

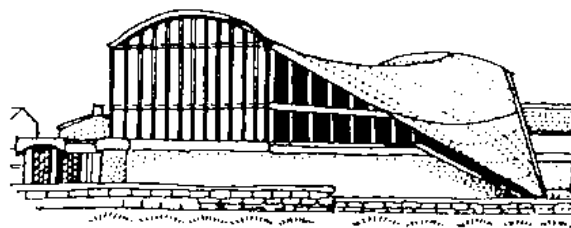
The Parish Church of St John the Baptist

Ermine, Lincoln

Annual report



A celebration
of St Johns in 2009



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The Parish Church of St John the Baptist
with St John the Evangelist,
Ermine Lincoln

Annual Vestry Meeting

Sunday April 18th 2010 at 11:30am

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

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday April 18th 2010 at 11:35am

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous annual meeting
3. Vicar's address (given as the sermon earlier)
4. Reports
The reports are not individually listed in the agenda, but will follow the alphabetical order in which they appear in the body of the annual report.
5. Election of members for the PCC
6. Election of treasurer
7. Election of sides-persons
8. Appointment of external examiner for the accounts
9. Matters arising from the previous annual meeting minutes
10. Date of the APCM in 2011 (*Suggestion: 10 April 2011*)
11. Any other business
Please note that if you intend to raise any issues under this heading that the chair is to be informed 3 days before the date of the meeting
12. The grace

Fr Stephen writes:

Earlier this year, a group of us meet in church one evening to start thinking and praying about our healing ministry here at St Johns. One of the first things we did at that meeting was to go around each person and ask them to identify something in our church that reflected prayer. There were twelve people at that meeting and we went round three times before we started to run out of things to contribute. That was remarkable. Over 36 aspects of our life together that we could immediately identify as somehow contributing to our prayer life or supporting that prayer. We all sat back a bit stunned to say the least! As the meeting went on, we started to talk about how and where people pray at St Johns, noting the fact that we have never had a private place to pray (a Lady chapel, for example) out of the public eye. Somehow, our eyes were drawn to the choir vestry, at that time in a state of disrepair following the flooding earlier this year. Almost to a person, we said that we did have a space to use if only we could have the vision and courage to transform the space we knew as the choir vestry, a very functional space, and a bit of a dumping ground for anything we had nowhere else to put. Six weeks later, the Mary and Martha room was up and running, a space for prayer, a space for the daily office a space for priests to hear confessions, a space for prayer groups and study groups, a space for small celebrations of the mass, a space given to us, revealed to us and now, I trust, cherished by us. This is a remarkable story in many ways. We had not set out to set up a prayer room. We had no sense that this was an option. And yet the Holy Spirit opened our eyes to the possibilities of transforming what we already had available if we could but recognise it. That vision was embraced by the whole congregation and the room quickly was filled with prayer and devotion, a sense that visitors to the church pick up as soon as they go in. Being open to the possibilities of being surprised by God is a great spiritual gift, and I do trust that God will continue to surprise us in the future!

But prayer really has been a theme this year. In June, 10 people took part in a very special event in the life of a church, a week of guided prayer. A team of three people based from the Edenham Regional House met with each of the 10 every day for a week, guiding them in their prayer and giving individual spiritual direction. Each of those who took part in the week found it not only inspiring, but also revelatory as they were encouraged to engage deeply with themselves, with God and with issues of faith. One month before we had put on a day on prayer which was run by Philip Roderick from "Contemplative Fire", attended by over 40 people not only from St Johns, but also from across the diocese. This event encouraged us to explore the use of our whole bodies in prayer and was another inspiring event in our calendar for 2009.

One of the great opportunities this past year (although it did not seem like at the time!) was the flooding of the vestries and the porches. The work to remedy this took rather longer than expected as flooding subsequent to the initial repairs meant that part of it had to be done again. I am grateful to everyone for their patience and support during the building work and I am sure you will agree that the results were very much worth all the inconvenience. These results of course include a new kitchen area, new flooring, new heating (which meant we were able to dispose of the heaters that were over 40 years old and had reached their sell by date some time ago) and insulation of the vestries, a huge improvement. This also enabled us to set up the Mary and Martha room. The downside of all this was a number of difficulties with insurance, which created a temporary cash-flow problem for us. I would like to thank the churchwardens and our treasurer for their support with this during a very tricky period of time.

One of the other joys in the year was the licensing of our lay pastoral workers. They had been studying on the Parish Foundation Course and then felt a call to lay pastoral work, visiting, taking home communions, and supporting the mission of the church. This has strengthened our ministerial team considerably, with our lay pastoral workers taking their place alongside our clergy and readers team. At the time of writing, we have another 10 people exploring their faith and calling through the Parish Foundation Course. It is extremely important for us to keep



developing people's understandings of faith, ministry and community and to allow everyone the opportunity to explore their own distinctive vocation. This year we have put on courses encouraging people to learn more about the Bible, and there was also our extremely successful series of Lent talks which explored individual experience of Christ's journey to the cross and set it alongside our speakers own personal journeys. Our bi-annual retreat in September explored the idea of Christ sharing our pilgrimage in many different ways and 15 people engaged strongly not only with the message but entered fully into the experience of the retreat. In October, a group travelled on pilgrimage to Walsingham to meet with a group from London and to share in worship and in the Stations of the Cross (although it rained heavily whilst we were following the stations, this did not dampen our enthusiasm or prayer!).

We were delighted this year to welcome Sr Anita OHP to join us for Holy Week. Many of you have commented to me how special her presence was with us that week, not only for the prayer and devotion she showed in her preaching to us, but also in her gentle presence throughout her time with us. She organised the very special Passover meal, one of the best attended events in the whole year and one that gave us all a renewed insight into the origins of the Eucharist. So many people were involved



with organising and supporting this that it became a central focus of our Holy Week observances and we hope to be able to repeat in years to come.



One of the worst attended events in the year was our flower festival. The last time we put this on; we were plagued with the worst weekend weather in the year. In 2009, there was no such problem, but the weekend was barely attended by anyone, a waste of the time and effort that so many people had put in to preparing the church,

their arrangements and the refreshments. The PCC have decided that flower festivals will be put on hold for the time being. The flower festival celebrated our Eco-congregation status and we were delighted also be awarded a Fairtrade church status, celebrated at a special coffee morning in the early spring.



A busy year, then with lots of special events to celebrate and building work to grapple with. But we have also celebrated each and every week the people of God through our worship and in the work they do for God each and every day. We were particularly delighted to mark many years of faithful membership of the

Mothers Union by Vera Gregory and Jean Burton at a special MU service in the summer, and it was wonderful to be able to share in the freedom and joy of the African style worship that Pathfinders members put on for us. Celebrating the gifts of the people of God in this way is a vital part of our life together and I pray that we can continue to do this.



The ministry of the church continues of course week in, week out. Each week Paul and Chris visit over 25 people with the tape ministry; our lay parish visitors and home communion team visit people regularly; Melanie and I maintain contact and involvement with the local schools and elderly people's homes; Jackie supports baptism families and Pam and Jessica and Paul lead our work with young people; Sue has begun to support the work of Eve House; the lunch club caters for up to 40 people every month.

This is work that we carry on unobtrusively, but work that has a major impact on individuals and on our community. St John's is, and always has been an iconic presence on the estate and has always engaged strongly with the community. This is a tradition that we willingly take on from our predecessors and I hope that we will also hand on to the next generation.

Being aware of our story and how we come to be the church we are today is vital and we are delighted that much of our archive material is now available on the internet for anyone to have access to. Our archive is unique and is possibly the only one of its kind for the estate. We are very grateful to Andrew Jackson for his keen interest and support with this project. It is interesting to note that this year, we have also been involved with two photographic projects: one, a student at the university documenting the life of our faith community in pictures as part of his final year project, and the second, a poetic film of the city, part of which will feature St Johns.



Whilst we honour the past, we are called not to cling to it. This year we finally said farewell to the sword that was once attached to the front of the pulpit. Times change, and we had felt for some time that not only was it not appropriate to have a weapon on display in church but that, because we had no safe storage for it, it should be disposed of. The money we have made from its sale will go towards a fund for our 50th anniversary celebrations in 2013. Farewell also this year to two of the great characters of St Johns, Breta Pearson and John Dixon, both people who made their presence felt and whose absence we do feel.

A busy year again at St Johns and more challenges ahead. We still need more people to get involved with organising events so that the burden does not fall on the same willing shoulders each and every time; we still need to keep looking outward to our community to see what needs to be supported and developed; we still need to pray about our own calling to be a child of God. One wonderful development we look forward to in the new year is working with students from St Francis School to establish a second monthly date for the lunch club and I am particularly excited about this project. I would like to thank everyone who has supported me throughout the year, practically and spiritually, and especially to thank our very active churchwardens for all the work they do. May God bless you all in your faith and in your families and may He continue to surprise us!

Every blessing

Fr. Stephen

Statistics For 2009

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Communicants: | |
| Sundays | 2698 |
| Weekdays including house communions and EPH communicants | 1527 |
| Total : | 4225 |
| | |
| Attendance at all services¹ | 8701 |
| | |
| Average communicants on Wednesdays | 11 |
| Average communicants on Fridays | 2 |
| Average number of communicants on Sundays | 54 |
| Average attendance on Sundays | 71 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Funerals: | |
| Church | 5 |
| Crematorium | 25 |
| Total: | 30 |
| Baptisms: | |
| Adults | 1 |
| Children | 24 |
| Total: | 25 |
| | |
| Weddings | 6 |
| | |
| Wedding blessings | 1 |
| | |
| House communicants | 10 |
| | |
| Confirmation candidates | 5 |
| | |
| School assemblies and classroom input | |
| Ermine Primary School | 12 |
| St Francis School | 9 |
| Yarborough School | 5 |
| Total: | 26 |
| | |
| School visits to church | 6 |
| | |
| Residential homes services: | |
| Ermine House | 12 |
| Ruckland Court | 13 |
| | |
| Web site hits | 4867 |

¹ This figure includes attendance at nativity plays, school presentations, weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.

The Children's Society

I am sorry that I have to start the annual report on a sad note. We lost two box-holders in the past year 2009, namely Breta Pearson and John Dixon. They were both long standing members and will be missed. On a brighter note we have gained one new member but we would welcome more. It is the Church's charity and all it entails is having a small box in your home into which you pop the odd coin or two as you wish and it is opened in March or April every year. I you fill it before then, all the better.

We have had a good result for the year 2009. A grand total of £493.09 was raised, another wonderful effort from our select group who never cease to amaze me.

On an entirely new tack I wonder if there is anyone who would take over my job if by any chance I was unable to continue. It is not onerous and the bulk of the work is in March/April and at present we have only nineteen boxes and one shop box. We must be ready for all contingencies, as you may have noticed I am not a spring chicken and old age cannot be deferred.

Dick Rooke

Choir

The choir has had a steady year in which we have increased our repertoire and, we hope, introduced new music to enhance the services and assist in congregational worship. Malcolm Archer's Lincoln Mass, for instance, is both singable and dignified.

We are very pleased that evensong is now being sung every so often and hope to make that a regular occurrence. It is a chance for choir members to become acquainted with Anglican chants and plainsong for the psalms and canticles in the context of a thoughtful and peaceful service.

I am very grateful to Sue and the choir members who turn out so faithfully at the fortnightly practices. Also some members of the choir have attended a diocesan training session which they found very interesting and helpful. We should, of course, welcome anyone who might enjoy contributing to the musical life of the church and join us.

Terry Millward



Church Hall

It has once again been quite a busy year for bookings in the Church Hall, particularly in the first half of the year with the school using the hall three times a week during school term until July. As this has now come to an end it has been necessary to look at raising the fees for the hall from April 2010 as the charges for the hall did not increase last year. I believe we offer extremely competitive rates and our regular users seem to be happy with the facilities provided for the price they pay.

Janet Ashton still remains the highest hall user and once again the Thursday/Saturday dancing group were once again very generous in donating their Christmas/New Year raffle money of £168.00 to the hall.

The hall website is being used regularly by quite a few people to check the availability, making it much easier for ballet exam provisional dates to be worked out. Thank you to Daniel for all the work he continues to do on this.

There are still times when the hall is not used, particularly during the daytime, if anyone knows of any suitable groups looking for a regular or one off meeting place please could you point them to the Church website or ask them to contact me.

The hall is in fairly good condition except for the paint work in the main hall. It really is in need of decorating when funds are available. The water boiler in the kitchen has failed an inspection by the insurers and is being replaced.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank Dorothy, David, Stephen and Sheila for their help during my visit to New Zealand in March 2009, it was much appreciated.

Liz Straw - Hall Booking Secretary

CTLD

Churches Together in Lincoln and District is an Ecumenical group that aims to get churches from different denominations together and work with each other to put on events throughout the city. This year we have had talks from the U2Charist project, Terry Miller the environmental chaplain and Alan Robson the agricultural chaplain. The talks have been very informative and if anyone would like to know more please ask me. Events that have taken place this year include the Good Friday procession and a special service at the Cathedral was held for homelessness Sunday. I still run their website which is www.ctld.org.uk if you would like to find out about the group please visit this site.

Daniel Holt

Deanery Synod

Over the year Deanery Synod has been exploring different ways of leading worship. This is in preparation for the planned reduction in stipendiary ministers within the Christianity Deanery. It was emphasised that this reduction is to happen over the next 10 years and focus has been on what the new different types of ministry might look like. We have listened to talks about Ordained Local Ministers and how these ministers can help enrich worship within the deanery. While the readers' ministry was praised, and thanks were given to that ministry, it was emphasised that this was not to take the place of stipendiary priests. We, at synod, are trying to make it a time of enthusiasm and look at the changes as an opportunity rather than being something to be afraid of.

Tabitha Holt

Electoral Roll

There are 84 people on the electoral roll. This is the same number as last year.

David Fleshbourne

Fabric

The work inside the church as you are aware has all been completed, new tiles have been laid and new storage heaters have been installed in the vestries and in the porch, also the sink area and the water heater in the priests vestry has been replaced. The choir vestry has been designed into the Mary and Martha room which is a wonderful creation to our church, we now have a quiet private prayerful place for people to use when they need this, the Mary and Martha room is also used for meetings and courses that take place in our church, a wonderful gift from God I think.

The drains outside the church have had to be cleared this year due to a blockage and the lids to the drains have had to be replaced, also the porch light above the church front entrance has been repaired. The perimeter wall outside the church hall has had to be repaired due to vandalism. To try and stop children climbing on the roof at the back of the church anti vandal anti climb paint has been applied to the roof, this seems to be working at the moment because there has been no reports of children climbing on the roof. The pools have also been cleaned twice this year due to a build up of debris.

From Sue Fleshbourne and Peter Sherlock

Hospitality And Fundraising

2009 has been a good year. Our events and parish meals out have been well attended although a couple of fundraising events had to be cancelled. The Christmas and Easter raffles were very well supported by our church and the community we are very grate full for this as it is a very important part of our fundraising. We have had a couple of different events this year, we held an evening of murder and mystery which was very well attended and enjoyed by all. We have also had an evening where we have eaten a fish and chip supper at Doddington Hall and have on one occasion also been bowling, these two evenings were very well supported and enjoyed by those who came along. As a Hospitality and Fundraising group we are thinking about having a few coffee mornings in church on a Saturday morning in 2010. and we would like to say a big thank you to those people who were able to hold a coffee morning in their homes and hope that they might think about holding one in 2010. The Bingo and Coffee afternoons are always fun. We enjoy a game of bingo and conversation and it is always a very sociable afternoon. Our Hospitality group have catered for numerous occasions in 2009 and we are looking forward to see what 2010 asks of us. I myself would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has put a lot of their time in helping arranging and supporting in all that we do, things can be very hard work and your support is always very welcome.

Sue Fleshbourne



Johns Juniors

Johns Juniors to date has 1 Leader and 3 helpers. To date the children attending J Js each week is 8 on a regular basis. Our themes have been centred usually around the Lectionary reading in church. We are currently still following the Lectionary when it is possible. We continue to meet in the church hall on a weekly basis. We have been using my laptop and projector on occasions to present the bible stories to the children. Due to my recent illness Emma-Ackland-Snow has been leading JJ's and I would like to thank her greatly for this. Emma did this with guidance from both Pam Beattie and myself supporting her. Debbie Povey and Peter Wise have been equally supportive and also supported Emma by assisting in JJs on a more regular basis than they would normally. Thank you to all who have supported them during this time.

Paul Cartwright - (Leader of JJ's)

Lunch Club

This has been another successful year, with numbers participating at the lunches remaining steady. Talking with diners, they all say the social atmosphere, and the lunches provided are A1 (So we must be doing something right!)

We have recently started to run a second lunch club start as a joint venture between St. John's Church and students from St. Francis Special School.

Many thanks to all who give their time and help to make this a very rewarding and worthwhile enterprise.

Pat Taylor



St John the Baptist Mothers Union

We have once again enjoyed a varied programme of speakers and discussion throughout the year as we continued with the theme of Relationships. We were privileged to have Sister Anita share with us at our Maundy Thursday meeting and to make a pilgrimage walk, in April, round Lincoln Cathedral with John Campbell.

To accommodate those of our members who are unable to attend meetings during the day we arrange three evening meetings, these as with all our meetings were open to the wider congregation. These varied in the number attending but we hope to continue holding them in 2010 as we see this as being a way that we can reach out to the wider church.

We were sorry to lose four of our members during the past year due to personal reasons.

Mothers Union continues to support the Women's Aid through its collection of toiletries and requested items and this past year along with the parish electrical equipment for the new centre.

We support our sisters and brothers throughout the world by prayer and fundraising. To find out about the work of the Mothers Union worldwide speak to any of our members or read the Prayer Diary at the back of church.

Sheila Hoy

Pathfinders Report for AGM 2009

We have had a very exciting year at Pathfinders with many changes. In January we began with Jessica Howell presenting to us over a few weeks input on "Other Faiths" which were very informative sessions. We introduced film nights; homework nights and also the young people could bring along with them a book to read if they wished to. Much of our time early in the year we were liaising with others and preparing among ourselves for the SONGS OF PRAISE AFRICAN STYLE this took a lot of preparing and Nketchi and Ogo and their Mum and Dad were extremely supportive and hands on in the whole of the preparation, their family and friend also joined in and we were joined by friends of Pathfinders some from Yarbrough school. We were also privileged to be joined by Dave Rose our Diocesan Children's adviser. We felt the congregation were really behind us and the feedback was very positive.

We were also privileged to have Kay Sherlock come to talk to us, and also Father John on their visits overseas to underprivileged areas, which really did touch our young people. We also had the Sister from the order of the Holy Paraclete visit Pathfinders so they could ask her what its like to be part of a Holy order.

I think although many one of the highlight of our year was the grant we were awarded by the council which helped us to purchase items for Pathfinders which we would never otherwise have been able to purchase which have benefited the group tremendously. The young people applied for the grant and we were awarded it. We held a barbeque in the summer months and had games tables and made small charges. This was not a money raising exercise but it was to bring all ages of the church together as well as inviting other young people in the community to join us. We were delighted that some of the guides managed to join us however there were many on holiday but did give their apologies, and said otherwise they would have come. We were thankful to the hospitality group who supported us with this. The leaders and helpers have been on various courses throughout the year and the one that had the most impact was the Child online protection course, which has been presented at Pathfinders, and we have also got a date to present it at the Guides on 16th March 2010. We also hope to present another, which was titled 'One Friday night', and this one also had a big impact upon us. The leaders and helpers continue to train in all areas of children and young people's work and also attend many of these, which are run by Lincolnshire



Council for voluntary children and young people's workers. We are in the process of trying to build communication with other young people also. To date we have 10 members of Pathfinders although we don't always have all attend together. We have 3 leaders Paul Cartwright, Jessica Howell and myself Pam Beattie. We currently have had Nketchi Iyamah join us on the team as a helper and we are in the process of welcoming David Smith to our team as a helper. So we are delighted. Well in brief that is our report for the year. We thank all that have supported us in any way during the last year.

Pam Beattie (On behalf of Pathfinders)

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC have held five regular meetings in the twelve months since the annual parochial church meeting in April 2009. This short report is not intended to be a full account of our discussions, but just an indication of some of the issues that have been concerning us as your representatives. For more detailed information, please contact the PCC secretary, Ian Young. Members usually serve on PCC for a maximum of three consecutive years, and elections are held at the annual church meeting every year for a proportion of the council. The minimum age is 16 years.

There has been disappointing attendance at fundraising events, which has prompted us to ask whether it is better to hold such events frequently or to organize bigger events less often. As with all organizations it is left to the same small group of enthusiasts to arrange all these events. If you have suggestions for different fundraising and social events, or would like to help with the arrangements, please have a word with one of the churchwardens.

Vandalism has stretched our resources unnecessarily this year, as you may have guessed from the blocked drain we encountered last year and the broken windows you will have noticed this year. The police have, of course, been informed, and advice has been sought from the archdeacon and other relevant sources. Anti-vandal paint has already been applied where appropriate. But PCC has been concerned that the expense of repairs has made it difficult for us to meet our financial obligations to the diocese, and we have been warned by the diocese that if the deanery as a whole is unable to meet its financial obligations, the allocation of clergy to parishes will have to be reviewed. Speak to our treasurer, David Fleshbourne, for further information.

Ways of cutting costs have been considered at PCC meetings. We have decided to change our supplier of gas and electricity. Charges for the use of the church hall have been increased. A cheaper source of supply for paper has been found. And some economies have been made in church cleaning expenses.



The sword which some of you may remember hanging in front of the pulpit at one time, and which in recent years has been stored out of sight and out of reach, mainly for reasons of personal safety, was sold at auction in the autumn for a modest sum, to the relief of PCC. The Royal Armouries dated it to 1845. Let us hope that it can now be enjoyed by someone who appreciates its historical associations.

On the subject of history, Fr. John Hodgkinson has revised his account of the early history of the Ermine estate and the church, and we look forward to this revised history being printed in the near future.

Health and safety issues are always on the agenda of our meetings. Currently we are looking at the Martha and Mary room, and at the steps outside the church entrance. Our attention has recently been drawn to issues relating to internet chat rooms used by children. Doubtless you will be hearing more about this in future. If you have any concerns in the meantime, please have a word with Melanie. If there are any other health and safety issues which worry you, please have a word with Fr. Stephen or the churchwardens.

Ian Young

Prayer Group

We continue to meet every Friday morning and have an hour of meditation taking into prayer the needs of individuals in our parish and sometimes the wider community. Though small in number, with other groups throughout the world, we believe God hears our prayers and in His own good time, His will be done. Amen

Pat Taylor

St. Anne's Hospital, Liuli

When Canon Dr. Sam Ndimbo visited us in 2008 he told us of the desperate need for more trained staff at the hospital and outlined the costs of the training for nurses, doctors and specialised "back-room" staff. The response from churches in the Lincoln area has been generous and there are a good number of students in training at this time. But they do need more and in his letters this year Sam has said how difficult life has been without the required numbers of staff, especially nurses. In the Newsletter, one contributor says that Dr. Daniel Ndimbo, Sam's brother, is at times the only doctor on duty and has to work a 24-hour day.



Babies will not wait to be born and accidents don't just happen between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.! Unfortunately, when the training is completed, staff leave after only a short time to take up better paid jobs in the towns, which is good news for the towns but leaves Liuli and district in a bad situation again. Things will improve as the general situation in Tanzania improves, but it is a slow process, just as is the situation in the schools. There we have been able to make a good contribution also. Due to the merging of our two Ermine schools we acquired a large number of school books which were taken to Hampshire in February for forwarding for Liuli. The Freight Co-ordinator commented, "I think we shall have the best-educated children in Africa in our schools!" I think she may have exaggerated (slightly) but nevertheless such a large quantity of good quality books from the Ermine schools will make a huge difference to the children of Liuli. More books will be going in 2010.

Sam's other news in 2009 told me about the progress of his five sons' education and employment and about the problems that global warming is causing with not enough rain in some parts and far too much in other places. During the year Mary Fairbrother, who really was the founder of the Friends of St Anne's Hospital, sadly died. She had put in a tremendous amount of work as Secretary to the Friends over the years, her enthusiasm fuelled by her love for the people of Liuli where she had been head-teacher at one of the schools.

Sam sends his regards to all his friends in the Lincoln area and his thanks for our support. I would also like to thank you for the knitting of vests and jumpers, the supplies of tools, bed linen, curtains, towels and all the things which a community needs and not least for the financial support for the work of the Hospital. Finally, thanks to my friends who help to load the van, drive it to Hampshire and unload it at the other end. Without them the goods would never get to Tanzania.

John Clark.

St. John's Singers

St. John's Singers joined in the concert on 5th July 2009 in church where they sang songs from the Shows.

It was decided after a great discussion between Fr Stephen and myself that we should try something slightly new this year. We are preparing Donald Swann's "Song of Caedmon" which is a short cantata. After a slow beginning the members are agreeing that it has potential and 'rather nice'.

Sue Young

Stewardship report 2009

At the start of the year, there were 47 regular envelope givers, of whom 28 also 'Gift Aided' their weekly donations, thereby enabling the church to reclaim money from HMRC. We started 2010 with 44 envelope givers, 26 of whom 'Gift Aid'.

We also had 8 'Gift Aiders' who pay by Direct Debit and this remains the same this year. We received more than £2000 in rebates from HMRC so if any one does pay Income Tax and doesn't already Gift Aid their donations, please have a word with me and we can soon rectify this! The following table gives an overview of this year's giving compared to last year's.

| | 2009 | 2008 | |
|----------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Gift Aid | £8,095.33 | £7913.99 | Up £181.34 |
| Ordinary | £2,384.80 | £2814.06 | Down £429.26 |
| Total | £10,526.83 | £10728.08 | Down £201.25 |

Jackie Howell

The tape Ministry

At present there are 2 of us who take the tapes out to our elderly and housebound, this is on a weekly basis. We have to date 17 people on the list. Christine Priestly and I visit, and take a tape of the service, which has been recorded each week by myself with the help of Peter Sherlock who switches the tape on.

Christine and I also take a weekly bulletin, and have a chat, when we visit. Fortunately we have recently had visits once again to Ermine house with the tapes. We also call and see 3 people who don't receive a tape, but enjoy seeing us each week.

You can obtain a tape from the back of the church if you wish to listen to a recording again, this will be a recording from the previous Sunday. These are situated at the back of the church next to the candle stand.

This ministry is happy to receive any donations that you wish to make these can be passed on to myself Christine Priestly or Father Stephen. Please place it in an envelope and write on what it's for.

Due to my recent illness I have been unable for quite a while to operate the Tape Ministry from a physical point of view. I would like to say a big thank you to Christine Priestley who in my absence has continued to visit and also take a bulletin and other bits to the people on the tape Ministry. I thank Christine and

Revd Melanie Jackson and many others who have been able to lend a hand at this time. This has been very much appreciated.

Paul Cartwright - (On behalf of the tape Ministry)

Treasurer

See accounts at the back of this booklet.

Website

This year has seen the number of hits on the site rise by around 1500 in one year. The amount of data served has also risen by a similar amount which shows that people tend to look at the same kind of pages per visit. A noticeable addition is that of the eArchive, which to date contains digitized copies of the Ermine News, a local magazine that was published between 1957 and 1965 and which was digitized through a partnership with Bishop Grosseteste University that was organized by Andrew Jackson. Over the following year I aim to add more content to this sub-site which will include newspaper cuttings and photographs along with all the other items from our archive that is maintained by Ian Young.

Daniel Holt

22ND Lincoln Brownies

The 22nd Lincoln Brownies have had another busy year.

March 2009 - 'One Planet Earth Challenge' - We especially looked at Recycling – and held a Recycling Party, which everyone enjoyed. Now we have Eco-friendly Brownies and leaders of course! We enjoyed making Mothers Day gifts and to finish off the term, we held an Easter bingo which everyone enjoyed.

April 2009 - Seven Brownies attended the St George's Day Parade at Lincoln Cathedral on 26 April 2009. We started working on two new badges – 'Finding your way' and 'Entertainer'.

May 2009 - Seven Brownies also attended a Girl-guiding Fun Day at Lincoln Christ Hospital School – they took part in rocket-ball, games, rounders and a musical stomp session – including the adults! 'Finding your way badge' – we took the Brownies on a short walk around the local Estate. They had to look out for various landmarks.

June 2009 - The Brownies took part in the 'Celebration of Achievement' Service on Sunday 14 June 09. One Brownie received a certificate for best church parade attendance! We made Father's Day cards and bunting for the Centenary event in September 09. We joined the Guides in making an eco-friendly pasta picture to go on display at the Flower Festival at St John's Church in July 09.

July 2009 - Eight Brownies attended a District Campfire at Sudbrooke on Friday 3 July 09. A good time was had by all. Everyone enjoyed the food, and the singing.

As the Brownies were working on their 'Entertainment' badge, we held an Entertainment Evening for Parents/Carers on Tuesday 14 July 09, the last night of Brownies before the summer holidays. The Brownies played musical instruments, read poems, told jokes, magic tricks, and sang songs. We also raised £35.35 for Unit funds.

September 2009 - Five Brownies and two Leaders attended the Centenary Event at the Epic Centre, held at the Lincolnshire Showground on Saturday 5 September 09. This event was the start of the Girl Guiding Centenary Year as Guiding is 100 years old! Everyone enjoyed the event. The Brownies decided that they would like to work on the 'Cooks' badge – they baked and decorated cakes. We also started working on the Adventure 100 badge, and the Brownies designed a uniform for 2015! Lorraine took her Promise as an Adult Leader. Brownies also took part in the Harvest Festival Service at the Church.

October 2009 - The Brownies did quite a bit of craft work this month – from decorating a tile to making a pretend campfire. They also made salad faces as part of the 'Cooks' badge.

November 2009 - On the first night back after half-term we had a bonfire party with our pretend campfire. Everybody enjoyed this. With Christmas on the horizon, it was time to start thinking about Christmas Crafts. The Brownies enjoyed making Advent Calendars. The Brownies and Guides were in charge of the bric-a-brac stall at the Church Christmas Fair in November.

December 2009 - The Brownies had a Christmas party with the Guides on 1 December. We thought it would be a good idea if the Brownies prepared the food for the party as part of the 'Cooks' badge. What a marvellous spread they did! Watch out Masterchef we might have some contestants for the future! All the Brownies passed the badge. A good time was had by all. We sang 'Rudolph the red-nosed Reindeer' at the Brownies and Guides Carol Service on 8 December. Also Caroline took her Promise as an Adult Leader at the Service. It was Pantomime time on 15 December – the Brownies and Guides went to the Drill Hall

to see 'Sleeping Beauty and the Dragon of Fury'. It was really good, and everyone joined in the fun. Oh yes they did.....

January 2010 - We started back to Brownies a week later because of the snow. On the first night back the Brownies made lolly-stick notice-boards, and also had a pow-wow to decide on what badge they would like to work on. The Brownies are working on the 'Toymaker' badge – and they are going to make puppets; a dolls house, and clay figures for this.

February 2010 - Work has started on the puppets for our 'Toymaker' badge. On February 9, the Brownies enjoyed eating pancakes at the meeting. To celebrate 'Thinking Day' – the Brownies will be attending a District World Thinking Day Event.

So as we are in the Centenary Year of Guiding, there are lots of celebrations to look forward to!

Louise Thompson Brown Owl – February 2010



PARISH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST - ERMINE, LINCOLN

COMMUNITY HALL

RECEIPTS

| | <u>2009</u> | | | <u>2008</u> | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------|---|-------------|--------------|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Receipts from Activities | | | | | | |
| J.Ashton school of Dance | 4,207 | | | 4,948 | | |
| Silhouette dance club | 1,530 | | | 1,823 | | |
| Bookings | 5,227 | | | 2,385 | | |
| Sundries | | | | | | |
| | | 10,964 | | | 9,156 | |
| Other Receipts | | | | | | |
| Insurance claims | 80 | | | | | |
| | | 80 | | | | |
| Total Receipts | | <u>11,044</u> | | | <u>9,156</u> | |

PAYMENTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|--------------|--------|-------|--------------|--|
| Management Costs | 1,066 | | | 927 | | |
| Running costs | 2,882 | | | 1,878 | | |
| Repairs and Cleaning | 1,391 | | | 5,392 | | |
| Insurance | 851 | | | 785 | | |
| Licenses | 183 | | | 122 | | |
| Fitments | 180 | | | | | |
| Hall Sundries | 55 | | | 47 | | |
| Total Payments | | <u>6,607</u> | | | <u>9,151</u> | |
| Excess of Receipts over Payments | | | £4,437 | | | |
| Excess of Payments over Receipts | | | | | | |

RESTRICTED FUNDS

RECEIPTS

| | <u>2009</u> | | | <u>2008</u> | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|---|-------------|--------------|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Charity collections and donations | 852 | | | 2,114 | | |
| Church 50th Anniv | 70 | | | | | |
| Training Fund | 300 | | | | | |
| Youth group | | | | | | |
| Wydale retreat | 1,505 | | | 1,305 | | |
| Lunch Club | | | | 285 | | |
| Other Funds | 2,975 | | | | | |
| Total Receipts | | <u>5,702</u> | | | <u>3,704</u> | |

PAYMENTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|--------------|-------|-------|--------------|-------|
| Charity collections and donations | 1,196 | | | 1,717 | | |
| Church 50th Anniv | | | | | | |
| Training Fund | | | | | | |
| Youth group | 26 | | | | | |
| Wydale retreat | 1,896 | | | 2,480 | | |
| Lunch Club | | | | | | |
| Other Funds | 1,855 | | | | | |
| Total Payments | | <u>4,973</u> | | | <u>4,197</u> | |
| Excess of Receipts over Payments | | | £730 | | | |
| Excess of Payments over Receipts | | | -(£1) | | | -(£4) |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Total for Church | £60,809 | £71,040 | -(£10,231) | £26,729 | £25,436 | £1,293 |
| Total for Hall | £11,044 | £6,607 | £4,437 | £9,156 | £9,151 | -(£5) |
| Total for Restricted Funds | £5,702 | £4,973 | £729 | £3,704 | £4,197 | -(£493) |
| | <u>£77,555</u> | <u>£82,621</u> | <u>-(£5,065)</u> | <u>£39,589</u> | <u>£38,784</u> | <u>£1,005</u> |
| TOTAL | £77,555 | £82,621 | -(£5,065) | £39,589 | £38,784 | £1,005 |

PARISH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST - ERMINE, LINCOLN

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

| RECEIPTS | 2009 | | 2008 | | £ |
|---|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | |
| Incoming receipts from donors | | | | | |
| Gift Aid | 13,207 | | 5,739 | | |
| Planned Giving | 2,397 | | 2,891 | | |
| Service Collections | 1,315 | | 2,551 | | |
| Other collections | 836 | | 1,372 | | |
| Income tax recovered | 2,193 | | 1,702 | | |
| | | <u>19,947</u> | | <u>14,254</u> | |
| Other donations | | | | | |
| Donations | 1,677 | | 1,277 | | |
| Specific Donations | | | | | |
| | | <u>1,677</u> | | <u>1,277</u> | |
| Receipts from church operations | | | | | |
| Fees | 2,599 | | 1,578 | | |
| Other | 1,103 | | 889 | | |
| | | <u>3,702</u> | | <u>2,467</u> | |
| Receipts from fundraising activities | | | | | |
| Fundraising | 2,638 | | 4,282 | | |
| | | <u>2,638</u> | | <u>4,282</u> | |
| Receipts from Investments | | | | | |
| Dividends on investments | 978 | | 1,604 | | |
| Bank and Deposit Fund Interest | 875 | | 331 | | |
| | | <u>1,853</u> | | <u>1,934</u> | |
| Other receipts | | | | | |
| Insurance claims | 30,992 | 30,992 | 2,515 | 2,515 | |
| Total Receipts | | <u>60,809</u> | | <u>26,729</u> | |
| PAYMENTS | | | | | |
| Donations to Charities | 1,196 | 1,196 | | | |
| Church Activities | | | | | |
| Diocesan parish share | 8,300 | | 10,644 | | |
| Clergy expenses | 1,746 | | 1,737 | | |
| Cost of services | 3,231 | | 2,917 | | |
| Administration costs | 2,916 | | 1,711 | | |
| Running costs | 5,530 | | 2,340 | | |
| Repairs and maintenance | 43,574 | | 3,766 | | |
| Insurance | 1,723 | | 1,492 | | |
| Fittings | 488 | | | | |
| Other costs | 2,356 | | 829 | | |
| | | <u>69,844</u> | | <u>25,436</u> | |
| Total Payments | | <u>71,040</u> | | <u>25,436</u> | |
| Excess of Receipts over Payments | | | | | <u>£1,2</u> |
| Excess of Payments over Receipts | | <u>-(£10,231)</u> | | | |

I confirm that the above is correct and it is an accurate representation of the church's account.

FULL NAME: MARPA SAFANOVICOVA

S/ 05/03/2010

PARISH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST - ERMINE, LINCOLN

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2009

| <u>CURRENT ASSETS</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Monetary Assets</u> | £ | £ |
| Restricted Funds | | |
| St ANDREWS | | |
| CHILDREN SOCIETY | 107 | 144 |
| St ANNE'S LIULI | 3 | 426 |
| BISHOP'S FUND | | |
| YOUTH GROUP | 50 | 76 |
| TRAINING FUND | 300 | |
| CHURCH 50TH ANNIVESARY | 70 | |
| WYDALE RETREAT | -331 | 60 |
| LUNCH CLUB | | |
| OTHER FUNDS | | |
| Total Restricted Funds | <u>200</u> | <u>706</u> |
| Bank account Unrestricted Funds | <u>2,106</u> | <u>1,703</u> |
| National Westminster Bank Current Account | 2,306 | 2,409 |
| National Westminster Bank Business Reserve | 2,108 | 4,860 |
| LDTBF Trust Account - Note (b) 121001550D | | |
| LDTBF Trust Account 1210011160D | 6,230 | 7,857 |
| Cash in Hand | 279 | 277 |
| Total Monetary Assets | <u><u>£10,922</u></u> | <u><u>£15,403</u></u> |
| | | |
| <u>Debtors</u> | | |
| Ecclesiastical Insurance Group | | |
| Anglian Water | | |
| Inland Revenue | | |
| <u>Total Current Assets</u> | <u><u>£10,922</u></u> | <u><u>£15,403</u></u> |