

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

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2009**



*Enriching Lives*

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## SUMMARY



Rev. David Jenkins  
Superintendent Minister  
Aylesbury Vale Circuit

*“The whole idea of transforming the Community Centre is to enable groups ...who support vulnerable people in particular, to have a firmly rooted base in the town centre.”*

*“...a remarkably flexible, tolerant and adaptable church family, who see and support the vision of being there for others.”*

## A Year of Celebration

On Saturday 11 July 2009 a celebratory act of worship took place to give thanks for the completion of the work of refurbishing the Community Centre as well as significant decorations, re-carpeting and installing an audio-visual system into the Church. David Lidington MP opened the new Centre.

One important chapter of careful planning was over and a new one was just beginning. The whole idea of transforming the Community Centre is to enable groups within the town who support vulnerable people, in particular, to have a firmly rooted base in the town centre.

Already a whole series of groups are using the premises, including new ones such as Reachout, which seeks to train and equip young adults with learning difficulties; and the Hub, which offers support to homeless people.

As anticipated the new situation brings its challenges, and these are being met by a remarkably flexible, tolerant, and adaptable church family, who see and support the vision of being there for others.

David Jenkins

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**THIS REPORT** aims to meet the different needs of the Charity Commissioners, the Big Lottery Fund, the Church Council, the auditors, potential funders and anyone wishing to know more about the life and work of Aylesbury Methodist Church and Centre. It covers the Methodist year from 1 September 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009. It is also available on our website at [www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk](http://www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk).

# BUILDING



*The hall makeover begins and the church gallery becomes a store.*



*Church chairs stacked for mid-week activities.*



*The 'keys ceremony' (above) and church decoration (below).*



## MCCP – Methodist Community Centre Project



*The shabby back door that triggered the project (left) and now*

At the start of the Methodist year, our contractors, Francis Construction had been on site since July. They had completed the stripping out of the old and were preparing to build the new. We had to adjust to our back premises being an unavailable building site. Our church gallery became a temporary store room and thereby mixed 'upstairs' and downstairs' worshippers.

Steve Wright organised 'hit squads' to lay out chairs for Sunday worship and then stack them round the walls on Sunday night. This was to enable some of our youth and other mid-week groups to meet within the church itself. Other users such as the Wednesday Day Care Club were found alternative accommodation. All groups were kept in touch with building progress and their future accommodation needs discussed with Outreach Co-ordinator Michele Challenger and volunteer Lay Worker, Arthur Sara.

On 20<sup>th</sup> March 2009 Michelle Youngman, our Compton Lacey architect handed over the keys of the community centre to Project Secretary Bob Bucknell outside the refurbished old back door. This is now fronted by the new foyer. The church later thanked the architects and contractors for completing the project on time and within budget. (See the Finance section for more details.)

After moving stored items from the gallery back into the completed centre premises, we had full use of all the church for Easter weekend. Thereafter, the church was stripped out and services held in the newly refurbished hall whilst the church and coffee bar were decorated and new flooring installed.



*Services in the hall (left) until the church was redecorated (right)*



# CELEBRATING



*BBC 3 Counties radio presenter Ian Pearce with Flower Festival organiser Pauline Noble*



*“Moving from... soft colours at the entrance to bright hues in the altar area, illustrated the transition from commencement to success and the bright future that was now ahead for the new community centre.”*



## Flower Festival & Craft Fair

All the work was completed in time for the Flower Festival, ‘Flowers for New Beginnings’ and Craft Fair. This event was organised as part of the Methodist Community Centre Project (MCCP) fund raising activities by Pauline Noble. The team of flower arrangers headed by Janice Matthews included Rita McKelvie, Sheena Hudson, Jill Donnan, Doris Burditt and Chris Procter together with members from local Flower Clubs. Money for the flowers was donated by individuals and church organisations and profits for the event went towards the fund-raisers’ promise of £120,000 contribution to the project’s funding. (They are on schedule for achieving this in 2010, a year ahead of schedule).



*‘The Lion King’ one of the fund-raising theatre trips*

The concept of the Flower festival evolved as a result of the many fund raising activities held during the life of the project. Moving from floral displays in soft colours at the church entrance to bright hues in the altar area illustrated the transition from commencement to success and the bright future that was now ahead for the new community centre. The event also provided the public with an opportunity to see the newly refurbished premises.



*Craft Fair stalls with refreshments from the hall servery*

# MUSIC



Janice Matthews, co-organiser of the Flower Festival with Derrick Matthews, organiser of the musical events



Anna Markland (piano) and Gordon Stewart (organ)



## Musical Events

As part of the celebrations of the community centre's reopening, Church organist and Music Director Derrick Matthews organised several events. In July, these included an outstanding piano recital by award-winning pianist Anna Markland and a return of the highly entertaining internationally renowned Gordon Stewart for the annual organ concert. Also in July was an uplifting 'Songs of Praise' based on Welsh Hymn tunes and featuring an augmented choir conducted by Chris Beattie.

In August, our Minister David Jenkins was 'Giving Thanks' in a concert with his fiancée Paula Lewis (pictured right). Speaking to the *Bucks Herald* he said, "If music is integral to who I am, so is the life of faith. My calling as a Minister absorbs my primary time and energy



David Jenkins and Paula 'Giving Thanks'

and there are times when music can be a part of that calling and enhance what I do. ...the concert...will bring together a number of significant areas of life for me – friends, family, the wider Church family, humour, singing, playing and composing." The CD of the concert is raising further funds for M CCP.

The Music Group led by Gavin Harper continued to enhance worship at the monthly Family Service and monthly at the Fairford Leys Church. The Church's Youth Orchestra recently formed by Pat Starr were warmly applauded when they played at an M CCP fund-raising cream tea at the home of Pamela and Peter Farmer.



From left: Claire, Pat, James, Jack, Rhiannon, Callum and Ailsa



# OPENING



David Lidington MP unveils the Opening Day plaque, watched by MCCC Chairman, Peter Farmer and below with Rev. Alison Tomlin



*"This is spreading the gospel through ...works...and not just through services, preaching and hymn singing. ...it demonstrates their commitment to the entire community; it's not just a holy huddle."*

David Lidington MP, on Melting Pot, BBC 3 Counties Radio 19/7/09



## MP Opens Centre



David Lidington MP (3rd from left) with Rev. Alison Tomlin and members of the Project Steering Group

July saw the official opening by local MP and Shadow Foreign Affairs Minister David Lidington who said, "This is the first time I have been asked to stand in for Sir Terry Wogan". Sir Terry was unable to come but offered to attend a future fund-raising event instead. Apart from former Aylesbury ministers and local dignitaries, the special guests included Rev. Alison Tomlin fulfilling her last official engagement as Chair of our District and her first official engagement as President Elect of the Methodist Conference. Extracts from the service and interviews with participants were later broadcast on BBC 3 Counties radio.



From left to right, Cllr Freda Roberts MBE, Rev. Alison Tomlin, Dr Shanti Edwards, Dr David Lidington MP, The High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire (Mr Allan Westray), Cllr Bill Chapple OBE, Cllr Sue Chapple, Rev Dr Peter Lemmon, Mrs Chris Lemmon, Rev Barrie Heafford and Mrs Margaret Heafford

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# MANAGING



*Kevin Hardern whose Resources Team are responsible for Finance, Property, Lettings and the Church Office*



*Sheena Hudson who leads the Church Office Team*

*“...so many people here it seems to me that just get involved with the place and make it happen.”*

*Ian Pearce, Presenter, Melting Pot, BBC 3 Counties Radio  
Broadcast 19th July 2009*

*“If we all give a little, we all gain a lot.”*

## Running The Centre

Handing over the finished building in March and getting it ready for external users in a few months proved to be significantly more work than had been anticipated. Simple things, like notice boards, window locks, organisation of storage took a lot of time for a dedicated team of volunteers. In addition, we had undertaken to wire the building from our own resources to save money, involving a small and very dedicated team of four working most Saturdays for many months.

In order to run as cost effectively as possible and to engender a feeling of community, volunteers have been recruited to look after the premises (team of eight property stewards), run the office which is now open week day mornings (team of twenty four) and to restart cleaning the church (team of thirty). Built around the ethos of ‘if we all give a little, we all gain a lot’, the volunteers have undergone training where necessary and continue to develop during the first few months of operation. It is the intension to continue to run in this way if at all possible for the reasons outlined above.

Building snags have become apparent over the initial period and these have been reported back to the main contractor and architect where they are deemed to be responsible. An initial meeting on site after six months operation was held to review progress and to emphasise the need for action on some specific points.

The budgeting process as we come back into normal operation has shown a significant impact on the reserves held by the church and community centre and it is expected that recovering this position so that the reserves are in line with the agreed policy will be seen as a priority for the next year. It is pleasing to see the use of the centre taken up so quickly by so many diverse groups, some of them long standing clients, some of them very new. We hope to develop the relationships with key partners over the coming months and years such that Aylesbury Methodist Church and Community Centre is seen as a valuable contributor to the community that centres itself on Aylesbury town.

*Kevin Hardern  
Leadership Team - Resources*

# OUTREACH



*Morning Coffee Club for the deaf*



*Reachout daily drop-in centre for people with learning difficulties*



*The Hub Centre ecumenical team helping the homeless with Project manager Sylvia Brown (left) and some of her volunteers.*



*Bill Murphy (left) mans the Karibuni stall at the Craft Fair*

## User Groups

To avoid a 'Terminal 5' problem, user groups were invited back on a gradual basis. This enabled the to-be-expected initial teething problems to be identified and remedied with minimum inconvenience. Despite the gradual start, by the end of August we had the same number of groups using the premises as they did in the whole of 2007, our last full year pre-building work. This was a very encouraging start for our plans to substantially increase the use of our premises by community and charity organisations.

Part of this success was due to the work of Michele Challenger as Outreach Co-ordinator, voluntary Lay Worker Arthur Sara and Head of Resources Kevin Hardern in keeping existing groups informed of progress during the building phase and seeking to meet their accommodation needs both in the interim and in the new premises. New groups included Reachout, a daily drop in centre for referred people with learning difficulties, a weekly coffee morning club for the deaf and The Hub, a drop in centre helping Aylesbury's homeless.

## Mission



As well as increased use of the community centre, the Shoebox Appeal for Romania, started by Sue Ingram is being continued by Margaret Miskin. Ecumenical work through Aylesbury Churches

Together in the Buckingham Park new housing development is continuing successfully, with a Toddler Group and a number of other events being run by Churches Together in Aylesbury on behalf of the community.

The church also gave ongoing support to various charities through personal giving, annual donations, Sunday coffee proceeds and organised events. These include local mission such as the Buckingham Park initiative mentioned and support for the work of the wider Methodist Connexion. This included the Methodist Fund for World Mission, Methodist Relief and Development Fund, Property Fund, Auxiliary Fund and the Methodist Ministers' Housing Association. Support was also given to charities directly connected with the mission of the Methodist Church and its ecumenical partners, examples being Action for Children, Methodist Homes, Whitechapel Mission, Christian Aid and the Karibuni Trust for African street children, founded and run by Aylesbury church members Rev. Bill and Joy Murphy and daughter Corinne.



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# YOUTH

*...an overall increase in numbers in the Girls' and Boys' Brigades...*



*Steve and Viv Kemp take on the leadership of the German exchange assisted by...*



*Steve and Gill Marks who have been involved for the last 12 years.*



*This year's German Leader Gorden Nickel (right) and helpers Bernd and Sabine Anshutz were all former youth exchange members themselves in the 1980's.*

## Brigades, Youth Club and J Team

2009 saw the youth groups meeting in the church during the building work and latterly in the new premises. There has been an overall increase in numbers in the Girls' and Boys' Brigades. Jonathon Dalton and Peter Charlton achieved their President's Badge whilst the highest award of the Queen's Badge was achieved by Michael Torpey and Martin Churchman.



*Bridging the nations with the German Exchange*

The youth club had another successful German Exchange with the Daun sports club. This was led by Vivienne and Steve Kemp, assisted by Gill and Steve Marks who were stepping down after being involved for twelve of the exchange's 46 years. To mark the community centre re-opening, the German group presented a framed copy of a page of the world's oldest surviving printed bible, the Gutenberg Bible. This now hangs in the new foyer linking the church with the centre.



*German visitor Bernd Anschutz presents the Gutenberg gift*

The J Team (Sunday School) coped remarkably well with the disruption caused by the building work. They had to meet in the church before morning worship, until the community centre rooms became available again after Easter.

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## Faith



*...from the old we travel to the new... The communion table in its new setting in the foyer.*



*Paula Gordon heads up the 34 pastoral visitors and seven team leaders*



*The New Year's walk by the Wendover arm of the canal*

## Worship, Bible Study and Fellowship

The new community centre lobby provides us with the perfect place for our first communion table, the two high backed chairs, the bookstand and bible, reminding us of travellers from the past.

In the church, the previous chair layout has been altered to give a central aisle and to improve lines of vision. Greater focus has been given in the 'worship area' to the symbols which actually tell our faith story; namely the cross, the font and communion table. With this in mind and with their blessing, the Brigades' flags have been moved to the left of the pulpit.

A Bible Study group held at Stoke Mandeville was well received. A course of Methodist Church daily bible study is now available via the website and Carol Rogers continues to arrange IBRA bible notes for individuals. Bible study at some house groups continues.

The pastoral needs of our congregation continue to be met by the Minister supported by a team of 34 pastoral visitors and seven team leaders, co-ordinated by Paula Gordon.

The fellowship opportunities within the church have been greatly increased with the programme of fund-raising events throughout the year typified by the annual New Year's walk and lunch.

## Leadership and 2010 Aims

The Church Leadership Team agreed to recommend to the Church Council, the local decision-making body within the Methodist Church, that the MCCP Steering Group be disbanded. Their work is now complete and any outstanding problems will be handled through Kevin Hardern's Resources Group.

External communications via the website, media and notice boards will be covered by Peter Green who rejoins the Leadership team and internal communications will be headed by the MCCP Chair Peter Farmer. Leadership team aims for 2010 are:

- To create a new Quiet Room for personal prayer and reflection.
- To review our public communication needs via the website and posters.
- To meet the spiritual and social needs of the 18 to 40 year age range.
- To produce a new photographic church directory.
- To proactively seek greater community usage of our new centre.



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# FINANCE



*Church Treasurer Roger Kirk:  
frequent fund raiser as well as  
fund manager*

*“As expected...the  
MCCP had a  
detrimental effect on  
the general  
fund...but...not as  
much as budgeted.”*

*“...the balance of the  
[General] Fund is  
about £10,000 lower  
than recommended  
by our reserves  
policy.”*

## Commentary on the Accounts 2008 -9

### General fund

As expected and budgeted, the MCCP had a detrimental effect on the general fund in 2008-2009 but as it turned out not as much as budgeted. Letting income was lower than a normal year but in the end was about £4,000 more than budgeted at £8,996. Collection income and tax recovery held up well and in total income was up £5,323 on the budget at £87,823.

On the expenditure side Property expenses were lower than budgeted partly due to cleaner's wages but administration costs were higher due mainly to the MCCP effect including the additional costs of the temporary office at Stoke Mandeville. The net effect was that total expenditure was slightly lower than budget at £91,687.

The overall effect was that the general fund showed a net deficit of £3,698 compared to an estimated deficit of £9,800. This has reduced the balance of the fund from £25,892 to £22,194, about £10,000 lower than recommended by our reserves policy.

The expenditure budget for 2009-2010 shows an increase in income of £16,000 compared to the previous year's budget due mainly to an expected increase in lettings income, while expenditure also shows an increase but only of £5,000. The net effect is an estimated surplus of £1,300 as compared to last year's estimated deficit of £9,800.

### Restricted Funds

The MCCP fund shows expenditure during the year of £882,008 and income of £458,704, a net spend of £423,304. With the balance in hand at the beginning of the year of £409,341 this leaves a negative balance carried forward of £13,963. There is still a small amount of expenditure to come which will be offset by the remaining pledged giving and fund raising income.

The Church refurbishment fund shows the total costs at £45,800 and income of £20,800. After allowing for the £3,845 balance brought forward and a transfer of £5,000 from a church organisation account this fund shows a deficit balance carried forward of £16,155. Some further income is still due.

The separate report of the MCCP steering group will show the overall costs of these two projects with their likely surplus and deficit.

### Balance sheet

Apart from bank balances and fund balances the balance sheet shows, under liabilities, total loans and deposits of £62,780. This includes a loan outstanding from Methodist Chapel Aid (MCA) Ltd of £55,000, £6,500 in interest free loans and £1,280 in letting deposits. £25,000 has already been repaid to MCA from the initial advance of £80,000 in March 2009 and a further £20,000 will have been repaid by November 2009 reducing that debt to £35,000. It is expected that the balance should be repaid by the end of 2010.

# General Fund

## Income and expenditure account 2008/09 and budget for the year ending 31st August 2010

Actual 2007/8	General Fund	Budget 2008/9	Actual 2008/9	Budget 2009/10
£	Income		£	£
62,353	Collection (note 3)	63,000	64,575.46	64,000
12,005	Income tax refund	12,000	12,098.59	12,000
10,066	Lettings (note 2)	5,000	8,996.00	20,000
201	Donations	100	110.00	500
630	Weddings and funerals	700	654.40	500
72	Bank interest	100	81.19	50
1,134	Coffee bar profits (Week day)	1,400	1,307.70	1,200
142	Legacies	200		<u>150</u>
<b>8,6603</b>	<b>Total income</b>	<b>82,500</b>	<b>87,823.34</b>	<b>98,400</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>			
	MINISTRY			
66,480	Circuit	68,400	68,400.00	68,400
<u>1,550</u>	Donations and subscriptions (4)	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,675.00</u>	<u>1,600</u>
<u>68,030</u>		<u>69,900</u>	<u>7,0075.00</u>	<u>70,000</u>
	PROPERTY			
6961	Heat, light, water, sewerage	7,000	7,756.34	7,000
4331	Cleaners wages and supplies	4,000	2,172.32	4,500
1573	Building maintenance	3,000	1,643.50	3,000
---	Equipment maintenance	----	558.19	3,000
40	Organ and pianos	500	190.00	500
2686	Insurance	2,900	2,801.47	3,500
<u>3425</u>	Impact of M CCP	<u>1,000</u>	-----	-----
<u>19016</u>		<u>18,400</u>	<u>15,121.82</u>	<u>21,500</u>
	OTHER			
863	Administration	1,300	2,173.24	1,800
448	Telephones	400	1,083.64	700
2006	Church activities	2,000	1,541.99	2,100
<u>179</u>	Miscellaneous	<u>300</u>	<u>1,691.30</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<u>3496</u>		<u>4,000</u>	<u>6,490.17</u>	<u>5,600</u>
<b>90542</b>	<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>92,300</b>	<b>91,686.99</b>	<b>97,100</b>
<u>(3939)</u>	Net income(exp)	<u>(9,800)</u>	<u>(3,863.65)</u>	<u>1,300</u>
<b>10,000</b>	<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>165.69</b>	
<b>6,061</b>	<b>Net income after transfer</b>		<b>(3,697.96)</b>	
	<b>Balance brought forward 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008</b>		<b>£25,892.36</b>	
	<b>Net expenditure for year</b>		<b>£3,697.96</b>	
	<b>Balance carried forward as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009</b>		<b>£22,194.40</b>	



## Restricted Fund

Income and expenditure for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009

	MCCP (Note 2)	Church refurbish ment (note 6)	Benevolent Fund	Church Organisa tions	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>					
Members donations	23,480.48	18,065.06			41,545.54
Tax refund	1,774.50	2,735.20			4,509.70
Fund raising	29,010.81				29,010.81
Grants (note 5)	398,003.00				398,003.00
Bank interest	6,435.96				6,435.96
Other income	-----		-----	<u>15,348.94</u>	<u>15,348.94</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>458,704.75</u>	<u>20,800.26</u>	-----	<u>15,348.94</u>	<u>494,853.95</u>
<b>Payments</b>					
Fees	30,188.11				30,188.11
Construction (note 2)	806,952.78	15,410.00			822,362.78
Furniture and fittings	34,124.67	30,390.92			64,515.59
Fund raising expenses	9,964.66				9,964.66
Loan interest	778.30				778.30
Other expenses	-----	-----	<u>195.82</u>	<u>17,273.10</u>	<u>17,468.92</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>882,008.52</u>	<u>45,800.92</u>	<u>195.82</u>	<u>17,273.10</u>	<u>945,278.36</u>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(423,303.77)</b>	<b>(25,000.66)</b>	<b>(195.82)</b>	<b>(1,924.16)</b>	<b>(450,424.41)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>+5,000.00</b>		<b>-5,032.91</b>	<b>-32.91</b>
<b>Net exp after transfers</b>	<b>(423,303.77)</b>	<b>(200,00.66)</b>	<b>(195.82)</b>	<b>(6,957.07)</b>	<b>(450,457.32)</b>
<b>Balances brought fwd</b>	<b>409,340.56</b>	<b>3,845.00</b>	<b>440.13</b>	<b>23,462.82</b>	<b>437,088.51</b>
<b>Add net income(exp)</b>	<b>(423,303.77)</b>	<b>(20,000.66)</b>	<b>(195.82)</b>	<b>(6,957.07)</b>	<b>(450,457.32)</b>
<b>Balances carried fwd</b>	<b>(13,963.21)</b>	<b>(16,155.66)</b>	<b>244.31</b>	<b>16,505.75</b>	<b>(13,368.81)</b>
<b>Add back capitalised exp</b>	<b>891,029.80</b>				<b>891,029.80</b>
<b>Balances carried fwd</b>	<b>877,066.59</b>	<b>(16,155.66)</b>	<b>244.31</b>	<b>16,505.75</b>	<b>877,660.99</b>

### Endowment Funds held by The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

	Mead Bequest	Stranks and Staley's bequests	Totals
	Restricted	Unrestricted	£
Balances brought forward 1.9.08	164.40	2,955.16	3,119.56
Income	7.09	125.69	132.78
Paid to general fund		-125.69	-125.69
Paid to J team and Youth Club	-7.09		-7.09
Change in value of investments	+7.59	+123.94	+131.53
Balances carried forward 31.8.09	171.99	3,079.10	3,251.09

## Balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009

### Assets

#### Tangible assets

Community centre improvements		891,029.80
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#### Current assets

Bank balances		£	£
HSBC Current account		20,558.17	
HSBC Deposit account		8,037.88	
Central Finance Board		<u>45,871.28</u>	
			74,467.33
Endowment funds held by the Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes			
Unrestricted		3,079.10	
Restricted (J Team and Choir)		<u>171.99</u>	
			3,251.09
Funds held by Church organisations			16,505.75
Debtors	(Note 7)		<u>9,329.25</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>			<b><u>103,553.42</u></b>

<b>Total assets</b>			<b><u>994,583.22</u></b>
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#### Liabilities

Loans	(Note 8)		62,780.00
Other creditors	(Note 9)		28,696.74
Fund balances			
General fund			22,194.40
Restricted funds			
MCCP - applied		891,029.80	
MCCP – unapplied		<u>(13,963.21)</u>	
		877,066.59	
Church refurbishment		(161,55.66)	
Benevolent fund		244.31	
Church organisations		16,505.75	
Endowment funds		<u>3,251.09</u>	
			<u>880,912.08</u>

<b>Total liabilities</b>			<b><u>994,583.22</u></b>
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## Notes to the Accounts

1. As the accounts come within the guidance of charity legislation and the total income of these accounts together with those of the various church organisations is greater than £100,000, they 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 have been capitalised. The buildings are insured for £2,550,000, the organ for £50,000 and other contents £187,000.

2. The restricted fund set up for the Community Centre Project (MCCP) includes, in 2008/09, almost all the expenditure for building and furnishing costs including a sum of £25,588 still due to the building contractor and a further £12,000 is likely to be spent on a room divider and other equipment. Further income from pledges and fundraising amounting to about £40,000 will be received during the next year or so. Loans totalling £86,500 were raised pending receipt of this income and £25,000 of this sum has already been repaid at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009.

3. The actual of £64,575 for collection income is made up of recorded (envelopes and standing orders) £52,164 and unrecorded (cash) £12,411.

4. Donations and subscriptions include £1,100 paid to four connexional funds and £500 to Methodist Missions. In addition retiring collections, church organisations and Sunday coffee bars resulted in a further £2,407 being given to 11 charities during the year of which £802 was to Methodist Missions and MRDF. Further unrecorded amounts go to Action for children, Karibuni Trust and Christian Aid.

5. Grants received during 2008/09 include the Big Lottery fund £321,333, Methodist Headquarters £26,250, Joseph Rank Foundation £35,000, Aylesbury Town Council £800, The Buckinghamshire Foundation £620 and the William Harding Charity £14,000.

6. The restricted fund for the refurbishment of the church, which followed the completion of the MCCP, shows a deficit. Expenditure is virtually complete but pledged income is yet to be received.

### 7. Debtors include:

Circuit expenses	579.25
Tax refund re February to August 2009	5,447.00
Lettings	<u>3,303.00</u>
	<u>£9,329.25</u>

### 8. Loans include:

Methodist Chapel Aid Ltd	£55,000
5 interest free loans	£6,500
Letting deposits	<u>£1,280</u>
	<u>£62,780</u>

### 9. Creditors include:

Mead bequest – choir and J Team	7.09
Water	80.00
Office supplies	323.51
Telephone	201.00
Charity collections not yet paid over	767.16
Tax refund payable to other churches	1,489.59
Retention owing on MCCP building contract	<u>25,688.32</u>
	<u>28,696.74</u>



# Aylesbury Methodist Church and Centre

## Mid-week Church Activities

(For more details, please phone the office or see the website)

**Coffee Bar:** Monday to Friday 10am – 12 noon

**Girls' Brigade:** For 5s to 18s, Mondays 5.30pm – 7.30pm

**Boys' Brigade:** For 5s to 18s, Tuesdays 6pm to 9pm

**Youth Club:** For 10s to teens, Wednesdays 6pm – 9pm

**German Youth Exchange:** For youth club members, annual summer exchange

**J Team (Sunday School):** For tots to teens – Sundays 10.30am to 11.30am

**Tuesday Fellowship:** Open to all – Every first and third Tuesday, 2pm – 4pm

**Church Choir:** Open to all, Fridays from 7.30pm

**Music Group:** Open to all, variable rehearsal days and times

**SOS (Sometimes On Sundays):** Open to all, monthly programme

**Banner Group:** Open to all, Tuesdays 12 noon – 2.30pm

**House Groups:** Various days and frequencies – details from the Minister

## Community Centre User Groups

Regular users include:

**Aylesbury Child Contact Centre:** Safe place for children to meet estranged parents (referrals only)

**Aylesbury Coffee Morning Club:** Social meetings for deaf people, alternate Tuesdays 10.30-12.30

**Aylesbury Healing Centre:** Drop in centre for holistic healing, Mondays 7-9pm

**Aylesbury Homeless Action Group (AHAG):** Support to the towns homeless, (check days/times)

**Baby's First Cafe:** Advice and support for breast-feeding mums, Wednesdays 2 – 3.30pm

**Cards for Good Causes:** Christmas cards for 36 charities, Mon-Sat, Oct – Dec, 10-4pm

**Church of God:** Sundays 1.30-4.30pm, Wednesdays 7.30-9pm

**Cruse Bereavement:** Counselling support for bereaved of all ages (Phone or email to contact)

**Gentle Exercise for the Over 60s:** For health and fitness, Fridays 10-11am

**National Autistic Society:** Support for families with autistic offspring

**Reachout:** Day Centre for people with learning difficulties, Daily 9 -3pm

**Sign language training:** Free basic course. (Phone for dates and times)

**Singing Classes:** For all ages, Thursdays, 7.30-10pm

**Wednesday Day Care Centre:** For referred clients, many with dementia, Wednesdays 11-3.30pm

**Yoga:** For healthy body and mind, Tuesdays 9.30-10.30am

*“...a model for any town to look at to have a church like this that just goes out there and says, ‘here we are, what can we do for you?’”*

*Ian Pearce, Presenter, BBC 3 Counties radio; broadcast on Melting Pot on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2009*

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