is now used about once a month and we have several servers trained as thurifer. We have used juniors where possible to get them used to the idea of serving and hopefully they will join the full team in due course.

We held our dinner meeting back in September and thanks go to Anne for organising this at The Red Lion in Horndean.

Our continued thanks go to all our servers for their dedication to their duties, the time they give up for training and the manner in which they conduct themselves at their duties.

Tony Rice-Oxley

Sunday School

Sadly, after 15 years I have hung up my Sunday School hat and this will be the last Sunday School Report I write for the APCM. I have handed over the reins to a new team of enthusiastic leaders and thank them for taking it on. I know things will go from strength to strength under their care.

During 2006, Sunday School has been very active in many ways. We have continued to take part in the monthly Family Eucharist and it has been lovely to see the children becoming more confident in showing Fr Mike their work on regular Sunday mornings. We have also run stalls at the Summer Fete and Christmas Bazaar.

The highlight of the year for us was having the children act out a Nativity play for the Crib and Christingle Service. They were absolutely wonderful and it was well received by our visitors. I would like to thank again our children and those members of the youth club who helped out. Well

done everyone. Thank you to Fr Mike for leading the service, Anne and her team of "orange" ladies who prepared the christingles, the helpers who got the church ready for action and Sue, Gwenda and the church band for providing the music.

We finally got a children's workshop off the ground, welcoming 18 children to St George's on Shrove Tuesday morning 2007. It was a great success and although not strictly part of this APCM year, I draw it to your attention because I know the new team will be looking for your help in running future children's events.

A huge thank you to Anne Willoughby and Lynn Winter for always being there for me during my time at Sunday School, to Fr Mike for his constant encouragement and lastly to you, the congregation, for your support which is very much appreciated.

Julia Spurgeon
Head of Sunday School

Youth Club

The Youth club currently numbers 25. We were sad to say goodbye to a few of the longer standing members, some of whom went on to Link Group, and we have welcomed some new younger children. The end of the summer term saw the departure of Lara, Rachel Palmer and Rachel Shier to the Link Group and the loss of Abi, Megan, Rachel Pheely, Sophie Wickland, Kirsten Oberholster, Sophie Allison and Jenny Morgan. At Christmas we said Good-bye to Melissa, James and Gareth who all joined the Link Group. It is so pleasing when children leave to move on to the Link Group as we can then keep in touch on a regular basis. Our new children are Billie, Kerry, Lizzy, Sarah, Liz, Amber, Katie, Zoe, Christine and Ben who have all become very active in the work and play of the club.

We have had a varied year with some of the old favourites; a travelling supper, visit to the Spectrum in Guildford, a weekend at Fordingbridge, bowling, a beach party and a new trial of an activity weekend at Fairthorne Manor which proved very popular.

This year we have introduced a programme called Rock Solid, to the club. It has a moral theme and biblical references, plus a lot of fast and furious games. We use it every few weeks which eases the demanding planning workload and at the same time introduces a religious backdrop to proceedings.

The Youth club again ran a bonfire night for Naomi House and hosted around 100 people on Glendene's tennis court and around the giant bonfire! Proceeds of £180 were sent to the hospice. The club also helped at the fete and bazaar.

The youth club encourages its members to come to church once a month; several come more often as they are from church families. Thank you for your welcome and forbearance at these times. It is important that those children who only see St George's from time to time, feel at home with us. It might lead them to more regular worship at a later date.

We must repeat our thanks to the PCC and hall committee for the use of the hall most Fridays. It is important here that we mention the move of the AA group from their Friday night meetings. We were becoming more and more worried about the interfacing between the AA and the Youth Club each Friday and advice was received from the Diocese that such close contact could not be in the best interest of either organisation. We rang to ask for a meeting to discuss this, hoping we could offer an alternative day for the AAs, but they moved to another church.

Jane and Tony Rice-Oxley and Jane Cook

Link Group

The past year has seen many changes to the Link Group with new members joining from the youth club and older members leaving to pursue other activities. We are now a small group of only 6 members.

The year started with members of the Link Group accompanying the youth club to Fairthorne Manor for an action packed weekend, which was enjoyed by all. Many of us were faced with new and exciting challenges. We would like to thank Tony and Jane for their organisation and Fr Mike for coming to take a special service held on the Saturday night.

Following this we have enjoyed many fun and games evenings at the Vicarage, with a BBQ in the summer and a trip to see Narnia in the early autumn.

The Link Group participated in the Harvest workshop where the link group scarecrow was created. We have also participated in family Eucharist and served refreshments following the Advent Carol service. We have also been involved in the lent groups and have had our meetings on Sunday evenings at the Vicarage to be concluded with a fun evening of bowling. Each one of us has found the experience very fulfilling and thought provoking.

Our thanks go to Fr Mike and Lynda for all their help and support over the past year.

Abi Morgan

St George's Choir

We continue as a small but committed group, doing our best to enhance the music at St George's. Highlights of our year are always the Easter, Advent and Christmas services, as well as Taize. The Christmas Carol Service was particularly well received this year.

We try to support local events and two of us were able to dash across to St Mary's, Portsea after our Good Friday service to join in the singing of *Stainer's* Crucifixion. We also attended an RSCM singing day at All Saints, Catherington in the summer term.

Our junior members continue to make good progress with their singing and Rachel and Amy are working towards RSCM awards. Youngsters lead increasingly busy lives, trying to juggle social activities with work, college and school and we must thank them for their high level of commitment to the choir.

We increasingly find ourselves inviting additional singers to join us for special events and are very grateful to those who come and help out. It has been a particular pleasure to welcome singers from our Kairos cluster group who joined us at Advent and a recent Evensong.

It would be lovely to swell our numbers on a more regular basis and if there is anyone who would like to join us we would love to hear from you.

We would like to finish by thanking Fr Mike for his support and to Cecil Wilman for his dedication as Director of Music.

Julia Spurgeon
Junior Choir Trainer

St George's Band

Sadly, 2006 was not a particularly good year for the band. This was mostly due to my illness. We lost 3 full time members in the early part of 2006, reducing the number of full time members to only 4 and we were very close to losing the band. However, thankfully as a result of the commitment of those 4 members and the support of our substitutes who were filling in for us to make up the numbers, we were still able to maintain our musical commitments and keep the band going.

By the end of 2006 things were starting to look up, we have recently had 3 full time members join us giving us a much more respectable 7 full time members and 9 substitutes. Around Christmas time another 2 new members became available who we anticipate will join us in September.

We are hoping to have a much better year in 2007 and there are extra events for the band planned for Easter and a charity concert in November, which I am hoping will be very satisfying for full members and substitutes alike and encourage new membership.

I have to finish by thanking all those people who are involved and have given up their time to play in our band, it is their commitment that helps keep the band alive and is very much appreciated.

Sue Palmer

St George's Social and Fundraising Committee

It is interesting to look through our accounts and identify the vast and varied things the social committee funds each year. *I highlight them for you here...*

We hired the barbecue site for the Parish Ramble and barbecue, bought 6 airpot flasks (which make catering in the church easier), bought two barbecues (which we are willing to hire out), provided the top cash prize for the summer raffle, bought cups and glasses for church functions, donated £800 to the PCC and £80 to the church hall, £400 towards the church lighting, cash for the Christmas raffle and punch for the Carol service. Well done everyone!

On to the social side.....

In March Portsmouth Chorus gave a concert in St George's. In April we had our APCM and Parish Lunch. In June we held the Inaugural Waterlooville Music Festival. As this was not strictly a social committee function, this may be that this is not the place to report it and it will be mentioned elsewhere, but better to be written on more than once as it was so good. A lot of people put an immense amount of time and effort into this and it was a resounding success. It was not only successful in the music it promoted....all home grown locally, or in that it was successful financially, but that it brought so many people into church who had not visited us before. All power to our elbows for the next one!!

We had our annual walk, barbecue and service in Queen Elizabeth Country Park in July. Mike and Lynda held a hugely popular Greek Evening in October (again, this may not be the right place to report it but it shows the diversity of life at St George's and I'd hate for it to be left out!). Mike showed his versatility after a course he'd done on cooking in Greece....perhaps we ought to send him to other exotic places so we can try other food??

In October we held a Harvest Songs of Praise followed by a Harvest American Supper with a few barn dances.

A new innovation is the Sunday breakfasts which are an initiative of the Pastoral Committee. These have proved highly popular and have brought together the 8 o'clock congregation with that from the 10 o'clock.

On to fund raising....

Our Summer fete came at the end of the music week and was blessed with better weather than last year! Also it made more, topping £2000 for the first time. Our Christmas bazaar was also a great success raising £2050 this year.

At the end of October we held our Grand Auction. Everyone was very generous with their donations and we had over 100 lots on offer. We made £1,383 which shows we had a good crowd bidding too.

Our Friday coffee mornings are always popular and make a good amount in money for church funds and provide an outreach in the community.

We are always on the look out for new and exciting ways to raise funds, particularly from the general public rather than from ourselves each time so any ideas are very welcome. Also if you are available to help work the ideas, why not come along and join the committee.

Thank you to the committee for all the time they give and more generally to those who support our events.

Jane Rice-Oxley

St George's 100 Club and Accounts

As you will see from the accounts below, the 100 club has been able to make a donation of £594.80 to Church funds this year. Unfortunately this is slightly below our potential of £600 plus interest as we have sadly lost a few of our long standing members this year. However, the good news is that from January 2007 we are back up to 100 members. To those of you who are members, thank you for your continued support and yes, I know, your number never comes up, but maybe this year you will be lucky!

Colin Monk

ACCOUNTS FOR 2006

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
PRIZE MONEY PAID OUT	£585.00	BALANCE AT 1.1.06	£404.00
DONATION TO PCC	£594.80	SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID	£1,133.00
BANK AT 31.12.06	£364.00	BANK INTEREST	£6.80
CASH AT 31.12.06	£0.00		
	£1,543.80		£1,543.80

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

JANUARY	99
FEBRUARY	99
MARCH	99
APRIL	98
MAY	98
JUNE	97
JULY	96
AUGUST	96
SEPTEMBER	96
OCTOBER	98
NOVEMBER	98
DECEMBER	99
	1173

LIST OF WINNERS

JANUARY	13A.JONES	£10.00
	2K.ALLISON	£5.00
FEBRUARY	30R.SPURGEON	£10.00
	25C.CULLEY	£5.00
MARCH	31J.SYMONDS	£75.00
	88J.BRADLEY	£15.00
APRIL	15K.BURTON	£10.00
	97S.PALMER	£5.00
MAY	14A.WILLOUGHBY	£75.00
	51R.PALMER	£15.00
JUNE	17P.WINTER	£10.00
	10G.MARFLEET	£5.00
JULY	100R.BULLOCK	£10.00
	8S.ANDREWS	£5.00
AUGUST	67S.HARRIS	£10.00
	100R.BULLOCK	£5.00
SEPTEMBER	57D.CAVEY	£75.00
	83V.DAVIES	£10.00
OCTOBER	31J.SYMONDS	£10.00
	83V.DAVIES	£5.00
NOVEMBER	31J.SYMONDS	£10.00
	66R.MONK	£5.00
DECEMBER	6L.PALMER	£100.00
	53C.RICE-OXLEY	£60.00
	54G.GRIFFITH	£40.00
		£585.00

ST GEORGE THE MARTYR, WATERLOOVILLE					
OVERVIEW OF ACCOUNTS TO YEAR END 2006					
	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	YEAR'S TOTAL	YEAR'S BUDGET	2005 YEAR TOTAL
INCOME					
Planned Giving S/Orders	18,725.25		18,725.25	17,750.00	16,733.50
Gift Aid Envelopes	12,350.58		12,350.58	14,250.00	13,824.30
Gift Aid Tax	8,234.47		8,234.47	9,600.00	7,768.83
General Collections	1,951.63		1,951.63	2,500.00	1,960.81
Gift Days	511.40		511.40	1,800.00	1,067.55
Donations & Appeals	4,290.92	1,592.21	5,883.13	3,500.00	11,579.79
Bookstall	233.00		233.00	140.00	571.85
Parish Magazine Advertising	284.00		284.00	726.00	727.00
Parish Magazine Sales	562.99		562.99	530.00	530.72
Weddings/Funerals	4,922.00	300.00	5,222.00	1,750.00	4,646.00
Fete, Bazaar, Fund Raising	9,054.51	54.50	9,109.01	6,000.00	9,065.42
Sales	1,911.87		1,911.87	1,500.00	2,472.57
Photocopying Income	78.84		78.84	104.00	104.63
Income from Investments/Bank etc	2,383.67	9.95	2,393.62	2,250.00	2,418.65
Other Funds (Charities)	500.00	3162.46	3,662.46	no budget	4,125.08
Refunds	434.13		434.13	no budget	409.60
Hall Lettings/Fundraising	6,458.06		6,458.06	no budget	6,343.72
Youth Group Activities		2,007.25	2,007.25	no budget	2,285.87
TOTALS	72,887.32	7,126.37	80,013.69	62,400.00	86,635.89
EXPENDITURE					
Parish Share	45,501.00		45,501.00	45,501.00	44,225.00
Gas/Elec/Water/Insurance	2,418.39		2,418.39	2,600.00	2,180.77
Church & Grounds Maintenance	1,265.04	110.00	1,375.04	2,000.00	11,904.84
Clergy Expenses	2,874.14		2,874.14	3,750.00	3,216.37
Upkeep of Services	2,338.59	1,209.62	3,548.21	1,500.00	3,065.24
Magazine & Bookstall Expenses	833.35		833.35	570.00	1,061.73
Piano & Organ tune	215.21		215.21	500.00	106.34
Honoraria & Salaries	5,652.00	190.00	5,842.00	3,500.00	4,117.40
Administration	2,275.16	21.00	2,296.16	1,100.00	873.81
Photocopier Costs	588.59		588.59	780.00	766.38
Contribution to Capital	new to 2006		Nil	500.00	Nil
Assigned Fees	2,085.00		2,085.00	no budget	1,618.00
Capitation Fee	60.00		60.00	no budget	60.00
Hall Running Costs	4,465.53		4,465.53	no budget	8,761.83
Hall Depreciation @ 2%	3,318.00		3,318.00	no budget	3,386.00
Youth Group Activities		2,381.49	2,381.49	no budget	2,162.99
Fees to Fundraisers	579.63		579.63	no budget	440.63
Costs of fetes & other events	1,896.57	30.47	1,927.04	no budget	1,563.34
Giving to Charities	1,280.00	3,953.30	5,233.30	no budget	4,752.30
TOTALS	77,646.20	7,895.88	85,542.08	62,301.00	94,344.47
	-4,758.88	-769.51	-5,528.39 #	99.00	-7,708.58