ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY, PHILIP LANE, TOTTENHAM

HELD ON SUNDAY 28th DAY OF APRIL 2013
PCC SECRETARY’S REPORT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) met 6 times during the year (meetingS held once bi-monthly), while the Standing Committee conducted business (on an on-going basis) and made decisions by email and other means of correspondence.

This past year has seen a number of events unfold. Some of these include the start of the Youth Group, the Everybody Welcome Course, our ever popular social events (Church Fete, Summer Outing, Harvest Dinner and the Crib Service/Christmas party), the appointment of a Community Mission Associate, Father Luke’s ‘OFSTED’ inspection, Confirmation service, the change of name of the Green School, commencement of the leadership training, completion of the Church website (www.holytrinitytottenham.org), on-going talks regarding the Tottenham Regeneration Project and a host of others.

Appointment of a Community Mission Associate – During the year, we were given a grant to appoint a Community Mission Associate to engage with the Tottenham community and develop ways through which we as a Church, can engage with the Community. Through a rigorous selection process, three candidates were selected for interview and Matthew Creber was subsequently appointed in October and officially started in March 2013. Matthew brings a wealth of experience, expertise and most importantly, passion to this role and I would encourage us all to offer our support and prayers to Matthew as he embarks on this journey of identifying ways we can engage with our community and prayerfully reaching out to Tottenham.

Father Luke’s Visit - We had the priviledge of welco ming Father Luke to our Parish in November. During his visit, Fr. Luke inspected the Parish, its surroundings, as well as talked to the PCC both individually and collectively. In particular, he talked at length with the Church Wardens, Treasurer, and Stewardship Secretary about the affairs of the Parish. We did put our ‘best foot forward’ and following the report we got afterwards, he was in doubt impressed with how we oversee the affairs of the Church (under the leadership of Father Bunmi). He showed great interest in our Open Ministry and welcomed suggestions put forward of ways in which we could engage our youth in more expressive forms of worship. Thanks to all members of the PCC who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend this meeting.

Green School - Another milestone reached during the year, albeit very recently – April 2013, was the change of name of the Green School to ‘Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School’. We proudly associate the Church with the School and we believe that better-established links can now be formed as we work together with the Headteacher and members of staff.

Social Events - Once again, we held a number of events during the year: Summer Fete, Summer Outing (to Southend-On-Sea), Harvest Dinner and Crib Service/Christmas Party. Following the formation of the Social Committee, in collaboration with the Mother’s Union, Men’s Fellowship and all members of the congregation, we have held and organised the above events that have been well attended and immensely enjoyed by all. The Summer Fete saw our very own Fr. Bunmi (representing the Nigerian team) take part in a friendly football match against the Sierra Leonenian team. I believe the results were a draw! The Harvest Dinner once again proved successful, however, the issue of lack of space in the Church Hall came up. Nevertheless, the evening was filled with lots of laughter, singing, and games, followed by dancing. This year, we look forward to working with everyone in
ensuring that these events are once again successful and enjoyed by all. To offer suggestions, please see/speak to Jannette Blackett.

**Confirmation Service** – Finally, our congratulations goes to Tomisin and Sheriah, who were confirmed at St. Pauls Cathedral last month.

All other topics are covered in the appropriate attached reports.

I would like to express my gratitude to Father Bunmi, officers of the PCC, the Standing Committee, Sunday School, Choir, Mother’s Union, Men’s Fellowship, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers and members of the congregation, for their continued faithful service to Holy Trinity. This year, we are called upon to spiritually search ourselves and ask of ourselves.....where am I called to serve.....God always rewards and blesses.

Finally, words cannot fully express my gratitude to God for the many outstanding testimonies He has bestowed upon this Parish and in my life and that of my family. To God be the glory.

**BIMBOLA ADEGBESAN**
We are pleased to report on the developments that have taken place in the Church during the past year.

The boundary wall on the east side of the Church yard to the high road had to be demolished, as it suffered cracks that were dangerous to the safety of people going pass that area. We erected a temporary metal fence which was knocked down twice. Eventually, the space had to be left bare until such time in the future, as the Tottenham Green development project will affect that area.

Our two main Notice boards, one on the high road and the other at the north side, were replaced. We now have quite visible ones with clear inscriptions that can catch the eyes of the public as people walk or drive passes the Church. This hopefully will help boost our publicity drive.

Our choir is growing, and in order to keep members and associated members fully robed, especially during the Crib and carol service, we had to order additional Choir gowns and surplices to be used by members.

We had cause to purchase additional set of folding chairs (orange) and a chair rack, to be used in the Church hall. This no doubt will serve parishioners and visitors especially when hosting social functions in the Church compound during summer. We also purchased a projector, projector screen and stand for use in the Church and Old school building.

A group of female members in the Church donated a set of gold communion trays that are used for displaying our communion elements at the back of the Church. Our thanks go to those members, especially as they had to go the extra mile to find the sample from outside the country.

Our thanks also go to John Kwaja, our Director of music, for his stride in getting musical instruments to support our singing. Today, we can boast of a set of kettle drums, a pair of cymbals and a stand that carries our keyboard in the quiet room. Our thanks also go to a family who provided us with a guitar for use by the children. Our thanks also to an elderly parishioner who donated a new Statue of “Mary Magdalene carrying the baby Jesus”, which stands just behind the votive candle stand. The Lord will bless and strengthen them all.

We had cause to replace about fifty slate tiles at the high and low levels of the roof. These were damaged and causing damp and water markings to the top of the Chancel and back of the Church wall. We used the opportunity to fix the led flashing back in place. Some damaged pipes were removed and sealed properly on the side of the Church and hall wall. The old guttering at the back of the Church hall was unblocked and downpipes cleared to allow easy flow of water from the roof especially when it rains.

Thanks to all those who contributed to our Church website. It is up to date and fully functional. Our thanks also go to the Mothers Union for supporting the cleaning of this Church, the Men’s Union for doing up the bay markings on the forecourt and assisting in providing an additional Christmas tree. Thank you members of the floral team for beautifying this Church regularly. Also to the Choir and Sunday school for their regular support to worship.
This year, among the items listed in our “To Do” list includes – Electrifying the entire Church. This was done years ago, and for safety reasons, has to be redone.

_ changing the microphone system.

-carpeting the Chancery floor

_ ordering a new set of Chasubles for the use of Priests.

- vanishing and conditioning of pew platforms on the four aisles.

- Replacing our Welcome Desk and side Altar table.

On behalf of my colleague thank you all for supporting the running of this Church. God bless you!

EMMANUEL DECKER
STEWARDSHIP SECRETARY’S REPORT

“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest... shall not cease.” (Gen 8:22).

I would like to thank you all for your consistency in increasing your giving. May the law of giving-seedtime and harvest happen for you.

In 2012 we had 94 recorded active donors with 77 Gift Aid giving

Please see table below for 2012 figures and provisional tax reclaim figures to be submitted to HMRC.

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Claims for 2011 and 2012

Claims for 2011 and 2012 have only been recently applied for, due to initial issues with registration which have now been rectified.

2012 Additional changes to Gift Aid

Some changes have been advised by the HMRC to the Gift Aid declaration statements that donors will be signing from this year-end. These changes do not affect those who have signed a declaration already.

2011 Changes to Gift Aid

As you are all aware from 6th April 2011, the Church can now only claim 25p per £1 donated. We therefore need to maximise our efforts to ensure we give in a tax efficient way

See the Stewardship Secretary/Treasurer if you:

- Are a taxpayer and have not completed a Gift Aid form
- Wish to commit to regular giving by standing order/envelopes.
- If you are already giving by standing order and wish to have a few envelopes for special donations etc (so we can record such donations re: Gift Aid).

***Also if your circumstances have changed and you are no longer a taxpayer or you have changed your name or address please see the Stewardship Secretary***

LEKAN ADEGEBSAN
REPORT OF THE EAST HARINGEY DEANERY SYNOD

Holy Trinity is represented on the Deanery Synod by Janette Blackett, Peter Clarke and Joduni Okrafo Smart

Fr Bunmi – as Area Dean

Fr Bunmi continues to serve as Area Dean.

Deanery Synod Meetings

On Fr Bunmi’s initiative the Deanery published a Prayer Book for Lent. This book deserves wider circulation.

Again on Fr Bunmi’s initiative the Deanery adapted more transparent financial procedures and presented a financial report to the Synod.

There was the usual Common Fund meeting. We all have to listen to this message. However, this parish has a good record in respect of the Common Fund.

Capital Vision 2020

In September the Deanery Synod discussed Capital Vision 2020. This is a Diocesan initiative to renew our vision for serving Christ in this great city.

Three themes emerged:

- Confident in speaking and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Compassion in serving communities with the love of God the Father
- Creative in reaching people and places with the power of the spirit

FUTURE DEANERY EVENTS

It is worth nothing that there are a series of Deanery events which are open to all members of our church. It is also possible for visitors to attend the Deanery Synod meetings. Come along as a visitor – meet members of the Church of England from other churches.

Forthcoming events are as follows:

There is a deanery synod on 22nd May.

There will also be the usual Deanery Synod Eucharist and Social in July.

PETER CLARKE
CHILDREN’S ADVOCATE REPORT

There are significant recent changes regarding the safety of our children in our Parish that the Parochial Church Council (PCC) should be aware of. Awareness was raised within the Children’s Ministry, as stated in the Diocesan website (www.london.anglican.org/childrencharter).

The children’s charter focused on four key areas:-

Worship, Welcome, Mission and Nurture

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) working in partnership with the Diocese, undertook a review of the Diocese Safeguarding Practice and Policies, and assessed what was there, improvement needed and what support could be given. Thank you to all who completed the survey forms.

The term safeguarding covers vetting and safer recruitment, safer working practices, responding to concerns, working with partner agencies or dealing with allegations against those responsible for children and other matters that might be relevant. In law the PCC is responsible for all parish activities and has a duty of care towards its children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Following the results from the NSPCC, Children’s Advocate no longer exists. This is now a shared role between two people as follows:-

(1) CHILDREN’S CHAMPION – A voice for the children to ensure that the parish is doing the best they can to nurture and help them grow in the love of Christ.

(2) SAFEGUARDING OFFICER – To ensure that safeguarding policies and parish procedures are carried out, that the presence, needs and interest of vulnerable groups, children and adults are recognised, to help deal with any issues that arise/are reported. The person would need to work closely with the Children’s Champion.

The Section X Checker is now the Evidence Checker, the role remain the same. Appointments for these posts are for three years.

The name of the vetting and baring agency has been changed from Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) to Disclosure & Baring Service (DBS). Prospective employees, voluntary or paid would need to go through this process to obtain an Enhanced Disclosure in order to work with children or vulnerable adults.

All parents/guardians, please observe the health and safety rule, that children under 16 years are not to be left unsupervised, anywhere on the church premises. In the event of an accident, the insurance would become void.

Any persons using our premises, must be made aware of our Child Protection Policy and agree to abide with the stated rules.

A clear Parish Policy needs to be adopted by the PCC annually.

Being in these roles, it is necessary to attend training 1-2 yearly.

JANNETTE L BLACKETT
REPORT OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Every six years each church’s electoral roll is redone from scratch, with all members having to sign up afresh and 2013 is that year for us.

Total on the Electoral Roll as at April 2012 was 227

Total as at April 2013 is 131

The renewal of our electoral roll has seen our numbers tumble to a low of 131 from 227 (42.29% reduction).

Weekly announcements were made in church reminding members to complete their application forms, but I fear some may have missed the deadline in returning their forms. As such the figures above may be under-estimated. Any late returns will be held and added to the list next year.

Finally, I would like to thank all who assisted me in the distribution and collection of the forms and those who returned their forms to enable the completion of the Electoral Roll.

JOAN MURRAY
HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

The PCC has continued to maintain a responsible approach towards Health and Safety and Risk management within the church and its immediate environment via the H&S officer during the year 2012

Key Accomplishment

The car park was lined by the Mens Fellowship to create equal spaces for cars to park and reduce the incidence of the available spaces not being used efficiently. The car park is now able to accommodate 14 cars with each car parked in each bay able to exit without the need for any other car to be moved. We would like to use this opportunity to encourage the congregation to keep the emergency access clear during services. This is the space between the main gate and the Vicar,s gate.

The east boundary wall was deemed unsafe by the council. A decision was taken by the PCC in consultation with the diocese, council and appropriate professionals to take down the wall. This was completed in March with assistance from the diocese in form of a grant. The area is now safe and does not pose a risk to the general public or parishioners. A decision on the exact form to secure the area on a long term basis is being discussed in conjunction with the Tottenham green regeneration team. Emphasis has been on ensuring that maintenance and security should be a paramount consideration in the eventual decision from a health and safety perspective.

The emergency exit signage and fire extinguishers across the entire premises were inspected and serviced during the year. This was done by the accredited fire equipment inspectors - Eurofire.

The intention is to continue to reassess the risk elements within the church and its immediate surroundings and ensure mitigating action is taken to minimise occurrence. Particularly, efforts will be made to review the electrical wiring status of the entire premises especially with a view to installing a new alarm system which can only be achieved after a thorough review of the current wiring.

We enjoin the congregation to continue to pay attention to the simple rules and regulations in place to keep us all safe and ask that we all remain vigilant in identifying where improvements need to be made and making same known to the Health and Safety Officer.

DANIEL BILLONG
This report covers the period the period February 2012 – April 2013.

On the 1st February 2013 the school converted to an Academy School sponsored by the London Diocesan Board for Schools Academy Trust and on this date the school changed its name to Holy Trinity CE Primary School. It was also on this day that I started as the Head teacher.

http://schools.london.anglican.org/128/ldbs-academies

This is symbolises a significant time for the school and our ambition for the future.

The school was last judged by Ofsted in 2011 as ‘Satisfactory’, now under the new Ofsted Framework this category is called ‘Requires Improvement’.

Despite the improved KS2 results of 2012, there is still much of the school that is judged to be ‘Requires Improvement’. Therefore after much discussion between the parents, staff, governors and the LDBS it was decided that it would be in the best interest of the future of the school to convert to an academy school.

This will ensure that the church foundation of the school is preserved and also that the school can receive much support and additional capacity to improve from the LDBS and other Academy Schools, St Ann’s and St Michael’s; St Paul’s and All Hallows.

Since the 1st February there has been many improvements made at the school:

- Introduction of Foundation Values for Collective worship
- Raised and consistent expectations of behaviour across the whole school
- New server and functioning ICT, including new emails and school website.
  www.holytrinityn17.ldbsact.org
- Refurbishment of the staffroom, upper corridor group rooms, Deputy Head teacher’s office and the Reception classroom. Creation of a designated work space for Teachers for Planning and Preparation time
- Learning Review of Teaching and Learning across the school
- Learning review of Literacy teaching
- Formation of the new Local Governing Body
- Approval of the new school uniform

STAFFING AND ORGANISATION

After much reflection and consideration Mr John Jay decided that after being Head teacher at the school for 6 yrs. that it was a time for a change in his career and left the school on January 31st.

Ms Graham, Senior Admin Officer left on Thursday 28th February. She resigned when the school became an LDBS Academy school for personal reasons. We are currently recruiting for a School Business Manager, Interviews to be held on Friday 12th April.

Ms Wiles has been on sick leave since 1st February. She has now notified the school that she will not be returning to work until 24th May at the earliest. Ms Connolly is team teaching Y5/6 with a supply teacher to ensure that we maintain consistent teaching in both year groups.
Ms Swann left the school at the end of this term to move to another school. She gave her notice in December.
We are currently looking to recruit three teachers on temporary contracts: Y2, Y4 and Y5.

INTERNATIONAL AND COMMUNITY LINKS

The school continues to be very proud that it serves the local community and our international richness and diversity.

This term we introduced a Mother’s Day concert, Parents of children in early years and KS1 were invited to the school’s first mother’s Day concert on Friday 8th March. This event was well attended and a huge success. The children sang songs, performed poetry and storytelling. During the concert each child gave a card to her parents, one mother commented that it was the first card she had received from her child.

We also held our first whole school ‘Fun Run’, all of the children ran together and it was a wonderful event that lifted everyone’s spirits and energy.

Next term all classes will study a country for their learning. This will complement our Koinonia Value for collective worship and lead to a colourful celebration event organised in partnership with Holy Trinity Church.

To support our parents, the Governing Body approved the new school uniform and also that every child will be given a new sweatshirt or cardigan. Our uniform ‘Change Over’ Day will be Monday 22nd April.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND INSET

The focus of our staff development is to improve the effectiveness of the teaching and learning to Good. This will ensure that all lessons meet the needs of all children. That children will make consistently rapid progress and captures opportunities for Spiritual, Moral, Social and cultural contemplation. SMSS

PREMISES

Since the 1st February a premises development plan has been established. Our main priority is to redecorate all of the classrooms to reflect the ambition that we have for the children’s learning, currently they are below a standard that is acceptable. The plan is that all classrooms will be redecorated, flooring replace, new sink units and replaced blinds.

In addition to this the LDBS is intending to submit a bid to the Dfe to replace the plastic windows with double glazed units.

The Grieg Foundation has approved a grant of £20,000 to replace the Interactive White Boards and Projectors so that all are in working order and therefore promote better learning.

I am currently in dialogue with Haringey Local Authority to rebuild the boundary wall adjacent to Monument way and also possible redevelopment of Pocket Park.

We are in the processes of looking for other grants that will fund or School Improvement prioritises
CHURCH LINKS

Fr. Bunmi has continued to support the spiritual development of the children and the staff. In partnership we plan the school worship using the Christian Values for School. We are using the values as an umbrella theme for our Collective worship. This half term we have been focussing on the value of Hope, as this complements the hopes for the new named school. The children have responded well to this and it has provided a depth to their reflection and thinking, Next half term we will use Koinonia. http://www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk/

Fr. Bunmi visits the school weekly and led the Collective worship. We are planning regular church services so that the children have a physical relationship with the church that they now share the same name with.

Children Pray during Collective worship and before lunchtime. Each class has a prayer corner, which we are now encouraging children to respond to our value.

SIMON KNOWLES (HEADTEACHER)
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

This is our third year as a group so we give thanks to God for that. At present, we have a membership of 12 and 4 new members.

I would like to use this report to formally welcome our new members:
Esele Mark
Duben Okoye
Errol Chamberlain
Claymont

I apologise for any spelling mistakes in their names.

As a group, one of our achievements was painting white parking lines in our car park. It was a delight to me in particular, watching the paint dry.
We also decorated the Church for Christmas, expertly guided by Sue Booker.

Before Christmas, we had our first social evening at Choudrys in Edmonton. We had a good turn out and had a great time fellowshipping with one another.

Our annual retreat in March to St Peters Bourne, once again proved very successful.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank our officers, Tunde Mustafa (Secretary) and Tolu Fayemi (Treasurer) for their hard work.

Stay Blessed.

JOHN CORDWELL
MOTHER’S UNION REPORT

Our Mothers’ Union branch continues to flourish, however in the last year, eight members have been removed either for non-participation or re-location and membership now stands at 20.

Officers are as follows:

- Leader: Toyin Fagbemi
- Assistant Leader: Helena Ackah
- Treasurer: Phoebe Ekwegh
- Secretary: Abi Fayemi

Monthly meetings take place on the last Sunday after the morning service. The meetings start with prayer and short worship before the agenda for the day. There are other meetings and services which are held jointly with other Mothers’ Union branches either as a diocese or as a deanery.

The diocesan monthly midday prayer meetings at Middlesex Chapel in St Paul’s Cathedral introduced in January 2008 continue to attract good numbers. I attend when work permits and would love to see especially the retired members from Holy Trinity joining on a regular basis. The list of dates of meetings and services are available from branch leaders. The highlight of each year continues to be the annual service at St Paul’s Cathedral in June, which many members from Holy Trinity attend.

The Mothers’ Union continues to be responsible for cleaning the church and we look forward to continuing to do so in the coming year.

As always new members are welcome to join with 4 million members working in 83 countries in caring for families all around the world through:

Programmes: a diverse range of programmes to meet the needs of people within local communities - from entrepreneur training, health education, parenting and relationship education provision, to teddies for children experiencing stress or trauma - all programmes are designed to meet the needs of people at the local level.

Internationally, nationally and at the local level, MU’s policy work challenges root causes of injustice and works for better conditions in society for children and families.

All of MU’s work is underpinned by the Christian faith of its members

- a challenge to 'love mercy, seek justice and walk humbly with our God.' Micah 6:8.

TOYIN FAGBEMI
This year has been very difficult due to my health and the long cold winter. After Christmas I was unable to open the Church for a few weeks. I found this very frustrating and discouraging, but 3 events lifted my spirits:

1. A lady visited the Church asking me about Baptism. She has since been baptised and is a regular member of Holy Trinity Tottenham. The Church had to be open for her to make the enquiry.

2. A teaching assistant from Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School came in her lunch break. She said she had a bad morning and came to pray for a better afternoon. The Church had to be open for her to come and pray.

3. In April, a couple came to Church to celebrate 60 years of marriage. They were married in our Church in 1953. The Church had to be open for them to be able to celebrate in this way.

‘An open Church is the hope of the world’.

Stay Blessed

JOHN CORDWELL
ORGANIST’S REPORT

I wrote in our report last year that the choir’s aim in the year 2012/13 was to ‘dream big’ and in many ways, I believe we are fulfilling that aspiration. Since that report, we have started using the kettledrums, which we acquired, and a pair of cymbals. They have already made their impact in services throughout the year, but the sounds of the drums accompanying ‘The Heavens are Telling’ are etched in my memory, and the positive comments from the church in all of our endeavours give us the encouragement to give of our best.

Once again, the choir now both at the Carol Service and at the Easter Services have set even higher standards for themselves and this has resulted, in my opinion, in the best music that we have produced to support the liturgy of the church.

I am very attached to all of the members of the choir, and would like to acknowledge their personal dedication to the service they bring to the church, each member has their place and any absence is a loss felt by all members – we depend on each other. I was very conscious that for the first time in 12 years, through illness or bereavement that all of my original members from my very first service could not be present at this year’s Christmas Carol Service.

We welcome Mark as a regular member to the choir and apologise to Marion who was missed out last year, both have made sterling contributions to the choir and, coincidentally, have demonstrated how the choir cares for each other. The memorial service for Marion’s brother was a poignant occasion last October contrasting with Mark’s wedding which is one of the most moving that I have witnessed.

I would like to acknowledge all of the ‘temporary’ members of the choir (nearly completely netted) and reiterate my open invitation for anyone wishing to join on either a permanent or for a special occasion – they would be very welcome.

Moving forward for this year, it would be an appropriate time to consider introducing to Worship new liturgical music to complement our existing repertoire including hymn tunes and Mass settings.

My final thanks are of course to Joduni (JD) without whom none of the above could be possible.

JOHN W KHWAJA
SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The Social Committee consists of the following persons, who came together last year as a team:-

- Abimbola Adegbesan
- Besrat Okrafo-Smart
- Claudine Billong
- Ike Diaku
- Ije Akinlotan
- Jannette L Blackett
- Susan Mustafa
- Trevor Evans

Together we organised and participated in the following events. The Church Fete, the Harvest Supper and the Carol Service party. These events were well attended with the feedback being these events were enjoyed immensely. Space however, is an issue we hope to be address for future events.

Our thanks to everybody, who donated items and time to help make the events a success.

JANNETTE L BLACKETT
WELCOME COURSE REPORT

A few church members attended a leadership conference in January 2012 and following the course; a Vision group was set up. The vision group meets every six weeks in the Old School House and the focus of the group is to put into action, the outcome learning’s from the leadership course.

One of the actions we took as a group was to run the welcome course for the whole church. Janette Blackett and Abi Fayemi were selected to lead the course, using materials from ‘Everybody Welcome Course’ by Bob Jackson. The course was run for the first time in November 2012 during a Family Sunday service sermon slot.

The aim of the training session was to review the whole way our church contacts the community, help members to see the role and purpose of the different aspects of church life more clearly and to work out how our church can make itself more visible and attractive to outsiders.

The main things we looked at in this session was how newcomers discover our church i.e. Personal contact, Church Programmes, Special services and Premises and publicity.

The course was an interactive sessions and was embraced well by the congregation. Questionnaires were provided to members for their input, and after the course, these were compiled and reviewed.

The key learning points from this course are listed below:

- As a church we can improve our personal contacts. We can do this by organising events that provide an opportunity to invite friends to church.
- We can improve the welcome experience of a newcomer by improving the entrance to our church, a group was commissioned to look at how we could do this, we look forward to a new entrance hall.
- Finally, the session provided help to each member of the congregation, by helping them to review and enhance their own part in the church’s ministry of reaching out to the wider community.

The plan is to continue to run the course in 2013 with the aim of setting up a fully trained welcome team by the end of the year.

JANNETTE BLACKETT & ABI FAYEMI
HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

Yet again, we have had a very successful year in that the number of regular attendees has been maintained. Having two teaching groups is the main reason for this, as the needs of the children are being better met. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Delo, who got married in August and moved to Kent. He is really missed by the children who have lost an excellent Male role model, as well as a good leader.

The Annual Walk around Tottenham Green was once again very successful and there was an excellent response to the request for sponsors. This event allows the children of Holy Trinity Sunday School to contribute to the life of the church, support charities and see the fruits of their endeavours. The money raised was for the support of the work being done in Holy Trinity Church for the young people and for equipment for the Sunday School – still to be ordered by the Team Leaders who have list as long as your arm but not had the time to sit down and complete an order from the GLC catalogue. As ever, the support of the adult community has been very much appreciated with regard to sponsorship.

The Annual End of Year Party was enjoyed by all the children – the portrait painting completion, the races and the picnic. Getting all members of the Church to participate in the Picnic and celebrations is improving but we still continue to work on getting everyone to attend.

The Nine Readings and Carol Service in December proved popular and the involvement of children has become an annual event. The children enjoy being dressed up in the costumes provided four years ago and asking parents to complete a permission slip enabled the Team Leaders to prepare the Nativity Scene and Readers, more effectively. Involving the children also continues to ensure the presence of more people. Sadly the support of parents was not as good this year and this led to a lot of the regular attendees of the Sunday School not being able to be involved.

Mothering Sunday saw the annual event of the younger members of the Sunday School provide the traditional cakes and cards – much appreciated by the Mums!

This year the Sunday School used the Confirmation and First Communion of Tomisin and Sheariah to remind the congregation of what Easter is all about as well as reminding us of the various ways the children have been involved in the life of the church. Tomison and Sheariah are our first ‘home grown’ and truly representative of what can be achieved through the Sunday School. Both have indicated that they wish to continue being involved in the Sunday School, but as Helpers.

The Family Service occurs once a month and many of the children are able to be involved, as the adults have acknowledged the importance of their being present, even when there is no Sunday School. Punctuality for the service continues to be a problem, as the Team Leaders make alternative arrangements and then children become upset when they cannot take part. It is very important that the children continue to experience being in a service once a month and have the opportunity to participate in a more formal setting. As members of the Holy Trinity Family, the children have the right to be present and it is up to the adults in the congregation to ensure this happens, by arriving on good time.

The Team leaders continue to use ‘Roots’ and ‘Living Stones’ as the basis for all the teaching and both sources continue to be popular with the children. As a result of no adult becoming involved in
the life of the Sunday School as a Team Leader, Abi and Sue have asked the PCC to take responsibility for writing the prayers for the children to read during the Family Services. This arrangement is in its early stages and it for it to be fully effective, the prayers need to be given to Abi and Sue at least a week before the Family Service. The children do need the opportunity of reading the prayers in advance as we very few children with the confidence and ability to read with meaning, without time for practice.

We are also fortunate in that there are now a circle of parents who will come in and provide support, particularly with the under 9s which is an ever growing group.

However, the congregation of Holy Trinity Church need to understand and take appropriate action to support the work of the Sunday School. Holy Trinity Church must take action NOW in providing at least 2 Committed Team Leaders – the reality now is that Sue may well have left London by Christmas, following her early retirement in July and the planned move to Kent with her Mum. There is no way that one person can be expected to run the Sunday School on their own. Ideally, there needs to be two Team Leaders for each age group prepared to attend meetings, prepare for the weekly sessions (takes about two hours) and to deliver the teachings. In addition, there are at least two occasions a year when scripts need to be written, rehearsed and presented in church, ensuring that ALL the children can participate. The writing of prayers (takes about an hour) and helping the children to rehearse them may be returned to the remit of the Team Leaders if the present PCC system fails. Then there are the events such as the making of decorations for Easter and Christmas (the present ones have come to the end of their lives and need replacing!), Sponsored activities, Harvest, the Sunday School Parties and the list goes on. Sue and Abi have been pleading for several years now for people to make the commitment and now we are at the point of IF NO ONE offers their committed time; the Sunday School could cease to exist.

The Sunday School Team would like to take this opportunity to thank Father Bunmi for his continued support and for his forbearance when we do the unexpected. We are also very appreciative of Janice Pitkin always ensuring that the heating has been put on in the Hall so that we can concentrate on the content of the sessions and not on keeping warm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEAM LEADERS (SUE BOOKER & ABI FAYEMI)
YOUTH GROUP REPORT

The Youth Group started meeting in July 2012 at the Old School House during the Sunday morning service. It is currently led by Toyin Fagbemi and Lekan Adegbesan.

The group leaves the church usually after the collect and returns for the communion. The format varies, although breakfast is first served. Each session starts and ends with prayer and the discussions usually centre on the Christian angle of current themes.

Some themes that have been discussed are as follows:

- Evolution and the creation story
- Women Bishops
- Are Food Banks the way of God feeding the poor or not?

The discussions are also backed by scriptures and it is amazing to realise the wealth of Bible knowledge that our youth have.

There is an average of 5 to 6 young people at each session but usually larger during the holidays when those in university are able to attend.

Please encourage your youth (family, friends or neighbours) to join in so that they can grow in their faith.

TOYIN FAGBEMI
ALMA REPORT

During the year the 200 Club took in £304, which was a marginal increase on 2011. We gave out £120 in prizes and received £25 in donations, slightly down on 2011.

We were able to make a donation of £1000 in September to our fellow church in Mozambique. This was composed of the accumulated profits of previous years.

Although not strictly for this report, we were able to make a donation in February 2013 of a further £300 to Mozambique due to generous donations, following news of catastrophic flooding in the area of Niassa where our fellow church is.

Many thanks to everyone who supports the club.

TONI MALLET
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S REPORT TO THE P.C.C of HOLY TRINITY TOTTENHAM

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2012 as set out on pages 1 to 7.
This report is made solely to the P.C.C, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the P.C.C those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the P.C.C as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of P.C.C and examiner

The P.C.C is responsible for the preparation of financial statements. The P.C.C consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner’s report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the P.C.C and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as the P.C.C concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a ‘true and fair view’ and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner’s statement

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

a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act; have not been met; or

b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Mr P J Ludlow, MAAT
40 The Lock Building
72 High Street
London E15 2QB
VICAR’S REPORT

We gather once again to give thanks to God for the life our Parish and to give account of our affairs in the year 2012.

2012 was a busy year, filled with lots of parish activities focused on our relationship with the community around us, our sister churches in the Edmonton Area and with Diocesan bodies. I can report that the visit by the Bishop’s Area Council to the parish on 23 May 2012 was a gratifying success. We did put our best foot forward on the day.

Prayer and Worship

Once again, I use this opportunity to thank all those who are in any way, shape or form involved in making this church space comfortable and appealing for worship. I also thank all those who make our worship experience both holy and spiritually absorbing.

As in the past, all our affairs continue to be informed with ‘the power of prayer.’ We have been steadfast as a worshipping community around the Eucharist on Sundays and Wednesdays. The prominent roles of our children at the Sunday services remain the highlight of our services each Sunday. Their delightful parts in the Carol and crib Services at Christmas have become a focus of our preparation for Christmas and popular attraction to the community around us.

More than any other group, the dedication and enthusiasm of our Sunday School teachers deserve our praise and thanksgiving to God. They continue to inspire our children in the faith of our fathers.

The Choir and our splendid organ enthralled us at last year’s Good Friday and Easter Services were made special by the contributions of the Choir and the work of our indefatigable organist John Khwaja. We are grateful for their proficiency, commitment and essential contributions to the worship life at Holy Trinity.

A team of dedicated and mission minded pastoral visitors attend the sick and housebound at home and in hospitals – taking a flavor of our worship life to them.

Community

We kept up our support for various community projects and charities.

We have maintained our ecumenical relations with the Churches Together in Tottenham. We enjoyed our Lent time collaboration with Methodist Church, URC High Cross, The Tottenham Baptist Church and The West green Rd Baptist Church.

To mark The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee we held a party for the Community. The persistent rain on that day did not hold us back from enjoying the wonderful music from the Steele Pan band, made of up of current and old pupils of The Green School.

Also the Olympics and other related cultural events around us allowed us to run or host several community activities. These showcased the versatility of our church grounds, especially around The Old School House.
The Old School House increasingly became a focus of our engagement with the community around us. In November last year, following the award of a grant for £12,000, we appointed a Community Mission Associate to help us tie up, kick off and initiate community projects from the site. He has since started in March this year on a year’s contract.

It is important to reiterate that our community will inevitable change with the emergence of a new community worshipping centre at the new Tottenham Hale Village.

What it means is that our prayers for missionary service at this end of our parish have been answered – not surprisingly in ways that we could not have envisaged. Whilst our parish boundary will shrink, there should also be gains for us in the changes. Let us begin to pray for God to unravel these gains for us.

In particular, as I wrote last year, we must act to ensure that the developments to be won through the resource that is The Old School House and a Community Mission Associate actually does enhance both our links with the community around us and our ability to respond to the emergent social and pastoral needs of a period of economic downturn.

**Administration and Finance**

Again, I offer a heartfelt ‘thank you’ to the PCC and key officers of the for their commitment, support and selfless service to the life of the Church and in the running of this church.

We continue to pray that many more among us will be encouraged to inquire: ‘What part of God’s mission (work) in this parish, am I being called to take on?’

That, in any case, is a question which the both the church and the PCC will collectively have to address in the coming days and months. We hope to place at the forefront of our lives as Christians, what being co-workers with God and each other, means for the transformation of our church to engage with more than pastoral issues on our doorsteps.

Finally, we all owe a great debt of appreciation to Mrs. Jannette Blackett for her fulsome devotion to the life and affairs of this parish since her retirement. She along with members of the Vision Group have been sterling in shaping the course of the mission of this parish ever since we attended an Area Church leadership course in February 2012.

With such encouragement, Toyin and I look forward to many more years of the privilege of serving the parish of Holy Trinity, Tottenham, full of rich achievements and framed by God’s powerful blessing for all our work in His precious Name. Amen.

*I remain yours in His Service,*

**THE REV’D ‘BUNMI FAGBEMI (Feast of St Mark’s 2013)**