

**ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, WHYKE  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2008**

**Background**

St. George's Parochial Church Council, working with the incumbent, the Rev'd. Stuart Craddock, assisted by the Rev'd James Rhodes-Wrigley and the Parish Reader Mr. Brian Dunstan, are responsible for the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and Practices of the Church of England, and for leading the mission of the church in the parish of Whyke, which includes the former parish of Portfield. The former parish church of Portfield is now a museum and St. Mary's Church, formerly the parish church, has been declared redundant and converted into an architect's office. The Parochial Church Council is responsible for the churchyards attached to both of these buildings. .

**Membership**

Members of the Parochial Church Council are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

**Ex-officio**

Incumbent

The Rev'd Stuart Craddock

Assistant Priest

The Rev'd James Rhodes-Wrigley

Parish Reader

Mr. Brian Dunstan

Wardens

Mrs. Liz Cooper

Mr. Mike Glancy

Representatives on the

Mr. Fred Corbin (3)

Deanery Synod

Mr. Tom Batting (3)

Mrs. Emma Stonham (3)

**Elected**

Mrs. Sue Brown (1)

Mr. Geoff Merry (3)

Mr. Ken Green (3)

Mrs. Sheila Price (3)

Mrs. Susan Howell-Evans (1)

Mr. Leslie Shipp (1)

Mr. Peter James (2)

Mrs. Ruth Sullivan (1)

Mrs. Carol Lamborne (3)

Mr. Neville Stevenson-Watt (3)

Miss Rosemary Lay (1)

Mr. Jeff Thompson (2)

Mr. Andy Wilkes (2)

**Officers**

Honorary Treasurer

Mr. Tom Batting

Honorary Secretary

Mr. Ken Green

Child Protection Representative

Mrs. Sheila Price

Health and Safety Officer

Mr. Derek Price

Independent examiner

Mr. James Chisham

The PCC Bankers are Barclays Bank

Sue Brown and Andy Wilkes were asked to serve as Deputy Wardens for a further year. The numbers in brackets after each name indicate the number of years for which members have been elected to serve, starting from, and including, 2008. Officers are elected for a year at a time by the PCC and can be re-elected. Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills where possible.

The parochial church council has met nine times in 2008. In future it is intended that it will meet monthly, except for the months of August and December

### **Review of the Year**

There are 213 members on the church electoral roll

More chairs have been purchased to seat the people in the church on Sunday mornings.

The developments plans outlined by the Rector in last year's annual report have been, or are being, put into effect, and groups formed for the younger ladies, men, and re-established for youth. A toddler group has also been started during the year.

It was proving difficult for some people to get in and out of the lectern, and for an experimental period a ligilium is being used instead

The Gospel is being read from the middle of the nave.

The statue of Our Lady has been brought forward, and the icon of St. George taken to where the lectern had been.

The J-team arrangements have been reorganised. The children are being taught in groups according to their age. The 'living stones' scheme has been adopted, and a rota of helpers/leaders has been organised.

The number of Eucharistic assistants has been increased. The new assistants have taken the diocesan training course and the sacrament will be taken more frequently from the altar to people in their homes.

An anonymous donor has provided acolyte candles for the processions in and around the church.

A flag pole has been erected at the south east corner of the church, and the St. George's flag will be flown. Thanks are due to the Co-operative Community Scheme for a substantial contribution towards the cost.

Chichester District Council has placed St. George's Church on its list of locally important buildings.

Hilda Yardley has been replaced as parish secretary by Sarah Sharp for a trial period.

**Futures plans or Projects.**

The establishment of a Music Trust with a possibility of a single voice choir for girls

The nave altar from St. Mary's Church will be installed in St. George's as it is smaller and will make better use of the space available.

The present organ is beyond economic repair, and a consultant has been appointed to advise on the type and installation of a new organ. The bulk of the cost will be raised externally from charities and charitable funds. This is essentially a long term project.

The sound system in the church needs updating, and a trial of borrowed speakers has been carried out to ascertain the most effective system.

A Christmas Tree festival is under consideration, when groups will provide and decorate a tree in the church for one week. This may be supplemented by a concert or a Christmas Fayre.

**Other Matters**

Gift Aid envelopes have been produced which are issued with the weekly parish bulletin to those attending Sunday services.

New legislation has delayed the proposals to obtain a Premises Licence for the Centre from the local authority, and also the applications for two personal licences.

A parish consultation inviting comments from members of the congregation on recent activities resulted in thirty replies which were noted by the PCC

The deanery full-time Family Social Worker is using the parish office for one morning a week

Portfield Churchyard is to be used for the re-interment of remains raised from the development work in the former St. Pancras Cemetery. If Portfield Cemetery becomes full up responsibility for its maintenance can be transferred to the Chichester District Council.