

ANNUAL REPORT

**Year ending
31 August 2012**



**GROVE METHODIST CHURCH
HORSFORTH, LEEDS**
Registered Charity No. 1129305

Another year gone by...

a year in which we have been looking ahead, wondering what the future holds for the Grove, wondering how we may most effectively reach out to those around us. The results of our surveys are being collated, and very soon we shall have our answers. Or, at least, a new set of questions.

This is the reality of looking ahead. It never settles things conclusively because the world and the people in it are constantly changing. We do not know what crises will arise, or what issues will confront us, BUT we do know that we will face them together.

Hope in Horsforth showed us what the churches of this place can do when we act together. Let no-one doubt that the church of Christ has power or impact in the modern world. When we act together we bring hope into the reckoning of any question, because we are people of hope, and that hope transforms the world.

As our Moving Forward Together process continues we will be looking for fresh signs of hope, and seeing how we can share that hope with those who live around us. This document is simply the latest chapter in the Acts of the Apostles. You want to know more? Read on.....

Reverend Alistair S Jones MA

AIMS AND ORGANISATION

The aims of the church are set out in its **Mission Statement** as follows:

The Grove Methodist Church is called to respond to the Gospel of love in Jesus Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship, service and mission.

In seeking to live out our mission statement we are committed to:

Worship - which takes into account the needs of the whole church family, preserving all that is good from the past while being open to the new.

Fellowship - which seeks to make all welcome, builds up our faith and enables us to care for one another.

Spirituality - believing that Bible Study, Prayer, Worship, Giving and Service are vital, we seek to order our lives on the pattern of Jesus.

Serving God in the World – by seeking to live out our faith where we work and live, witnessing by word and deed in the local community, fostering interest in world affairs, engaging in world-wide mission and seeking to enhance the lives of those in our neighbourhood.

Working together - committed to the whole Church of God and seeking greater awareness of, and co-operation with, other faiths and denominations within our community.

Evangelism - sharing our faith in Jesus Christ with others and bringing them into fellowship.

Secure Foundations - ensuring that we have a sound working base, since our commitment to worship, fellowship, spirituality and service requires us to provide premises that are structurally sound, well maintained and underpinned by effective finance.

The church seeks to carry out its stated aims and objectives through:

- Sunday services and other acts of worship.
- Various meetings for prayer, fellowship, Bible study and outreach.
- Membership of Leeds (Wesley) Circuit (16/07).
- Membership of Horsforth Churches Together and support of its activities.
- The Church Council and its appointed Committees, which act under its direction.

Review of progress and achievements

This year has been no different to many others in terms of the large number of people coming onto the site to make use of the church's facilities and services. Having recognised the willingness of many people to come on to church premises and the vast range of people who are on the various levels of the church fringe, the church has been engaged in careful preparations for a consultation that will involve the whole range of premises user. Under the heading, 'Moving Forward Together', the aim is to accompany people on their personal spiritual journeys, to consult them as to where they are and to identify their hopes and needs.

Focus groups representing many of the different groups and organisations of the church have met to identify how this consultation could take place and what views might be elicited. It is hoped that the church might then be better able to consider actions to take, that will engage more premises users and further achieve its mission statement. The consultation has been set for the 2012 autumn period.

Throughout the year much of the church's work has been sustained and, as outlined below, action taken in line with church aims. However, the year has been dominated by careful endeavours around a four point financial plan to correct the imbalance between income and expenditure. This has been successfully achieved, which is both necessary and timely as major building work is pending.

Worship

- Against a national background of falling numbers of people attending worship, Sunday services at The Grove have been sustained at levels averaging 125 as evidenced by the October census. These services have retained quality input from a well-supported church choir and a rota of skilled organists. High spots in the year that have brought into the church well above the average number of worshippers, are those services linked to the festivals of Christmas and Easter. Numbers are also considerably greater for each monthly Family Parade service.
- Throughout the year worship has been enhanced through the appointment of specially selected preachers for particular occasions. These have included Brian Thornton, past Vice President of the Methodist Conference, for the 144th Church Anniversary, Mrs Awais Mughal from Touchstone, the centre of listening and learning in the heart of Bradford, on World Mission Sunday and the Rev'd James Barnett, minister to new communities in Leeds, on Mission in Britain Sunday.
- Easter Day worship was enriched by the choir performing 'The People's Passion', a choral piece commissioned by BBC Radio 4 for choirs across the country to perform during Easter weekend.
- In conjunction with our sister church, Central, the Trustees have sanctioned a range of types of worship that has included traditional services, all-age worship, mid-week opportunities for prayer, reflection and the celebration of Holy Communion, Taizé and Ranters services. In addition, in November, the church supported Central's Centenary Anniversary celebrations. Each has proved effective in attracting and meeting the needs of different congregations.
- In addition, this year the church has increased its worship styles with some success, by holding café style, wholeness and healing and Taizé communion services.
- A high degree of commitment is shown each Sunday morning by leaders and helpers of J Team and Crèche who organise activities for the younger members of our congregation. Together they cater for a steady stream of toddlers and children who initially join adults at the start of morning services and then move into their own worship time.

- Across the year the church has enriched its worship by joining with other churches in Horsforth to mark special occasions and events. These have included the start of Advent, Christmas, the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity and Holy Week.
- Following the resignation of the Musical Director, prior to his move to Canada, the position was advertised but without an appointment being made. Consequently the music of the church is being capably co-ordinated by the church's previous and well-experienced duo of choir master and organist.
- In line with the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act, 1995, the church sound system has been fully overhauled and provision of the loop system extended to cover the Small Hall in the Grove Centre. Feedback suggests it continues to be greatly appreciated by premises users.

Fellowship

- Effective communication across the church has been maintained with the help of Grove Vine, the monthly church magazine, that is available for all members of groups and organisations linked to the church, including each section of Uniformed Organisations, and any visitors coming into the premises. As usual it has responded well to church, local and national events including the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- Church signage has been reviewed and new 'welcome' notices, together with information about church aims and contact details, have been erected at key points on the outside of the building.
- Throughout the year the bond of fellowship within the church has been sustained by regular on-going activities. The strongest of these includes the Luncheon Club with an average weekly attendance of 35, the Flower Guild providing 150-200 flower arrangements for distribution to adherents and beyond, and Grove Weekday and Weekend Wanderers organising regular rambles throughout the year. Feedback on these and other activities has remained very positive.

- Fellowship remains strong within all church groups across a full span of ages. In addition to those already mentioned these include Women's Fellowship, Ladies Group, Wednesday Break, Uniformed Organisations and Studio Dance SNYG (Sunday Night Youth at The Grove).
- The successful annual fellowship break involving 38 church and circuit members and adherents, of whom 21 were aged 75 or over, was held at Raven Hall between 6th - 11th May 2012.
- The welcoming atmosphere at the weekly Tuesday Coffee Morning attracts 50-60 visitors including members from the local Adult Learning Centre. Modestly priced refreshments raise funds for the church and other charities, in particular this year for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, Candlelighters and Caring for Life. Each of them has expressed their gratitude with letters of thanks for the support received.

Spirituality

- In accordance with Council wishes all church committees and activities held throughout the year have contained elements of prayer, Bible reading or worship as a reminder that we order our lives on the pattern of Jesus.
- In order to emphasise the liturgical significance of the annual Covenant Service, the Trustees agreed to its move from January to September, to coincide with the start of the new Methodist Year. It proved to be a memorable opportunity for members and adherents to renew their commitment to Christian discipleship.
- The church has continued to provide specific weekly opportunities for prayer and Bible study that are open to all interested parties and has sustained successful groups throughout the year.
- Regular praying by individual members and adherents has been encouraged by providing names, for whom permission has been given, as a focus for prayer in the weekly newsletter and monthly magazine.
- Use of the leaflet 'Grove Methodist Church: Praying for each other' has been available for church members and adherents requesting inclusion, with the aim of providing a daily prayer focus.

Grove Methodist Church

- In addition Grove members have been encouraged to join one of the ecumenical Lent Groups organised by Churches Together on the theme 'Handing on the Torch: sacred words for a secular world', a course written by the Rev'd John Young, Canon Emeritus of York Minster.
- Taping of church services has enabled worshippers who are unable to attend services to benefit at times other than Sunday.
- Opportunities for private reflection and study are provided through encouraging individual use of prayer materials, particularly the Methodist Prayer Handbook and the Leeds Lent Prayer Diary, individual use of daily Bible notes obtained from the International Bible Reading Association or Scripture Union, and the sale of spiritual magazines such as Magnet, the Christian magazine nurturing faith in thoughtful, challenging ways.
- Throughout the year the church has provided a point of spiritual contact for those in the neighbourhood who have identified their own personal or family need. In this connection there has been conducted 6 baptisms, 1 blessing, 5 weddings and 9 funerals.

Serving God in the World

- The translation and distribution of Scripture by the Bible Society has been supported by members who have joined the Bible-a-Month Club, by direct giving through Sunday collections and by organising coffee mornings. Such giving has also benefited the patients in La Mascota, the only hospital in Nicaragua for children diagnosed with cancer, and those involved in literacy projects in Cambodia.
- Awareness of the work of the Bible Society has also been raised through the annual Bible Sunday service led by the Rev'd Dr Albert Jewell, past Pastoral Director of MHA Care Group, and encouragement to make use of weekly Bible notes.
- The regular August Holiday Club proved successful with around 20-25 children taking part in 'The Global Games', a fictitious sporting tournament in first century Galilee, that involved bringing stories of Jesus alive from the mud of a rugby pitch, to waves, wheels and skate boards! Ideas were included from the helpful Scripture Union Holiday Club programme, 'On Your Marks'.

- Uniformed Organisations have flourished throughout the year with 250 young people enjoying Rainbows, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Guides, Scouts and Explorer Scouts supported by enthusiastic and hard-working leaders.
- Once again, as over the past five years, mindful of the need to improve the local environment, the Scout Group planted daffodil bulbs on the verges of neighbourhood roads.
- Studio Dance SNYG continues to provide a regular focus for young people with an interest in dance performance. It is a small but enthusiastic group of dancers which has provided enjoyment and entertainment during the year, and which has made occasional contributions to church services.
- The Church Welcome Pack contains information about community as well as church facilities, and has been updated throughout the year. It has proved a successful means of church outreach and has been distributed to new neighbours moving into their area. Feedback has been very positive.
- The church's on-going 'Change-for-change' charity appeal, aimed at collecting loose change for charities across two-month periods, has been successfully maintained throughout the year. Donations have been sent to Samaritan's Purse (£50.90), Mission Aviation Fellowship (£40.40), Caring for Life (£46.96), Muscular Dystrophy (£ 27.79), Methodist Homes (£26.88) and Sight Savers (£9.80).
- Tots and Tykes remains the church's biggest outreach to young families in Horsforth and beyond, by drawing together on a weekly term time basis, an average of 50 children ranging from newly born to 3 years old accompanied by their parents, grandparents or carers. Marks of their achievement are the organisation of Mothering Sunday activities, that bring together sizeable numbers of past members and their families, and regular donations to church funds.
- In January the church received a letter of thanks from Stuart Andrew, MP, acknowledging the work undertaken over the Christmas period in raising funds for Action for Children.

- The Pre-School successfully supports up to 22 children, aged 2 – 4 years, in their learning through play and structured activities in a caring Christian environment. The effectiveness of pre-school provision is confirmed by the award of an Inclusion Chartermark and a good OFSTED inspection report.
- At the end of the year the highly committed and long-standing leader of Pre-School retired. Leadership was transferred smoothly and there are plans in place to meet community need by increasing the number of sessions throughout each week.
- Having effectively maintained the Church Benevolent Fund, 50% of its reserve was allocated for use in support of relief work undertaken by the Methodist Relief and Development Fund.
- Other on-going service by the church as a whole in our wider community involves effective support for Fund for World Mission, World Church Fund, Christian Aid, Methodist Homes for the Aged, Action for Children, Mission Aviation Fellowship and the Horsforth Live at Home Scheme.
- Specific groups within the church (Flower Guild, Wednesday Break, Women's Fellowship, Tots & Tykes, Pre-School, Ladies Group, Line Dancing) have provided financial support to registered charities at a local, national or international level.
- The weekly Tuesday Coffee Morning has continued to prove a successful outreach by providing a meeting point for the immediate neighbourhood and beyond, a strong sense of fellowship and a means of raising funds for charitable purposes.
- In May Grove members engaged in the annual Christian Aid door-to-door collections and raised over £2,000, when gift aid was taken into account. This has proved to be the largest amount collected by the church to date.
- The church reiterated its commitment to supporting needy communities throughout the world by continuing to provide Fairtrade products at church meetings and by raising awareness of the Real Easter Egg, the only milk chocolate egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter.
- In June – July church adherents supported Ricky Hearn, a church member, in a sponsored cycle ride to Santiago de Compostela. £1800 was raised by the church for St George's Crypt, an inner-city charity working with the homeless of Leeds.

Working Together

- In upholding the wider Methodist Connexion donations were made to the Methodist Church Fund for Property, the Fund for Support of Presbyters and Deacons and the Methodist Ministers' Housing Society.
- At Circuit level the church has shown its commitment to working together by promoting the Circuit Banquet in March, hosting the Circuit Service in October, at which we were joined by members of neighbouring Headingley and West Circuit, and supporting services across the Circuit in February, April, May and June. The church also hosted the Circuit Methodist Women in Britain (M W in B) service led by Mrs. Christine Baker, District M W in B President. Equally, there was good support in July for the farewell service for two Circuit staff and in August for the welcome service for a new staff member.
- In view of the pending reorganisation of Circuit staff and a reduction in the number of presbyters by one, the church has been involved in discussions with the other two Methodist churches in Horsforth with a view to closer liaison.
- Opportunities were provided for church members to attend cross-church Lent study meetings. During Holy Week The Grove collaborated effectively with other local churches to organise and participate in a programme of daily evening services, to join in the Good Friday walk of witness and open air service and to support the Dawn Service on Easter Sunday.
- The church continued its backing for local events following on from the Hope 2008 national, inter-church, outreach programme. Besides financial assistance, church adherents supported activities at a number of local venues. Responses from those attending were very positive.
- Other successful involvement with churches in the neighbourhood included the Churches Together Advent Service, distribution of Churches Together Christmas Cards, leading of school assemblies, Horsforth Litter Pick, and preparations for the autumn mission 'Hope in Horsforth'.
- Early in 2012 the church collaborated with other churches by submitting a page of information towards the newly produced Churches Together website.

Grove Methodist Church

- In November an interfaith gathering was held at Leeds City Museum aimed at opening up the faith dimension in its many forms to the inhabitants of Leeds. Church adherents were urged to participate and support was shown in small numbers.
- Throughout the year church office holders attended Circuit training to complete Module A of the Methodist Church's safeguarding programme aimed at ensuring that The Grove is a safe place for all users.

Evangelism

- Successful outreach events have been mentioned above (Working Together, points 5-8) but also include Carols in the Park with Churches Together, "Give it Back, Mac", a Christmas play for all the family presented by the Riding Lights Theatre Company, and outreach to young people and children during the Horsforth Gala under the title 'Churches Together in the Park'.
- As further support for outreach activities at the gala a donation was made towards the cost of running the Christian events.
- Support from the church finances effective work in local high schools through Leeds Youth Cell Network.
- Attendance at the monthly Family Parade services has remained high with congregations sometimes double that of other Sundays. Preachers have made use of modern audio-visual equipment, and an orchestra made up of adults and young people provides the music and is much appreciated by worshippers.
- The church has continued to maintain and expand its web site to a high quality. Not only does the site enable wider public access to details of worship opportunities but also provides information about meetings and activities that might be of more general interest. The Annual Report, Church Magazine and weekly notice sheet are also accessible on the site. This has resulted in requests for details concerning aspects of church life. An expansion of the site has included information detailing the Methodist Church's history and outreach, together with links within Methodism. Links have also been made to the new web site created this year by our 9th Airedale Scout Group.

- To raise general interest, there has been support for the publication of a 64-page booklet on the history of the church 1759 to 2012.

Secure foundations

- Regarding finance, the church has been aware that there was very little money available for major project works on the building. Nevertheless the church and its organisations continued to make donations to outside charitable bodies as listed below.
- The year has benefited from its effective four pronged approach to securing a sound financial base for the church that has involved review of regular giving, fund raising and efficiencies at church and circuit levels. The result was the production of a surplus that is being used to undertake proposed work on property maintenance.
- In addition to income details outlined below, there have been special entertainment evenings that are an additional source of funding for the church and for its supported charities, and have been supported by many outside of the church. These have included a performance of 'The Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged)' by the Followspot Theatre Company and concerts given by the Ascension Singers, Wesley Singers and the Sheffield Salvation Army Band.
- For the first time in many years a Christmas Bazaar was organised that was very well supported by the wider community and raised £2057.
- Having costed the church's energy use and in consideration of ways to reduce energy bills, the Church became a member of the Community Fundraiser through the Utility Warehouse Discount Scheme. This has resulted in clear benefits both from reduced spending on heat and lighting due to lower energy costs and the receipt of donations on the basis of bills paid by scheme members.
- Further benefits have been received from the church's review of its refuse collection, and participation in a free collection scheme.

- In ensuring that the building provides the safe and secure base that is needed for our work in the community, regular maintenance and improvements are made. This year this has involved careful consideration of safety issues surrounding the use of the Christmas tree, addition of a balcony staircase rail and marking with Smart Water.
- Having experienced leaks from a small expanse of flat roof ineffectively relaid at the time of the refurbishment of the Community Centre, the church has continued to spend much time and energy seeking a solution to the problems so as to secure sound premises.
- Moves have continued to sustain the church's environmentally friendly approach. Measures taken during the year towards energy saving include replacement of light bulbs with lower wattage lighting, use of a range of environmentally friendly cleaning products, recycling kitchen waste into the church compost heap, re-siting the evening services during winter months, organising the use of recycling bins and raising awareness of the waste produced by using products supplied with unwanted packaging.
- The electronic web-based booking calendar continues to provide greater administrative efficiency and enables the generation of daily agendas and room bookings.
- A mark of the quality of welcome and accommodation provided for site users has been the high use of the premises by the many church and outside organisations throughout the year.

Progress on any special projects

- Good neighbours: The Circuit having negotiated the sale on leasehold of Grove House, the old Grove Manse, across the year the Trustees have striven to establish working relationships with the new owners as the church's nearest on-site neighbours. In a sense of goodwill, permission has been given to the owners on matters of parking, erection of a noticeboard advertising the firm's business and construction of solar panels on the listed building.

- Horsforth Live at Home Scheme: This has been a special project that has been running for several years. It is aimed at supporting the independence of elderly people in their own homes and currently supports 500 members. This year the church has given financial and voluntary help and, in addition, some of the harvest gifts collected in October 2011 were distributed to the scheme.
- The local Bible Society (Leeds Action Group) Secretary organised arrangements for Bible Sunday together with fund raising opportunities. This complemented other activities across 2011 aimed at raising general Bible awareness including the handwritten transcript of Mark's Gospel and the sale of Bible reading notes.
- Harvest: With the aim of attracting young families to church over the harvest weekend, this year's harvest celebrations took a new approach. A very successful 'Harvest Extravaganza' was organised on the Saturday afternoon that attracted over 200 people many of whom were children and parents from the groups and organisations meeting on the premises during the week. Gifts of produce were collected for distribution to Horsforth Live at Home scheme, as well as to the regular recipient Caring for Life, a charity working with vulnerable adults in neighbouring Cookridge. In addition the Methodist Relief and Development Fund was chosen as a focus for other giving and £338 – 38p was donated.
- Across the Christmas season the church has supported several special projects including:
 - Gifts of toys, games, colouring pencils etc. for St George's Crypt, an inner city project aimed at supporting the homeless of Leeds and families in particular need,
 - Along with Westbrook Lane Primary School, the gifts of 124 shoeboxes to children in Belarus together with a donation of £50.90 to help cover transport costs,
 - Funds for Christian Aid and Leprosy Mission through purchases from their Christmas catalogues,
 - A donation from service collections of £748.54 for Action for Children in the UK.

- This has been the second year of awareness raising about the ever-present tensions of living in Israel-Palestine through talks, and articles about Tent of Nations, an international peace organisation based south-west of Bethlehem, Palestine. The project is aimed at modelling peaceful co-existence with all neighbours irrespective of race, religion or nationality under the slogan of 'building bridges between people of different backgrounds'. As a result a further £70.02 has been added to the church's initial donation of £304.37.

Church's response to important events

- 2011 being the 400th Anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible, part of the church's celebration was the organisation of members, adherents and premises users to write by hand, and verse by verse, St Mark's Gospel. The assembled book was then displayed in the church throughout the year.
- As an immediate response to the Food Crisis in Africa the church donated £1,500.00 which was given through the Methodist Relief and Development Fund East Africa Appeal. This amount was added to with funds raised at the harvest weekend which altogether amounted to £338.38.
- Response to a request to purchase flower and vegetable seeds intended for Romania, but that couldn't be sent, raised £153.37. The money was donated to the much needed funds for a home in Romania for street children and orphans, started by the Tom Payne Ministries.
- The Diamond Jubilee was reflected in the activities offered by a number of church organisations including Wednesday Break and Pre-School. In addition, members were encouraged to share memories of meeting the queen in Grove Vine and to support the local Jubilee Charity Concert in aid of Tatarai Trust.
- The church has been mindful of specific world economic situations and throughout the year has continued to emphasise its commitment to serve Fairtrade goods at all church meetings with a choice of other products on request.

Value of the church not in monetary terms

- The range of activities and services outlined above are evidence of the church's particular impact on its immediate locality and the residents, whether they are Methodist members and adherents or non-church neighbours. The outline above of the scope of the church's interest and support also indicates a positive, if less direct, influence at national and international levels in a wide number of areas.
- The church continues to offer a welcome place of lively and varied worship, geographically placed at the heart of Horsforth. Our well-maintained and attractive premises are extensively used by church groups and the wider community throughout each week.
- The church community continues to offer the opportunity for spiritual growth to young and old alike, pastoral care to one another and those outside the church and continues to explore new ways to reach out in mission.
- Above all it seeks to provide a pattern for living that responds to the gospel of God's love in Jesus Christ by following a life of discipleship through worship, service and mission.

Financial information

In addition to the financial activities carried out by the church outlined in the financial accounts, response has been made by the church and its associated groups to appeals and charities across the year, listed on page 28.

The accounts provide details of major transactions for the year 2011 – 2012.

These include the Circuit Assessment for the church, which was £42,727. This is a major and ongoing expenditure for sustaining and supporting the ministry and work of the Leeds Wesley Circuit of which The Grove is one of nine constituent churches.

Grove Methodist Church

This Annual Report outlines the widespread range of events and activities that the church has provided across the year 2011 – 2012. These would not have been possible without the very many hours of dedicated service and voluntary help that have been given by members and adherents. The Trustees would like to thank all volunteers for their interest, time and energy that has enabled the church to respond in such a positive way to the gospel of God's love in Jesus Christ within this community.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2012

Administrative information:

The Grove Methodist Church, Horsforth, is a registered charity number 1129305. It is governed by the Methodist Church constitution set up by Act of Parliament and by the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Church as amended from time to time by the Methodist Conference.

Correspondence for The Grove Methodist Church should be addressed to the Rev. Alistair Jones, The Grove Methodist Church, 7 Fraser Avenue, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 5EA.

The Managing Trustees compose the Church Council and for the year ending 31st August 2012 those who have served are as follows: Carole Abel, Philip Abel (Treasurer), Kath Ashby (from 1st May), Brian Ball, Kay Bassett, Anne Blackburn, Margaret Bosomworth, Barbara Buckley, David Buckley, John Bussey, Judith Chaplin, Jean Douglas, Eric Douglass, Linda Douglass, Alan Firth, Jean Fox, Betty France, John Hardaker, Cynthia Hatton, Ricky Hearn, Margaret Heaton, Rev. Alistair Jones (Chair), Gill Marley, Janette Mawson (to 30th April), Peter Mawson (Secretary), Gordon Mellor, Mary Mellor, Jack Myers, Jean Orton, Sylvia Parker, Cynthia Quayle (Circuit Representative), David Quick (to October), Margaret Shingler (from 1st May), Margaret Simmons, Andy Walker, Betty West, David Whiteley, Sally Wolfe.

One Trustee is an employee and receives benefits from the Charity in fulfilling his duties.

Independent Examiner: Mr Christopher W. Turner F.C.A.

Bankers: Yorkshire Bank plc, Horsforth

As at 4th April 2012 there were 179 church members. Following an overhaul of church records details of a further 114 people are placed on the church data base and altogether 526 on the community roll. The fall in membership numbers is largely accounted for by bereavements, house moves and a scrupulous scrutiny of membership names. This year has also seen 7 people commit to church membership.

Objects and Activities

These are set out in detail on pages 2-17.

Financial Review

It is pleasing, for the second consecutive year, to report a financial surplus.

Whilst overall income has fallen slightly certain contributions have significantly increased – e.g hire of rooms, both by outside agencies and church organisations. Collections and pledged giving were just up on last year which bearing in mind that there is more and more pressure on contributors finances, deserves mention and all members and non members alike are to be congratulated on their continued support on a regular basis. Without this regular income stream the church's position would be seriously undermined.

Overall expenditure has dropped sharply in no small measure due to a dramatic fall in the amount of circuit assessment we had to pay due to circuit changes.

The combination of these factors means that the church will be able to hold in the general fund the required amount of unrestricted reserves, equivalent to three months potential expenditure - approximately £24,000.

Looking forward there will be sums of money required to maintain and improve our buildings and facilities and this means that we should never be complacent whilst rightly being encouraged by our own efforts to strike a balance between income and expenditure.

Reserves Policy

The General Fund comprises the unrestricted reserves of the Church. Our Reserves Policy aims to accumulate the equivalent of three months potential expenditure. Currently that would be £24,000. We are confident that the General Fund can satisfy that requirement at the present time.

Approved by The Grove Church Council on 5th February 2013 and signed on its behalf by Peter Mawson, Secretary to the Church Council.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GROVE METHODIST CHURCH HORSFORTH

The report is on the Church Funds for the year ended 31 August 2012 which are set out on pages 22 to 27 and in respect of an examination carried out under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act), and that an Independent Examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5b) of the Charities Act), and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF THE EXAMINERS 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 charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees 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 accounts present 'a true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention other than that disclosed below:

- (1) 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 Charities Act, to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, and to comply with accounting requirements of the Charities Act, have not been met.
- (2) to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached apart from the fact that no amount is included for any possible tax liabilities arising from the provision of employee housing and other benefits.

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st AUGUST 2012

	Note	2012 £	2011 £
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			
At Insurance Value:			
Freehold Property: Grove Premises		3,174,022	3,069,623
Organ		<u>489,503</u>	<u>473,402</u>
		3,663,525	3,543,025
At Cost less Depreciation:			
Fixtures & Fittings	1	<u>2,156</u>	<u>4,312</u>
		<u>3,665,681</u>	<u>3,547,337</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Sundry Debtors	2	20,922	9,274
Bank Accounts	3	<u>62,570</u>	<u>50,958</u>
		83,492	60,232
Less: Sundry Creditors	4	<u>-6,758</u>	<u>-7,573</u>
		<u>76,734</u>	<u>52,659</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>£3,742,415</u>	<u>£3,599,996</u>
FUNDED BY:			
Restricted: Property Valuation Reserve		3,663,525	3,543,025
Designated: Trust 18633 Manchester		1,870	1,840
Benevolent Fund		281	257
Organ Fund		354	354
Property Fund		13,597	13,597
Unrestricted: General Fund		62,788	40,923
		<u>£3,742,415</u>	<u>£3,599,996</u>

Approved by The Grove Church Council on 5th February 2013
and signed on its behalf by Philip Abel, Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended 31st AUGUST 2012

	<u>Note</u>	<u>General Fund</u> £	<u>Other Funds</u> £	<u>TOTAL</u> £	<u>Last Year</u> £
INCOME:					
Collections & Pledged Giving		55,547	304	55,851	55,235
Tax Refund – Gift Aid		10,600	0	10,600	11,347
Hire of Rooms/Car Park		32,995	0	32,995	28,238
Use of Rooms by Church Orgs		6,809	0	6,809	4,800
Donations		6,618	0	6,618	22,258
Bank Interest		0	33	33	30
Other Income		547	0	547	715
FR Events		3,434	0	3,434	9,472
		<u>116,550</u>	<u>337</u>	<u>116,887</u>	<u>132,095</u>
Unrealised Losses/Gains (Prop)		0	120,500	120,500	-397,340
		<u>116,550</u>	<u>120,837</u>	<u>237,387</u>	<u>-265,245</u>
EXPENDITURE:					
Circuit Assessment		42,727	0	42,727	56,344
Subscriptions/Donations		235	280	515	507
Organ (Maint & Music)		999	0	999	1,651
Sundry Expenditure	5	3,397	0	3,397	3,387
Admin, Print & Stationery	6	3,527	3	3,530	2,507
Planned Maintenance	7	549	0	549	1,706
Property Maintenance	8	41,731	0	41,731	36,400
Outreach		1,520	0	1,520	1,360
		<u>94,685</u>	<u>283</u>	<u>94,968</u>	<u>103,862</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		21,865	120,554	142,419	-369,107
Reserves Brought Forward		<u>40,923</u>	<u>3,559,073</u>	<u>3,599,996</u>	<u>3,969,103</u>
Reserves Carried Forward		<u>62,788</u>	<u>3,679,627</u>	<u>3,742,415</u>	<u>3,599,996</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – OTHER FUNDS
For the Year Ended 31st AUGUST 2012

	Restricted	TMCP Trust 18633	Benevolent Fund	Organ Fund	Property Fund	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME:						
Collections &						
Pledged Giving	0	0	304	0	0	304
Tax Refund–Gift Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bank Interest	0	33	0	0	0	33
Donations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unrealised Losses						
-Property	120,500	0	0	0	0	120,500
	<u>120,500</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>120,837</u>
 EXPENDITURE:						
Subscriptions/						
Donations	0	0	280	0	0	280
Admin, Print &						
Stationery	0	3	0	0	0	3
	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>283</u>
 Surplus/(Deficit)						
for Year	120,500	30	24	0	0	120,554
Reserves						
B/Fwd	3,543,025	1,840	257	354	13,597	3,559,073
Reserves						
C/Fwd	3,663,525	1,870	281	354	13,597	3,679,627

NOTES to the ACCOUNTS
For the Year Ended 31st AUGUST 2012

	2012 £	2011 £
1. FIXTURES & FITTINGS		
Cost:		
B/Fwd	11,690	11,690
Additions	<u> 0</u>	<u> 0</u>
	<u>11,690</u>	<u>11,690</u>
Depreciation:		
B/Fwd	7,378	5,222
Charge for Year	<u>2,156</u>	<u>2,156</u>
	<u>9,534</u>	<u>7,378</u>
Net Book Value:	<u>2,156</u>	<u>4,312</u>
2. SUNDRY DEBTORS		
Circuit Assessment	12,284	0
Commercial Lettings	5,551	4,441
Insurance	878	630
Income Tax Refunds	783	2,460
Miscellaneous	<u>1,426</u>	<u>1,743</u>
	<u>20,922</u>	<u>9,274</u>
3. BANK DEPOSITS		
Current Account	60,559	47,724
Collections Account	<u> 141</u>	<u> 1,394</u>
	60,700	49,118
Trustees for MCP	<u> 1,870</u>	<u> 1,840</u>
	<u>62,570</u>	<u>50,958</u>

NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (Cont'd)
For the Year Ended 31st AUGUST 2012

	2012 £	2011 £
4. SUNDRY CREDITORS		
HM Revenue & Customs	622	601
Planned Maintenance	0	489
Miscellaneous	<u>2,543</u>	<u>2,890</u>
	3,165	3,980
Architects Fee – Grove Centre	<u>3,593</u>	<u>3,593</u>
	<u>6,758</u>	<u>7,573</u>
5. SUNDRY EXPENSES		
Depreciation	2,156	2,156
Miscellaneous	<u>1,241</u>	<u>1,231</u>
	<u>3,397</u>	<u>3,387</u>
6. ADMINISTRATION		
Photocopier	2,871	1,893
Print & Stationery	<u>656</u>	<u>611</u>
	<u>3,527</u>	<u>2,504</u>
7. PLANNED MAINTENANCE		
Church	0	764
Centre: Gable End Repairs	210	0
Car Park Railing	339	0
Other	<u>0</u>	<u>942</u>
	<u>549</u>	<u>1,706</u>

NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (cont'd)
For the Year Ended 31st AUGUST 2012

	2012 £	2011 £
8. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE		
Prem Man: Salary	13,115	12,634
Repairs	967	288
Insurance	0	122
Telephone	142	339
Council Tax	<u>1,174</u>	<u>1,174</u>
	<u>15,398</u>	<u>14,557</u>
Church: Heat & Light	5,151	4,421
Repairs	1,928	533
Water	297	351
Insurance	<u>5,204</u>	<u>5,439</u>
	<u>12,580</u>	<u>10,744</u>
Centre: Heat & Light	7,043	6,037
Repairs	4,006	2,157
Water	678	1,288
Insurance	<u>264</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>11,991</u>	<u>9,482</u>
Cleaning/Waste Disposal	<u>1,762</u>	<u>1,617</u>
Total:	<u>41,731</u>	<u>36,400</u>

DONATIONS – YEAR TO 31ST AUGUST 2012

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Value</u>
Methodist Relief and Development Fund	619
MAF	314
The Leprosy Mission	419
Live at Home Scheme	450
Horsforth Churches Together	320
Oxford Place Children's Centre	50
Methodist Homes for the Aged	181
Leeds Youth Cell Network	750
Methodist Church Fund for Property	100
Fund for Support of Presbyters and Deacons	50
Methodist Ministers Housing Society	50
Action for Children (NCH)	1,243
Junior Missionary Association (JMA)	655
Bible Society	170
Wheatfields	88
Yorkshire Air Ambulance	30
Methodist Church World Mission	366
Salvation Army	267
Music for the Deaf	430
Watoto (Shirley Crawford)	150
Botosani	200
Yorkshire Cancer Research	58
LGI Chapel	70
Samaritan's Purse	81
British Shalom – Salaam Trust	70
Smile Train UK	30
Caring for Life	47
Muscular Dystrophy	28
Sight Savers	10
Leeds District Holiday Fund	50
Leeds Churches Together	<u>35</u>
	<u>£7,381</u>

Grove Methodist Church, Horsforth, Leeds
<http://grovemethodist.org.uk>