

## Appendix 1: Report of the Hon Treasurer (John Hughesdon)

This year has been challenging one financially for our church. Collections, donations and Gift Aid for normal purposes totalled about £20,500, about £1,000 down on last year, and we also received a small legacy from a former member of the Church. Fund-raising was again slightly down though fees (for weddings funerals etc) were again up on the previous year. Interest income was derisory. Overall our income (excluding the appeal for the toilets and kitchen) was about £1,000 less than the previous year.

Expenditure (again excluding money spent on the appeal project) was some 33% up, mainly due to the refurbishment of the bell tower (£3,981), legal fees to secure access via 'Elmore' and the increase in the Parish Share was some £2,700 (it remains at the same figure for 2011 but will be considerably higher in 2012, based on our increasing numbers), it remains by some way the lowest *per capita* in the deanery. This year we also decided to contribute more to charities outside the church (details in note 5 to the accounts).

The overall 'result' is a decrease of general funds of £5,488; these now stand at just over £5,000. The restricted fund for the repairs and fabric has grown by about £8,600 (income of £19,000 and expenditure of £10,600) to £32,402. We need more than this to start the kitchen and toilet project and we also need some reserves to cater for any emergencies. Other restricted receipts have all been used for the appointed purpose during the year.

We have two small trust funds which in due time we expect to be transferred to unrestricted funds as the purposes of those trusts are no longer active. They were both invested in unit trusts and have seen a slight increase in their values to £3,337.

Greater use of Gift Aid is again being made either using the envelopes in the pews, or monthly standing orders or the weekly or monthly gift envelopes. If any others would like to use either of these latter two methods of giving, please speak to me. Similarly, please let me know if any would like to include St Mary's as a beneficiary under your will.

2011 is likely to be another challenging year, not just because we hope (at last) to be embarking on the building of permanent external toilets and the much needed kitchen facility in the Majendie Hall, but also because of the arrival shortly of our new Team Vicar, Will Hunter-Smart, who may himself have some new ideas to challenge us.

I would like to thank our Independent Examiner, Brian Tubman. Also the office of St Nicolas' Church, especially Sue Elliott has been an invaluable source of information and help. As a church we again acknowledge God's gracious hand upon us.

### Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2010

				2010	2009
	Note	General Fund	Designated & Restricted Funds	Trusts	Total Funds
		£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>					
Gift Aided giving		10,236.00	3,678.00		13,914.00
Tax refund	1	2,849.00	891.00		3,740.00
Collections at services		5,456.00	140.00		5,596.00
Legacies		500.00	0.00		500.00
Donations	2	1,321.00	14,897.00		16,218.00
Fundraising	3	2,843.00	225.00		3,068.00
Interest		29.00	164.00	158.00	351.00
Fees	4	4,802.00			4,802.00
Insurance claim		736.00			736.00
		<b>28,772.00</b>	<b>19,995.00</b>	<b>158.00</b>	<b>48,925.00</b>
					<b>30,959.44</b>

**Expenses**

Donations	5	2,210.00	178.00		2,388.00	477.50
Parish Share		12,599.00			12,599.00	9,920.40
Fees to Incumbent (Diocese)	4	1,973.00			1,973.00	1,300.00
Upkeep Church and Hall	6	8,417.00	600.00		9,017.00	11,128.07
Services	7	1,892.00			1,892.00	1,695.72
Churchyard	8	1,829.00			1,829.00	969.21
Fundraising and administration	9	761.00	795.00		1,556.00	679.54
Costs re break in	6	432.00			432.00	553.70
Works re toilets/kitchens	6		9,854.00		9,854.00	207.00
Bell tower repairs		3,321.00	660.00		3,981.00	0.00
Legal fees re Elmore access		984.00			984.00	
		<b>34,418.00</b>	<b>12,087.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b><u>46,505.00</u></b>	<b>26,931.14</b>
<b>Net income</b>		<b>-5,646.00</b>	<b>7,908.00</b>	<b>158.00</b>	<b>2,420.00</b>	<b>4,028.30</b>
Transfers between Funds		158.00		-158.00		
Change in value of investments				176.00	176.00	334.53
<b>Balances brought forward</b>		10,502.00	24,494.00	3,161.00	<b><u>38,157.00</u></b>	33,793.77
<b>Balances carried forward</b>		<b>5,014.00</b>	<b>32,402.00</b>	<b>3,337.00</b>	<b><u>40,753.00</u></b>	<b>38,156.60</b>

**Balance Sheet at 31 December 2010**

					<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
		<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Designated &amp; Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Trusts</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
Lloyds TSB:	Current Account	4,008			4,008	634
	30 Day Account	1,006	1,558		2,564	2,597
CBF Cof E Deposits			30,844		30,844	31,764
CBF Investment Funds				3,337	3,337	3,161
		<b>£5,014</b>	<b>£32,402</b>	<b>£3,337</b>	<b>£40,753</b>	<b>£38,157</b>

Approved by the Standing Committee on behalf of the PCC on 11th March 2011:

Michael Bell (Acting Chairman)

John Hughesdon (Hon Treasurer)

**Report of the Independent Examiner**

I report on the accounts of the Church of St Mary, Speen for the year ended 31 December 2010.

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is my responsibility to state whether particular matters come to my attention.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the Church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements
  - a. to keep proper accounting records, and
  - b. to prepare accounts which accord with those records, have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### **B C Q Tubman (Independent Examiner)**

#### **Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2010**

1. The income tax refund is for the 13 months to 31 October 2010, a claim for the final two months of the year of some £1,287 (including £276 *re* the Appeal) will be submitted shortly.
2. Donations include 'restricted' donations from The Greenham Common Trust (restricted *re* Appeal), Speen Fête, and the Sir Richard Sutton Settled Estate for which the PCC is most grateful.
3. Fund-raising includes the Christmas Bazaar, the Harvest Auction, various concerts and a range of other activities.
4. Fees are for the use of the church for weddings and funerals and for memorials in the churchyard. A proportion of the fees is payable to the Incumbent, or other officiating clergy. The incumbent's fees are remitted to the Diocese.

5. Donations payable were as follows:	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
a. Newbury & District Cancer Care*	200	-
b. Thames Valley Lupus	200	-
c. Bible Society	250	-
d. Tear Fund <i>re</i> Haiti	200	-
e. Tear Fund (general)	250	-
f. Shoemakers	250	-
g. CTNA	100	-
h. New Tribes Mission	150	-
i. Whizz Kidz	150	-
j. Helen & Douglas House	200	-
k. Miriam Dean Trust	200	-
l. Help for Heroes	130	-
m. Others	<u>108</u>	<u>511</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£2,388</u></b>	<b><u>£511</u></b>

6. The upkeep of Church and Hall comprised:	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
a. Insurance	£3,282	£3,282
b. Oil	2,749	1,819
c. Electricity, gas, water	858	749
d. New oil tank	-	2,754
e. Septic tank	280	360
f. Fire extinguishers	478	446
g. Organ and piano	457	398
h. Bell tower	3,981	-
i. New heaters	-	318
j. Cleaning ceilings	-	500
k. Sundries	<u>912</u>	<u>512</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£12,997</u></b>	<b><u>£11,128</u></b>

£660 of the costs in 2010 has been covered by restricted donations. The £9,854 costs relating to the proposed new toilets and kitchen (shown separately) relate to professional fees (fundraising costs of £795 are shown separately). We incurred further costs relating to the break-in (2009) but the insurance recovery repaid all but the policy 'excess' of £250.

7. Services:	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
a. Organists' fees	£1,410	£1,425
b. Christmas lights and crib figures	307	-
c. Other	<u>175</u>	<u>271</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£1,892</u></b>	<b><u>£1,696</u></b>
8. Churchyard:	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
a. New mower (2009 strimmer)	£600	£399
b. Mower maintenance	331	432
c. Gravel	457	78
d. Sundry	<u>441</u>	<u>60</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£1,829</u></b>	<b><u>£969</u></b>
9. Fund-raising and Administration:	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
a. Ads in NWN	£158	£316
b. Gift envelopes	47	46
c. Training and PCC Awayday	95	140
d. Christmas/Easter services cards	-	65
e. Other	<u>392</u>	<u>67</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£647</u></b>	<b><u>£680</u></b>

#### 10. Designated and Restricted Funds\*

	01-Jan-10	Income	Interest	Expenses	31-Dec-10		
		Incl tax rec'd					
Restoration/Fabric:							
Designated	£ 21,559	£ -	£ 148	£ -	£ 21,707		
Restricted	<u>2,275</u>	<u>19,053</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>- 10,649</u>	<u>10,695</u>		
	23,834	19,053	164	- 10,649	32,402		
Charity specific gifts		248	-	- 248	-		
Bells	660	-	-	- 660	-		
Church & Hall	-	600	-	- 600	-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 24,494</b>	<b>£ 19,901</b>	<b>£ 164</b>	<b>-£ 12,157</b>	<b>£ 32,402</b>		

\* NB All funds are restricted except part of Restoration fund. Restricted Funds may only be used for the purposes for which they were given, designated funds are allocated by the PCC for specific future expenditure and may be reallocated if not required.

#### 11. Trust Funds

	01-Jan-10	Income	Investment	Expenses	31-Dec-10
			Return		
Clerk's House	£ 2,936	£ 134	£ 176	-£ 134	£ 3,112
Afternoon Service	<u>225</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 24</u>	<u>225</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 3,161</b>	<b>£ 158</b>	<b>£ 176</b>	<b>-£ 158</b>	<b>£ 3,337</b>

## Appendix 2: Treasurer's Address (John Hughesdon)

Having had the accounts available on Sunday, I shall assume that those that wish to delve into the detail have done so, so I propose to stick to the headlines, though of course I shall be happy to take questions.

2010 was not a good year financially, as measured on the Micawber scale - expenditure exceeded normal income by some £5,600, more than eliminating the previous year's surplus. Overall our general fund income was down by about £1,000, but our expenses were up by about £9,000. In broad terms, we spent £4,000 on refurbishing the bell tower, to make that safe for the ringers, £2,600 more on our parish share (more about that shortly), £2,000 on extra parochial charities, as announced early last year, and £1,000 on legal fees to secure access via Elmore for oil coming in and effluent going out.

Our parish share for 2011 is the same as for 2010, but I think 2012 will be a different story. Not only have our congregations increased in number, which is wonderful, but I fully expect that when our new Team Rector starts to spend some serious time with us (and that's what we have requested and he has agreed to) we shall be expected to contribute towards his costs as well. While I cannot predict with any certainty how this will pan out, I would be surprised if our Parish Share does not increase by something like £2,500 each year for the next few years.

We also collected £19,000 for the kitchens and toilets (more has come in since the year end and more is promised, but not yet enough to enable us to start the project. Michael will be saying more on this shortly. Our restricted and designated fund for this and other fabric costs as of today stand at almost £40,000, but I do not believe we can spend all of that on the project while general funds are so low.

So where does all that leave us? At the same time as ensuring that the toilets and kitchen project goes ahead, we need to fund increasing current costs and rebuild our general reserves over the next few years. We still hope for more money from external sources for the appeal but you will not be surprised to hear that it is not easy to raise money for anything at the moment. We need unrestricted Gift aided donations and collections to rise from less than £16,000 in 2010 to at least £18,000 this year and £20,000 next, that's 13% this year and 11% next and that assumes no unusual expenses.

SMS is held in very high regard in the Deanery, we must not find ourselves on the financial rocks.

Finally, how can you help?

1. Please review your giving, I am thinking of writing to the Bank of England asking them to phase out £5, £10 and £20 notes and replace them with £6, £12 and £25 as I suspect that would immediately solve at least half our problem.
2. If you are a taxpayer, and have not done so, please gift aid your every donation. The easiest way for you to do so is to fill in a GA form and take a set of envelopes so I know where the money comes from, I tell no one but our auditor and the taxman but to reclaim the tax I do need to keep proper records, though the Chancellor in his recent statement hinted at a relaxation in these rules for smaller donations which may help, but the new rules have yet to be codified. If you have the numbered envelopes you don't need to do anything but put your offering in it and drop it in the bag, and if you miss some weeks out, that is entirely up to you. If you forget it, as I sometimes do, pick up one of the others and write your number clearly on the outside. No signature required.
3. Of course, the church is here whether or not you are, so some of us fill in the other part of the GA form which sets a standing order direct from your bank to the church. If that makes life easier for you, please use that method, possibly in conjunction with the envelopes, but please review it at least annually.
4. The other thing I would mention is 'you can't take it with you'. In other words, we may have a lot more freedom to give from our estate, without making significant inroads into the expectations of our families and again the Chancellor has recently given some fiscal encouragement for people to donate to charity from their estates. I have not mentioned

tithing in relation to general giving because there are all sorts of complications to that, but 10% of our estates (large or small) when we die will secure the future of St Mary's, Speen over the long term.

I appreciate that some are on low or fixed incomes and an increase in giving of the proportions I have mentioned may not be possible; some are already giving sacrificially; but we as a church must view our giving in the light both of Christ's sacrifice for us and the needs of our church.

I have with me forms for GA, regular bank SO and codicils to add an extra beneficiary to an existing will. If you can use one or other of them, please do so. The GA and SO forms need to come back to me, the codicils need to be witnessed and kept with the original will.

I have a copy of this address for each of you, together with the forms I have just mentioned. Please take them and consider carefully and prayerfully what is your response.

**Gift Aid Declaration**

**Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Speen**

I would like to make my donations by (please indicate which):

Bank Standing Order                      Cheque                      The Envelope Scheme  
(please use the form below)

**Details of Donor:**

Title..... Surname..... Forenames.....

Address..... Postcode.....

I should like the PCC of St Mary, Speen to treat all my donations on or after this date as Gift Aid Donations.

I confirm that I have or will pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount to be reclaimed and I expect this to continue.

**I may cancel this declaration in respect of any future donations at any time.**

Signature.....Date.....

Please return this form to the Hon Treasurer, John Hughesdon FCA, 44 Speen Lane, Speen, Newbury, Berks RG14 1RN  
Inland Revenue Reference X8438

**Bank Standing Order**

To the Manager.....Bank

Address..... Postcode.....

Please pay to the PCC of St Mary's Church, Speen  
At: Lloyds Bank plc, 5 Bridge Street, Newbury, Berks RG14 5BQ  
Sort Code: 30-95-89                      Account Number: 1430179

The sum of £..... (in words.....),

Commencing on..... And the same sum every month / quarter / year until further notice.

Signed..... Date .....

Address..... Postcode.....

Account to be charged: Name..... Number.....

**Notes**

1. Under Gift Aid the PCC (Parochial Church Council) can reclaim the tax you have paid. We can reclaim 25% of the gifts that you make. Tax rates may change this in future years.
2. This does not affect the tax you pay unless the amount reclaimed exceeds the total tax you pay in respect of any tax year. Also, if you pay tax at the higher rate (currently 40%) you can apply for Gift Aid relief of the higher rate in your Self Assessment Tax Return (if you do not normally make such a return it could be in your interests to do so).
3. If your declaration covers future payments you may cancel it at any time by notifying the Treasurer (in writing please) and the declaration will cease to have effect from the date stated in the cancellation notice. You can re-instate it at any time on a new form.
4. If you change your name while this declaration is in force, please notify the Treasurer.
5. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid Tax Relief, ask your local tax office for leaflet 'IR113 Gift Aid', or, if you prefer, consult the Treasurer.

**Standard form of Codicil**

"I give the [*percentage*] of my residual estate and/or sum of £[*amount*] and/or [*description*] specific item, shares or property to the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Speen, Newbury, Berks, free of duty, to be applied as to both capital and income by them for such purposes specified in Section 5 of the Parochial Church (Powers) Measure 1956 as are charitable and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper Officer of the Council shall be sufficient discharge to my Trustees".

**Appendix 3: Report of the Churchwarden (Jill Wilson)**

Whilst I welcome the setting up of individual groups and appreciate the work that they are undertaking there is still a lot of non-group work that a churchwarden does and because we don't have a church administrator, quite a lot of paperwork. I've tried to keep the following as brief as possible.

**Routine Work****Weekly**

Remind readers and prayer leaders for the coming Sunday

Receive choice of hymns from service leader and advise organist -this usually relates to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays.

Prior to the service, check that everything is ready i.e. correct liturgical colour is displayed, correct hymn numbers, lectionary open at the right page etc

**Monthly**

Collect 'The Door' newspaper from St Nic's.

Always check in with Sue Elliot in the church office

**Regularly**

Do rotas for prayer leaders

Do rotas for readers

Do rotas for sidesmen

Do rotas for organists

Attend Worship Team Meetings

**Occasionally**

Order and collect church supplies from Shoemakers

Be on site with electrician, plumber etc

Order heating oil

Arrange emptying of cesspit

**Weddings**

There were seven weddings at St Mary's in 2010.

Collect Banns form from St Nicolas.

Liase with wedding couple and arrange for the Banns to be called,

Rehearsal: attend and assist where needed.

Wedding Day: get to the church early; prepare church, candles, wedding kneelers etc; put registers, along with pen and sharp pencil in the chapel.

Open and close west door at appropriate time.

During service stay near south door to assist late comers.

Signal bell ringers at the appropriate time.

After the service, tidy church and put registers etc away.

Lock the car park.

#### Funerals

There were four funerals in 2010.

Receive call from Funeral Director to check availability of church.

Liaise with minister.

Be at church early on day of funeral.

Prepare church

Open and close west door at appropriate time

If burial or interment of ashes, have Burial Book ready for the minister- make sure that green form is sent to the Registrar within 72 hours.

Tidy up and lock up.

Lock the car park.

#### Main Events April 2010-March 2011

In May, I went to David Stone's last service as team rector of Newbury, which meant that we were now officially in an interregnum. Paul Cowan, vicar of St George's at Wash Common took over, on a temporary basis, the responsibilities of team rector. Sarah Alexander, associate vicar at St Nic's, took over full responsibility for St Nic's.

At Pentecost Rhona Stuart-Bourne assisted at our Pentecost service. In the evening there was a contemplative prayer service. The following Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> May, we had a wedding in the afternoon.

At the end of June there was an Iona Service at 6.00pm which was the last in the series arranged by the 'Seeking God Prayerfully' group.

At the beginning of August, after the main church service, we processed through the churchyard and up to the Ladywell for a short service of blessing. This was followed by a BBQ organised by my fellow churchwarden's sister.

In the middle of August we had our Patronal Festival and three baptisms on the same day.

In September we had the first in a series of fortnightly meetings entitled '*Knowing God, Meeting the Mystics, Saving the Planet*' led by Revd Trevor Dorey. We also had our Harvest Festival which was preceded by Harvest Supper the evening before and succeeded by our charity auction.

At the beginning of October there was a wedding weekend with a concert in the Majendie Hall on the Saturday evening. In the middle of October, Revd Paul Cowan from St George's led a morning service.

In November the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial, was followed by a church service. Both of these were led by the Archdeacon of Berkshire. Near the end of November, we had an afternoon concert by The Cromwell Singers, and on the last Saturday of November our annual Christmas Bazaar and there was a choral evensong the following evening.

The weather in December was pretty awful, but with more than a little help from our friends, we managed to keep St Mary's open and enjoy a Carol Service, Midnight Mass as well as our normal Sunday services.

This year has been relatively quiet so far. In addition to our normal Sunday services, the Archdeacon stepped in to take a service when Katy was unable to do so at the end of February. The same day there was a sung Evensong. In the middle of March there was a Young Musicians Concert in the Majendie Hall and the standard was high.

The Lent Course, which started on March 6<sup>th</sup> is '*Make friends with your Bible*' and is being run by Revd Christopher Ardagh-Walter.

As to the future, we look forward to welcoming the new team rector, Will Hunter-Smart, who will be officially inducted on May 5<sup>th</sup> and will be taking his first service here at St Mary's on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Our current average Sunday attendance is 55 and growing. Let us all remember that we are a broad church and welcome all who enter St Mary's.

Thank you to my fellow churchwarden and all those who give up their valuable time to help secure the future of this church.

#### Sidesmen

Just to let you know that the current sidesmen are Shelagh Bell, Mavis Brind, Jane Burrell, Les Curtis, Jennifer Davies, Val Dorey, Denise Nobes, Robin Read.

#### **Appendix 4: Report of the Vice-Chairman (Michael Bell)**

The past year has again given the people of St Mary's cause to rejoice in the growth and positive development of our church community. We have seen both an increase in the breadth of our spiritual activities and a rise in the numbers who join us regularly for worship. In particular, our Sunday evening series has brought alternative ways of connecting with God to the attention of our own congregation whilst also attracting many who normally worship elsewhere. And our Sunday morning services continue to see the pews filled more than for many years, with our usual attendance now over sixty!

The progress of St Mary's is well recognised within the Anglican community, and, indeed, the Bishop of Oxford has recently asked us to be included as one of a small group of churches within the Diocese which pilgrims will be encouraged to visit.

The PCC resolved a couple of years ago to ensure that the church retained a broad appeal to a congregation who come from a wide variety of Anglican backgrounds and we continue to try to keep that ideal at the forefront of our minds as we plan the life of St Mary's. That planning has included the drafting of a vision for the next five years. This document brought together the preliminary thoughts of a small number of PCC members, but the draft is now being thought through and debated much more carefully, and put into action by a number of dedicated groups in those areas where we have the full PCC's approval.

Our Worship Group has recently recommended that we start to use a new hymn book for the majority of our services and many of you will know that this has now been introduced. It includes most of the hymns from our existing book (The New English Hymnal) as well as many others that will suit the variety of our worship and particularly children. We hope that you like it.

A significant happening during the past year was the departure of the Rector of ourselves and St Nicolas, David Stone, to become Canon Precentor of Coventry Cathedral. We wish him well in his new role into which we know he has settled quickly. There were many excellent candidates to replace David here in Newbury, and you will all be aware that the Reverend Will Hunter Smart was chosen to fill the role. We look forward to welcoming Will and his wife, Ellen. Will's induction will be in early May and we shall see him at St Mary's soon thereafter. Will has already made it clear that he wants to become deeply involved in the ongoing life of St Mary's.

We are all aware that our church and hall are not utilised by the community to maximum effect because we lack basic kitchen and lavatory facilities. An appeal was launched during the past year to try to raise £110,000 to remedy these deficiencies. Through the generosity of our congregation, the people of Speen, and a number of (especially local) charities, we have so far raised £70,000 and look forward to reaching our target soon. If you would like to contribute, please let us know. St Mary's has suffered two sad losses over recent months. Katy Haddelsey was an inspirational member of our congregation having been one of the first to offer to lead our services when the need arose, and having also served as the secretary of our PCC and as Electoral Roll Officer. She will be much missed - may she rest in peace. In the latter part of 2010, our neighbours at Elmore Abbey moved to new accommodation in Salisbury. The monks had been great friends of St Mary's for as long as we had lived side by side, and had been exemplary in their love and charity. We wish them well in their new home.

I offer sincere thanks to all those who serve St Mary's so enthusiastically, whether by leading our services, as churchwardens, PCC officers and members, musicians, sidesmen, caretakers, or in any other role. They are all tremendously appreciated.

As we at St Mary's now move forward into a new era under Will's guidance and leadership, we can only be inspired by what has been achieved through God's grace in Speen and we look forward to new and exciting times ahead.

On a personal note, my time on the PCC has now come to an end and I can only say that it has been a privilege to serve St Mary's over the past few years. I shall, of course, continue to serve in any way that I can.

### Appendix 5: Building Appeal Report (Michael Bell)

<b>Funds required</b>		<b>£110,000</b>
Funds already held:		
Reserves	£26,791	
Funds raised/promised to date:		
Donations received:		
Charities	£17,100	
Personal	£9,355	
Donations committed:		
Charities	£15,500	
Tax refunds:		
Received	£883	
Outstanding	£670	
Interest	£164	
<b>Funds held and received/promised to date</b>		<b>£70,463</b>
<b>Funds still to be raised</b>		<b>£39,537</b>
<b>Summary budget:</b>		
Lavatories	£34,747	
Kitchen	£25,257	
Preliminaries	£12,062	
Contingency	£10,000	
Total Building Contract		£82,000
Architect's fees		£12,000
Other fees		£5,000
Replacement oil tank		£2,750
New chairs		£5,000
New place settings		£3,250
Total		<b>£110,000</b>
<b>Monies spent to date:</b>		
Replacement oil tank	£2,750	
Architect's fees	£8,869	
Other fees	£2,317	
Publicity costs	£795	
Total		<b>£14,731</b>

### Appendix 6: Team Council Report (Jane Burrell)

I have attended two Team Council meetings since my appointment in August 2010: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011 and 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011. They have proved a useful forum for disseminating information about our events and activities, as well as for discussing matters of mutual concern. The meetings are too short to do more than touch on issues, although there is genuine interest by each church for the others.

## **Appendix 7: Vision Group Reports**

### **Communication Team (Jane Burrell)**

Established in November 2010, this small team has assumed responsibility for in-house publications, promotion of church activities and events, the embryonic website, church noticeboards and, recently, liaison with the press and others. The death of Katy Haddelsey (Newsletter Editor) on 5<sup>th</sup> March has left a gap which will be difficult to fill. The Team needs more members if it is to tackle effectively the goals it has set itself; alternatively, some of the goals may need to be revised.

### **Church Inventory Project (Jane Burrell)**

As part of the Church & Churchyard Group, a small team has undertaken to ensure the Inventory is accurate and documented. Peter Orr of Ladywell is currently photographing the moveable items, after which he plans to record the immovable items (including the wall memorials) and the monuments in the churchyard. As each item is recorded, so is it cleaned by Billie Thirlaway and Evelyn Lawson. Research into each item is also under way.

### **Seeking God Prayerfully Group (Jane Booth)**

Since last April's APCM the Seeking God Prayerfully Group has completed the last 2 sessions of the series "Seeking God Through Prayer". In May there was a teaching evening on Contemplative Prayer and in July an Iona Service. These two complete the series which also covered Choral Evensong, a Taizé Service, a Night Vigil and Easter Prayer and Praise. All these Sunday evenings were well attended and gave people an opportunity to experience the diversity of prayer. The series was set up as a result of the PCC Away Day in 2009 when it was agreed that St Mary's should be a church that seeks God prayerfully.

As a result of this series there has been another two choral evensongs with others planned through the year, Prayer and Praise services planned at Pentecost and Harvest, another Taizé Service sometime during the year with the possibility of Taizé music introduced into the morning service on occasion, and a contemplative prayer group has been formed that meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

A course of six evenings ran in the autumn entitled "Knowing God, Meeting the Mystics, Saving the Planet". This was a challenging course and was well attended by people from St Mary's and a variety of churches around Newbury. As a result of this course a cluster of six Contemplative Prayer Groups has been set up in the Newbury area including the contemplative prayer group at St Mary's. Also a further course that is not connected to St Mary's has started called "Living the Questions".