

Aylesbury Methodist Church and Centre
BUCKINGHAM STREET, AYLESBURY, BUCKS. HP20 2NQ

ANNUAL REPORT

2014



An Enabling Church and Centre
Hosting over 100 church, charity and community groups

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Registered Charity No. 1129749

2014 key themes:

*Ministerial changes
More outreach
Funding of new
church chairs
The key role of our
people*



*The Chair welcomes our
Super*



*Farewell tributes to David
and Paula*



Thanks to Keith and Dawn

What's it all about?

Required by our own Church Council and the Charity Commissioners, these pages cover what has happened in the church and community centre during the last Methodist year from 1st September 2013 to 31st August 2014. Main themes are ministerial changes, the continuing development of our outreach work through the community centre, the funding of new church chairs and the key role of our people in all that we do.

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On the move

At the end of August, Reverend Helen Kirk, our new Minister and Circuit Superintendent was introduced at a Circuit Welcoming Service by the Chair of our Northampton District, Rev. Peter Hancock. Helen, husband Andrew and student sons Joel and Sam moved into the Herston Close manse after David and Paula Jenkins left for semi-retirement in Reading. David Jenkins' churches at Princes Risborough, Stoke Mandeville, Stone, Weedon, Whitchurch and Wingrave are now in the pastoral care of Rev. Keith Edwards, who remains with his family in the King Edward Avenue manse.

On behalf of the Church Council, the Leadership Team sent a letter of thanks to Keith and Dawn for his ministry here and encouragement for his new work in the circuit. David Jenkins' retirement was marked with a farewell concert by David and numerous tributes for his 10 years in the circuit at a farewell party and a farewell service.

Introducing Rev. Helen Kirk and Family

Welcome to, (from the left), Sam, Andrew, Helen and Joel. For the last 17 years, Helen has been a minister in Cheshire, including seven years as a Circuit Superintendent and latterly as Deputy District chair. Prior to studying for the ministry, Helen read pharmacy at Leicester University, worked with street children in Plymouth and was a youth worker in Lichfield.

Since moving to the Bedgrove manse, Helen's husband Andrew has switched from mainstream education to working with youngsters with acute learning difficulties. Their sons Joel and Sam are at university, Joel continuing at Chester and Sam starting at Keele.



June Edwards' shopping trolley of generous giving for the needy

Welcome from Helen



It seems strange to be writing a 'welcome' when I am so new myself, so instead, let me turn it on its head and say 'Thank You' for the welcome that the Kirk family have received from the people at Aylesbury Methodist Church.

We are starting to find our way around the area and to discover all that is going on in the life of the church; we are realizing what a joy it is to be part of such a richly diverse congregation. So as the new minister here I am excited by all that is happening and the possibilities for the future. As you read this report I hope you will be too.

Mission

The new initiative this year of having a shopping trolley in the vestibule for donations of groceries has been organised by June Edwards. She takes the goods to the Vineyard Store for distribution to meet the needs of those in Aylesbury Vale who struggle financially. It is a job she has wanted to do and she has been struck by the generosity of the congregation, even at harvest time, when such contributions go mainly to London's Whitechapel Mission for the homeless.

This is just one example of following the Great Commandment of Jesus to 'love your neighbour'. Other examples are shown in the fund-raising for and involvement in the charities and activities depicted mainly by logos on page 11. This is adapted from a slide shown by Helen in one of her early services as our new minister.

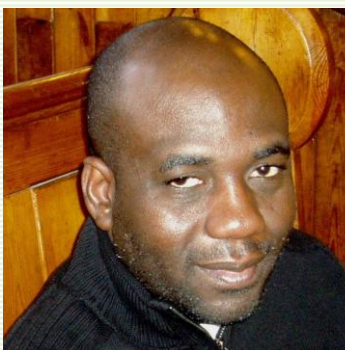


*Kevin Hardern,
Resources Co-ordinator*

*“...major
expenditure on
deteriorating
masonry...work on
the front glass
doors completed”*



*“...many individuals
who give their
services freely to
keep the place
running...”*



*Tim Olufosoye,
Safeguarding Officer*

Resources Report – Kevin Hardern

The last year has seen the costs of running the centre and church outpace income for the first time for many years. That has happened at a time when we have had major expenditure on the premises, which accordingly has been taken from the reserves built up over the past few years for just this sort of reason. That major expenditure was on the masonry at the front of the church building which was deteriorating to the extent that some had fallen and therefore there was a safety issue that needed to be addressed. The work was completed in August 2014, including reseating the pigeon protection spikes, which was done while the scaffolding was present.

In addition to the above, the work on the glass doors at the front of the church was completed and of course, the ‘Chairs’ project, which has been so ably led by Brian Taylor. During the year we were alerted to the fact that we should give more thought to risk, so John Misikin stepped forward and produced a comprehensive report identifying key areas for which we thank him.

There are of course many other individuals who give their services freely to keep the place running, from the 40 cleaners who keep the church clean on a regular basis, to the Property Stewards, Bob Bucknell, Brian Taylor, Paul Ingram, John Misikin, Brian Latham, Beatie Francis, Tim Olufosoye, Steve Kemp, Pauline Noble and Allan Horne all who undertake a specific role to help out. In addition, we have an on-call Duty Manager to support the office when needed, thanks to Roger Kirk, Steve Marks, and Brian Taylor for continuing with this. We also note the valuable contribution that continues to be made by our cleaner, Kathy Seebrook, who comes in during the afternoon to make sure the premises are clean and tidy for the following day.

Thanks to all who give their time and talents and even money!

If we all give a little we all gain a lot!

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Officer Tim Olufosoye has attended courses and liaised with District Advisors. Our safeguarding procedures have been strengthened through better booking procedures and adoption of the Methodist and Anglican Churches’ best practice policy. Arthur Sara led Foundation Safeguard courses for 69 people who have potential contact with children and vulnerable adults.

Centre User Groups

2007 – 42

2014 – 110

Our Mission...

...to initiate, partner, **enable** and encourage activities that will enrich lives

Examples of our Enablers...



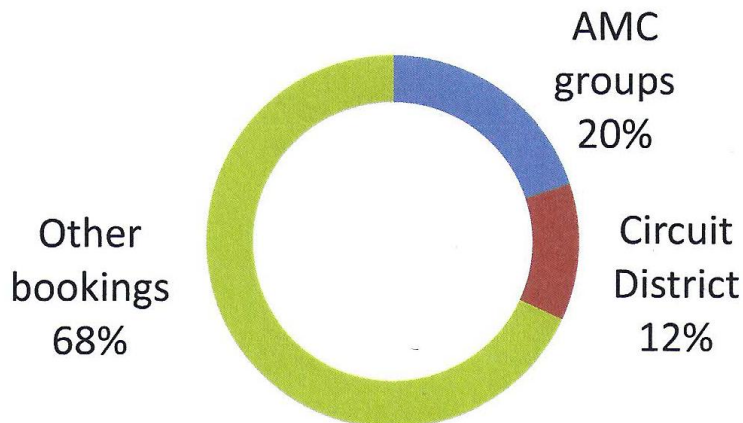
Olwen Darlington has retired from voluntary Child Contact Centre work after over 20 years



David Wilderspin and Albert Odro now run training workshops for Chiltern's Child Contact Centre volunteers

Outreach

Community Centre Bookings September 2013 - August 2014



In 2007, just prior to our £1 million refurbishment, we hosted 42 different groups. Last year, we hosted 110! The percentage split is shown above. In the Business Plan for the refurbishment, we set out our vision and mission:

Our Vision: To be widely recognised as a busy, vibrant, inclusive, caring and friendly town centre venue enabling and encouraging excellent life-enriching service provision for identified needs for the youngest to the oldest in the community.

Our Mission: To serve the community by maintaining a suite of modern, attractive meeting rooms and associated facilities in a friendly, town centre site in order to initiate, partner, enable and encourage activities that will enrich lives. (This Community Centre Mission links to our local Church's Mission to actively seek ways of serving God through serving others and the wider Methodist Church's directive to make the best use of our premises.)

Our Aims for the coming year are to further increase our lettings and income whilst maintaining attractive, affordable meeting venues for the town communities that we serve. Once again, we will especially seek to 'initiate, partner, enable and encourage activities that help the disadvantaged.

Much of the enabling part of our work is provided by the generous free giving of their time by so many of our church members. Typical examples **are** Olwen Darlington, who has been involved in the Aylesbury Child Contact Centre since its inception over 20 years ago, and Albert Odro and David Wilderspin who this year have run training courses for Chiltern's Child Contact Centre staff.



*Brian Taylor, Chair of the
Chair People*

*"...involved the
whole
congregation,
communicated
effectively and
achieved their aim
in less than a year."*



*Carla Barnes, our new
part-time Office
Administrator*



*Michele Challenger,
Outreach Co-ordinator*

2014: The Year of the Chair

The March 2014 Church Council meeting accepted a proposal that Brian Taylor and volunteer representatives from the Church Council would explore the options and costs of replacing the church chairs we have had since a major facelift in the 1980s. Approval was also given to purchase the chairs only if the costs could be met by special fund-raising.

Brian's team of John Miskin, Lynn Bernstone, Tim Olufosoye Raymond Murisa and Gill Marks, looked at the market and short-listed three chairs for church members to try out and vote upon. Some colour choices were similarly assessed and agreed with a clear favourite of both chair and colour.

The group's fund-raising and direct appeals for contribution raised not only the £12,750 for 150 new chairs, including 36 with arms, but also enough to provide cushioned seating in the gallery and some informal seating in the minister's vestry.

The chairs are on order and due to make an appearance at the start of 2015. Special thanks are due to Brian and his team for the way they have involved the whole congregation, communicated effectively and achieved their aim in less than a year.

The Church Office

During the last seven years, management of the church office has involved a steep learning curve to cope with the almost tripling of usage by church, charity and community groups. At times, our success has put a strain on those volunteers, and latterly the paid Office Administrator, to keep operating at the high service levels we set ourselves. In particular, we have had to update some of our booking and related policies and procedures, as well as cope with the switch to the computerised MIDAS booking system.

We are very appreciative of the help of the office volunteers and especially for the work of Heather Reid, our former Office Administrator, in helping us to make considerable progress in improving our administrative systems. From November 2014, after an interview process with six candidates, church member Carla Barnes was appointed to this part-time role. Reporting to Outreach Co-ordinator Michele Challenger, we offer Carla our prayers and support. Special thanks are due to Jennie Torpey who, as well as providing her usual administrative support to the church, oversaw the continued smooth running of client bookings after Heather left and then Carla's training on the system.



*Margaret Miskin,
Sunbeam's Leader and BB
Captain*



*Viv Kemp, J Team and
German Exchange Leader*



Linda Gill, GB Captain



*Checking out Germany's
Ice Parlour in Daun*

Youth Groups

Sunbeams Mothers and Toddlers' Group was led by Rev. Keith Edwards and has now been continued by Margaret Miskin. It meets weekly for an hour with lots of toys for the little ones to play with and opportunity for mums to have a chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

The J Team is the name for our Sunday School and meets during the Sunday morning service, except for family services when it stays in church. There is a crèche run by volunteers and three older groups of 3-7s, 7-11s and 11-16s. Totalling about 30 children and young people, the J Team have decided to support the Alfons Foundation with fund-raising events. Set up by church members Alfons and Anne Hanson, it provides donations of computers, printers, books, shoes and clothing for schools and orphanages in Ghana.

The Boys' Brigade celebrated their 40th anniversary with a trip to London. The 19 boys and 7 officers enjoyed a river trip down the Thames and a flight on the London Eye, with adventures on the train, tube and Royal Festival Hall. There are currently 24 boys with one starting work on the Queen's Badge and four starting on their President's badge.

The Girls' Brigade's 20 youngsters, split between juniors and seniors have been joined by new helpers Gill Marks, Dawn Wright and Kirsty Oakley, complete with enthusiasm and new ideas. Music, craft, games, Bible study, badge work and fun with friends have characterised the year.

The German Youth Exchange, in its 51st year, saw 13 young people aged 11 to 20 spend 10 days with their German host families in Daun. Highlights included a trip to Koln zoo, a local industrial museum, a trip by cable car in Koblenz and the ever popular Phantasialand with swimming and boating in the Maar. The Daun Ice Parlour was a popular meeting venue. Refreshingly, the English won the football this year. For both 'first-timers' and 'many-timers', this exchange continues to broaden minds, remove stereotyped prejudice and create lasting friendships.



*Joy Murphy's
Bereavement Group*



*The Book Club's radio
interview*



*Heather Murray's Prayer
Group*



*Pearl Riley's Tuesday
Fellowship*

Mid-week Groups

The Banner Group produced two pieces for the centenary of the start of World War I. Janice Matthews designed and produced a new poppy banner, whilst another one produced by the group was a copy of a stone memorial that used to be in the church. Other work included a banner for The Women's World Day of Prayer and a new one for Pentecost.

The Bereavement Support Group was established this year by Rev. Bill Murphy's widow Joy. It meets informally for an hour or so, over a cup of tea and biscuit, for people to share or hear about experiences and coping strategies after the loss at some time of a loved one.

The Good Faith Book Club was featured on BBC 3 Counties radio on 16th March. Club secretary Peter Green was interviewed by presenter Helen Legh who had found it rare for a book club to be based purely on books about aspects of faith. The club's numbers have grown and the six meetings a year have averaged about 12 people from across the circuit. Summaries of the book club's discussions are on the website.

The Prayer Group was formed during the year by Heather Murray. Meeting on Tuesday mornings for a cup of tea in the vestibule, it has moved into the side room for a time of prayer. "God has honoured both our prayers and our time, and blessed us and all those we bring before Him", said Heather. The group invites requests for prayers and for anyone to join them.

The AMC & Friends Theatre Group, organised by Pauline Noble, arrange trips to suit all tastes. This year, it has meant West End theatre trips for Les Miserables and Matilda, a Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's Christmas Cracker concert, a trip to Coventry and the MAYC Orchestra and Singers' 40th Anniversary Celebration Concert and a trip to Rutland Water and Stamford with tea at Ketton Methodist Church hosted by our former Minister and his wife, Peter and Chris Lemmon.

The Tuesday Fellowship, which meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons, has a format of opening devotions, followed by a speaker, a cup of tea and time to chat. Talks this year included Bletchley Park, South Africa, Methodist Homes, Ireland, members' music choices, a carol concert and a Fellowship lunch. Membership increased to 39 and new members are always welcome.



Dawn Edwards leads the Women's Study Group



Rita McKelvie's 'floral' retirement after 20 years



Brian Powell's 'Welcome' gifts



Concert pianist Phillip Dyson's fund-raising recital

The Women's Study Group led by Dawn Edwards meets on Wednesdays in different members' homes from 7-9pm. It has been discussing the Essential 100 Bible studies from Scripture Union, held a summer Quiet Day at Lee Methodist Church and had an Autumn Retreat at Weedon Methodist Church, focusing on what is most important in life.

SOS (Sometimes On Sundays) celebrated their 20th anniversary with a service led by Rev. Fred Ireland who encouraged the formation of the group during his ministry here. Their monthly themed evenings in members' homes usually involve food, fun and fellowship. They also cook and serve the annual Full English Easter Breakfast on Easter Sunday. Like the communion table, the group is open to all.

The Flower Group, following the retirement of Rita McKelvie after 20 years service, is now a small group led by Janice Matthews, ably assisted by Edith Awadzi and Ruby Darku. Others, including men, who may like to help occasionally, will be very welcome. Floral arrangements over the years have always beautified the church and enhanced the worship experience, so special thanks to Rita for her contributions.

The Welcomers and Door Stewards play an important part in creating a friendly, welcoming atmosphere to all who come to church services be they regulars, strangers or members of a christening party. Rotas for these duties have been drawn up for the last 17 years by Brian Powell. As he retired and handed over to Julianne Wilderspin, Brian offered, "my sincerest thanks to those who presently or in the past have brought gracious gifts of consistent and genuine caring to the job." Brian, of course, brought those same gifts himself.

Music

The Choir, as well as leading Sunday worship, has been joined by members of other circuit churches and from other church choirs for the Candlelit Carol Service, circuit choral concerts of Arthur Somervell's *Passion of Christ* and Songs of Praise – Your Top Twenty Favourite Hymns. These events have been organised by Derrick Matthews, our organist and Music Director. His annual organ concert this year was given by Liam Cartwright and a piano recital by concert pianist Phillip Dyson, supported by church members Brian and Diane Atkins, raised funds for the Buigiri School for the Blind in Tanzania.

The Music Group and Singers, who lead our family worship services, are now under the direction of keyboard player and retired minister, Rev. Steve Watts.

An AMC Vision



*...a multi-cultural
congregation*



*...an all-age
congregation*



*...an inclusive
congregation*



*...a vehicle for grace
and justice...willing
to take risks...for love*

A Vision for This Church – Helen Kirk

As the new minister at Aylesbury Methodist Church, people keep asking me ‘What is your vision for the church?’ Every time I answer ‘What vision has God already given you?’ For generations people have worshipped and witnessed at AMC; opened God’s word, broken bread, sang hymns old & new; cared for those in need; inspired & educated the young as well as celebrated the lives of the saints. God has been and is at work through all these things and as the ‘new girl’ I am discovering this.

It is a joy to find out about all that happens in the name of the church; the projects and the activities that go on week in week out and that are represented in this booklet; the time and energy that so many people give to enable the life of the church; the care & welcome that is offered to many. There is much to be excited by. But what of the future and how might God be leading us forward? After three months in post these are some of my thoughts. I hope that:

We might be a truly **multicultural congregation** celebrating the diversity of our congregation and learning from each other’s cultures

We might be a genuinely **all-age congregation** valuing the needs of the elderly & encouraging the younger generations to take a lead

We might be an **inclusive congregation** in which all are welcomed and there are no barriers to anyone belonging.

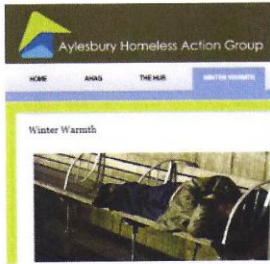
We might rediscover **our purpose** as the ‘body of Christ’ in the town centre reaching beyond ‘the wood & stone’ **to be a vehicle for grace & justice.**

We will be a **community willing to take risks for the sake of love**; to have a go despite sometimes failing and always recognising that we each need to learn and grow in our discipleship.

Perhaps you recognise these things already; perhaps they are part of our DNA; things to be celebrated and built upon.

Someone wiser than me once said that vision is not just a picture of how things could be but a call to each one of us to be more than we are.

This is the call of Jesus when he asks us to follow him; the call to be more than we are in him. It is the calling of the Church. It is the calling of our church. I look forward to discovering God’s vision for AMC together; to building on all that has gone before that in our lives, our worship and our service Christ may be realised in this place.



Day Centre



Aylesbury
Child Contact
Centre

Alfan Foundation

Missions Committee



MASKS



Methodist Relief &
Development Fund

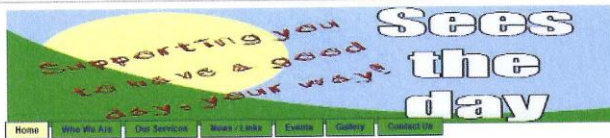


Whitechapel Mission

Bringing hope where there is despair

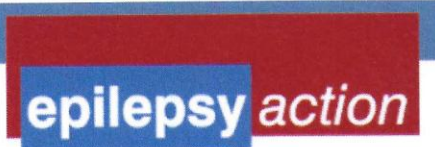


CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES



Pastoral visitors Aylesbury Foodbank Coffee Bar

The Aylesbury Talking Newspaper
Registered Charity Number: 279002



Helping children from the
streets and slums in Kenya
Registered UK Charity Number 1044872



Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy

Aylesbury Methodist Church Accounts for the year 2013/14

General Fund

Income and expenditure account and budget for 2014/15

Actual 2012/13		Budget 2013/14	Actual 2013/14	Budget 2014/15
61696	Collection (note 2)	63000	63902.96	64000
11066	Income tax refund (note 3)	11000	11879.5	11500
41652	Lettings	36000	39010.4	39000
9368	Fund raising (note 3)	7000	5357.54	7500
6676	Donations and legacies	1500	3348.77	1000
1254	Weddings and funerals	700	710.00	700
258	Bank Interest	300	115.28	300
979	Coffee bar profits	900	1194	1000
<u>30</u>	Other income	<u>100</u>	<u>198.91</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>132979</u>	Total income	<u>120500</u>	<u>125717.36</u>	<u>125100</u>
	Expenditure			
	MINISTRY			
72500	Circuit contribution	74600	74616	77640
2650	Donations and subscriptions (note 4)	2800	2700	2700
996	Local outreach (note 4)	<u>2500</u>	<u>1000</u>	<u>1000</u>
<u>76146</u>		<u>79900</u>	<u>78316</u>	<u>81340</u>
	PROPERTY			
11871	Heat, light, water and refuse	11400	10037	11600
7056	Cleaner's wages and supplies	7200	7072.3	7100
3412	Building maintenance (note 5)	3000	17465.16	2000
10221	Equipment maintenance	5000	4034.74	5000
11287	Improvements	2000	2997.44	1000
339	Organ and pianos	500	658.00	500
3112	Insurance	3200	<u>3149.12</u>	<u>3200</u>
<u>47298</u>		<u>32300</u>	<u>45413.76</u>	<u>30400</u>
	OTHER			
2829	Administration	3900	3494.6	3200
1800	Administrator - wages	6000	5580.6	5700
2814	Telephones	2400	2725.22	2700
2148	Church activities	4000	2106.17	3000
1206	Publicity	2000	997.39	1000
<u>832</u>	Other	<u>400</u>	<u>586.39</u>	<u>400</u>
<u>11629</u>		<u>18700</u>	<u>15490.37</u>	<u>16000</u>
<u>135073</u>	Total expenditure	<u>130900</u>	<u>139220.13</u>	<u>127740</u>
-2094	Net expenditure	<u>-10400</u>	<u>-13502.77</u>	<u>-2640</u>
	Transfers between funds		<u>-251.69</u>	
	Net expenditure after transfers		<u>-13754.46</u>	
	Balance brought forward 1/9/2013		<u>53181.09</u>	
	Balance carried forward 31/8/2014		<u>39426.63</u>	

Aylesbury Methodist Church Accounts for the year 2013/14

Restricted Funds

Income and expenditure for the year ending 31st August 2014

	Church Chairs fund	Benevolent fund	Church organisations	Total
		£	£	£
Income				
Tax recovered	2230.00	-----	-----	2230.00
Fund raising	12315.00	-----	-----	12315.00
Other income	-----	<u>551.48</u>	<u>12660.47</u>	<u>13211.95</u>
Total income	<u>14545.00</u>	<u>551.48</u>	<u>12660.47</u>	<u>27756.95</u>
Payments				
Other expenses	-----	----	<u>16692.39</u>	<u>16692.39</u>
Total expenditure	-----	----	<u>16692.39</u>	<u>16692.39</u>
Net income/expenditure	14545.00	551.48	-4031.92	11064.56
Transfers between funds	-----	----	<u>331.99</u>	<u>331.99</u>
Net income after transfers	14545.00	<u>551.48</u>	<u>-3699.93</u>	<u>11396.55</u>
Balances brought forward 1.9.2013	-----	-25.81	16721.37	16695.56
Net income/expenditure	<u>14545.00</u>	<u>551.48</u>	<u>-3699.93</u>	<u>11396.55</u>
Balances carried forward 31.8.2014	<u>14545.00</u>	<u>525.67</u>	<u>13021.44</u>	<u>28092.11</u>

Endowment funds

Held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

	Mead bequest	Stranks and Staley's bequests	Totals
	£	£	£
	Restricted	Unrestricted	
Balances brought forward 1.9.2013	173.23	3,162.31	3,335.54
Income	6.99	73.31	80.30
Paid to general fund	---	-73.31	-73.31
Paid to J Team and Choir	-6.99	---	-6.99
Change in value of investments	24.11	155.27	179.38
Balances carried forward 31.8.2014	197.34	3,317.58	3,514.92

Aylesbury Methodist Church Accounts for the year 2013/14

Balance Sheet

As at 31st August 2014

Fund balances at 31 st August 2014	General fund	Restricted funds			Total
		Chair fund	Church orgs	Benevolent	
	£		£	£	£
Per income and expenditure summaries	39426.63	14545.00	13021.44	525.67	67518.74
Capitalised expenditure	903730.00				903730.00
Endowment funds held by The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	<u>3317.58</u>		<u>197.34</u>		<u>3514.92</u>
Total funds	<u>946474.21</u>	<u>14545.00</u>	<u>13218.78</u>	<u>525.67</u>	<u>974763.66</u>
Represented by					
Assets:					
Fixed tangible assets					
Community centre improvements	<u>903730.00</u>				<u>903730.00</u>
Current assets					
Bank balances					
HSBC current	22219.87				22219.87
HSBC deposit	6733.92				6733.92
Central Finance Board	355.80	14545.00		525.67	15426.47
Held by church organisations			13021.44		13021.44
Endowment fund accounts*					
Stranks & Staley' bequests	3317.58				3317.58
Mead bequest (J Team and choir)			197.34		197.34
Debtors (note 6)	13982.20				13982.20
Payments in advance	-----		-----	-----	-----
Total current assets	<u>46609.37</u>	<u>14545.00</u>	<u>13218.78</u>	<u>525.67</u>	<u>74898.82</u>
Current liabilities:					
Lettings deposits	1100.00				1100.00
Creditors (note 7)	<u>2765.16</u>				<u>2765.16</u>
Total liabilities	<u>3865.16</u>				<u>3865.16</u>
Net current assets(current assets less liabilities)	<u>42744.21</u>	<u>14545.00</u>	<u>13218.78</u>	<u>525.67</u>	<u>71033.66</u>
Net assets (all assets less liabilities)	<u>946474.21</u>	<u>14545.00</u>	<u>13218.78</u>	<u>525.67</u>	<u>974763.66</u>
* Held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes					



Notes to the Accounts - Roger Kirk

1 The accounts are prepared on the accruals basis. This means that income and expenditure is shown in the year to which it relates and the cost of sizeable tangible assets with a life greater than one year will be capitalised and charged to revenue over a suitable period of years. No comprehensive valuation of the church buildings and its contents is shown in the balance sheet as this is considered irrelevant but the recent major improvements to the rear premises were capitalised. The buildings are insured for £2,604,262, the organ for £50,366 and other contents £188,433.

2 The actual of £63,903 for collection income is made up of envelopes £25,037, bank standing orders £32,237 and cash £6,629.

3 A separate account has been created for the Church chairs fund and this is in the restricted funds section of the accounts. It shows the fund raising and tax recovery income for the chairs and will eventually be charged with the expenditure on them. By keeping it separate it demonstrates that the income raised is spent only on the new chairs and also leaves the general fund showing a more realistic balance.

4 Donations and subscriptions include £1700 paid to four connexional funds and £1000 to Methodist Missions. In addition retiring collections, Church Organisations, the Missions Committee and Sunday coffee bars resulted in a further £6498 being given to 15 charities during the year of which £2060 was to Methodist Missions and MRDF.)
The £1000 under local outreach is for the Town Centre Chaplaincy.

5 The actual for building maintenance of £17,465 includes £16,558 for repairs to the stonework at the front of the church.

6 Debtors include:

Tax refund re April to August 2014	7170
Lettings	6187
Fund raising (Chairs)	<u>625</u>
	<u>£13982</u>

7 Creditors include;

Missions	2000
Utilities	-124
Supplies	285
Telephones	72
Mead bequest	7
Wedding expenses	130
Circuit re circuit service collection	<u>395</u>
	<u>£2765</u>

The accounts have been approved by Church Council and audited.

Church Groups and Activities

Sunday worship 10.30am
and 8.45am communion
(3rd Sundays)

J Team (Sunday School)
10.30am

Boys' Brigade Tuesdays
6.15pm

Girls' Brigade Mondays
6pm

Prayer Group Tuesdays
10am

Tuesday Fellowship
Alternate Tuesdays
2.30pm

Banner Group Tuesdays
2pm

Women's Study Group
Wednesdays 7.00pm

Sunbeams Baby and
Toddler Group Thursdays
10.30am

Choir Fridays 7.30pm

SOS 3rd Saturdays 8pm

Good Faith Book Club 4th
Saturday alternate
months 2pm

Coffee Bar Monday to
Saturday 10-12noon

Music Group and Singers
Monthly Fridays 7.30pm

House Groups Usually
monthly

**For more details
see the website or
ring the office.**

Aylesbury Methodist Church Governance



(Extracts from a report to Church Council by Peter Farmer)

"The overall governance structure of the Methodist Church in the UK is laid down by the Methodist Conference ...published as Methodist Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD). The church operates at four distinct levels – National... District... Circuit... and individual Churches... All Churches ...are required to set up a

Church Council... [that] has oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church."

Church Council members in 2013-14 were: The Ministerial Team, Meeting Secretary (Janice Matthews), Church Stewards (6), Church Treasurer, Leadership Team, Missions Secretary, Circuit Steward (Keith Wallace), Representatives from the church membership appointed by the General Church Meeting (Brian Latham, Geoff Nicholson, Lynne Bernstone, Vivienne Kemp, Allan Horne, Steve Marks, Derrick Matthews, Brian Taylor, John Miskin, Raymond Murisa, Pat Starr, Babs Trend).

Church Stewards ..."are corporately responsible with the Minister for exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the church...Their responsibilities include preparations for, and oversight of, services."

Church Stewards 2013-14 were: Robin Barrett, Elaine Hope, Melanie Dean, Trevor Nord, Gill Marks, Raymond Murisa.

"...To act for, support and advise the Church Council, a **Leadership Team** exists which comprises three Church Stewards plus a leader from each of the main Church activities...and normally meets six times a year."

Leadership Team members 2013-14 were: The Minister (Chair) Jennie Torpey (Secretary) Pat Powell (Worship), Resources (Kevin Hardern) Youth (Margaret Miskin) Outreach (Michele Challenger), Internal Communications (Peter Farmer), Safeguarding (Tim Olufosoye) and External Communications (Peter Green)

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