



MILBORNE ST ANDREW PARISH CHURCH

**Annual Report and Financial Statement
For the year ending 31st December 2010**

Incumbent	The Rev'd Benny Hazlehurst The Vicarage, Puddletown, Dorchester.
Banks	Lloyds TSB plc, 1-2 High West Street Dorchester, DT1 1UG Nationwide Building Society 4 High West Street, Dorchester, DT1 1UJ
Independent Examiner	Mr Jim Wilson, Furzehill, Puddletown, Dorchester, DT2 7LL

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, MILBORNE ST ANDREW.

Background

St Andrew's Church, Milborne St Andrew, is part of the benefice made up of Puddletown, Tolpuddle and Milborne St Andrew with Dewlish.

Each village has a church and the churchwardens regularly hold joint meetings.

Our incumbent, Rev. Benny Hazlehurst and Associate Priest, Sarah Godfrey, take services throughout the benefice. Services are also taken by retired priests Rev. Norman Beggs, Rev. Roy Bennett and Ven. Patrick Evans.

Services and other church matters are publicised through the monthly village news-sheet, ("The Reporter" distributed free to every household) thus emphasising that the church is part of the village as a whole. The church has its own website which is www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk. This is regularly updated and we now have a link with the Diocese of Salisbury website.

The PCCs of the benefice have agreed that the benefice expenses will be split thus:- Puddletown 47%, Milborne 23%, Tolpuddle 18% and Dewlish 12%. This reflects the number of people on the electoral roll for each church. A benefice account has been set up and is administered by Marion Bishop, the Benefice Administrator.

PCC Membership

The following have served on the PCC during the past year:-

Incumbent	Rev'd Benny Hazlehurst Rev'd Sarah Godfrey
Churchwarden	Mrs Eva Stockley
Churchwarden	Miss Pat Tribe
Deanery Synod Representative	Ms Kate Williams

Elected members as at APCM 2010

Mrs Sue Lucas
Mrs Carolyn Martin
Dr Andrew Mott
Mrs Teresa Holmes-Thompson (resigned September 2010)
Mr Derek Ross
Mrs Elizabeth Walker
Ms Kate Williams
Mrs Linda Wright
Mrs Josie Wright (co-opted)

The full PCC met 7 times during the year and discussed a wide variety of matters, the most important of which are detailed later in this report. Sub-committees have been formed as required. Miss Pat Tribe has been our representative on the Village Hall Committee from ACPM 2010.

Church Attendance

There are 60 People on the Church Electoral Role for Milborne and 23 on Dewlish, making a total of 83. The figure submitted to the Diocese following the annual count for the purpose of assessing the Parish Share was 34. There were 27 communicants at Easter 2010 whilst 82 people attended a service during the Christmas period, which considering the appalling weather, was quite an achievement. The number of communicants for the whole year was 923

Milborne Praise

Milborne Praise is now an established way of worshipping for St Andrew's Church. On the 3rd Sunday in the month adults and children gather in the village hall and enjoy prayer, singing, story telling, craft activities and enjoy drinks and home made cakes. The results of the craft activities are displayed in church.

There is a small group of people who plan each service and serve refreshments. Themes this year have included baptism, healing and celebrations. Particularly successful was the Easter Experience when we made hot cross buns, chocolate crispie 'nests' and decorated Easter biscuits before going up to church and hearing the Easter story.

Bell Ringers

The year has brought mixed fortunes for ringing at Milborne church. We have been lucky to be asked to ring for a number of weddings during the year and the band performed well in each with appreciation expressed from the congregation attending.

Unfortunately, despite the forward strides in ability that has enabled the band to ring some methods with more confidence, this has been mostly minimus methods on four bells. This is because we are rarely able to raise a band of regular practice night ringers of six. It is generally five and that only with the support of a ringer travelling from Bere Regis. Ringing six bells at the moment for weddings requires support from other ringers outside the village, which can usually be arranged, but is not guaranteed. We are also less able to ring for Sunday services without a core of ringers available for this. It is also likely that we will lose one of our more competent young ringers to university towards the end of 2011. But now, as I write, a new young ringer has just started so needs all the encouragement that can be managed from the existing members. In order for ringing to continue at the church, it is essential that more ringers, either as learners or past ringers, return to the activity.

The bell ropes, guides and mechanics of the bells have been checked recently and at the moment do not require any expenditure although with regular use, the ropes need inspection to pre-empt any damage or breakages.

Organist

We had to say goodbye to Jenny Hansford who had been playing our organ once a month as she had been appointed full time organist at a church in Yeovil. On her last Sunday she was presented with wine and a pot plant. Since then we have been very grateful to Louisa Macnair who has played for us on several occasions and has rounded up a small choir for special services.

Toilet and Kitchenette

Following a meeting in church with the Archdeacon Diocesan Advisory Committee representatives and other interested bodies, the plans have been modified and these new plans submitted to the D.A.C. for a faculty. We await results.

Church Cleaning

There are 16 men and women who regularly volunteer to help clean the Church. They are often supported by spouses, partners, friends, children and grandchildren.

One volunteer had to give up due to other commitments but we were fortunate to find someone to replace her very quickly. The cleaning rota makes two people responsible for cleaning the Church once in an eight week cycle. It would be good if some more volunteers were available to swell the numbers.

The helpers have carried out their voluntary duties to a consistently very high standard and a notice of thanks from the PCC was inserted in the Reporter to this effect mentioning how often visitors to the church commented on its excellent appearance.

Church Flowers

Our team has 10 members all of whom take turns at keeping the church decorated (except during Advent and Lent). We all work together at Easter, Harvest and Christmas to ensure that we have a church full of flowers to celebrate the festivals.

We have several weddings during the year. We are increasingly asked to decorate the church for weddings so we must be getting something right! When the “home team” does wedding flowers the fees (apart from the cost of the flowers) go to the church not the arrangers, so it all helps to boost funds.

Churchyard

We did not take part in the Living Churchyard competition this year as one area of the churchyard had been cut down in error and has still only partly been dealt with. However we are, of course, still doing all we can to encourage wildlife, both flora and fauna.

At Easter the ash trees were cut back severely letting more light into the part of the churchyard nearest to St Andrew's View and to the gardens there. The fact that the ash trees were multi-stemmed showed that in the distant past they had been coppiced and had regenerated. They should do this again. The work was done by volunteers which saved us a lot of money and we are most grateful to them. One tree presented a more difficult problem and had to be felled professionally.

In October we had a very successful churchyard working party. Maurice Fox had strimmed the rough areas and these were raked clear. The compost heap in the older part was sorted out. Ten saplings of field maple and hawthorn were planted behind the church, hopefully to reinstate the hedge and in front of these foxglove seedlings were planted. In the spring and early summer wild flower area, wild daffodil and bluebell bulbs were planted. In the later wild flower area, patches were cleared and seed scattered. Behind the church, broken tiles, bricks, stones etc. were collected into piles and will be taken bit by bit to the tip.

Thanks are due to all the hard working volunteers.

We are very grateful to Maurice Fox for keeping the churchyard in such good order and also to Ronald Hogg who close mows the area around the newest graves.

Church Website - www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk

The website was first created and published in 2005 with the agreement of the PCC. The cost of hosting the website (£30 per annum) is met by a member of the Church.

Its aim is to be a source of up to date information about the day to day operations of St Andrew's Church and its work in the community for people of all ages.

The website provides information about the following –

- History of the church
- Services
- Baptisms, weddings, home communions etc
- Details about some of the people who are members of the PCC
- Cleaning rota
- Flower rota
- Friends of the church - including a down-loadable response form
- Milborne Praise!
- Friday Drop-in (POPP)
- Village Lunch
- 100 club - including a down-loadable response form

- Bell ringers
- Living churchyard
- Gallery of photographs
- Contact details of Clergy and Church wardens – telephone numbers and also an e-mail address.

The website has links to the Diocese of Salisbury and to the village website. It is updated monthly. As well as providing information to people in Milborne St Andrew and the surrounding area, there have been enquiries from people living at a distance, recently as far afield as Tasmania, seeking information about MSA Vicarage and other family history related enquiries.

The website would benefit from more regular contributions of copy, video and photographs from all members of the Church in order to continue being up to date and interesting to read. It would be good to be able to publicise and celebrate our plans for the future, current activities and achievements as a Church in this modern format which benefits from being relatively cheap, eco-friendly and appealing especially to our young people.

Events

We entered a team for the Village Quiz in April. We did not win but the evening was very enjoyable.

During Christian Aid week several church members cooked supper for Charlotte Seymour Smith's fund raising evening. Sausages and mash and a good variety of puddings were much enjoyed and Charlotte is to be congratulated as the evening raised £455. With the usual collection round the village the total sent to Christian Aid was £847.

Also in May the church ran the cake stall at the May Fayre which was a very happy and successful event.

In June we were blessed with glorious weather for our Open Gardens day. There were not quite as many visitors as we had hoped – apparently we clashed with at least 2 similar events in the area – but those who came were most appreciative. The event raised £685 for church funds.

July brought Roger's Rant Weekend. We had hymns sung to traditional folk tunes played by Stephen Earwicker and his band for our morning service. In the evening a concert by several different musicians was much enjoyed.

The Athelhampton Benefice Fete in August was extremely successful making a record £3200 for the benefice. We ran the bric-a-brac stall raising £155 and the sweet tombola which raised £60. It was a very enjoyable afternoon.

Another enjoyable fund raising event was Eva Stockley's curry supper held in September. The food was delicious, the weather was (fairly) kind and it raised £214 for church funds.

The last Sunday in September was our Harvest Festival which again saw the church beautifully decorated with flowers and produce. The Harvest Lunch was held on the Saturday as the hall was unavailable on the Sunday. People attending the lunch also brought produce to be taken into church. On the Monday we were able to distribute 22 boxes of gifts to people in the village.

The Christmas Market in November had a “fairy theme”, with most of the stall holders dressing up, some very imaginatively. All the usual stalls were there and people gave and spent very generously.

Milborne First School held a carol service in church in December. It was a lovely simple service and the readers were particularly good.

December also brought into church The Mill Singers Male Voice Choir. Their performance was outstanding and the programme was very varied with some festive music and readings. After expenses were taken out we were able to put £315 into the 'flush fund'.

The PCC. is most grateful to everybody who helped in any way with these events.

Milborne St Andrew Social Justice Group

There has not been a great deal of activity this year apart from continuing to promote Traidcraft by selling Fair Trade goods at the monthly Saturday Lunch at the Village Hall and at church on the 4th Sunday of the month.

A talk to the Wednesday Club about Fair Trade is to be given next month.

Catering packs of Fairtrade Tea and Coffee have been obtained and will be given to the village hall, which we hope will further encourage people to use Fair Trade goods by groups who use the hall. Letters are also being sent to all the groups who use the village hall encouraging the use of Fair Trade goods and offering support and information if required.

We are looking at the possibility of participating in the Dorchester Poverty Action Group initiative to run courses for families on money management.

It would be helpful to have more people involved in this group.

Village Lunch

March 2010 – February 2011

Members of the Committee: Officers, Margaret Kirk, Chair, Melva Coe, Secretary, Chris Nowell, Treasurer

Committee Members: Alice Harall, Heather Hogg, Kath and Frank Gipps and Viv Legg

We are pleased to report that The Village Lunch continues to fulfil a need not only from within the village but beyond. We have diners joining us from Blandford and Dorchester.

Diners are encouraged to bring raffle prizes, wine and fruit juice for sharing. Volunteers also come forward from the diners to help set up the tables for lunch, arrange the flowers, serve the lunch and after lunch to assist with the clearing away and washing up. This makes the entire event a community project.

The Royal Oak in Milborne continues to provide us with a two course quality lunch and thanks to their continued generosity, we are able to keep the cost of the ticket down to a minimum.

Any profits that are made during the year are used to fund Christmas gifts for every diner and extra food trimmings to accompany the Christmas meal.

During the year Eric Austen has accepted our invitation to set up a Fairtrade Stall. This has proved to be hugely successful. Eric attends as and when his very busy schedule allows. He does his very best to be with us every month.

In September 2010 we had a 'Harvest Lunch'. Diners were encouraged to bring a donation of produce to the lunch. This was then taken to the Church as part of the Harvest Thanksgiving. The response to the appeal was excellent and we plan to do the same this year at harvest time.

The number of diners averages 33 each month with 45 attending the Christmas Lunch. This was a record number and the very maximum that we and the pub could cope with. During July and August the numbers dropped slightly but we and the pub still provided the lunch. With a committee that is both hard working and dedicated, we shall continue to hold the lunch every month as it provides a happy sociable and relaxed atmosphere in which the diners feel at ease.

Community Drop-In (Coffee, Cake and Computers)

The Milborne St Andrew Community Drop-In is held in the committee room of the village hall every Friday morning between 10am and noon.

The group has been running since the beginning of April 2008. It is sponsored and supported by St Andrew's Church and was initially funded by Dorset Partnership for Older People Project (POPP). At the moment we are covering the cost of the village hall rent from the profit made from selling coffee, tea and cake and the recently introduced 50p per person, per session, sub.

One of our aims is to provide access to the most up to date technology with fast broadband internet for everyone in and around the village. We share equipment and expertise with the Monday night IT group. In January 2011 we applied for further

funding from POPP and have recently heard that we have been awarded a further £1000 in order to purchase two new iPads.

Since the report for the last St Andrew's Church AGM, the drop-in has gone from strength to strength. Currently between 20 -30 people drop-in each week and we are making the most of the extra space and much improved facilities since the village hall completed its latest improvement plan.

Although we welcome people of all ages, most of our visitors are over 50 years old and some are well into their 80's and building up their IT skills week by week. For a few the drop-in is a welcome break from full time caring roles, some visitors live alone and say that they look forward to having the opportunity to meet and chat to friends and neighbours. Some visitors bring their own lap-top computers and others use our equipment. Some have no interest in IT, but just enjoy the company, cakes and coffee or quietly read the newspapers. A lot of visitors help and support each other, sharing new skills and pooling information.

Some visitors have started to sell their surplus fruit and vegetables, home crafts, plants, home-made preserves, eggs, greeting cards etc. and tickets are sold for the Village Lunch and the Wednesday Club. We are visited regularly by the Community Police, Parish Councillors and local clergy.

We have a team of volunteer mentors, many of whom attend every week. They all have a range of IT skills and many years of experience. Perhaps even more importantly they also demonstrate an abundance of patience, good humour and tolerance, and the ability to listen.

We are very grateful for the on-going support of the PCC especially Benny, Sarah, Pat, Eva and Sue for their visits and practical support and for the shared use of Benefice equipment.

DORCHESTER DEANERY SYNOD

Deanery Synod Members Report for Annual Church Meetings 2011

- The Synod met on three occasions during 2010.
- At the February meeting Canon Alan Deboo, (*Diocesan Lay learning Officer*) and Revd David Heslop, (*Co-ordinator of Learning for Discipleship*) made a joint presentation explaining the Learning for Discipleship Modular Courses.
- Michael Clarke (*Treasurer*) outlined the 'Fairer Share' procedures. He said that while the Stewardship Group had suggested that most parishes in the Dorchester Deanery should probably be in Group 'B' the actual choice was a matter of prayerful consideration by PCCs. All parishes were urged to be as generous as possible as the budget has to be met and any shortfall has to be made up elsewhere.

- At the July meeting members bade farewell to Canon Karen Curnock, former Rural Dean, who was about to retire.
- Revd Jacquie Birdseye gave a presentation on the Crossways New Church. Already the largest village in West Dorset, the population is expected to grow to 2,800 over the next decade. Services are currently held in the Youth Centre and the congregation is the largest in the benefice but the building is only available on Sunday mornings and there can be no weddings or funerals. The 'official' parish church is at Woodsford which is two miles away along a single track road and devoid of parking spaces. A 2005 survey of parishioners showed that their two top requirements were a school and a church. The school has now been built. Land with outline planning permission for a church had been obtained and footings and groundwork completed. The £50,000 already raised has been spent to reach the present position. Local churches contributed some £1,500. Stage 3, which will require a further £550,000, involves constructing the shell of the church after which the building will be used for worship. Stage 4 is 'interior fittings', including a proper kitchen, as it is planned to use the building to serve the community seven days a week. The church already has a Sunday School but is unable to take any more children due to lack of space! A motion that: *'Synod notes, with approval, the efforts of the Revd Jacquie Birdseye and her team to establish a Church building for the growing congregation in Crossways and urges the Deanery to support those efforts with prayer and practical assistance'* was carried unanimously.
- Further consideration of the Deanery Plan for the Strategic Deployment of Clergy was adjourned to the November meeting.
- Michael Clarke (*Treasurer*) presented and explained the Deanery accounts. He noted that there was now only a £60 credit and proposed a £40 precept for each benefice to top-up the funds.
- At the November Meeting Revd Vicky Thurtell gave a presentation of her work in schools.
- Synod adopted the Deanery Strategic Plan for the Deployment of Clergy.
- A motion to wind up the Deanery Charity Account and divide the capital sum of £3,561 between the Longmead Community Farm and the Dorchester Women's Refuge was carried unanimously.
- Synod bade farewell to Hugh Privett the retiring General Synod Member who had reported to members for the past ten years.

Treasurer's Report

I am pleased for the first time to report a small surplus for 2010 even with our share increasing by £1700.

Our income for 2010 was up on 2009, with both increased giving and fundraising. Fees were again reduced.

Expenses were mainly increased by the bigger share.

2011 sees our share increase by another £2300 – a challenge indeed. We again need to increase our income to match this. The share is now £250 per week – around £10 for each member of the congregation.

Fundraising continues to be excellent, providing a quarter of our income.

We also raised almost £2000 for the flush fund. This includes over £125 in pennies and small change saved around the village.

The fabric fund increased over the year – 2011 will see more expenditure on essential repairs outlined in the quinquennial report.

Milborne St Andrew Parish Church 2010

GENERAL FUND

INCOME		2010	2009
Giving: not gift aided		£2,662	£1,253
Gift aided		£5,100	£4,969
Donations		£317	£179
Fundraising		£3,780	£3,238
Tax Reclaim		£1,905	£1,398
Fees		£1,691	£2,338
Sundry (Visiting ringers etc)		£168	£441
Interest on Business Account		£4	£6
Grant from Parish Council for Churchyard		£851	£750
Collected Charitable Donations		£404	£149
	Total	£16,882	£14,721
EXPENSES			
Donation to charities		£414	£223
Clergy and Parish Office Expenses		£1605	£1,971
Share		£9 666	£7,973
Church Running Expenses		£2,774	£2,662
Cost of Services		£281	£822
Churchyard		£1,198	£750
Sundry		£302	£590
	Total	£16,239	£14,991
Opening 1 January 2010		£14,202.31	
Surplus for year		£642,65	
Closing 31 December 2010		£14,844,96	

2010 FABRIC ACCOUNT (restricted fund)

Open 1 January 2010	£8,375.60	Fabric in Nationwide
Interest	£0.90	
Donations	£1,371.64	
Less Expenditure	£750.34	
Closing 31 December 2009	£8,997.80	Fabric in Nationwide

2010 ALDHELM FUND (Restricted fund)

Opening 1 January 2010	£116.49
Closing 31 December 2010	£116.49

2010 FLUSH FUND (Restricted fund)

Opening 1 January 2010	£1,788.18
Donations	£1 888.25
Expenditure 2010	£1,175.00
Closing 31 December 2010	£2,501.43

2011 SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

Opening 1 January 2010	
Funding	£200
Expenditure 2010	£25
Closing 31 December 2010	£175

BY ACCOUNT

Lloyds TSB Cheque Account

Bank Statement on 31/12/09		£5903.19
Less outstanding cheques		£411.09
Outstanding credit		£51.15
Closing valuation 31/12/09		£5543.25
Bank Statement on 31/12/10		£7,801.60
Less outstanding cheques		£230.04
Closing valuation 31/12/10		£7,571.56

Lloyds TSB Business Account

Opening valuation 1/1/10		£7,764.71
Interest		£3.89
Fabric income		£120
Closing valuation 31/12/10		£7,888.60

Nationwide

Opening valuation 1/1/10		£11,174.62
Interest		£0.90
Closing valuation 31/12/10		£11,175.52

SUMMARY

	1/1/10	31/12/10		
Fabric Balance	£8,375.60	£8,997.80	Lloyds Current	£7,571.56
Aldhelm Fund	£116.49	£116.49	Lloyds business	£7,888.60
General Fund	£14,202.31	£14,844.96	Nationwide	£11,175.52
Flush Fund	£1,788.18	£2,501.43		
Social Justice Group		£175		
Total	£24,482.58	£26,635.68		£26,635.68

Figures for 2009 are taken from the Annual Report and Financial Statement.