

Kew Baptist
CHURCH

ANNUAL
REPORTS
2011



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KBC LIFE AND MINISTRIES

(INTERIM) PASTOR'S OVERVIEW

All of us at Kew Baptist hope it is some time before we again have to place the word 'interim' before the word 'pastor'. For me it has been a privilege to serve as your (part-time) interim pastor but the sense of waiting (over a longer period than was anticipated) for the next 'real' pastor to arrive has called for patience and understanding on the part of our community. So let me first join in the chorus of intense gratitude that in the goodness of God we anticipate the induction and welcome to Rev Nicholas Tuohy and his wife Amanda when he begins as pastor here in September.

An interim is obviously a time between two fixed points. Looking back across these last many months we first want to praise God for His faithfulness to us as a church community. We have rejoiced to see people come to faith, witness to their faith in baptism and welcomed as new members. A wide range of ministries has been sustained and in many areas we are thankful not only for loyal service but for growth and encouragements. As you read this report I am sure you will echo my sentiments and affirm God's goodness to us.

We want to record how much, under God, we owe to our last pastor Rod Pell who was obliged to resign in February 2010. We were all saddened when after such a long and exhausting illness he was called home to be with his Lord on 5 November 2010. The thanksgiving service on Saturday 13 November, when our building was filled to overflowing, was a great expression of the faith and hope that we share as Christians. Rod's character, faith and ministry were embodied in that service and we continue to support Liz, Kerry, Tanya and Natalie with our prayers and care. The sum of \$4,725, given as a tribute for Rod's ministry, was forwarded to the Theological College of Central Africa, a ministry so much a part of Rod and the family's life.

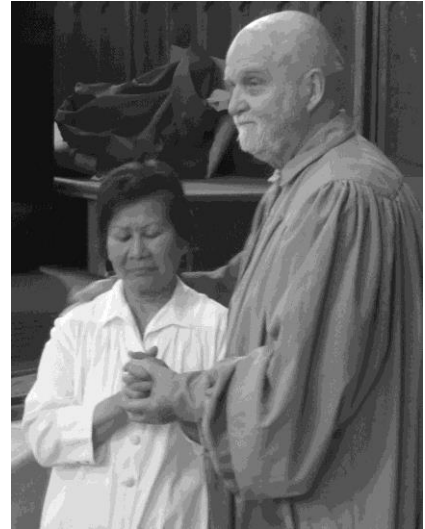
Many of us will recall words that Rod wrote not all that long before his death:

It is hard to know why some things happen and we hold in tension God's ability to heal with His sovereignty – not in the sense of things being fatalistically predetermined though everything is known by God – but in his ability to bring good out of ill, light out of darkness, redemption out of loss. He is building and preparing a new heaven and a new earth and he invites us to join with Him.

During this interim our discernment group has prayed and worked hard to seek out God's will for our pastorate. Moderators Rev Dr Colin Hunter and Rev Kevin Forbes have guided us and we want to acknowledge their leadership and the faithful service of all those from our congregation who served on that group. It proved to be a long journey and there were some disappointments along the way but now we draw near to the end of our interim period and prepare to welcome Nicholas and Amanda as leaders and partners in the ministry of our community.

The interim has been marked by strong team-work as many have sought to bridge the gap and maintain our life together. Our deacons, ably led by Ray Leigh as Chair, have led us well, although we were sorry that Bronwyn Hogan had to resign as church secretary because of pressure from other responsibilities, and similarly Glynn Chambers left for Brisbane. Thanks to our deacons.

Similarly, I believe our pastoral team has served us with distinction. Grace Munro as church administrator has contributed so much to our life together and we honour the skills and commitment that she has given



Ken Manley baptising Muoi Duong, Nov 2010

to her numerous tasks. Liz Taylor has helped with pastoral care and leadership in our prayer and small groups ministry. I am grateful for our three interns, until the beginning of 2011 with Steph Bowers, and now Andy Mitchell, Corey Leslie and Laura Holley who have contributed much but especially to NightChurch and our youth ministries. Stephen and Michelle Duke and their team have enjoyed a good year with the Student Residence whilst Miriam Schmidt and her team continue to lead our Possums ministry with children and families from our area. We also welcomed Rev Tony Cupit who has given much appreciated pastoral support in visiting and preaching since 8 June.

Rev Lindsay Smith has contributed to our pastoral care and maintenance programme over many years and at the time of preparing this report is seriously ill. We thank him and continue to pray for Lindsay and Meryl (pictured). Similarly, Rev Kingsley Smith has been a faithful pastoral supporter, especially at Karana, and as his health and strength declines we want him to know how much we have valued his ministry.



Our Sunday services have helped us worship and learn together.

Nightchurch has a special report elsewhere but we have been grateful for continued growth and a number of guests as well as folk from the congregation who have led in preaching. Our morning preaching has often been linked with our home study groups and this year we have studied 'Growing together in Prayer'; 'Towards Understanding the Cross of Jesus' and Ephesians. Visiting preachers have included Rev Bill Leng, Rev Craig Wright, Rev Kevin Forbes, Dr (Congratulations!) John Barclay, Lisa Detlefsen, Rosemary Carter (chaplain at Kew High School) and Justus Miwanda from Uganda.



Ken Manley, dedication of Emily Hibbins, November 2010

The rhythm of life continues. We give thanks for two infant dedications: Emily Karen Hibbins and Lucy Kate Campbell. We rejoiced at the weddings of Mark and Irene Payne, Corey and Grace Leslie, Coby and James Docking, Frederick Gamadia and Rima Paltanwala (in India) and Damian and Helen Berger. We gave thanks for the lives of Eugene Veith and Anne Mills who were faithful servants of Christ.

There is so much more! I am constantly amazed at the extent of the influence of our church. Some we support in other lands and in remote parts of Australia, as you will read later, but there are others who have lived and served overseas for long or shorter periods: Helen Lewis (now Berger) (Bangladesh), Gorgee Dyer (Kenya), Sarah Trebilcock (Indonesia), Dave Hore-Lacy and others, and now we pray for Pradeep and Alison Jeganathan in Saudi Arabia. I am grateful for the keen mission sense that

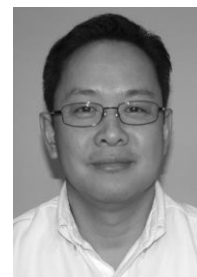
marks so many of our young adults, whether it is in leading church camps or in overseas visits such as the group who went to Cambodia over the Christmas season. Please read all these reports so that you will gain a clearer sense of the various ways in which God has guided and blessed us at Kew Baptist Church over the last year.

The interim is (almost) over! We look back in thanksgiving. We continue to pray for all our church's ongoing life and mission. We anticipate God's blessing for our future together.

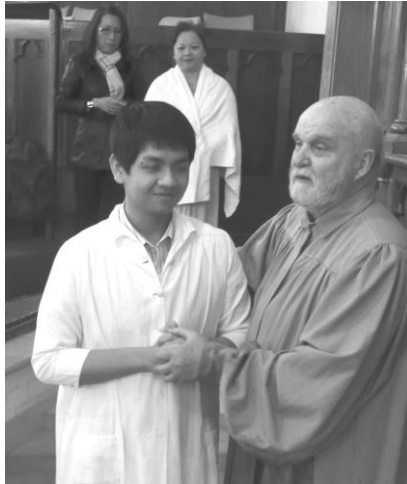
Ken Manley

VIETNAMESE CONGREGATION

As a fourteen-year-old teenager, freshly arrived in Melbourne some 30 years ago, I can still vividly recall everything in the first few months. All things were new, all people were new and, while I could not imagine or see too far ahead, my life has been closely attached to Kew Baptist Church, especially to that of the Vietnamese congregation. This year, we give thanks to our Lord for the last 30 years and reflect on the calling of our congregation as we look towards the future.



As we look back, we can give praise to God that through this congregation, God has done some amazing things. The landscape of the Vietnamese people in Melbourne has changed dramatically over the last 30 years, from the days of refugees leaving Vietnam on small wooden boats, searching for a new home, to today, where thousands of students and business people coming to Australia on airplanes! Throughout that period, God has used many different people in the congregation to reach the Vietnamese people across Melbourne. And while the congregation never grew into a large group, at its peak there were over 100 members, and many have come to know Christ from all walks of life, from families to widows, from professionals to blue collars, young and old, coming from all different parts of Vietnam, and from different political and religious backgrounds. Many of them have become leaders within the Vietnamese Christian community in Australia.



Tung Chan Vinh Phan at his baptism

Since last year, the change in the congregation has become even more significant, as almost the entire youth group are now newly converted young people who are overseas students from Vietnam. These young people have come to Christ in the most amazing way whereas, if they were in Vietnam, it would have been difficult to imagine how they would get a chance to hear the gospel. These young people have access to hundreds and thousands of other friends at universities and high schools. Since last year we have started a university Bible class ministry (almost like Alpha course) at RMIT and Melbourne Uni during the week, and this has been going well and a number of young people have committed to Christ through this class. Besides actively serving in the regular church service and their own youth meetings, the youth group has recently extended their calling to start an English Service once every month. August 12th was their second service. We praise God for the incredible opportunities but we are quite aware of the need for much more effort, more harvesters to jump into the field. The windows we have with these young people are very small, at most 4-5 years while they are here studying.

We have also seen God's work with the adults, we had a family come to Christ last year, again in the most amazing way, and since their conversion, at their request, we have removed all idols from their home and they have been an active family in the church, bringing several other friends to come to church. There is a great opportunity for outreach to the people around the Richmond, Fitzroy and Collingwood area, where no Vietnamese church is actively reaching out.



Thu Ngoc Lam and Ai Tuong Vuong

As part of our plan towards the next five years, we give thanks to God because the budget has continued to grow over the last few years as we seek to get to the point of being able to find a more 'permanent' minister for the congregation as well as for the youth. Please continue to pray with us in this area.

As we look forward, we are excited with Nick and Amanda coming to Kew, and we will seek to have fellowship between our young people with Night Church, and also more between our congregations.

Again, we give thanks to God and also to our English congregation and those who continued faithfully in praying for us and supporting us, especially over the last 30 years. May God bless you and give you the joy in seeing the fruits of your faithful works.

Khoi Doan, Secretary/Pastor

Note: During the past year, the Vietnamese group of churches in Melbourne gave Khoi the title 'Pastor', in their society a high, but well-deserved, name for him.

NIGHTCHURCH

This year within the NightChurch community we have seen many changes, yet there is much about the community that remains unchanged. The NC community at Kew Baptist still comprises a group of roughly 120 people mostly aged between 18 and 25 who meet together weekly to journey together in learning, worship and relationship with God, with around 80-100 attending the service on Sundays. The 7pm service continues to be enjoyed by a community of believers who are open, vulnerable and able to question what they know of God and see in the world, whilst holding on to the absolute truth that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died as payment for their sin and was resurrected to life offering forgiveness for sin and relationship with God. It is also a place where people who have not yet reached the point of a firm commitment to follow Christ can explore what this might mean for them, and where people who are struggling with their faith or with life issues can find support.

While Corey Leslie and Andy Mitchell have continued as interns working within the NC community this year, Steph Bowers finished her internship at the end of 2010. Steph had been an integral part of the pastoral team and a blessing to the community. Laura Holley has joined the team this year, bringing with her a fresh perspective on worship and relationship with God, and a desire to minister to younger women within the congregation.

Worship time remains a strength within the NC community, as we are blessed by a range of gifted musicians and worship leaders – more information about this can be found in the Music Team report. Another strength of NC is to be found in the ability of its members to share truth and minister to communities outside Kew. A significant number of NC members are involved in a range of camps such as ESA and the C's camps, as well as beach missions in Mallacoota and other places. State Youth Games was another big event for NC, with a large number heading to Warragul to participate, managing to take out the gold medal for Frisbee.

Liz Taylor – in conjunction with the interns – continues to coordinate small groups, which have found great success and meaning within the NC community. Many groups have looked at the studies on Ephesians provided by Ken, while others have sought to better understand the basics of Christianity, the Holy Spirit and spiritual gifts, to name a few.

As a community, NightChurch has studied a wide range of topics and series. We have recently finished a series entitled 'Tough Stuff' where we have looked at issues such as depression, money and sexuality, and have heard from members of Ken's latest preaching class on 'Questions Jesus Asks'.

The NightChurch community remains a place where God is unquestionably at work and where relationship with Him is undoubtedly sought. I encourage anyone reading this who is yet to attend a service, to do so.



Liz Taylor

Andy Mitchell



Children at a combined Vietnamese / English speaking service

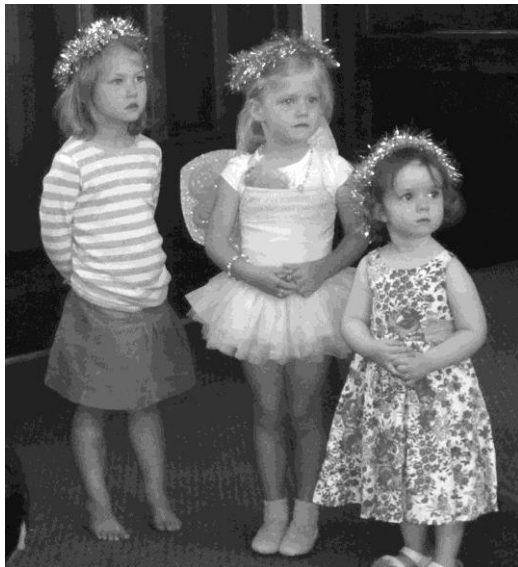
MORNING CONGREGATION

We are very grateful to Ken Manley, and more recently, Tony Cupit, for their preaching at most of our morning services, and to Ken for giving oversight to the planning each week. We have studied some excellent series throughout the year.

There is so much which goes into morning services, some of these being very practical things like audio, welcoming, serving tea and coffee; but the key factor is the spirit of those who come to worship together – their love for God, their desire to learn more of him, and their enjoyment of each other. It is a delight to see people chatting with each other after the services. It has been particularly encouraging to see the number of children gradually increasing during the year, and credit for this goes to the Sunday School and Creche team, and those who lead children's times.

There have been several people who are no longer able to attend morning services due to their age, and others have moved away from Kew and are now attending other churches. As from the beginning of last year, we no longer have a group from the Karana Community attending regularly, as people moving into aged care are now much more frail than in the past when we regularly had ten or more at every service. Kingsley Smith, living in the units at Karana, is now increasingly involved in chapel services there, and we see less of him at KBC. We have been privileged to have new people attending, and I note in particular members of the Korean community who have joined the morning service and Sunday School.

We are grateful to Corey Leslie and other members of the music team. For some of us, the inclusion of contemporary songs and the music teams is a really significant part of the morning service, and we recognise that it isn't easy always to find young musicians willing to come to morning service. So, thank you. We are grateful to David Mynard who has increased his playing the piano to twice a month, and sometimes more. Mat Hunter has been another regular pianist, John Sutcliffe plays the organ once a month, and Shirley Tuckwell from time to time. The choir, though small, makes a good contribution once a month.



Angels at the Children's Christmas Service



Lucy Campbell, dedicated 3 July 2011

There have been many people involved in leading services throughout the year, and we gratefully acknowledge the unique contribution each one makes for the enhancement of our worship.

There have been some special services held during the year, such as the Children's Christmas service which a number of Possums' families attended; the Student Residence opening service; the dedications of babies, the baptism of several people – one in a service at the beach, others in combined services with the Vietnamese congregation – and special services at Easter and Christmas. And yet, every service can be special to us as we experience God speaking to us.

We (especially Ken Manley and myself!) look forward to Nicholas Tuohy's oversight of the services from next month.

Grace Munro

PASTORAL CARE

I write from the perspective of one who has limited time and experience at Kew B.C. but who has profited greatly from the opportunity to share the journey with people in different circumstance.

It is crystal clear that pastoral care is well catered for at Kew B.C. Ken Manley has taken responsibility for overall pastoral care since becoming Acting Senior Pastor, with assistance from Lindsay and Meryl Smith, Kingsley Smith, Liz Taylor and the Interns. Grace Munro, and more recently Liz Taylor, has co-ordinated and given careful oversight to ensure no-one falls through the net, and Grace sends out bulletins to those who have been absent. I am very encouraged by the level of lay pastoral visitation and other follow-up pastoral ministry that occurs with people like Jenny Clark, Anastasia Panagiotidis, Marcia Ribbons to name a few from the Pastoral Care group. There are many others who voluntarily take it upon themselves to care for those needing special attention, and on my visits I have bumped into, for example, Ann Seeley and John Sampson visiting people. Among those and many others I am pleased to be a small cog in an effective pastoral care ministry by and to the congregation.



As for myself,

- I have had the advantage of not only making my own judgements as to who might profit from a pastoral call but from the advice of those who know the Kew people and their needs very well.
- I have had the advantage of visiting folk without the constraints of time and without the need to apologise because another commitment awaits me. Older people especially have time on their hands and do not need to be hurried.
- I have been privileged to visit people who, probably for understandable reasons, are sometimes regarded as hardly needing pastoral care. I have found this an opinion not necessarily shared by the people concerned, more than one stating that they have rarely or never had a pastoral call in their home.
- I have intentionally visited people from a non-Australian background, especially Chinese and Indian, and again have found that the concept of a pastoral call at home, though really appreciated, was not something well-known to them.
- Realising that a lot of pastoral care occurs at Karana, I have restricted my calls there to some extent, though have twice worshipped at devotions during the week, called on all the Kew members and had a few visits to Baptist of other churches.
- In recent weeks, there has been some crisis visitation, and it is a pleasure to spend time with people during their hospitalization or on other occasions.

It seems that the type of visiting I have been free to do (with Ken and Grace handling leadership and administrative responsibilities) is much needed and feel that when churches have the resources to see this concentrated visitation (especially to homes and to older folk) as a priority it would always be meaningful.

For me it has been a joy to share the faith journey with the people at Kew.

Tony Cupit, in consultation with others.

DEACONS' REPORT

We have had a good group of deacons even though several people have come and gone. Glynn Chambers moved to Queensland and Bronwyn Hogan's studies required more time and effort than she had expected, so Grace Munro took over the role as Acting Secretary.

Much of our focus was on the search for a new Pastor, and a number of deacons were part of the "search committee" or Discernment Group. Sometimes you had to think hard about who should be at which meeting!

Given all that, we functioned well and we were very blessed to have the leadership of Ken Manley. For someone on a part time basis he put in a big effort and his experience and wise counsel was much appreciated.

We were determined to avoid standing still during this period and the decisions that had to be made were made. The manse renovation was not an easy matter to resolve and we tried hard to canvass the various points of view. If the project is as successful as we hope it will be it was well worth the effort.

The appointment of a Pastor was a wonderful answer to prayer and I thank the deacons and search committee members for working to bring this matter to a conclusion. We are very positive about working with Nicholas and Amanda Tuohy in the future.

A special thanks to Grace whose organisational and literary skills have been fully tested. She is able to bring order and put into words and make sense of a whole lot of stuff.

We were very pleased to be able to have Tony Cupit come to help Ken who generously agreed to stay on until Nicholas arrives.

I believe the church community is in good spirit and we look forward to the next phase of our church life.

Ray Leigh



Andy Hunter, Ray Leigh, Ken Manley, Grace Munro, Irene Payne, Steve Taylor, Geoff Trevaskis, Deirdre Willis

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

In September 2008, I stood down as Secretary because Rod Pell was concerned that there was some potential for a perceived conflict of interest as I had by then taken up the role of Administrator. Since then, we have been served by Helen Lewis as our Secretary, and, when she went to Bangladesh, Bronwyn Hogan. It was disappointing when Bronwyn's study and responsibilities made it impossible for her to continue on in this role. Since she resigned in May 2011, I have been acting Secretary.

We have been privileged to have Ken Manley leading the team, and we are grateful to him, as well as to the other members of the ministry team: Lindsay and Meryl Smith, Kingsley Smith, Liz Taylor, Michelle and Stephen Duke, Miriam Schmidt, and the Interns: Steph Bowers until the beginning of 2011 and now, Laura Holley, Corey Leslie and Andy Mitchell. Tony Cupit has done a great job in pastoral visiting as well as preaching during the past three months. And we have been assisted in a multitude of ways by unpaid volunteers in a wide range of roles. This includes some people who have consistently helped in the office during the year – Anastasia Panagiotidis and Karen Lim – whose support I particularly appreciate.

On the diaconate, we have Ray Leigh as Chairperson, Steve Taylor as Treasurer, Andy Hunter, Irene Payne, Geoff Trevaskis and Deirdre Willis. It was disappointing to lose Glynn Chambers from the

Diaconate and the church when he and Jazlyn moved to Queensland. A couple of deacons' places are yet to be filled.

Areas for development

During the year it appears to have become increasingly evident that very few people have a lot of time to do voluntary work in the church, whether as deacons or as volunteers in other areas. No matter how willing and capable people are, the busyness of their lives means that often we are now more dependent on paid staff than in the past in many areas of church life, or on volunteers who have a special sense of call, gifting and purpose in particular areas.

Four areas come to mind in relation to this:

1. **Pastoral care:** we were looked after extremely well by Rod Pell who worked a huge number of hours per week, and more recently by Tony Cupit, but we cannot expect Nicholas to carry the same load. During discussions in the Discernment Group and then in Deacons' meetings, we have begun to look at ways in which we can allocate some volunteers to help more in this area.
2. **Families:** In the survey done in 2010, a focus on families and children was identified as a primary need. We have been blessed to have had very committed and talented people looking after the children in our small Sunday School and Youth Group, but the Discernment Group members and the Deacons have recognised that if we want this area to grow, we need someone who has adequate time to work with the children and follow up with the parents.
3. **Staff support:** While Nicholas will have oversight of staff members, there has been a recognition that the deacons need to have a stronger role in things such as providing work agreements, reviewing staff pays, annual appraisals, development plans and pastoral support of staff.
4. **Maintenance:** For many years, Lindsay Smith has done a great job maintaining the property, and we are grateful to him. Stephen McLean has been a wonderful bonus in the building work, especially at the manse (thanks!). But we have yet to find sufficient people who can regularly do the more regular basic work – cleaning, mowing, trimming, tidying, etc.

A period of change ahead

We can be grateful that church life has held up well during the interim period. Attendances at worship services have remained relatively stable, though there has been some drop-off in the older group of young adults at NightChurch and in the Morning Congregation. We look forward to seeing that re-build again soon.

We come to the end of this Church year with plans in place for the beginning of the ministry of Nicholas Tuohy as our Senior Pastor in September, and we are grateful for this provision by God.

At the same time, we face potential change among other ministry team members:

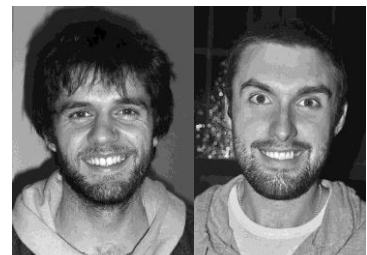
- Lindsay and Meryl Smith are moving to Lilydale;
- Kingsley Smith has a decreasing role at KBC and an increasing role at Karana;
- The contracts of Liz Taylor and the Interns conclude at the end of 2011, and it will be time to reconsider and re-negotiate. Two of the interns (Andy Mitchell and Corey Leslie) will have completed two years of service, which has been the period Interns have normally served (there is no reason why that should not be extended should the church and they agree to do so.)
- Since moving into this role, I have had in mind that at the conclusion of the interim period after Rod Pell's ministry, I would try to help to settle a new pastor into his/her role, and then retire. I have now hit 'retirement' age, and my thinking is to work to the end of this year and then be available if required for some months into 2012 to give Nicholas and the leadership team time to realign roles and find a replacement. Beyond that, I do not know what's ahead, and would value your prayer for this – it is a bit scary facing retirement, even though I am tired enough right now to enjoy it, at least for a little while!

So I, and all of us in the church, face a period of change ahead, of new beginnings and new opportunities, and a changing ministry team. For some, change is a source of hope and joy, and they long for changes which will strengthen our ministry among families and young adults in particular. For others, the thought of change is scary. This reluctance for change is not limited to older members of our congregations; some of us, just by our personalities, prefer to maintain stability rather than face change. My prayer is that all of us will show mutual tolerance and understanding as we move into the next year. We share a single goal – that of seeing God’s kingdom prosper through this church and beyond. How that will be expressed in coming years is yet to be revealed, and I trust that I and everyone else will be sensitive to what God leads us into, open to embrace what is ahead, and be willing to move forward together.

Grace Munro

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Kew Baptist Church has run an Internship program, initially in 2003, and then more formally since 2007 and this continues today with three young people from the congregation involved. The internship program has changed somewhat since the loss of our senior pastor at the beginning of 2010. While the intention of the internship remains, to allow three members of Night Church per year the opportunity to discover what paid ministry and the inner workings of a church are like. In 2010 and 2011 the responsibilities and role of the interns has taken a different shape with more responsibility in the life of the church playing a major role.



Corey Leslie, Andy Mitchell

Since last year, Corey Leslie and Andy Mitchell have retained their position of interns to the Night Church community. Corey continues to work with the music team, intentionally seeking to coordinate a group of musicians in leading musical worship in both Morning and Night Church services. Corey also plays an important role in small group leadership and pastoral care. Andy continues to pursue a passion for discipleship and works to see mentoring relationships develop within the church through fellowship, bible study and prayer.



Steph Bowers

Steph Bowers’ two-year term as an intern ended at the end of 2010. Her ministry to the Night Church community, particularly to the young women and as the youth group coordinator was integral to the life of the church. Steph worked hard to create intentional, godly community through meals, prayer and study together.

2011 has seen Laura Holley begin an internship with Kew, which has already seen her play a part in supporting those in our community struggling with mental illness and as an enormous support to the rest of the pastoral team.



Laura Holley

The interns are thankful for the guiding and accountability of Ken Manley as interim pastor and are looking forward to the arrival of Nicholas Tuohy in September and new insights he will bring to the team.

All three current interns continue to oversee the running and planning of Night Church services, including coordinating rosters, sermon topics and pastoral care. The job, being a very large one, is made easier by the contribution of Ken Manley, Grace Munro and Liz Taylor, but also various members of the Night Church community, who seek to minister to one another and serve one another on their journeys together with Christ.

Laura Holley, Andy Mitchell

DISCERNMENT GROUP

Following the conclusion of Rod Pell's ministry in February 2010, a Discernment Group was formed whose members included Grace Munro, Ray Leigh, James Docking, Amy Hunter (née Hill), Deirdre Willis, Janine de Paiva, Irene Payne (née Schuringa) and Glynn Chambers (member until January 2011). Colin Hunter commenced as Moderator, with Kevin Forbes taking over this role when Colin had to conclude due to other commitments.

The group met over a period of 14 months and saw three potential candidates before meeting Nicholas Tuohy early 2011. Throughout the four meetings with Nicholas (and his wife, Amanda), the Discernment Group were impressed by his honesty, sense of relationship and community and desire to serve God, as well as his demonstrated skills and experience in pastoral leadership both in Australia and more recently the United Kingdom.



Nicholas and Amanda Tuohy

After much prayer and deliberation, following the third meeting with Nicholas, the Discernment Group was united in wishing to put forward Nicholas to the Deacons and the KBC congregation as a candidate for the Senior Pastor role at KBC. The Deacons and Vietnamese leadership team met with Nicholas and Amanda shortly after and were in support of this recommendation.

A KBC meeting was held on 5 June 2011 and the Discernment Group presented their recommendation to the church, with the support of the Deacons. Church members voted accordingly and Nicholas was appointed to the role of Senior Pastor, with overwhelming support.

Nicholas and Amanda will join KBC in September, with his commencement service on Sunday 11th September. Kew looks forward to welcoming Nicholas and Amanda soon!

If you wish to know more about Nicholas or Amanda, or the discernment process, please don't hesitate to get in touch with one of the members of the Discernment Group.

Irene Payne



As well as finding a pastor, the Discernment Group also saw some other matching up – Glynn Chambers married Jaz Langford just as the process began (married 2.1.10), Amy Hill married Andy Hunter (23.10.10), Irene Schuringa married Mark Payne (18.12.10) and James Docking married Coby Ramsden (29.1.11).

PRAYER IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

"Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the centre of your life." Phil 4:6, 7 (The Message)

I believe that prayer has sustained our congregation over the last year, particularly prior to and at the time of Rod's death and now as we look to the future, which will be a time of change and transition. Prayer, individually and together in our worship services and groups, has been a strength to us even when our prayers have not been answered as we would like. We cannot fully understand prayer – it is a great mystery but we can all participate in it, from the oldest to the youngest. Prayer at heart is about our relationship with God and I think that the best way to grow in prayer is by praying. As we pray, God works in our lives, our community and our world.

Tuesday prayer breakfast @ 7am: In June this year I reluctantly made the decision to conclude the Tuesday prayer breakfast, a weekly meeting which was started in 1970. I did this because people who had been committed to coming regularly to this meeting were no longer able to do so. While I feel sad at its demise, I thank God for this meeting which was such a witness to the power and reality of prayer in this community for many years.

Tuesday prayer meeting @ 10am: This group continues to meet in the home of Bev Smith and Val McPherson each Tuesday – the group has recently changed to a morning time slot. After a short devotion, the group prays for the world, the needs of the Church family and each other. Others are most welcome to join the group.

Sunday prayer meeting @ 9.30am: Each Sunday morning a group of people meet to pray in the vestry for the worship services of that day and for those taking part. We also pray for people with special needs and other concerns. It is good to commit the day's activities to God – please join us if you are able.

Sunday prayer meeting @ 6.30pm: Similarly a group of young adults join together to pray for the Nightchurch service and other needs known to the group, prior to the service.

Other Opportunities for Prayer:

We continue to offer an opportunity for people to have **prayer after the morning service**. I am very grateful to all those who help in this way. Thank you also to Jaz & Glynn Chambers, Alison Jeganathan, Amy & Andy Hunter and Meryl & Lindsay Smith, who have all been a part of the prayer team in the last year. I am grateful to Corey & Grace Leslie, Andy Mitchell, Laura Holley and also Liz Pell and Steve Taylor who have joined the team this year. At **NightChurch** prayer is also offered by various people after the service for those who would like prayer.

When **small groups** meet during the week, praying for each other and the needs of our church community is an important part of the time together.

Prayer emails continue to be a very effective way of encouraging people to pray for various situations and people in need during the week. Grace Munro co-ordinates this from the office. Whenever possible, people not on email are contacted by phone or letter.

Prayer triplets/couples are another way of praying together which is worth exploring. The idea is to meet with one or two other people on a regular basis (weekly, fortnightly or monthly) to pray for each other and the wider needs of the church and world. As meetings for prayer at a fixed time and place seem harder to sustain in 2011, I am encouraging people to think about forming a prayer triplet or couple. If you would like to know more, please contact me.

A Day of Prayer and Listening to God was held on June 8 last year. A similar **Day of Prayer** is being organised for August 30, when the focus will be on the coming of our new pastor Nicholas Tuohy and his wife Amanda in September. Sessions during the day will be led by Ken Manley and Liz Taylor with the one at night being led by Amy Hunter. Small groups and individuals will also receive prayer points to enable the whole church community to be a part of this prayer focus.

Liz Taylor

CHOIR

The choir has been able to continue to make a contribution to the morning service on the 3rd Sunday of each month on most occasions, although at times it has been difficult. It is a pity we are not able to make use of the organ but are grateful for the pianists who are prepared to give of their time to support us.

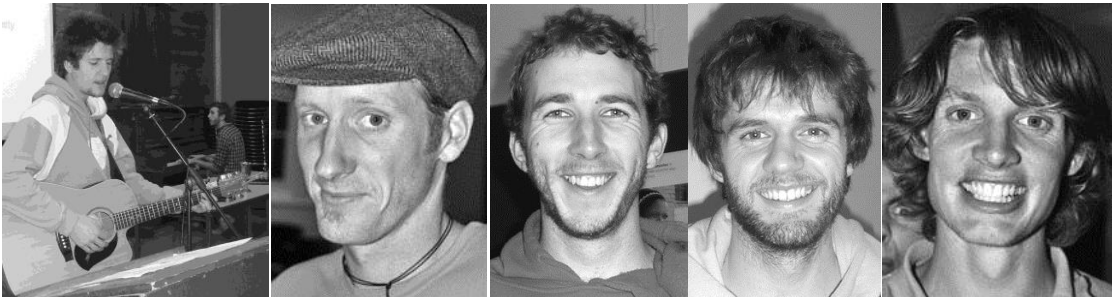
We were saddened by the death of Anne Mills, a long serving member of the choir, and appreciated the opportunity of being able to participate in her funeral service.

Ian Lowe

MUSIC TEAMS

Music continues to play a significant role in the worship component of both our morning and evening services.

Music is a terrific avenue for praising God through joyful song, and we make it our aim to achieve even more than that: Our music as a form of worship can be a platform from which people can obtain, at the very least, a deeper awareness of God's reality and living presence when entered into with open and honest hearts. It can be a powerful form of teaching truths about God, with lyrics that are inspired directly from the Bible. It can be an uplifting source of encouragement for us to take action against injustice, or spread the love of God. It can be a meaningful way for us to build each other up as a congregation. And it can be a time to quietly reflect on what God has done in our lives, and show our thankfulness for His undeserved showing of grace.



We have missed Glynn Chambers and Russel Dyer as music team coordinators for the morning service, but value the regular input by Mat Hunter, Corey Leslie and Nic Barclay

We are grateful in our morning service to be able to combine a unique sense of liveliness and reverence through differing musical styles. Each Sunday morning service involves both the singing of beautiful and powerful hymns, accompanied by one of our very talented pianists/organists, as well as a couple of more contemporary worship songs, led by the band. On top of this, once a month we are very blessed to be led by our very talented and committed choir.

At Night Church, we are fortunate to have a very large number of musicians in our community who contribute regularly to the music team. They each come from vastly different backgrounds and experiences of worship and this gives Night Church's music a different "flavour" each week and it is such a privilege to be involved with such diversity!

In the last 12 months we have again farewelled some very talented and servant-hearted members of KBC's music team. Katie Adams, Russel Dyer, Glynn Chambers, and Erin Juers all contributed hugely over the years as music leaders, but also to our community and we cannot thank them enough for that! We wish them well as they journey and serve elsewhere.

Corey Leslie, coordinator of music teams

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CRECHE

The Sunday School program has had some ups and downs over the last 12 months. We have had more teachers than we knew what to do with, then no teachers at all, then back to a full complement of teachers! We have been highly motivated, then frustrated and deflated, then excited again. Our challenge has been engaging motivated teachers with the time to commit to our program. (I can imagine a number of people in other positions of responsibility saying similar things – it can be hard to find volunteers sometimes.) Thankfully as I write this, we're definitely in a good place and are able to see how God has taught us through the challenges we faced earlier in the year.

We currently have 3 classes and a crèche program running. Our classes are grouped according to age/school level – Kinder to grade 2, Grade 3 to 6, and High school students.

The Sunday School program runs on Sunday mornings, during the church service. The Children leave the main service after the children's talk time, and head out to the hall. The Youth Group (high school aged students) go straight to the Velvet Lounge with their leaders, while the other students stay in the hall for some group singing time. After about 15 minutes of music, the group splits again and the 'formal' lessons begin.

We're hoping to create another primary school aged group in the coming year. We have seen an increase in the number of students we see each week – which is fantastic – and think it might be time for another group to better cater to the wide age range of the children who attend.

A huge thankyou to a number of people who have contributed to Sunday School at KBC over the last 12 months. Both Jazlyn Chambers and Gorgee Dyer taught during terms 3 and 4 of 2010 and they are missed by the children, families and me! Sarah Trebilcock (a busy girl!) taught for us last year, but has taken on other responsibilities this year. We thank her for her commitment to our children as well. Jennie Taylor and Natalie Pell have been dedicated to the youngest group for quite some time and we are very grateful for their enthusiasm. Krista Celle, Ash Moore, Tilly Walker and Kyle Horton are our newest team members and it is wonderful to hear their ideas and see the rapport they have developed with the children in their respective groups.

Callan Stephen led the students for their music time for 12 months. The children really enjoyed his song selection and we're definitely missing his talents as well! We are currently looking for a new musically minded person to lead this music time on Sunday mornings. So if you think you might be interested, or might know someone who is interested, please be in touch.



Our Sunday School is enriched by having people from a range of ethnic groups, and these are representative: Lilly Pizarro-Cardenas (Chili), Christy Makar (Egypt), Samuel Murari (India), Ben Zhou (Indonesia), Amanda Tan (China), Julie Choi (Korea) and a varied age range of Aussie-borns: Angus Trevaskis, Patrick Worboyes, Lilliana de Paiva.

We also thank those of you who have prayed for us – the program, the teachers and the children. It is very encouraging to know we have a lot of support. I look forward to sharing more of our children's work, ideas and spiritual journeys in the next 12 months.

Jenn Trevaskis

BOOST YOUTH

Kew Baptist's youth ministry has had a wonderful and multifaceted year, with great relationships, lots of fun, and plenty of change in the background. Boost youth has continued to meet on Friday nights during the school term, with 10-20 kids meeting each week, having tea together with plenty of activities and Bible studies. It's been wonderful to have great discussions and quality relationships, see growth, share in the faith of the young people, and see some commitments to follow Jesus.

The leadership has seen some changes in the last year. Laura Holley, Beth Strange, Jono Davenport and Mat Hunter have led each week. Term 2 saw Tim Gray and Jen Taylor join the team, and Corey Leslie finish after serving faithfully for years. Steph Bowers also relinquished leadership, and Jo Barber stepped in to administrate for a term, while the youth leaders and deacons looked for the next leader. In July, James and Coby Docking have accepted the leadership of the youth ministry!

It's an exciting stage for the youth ministry. Leadership is almost at capacity numerically, new kids are coming and relationships with their families are being formed. The young people of our church and the wider community are continuing to have a place for growth, input from amazing leaders and plenty of fun! Please continue to pray for the young people, their leaders, James and Coby as they begin their new role, and for the direction of the ministry at large as it enters this new stage.

Jo Barber

SMALL GROUPS

Why join a small group?

There are many answers to that question and many different reasons why people first join a group and secondly stay.

Here are a few relevant comments - *"I really like the feeling of connection with the other people in the group even though we are all quite different, and praying for each other has been very special."*

"When the group began, the members didn't know each other very well, but through studying the Bible, praying with and for each other and worshipping God through song, we have grown to know each other well, sharing our lives and supporting each other week to week."

Bible study is an important part of a small group. We are very grateful to Ken Manley who has written a number of studies for us this year. These studies have also been linked to a Sunday morning sermon series. In term 1 most groups studied "Growing Together in Prayer" followed by "Towards Understanding the Cross of Jesus". In term 2 some groups have looked at Ephesians (two study books) though other groups have used different approaches, for example, Tom and Laura Holley's group this semester is studying a book by Francis Chan called "Crazy Love"; Corey and Grace Leslie and Krista Celle's group is using material prepared by the BUV - "Out of the Box" - an invitation to move into new forms of mission and ministry; Mat Hunter's group is looking to start a book called Ignition, a mission handbook based on Acts.

In addition to studies, groups also share and pray together and generally "do life" together. Many groups have a meal at someone's home or eat out on occasions, one group has even had a weekend at the snow! Such activities are all very helpful in deepening the group's life.

Here are some more comments from group members -

"We had a wonderful time at our group last week - everyone in the group prayed for someone else in the group, together we wrote a letter to our new pastor, and we also selected a page of the church directory and decided to pray for the people listed during the week and tell them ... one person was deeply touched upon hearing this."

"We were each given a lump of clay and asked to reflect on how God can mould our hearts, just as clay can also be shaped. The activity was really helpful as it gave me a chance to reflect on how I view my relationship with God, and is one I will remember for some time."

All the small groups this year have been long term groups, which is different to last year.

One young adult made this comment - *"The group has been meeting together for around 12 months now, and as such it has allowed for a sense of honesty and openness that I believe is integral to effective discussion, prayer and strong relationships"*

Most groups have still been flexible enough to include new members as needed. At the moment there are 11 small groups meeting with over 100 people participating. This includes a Student Res group led by Andy Mitchell which has between 10-20 young adults involved. In semester 1, their discussion was related to understanding Christianity, this term the focus will be on the Holy Spirit.

This year members of some of the small groups have again been involved in leading morning services. I think this has been quite helpful as each group brings a different perspective and fresh insights. Many thanks to the small groups that have helped in this way, and to Grace Munro for working with the groups in co-ordinating the morning services.

My sincere thanks to all who host or lead a small group – by doing this you are making a very significant contribution to the health and well being of our Church community.

And for the final word let me quote another group member -

"Small group to me has become a part of the week that I would be far worse off without. I can't overestimate its value for both spiritual nourishment and building of relationships that keep me feeling accountable, challenged and encouraged. I highly recommend finding or starting your own if you haven't already."

If you are not in a small group but would like to be, please contact me.

Liz Taylor

CHURCH CAMP

Church Camp was something of an experiment this year as we moved the date forward in our calendar to the Labour Day long weekend. The shift had a number of impacts; on the downside many were unable to attend for the whole weekend due to work or study commitments (as universities were open on the Monday), but on the upside the arrival time suited the families better, and we had glorious weather! As always we had a wide range of church members in attendance, from the very young to the more mature members of the congregation.

We were lucky enough to have Ann Wilkinson-Hayes join us on the Sunday to run a session on prayer and many were blessed to witness the baptism of Richy Phillip on the beach during an open air service on that morning. It was truly a time of great spirit and fellowship for the church. We also had many other opportunities over the weekend to spend valuable time in fellowship, prayer and study.

Due to circumstances beyond my control I was forced to leave camp early, which was most disappointing, but I want to thank the many people who stepped in at the last minute to oversee things, along with the willing volunteers who helped out in the many behind-the-scenes roles. Thanks to everyone involved for what was an enjoyable, relaxing and fulfilling weekend.

Geoff Trevaskis



Joshi Philip baptising Richy Philip at Anglesea

PREACHING CLASS

Ken Manley has again facilitated preaching classes during 2010 and 2011, and quite a number of people have now participated in them.

In the 2011 series, preaching class was very good, although I was the only person who attended all four weeks. I appreciated Ken's time and knowledge and experience. I have preached and spoken in public a lot in the past and it was still very helpful to chat about ideas and get feedback on a short sermon I was asked to write.

Andrew Crawford

LADIES' EVENING FELLOWSHIP

Our monthly meetings carry on being meaningful and inspirational times for all attending. Guest speakers have provided much to think about and this year has seen quite a large proportion of our speakers coming from the ranks of our church young people – often reporting on their times of overseas service.

Prayer times continue to be an encouragement and we are thankful for the rich sharing.

We have kept up supporting an overseas child, with sponsorship through Baptist World Aid; while gift tables and produce donations have supplemented our annual giving - which this year amounted to \$1,165.80 (July 2010 - June 2011) enabling us to also make donations to Baptist Union Mission in Victoria Fellowship; Overseas Missions; Lisa Detlefson of MAF and Natalie Smith in East Timor.

After many years, our August Annual Dinner has had a change of venue to the Church Hall. It is lovely to have our men along on this special evening to share the united hospitality of this enjoyable social night.

Our more informal time of sharing at our monthly meetings happens around our cup of tea or coffee and we encourage ladies of all ages to come along and participate in this friendly fellowship evening. You will be made most welcome.

Janelle Benwell

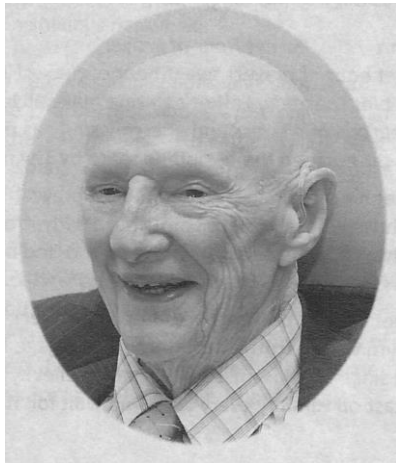
MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

Marg Sparkes continues to maintain the 'official' membership books, and we thank her for that.

The notes here refer to "active" members and non-members, that is, those who are currently participating in church life. Even though we have had new members join, membership numbers have reduced a little since last year, largely because some people have been moved to the absentee members list, as they are overseas or have been unable to attend for some years.

As well as active members, there is a large group of people who have strong faith and are actively involved in the church (some for a long time) but who have not become members. As we found during this past year, as a member church of the Baptist Union of Victoria, KBC is bound by legal requirements so that in some decisions only members are permitted to vote. I have mentioned in previous annual reports that I believe it would be helpful for us as a church to re-visit our processes related to membership.

An interesting trend is developing in that several people are regularly involved in small groups, but they attend worship services only rarely. While most of us don't know these people, and hence some are not included in this report, we are grateful that they have found this avenue for fellowship and learning.



People we miss: Rod Pell d. 5.11.10, Eugene Veith d. 11.9.10, and Ann Mills d. 21.5.11

SUBTRACT Members who have died <i>Rod Pell, Eugene Veith</i>	-2	0	-2
SUBTRACT Members transferred away	0	0	0
SUBTRACT Members no longer attending	0	-8	-8
TOTAL MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 11	90	23	113

ABSENTEE MEMBERS

<i>Absentee members as at Sept 10</i>	8	2	10
ADD members moved to be Absentee members	14	0	14
SUBTRACT Absentee members who have died	0	-0	0
SUBTRACT Absentee members removed by roll revision	-3	0	-3
TOTAL ABSENTEES SEPTEMBER 11	19	2	21

ACTIVE NON-MEMBERS

<i>Active non-members as at Sept 09</i>	184	2	186
DEDUCT Active non-members who have moved away	-32	0	-32
DEDUCT Active non-members who have died (<i>Ann Mills</i>)	-1	0	-1
DEDUCT Active non-members who became members	-8	0	-8
ADD New active non-members	38	0	38
TOTAL ACTIVE NON-MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 10	181	2	183

MEMBERSHIP / PARTICIPATION, AT SEPTEMBER 2011, after above adjustments

	English Speaking	Vietnamese	Totals	2011
Active members	90	23	113	
Absentee members	19	2	21	
Active non-members	181	2	183	
Totals across	290	27	317	

MINISTRY TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

THE STUDENT RESIDENCE



The addition of Cademon to the Duke family on 17 April 2010 has been great, though with 50 others to provide some care for, one wonders how Stephen and Michelle cope!

Where to start?! Like many of the ministries of the Church, the Res has been vibrant, busy and effective in its outreach to the students and families we serve.

We had a full house for all of 2010, replacing the vacancies that arose at half year early in Semester 2. Students arriving mid-year tend to be well embraced and soon find their feet in the Res community. This is a testament to the attitude of each member of the Res community, in their desire to make others feel welcome and valued as individuals.

The second half of 2010 included many social events such as Guys Week up on the Murray (15 from Res attended at different times during the weekend), a girls weekend at Phillip Island (10 or 12 attended), a wood chop at Lancefield (for those few who braved a night of rain and wind, but had a memorable experience), a Commonwealth Games athletics events (thanks to Joshi Philip for organising most of this), an informal but no less competitive tennis tournament, organised

by Tim Hunter towards the end of semester (Dukey won the boys and Grace Walton was victorious in the girls), the formal and our end-of- year celebration at Hawthorn Lawn Bowls Club. Towards the end of last year Tim was fantastic in motivating different groups of students to help out at the Samaritan's Purse warehouse. They went there on several occasions and it was encouraging to see so many different students give their time to such a cause. Different opportunities to serve arise during the year and it's usually not too difficult to get people to help out (e.g. helping get residents to chapel at Karana on Sundays, helping pack books for the Kew Historical Society). Krista Celle facilitated an Alpha course towards the end of 2010 and this allowed great discussion for those interested in knowing more about Christianity.

2011 began well with the staff and Highbury Grove House attending a retreat at Nagambie before Res opened in late February. This weekend sets the tone for the leaders of the community and is a great opportunity to get to know and encourage each other in living a life worthy of the calling of Christ. Ultimately, we want the leaders of this community to build meaningful relationships with the students that will encourage them in positive growth, hopefully towards Jesus. Tim's message at the commencement service challenged us to be genuine in how we live our lives.

"O week" was lots of fun, thanks to the efforts of the Highbury Grove House. The first half of 2011 has also seen an epic 'Wig Off' competition, which was colourful, competitive and fun and we are yet to determine the winner (a couple are still wearing their wigs after 4 months). Once again we held a family weekend with 120 present at dinner on Saturday night, 100 staying for a trivia night and a competitive football and netball competition on the Sunday, in which the Church team won the footy and the Families team the netball. We entered a team in Relay for Life again



Res staff and House: From left: Jono Davenport, Ash Moore, Tim Hunter, Kate Steel, Jane Watson, Michelle Duke with Cademon, Mat Hunter, Dan Follent, Stephen Duke with Zoe, and Ambrie.

in March and a group attended State Youth Games in June. Other events in the first half of the year included sharing an Easter meal, donating blood and frequent frisbee throwing in the park.

Over summer the dining room was repainted (thanks to a small group of people who willingly gave a few days of their time to make it happen) and new vinyl was laid in the dining room and hallway. Along with the purchase of new tables, cleaning of the chairs, some new pictures, and the purchase of a new student fridge it looks like a new room. New matching furniture (couches and coffee tables) were purchased for the pool room and lounge room, and a new TV and sound system installed in the TV room. An upstairs bathroom on the new side was remodelled and is now a more functional space. After more than thirty years the cool room unit finally packed it in and had to be replaced. The fence between the Highbury Grove House and the hall was replaced in 2010. Many minor maintenance jobs were carried out on a demand basis during the year such as installing new skylights, changing light fittings, changing bathroom floor coverings, fixing locks, repairing hot water systems, new dishwasher for manager's residence and replacing mattresses.



We attended accommodation and careers expos in Bendigo and Ballarat, and a promotional DVD has been made that is now on our website and will be distributed to schools and churches.

We are thankful that our cook, Linda, has now been with us for almost two years. Continuity in this area makes for much smoother management and we are thankful for the contribution Linda makes to our tummies, but also taking on a motherly role to several of the students.



Tim Hunter, Ash Moore

Krista Celle finished up her time as support staff at the end of 2010. The contribution she made to the Res and many of the students lives is amazing. We are grateful for her desire to do her job at Res well and her humility and desire to grow are admirable. We miss seeing her each day and know others do too. We are thankful for Tim Hunter's ongoing efforts in his role as support staff and the way he builds relationships and questions others is fantastic. Ash Moore has stepped into the support staff role well. While the transition is never easy, Ash has built good relationships with students and is quick to offer to help out in any way she can. In all our time at Res, we have

always been thankful for the relationships we have with the support staff – and are thankful for this specific structure that was developed to support the managers – it definitely works!

We are also very grateful for the contribution of the members of the Highbury Grove House. In 2010 – Yas McGrath, Steph Bowers, Joshi Philip, Michael Ross and Katie Ward; and in 2011 – Jono Davenport, Mat Hunter, Jane Watson, Kate Steel, and Dan Follent. In varying ways they give of their time and themselves to build positive relationships with students. Their efforts are not always seen by others, but we know they put in many hours of prayer, energy, and effort in getting alongside students, each other and the staff. Without the contribution of the people in the House, the effectiveness of the ministry of the Res would be diminished significantly. One of our favourite parts of the week is when we gather with the house and staff for brekky and prayer early on a Thursday or Friday morning.

We also acknowledge the contribution of the senior students – in 2010 Kirrily Schwarz and Tim Gray and in 2011 Andrew Bowden and Sarah Trebilcock. Again, they give their time and energy to encourage those around them and we appreciate all they do.

We are thankful for the many people that contribute to the Res throughout each year, in particular to the committee for their vision and support. God uses each of them in different ways to make the ministry of the Res fruitful. We thank Ken Manley for his time as chair of the committee and his ongoing support during his time as interim pastor. Leonie Hibbins, Tim Jones, Sheila King, Amy Hunter, Nic Barclay, Kylie Kollmorgen and Ryan Harper have all made valuable contributions as committee members.

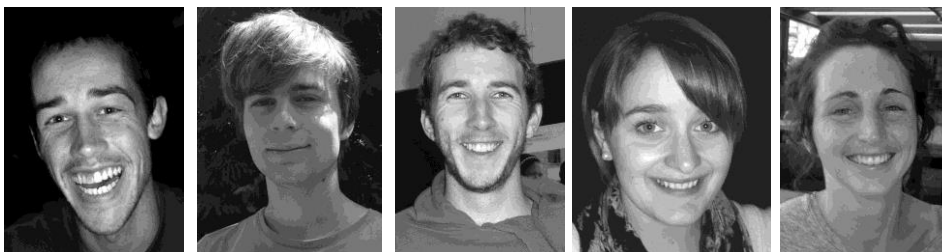
We want to thank the Church for their ongoing support – prayerfully, financially and practically. The Res is a growing and fruitful ministry because so many people get behind it in a variety of ways.

Michelle and Stephen Duke

THE HOUSE

To start this year of the Res, the Dukes, Tim Hunter, Ash Moore and the members of the house (Kate Steel, Mat Hunter, Jane Watson, Dan Follent and Jono Davenport) took a weekend out of their hectic schedules to grow closer as friends and as a functional team. We spent the weekend playing board games, water skiing (it was as fun as it sounds!) and gave some time to considering what we would like the year before us to look like. We as a house focused a fair bit on the O-week activities that build friendships and give the new students an opportunity to have some fun around Kew and other parts of Melbourne!

From a photo scavenger hunt, to a coffee/ice cream crawl, the week was a lot of fun. And to end it, we got to finish it with a Hipster themed House party where the students from the Res, we as a house, and friends of ours from the community and beyond got to dress up in funky clothes, chat and dance the night away! Needless to say we had heaps of fun!



*Jono
Davenport,
Dan Follent,
Mat Hunter,
Kate Steel,
Jane Watson*

The role of the House since O-week has been to build relationships with the students, to offer advice when it's asked of us, be a shoulder to cry on, to live our lives in a good way and to love the people of the Res in a way that is honouring God! Thankfully, our job has been made very easy by the students living in the Res! We want to invest in their lives, make them feel welcome when they drop in to our

house, have them know their worth, have them know us better and grow with us as we live life! Of course sometimes patience and persistence are required, but when looking back on this semester, we can see the good that God has done in ourselves and in all the members of this place!

Prayer breakfast mornings during the week are something that we as a ministry team share, and though they start at 7, the sacrifice is well worth it! Committing regularly our weeks, our works and the people of this community to God is always a refreshing and encouraging way of starting the day! It's also helped to foster a very close, well functioning house of friends that want to be spending their time with each other!

Fun events like Wig-off, where members of the Res (ourselves included) buy a wig, and compete to be the last one with it on, have kept the semester lively and fun! Easter celebrations were a special time too!

All in all, it's been a God-inspired semester, and we've come back from the break motivated and inspired to live righteously and love people better again for the remaining 4 months of 2011! God's doing good stuff through the Res, and we are honoured to be a part of the ministry that is happening! Please continue to pray for us as a house, for the hearts and lives of the students at the Res, Tim and Ash and the Dukes!

Jono Davenport, on behalf of Dan Follent, Jane Watson, Mat Hunter and Kate Steel

POSSUMS LITTLE LEARNERS

There was a newspaper article recently titled *PLAYGROUPS PASS THE LEARNING TEST*. It noted that after 40 years of operating in parks and church halls, they had had their first major independent evaluation - with impressive results.

Playgroups benefit all children, but the article especially acknowledged the positive influence they had on children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

So, PLAYGROUPS ARE WORTHWHILE.

At Possums we've always known that and our enrolments confirm it. Perhaps that is why we feel so comfortable with our name: Possums Little Learners.

But Possums is so much more than just an early education program. It is a community of people sharing a very special part of their life's journey together. Since Possums is part of the Kew Baptist Church community we are able to participate alongside them. What a privilege.



We have once again been especially supported this year by a wonderful group of people both from the church community and the playgroup community. Each of these has made a most valued contribution to the life of Possums. Carol Warner, Ray Leigh, Helen McLean, Natalie Pell, Deirdre Willis, Ronnie Coffey, and Jenny Clark attend each week. Anastasia Panagiotidis and Jennifer Bede have continued on as our Little Learners assistants. Our Committee has enjoyed some stability this year with Ann Seeley continuing as president and David Benwell as Treasurer. Deirdre and Ray are also involved on the committee. Jo Giarracca has been our enrolment officer for a number of years now, and sadly we will farewell her at the end of this one. However, she is currently handing over the role to Michelle Duke.

We have a number of others who are involved in various capacities such as group representatives, fundraising, newsletter production, social activities, birthday cards or new baby gifts and so forth. Each of these people make a very worthwhile contribution in making Possums so much more than just a place to be for a couple of hours each week. We continue to appreciate the administrative support from Grace Munro, and also the help and support that Lindsay Smith has given to the working bees.

We look forward to welcoming Nicholas and Amanda Tuohy and invite them to be part of the wonderful Possums community, as we continue to strive to provide a supportive Christian environment where our little ones can thrive.

Miriam Schmidt, Co-ordinator Possums.



Some of our Possums team: Carol Warner, Ray Leigh, Helen McLean, Natalie Pell, Deirdre Willis, Ronnie Coffey, Ann Seeley, Sarah Trebilcock, Michelle Duke, David Benwell

CHAT AND CHEW

This past year has been a disaster for illness amongst the usual attendees. I doubt if anyone has a perfect score, but that notwithstanding, those who have attended have enjoyed the gatherings and want them to continue next year also.

A subtle change has been noted in that fewer church men have attended due to death and illness, and an increasing number of Karana residents have been attending. Fellowship has been encouraged and enjoyed.

Topics presented have been wide and varied. Some ladies have crept in from time to time which we take to be a vote of confidence. The regular date formula will remain as the last Thursday in the month January through November. We remain open, indeed we encourage new suggestions, for topics and speakers.

Kingsley Smith, Convener

KARANA COMMUNITY

All the regular monthly programs continue with Fellowship Afternoons, Pleasant Sunday Afternoons, and Men's Chat and Chew. These times of presentation by guest speakers are a welcome social occasion when residents are able to share together and be stimulated by guest presentations.

The monthly Bible study continues to be enjoyed by a small group of residents. Rev Rowena Curtis had led this group for the last few months studying Psalms and the parables of Jesus. Following Rowena's resignation, Ruth Prentice has resumed leading the studies continuing to focus on the parables.

Mr John McLerie has joined the Karana team as Chaplain on Tuesdays. He visits the men and is slowly building relationships with them. He also works as the Baptcare Chaplain Team Leader two days a week based at the Strathalan Community.

The Chapel services continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as on Sundays mornings. We are blessed with wonderful speakers who give freely of their time and energy in preparing and leading the

services. Sundays are a special morning with the Chapel often full with wheelchairs and larger chairs taking up the space with 30-35 residents attending regularly. Karana is richly blessed not only by the volunteer speakers but also by the faithful hospitality offered on a weekly basis by Gil and Margaret Robinson and Kevin and Jean Trevarthen. "I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3

In the last twelve month period we have farewelled 38 residents and welcomed 38 new folk. The continuing and increasing turnover of residents has its demands on all staff but thanks be to God that the general atmosphere of warmth and welcome has not been lost. Dementia and end of life care are the dominant themes and provide their own particular challenges in terms of the care offered, however many families and residents speak highly of the general care they experience. The pastoral support offered through Kew Baptist is a great support as is the sense of teamwork.

Ongoing prayer support by Kew Baptist members for Karana is a wonderful encouragement. Prayer for Ruth Prentice regarding further possible study next year would also be valued. She has completed an Associate Diploma in Ministry through the Melbourne College of Divinity and has been involved as an Acting CPE Supervisor at the Alfred Hospital on Tuesdays but will take a break over the next few months.

Ruth Prentice, Chaplain.

AUBURN BAPTIST CHURCH



Jenni, Darren, Ben, Jessie and Emily – the children also attend KBC's Boost Youth

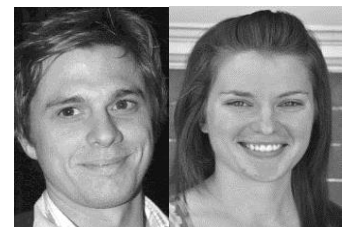
The last 12 months has been a wonderful season for Auburn Baptist Church. Pastors Darren and Jenni Cronshaw were very positive about their recent 18 month pastoral review. However, following the review Jenni decided that her time would be best spent as a 'small p' pastor, focussing on pastoral care and community engagement. We greatly value Jenni's commitment as she continues to serve the church in this unpaid role.

The past year has been a period of growing as a vibrant, multicultural community, with church membership and leadership team numbers doubling, as well as the appointment of a pastoral intern (with the possibility of another). This has resulted in a great deal of involvement in leading worship & music, preaching, pastoral care, community engagement and sharing life together. The highlight of this being the baptism late last year of our dear friends Claire and Shane.

We have been similarly joyous in celebrating the marriages of Heath & Shannon, Jackie & Tom, and Irene & Mark Payne, not to mention the recent engagements of Lauren Smith and Michael Ross, Tim & Julia, and Brad & Kelly.

Auburn's commitment to community engagement has continued to grow, partnering with Swinburne Uni groups, Hawthorn Community House, local indoor cricket (players needed), and regular visits to Home Dining Room for breakfasts, lunches, and 'coffee and soul' small group. If you are interested in any of these ministries don't hesitate to contact Darren or Mark. Auburn also continues to share facilities with Global Interaction, Grace Romanian Church, Melbourne International Fellowship as well as musical groups Yarra Gospel Choir and Jubal. We look forward to journeying together with many of these groups over the coming year.

A huge thank you to Kew for the continuing support through prayer and the sending and loaning of young adults and musos. We hope that the partnership can continue and grow under the leadership of Nick Tuohy.



Mark and Irene Payne

Mark Payne, Pastoral Intern at Auburn

CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Another year has passed and I am still in grade 5 while all my students moved on to grade 6. The good news is I see some of them at the lunchtime break and they say hello.

This year my class includes two Kew Baptist girls, and I have 20 boys and girls and they are a really nice group. We are in a brand new classroom, compliments of the Government's schools spending program, and it is a much better set up.

We started late this year due to some administrative issues but the lessons which included "Easter" before and after seemed to be well received.

It is not easy teaching but I think it is a good opportunity to explain Christianity and faith to children who may not hear it elsewhere. Only God knows what it may lead to and if what I do helps, it is well worth any inconvenience I may experience.

I would encourage others to think about teaching CRE and if you want to know more, have a chat with me.

Ray Leigh

(Note: It was encouraging when Jina Chung and her children Soo and Jinu began attending KBC in mid-2011, to find that Soo was in the same class as Lilly Pizzaro-Cardenas at Kew Primary School, the class which Ray teaches, and Lilly was able to help Soo to settle into the group and find some friends.)

CARRICAL BOARDING HOUSE

I've enjoyed being part of a small team that visits the Carrical Boarding House in West Hawthorn. The team is led by Christine Muller and Dave McKeown.

We visit on the fourth Saturday afternoon of each month, meeting at Dave's place for prayer at 4.00 pm and arriving at Carrical around 5.00pm. Our aim is to provide a BBQ meal for the residents (who are mostly men) and to enjoy having the meal with them and a good chat. We enjoy the time and have built up some meaningful relationships with the residents; they are appreciative of our visits and as we leave it is encouraging hearing them say things like "Thanks for the meal, see you next time". It is a good learning experience for all of us involved.

Steve Taylor

MISSION, AID AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The purpose of the Mission, Aid and Development Group is, with God's guidance, to Make a Difference in the world, both local and overseas, in the areas of justice, mission, aid and development. The group aims to do this by increasing awareness of the world's needs and their causes, promoting action to address those needs and by supporting and praying for those who are involved in various ministries that encompass the areas of Mission, Aid and Development. Any interested person is very welcome to attend any event or meeting.

In September 2010, following delicious desserts and coffee, three speakers shared some personal overseas experiences. All had felt God's calling to engage in varied kinds of ministry outside of Australia.

Rob McKenzie (Tenielle's Dad), a pastor, spoke of several trips to Fiji, spread over almost 20 years. His ministry had included work with youth and young families, prison visits, training volunteers to work with him in teams, leading young musicians to minister through their music, and coordinating an extensive building program.

Jono Newmarch and Amy Williams had each, at different times, been part of a ministry in Amsterdam, based in a backpackers hostel called The Shelter, run by a Christian organization. For Jono, the ministry to the cleaning staff, via a Bible study, was the most effective part of his experience, and he reported continuing his links with some after returning to Australia. He also witnessed a dramatic and transforming conversion. Amy had sought an experience of ministry following Bible school, and found that her time in Amsterdam was marked by an experience of faith alongside doubt and spiritual battles. Looking back after her return home, Amy could see that God had had his hand on her through the difficult times, even when she did not know.

In January 2011, Lisa Detlefsen was on leave from her work in Arnhem Land as a home school support teacher with Missionary Aviation Fellowship, and came to lunch at Deirdre's place, with her Mum Barb, and seven MAD Group members. It was lovely hearing about Lisa's work and experiences up north, and to catch up on news of other members of her family.

Another lunch was held, this time in the Velvet Lounge, for Rev Justus Miwanda, from Uganda, working with the Christian organization International Needs (IN). Around twenty people enjoyed lunch and heard about the schools Justus is in charge of in Uganda, providing an education for 2,500 local children from poor families. We also had the opportunity to hear from Gail Thannhauser, administrator of IN in Melbourne, and from Marg Docking (James's Mum), recently returned from two years in Uganda, who was about to launch a training manual on reproductive health. This will be used in majority world countries to train national people in the fundamentals of family planning and sanitation, to help them escape the poverty cycle.

One more event has just been held at the end of July, over a pancake brunch, to hear from Helen Berger (Lewis) and Gorgee Dyer about their time spent working in their own professional fields (as a physiotherapist and medical doctor), in Bangladesh and Kenya. Around 30 people attended, and appreciated hearing about cultural and life issues in Bangladesh, and the medical work at Kapsowar in Kenya. And we all enjoyed Tom Lee's pancakes and other goodies brought to share.

Members of the group will continue to support those from Kew BC and others, working in cross-cultural ministries in Australia and overseas. In 2010-2011, 14% of KBC offerings has been allocated to the Mission, Aid and Development budget. These were distributed as follows:

Support of personnel:	John and Janine Barclay and Aidan, working with Interserve in India	\$6,500
	David and Eryl Edwards, with Global Interaction in SE Asia	\$5,400
	Mark and Val Holt, returning to Indonesia with Global Interaction	\$2,700
	Natalie Smith, with The Leprosy Mission in East Timor	\$2,700
	Lisa Detlefson, teaching MAF families' children in Northern Australia	\$2,700
	Tin van Pham and Anna Ngoc Thi Lam, with C&MA in Cambodia	\$2,700
	Warwick and Natalie Short and three children, with SIM in Niger	\$4,352
Organisations:	Prison Fellowship Women's Ministry (Kerryn Pell involved)	\$500
	Sanctuary organization, housing asylum seekers in Brunswick	\$500
	People in need at church door (formerly supported by Barnabas Fund)	\$1,949
	Kew High School Chaplaincy	\$1,200

Remaining funds have been held over for use in 2011.

Deirdre Willis

WIDER CONTACTS

It isn't easy to report on wider contacts, because they are diverse. Ken Manley has been able to participate a little in the Kew Ministers' group, though not as much as he would have liked. Grace Munro and Lindsay Smith have attended the Kew Inter-Church council and participated a little in planning the Good Friday service and the Christmas Carols event in Petrie Square (it was great to have so much support from our young adult 'almost-male' choir and from Nathan Krelle running the audio in the latter event).

Ken Manley continues to participate in discussions with Uniting Church leaders along with other Baptist leaders, and he and Tony Cupit maintain their links with the Baptist World Alliance. We have had some discussions with the Chinese Church, and their youth group have been invited to attend the service on 4 September when Leena Lavanya will speak.

The Baptist Union of Victoria continues to provide support in various ways, and we have experienced this during the year with help from the Advisory Board in seeking a pastor. The church provides financial help to assist with maintaining their work which is of particular benefit to smaller churches.

There are links with many other organisations – Elizabeth Dodgshun represents us in planning for the World Day of Prayer, to be held in March 2012 at the Chinese Church in Highbury Grove. Em Hanscamp continues to promote the support of women in India who have suffered through human trafficking; Kez Pell has increasing links with Prison Network Ministries; there is the group who visit Carrical each month; there are those who support the Uniting Church's Good Grub program. The Mission, Aid and Development group helps us with allocation of support to various individuals and organisations working in Australia and overseas. And no doubt there are many other organisations which could be mentioned.

Some of our young adults have made visits to various mission organisations overseas, while others have enjoyed doing 'secular' work with underprivileged people overseas and in Australia as part of their work and study programs. On their return, it has been good to hear from them not only about the work they saw and participated in, but the new insights they gained through the experience.

Thankfully, one group we have had little contact with over the past few months has been the Boroondara Council in relation to noise complaints, which had been a major problem early in 2010. Thank you for your care in this regard, as we need to maintain good relationships with our neighbours. The Council keeps us in touch with local events, and some of our members participate in these.

Grace Munro

MINISTRY SUPPORT

AUDIO AND VIDEO (DATA), RECORDINGS

The Audio-Video (Data) Groups operate the sound-system and the video (data) projector, an essential part of our worship services.

Regarding the NightChurch team, currently there are around eight volunteers on the roster. The first half of 2011 has been challenging as we introduced many changes to the way we run the night service at Kew Baptist. Thanks and appreciation is given to the deacons for approval of the new PC used for data. There will be more improvements in the next year and we look forward to the growth of the team and more integration of media into the night services.

The morning-Church group is functioning with lower numbers (currently four) in their team. In addition to the duplication and distribution of CD recordings of morning services (available on request), a ministry

which is appreciated by typically six to ten folk each week, we now are making available, on request, downloads of the recording from the Internet (these are not publicly visible as various semi-private items arise in worship services that those mentioned would not anticipate being broadcast widely). We have also added hymnbook songs on the projector screen during the past year.

The requirement of Boroondara Council to keep music noise within prescribed limits has been partially addressed - currently keeping a close eye (or ear!) on it and having a monitoring capability appears reasonable. However, investigation of sound-proofing (expensive - mostly double-glazing or some of the windows on the south wall of the Church building) is incomplete.

An informal team has formed over the past year of three or four technical people. The team's focus is the longer term planning, design and implementation of the ministry, especially equipment and systems. Some expense will result, particularly as much of our equipment is now aging and exhibiting faults. We aim to improve the reliability, usability and predictability of the systems for smoother running of our worship services. Extra workshop and training sessions will be needed.

We have some longer term development projects that could be useful to pursue (e.g. regular edit and uploading of services for Kew Baptist "expats" to the web-site, some how-to guides for audio and video, some equipment development, construction and maintenance, recordings library collection etc.). It would be good if some additional folk could contribute by teaming their efforts for some of these projects. These could be useful contributions to Kew Baptist's ministries, and would provide an opportunity for folk to learn and contribute to a learning environment for others in the Church fellowship.

John Hollow

MAINTENANCE

At the beginning of the financial year we were just finishing work on the refurbished foyer, and it has made a vast difference to the entry into the church. (If you notice that the internal doors are scraping the floor due to the absorption of water, the floors will be sanded down shortly and the problem solved.)

Since then, other relatively major expenses involved electrical work, including illuminated exit signs for church and hall required to meet regulations, and the changing of all locks around the buildings.

In 2011, major work has been done on the Manse, and we are very grateful to Stephen McLean for his expertise and generosity in this area. It is now looking great, and all ready for Nicholas and Amanda Tuohy to move in on around 18 September. Thanks also to Liz Pell and her team for her work on the garden.

Apart from those major items, lots of other small bits and pieces which are part of the maintenance of buildings which are not young!

Unfortunately we come to the end of this year without Lindsay Smith writing this report, because he has been unwell and they are moving to Lilydale. Lindsay has done a great job in managing maintenance for a long time, and we express our appreciation to him. Working bees will not be the same without his supervision!

Grace Munro

FINANCES

The results for the year ended 30 June 2011 are extremely pleasing. The overall result was that a net surplus of \$43,382 was made compared to the budgeted surplus for the year of \$7,290.

It was very encouraging that the actual income received of \$286,260 was slightly higher than the budget of \$285,430. The offerings received of \$236,577 were just below the budget of \$237,000 which was a terrific result, particularly since at different times during the year the offerings were considerably lower than budget. It was also great that donations of \$27,110 (as shown in the "Property Reserve – Manse" under Note 8) were received towards renovating the manse.

The expenses for the year were also \$35,261 less than budget; the main reason for this was that Salary Costs were \$22,924 less than budget because a full time senior minister was not appointed during the year. (The budget included a full time salary for a Senior Pastor as from November 2010).

The main variances between actual and budget are listed below.

Variance – Favourable (Unfavourable)	Income/Expense Item	Comments
7,290	Budgeted surplus for the year	
1,112	Student Residence Loan Interest	This was higher than budget as cash reserves meant the loan to the Res did not have to be drawn down; (it had been anticipated the loan would need to be drawn down during the year).
22,294	Salary Costs	These were less than budget since a full time Senior pastor was not appointed during the financial year.
3,656	Church Ministry Expenses	These were overall less than budget, in part because a full time pastor was not appointed.
1,980	Mission Aid & Development	The payments made were less than budget mainly because assistance with other needs was not required.
500	Advertising	Advertising wasn't required.
(1,497)	Office Equipment Maintenance	The expenses include \$1,780 for a new projector.
2,023	Telephone	These were less than budget partly because a full time pastor was not appointed.
1,070	Cleaning	Overall expenses were less than budget.
2,670	Insurance	The insurance premium was less than expected.
(1,588)	General Property Maintenance	Overall property maintenance expenses were more than budget; they include electrical repairs \$3,450, fencing \$1,500 and replacing all locks \$1,600.
3,872	Other minor variances	
\$43,382	Surplus as per Income & Expenditure statement	

In conclusion, I'd like to say a big thank you to Grace Munro for looking after the finances of the church and in giving me timely finance reports; also many thanks to everybody else who has assisted with the counting of offerings and banking.

As we look to the next year, may we each know God's leading as we consider our giving and what part God wants us to do in the ministry at Kew Baptist Church.

Steve Taylor, Treasurer