



St Andrew's Church

Annual Clubs, Associations & Activities Report 2011



Vicars' report

My Dear Friends,

Every year is a journey of discovery and this last year has been no different. It has had the usual 'ups and downs' but amongst it all has been the gradual discovery of a new vision and direction for the church. From the running of 'Giving in Grace' which was our first Stewardship campaign, to our church weekend and all between. Ending last year in the re-designing of the full-time role of the replacement for Roger who has served the church for some 14 years. We have carefully and prayerfully realised that our uniqueness as a church is in our geographical placement at the heart of the community. Our passion has been in serving the community from the days of the original church building, the construction of the Community centre and the re-construction of further meeting rooms. The employment of a full time youth and kids pastor who has had an amazingly successful impact on Kids and youth work in our community. It seems that almost without being totally aware, we have had this emphasis on our community for many, many years. It was good eventually after the weekend to put it together as a statement and as a document. When meeting with people who have come to St Andrew's I never cease to be proud of the common comments about welcome and a sense of the presence of God in our midst. We are a family who in growing together are offering a place to belong to others.

It would not be right for me to put this introduction to the reports together without saying thank you. The Officers of St Andrew's have been an amazing back bone to everything. Working alongside Adrian, John then Jonathan has been a real privilege. I know our two wardens now are both in full time employment but they are absolutely 100% committed to the ongoing work of our church. We often do 'Business' over coffee at a well known coffee shop in town and it is amazing just how much you can get done over a coffee. Angela and Sue have been quietly getting on with their areas of responsibility but are such an invaluable part of the senior leadership team. The Church Council continue to be a support and are willing to ask the important questions about Share and Women Bishops etc. The recent weeks have shown what an amazing support Neville is to the ministry at St Andrews and to me in particular. I am not sure that much of what Neville does was in his job description but without him doing so much my ministry would have been harder. I was delighted recently in holding a vocations evening and there is a possibility of others now thinking about training, i am sure part of that is seeing how much Neville does.

Roger and Maureen, what will we do without them in the flat. I just want to let them know how much I personally and I know the church too, have valued their ministry. They would love to get a home in this community so please pray for that so they might continue to be part of our family. So many of you have done so much, from Sue and her helpers at Toddlers, to the kids club and youth club teams. To those who lead our youth on Wednesday's and Sundays and all those who run Monday fellowship, Bowls, Busy bees, fellowship lunch, flowers, music etc. Church is about 'Every member ministry' and so many of you now are involved somewhere in our many activities.

Elaine has been a phenomenal inspiration in setting up these clubs where we reach many young people and their families who otherwise would not come along to church. She has been a familiar face at First Tower school where relationships are cemented which then overflow to providing us amazing support and access to the school and kids for our Kids club, Explorers groups, youth club and messy church services. Elaine is so full of ideas and many of them she has realised. If you have never seen Elaine in full swing, you need to see her run a large event for Children. She is just a natural. I want to thank her for all her support and the inspiration she has been.

We are a very fortunate family at St Andrews to have so many able and willing people to share in the work of ministry and with the appointment of Kate now as Centre manager and church administrator I look forward to even more co-ordinated family business.

I commend, happily, all the reports in this document and the financial reports provided chiefly by John and Phil. Thanks to you two for all you do to keep us going despite the many call on our finances.

Churchwardens' Report - 2011

According to Wikipedia *A churchwarden is a lay official in a parish church or congregation of the Anglican Communion, usually working as a part-time volunteer.*

Churchwardens have a duty to represent the laity and co-operate with the incumbent (or, in cases of vacancy, the bishop). They are expected to lead the parishioners by setting a good example and encouraging unity and peace. They have a particular duty to maintain order and peace in the church and churchyard at all times, and especially during services.

We are not sure how well we have matched up to this description but this past year has provided plenty of challenges and opportunities!

There are so many of you to whom we are grateful for your support over the past year.

We thank Neville Brooks for all he has done to ensure that that we are kept informed about maintenance issues, his assistance has been invaluable. Neville has handed over the maintenance responsibilities, and it is now even more apparent how much work can be involved in this area.

We thank Phil Hermitage and Mike Sevant for ensuring that we had good Sound System support at our Services during 2011 as well as recording the Sermons to go on the website. At the end of June Ted Sweet retired as our organist after over 30 years at St. Andrew's. We pray and wish for Ted and Anne, health and happiness in the years ahead in their new home in Herefordshire. We also thank Phil and Mike for their help as we transitioned to CD recordings to 'replace' Ted.

We also thank Phil for his role as Treasurer for the Hall Accounts.

We thank Elaine Webster for her continuing enthusiasm throughout 2011. Elaine continues to build foundations in the local community as well as creating closer relationships with young people and their families.

Toddlers Group continues to grow and thanks are due to Sue Le Gallais for all her ongoing work and the part she plays in this very important outreach and laying of foundations.

We thank all those involved in all the St Andrew's activities, such as the Social Committee, the Choir, Pianist and the Music Group, those involved with Fellowship Lunches, the Monday Fellowship, the Indoor Bowlers, What's On, providing aid to Romania, Flower Arranging, Brass Cleaning, those projecting onto the screen at Services, those who maintain the Missionary Notice Board or act as co-ordinators for the various Missions and Societies we support, or act as leaders and/or hosts for our prayer and house groups.

To all members of Church Council we give sincere thanks for their counsel and constant support.

To Roger and Maureen Liot, who between them have provided support in so many ways.

Our sincere thanks to Angela Sevant & Sue Le Gallais as Almoners, for their on-going help and support.

Finally, we give sincere and grateful thanks to our Vicar, Mike for his overall leadership and spiritual guidance. We thank also Lindy and all their family for all they do at St. Andrew's.

It is a privilege to be part of your leadership team at St. Andrew's and we hope and pray that together in 2012 we can work towards fulfilling our mission statement by supporting and encouraging each other.

We fulfill our purpose when we serve our Creator.

Adrian Gordon

Jonathan Vibert

Women's Breakfast

We are now in our third year and meet monthly usually the first Saturday of every month. We meet in the hall from 10am-12md. We start with breakfast, enjoying coming together as women, socializing and sharing. We then have a time of worship, a talk and prayer ministry.

Some testimonies from women who've attended:

"Thank you so much for Saturday. It really spoke to me. I had to go for prayer ministry afterwards. I'm not very good at receiving ministry but God is breaking down walls and making me see what's needed."

"I personally would like to take this opportunity to let you know how fantastic the talks are, how much they mean to me, and how they touch my life."

"I left feeling inspired and encouraged. It was just what I needed."

We have over 30 women who attend regularly who represent both services from St Andrew's. You always receive a warm welcome and have the opportunity to be real with women who understand and are happy to support you and come alongside you in prayer.

Growing leaders

You may not have been immediately aware of this but since June last year some 15(?) people have been meeting together once a month to go through the Growing leaders course which come out of Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS) and is designed to show ordinary people that they can be extraordinary leaders in the local church. Adrian, Lindy and Vicar mike have been leading this and it has been a privilege to see these people grow in confidence and in their own spiritual journey as we have gone through the course. We expect this to be a rolling programme so will be asking some of you if you would consider coming on the next course. It is meant to be by invitation but should you be interested please don't hesitate to have a word with one of us.

St AndrewsChurch.Org.Je Website

The Church website has now been up and running for 2 years and continues to develop. On average 60-80 people a day visit the site and the recently launched Facebook page is reaching 400 people daily. These figures are encouraging as we have had some people come to St Andrew's as a result of what they have read on the site. For a year now most sermons are recorded and available on the website, along with the transcripts of the Men's and Ladies breakfast talks. All church events are available in the online diary as well as service times and lots more information.

Any suggestions for content are always welcome.

Please send any information via email to Jonathan.Vibert@Gmail.com

St Andrews Men's fellowship

We have tried to meet monthly but have sometimes failed but it is a delight to be able to meet together, usually over a really healthy breakfast, to talk about things that matter to men. To encourage each other and to offer challenges personally and as members of St Andrews. To realise together that we have a Saviour who is worth following, a Father who loves us and is deeply proud of us, a world to win for Him and a place that is right for us as men in the church. If you are male and have not been to one of our legendary breakfast meetings then you don't know what you are missing. It is expected that with the summer now approaching we will get out and about a bit and almost certainly end up in a pub for lunch!

Flower Ministry Report for 2011

A long tradition of flower ministry at St Andrew's has continued through 2011 with talent, generosity and enthusiasm that never ceases to amaze. Sadly we have folk who can no longer join us, but we are pleased to have welcomed some new enthusiastic arrangers. However, the weekly slots for arrangements on the altar have become increasingly difficult to fill, (and 2012 is proving even more challenging!). So we are indebted to the generous people who have arranged and provided the flowers on more than one occasion during the year. Ideally, to ease this burden, we could use at least another ten volunteers.

Decorating the church for each of the festivals has once again proved to be joyful and fun for those taking part, as well as times of exceptional effort and generosity. The Easter arrangements were especially lovely as we celebrated Christ's sacrifice and resurrection. Harvest was another opportunity to demonstrate our thanks for the provision of our food. The Christmas decorations, in particular with the longer period of use, made a valuable contribution to the celebrations of the many groups who used the church during that time. These special occasions can be a good opportunity for new-comers to join us, and also, with the church doors open and clearly lots of activity going on inside, provide an opportunity for local community to step inside, have a chat and, maybe, even be offered a cup of coffee.

Generous monetary contributions from within St Andrew's have kept us just about solvent throughout the year, so once again we have not had to ask for any money from the church funds. A small legacy enabled us to purchase some new candles, which add to the devotional atmosphere at some special services.

My grateful thanks to everyone for their contribution, support and encouragement during 2011.

Praise God
Janet Averty

Jonathan & Donna's Housegroup

Donna and I began hosting our Housegroup as part of the Giving in Grace program last spring. Since then we have used various DVD based study materials including 'A passionate life', 'A purpose driven life' and 'The way of a worshipper'. The next course we are about to start is entitled 'If you want to walk on water you have to get out of the boat!' Once a term we have a social evening with a meal, and recently spent an evening putting together 190 Easter gift bags which with the help of the Youth were distributed to the community on Easter Sunday.

We have enjoyed the fellowship of our small group and and have found hosting the group to be very rewarding.

We would encourage anyone interested in joining a house group to speak to any of the leadership team.

Jonathan and Donna

St Andrews Bowling Group

Another good year of bowling! As usual, we began the season in October, and played every Thursday evening until the end of March, missing out only the Christmas /New Year holidays, and one evening cancelled due to the wintry weather.

Anyone who has passed through the Hall Foyer whilst we have been bowling in the hall will have heard that we are a lively, happy group. Bowling at St Andrews is definitely not a serious, quiet activity.

Underneath all the laughter, there is a warm, caring feeling, and we always check up on each other's well-being, if a member is missing. The Community Centre certainly has a good "community" group in St Andrews bowlers.

Mary Hill & Enid de Gruchy. (March 2012)

St Andrew's bucks the trend!

Did you realise that 50% of all Christian young people, aged between 11 and 18 years, will leave the church even if both parents are Christian? It gets worse - 85% will leave if only one parent is a committed Christian and if neither parent is Christian then 99.6% will leave! Those are national stats quoted at a youth work conference I attended.

But what you may not be aware of is that 100% of the young people at St Andrews who have had connections either as children or as youth remain with us. What's more, statistics say that young people drift away from the faith when they leave for college, and that's not been true of our twenty something's either.

Why does St Andrews buck the trend? Well I think there are three reasons. Firstly, ten years ago when I started in children's ministry Lindy said to me she actively did not accept the belief that young people drift away from church in their teens and was praying against it. So I grasped onto this idea and started praying with her.

Secondly, our young people have been challenged not only to learn about their faith but to live it, through service within the church and at large scale events. You'll see every one of them from five years up involved in some way, in serving others. A view endorsed by a recent article in youth work magazine by Krish Kandiah the Executive Director of the Evangelical Alliance.

Thirdly, it takes a whole generation to raise a child and St Andrews has at its core a belief in ministry with children and young people, so it's something we have invested in, with our time and with our money. Over 40 people are involved in children's and youth ministry in a church of 120 people. Our children and young people know they matter to you because it's where you invest your time, resources and prayers.

So where else are we bucking trends...

Toddlers - attendance continues to blossom with over 50 children on the register. We have not just toddlers but also babes in arms as well as in tummies! Sue's teaching is brilliant and her advice to mum's dealing with family issues is invaluable.

Kidz Club - on average 40 children are attending at the moment and we are seeing lots of mums joining the volunteer team that supports the club. This is great news because it's a chance to build deeper relationships and invite them along to church events. Kate Whittingham is now leading the Kidz Club team supported by Elaine so that she can grow as a leader and so that Elaine can focus more time on Youth Club.

Explorers - we continue to have demand we can't fully meet for mid-week bible teaching for children who attend Kidz Club. We have been teaching two classes totalling 20 children. However, we are now moving into church to ensure we can reach all the children who would like to come and also adding more worship to our time together. Our aim will be to grow this to become a mid-week, family church service.

Messy Church - we are seeing fringe families come to messy church sessions and invite other families who don't have a connection with us, so we are definitely starting to see fruit. We need to keep up the momentum to ensure that church attendance becomes a regular occurrence for these families.

Youth Club - good news here too; our numbers are averaging 20 young people a week and we are getting more help from people outside the church as well as the congregation. As a result the atmosphere at club is more relaxed and more conducive to building relationships. Lots of these young people will be helping at the coming Jubilee Event on 16 June! Our aim is to see more of them attend Keswick this year and give their lives to Christ.

Where could we see more growth...

Our youth are brilliant at attending on Sundays and this group has also grown in the past year. We don't however, have many younger children taking part on a Sunday. I'm told by parents that the children want to come and that the kids love what we offer but it's parents who can't get up the motivation to come. Families coming to church is something we should all be praying for, so please take this on as a prayer point for the coming year.

What you can do to make a difference...

Pray for all these ministries

Think about what you could get involved with - with Elaine likely to leave in October 2012 due to a lack of funding, we need help to ensure these ministries keep going. If you would like to join a team please speak to Elaine for more information.

Think about giving to these ministries - one off gifts or giving on a regular basis. Although Kidz Club and Youth Club contributed £1,500 to Elaine's salary in 2011 any additional help you can give could make the difference between Elaine's role coming to an end and us being able to continue to employ her.

Finally THANK YOU!

To everyone who volunteers in the children and youth ministries at St Andrews.

To everyone who prays for these ministries.

To everyone who gives to these ministries.

We would not buck the trend without you!

Busy Bees

It does not seem like 4 years ago since we had the idea of starting up a group of ladies to knit items for Romania. We started off with about 8 ladies and now we have approximately 15 each month. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month with the exception of January, July, August & December for obvious reasons, at 2:15pm till about 4:00pm usually downstairs in Room 4.

You don't have to be able to knit, we can teach you if you like, as a matter of fact we have one lady who has learnt to knit and another who wasn't very confident about it but both are now busy knitting squares which we make up into blankets. You can pop in and have a cuppa and chat we would always be pleased to see you and we do have a lot of laughs.

Since we started we have made masses of baby jackets, cardigans, scarves, woolly hats, blankets and even shawls for the elderly folk. Most of these items have gone to people whom we at St Andrew's support and which Roget and helpers take out there. We are very grateful to these ladies for all they do.

Anyone who comes to church or who lives in our area will be very welcome.

Contacts are Angela Sevant, Maureen Liot, Marie Fleming & Gwen Wheeler

Eastern House Group

The Eastern House group meets on a Thursday evening @ 7.30pm, every other week, at present we have eight people who regularly attend this group. We all take part within the group by sharing the leading in study, choosing the worship songs or providing the cake for that week. We welcome anyone who is considering joining a friendly house group in the Green Island area.

The evening usually starts with a welcomed cup of tea/coffee, followed by a chat {sometimes this goes on a bit!!!!} then a time of worship which leads into an opening prayer before starting our study.

In 2011 we started the year off with a social get-together. We then studied Exodus which was part of the Giving In Grace Programme, this study took us up to the end of March. We then went onto studying "Christian Characters" this was a 12 week course and we finished this in November when we broke up for the Christmas period. Instead of house group over the Easter time we attend "Maundy Thursday at church. House group also breaks up for the summer months when we finish in July and re-commence in September.

At the end of each session, time is given to anyone who has any issues or areas they would like some prayer. We also pray for anyone, who we are aware of, within our church family who is ill and in need of prayer.

Jackie {on behalf of the Eastern House Group}

Mondays Ladies Fellowship

We have once again had a very good year. We had our usual Communion Service in Church and this year we didn't have to cancel the January one as there wasn't any snow. We are always grateful to the Vicar who kindly takes it for us and to Roger who helps him. Maureen & Angela came to speak to us about Romania and showed us some photos of the Orphanage where we send our boxes and the things that Busy Bees make. Busy Bees is a group of ladies who meet on the 3rd Thursday in the month to knit, crochet or sew for our Orphanage, even if you don't do any of these everyone is welcomed to come down to Room 4 and have a chat and a cuppa. It is an open group for anyone who lives in the district. We have a lot of fun and sometimes we are as many as 15 of us in there.

Mrs Enid Quenault came and spoke to us in March as she had completed 50 years as a Methodist Lay Preacher, most of her time being spent with Bethesda Chapel at Val de la Mare.

We again organised the flowers for Mothering Sunday but we now no longer have to bunch and ribbon them as Lucas do them for us, sadly we are all getting older and it is more convenient this way but thanks to Marie who kindly co-ordinates it all and to Elaine and the young children for the Church who give them out.

We had a talk from Mr & Mrs Woodhouse who have formed "Holidays for Heroes" and they told how their ideas had developed.

Old Jersey postcards on the Magic lantern was the theme for May, these were shown and explained to us by Joan Waddington and Francis Corbett. Many old memories were revived.

In June for our outing we did something different, instead of having a coach, which has become very expensive to hire, we doubled up in cars and went to "Olly" on the Five Mile Road. It was very good. It was decided that is what we will do every year now for our annual lunch.

In July we welcome St Martin's Ladies group to tea and as I was in hospital, my two deputies Marie & Mary took charge and a very good afternoon was held. Thank you once again ladies.

Natalie Husk the area rep, for Leprosy Mission came over to speak to us in October and told us about her long trek around the S/W coast to raise funds and showed us collated slides to show us how the money raised is spent. The money is used to help people in countries that need it and it is nice to know that the money goes directly to the people through TLM in those places. We raised £300 for them from our Coffee morning, which in light of the financial difficulties was very good.

Our AGM was held in November and as our Treasurer, Mrs Marie Herniman was leaving the Island in March 2012 we had to have a new Treasurer, so Betty Fry was asked to do it and Mary Hill took over as Secretary, for which I thank them both. These duties are not arduous but are needed if we have to work properly. We only have two committee meetings a year but we need to plan the programme early and to know how much money we have in the "pot"

For our Christmas celebrations the Caesarian Bell Ringers came and played suitable music for us and we enjoyed singing along with them.

Sadly during the year a couple of our member had to resign as they are no longer able to get about, but we still remember them on their birthdays.

My thanks must go to Mary, Marie Fleming, Marie Herniman & Betty and all the committee for the help, especially as I had to have some days off and of course to all the members for their continued support.

Gwen Wheeler, Chairman

The Social Committee

St Andrew's Social Committee had many organised events throughout 2011 as well as helping and being involved in other events requiring catering.

January started off with a celebration for our Giving in Grace Programme. This was in the form of a buffet and where a display was put together of all the activities that were carried out within the church.

February half term a team of helpers ran the café for craft week which Elaine organised for the local children. Also in February we had our Annual Church lunch at the Monterey Hotel. Finally in February we celebrated with Adrian & Jackie on their 25th Silver Wedding Anniversary.

In March cakes were provided by Adrian and with help from Mike the two served teas and coffees for Mothering Sunday

April we provided food for the Agape Meal for Maundy Thursday and the usual Frugal Meal of soup and bread for Good Friday which was served after the "Walk of Witness"

In May we usually hold our church BBQ however this year as the main organisers were off island we decided to cancel this event. Also in May we helped Ivor & Patricia celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary by providing a cake and some bubbly after the morning service.

During the month of June we celebrated Lorna Glendewar 90th birthday.

We provided the catering for our Confirmation Service – this was one of the biggest confirmation services we held as we had 14 of our own congregation members being confirmed.

July started with another wedding celebration where we helped Doreen & Roy celebrate their 60th anniversary.

August was our annual Picnic in the Park although many people were away on holidays at this time and wasn't as well supported as other events

In September everyone was back from their holidays, and we held our Church Week-end during the middle of Sept and this was held within the meeting rooms at church and the week-end was led by Mark & Julie Iles. Lunch and tea/coffee was provided for everyone who attended.

October – "by popular demand" another craft week was organized during the half term break, again a team of helpers ran the café during this week

St Andrew's Day, in November, we cooked a 3 course meal for our church family and this was attended by about 60 people. We served a traditional meal of "Haggis, neeps and tatties" – this was enjoyed by all who attended and a great way of getting our church members together. Adrian & Jackie did a short presentation afterwards on their recent trip climbing Mount Kilimanjaro

At Christmas we held our annual Community Carol Service followed by mulled wine, mince pies and nibbles. We also (by request from some of the residents) returned to do some Carol Singing at Clos Vaze. We went from door to door offering warm mince pies and chocolates for the children. We were made very welcome and some people commented that they had missed us the previous couple of years.

In 2011 Elaine and a few others introduced "Messy Church" into the latter service and the social committee helped with providing the refreshments for these services

Thank you to everyone who helps to make these events run smoothly especially those who do so much behind the scenes.

The Social Committee