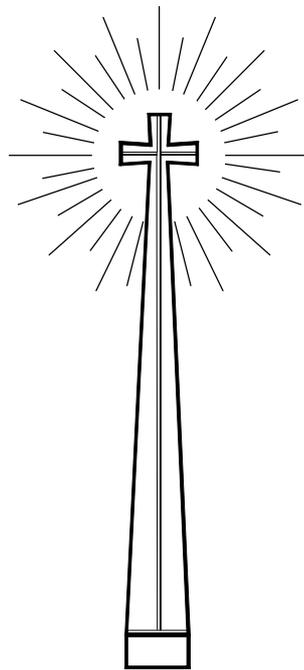


# THE PARISH OF ALEXANDRA PARK

*Diocese of London*

## ANNUAL REPORT 2006

with accounts and financial statements  
for the year ending 31 December 2006



*presented to the Annual Parish Meetings on  
Sunday 1 April 2007*



**Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10  
Diocese of London**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**with Accounts & Financial Statements  
of the Parochial Church Council  
for the year ended 31 December 2006**

**Incumbent**

The Revd Antony F Pybus

**Address for correspondence**

The Parish Office  
St Andrew's Church  
Alexandra Park Road  
London N10 2DD  
Telephone: 020 8444 6898  
E-mail: [office@alexandrapark.org](mailto:office@alexandrapark.org)  
Web Site: <http://www.alexandrapark.org>

**Bankers**

Barclays Bank plc  
223 Muswell Hill Broadway  
London N10 1DD

The Central Board of Finance of the Church of England  
80 Cheapside  
London EC2V 6DZ

Lloyds Bank plc  
142 Muswell Hill Broadway  
London N10 3RY

**Independent Examiner**

Mr Mark Hill BA FCA ATII  
9 Wyatt Road  
Highbury  
London N5 2JU

**Quinquennial Inspector**

Mr Colin Kerr BA BArch DipCons (ICCRUM) RIBA  
Molyneux Kerr Architects  
Unit 14  
112 Tabernacle Street  
London EC2A 4LE

## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

### **Membership of the Parochial Church Council**

Members of the PCC are either *ex officio* or elected by the Annual Church Meetings (ACM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as members of the Council:

#### **Chairperson**

The Revd A. F. Pybus

The Vicarage 34 Alexandra Park Road N10

#### **Churchwardens**

Mr J. M. Robson (*Vice-Chair*)

158 Victoria Road N22

Mrs C. T. Barnwell

55 Outram Road N22

#### **Lay Representatives to the Deanery Synod \***

Mrs C. T. Barnwell

55 Outram Road N22

Mr A. M. D. Smith

91 Muswell Avenue N10

*\* elected to serve until 2008*

#### **Elected Lay Representatives**

Mr L. A. Ade-Browne

16 Victoria Road N22

Mrs L. Dudley

13 Victoria Road N22

Mrs C. R. Garnsworthy

1 Coniston Road N10

Mr G. H. Garnsworthy (*Treasurer*)

1 Coniston Road N10

Miss J. M. Plaister (*Secretary*)

3 St Regis Close N10

Ms L. D. Rose (*Electoral Roll Officer*)

Vicarage Flat

1163a High Road N20

Mr V Shadare

36 Newbury Avenue EN3

## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

### **Committees of the Parochial Church Council**

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between its full meetings:

#### **Standing Committee**

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

The Vicar (Chair)	Mr J. M. Robson (Churchwarden, Vice-Chair)
Mr G. H. Garnsworthy (Treasurer)	Mrs C. T. Barnwell (Churchwarden)
Miss J.M. Plaister (Secretary)	

#### **Finance Committee**

This committee meets when necessary to monitor income and expenditure, budgeting and investment strategy.

The Vicar (Chair)	Mr J. M. Robson (Churchwarden)
Mr G. H. Garnsworthy (Treasurer)	Mrs C. T. Barnwell (Churchwarden)
Miss J. M. Plaister (Gift Aid Secretary)	Mr L. Ade-Browne (from July 2006)

#### **Buildings Committee**

This committee attends to matters relating to the stewardship of plant, particularly the church buildings and fabric, the church hall and grounds. It advises the PCC on the implementation of the Quinquennial Inspection.

Mr J. M. Robson (Chair)	Mr D. B. Hogg
Mr R. A. Greatrex	Mrs C. T. Barnwell (Churchwarden)

#### **Development Project Client Group**

The Client Group was established at the beginning of 1997 and works under the authority of the PCC on matters relating to proposals for the development of the church and church hall site. It meets with the Development Project's Architect, Mr Colin Kerr.

The Vicar (Chair)	Mr J. M. Robson (Churchwarden)
Mr G. H. Garnsworthy	Mrs C. T. Barnwell (Churchwarden)
Miss J. M. Plaister	

#### **Development Project Campaign Steering Committee**

The Campaign Steering Committee came into being in mid-1999, and was officially constituted in January 2000. It works under the authority of the PCC on matters relating to fund-raising for the development of the church and church hall site.

Miss J. M. Plaister (Campaign Co-ordinator & Treasurer)	Mrs C. E. Fletcher
Mrs C. T. Barnwell (Churchwarden)	Mr A. M. D. Smith (from January 2006)
Mrs L. Dudley	Mrs K Light (from October 2006)

#### **Church Attendance**

During 2006/7 four names were added and three names removed from the Electoral Roll which was presented to the Annual Church Meeting on 9 April 2006. The Electoral Roll stood at **116** members, 28 of whom were not resident within the parish.

## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

### **Annual report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the general activities of the parish**

During the year 2006, the Parochial Church Council met on six occasions for full business meetings. A meeting was held following the Annual Church Meeting (ACM) to elect officers and representatives, and the Council met on 6 December to discuss financial matters. A brief meeting was held on 15 October to approve tenders for the alteration and refurbishment to St Andrew's Church Hall. Average attendance at meetings was 77%. Committees met between meetings and minutes of those meetings were received and discussed as necessary by the PCC.

**Finances** - Stewardship giving decreased during the year. The contribution made by the parish to the diocesan Common Fund was paid in full by the end of the year, although once again the PCC had to transfer a substantial sum from its reserves to cover the shortfall (£32,000). After a hiatus, the Finance Committee was revived, not least to consider the serious financial situation, and an Away Day at The Well, Tottenham was arranged for 13 January 2007 to plan a financial strategy which would improve the situation. It also spent time reviewing the PCC's financial procedures. Some minor changes were made to our charitable giving. The ACM noted that Mr Mark Hill was willing to continue as Independent Examiner.

**Music and Worship** - The small dedicated team of professional organists continued to play for regular services. The children's Crib Service on Christmas Eve was well attended, as were Midnight Mass and the Christmas morning Sung Eucharist. The Carol Service was held on Sunday 17 December and was also well attended, with the collection going to Childline. Following the closure of the Wood Green branch of the British Legion, the customary service at the St Saviour's War Memorial did not take place this year. It is hoped that arrangements can be made for next year. A Retreat which was held at Domus Mariae, Chigwell from 22 – 24 September, was attended by 17 people from St Andrew's and other parishes in the area. The PCC adopted the Child Protection Guidelines Revision for users of churches and church halls prepared by the Diocese of London. A Welcome pamphlet for newcomers and others was produced, to be placed on seats in the church.

**Upkeep of Church and Hall** - The Churchwardens continued to monitor the site and carry out routine maintenance where possible, or arrange for the work to be carried out by qualified professionals. No maintenance work was carried out on the hall due to the work of demolition and refurbishment which commenced in January. Thames Water identified a water leak on the input from Windermere Road. As this access was due to be disconnected during refurbishment of the hall, it was decided to effect a temporary repair and to await the new input from Alexandra Park Road, which is now in place. A break-in to the church and hall caused some damage and the loss of a few items which, were all covered by our insurance. A rodent (thought to be a squirrel) also caused some damage and inconvenience, but was successfully eliminated by the purchase of a trap which scared rather than caught the animal. Water ingress to the sacristy and church ceilings will be repaired by roofers working on the new hall roof.

**Church Hall Development** - After some ten years in gestation the refurbishment of the site has begun. Sufficient funds are now available for the building work, but further money is required for the stage and other equipment. Following dismantling of the small hall site by Steve Carmody early in 2006, tenders for refurbishment of the main hall and other works were received and the PCC appointed Barnard Carter Builders to undertake the work. Work began in November, with a completion date of 25 June 2007. A major task was the clearing and

## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

storage of the items from the hall and elsewhere, much of which has been moved into the church.

**Fund Raising and Social Occasions** - A number of social events, including a quiz supper in collaboration with St Mary with St George, Hornsey and a householdware sale, were well supported. There were successful day trips to Poole, Bath, St Omer and Amiens. A Parish Lunch was held following the Annual Church Meeting on Palm Sunday, one of the last events to take place in the church hall. In place of the customary barbecue in the Vicarage garden, a buffet supper was provided in church following a joint Eucharist with St Peter-le-Poer on 15 August. The annual St Andrew's Bazaar, which was due to be held in the church, was cancelled due to the absence of water on the site as a result of the leak.

**Outreach** - The Weekly Bulletin continues to be sent out by e-mail and is appreciated by those who cannot always get to church. There were parish-wide leaflet drops for special events such as Holy Week and Easter, Advent and Christmas.

**Children** - The weekly pattern of Footsteps during the Sunday Sung Eucharist was continued and we were welcomed a growing number of children. Towards the end of the year refurbishment work on the hall meant that Footsteps for school-age children was moved to the sacristy, with younger children accommodated at the rear of church. The Christmas Eve Crib Service was attended by some 200 people and the children present were encouraged to participate in a play devised by the Footsteps leaders.

**Pastoral Work and Teaching** - The Fellowship Study Group continued to meet regularly. Bishop Peter presided at the Sung Eucharist on Ascension Day and confirmed one candidate. Several new members were baptised into the Church during the year and one couple was married. Quiet Days were held in Lent and Advent. The parish also participated in the Annual Pilgrimage to St Alban's Abbey in June.

**Jean Plaister**  
(PCC Secretary)

### **Annual report on the church fabric, goods and ornaments**

The Churchwardens have carried out their annual inspection of the church and fabric. This was presented to the PCC for inspection and signed as correct by the Incumbent and the Churchwardens.

There is still some low level ingress of water in one or two positions in the church at the present time, but it is felt that this will be better addressed when roofing repairs have begun on the church hall in 2007.

During a general inspection of our electricity supply the main electrical circuit in the sacristy was replaced by EDF.

Due to defective lighting in the church hall, a mechanical cherry picker and a scaffold tower were hired so that the fluorescent lights could be replaced.

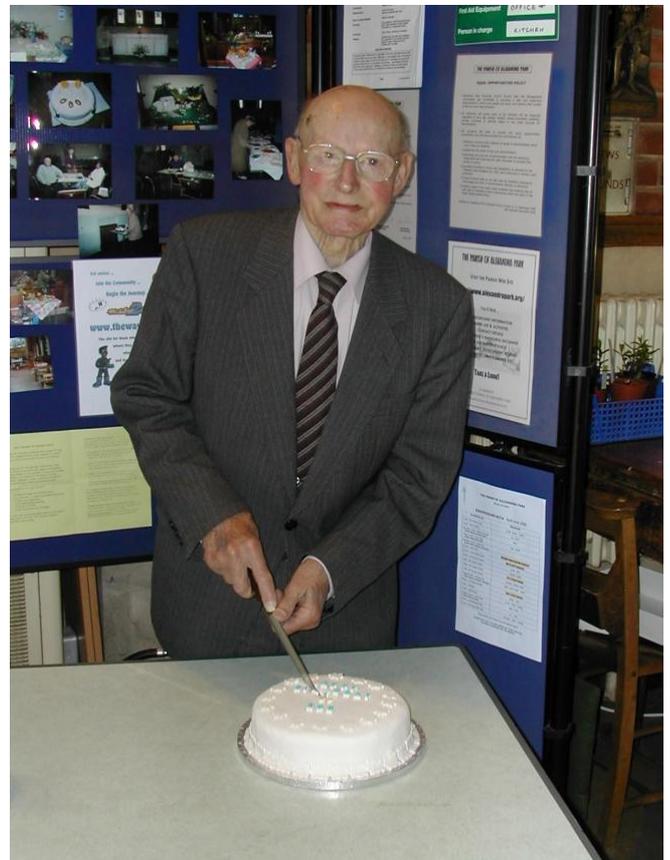
John Rogers (landscape gardener) was once again asked to clear overgrown areas of the garden beside Windermere Road.

**Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**



Ascension Day 2006:  
*l to r: Fr Tony, Bishop Peter,  
David Weale Cochrane,  
Steve Cochrane*

June 2006:  
*celebrating Ron Greatrex's birthday  
after the Sunday Eucharist*



## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

The long established crack to the East wall is still being monitored by Sinclair Johnstone.

Low risk asbestos material was professionally removed from around the boiler room area and from underneath the stage prior to its demolition.

One of the secured driveway posts was removed as it was becoming an obstacle for safe entry to and from the church.

Many thanks to those that volunteered their time to clear out church storage areas prior to demolition of some of the hall building.

Once again may the Churchwardens offer their sincere thanks to Colin Kerr (architect), the sidespeople, and to all of those who contribute their time and efforts towards the upkeep and life of this Parish.

**John Robson and Christine Barnwell**  
(Churchwardens)

### **West Haringey Deanery Synod Report**

The business of the Deanery Synod has focused largely on the finances of the London Diocese. In July Teresa Moses, the Financial Adviser for the Edmonton Area, gave the Synod an overview of the London Diocese, of which we are a part, from a financial point of view. She explained that in the previous year, it had cost £24 m. to run the diocese, with only a small amount going towards the cost of the national church. She told us that clergy costs are huge, with £42,000 being the net cost of a full-time member of the clergy. This sum includes pension and housing costs, and council tax, as well as the stipend. Where possible the richer parts of the diocese help to support areas where costs cannot be met by the congregations.

On Saturday 16 September the Deanery Synod held a sponsored walk in aid of CARIS Haringey (Christian Action and Response in Society). The walkers began at St Peter-le-Poer and visited all ten churches in the West Haringey Deanery. They ended the day with a service at St Mary with St George, Hornsey. The total raised by the walk was £1,270.50.

A varied programme for 2007 includes a visit in January by Baroness Richardson, Chair of the Commission on Urban Life and Faith, who is to speak to the Synod about the Commission's landmark report '*Faithful Cities*'.

The Bishop of London's Lent Appeal is to be launched in January, to coincide with the 200th anniversary of the abolition of slavery. It will concentrate on raising money to help five agencies on three continents which are concerned with supporting freedom from slavery, forced labour and human trafficking.

**Christine Barnwell and Arnold Smith**  
(Deanery Synod Lay Representatives)

## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

### **Parish Groups and Activities**

#### **St Andrew's Development Campaign**

With the start of work on rebuilding the hall, 2006 was another good year for the Development Campaign. Things moved a little slowly, as the discovery of asbestos in the hall area led to additional work and delays. However, by the end of December work was well underway inside.

The Campaign Committee has continued to meet and work throughout the year. Nick Sunderland left the committee at the end of 2005, Arnold Smith joined at the beginning of 2006 and Kathryn Light joined in the autumn, with specific responsibility for making grant applications. The Campaign members are Jean Plaister (Co-ordinator), Christine Barnwell, Lucy Dudley, Caroline Fletcher, Kathryn Light and Arnold Smith.

The fund-raising year began with a *Gala Concert & Champagne Reception* in church. Many professional musicians from Muswell Hill and the surrounding area, who usually perform in West End theatres and concert halls, gave their services to provide a wonderful evening's entertainment.

A very successful evening of music by local young people, ranging in ages from 6 to 18, was held in April. A wide variety of musical styles was performed to an extremely high standard and we are very grateful to the performers for giving up their time to the Campaign.

A second Summer Fair was held in June. Unfortunately, the day clashed with England's first match in the World Cup, but a good time was had by all who attended.

With work on the hall due to finish in summer 2007, the Campaign Committee has been asked to plan ahead, exploring the use of the hall as part of the life of the parish. We will need to focus on equipping the building, with provision of staging and kitchen equipment a priority.

**Caroline Fletcher**  
(*Campaign Secretary*)

#### **Fellowship Group**

The purpose of the Fellowship Group is to study, at length, passages of Scripture without the pressure of time. Now an established part of parish life, it meets every two or three weeks, usually on Friday, at Derek and Carmen Hogg's home. New members are always welcome.

**Ron Greatrex**

#### **St Andrew's Choir**

The choir has been very fortunate in being able to welcome back Claire Meekings after a long spell of ill-health. Being few in number every extra voice can make a big difference and although she still has mobility problems Claire manages to take her seat in the choir stalls.

This year we learned a new setting for the Mass, with the help of Paul Joslin, our mainstay organist. He made it seem easy from the start, and invited members of the congregation to join us in the choir stalls to rehearse. These short rehearsals took place before the service on Sunday mornings led by Paul. New choir members are always welcome.

Thanks are due to organists Paul Joslin, Michael Broadway, Carol Jarman and Chris Rowland.

**Peggy Farrar**

## Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports

### Children's Work

2006 has been a very productive and busy year for Footsteps.

Up to mid-November provision continued in the church hall. The Footsteps leaders have been enjoying using new resources (*Roots*); and a particularly successful feature this year is the now-established practice whereby leaders and children present their work at the end of Sunday Eucharist – explaining what they have learned and singing a song or saying a prayer. The children are growing in confidence and the congregation seems to enjoy what they have to say. It helps to focus the teaching, as the presentations aim to reflect the adult liturgy.

We decided to introduce some new discrete teaching on prayer. Andrea and Jacqueline led two sessions on how to encourage children to pray, with particular emphasis on the Lord's Prayer. It has been a real challenge to make this meaningful for children through a variety of resources (liturgical music, candles, smells, prayer cubes, pictures and objects) and we felt the resulting 'prayer tree' was a successful outcome. This area is something that we plan to revisit and reinforce on a regular basis.

The children also participated in two special services: Mothering Sunday and Harvest. The first of these incorporated a drama devised and led by the Footsteps leaders about the history of Mothering Sunday. There was very positive feedback from the congregation and we were pleased with the way the service involved all ages in the congregation. Jacqueline's fig pie was thoroughly enjoyed as was Norah Linsey's simnel cake. Harvest also involved the children and was led by Father Tony. This age-inclusive Eucharist also received very positive feedback. It is hoped that there will be more of these, as the children have greatly benefited from being in church. Of course, there is also a need for this as, during the period of the hall redevelopment, it is necessary to have the children in church more often.

The redevelopment has had a big effect on the way we deliver the children's teaching, as Footsteps currently meets in the sacristy. This is the principal reason why Footsteps is meeting fortnightly during the development work, as the sacristy is small. But, it is also the case that we need another leader to enable more regular provision. Because of the sacristy's limited space, we can only accommodate children of school-age and it has required a more static approach to our teaching. However, we have provided resources for children at the back of the church, which has proved very successful to keep both pre-school and Footsteps children (relatively) quiet. We are looking forward to the new hall with all its possibilities for teaching.

Also, we have enjoyed some very successful events in the past year. In the summer we had a Footsteps Picnic in Albert Road Recreation Ground. A little bit of teaching, games, cake decorating and lots of food made the event go with a swing. We were particularly pleased to see some of the congregation who came to join us after the Sunday service. The Christmas Eve Crib Service was also a very successful and well-attended event, which combined a dramatic retelling of the Nativity with a Christingle theme. This latter was used as the focus of Advent teaching and involved the children in fulfilling tasks to collect money for the Children's Society. We were pleased that some of the congregation joined us in raising nearly £30, and that the PCC donated £300 from its annual charitable giving to the same cause. These special events and services, as well as the children's work, are displayed at the back of the church on the Footsteps Noticeboard. Its constant presence reflects the way in which Footsteps has become a more visible and integrated part of the parish life during the year.

**Andrea Hodgson and Jacqueline Warre**  
(*Footsteps Leaders*)

## Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports



February 2006:  
demolition of the small hall block

December 2006:  
the main hall shortly  
after the beginning of the  
main development work



## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

### **Thursday Club**

The Thursday Club meets weekly in the afternoon, from two to four o'clock. It is mainly, though not exclusively, for older people. Most of the members live alone so they appreciate the opportunity to meet on a regular basis with other friendly people.

During the past 13 years we have always met in the church hall, but whilst the hall is being redeveloped we have moved into the north aisle of the church, where Sunday after-service refreshments are served. It is equipped with running water, a sink, power points and a fridge/freezer. Also there is a small storage area for the necessary equipment. The transition has been managed very satisfactorily and club members are pleased with the change of venue, because there is a lovely atmosphere in the church. Doubtless we will enjoy moving back into the newly refurbished accommodation when the time comes.

Several of our members are now housebound, and because of insufficient cars and drivers they cannot all be transported to and from the club. However, we keep in touch with them especially at birthdays and Christmas. Each year the club joins one of the programme of parish outings. In 2006 we went to Bath on a glorious sunny day. Also we met at a near-by hotel for our yearly Christmas lunch, and had special refreshments to celebrate the club's thirteenth birthday in October.

**Ivy Grubb**

### **Flower Arrangers**

Once again our band of flower arrangers have done sterling work and 2006 was a very economical year. The start of the redevelopment work meant finding somewhere in church to store the contents of the flower room. This has made access to buckets, oasis, vases etc. somewhat tricky. Despite dust and at times a erratic water supply, flowers and foliage have beautified the central area of the church, the Lady Chapel and porch as usual.

**People** - Alison Boon, Pam Bow, Jean Plaister and Ruth Garnsworthy worked in turn through the year, coming together at Christmas, Easter and for Harvest Festival, when individual circumstances permitted. It was very gratifying to welcome Christine Barnwell at Harvest Festival when she decorated the porch. She has now joined us on a regular basis. Helen Pask again acted as 'relief arranger' during August, in spite of problems with a squirrel, which became trapped in church. Norah Linsey looked after the Memorial Table flowers throughout the year.

**Money** - In 2006 receipts totalled £242 and expenditure came to £194, the lowest figure since the year 2000. The generosity of the congregation at Easter for the purchase of lilies is very valuable. A box for donations from members of the congregation is put out for festivals, when expenditure is much greater, though donations are accepted at any time.

**Ruth Garnsworthy**

## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

### **Muswell Hill Christian Council**

The Muswell Hill Christian Council (MHCC) is a group of about ten churches in Muswell Hill, which has been in operation for many years. The objectives, stated in the original constitution, are:

- (a) To enable the churches, as pilgrims together, to develop growing relationships, to seek a common mind, and to make decisions together.
- (b) To encourage churches to worship, pray and reflect together on the nature and purpose of the Church in the light of its mission – each church sharing with others the treasures of its tradition.
- (c) To enable the churches to respond to the needs of society and to witness to the Gospel together.
- (d) To enable the churches to live and share the Gospel, to evangelise together and to take further steps towards fuller unity.

However, in the last couple of years the committee observed a sense of weariness in the obligation to keep the programme going, when in reality not enough people have the time or energy to make the present pattern viable. Therefore, it was thought that some radical re-thinking of the role and mode of the operation of the Christian Council was necessary.

Formal committee meetings were suspended for a year, although elected officers continued to meet and consult church representatives of any significant decisions. It was decided to set up a short life group to review the MHCC over the year and make proposals for the next AGM. A minimum programme of events was agreed for the year, which included the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at St Andrew's and Lenten groups organised by Our Lady of Muswell. Representation at the annual Muswell Hill Street Festival was also significant.

Unfortunately, Christian Aid Week fell a bit short of the mark, but the Council has decided that house-to-house collecting should continue. St Andrew's has enjoyed a promising history of contributing to this worthy cause over the past twenty to thirty years, but a lot of new energy and commitment is required in 2007 if we are to continue doing our bit.

Finally, an innovation. The Council would like to encourage people from member churches, who have ideas for projects in partnership with other churches, by providing help to get ideas and projects off the ground. The application process is simple and two awards of up to £500 are available to put these ideas into practice.

**Derek Hogg**

## **Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports**

### **St Andrew's Dramatic Society.**

The 82nd year in the existence of the Society has proved to be a very unusual year.

With our home (the hall complex) being partly demolished and partly being refurbished no productions have been possible and members decided to go into 'hibernation' until the work on the hall complex is completed and at that stage decide whether it is a viable proposition to continue with productions.

Members have, however, met socially during the year having held a dinner, been on an outing by visiting back stage of the Royal Opera House, had play readings and coffee evenings as well as the usual card, carol and mince pie night.

Some members were pleased to be present at St Andrew's Patronal Festival this year.

We expect during the forthcoming year to meet socially on occasions before having to make the great decision about our future in due course.

**Peter Davies**

## Parish of Alexandra Park, London N10 Diocese of London - Reports



June 2006:  
annual pilgrimage to St Albans, led  
by the Archbishop of Canterbury  
- the 2007 pilgrimage will be led by  
Archbishop Desmond Tutu

June 2006:  
St Andrew's Summer Fair

