

**ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR'S CHURCH,
BARNSELY**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL
CHURCH COUNCIL
INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2008

Bank:-

**Barclays Bank
25/27 Church Street
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 2AJ**

Independent Examiner:

**Mr A Bower
35 Locke Avenue
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 1QH**

Administrative information

St. Edward the Confessor's Church is situated in Racecommon Road, Barnsley. It is part of the Diocese of Wakefield within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is:-

St. Edward's Church, Racecommon Road, Barnsley S70 6JY.

The benefice is suspended & vacant. The church is in Interregnum.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2008 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent: This position is vacant

Reader: Mr Fred Thompson (From 5th October 2008)

Wardens: Mrs Patricia Adcock Secretary
Mr Gordon Fletcher

Representatives on the Deanery Synod: (Until APCM in 2010)

Mr Gordon Fletcher
Mrs Heather Fletcher

Elected members:

Mrs Renée Burton(A)
Mrs Margaret Cooper(A)
Mr Arthur Darren(B)
Mr John Gostelow(C) Treasurer
Mrs Margaret Gostelow(A) Vice Chair (From APCM 13th April 2008)
Mrs Joan Moss(B)
Mrs Lorraine Taylor-Kent(C)
Mr Fred Thompson(C)
Mrs Julie Thorpe(B)

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. St. Edward's PCC members are elected for 3 years with one third retiring and being elected each year. Deanery representatives are elected for 3 years.

PCC term of office ends at APCM in
A - 2011
B - 2009
C - 2010

Objectives and Activities

St Edward's PCC has the responsibility of promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church and grounds of St Edward's, Racecommon Road, Kingstone, Barnsley.

Achievements and Performance

Church attendance

There are 79 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 35 of whom are not resident within the parish. The average weekly attendance was 54, but this number increased at festivals. Three Christmas carol services were held for local schools.

Review of the year

We were without a priest again for the whole year and have been fortunate to obtain retired clergy for all but a couple of our Sunday Services as well as using the services of Rev, Steve Race from Dodworth for our Wednesday Communion. We are indebted to Gordon Fletcher for all his hard work in obtaining this cover.

After being without any heating system for 6 months we at last have the new gas boilers installed, together with a number of new radiators to provide heat in the church.

A great deal of time and thought was spent during the year on reaching out to the local community and events such as the Heritage weekend, Summer Sizzler and Christmas Fair were held to raise our profile.

Now that the new heating system is in place we have been looking at what can be done to enhance the community use of our facilities and to improve them for our own use. We are consulting widely and there was an opportunity for you to air your views at two recent Open Meetings which were held after Sunday services. We have received a generous donation of a projector and screen to enable the Vestry to be used for presentations. We have reviewed our lettings policy and have already had lettings from the Police and Heritage Inspired.

The PCC has appointed Arthur Darren as our Fire Officer and are grateful for all the hard work he has put in on fire prevention and stewarding of events.

An Events Committee has been formed from the Social Committee and the Publicity Committee and a calendar of events for 2009 published. This will be added to as additional events such as a parish retreat are planned. This year our fundraising was maintained at the increased levels we saw in 2007. This was largely due to successful events such as the Summer Sizzler, Autumn Concert and Christmas Fair as well as Vestry Lunches and Coffee Mornings. This has helped us to maintain our Parish Share contribution and to make donations to local and national charities. It is good that these efforts on behalf of others can be combined with opportunities for fellowship.

The state of the decoration of the church continues to cause concern and this will also be factored into future plans for the church. The generous donations of lawnmowers and a strimmer have allowed us to maintain our own grounds and stop the vicarage garden from becoming completely overgrown. Unfortunately the vicarage and its grounds are not the responsibility of the PCC, but of Wakefield Diocese. In spite of many requests they have not rented it out and consequently last winter much damage occurred following a burst pipe.

Activities (all held in the vestry)

Social Crafts – Meets every Wednesday in the Vestry from 1.30pm until 3.30pm. The group works with parchments and make all sorts of things especially cards. Refreshments included in the price of £3.00

Keep Fit – Held on a Monday evening from 7pm until 8pm. The group is lively & friendly and costs £2 for a session.

Residents Meeting – monthly business meetings.

Vestry Lunch – Held every Thursday at 12 noon where a three course meal is served for £3-50 including tea and coffee. This is widely supported and includes non church members. There is a friendly atmosphere and everyone talks to each other.

St Edwards Guild – Meets every third Tuesday at 2.00pm (except August). There is an annual subscription of £3. Meetings have a guest speaker and light refreshments are served afterwards. In January the Guild organises a lunch at Barnsley College and an AGM is held in February where donations to charities are decided.

PCC Secretaries Report.

The PCC members met 11 times last year.

We are still without a vicar but are hopeful that we might have one this year. (Keep praying is all I can say).

The Deanery Synod members are Gordon and Heather Fletcher, this will be the last of their 3 year term of office and at the next AGM we will be holding elections for representatives.

The biggest thing on the agenda at last years meetings was the new heating system, but we now have got it installed and running.

All the CRB checks are now in place but I have been notified that these will be changing as from October 2009.

These checks are as much for our safety as it is for the safety of vulnerable adults and children who visit our church.

I would like to say thank you to Arthur Darren for doing such a wonderful job as my deputy over the last year, and to Lynette Mace for being a big help to me especially on Thursdays with the vestry lunch.

Tricia Adcock

Fabric report

Churchwardens are required to make an annual inspection of the fabric and furnishings of the Church under the Jurisdiction measure of 1991.

We try to keep St Edwards maintained to a reasonably good standard and this is right as we have to secure our heritage for we hope future generations.

The perimeter walls are in good condition. Looking from the roadside Park Road and Racecommon Road the building is in good condition, weathering of the stone work is quite normal for a building of one hundred and six years. The roof and ridge tiles are all in good order. The gutters and down pipes are all clear and at present the building is water tight. This position can of course change overnight with heavy rain. So I remind everybody that regular maintenance is essential.

The Church paths as I reported last year are showing signs of wear, due to cars using the grounds, the paths were not built for this type of use. Trees around the Church grounds have now been dealt with by a specialist tree surgeon.

The central undercroft walls have now been repaired the large brass candle stick and the silver cruet have now also been repaired. The Church interior is looking shabby and is in need of redecoration, as it is eleven years since it was last decorated. Apart from that on the whole the church is in good condition, but we must be vigilant and keep on top of small problems so that they do not become large expensive problems.

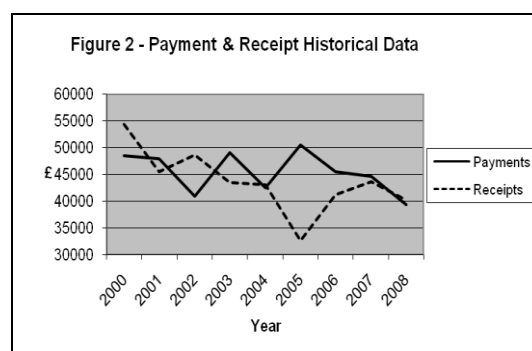
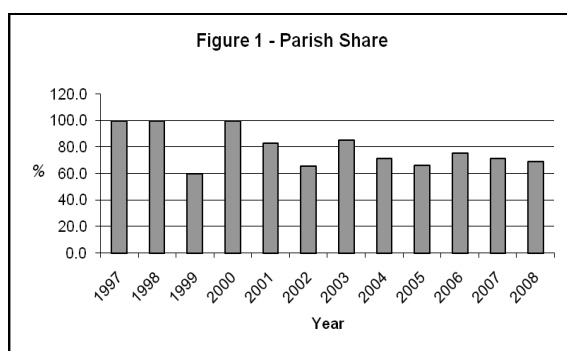
Gordon Fletcher

Financial Review

Total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds were £40236 (a reduction £3377 from 2007, partly due to reduced congregations when we without heating) and are detailed in the Financial Statements, The interest on the proceeds of the sale of the parish hall provided a gross income of £6287. This will need to be replaced as we spend this money and interest rates fall in the current financial climate.

The planned giving through envelopes and banker's order has again increased this year.

£39382 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St Edward's Church, including the contribution to the diocesan parish share, which in the main provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. The percentage of our contribution fell by 1%, but this was largely due to the increased costs in running the church. The sum that the churches in the diocese have to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a head count of the congregations. A trend of our Parish share contribution is shown in Figure 1 and a trend of Payments & Receipts is shown in Figure 2.b It should be noted that the Diocese records show the 2007 share paid in full and the 2008 share £7852 short. This was in order to meet the requirements of the Faculty put on us by the diocese before we could repair the heating



The net result for the year was that for the first time in 5 years we have not been in deficit and that we had an excess of £854 of receipts over payments. After adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December 2008 in our Cash, Current and Deposit accounts totalled £9857. We will need to keep a close eye on our expenditure in 2009 as the 2008 expenditure figures would have been much higher if we had to pay for a full year of heating.

We received a £10,000 Legacy from the late Lillie Stone which must be used for stained glass windows in the Lady Chapel.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds which equates to approximately six months expenditure. The balance of £9857 on these funds still falls short of this target. However it is an improvement on the situation in February 2008 when we only had £29 as a result of being forced to pay the outstanding 2007 parish share.

It is our policy to invest our main funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and Share Fund, We also have a smaller investment with National Savings Stock.

The PCC have designated funds of £100381 for the upkeep of the fabric of the church, having now paid for the replacement of the boiler.

Approved by the PCC on 23rd March 2008 and signed on their behalf by Margaret Gostelow (PCC Vice Chair)