

St. Stephen's Church, Moreton Valence

*One of the 'Cotswold Edge' Parishes
(Eastington, Frocester, Haresfield, Moreton Valence,
Standish and Whitminster)*

**We aim, in God's name, to be a source of
continuity, comfort and hope in our parish**



Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2012

Legal and Administrative

Name: Parochial Church Council of St Stephen's Church, Moreton Valence.

Location: St. Stephen's Church is located in Church Lane, a quarter of a mile from the junction with the A38.

Correspondence: The Secretary, Mrs S Van Eeghen, Woodfield House, Church Lane, Moreton Valence, Gloucester, GL2 7NB; or c/o The Rectory, Millend Lane, Eastington, Stonehouse, Glos. GL10 3SG.

Members: Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected (up to 6) at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The PCC may co-opt up to 2 further members.

During the year the following served as PCC members:

Revd Richard Amys
Mr Douglas Watts
Mrs Stephanie Williams

Chair
Churchwarden
Churchwarden

Ms Daphne Gardner
Mrs Sally van Eeghen

Treasurer
Secretary/Deanery Synod
Representative

Mrs Anne Downton
Mr Clifford Smith
Mr Roger van Eeghen

Mrs Marion Watts
Mrs Marian Smith

Status: The PCC is a charity, exempted from registration with the Charity Commission under the Charities (Exemption from Registration) Regulations 1996.

Independent Examiner: Mr G.M. Blackwell, 2 Checkley Close, Ledbury Road, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 7AX.

Bank: Lloyds TSB, Bristol Road, Gloucester.
Church of England Central Board of Finance, 2 Fore Street, London, EC2Y 5AG.

Aims and Organisation

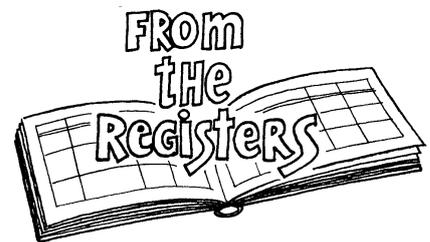
The main purpose of the PCC is defined in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as 'to co-operate with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical'.

Moreton Valence PCC has maintenance responsibilities for the Church of St. Stephen, Moreton Valence, and the churchyard surrounding it. It also owns Church Leaze, the field opposite the Church.

Moreton Valence is one of six parishes in the benefice of Eastington, Frocester, Haresfield, Moreton Valence, Standish and Whitminster, referred to unofficially as the 'Cotswold Edge' parishes. Joint ministry expenses are shared on an agreed percentage basis with the other parishes, in line with comparative diocesan quota payments. In 2012 this was 12%, and in 2013 it will be 12%.

Review of the Year

Usual Sunday attendance 12 (2011 –8); Easter Communicants 0 (0); Easter Attendance 27 (25); Christmas Communicants 0 (22); Christmas Attendance 0 (31); Carol Service 31 (43); Harvest Festival 27 (25).



This year there were 2 baptisms (7 last year/39 in the benefice); 2 weddings (0/23); 0 funerals in the parish (5/19); and 1 funerals at a local crematorium (0/12)



Parochial Church Council

Secretary's Report on the proceedings of the PCC

We have had a quiet year in the Parish with no events other than a wonderful Christmas lunch and the New Year's Day parish walk, both kindly organised and hosted by Douglas and Marion Watts, owing to very poor weather throughout the year.

Drinks and nibbles have continued to be offered after Christmas, Easter and Harvest Festival services. Thank you to all concerned.

Church cleaning has been erratic but always seems to get done before any significant event (thanks to all concerned) and the flowers, as always, have been fabulous for the major festivals. Once again thanks to all concerned. Brass polishing is a major undertaking and perhaps needs to be approached in a more systematic manner?

Thank you to Ann Downton for continuing to host the PCC meetings at Downtons and for the generous support of the grass cutting amongst other things.

Thank you to Roland for his unfailing playing of the organ and also to Christopher for standing in magnificently on occasion and delighting us all.

Six bottles of red wine were purchased as a token of appreciation for Fred for the wonderful job he has done over the years delivering SPAN in all weathers.

Going forward the tender for the Church Field 2013 has gone to Matthew Watts and a note has been made on the document about facilitating parking for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Installation of the light over the gate has not yet begun in spite of lengthy discussion and the fact we are all agree on the price and design and would like it to go ahead.

SvE April 2013

Electoral Roll Officer's Report

There were 22 people on the Electoral Roll last year. On the new Electoral Roll this year there are 11 (9 residents and 2 non-residents)

Richard Amys, March 2013

Rector's Report

I would like to thank everyone for their support and hard work in 2012.

We seem to have 'marked time' in 2012, and despite the excitement of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics, the final result seems to be depression and damp!



However the church has been kept clean, we've had some lovely flowers on display, and the few that meet regularly for Sunday worship have been just that – regular! I'd like to say thanks to all who have worked so hard for the church, but I would like to particularly thank Stephanie for all she has done during her term as Churchwarden, as she is standing down this year.

Peter Ashman retired as a Lay Reader during the year, and it was sad to say goodbye to him and Judith, as they have been part of the church here for quite a number of years since I 'poached' Peter from St. Matthew's in Cheltenham. Many thanks for all you brought to our church.

With my sabbatical looming in the summer, I find it a bit difficult to look much further ahead at the present, but the Diocesan 'Journeying Together' initiative, launched in the Cathedral last November, will no doubt be important in shaping our aims as a Christian witness in the parish. With all the financial problems around us, which inevitably have an impact on our income, both at parish level, and in the diocese generally, it would be very easy to get despondent, especially when something like the failure of the legislation to allow women to become bishops happens in the wider church, which makes people wonder if the church knows what it is doing!

Ultimately as Christians, we follow Christ, learn from him, and serve him to the best of our abilities. That's what Christians do, and we are called to love others as we love ourselves, and love God with all our being. If we can do that, we won't be going too far wrong!

Revd Richard Amys – March 2013

Rector's Discretionary Fund Report

The starting balance was £2,746.77. The sources of income in 2012 were from fees charged for verging for weddings (£572), funerals (£265) and sexton duties relating to funerals (£30), donations from individuals and others (£538.83) and donations and collection for All Souls (£231.27), and money from parishes for a replacement photocopier (£195). Total income was £1832.10.

The areas of expenditure were on: Purchase of a replacement photocopier (£2,750, £750 of which came from the parishes in 2011 and 2012) support for music and choirs (£198); Parish

Pump and Young Church Mag subscriptions (£56); Palm Crosses (£66); Donations to Charities, Churches and individuals (£533.83, £400 of which came from a charity in Haresfield); Services, outreach and training (£125.70); Stationary, photocopying and postage (404.44). Total expenditure was £4,133.97

This meant a deficit of £2,301.87 over the year, and at the year end the balance stood at £444.90.

The major part of expenditure was on a photocopier, bought in January at a cost of £2,750. The old copier, bought in 2006, was donated to a charity, having no resale value. Parishes and individuals are charged at cost for its use, and the RDF last year also paid for paper (£133.78) and staples (£86.40) – the latter being extortionately expensive and are being used sparingly!

Donations from the All Souls' service roughly cover affiliation to the RSCM for the choir and the CCLI copyright licence for music and words reproduced for 2013, as well as postage etc for the invitations.

As the number of wedding booked for 2013 is less than half of those carried out in 2012, the income from verging at these services will also be much reduced in the coming year.

Richard Amys – February 2013

Deanery Synod Representative's Report

Our Deanery Synod Representatives are:

Eastington –Celia Harris, vacancy.

Frocester – Marjorie Hawkins

Haresfield – Vacancy

Moreton Valence – Sally Van Eeghen

Standish – Graham Stevens

Whitminster – John Green

The Rector is a clergy member of Deanery Synod.

The meeting held on Monday 30th January was held at St. Mary's Church, Painswick

The evening started with the licensing of Revd Dr Christopher Collingwood as the new Area Dean by the Bishop of Tewkesbury. Parish Share pledged for 2012 was £720,000 for the Deanery, slightly down on 2011. The Deanery office was operating at a loss, so hours were being reduced, and each benefice was asked to increase their annual contribution by £33 to £408. The guest speaker was the Diocesan Vocations, Local Ministry and Parish Development Officer, Revd Pauline Godfrey. She looked at the issues that surround vocations and how they can grow out of discipleship.

The meeting held on Thursday 26th April was held at Lakefield SWschool, Frampton

An update on Pastoral Re-organisation revealed that Revd Peggy Ludlow was to be licensed as Priest-in-charge of the Stanleys. In the longer term Rodborough should join with Woodchester and Brimscombe, with the Stanleys joined with Selsley and Stonehouse. Stroud and Cainscross are to join in a Team Ministry, with Whiteshill and Radwick, and Holy Trinity Stroud hopefully joining in at some point in the future. A discussion on Parish Share led by the Deanery Treasurer highlighted the difficult financial situation facing the diocese.

The meeting on Wednesday 18th July was held at Sheepcombe Village Hall

The guest speaker was Revd Canon Dr Martyn Percy, Principal of Ripon College, Cuddleston, who spoke on Anglicanism and Communion. It was reported that 10 out of 10 places were filled in recent election from the Synod to Diocesan Synod's house of laity, but only 4 out of 8 for the

house of clergy.

The meeting on Tuesday 16th October was held at Cainscross Church Hall

The Ven. Jackie Searle, the new Archdeacon of Gloucester, and Miss Natalie Hill, the Diocesan Churches Officer were the guest speakers, introducing themselves and talking also about their areas of work. Prof. Jenny Tann, a member of the synod, also spoke about Stroud Women's Refuge.

Revd Richard Amys, February 2013

Churchwardens' Report

No report yet received

Douglas Watts, Stephanie Williams

Bellringers' Report

No report yet received.

Treasurer's Report

No report yet received



BALANCE AS AT 31.12.11

Jernegan Trust	£1,134.60
Howe Charity	£59.38
CBF	£20,859.27

Fabric Fund	£2,011.19
Charity	£15,518.72
Current A/C	£4,273.36

<u>£43,856.52</u>	<u>£43,856.52</u>
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INCOME 2012.

Rectors Fees	£802.84
Collections	£927.11
Donations	£20.00
Special Service Extras	£243.35
Gift Aided Donations	£4,209.21
Gift Aid Tax Rebate	£1,498.22
Dividends	£1.75
Jernegan Rent.	£400.00
RPA Field Payment	£596.24
New Years Walk	£195.00
Stroud District Council	£130.00
Rent	£500.00
Parish Meeting	
War Stk	£1.75
Electricity Pole Income	£16.78
Organist Payment	

<u>£9,542.25</u>	<u>£9,542.25</u>
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INTEREST 2012

Jernegan Trust Jan-April	
Transfer Field Rent	£0.00
Howe Charity	
CBF int	£178.07
CBF Transfer	£0.00
Fabric Fund int	£17.75
Charity int	£136.93
Transfer to CBF	£2,000.00
Transfer Rent Jernegan	£400.00

<u>£2,732.75</u>	<u>£2,732.75</u>
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£56,131.52

PAYMENTS 2012

Rector	£208.40
Parish Share	£4,000.00
Insurance	£1,085.26
Electricity	£568.58
Maintenance Fire	
Extinguishers	£258.14
Bell Ringers Association	£10.00
Grass Cutting	£1,190.00
Hedge Cutting	£50.00
New Years Walk SARA	£195.00
Water Rate	£5.87
Gear.. Harvest Donation	£81.80
Quinquennial Report	
Gift Peter Ashman	£100.00
Christmas Wine	£16.00
Organist	£340.00
Audit Wine	£12.00
Analysis Book	£19.99
Transfer Rent Jernegan	£400.00
Transfer to CBF	£2,000.00

<u>£10,541.04</u>	<u>£10,541.04</u>
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BALANCE AS AT 31.12.12

Jernegan Trust	£1,534.60
Howe Charity	£59.38
CBF	£23,037.34
Fabric Fund	£2,028.94
Charity	£15,655.65
Current A/C	£3,274.57

<u>£45,590.48</u>	<u>£45,590.48</u>
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£56,131.52

Treasurer. Daphne Gardner
31.12.12.

