

Aston Clinton Baptist Church Annual Report & Accounts – 2014

“We are called to serve God and to share his love with others”



Aston Clinton Baptist Church
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Introduction

Welcome to our 2014 Annual Report. Its purpose is to inform the fellowship of our activities and financial affairs during the past year. The report includes a reflection of what individuals and groups have done which has contributed to our corporate life together through Jesus Christ.

As you read it, I am sure you will find items which are news to you and may even refresh your memory and hopefully stimulate you into your own personal reflections and memories of the year gone by.

I would like to briefly but sincerely offer my thanks to everyone at Aston Clinton Baptist Church and pray that you would all know you have played a valued part in the ministry of the church in 2014 which has seen many blessings.

I believe the Lord would say to us at ACBC *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”.* Jeremiah 29:11

We have achieved so much together through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Please enjoy reading!

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Minister's Report

As I look back over this last year I am so pleased that we have seen increasing changes within the life of this Church as a whole. I hope to describe some of these during the following paragraphs.

First, on a more general level, when I became Minister here, I felt that there was a tremendous desire to move on in God, and that ACBC wanted Him to impact their lives and others. I am certain that this has remained. Indeed, I feel very encouraged by this because it can so often be true, that momentum can wane in Church life. That is not to suggest that there have not been moments when that sense of 'treading water' was not present, but over and above these times, I still feel that our hearts are inclined to God and we do have a growing passion for Him and His name. There was a period when I felt somewhat bothered by our outreach but in the last few months in particular, I believe that there is an increasing desire amongst us for unbelievers to come to a genuine faith in the Lord. Whilst we have struggled to see new people come onto, what was once our regular Christianity Explored Course, I have sensed in recent weeks that there maybe one or two who would like to attend a course like this, which we hope to run in the New Year. Our worship, sung, or as in our lifestyles before God, has also grown, and I have been particularly blessed, as we all have, by the recent results of the prayer vigil and other words that God has spoken to us. This will shape what we do next, and what I will speak on too. Naturally I yearn for us to keep hearing God's voice, and whilst 'prophecies' in that normative understanding of the term, have not always happened during the services, God has spoken *prophetically* to us. We have had many verses and thoughts given to us in recent times, and how we have lived and witnessed has also 'spoken' God out in some way too. I am absolutely sure that God is amongst us, and His Spirit is leading us, and I sense Him regularly as we interact together and at our Church services - all of which are good indicators of the health of the Church. Indeed from the financial side of things our offerings are up too, which is wonderful. It is pertinent to note that the numbers attending the morning services has been consistent, and we regularly see 'new faces' too. I am sure that if everyone was to attend a morning service, we would touch 85. We praise God for these things.

We are also so blessed with the number of musicians we have. From time to time I get to attend other churches and I want to assure you that in every instance, I have seen again and again, how good God is to us in this regard. Indeed, it is not so much the technical ability of our musicians that impresses me, but how our worship leaders in particular have a true desire to worship Jesus Christ above all else in their lives, no matter what they may be going through. I believe over the year, and years, we have moved on in our worship and the Church is freer than it was, and seeks to hear God as part of Sunday's proceedings.

Over this year we have learnt much together, which has propelled us into a greater Word-based-life and a closer abiding relationship with The Word, Jesus. I trust that through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we are becoming an increasingly *Word and Spirit* orientated people. I believe that the sermon series of 'Encounters with Jesus' has been important for us, and having changed the evening services format where we have prayer and praise nights, bible studies and the like, has also been an important development. The level of interactivity between us at some of these services has been very good, and so we have learnt together through a different approach. I am also grateful to those who have taught alongside me this year, and it is noteworthy to point out that we have been blessed with many gifted people in this Church - in a myriad of ways. Often people may think that they are not especially gifted because they do not have an overt 'up front' ministry. I assure you that this not true, and the quiet behind the scenes work that many do so faithfully, is critical to our survival. The Diaconate has worked very hard this year and deserves our thanks, as has Assunta Loxley and Cathy Graham in their respective and demanding capacities. We have together sought God and gone with His leading when we felt him speak, and we are closer together as a team, and our relationships have grown. God bless you all.

The not-so-new Church Vision is still at the heart of things, although I believe we need to ensure that we do not lose sight of it, in and amongst our busyness. It is so important that the vision of 'Jesus at the centre' of everything we do, maintains its place of prominence. It is through Him, the Living Stone, the Capstone, that we the 'living stones' are built up into a spiritual house, 1 Peter 2v5, 9.

Whilst the outworking of what this means will be manifold, those core values of a welcoming, worshipping, sacrificial, prophetic and missionary community, are still paramount.

The vision also includes thinking about each ministry we have at our Church, as a 'room' within the spiritual house. But, whatever the case, the centrality of Jesus in our lives and how he is at work in us, is how these ministries will be built, along with everything else.

As far as home groups are concerned I would like to express my thanks to Alan Cookson, who also oversaw Fresh Horizons, having faithfully supported both of these until he stepped down this year. Alan was committed to the vision of the home groups and I know that each of the groups is aware of what God is asking of them. Since the time of his departure, I have overseen the groups in a more general way, and I am pleased that each group has endeavoured by different means to honour God's leading. I think the challenge remains, as is the case for all of us, to deepen our one-2-one relationships with each other and with unbelievers. As a group truly hears, knows Jesus and moves in the Spirit, I am sure that the individuals within it will become closer to God, and the groups as a whole will be a good foundation for the church; a structure upon which many other things can be laid. I trust that what happens on the Sundays will support what is occurring in the home groups and vice versa. It will aid us in many other ways too. Well done to those who continue to run the home groups - you have no idea how important your work is.

Fresh Horizons is still proving successful, although the numbers are variable. Sylvia Sutherland now oversees this group and she is gearing herself and the group for new things over the coming months. I am very pleased that the group is fulfilling its role in the vision of the church. I personally also attend a monthly community event called 'Old Friends' along with Sylvia. Our hope is that we have encouraged those there to attend Fresh Horizons too.

During this year the evangelism team was re-formed, having been faithfully overseen by Gerry Bessent. The group initially spent time talking together, sensing each other's hearts, and naturally God's heart in the midst of that. We spent a lot of time trying to discern what God was saying, and since then have put on two main events: World Cuisine and the Live Nativity - both were very successful. I have truly been gladdened by the desire of this team towards reaching out to people who do not know Jesus. I feel that evangelism is the key area God wants us to focus on at this time and into the coming year, so having renewed momentum in this area has confirmed my sense. May I say at this point, how grateful I am to those who have served on the team and to all those who have got behind the events we have done. I believe our profile in the community is good, and events such as these support that. May we see increasing fruit in the New Year. We have also put on some Men's Outreach events, and in every instance, whether it is clay pigeon shooting, archery and games nights, we have known God's blessing. The challenge with all these things is to hear God speaking to us individually and to know what to say/do and when, so that these events are more than just socials, but socials with an evangelistic emphasis. Greater prayer needs to go into these outreaches, especially the Men's ministry, which will change in due course. I was so encouraged by the Christians Against poverty 'money management course', because of the potential of it, but alas it has, at this time, waned - since last January in fact. Maybe there is yet another 'season' for this? Nevertheless those who were running it are to be thanked. We have also delivered prayer cards round certain streets of Aston Clinton, cards which also offer practical support for those who may need them. At the time of writing, we have had one response, and we have moved a table for one elderly gentleman, which he was thankful for. Church, we really are trying aren't we?

The Youth Work has continued to develop and Susanna has been working admirably within her role. Many youngsters are beginning to be part of us and the ongoing teaching of the gospel at the Friday night clubs is making an effect in the lives of many. The youth often attend evening services and support them with their presence, and they are beginning to openly contribute too, which has really enthralled me. We have had many baptisms too and great news with regard to 'Mexico'! Susanna's commitment to all these things is excellent and with Youth Cafe on Wednesdays consistently being supported by Marco Loxley, we are beginning to see development here too. As a membership we have continued to prove ourselves to be spiritually and financially faithful to the youth ministry; those who support Susanna at her clubs and cafes with their physical presence deserve our special thanks.

The Tot Spot groups have continued to develop through Nicky's work. It is with sadness that Sylvia no longer feels able to continue with her supportive 'kitchen' role at the Tuesday group, but Corinne Jeffrey has been able to help in this regard. Sylvia has been so faithful with her commitment to it, and thus she deserves special mention here. Cathy continues to give excellent support on Thursdays, which is great. The building up of relationships with the Mums (and some Dads) continues with gusto, and this has enabled us to maintain better links with people - thus it is supportive of our Church vision.

The wider profile of the Church in the community continues in other ways. I only had Year 1 from the local school come to the Church the other day, which was a good time. The buildings are in regular use by outsiders; in fact the buildings have been improved and are being carefully monitored. We are grateful to Bob Taylor and his team in this regard. With that written, we give thanks to Bob for his hard work over the last period, with JB Leach now succeeding him, who has also been working well. I am so pleased that Valerie Owen has continued with the 'bookings' aspect of church life – it remains an essential role, aiding our income too. Often it is a thankless task, but one that I am personally grateful for.

In Church life, it is easy for some to remain on the peripheries, and whilst it remains a concern, I believe that many feel that they have more of a sense of 'belonging together' than before. Many newcomers have spoken to me about how friendly we are, and that is such an important feature because first impressions often do count.

My heart is still one of desiring each person to belong and grow, and to know the risen Christ in their everyday life. I yearn for this to occur across the board, through the various ministerial expressions we have, touching into the community around us. We need to keep our momentum and not let it go – indeed to build it up. We need to keep 'in the Spirit'. God is going to ask more of us in this year coming; challenging us to be bold through Him. We must not let fear rob us of faith for that which he will lead us into. We have seen exciting things already, but more is to come.

On a personal note I would like to write on behalf of my own family, how wonderfully supportive you as a Church have been to us, generous and prayerful. I am so pleased to be part of you.

God bless you, with Christian love.

Simon Downing

Secretary's Report

As I consider the year just gone, once again I find myself humbled when I think of all the willing and sustained contributions made to the life of Aston Clinton Baptist Church in so many different ways; we have so much to be grateful for in Jesus Christ.

I would like to start by saying thank you to Simon, in particular for his ministry, dedication and commitment to our church. It has been a difficult year for Simon and his family for the loss of his father and yet he has been blessed at continually meeting the spiritual and emotional needs of so many people within and outside of the church even when things have been difficult. We also thank Nicky for her part in the life of the church and the support that she gives to Simon; let us not also forget Emily and Anaya who bring their cheerfulness and eagerness to support their dad particularly at family services.

Together as a church, we are finding new strengths in our fellowship; we are learning to support each other in achievement, and I pray this will continue with our Lord's wisdom and guidance for 2015. "*We are His ambassadors*" 2 Cor 5:20 and I pray He will continue to give us many more opportunities to draw people from the outside into His presence.

Let us now look at the broader picture of 2014; we have our own particular memories of things that may have affected us personally throughout the year, but I hope as you read the various reports you will get a good summary of how the Lord has blessed us all. When God straightens our paths - that is true success and this is tied to acknowledging God for all of His marvellous blessings. I am sure God will continue to straighten the crooked paths so that we will not stumble and who can make crooked what God has straightened!

Leadership Team

At the February 2014 AGM saw the re-election of myself (Assunta) as Secretary, Cathy as Treasurer, together with Gill, Martin and Merlyn to serve as Deacons. Sue continued to serve as Deacon. The Diaconate continue to meet twice monthly under the chairmanship of our Minister, Simon.

The role of our Diaconate is to be equipped by God to be a servant of the Lord in the church, overseeing policy, leadership and spiritual guidance to the fellowship whilst helping to promote growth. We are like a body with each part playing its own part for the good of the whole (Ephesians 4:16). We also review any fiscal and legislative requirements as they arise.

During the year, some of the major topics the Diaconate has been led towards or continued to develop further included:

- Development of Worship Leaders and Music
- Development of Youth Work and the success of Mexico 2014
- The development of the Church Vision and its Core Values
- Development of the Family & Sunday Evening Services
- Open Door
- Evangelistic & Social Events
- Outreach Supper Evening
- Prayer Cards & Prayer Walks
- Leadership Away Day
- Aston Clinton Baptist Church Live Nativity
- Update of the Articles of Faith & Responsibilities for Membership
- A revamped ACBC website

The leadership team shared in the annual Away Day in November during which we debated and agreed matters of strategic importance as well as our main focus - the development of the Sunday Evening Services and the aims to be achieved during 2015 and beyond.

I would reiterate the word from Simon that through the *'empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we at ACBC are becoming an increasingly Word and Spirit oriented people'* and may we continue to be led by the Spirit for 2015.

The following ministries agreed in 2014 are still ongoing:

- Development of Men's Ministry including a prayer meeting focussed on the men
- Open Door
- Prayer Cards & Prayer Walks
- Development of the Sunday Evening Services
- Development of the Church Vision and its Core Values

As you will read we had a great start to our men's ministry and many of our members continue to meet with several of the men for social events and I know there is a programme of events scheduled for 2015. Please continue to pray for this and the development of a prayer team for men. Let us also continue to pray for our Lord to draw us to 'the lost' and provide us with opportunities to reach out to our community according to His purpose and this is also the case for Open Door.

Church Diary

The annual Pulpit Exchange took place on Sunday, 9th March when we welcomed Rev Richard Allwood from Princes Risborough Baptist Church. I was reminded by Richard that he and his team came to visit Aston Clinton Baptist Church some years previous to have a look at our refurbishment as they wanted to achieve something similar and Richard was very thankful to us for being such a welcoming and friendly church then and now.

At the end of March we had a commissioning service for our Mexico 2014 youth team and they left us on Saturday, 5th April with many payers and blessings for a 10 day mission to build a house for a family in Tijuana. This was an exhausting but very exciting adventure for 13 of our young people who returned having really met with our Lord in so many ways. We praise His name.

We shared the usual Maundy Thursday joint service with St Michael's at Aston Clinton Baptist Church where we all took part and enjoyed the "Passover Meal" and after our Good Friday morning worship, we completed a walk of witness around the village. Our Easter celebrations were complemented by an Easter Morning breakfast and my thanks to all those who were involved in making this a joyous event.

In May, we thank the Lord for the dream that He gave Gloria - through rain, wind and extreme cold Gloria, Gerry and their team had a stall at the Village Market set up at Aston Clinton School. Even though the weather was bad and Gerry and Keith having to hold down the gazebo in heavy wind, many came and chatted and were given leaflets about what we believe to take away with them.

In July we finished the summer term with another successful Allsorts programme – this time the theme being that Christ is supreme and completely sufficient for salvation. The week included drama, games and activities that helped the children understand and remember all they had learnt and the memory verse. Thank you to all those who took part, but particularly thank you to Tina who is now stepping down from this role after many years of service. Allsorts was followed by a successful BBQ on Sunday, 3rd August which was attended by many visitors.

Throughout the year a number of other evangelistic and social events took place and I thank our Evangelistic Team and all those who put in a lot of hard work to make these events so successful. Some of the evangelistic and social events that have taken place in 2014 are as follows:

- Outreach Supper Evenings
- Welcome Baskets
- Village Market
- Various Mexico 2014 Fundraising Events
- 33 New Road – Brazil World Cup Afternoon
- Flower Festival – St Michael's Parish Church

- Allsorts & BBQ
- Harvest Supper
- World Cuisine Night
- Light Party – alternative to Halloween
- Prayer Vigil
- Live Nativity
- Mexico 2016 Silent Auction
- Carols in the Street

In July a couple of members from our fellowship took part in the annual Flower Festival at St Michael's Parish Church; the theme was 'The Great War'; a lovely flower design was erected by the main entrance and enjoyed by many visitors that weekend.

In October, Faith and her body of helpers organised an alternative to Halloween 'The Light Party' and this was a great success, although with fewer children attending. Thank you to all those who helped to make this event enjoyable for the children and adults! That evening we also held our prayer vigil; again this was very well supported and the Lord gave us many words of encouragement that were circulated to all.

We joined the Remembrance Sunday worship at the War Memorial on Sunday, 9th November, followed by a joint service at St Michael's Parish Church where Simon gave the main address.

On Sunday evening, 30th November we have an outreach supper evening where 39 people attended. This was a great evening with good food, good chat and an excellent drama sketch giving a message about Christianity; some of our visitors asked about the Christianity Explore course on the evening and hopefully we will be able to run a course in the New Year.

On Sunday, 14th December we held our very first Live Nativity. This was very successful, attended by we believe over 150 people from the village and beyond. It was fantastic seeing so many people gathered together walking down Green End Street following Mary and Joseph and a donkey (well a pony). Simon gave a brief but excellent address and then many of our visitors, family and friends were happy to join us with mince pies and mulled wine in the church hall. There was some tremendous feedback on how wonderful the whole event was. Thank you to Corinne and her team for setting this up.

On Wednesday, 17th December 15 members of the fellowship gathered to sing carols in Beaconsfield Road on a cold and starry night! This was well received by a number of the local residents – many of whom came out to join us or watch us from the warmth of their homes. What a great witness!

Finally we celebrated our annual joint Christmas worship with St Michael's at ACBC on Sunday, 21st December, and Rev Elizabeth Moxley delivered a Christmas message. This was followed by our Carols by Candlelight Service in the evening where a great number of visitors, family and friends attended this wonderful reflective service.

Membership

We had 4 of our young people baptised in 2014, who are in the process of being offered membership. We also had 4 new members and 4 members resign for 2014. Sadly, we lost one dear member who died in 2014. To date we have a healthy total of 57 members.

Worship Leaders

We are very grateful to Alan, Gerry, Helen, Jo, Julie, Marco, Martin, Rodney and Sue of our own fellowship, and Rev Ian Crawford from Maulden Baptist Church, who in their various capacities have led worship services during the year. We pray that the Lord will continue to inspire them to grow in the grace of hearing His voice and speaking His word for 2015.

Final Thanks

During the year, valuable work has been done in re-vamping our church website and this is now ready to go live for 2015. We thank Paul for all his efforts and time to creating a brand new, exciting and interactive website.

Please look out for the launch of the new website in 2015 with a new website address (www.astonclintonbaptist.org.uk); it will be full of information and a good way of catching up with notices and forthcoming events.

Thank you to Keith and Paul for advertising all our evangelistic and social events on the church notice board. I am sure many people who pass by give a glance as to what goes on and it is a pleasure to see such excellent art work. Our thanks also go to Valerie for her time as booking secretary for the church buildings; we owe a debt of gratitude to Valerie for keeping this going especially when she has been in considerable pain and discomfort in recent months. Thank you also to Penni and Martin for overseeing the pastoral visiting during 2014.

Thank you to Bob and his wonderful team of gentlemen for overseeing the refurbishment of the church hall floor, the church ceiling and many other minor, but very important, maintenance tasks throughout 2014. Bob stepped down from this role in September 2014 and JB has now taken over. Thank you JB for taking this on and again for the continued maintenance work that goes on behind the scenes.

Thanks to Alan and Rosemary for taking on the BMS Birthday Scheme – the Baptist Missionary Society operates a scheme whereby people are encouraged to make a gift to the Society on his/her birthday and receives a card from the Society via Alan and Rosemary. Thank you to all those who have taken part and if anyone is interested in joining this scheme for 2015, thus helping the society financially, please speak to Alan or Rosemary for further information.

Let us not forget, a huge thank you must go to Gloria and her team for the time involved in keeping the church clean, tidy and smelling nice. I know this is appreciated by us all but would ask that if you have some spare time please offer your cleaning services to Gloria. Your help is always needed!

A final note – I would like to take this opportunity to say a very personal and special thank you to all of you for your support in 2014. Let the love of our Lord be your constant companion and trust Him in all things. Rest assured that our Lord is with us always and let us look forward together to what He has in store for us in 2015. I leave you with 1 Thessalonians 5:11 – *“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing”*.

God Bless You.
Assunta Loxley

Treasurers Report

Once again, a big thank you to all who have helped so much with the church finances in 2014. I am very grateful to all those who help with counting and banking, particularly Anne and Rodney who undertake this task practically every week, to Valerie for managing the hall lettings once again and to the deacons and Simon for their support.

In 2014, we achieved a surplus of £5,384 compared to a budgeted breakeven position and a surplus of £3,255 in 2013. The reasons for this improvement are analysed in greater detail below:

Income

Our overall income for 2014 at £74,010 was £4,830 or 7% better than we had budgeted and over 8% ahead of last year. Offerings and tax recovered totalled over £67,600 which was 7.2% better than our budgeted figure. We benefited from generous giving via regular contributions (both through standing order directly into the church bank accounts and regular weekly offerings) and also via increased cash offerings. The church was able to claim Gift Aid on Small Donations (GASDs) for the whole of this financial year. A generous one off donation added a further £950 to our income levels in 2014. Offsetting this slightly was a drop in income received from hall lettings, which were 10% below budget but slightly higher than last year's figure.

Expenditure

Total church expenditure at £68,626 was £3,590 or 5.5% higher than last year but 1% better than our budgeted level. As can be seen from the various analyses in the accounts, around 48% of the total expenditure in 2014 was on the minister's pay, manse and working expenses (2013 just over 50%). Expenditure on this area was around £1,650 below budget primarily due to the church being able to take advantage of an Employers' National Insurance allowance from HMRC this year. Under this scheme, employers do not need to pay a total of up to £2,000 per tax year of National Insurance contributions. This has led to a reduction in our employment costs for both the Pastor and Youth Leader this financial year and should be available again for 2015.

Mission including Youth activities and Allsorts amounted to 21% of the total net spend. Expenditure on Youth was in line with the original budget with the Youth Leader employment costs below budget as a result of the HMRC NI allowance (see above). The Youth Café has received a grant from Village Life for £350 again this year plus a £250 grant via AVYFC. Individual church members have also made significant donations towards youth work. These grants and individual donations have enabled the purchase of a new TV, new projectors and new bibles for youth activities and there are approximately £1,800 of funds available for spend in 2015.

Approximately 17% of our total costs were on maintenance, cleaning, heating and lighting of the church property. This category is over budget due to an increased allocation to the building fund this year (£5,700 compared to a budget of £3,000). Utilities costs were better than budget due to lower gas units used (milder weather). The figure included in the accounts reflects what we have been billed by British Gas as at the end of the financial year, but this figure should be higher because we have not been invoiced for the month of December 2014. I estimate that the additional cost for gas should be around £400 which will impact negatively on 2015.

Gifts to other causes such as Home Mission, Rennie Grove, AVYFC, BMS, Toybox, Children for Christ Romania and Hands of Mercy Philippines was budgeted at £5,535 or 8% of budgeted income. In 2014, the church gave £5,840 to other causes, an increase of £305 over the budgeted figure reflecting the increase in income levels. Individuals supported a number of causes including Spurgeons, the BMS Birthday Scheme, Operation Agri and our own Youth funds.

5% was spent on equipment and miscellaneous which includes boiler maintenance contracts, toner, fire checks, subscriptions, refreshments etc. This year, we purchased a new computer and vacuum cleaner as well.

Once again, the whole church has been very generous with both money and time in 2014. Thank you all for your generous giving. 2015 will be a year of new challenges once again as we try to undertake God's vision for the church and all that He is calling us to do within a balanced budget. I pray that God will continue to guide us and give us His wisdom to use our resources wisely to do His work.

Cathy Graham

Property Report

Bob Taylor has overseen all property matters at ACBC for the past four years handing over to JB Leach in September 2014. The following works have been completed:

- The High Level church gutters were cleared in February 2014.
- One major item completed following the February 2014 high winds and heavy rain, was the repair and lining of the main church internal ceiling. Bob arranged a local Chesham joinery contractor to undertake an excellent standard of works at a competitive price.
- The church hall floor was sanded and re-treated.
- The Manse boiler was replaced.
- Fire Extinguishers were checked and 2 were replaced.
- As a church offering our premises for public use, we have various obligations in respect of our Health and Safety responsibilities. In December 2014 we had a 5 year periodic PAT test undertaken of all portable/plug-in electrical appliances. One extension lead and the Hoover failed the test and have been disposed of. A new Hoover was approved for purchase.
- In December 2014, again following quotes received, we had a separate electrical contractor undertake a 5 year periodic check of all electrical circuits within the church premises. This exercise has highlighted some relatively minor works that we need to address in early 2015 to comply with the latest regulations.

The next major item requiring attention is the damp on the side wall of the church.

I would like to thank everyone for keeping me informed of property items that require attention, this is invaluable. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the church family for undertaking the variety of on-going property maintenance items behind the scenes at high and low level, inside and out including meeting contractors during the day.

Lastly, in my short few months in the role of property secretary, I am conscious of the monies necessary for the life of the church to function as it does. God is gracious with the funds. To God be the glory.

JB Leach

Men's Ministry

This group was started during 2014. Our desire is to form and strengthen relationships between the church and un-church men.

Over the past year we have been Go-Karting, Clay Pigeon shooting and a really good evening session at Archery. We have also held a meal and games evening in the Church Hall. Being 'Men' eating and the element of competition seems to figure highly in all the events!!!!

Through the series of on-going events, our aim is to build friendships with the guys in order that we can talk with each other freely about the truth of Jesus and how we live our faith.

We will continue to pray to our Lord God for His guidance as to how we go forward in the coming year.

JB Leach

Youth Work

2014 has been a wonderful and busy year, and there is a lot to reflect back on.

Two of the highlights were the successful mission trip to Mexico during Easter, and 5 new Christians at Soul Survivor camp during the summer. Mexico was a blessing to all involved, and the whole team really met with God. The summer camp was another truly blessed time, and a really happy, genuine 'family' occasion for all who attended.

As planned, during the winter term Marco and I started a new Xplore course on a Thursday evening for 7 non-Christians, and I know that God used this to prepare hearts for both the Mexico trip and also the Soul Survivor summer camp. As a result, during this year, 6 of them are now Christians. One has not made a commitment yet, but is still regularly attending both on Thursdays and also Youth Church and other Christian events.

Another highlight was the baptisms – 4 in all – that took place during the year, and we have several more young people wanting to get baptised next year, so we look forward to further celebrations in 2015!

Therefore, as a result of God's amazing work in these young lives, we now have 10 Christians (mainly older teens) attending on Monday evenings, and a further 7 (younger ones) on Thursdays. I hope you will celebrate this with me, and thank God for what He is doing.

The Wednesday Youth Cafe is going well, with 30 - 40 young people regularly attending, which is a slight fall in numbers compared to the previous year, but this is actually a positive thing because it enables us to build relationships more easily, and spend more time getting to know the individual young people, than if we have a very high volume attending.

Friday's are going well, and I am continuing to use this as a bridge to more Christian activities like Soul Survivor Saturday events in Watford, and Youth Church. Fridays continue to be challenging with a 'lively' audience for my weekly 'God slot' at 9:00p.m! However, although there are some disruptions, I celebrate the fact that the name of Jesus Christ is spoken and Bible Truth is read and discussed every week - to a group of young people that have absolutely no other Christian influence in their lives. An incredible 18+ young people regularly attend and stay for the talk, so it is a wonderful opportunity. Please continue to support this group in prayer, and if you feel able to offer practical help on Friday nights, it would be hugely welcome. I have a rota of faithful and supportive helpers for which I am so thankful, but if we had more help it would ease the burden for the others. Please talk to me if you are interested.

I am happy that a new group of young people now seem ready to attend an Xplore Course, the only problem we currently have is how to actually fit this into the week, with all the other events that already take place. Please pray that God is preparing the hearts of those that we invite on the next course, and that the schedules fall into place to allow us the time to run this course.

Once again, we are now fundraising for another planned mission trip to Mexico in 2016. This time there are 21 attending, 5 leaders and an 'all boy' team of 16 young people. Please pray for them all - there are 7 non-Christians in this group.

As always, I am indebted to all my volunteers, and the other people who support the youth ministry at this church. Thank you to everyone who has been involved during 2014 and to everyone who has faithfully supported me from the start. God bless you all, and I look forward to working with you all again next year, as we see what God will do in our community, including with the young people and their families.

Susanna Lamport

Totspot

We have had another busy year at Totspot. The group continues to be very popular with lots of children coming along, with either family members or other carers. At the moment we have quite a number of grandmothers who come. The group is very much appreciated, people often say to me how glad they are that they can bring their children along.

Quite a number of people have donated unwanted toys over the year, which is always useful. We held three social evenings for the adults, which proved to be popular. Also a number of the families took up the invitation to come along to the live nativity and the carol service.

In December we held two busy Christmas parties, which included an interactive Nativity story in the church and we were able to give Children's Bibles as presents to those who attended. At the Tuesday party we sadly had to say goodbye to Sylvia, who after more than twenty years of serving in the kitchen, felt it was time to retire! She was given a very special card made by the children and some gifts which we hope she will enjoy.

To finish a special thank you to Sylvia, Cathy and Corinne, for all their hard work, it is very much appreciated.

Nicky Downing

Sunday School

We have been persevering with the split groups at Sunday School...and we have now come up with names for them! 'Sparklers' are the younger ones (2-6yrs) and the older ones are 'Firecrackers' (7-11yrs). We all decided on something that involved light, to reflect Gods light through His word and in our lives; but also something that denoted some sort of excitement and fun!

This year we have been focusing on 'timelines' of some of the characters from the Bible. In the spring term we followed the journey of Moses, from where he started to where he ended up; looking at trusting God, His powers, and His guidance in life. You may have seen the fabulous timeline that Emma put up on the wall in the hall, of all the work that the Firecrackers (older ones) did to represent what they were learning. I think they really enjoyed displaying what they were learning and having that visual reminder of what they had learnt so far.

In the summer term we looked at David's journey/timeline and how God looks at the heart, not the outward appearance, trusting God, friendships, temptations, praising God. Some very challenging topics that I pray the children are growing in understanding through the Holy Spirit.

And to top it off, this last term (autumn) we have been enjoying getting to know Jesus more closely, starting with His birthday and celebrating Christmas in September! We went on to look deeper into His baptism, His friendships, His stories, His incredible miracles, and finishing off with his death and the power of His resurrection....whilst everyone else was celebrating His birthday / Christmas! ...which I think the children enjoyed the topsy-turvy-ness of it all!

Emma Barrett (Francis) has been my rock of a side-kick, bringing a lot of creativity and enthusiasm to the group, leading the Firecrackers through this journey.

And, once again, a HUGE shout-out to all the helpers who make it possible. You are all incredibly wonderful; and I thank God daily for you all, in your care and support that you bring to the groups.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Faith Rollins

Allsorts 2014

Allsorts 2014 was held from Monday 28th July for one week. Preparation had started the previous May deciding on a theme and making invitations for distribution after the half term break.

Lucy Graham produced a new look invitation and Cathy Graham arranged for the production and distribution.

The memory verse we chose for 2014 was John 3:16 believing that if every child in the village could, in later life recall this, the word of God will do mighty things.

We underpinned the week with the thought that Christ is supreme and completely sufficient for salvation. During the morning session Karen used each phrase of the memory verse and with drama, games and activities helped the children understand and remember. This was such a challenging session with huge age range, but the children enjoyed and learned.

Craig and Simon arranged the music and played, with some new songs being introduced. Games and crafts gave us the usual opportunity to get to know the children as we helped them enjoy and create.

The teaching sessions were imaginative and age appropriate. A big thank you to the teachers who I know spent hours praying and preparing for these sessions.

During the mid-morning break the church was open for the children to come and ask about anything they wanted, this is something which has developed over the years and is very useful. Some questions are very obvious, others show a clear sense of understanding. Thank you to the team who manned this.

The closing session was a time for drawing things together. Each teacher gave a summary of the teaching session, encouraging the children in that group to share what they had learned.

This event is only successful because so many give so much, those making squash, cleaning at the end of each day, preparing teaching, patching up bumps and bruises, singing, rounding up, and praying.

Thank you Lord for all you do for us, inspiration patience, protection and beautiful weather.

Tina Gibbs

Fresh Horizons

In some way, this has been a rather disjointed year for Fresh Horizons.

Early in 2014, Alan Cookson, who had been leading the group, felt called in a different direction and is now focused on Home Mission – we wish him fulfilment in this new work. This has, of course, naturally resulted in a change of leadership which I took over in the summer 2014.

Although we have lost a couple of members because of health problems, 2 or 3 others have joined and we have about 10 people attending regularly. Mrs Joy Atkins celebrated her 90th birthday just before Christmas and we wish her continued good health and blessing.

My thanks to all who help in any way with Fresh Horizons – their assistance is greatly appreciated. We have a varied programme for this year and if anyone is able to join us, he or she will be most welcome. There is no lower or upper age limit!

Sylvia Sutherland

Christians Against Poverty

Unfortunately we only ran a couple of courses in 2014 but tried to extend our range to Work & Pensions, Citizens Advice and the local Health Centre; anywhere in fact where a need exists from people who wish to manage their money and either get out of, or avoid debts. Many of these organisations were very positive at first, but we had to continually contact them throughout 2014. Finally we made a decision to be patient, pray and await guidance from our Lord on this. We all truly believe our church can be of practical and evangelical use to the wider community removing confusion and fear from personal finances but we have not moved any further on this; therefore we believe that God has asked us to just wait on Him for His timing.

We do not *pay* debts or get people out of legal trouble – that’s not what CAP sets out to do. We are here to help all those who may just need a little help with organising their finances. From the outset we believe Jesus has led us all the way with CAP but for whatever reason we need to stop, pray and listen to His guidance for 2015.

A quote from one of the course books “Wise planning will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe” Proverbs 2:11.

Please continue to pray with us for our Lord’s guidance in this ministry for 2015. Thank you.

Keith Loxley

Open Door

Open Door has been running for almost a year now with volunteers opening the church every Wednesday. The aim remains to have the church open for a portion of time in the week when anyone (members of the church or wider community) can come in. There are refreshments, and enjoyable company available as needed.

Over the spring, summer and autumn months we had a steady flow of visitors from both the church and village community. In 2015, we will be looking to recruit a few more people to help, and will probably revert to meeting on a Wednesday morning, rather than the afternoon.

Martin and Penni Spriggs

Men’s Breakfasts

Thankfully, this year we had no emergencies due to power failure!

Growth in church attendances has been reflected in our numbers, not only in the number of ‘invites’/reminders I send out each month, but also in numbers regularly attending. It is difficult to remember a month when the number attending was in single figures. It is easier to remember the two months we had eighteen and seventeen attendees, a daunting prospect for the cooks. On behalf of all the attendees I would like to say a very big thank you not only to Alan (18) and Ian (17), who coped admirably on these two occasions, but also to the other cooks Paul, Andy, Kieran, Simon, Bob, Rodney and Keith, who is our resident baker and marmalade maker. And then on behalf of the cooks I would like to say a big thank you to all the attendees without whom the cooks’ time and effort would be pointless, and besides who would prepare the coffee and do the washing up?

The occasional short after-breakfast presentations have continued, three in all. Simon spoke on Astronomy, Keith on First Day Covers and Martin covered Stocks and Shares. A fourth, a talk by Keith on ‘History of Time Keeping’, had to be postponed in December due to time constraints. (Pencilled in for January, 2015!) There is no truth in the rumour that they are now known as the three wise men! Thank you one and all.

It has been good to welcome new 'faces' this last year, especially those from the youth side of the church.

If you know of anyone who would like to join us at 9.00 am on the first Saturday each month, albeit occasionally, then please let me know. I will include them along with the other thirty-five contacts I make each month.

Thank you for all your prayerful support.

Rodney Floyd

Evangelism Team

We have had a very busy and enjoyable year as a team. At the beginning of the year we explored the whole process of evangelism and outreach. We felt that outreach isn't necessarily about preaching at people but living alongside people being ourselves. Spirit filled believers sharing our lives with others. Sharing who we are, what we do and what we believe in, basically forging genuine relationships with people. It was at our second meeting that where we considered some practical way of forging those relationships.

And so came the following;-

Welcome Wagon Baskets

This was a way that we could introduce ourselves as Aston Clinton Church to people moving into and around the area. Each of us as we notice the movement in our roads can ask for a basket to deliver and begin to forge a relationship with the new member/s in the road.

Each basket contains 2 mugs, a packet of biscuits, a packet of tea, a box of coffee and 4 different sachets of hot chocolate. We add a gift label saying 'Welcome to your New Home from Aston Clinton Baptist Church', and the contact details of the church.

We have given out in the region of 20 this year, and they have been very warmly received each time.

World Cuisine Night

The cuisine night held 18th October at the Anthony Hall was a very good evening, with much chat, fun and a wonderful atmosphere. The feedback has been wonderful and new relationships were indeed been forged from that evening. Praise God.

What a varied menu we had with food representing 12 different countries.

At one point, just over a week before the event, numbers were very small, giving rise to thoughts of postponing the event. But God had called the event into being and so we went forward in faith and indeed on the evening there were in the region of 90 people many of whom were un-churched guests. Thank you all in the church family, for cooking, moving furniture and doing a myriad of other jobs, making the evening the fantastic evening that it was.

Prayer Vigil 31st October

The prayer evening ran from 7.30 – midnight.

It was a well-supported event and some folk came for a time and then returned again later in the evening.

The Lord had given 2 'words' and many scriptures for our focus...

1. To proclaim His power and Sovereignty.
2. To seek His 'word' individually and as a body.

The Lord graciously spoke to us throughout the evening as people were able to write things in a centrally placed book.

Those words were collated together, the result of which you should have received through email. This document then went forward to our Deacons Away Day for prayerful consideration, where we waited on the Lord as to the way He wants us to proceed.

Light Supper Evening 30th November

This outreach supper evening took the form of a buffet supper, held on the fifth Sunday Evening as the evening service. We changed the layout of the room to accommodate chairs around coffee tables, for a slightly more informal approach. During the evening there was an outreach sketch, a small quiz and a short message.

The atmosphere was very warm and friendly, with laughter and conversation flowing freely. Just fewer than 40 people came and of those attending some showed a definite interest in attending a Christianity Explored Course. Praise God.

Live Nativity

Our final event this year was the Live Nativity. What a wonderful witness of Scripture to the village. The Lord God kept the rain away and although there was a slight hiccup over donkeys, a stand in pony was provided. The whole thing was beautiful and brought many together.

The event was attended by somewhere in excess of 150 people, all enjoying the warm non-alcoholic mulled wine, the mince pies, the sense of community and the singing.

Everyone who took part was wonderful from the **'actors'** to the scene shifters, the musicians, the catering ladies, the waiters and waitresses who were our wonderful youth, the car marshals, and of course everyone who came, a huge thank you to all.

Towards the end of the event Simon gave a short message about the importance of Jesus, and telling those listening that He and the church are here for people at any time.

What a year, what a privilege it is to serve our Lord God...

What a privilege as we wait for what the Lord has in store for us in 2015, whatever it is, I am sure as a family together we will all – PRAISE OUR LORD GOD.

Sue Leach

Home Groups

We currently have 8 home groups, these meet weekly on different days and times. They bring together over 45 people for prayer, the study of God's Word, support and caring for each other and outreach. Each home group leader has given a report on their individual groups and I would just like to add my thanks to them for the hard work and time they put into their groups.

If you are not in a group at the moment and would like to join one please have a word with Simon and he will be pleased to place you in a group suitable for you.

Individual reports as follows:

There are eight members of our Home Group, 2 of whom attend Southcourt Baptist Church.

During the past year we have experienced God's healing in the lives of several of our group, we have a loving and gracious God who hears us when we pray and who heals according to His great plan for our lives.

We are currently looking at the history of the Old Testament, from the death of Moses through to the start of the New Testament. We have also looked earlier in the year at the lives of some early Prophets and we took a journey with John in the weeks leading up to Easter.

My thanks go to Keith and Eddie who have shared in these studies of God's Word, on many occasions we thought we 'knew' the subject, but as we have dug below the surface we have found that there are diamonds still to be found in the pages of this wonderful book.

We continue to give thanks to God for His goodness to us.

Alan Cookson

Unfortunately we only met two or three times this year as it became necessary to close the group for a time because of my (Angela) home commitments which were increasing due to Colin's ill health. However we did continue briefly with the study of 'Heaven' which we had begun in 2013.

The number of regular visitors to the afternoon teas had gradually dropped due to ill-health. Sadly, three of them have now died.

Although it had been hoped that the group may be able to resume sometime in 2015, this now looks increasingly unlikely.

As always, I want to thank each of the group members for their love and support over the years, also Keith and Colin for their help with transporting our Aylesbury members to and from our various gatherings.

Angela Saddington

Our numbers have remained at eight this year and most weeks seven of us have managed to meet together for study and prayer. Due to time constraints, if we are having an evening of study, we discuss our various items for prayer, thanks etc and these are then e-mailed to all of the group to enable us to pray more effectively.

This year, as well as following some of Simon's sermons, we have studied 1, 2 and 3 John, 1 Peter and some of the Sermon on the Mount. There have been interesting discussions and various members of the group have led the studies.

We are looking forward to the next year and intend, initially, to follow Simon's sermons for January 2015.

Penni Spriggs

Over the year we have enjoyed meeting to pray, worship and read God's word together. We have consciously tried to develop our worship time so that we are more aware of whom our God is and what He has done for us and so can praise Him in greater depth.

We have read and discussed the book of Malachi, the character of King David and the beginning chapters of Acts. We are constantly surprised that people so long ago faced almost the same challenges as we do today! We have also spent time praying about specific situations and have been encouraged at how God has answered. We have supported each other as well as specifically praying for our families who do not know Christ. We are eagerly anticipating what God will do not only in answer to our prayers but in the wider body of the church.

Karen Dunnell

The house group has run well this year. We have mainly used Simon's notes, but on other occasions have spent time focusing on reading the Bible together. We have spent some evenings just in prayer, others listening to testimonies and others talking with members who are facing a particular difficulty.

Over the year we tried to run activities such as meals, which we could invite others to. It has been good to spend time learning, encouraging, praying and studying together.

Nicky Downing

The home group has met regularly during 2014. We have studied in line with Simons teaching and the gospel of Mark. We have prayed and had some amazing answers.

During the year several members have had major needs for ministry; with the Lord's help we have been able to support and love each other. One member has moved on and we have gained 2 new members. We look forward to a new year with each other and our Lord.

Tina Gibbs

I have two home groups in my home; a Tuesday morning ladies group and a Thursday evening ladies and gentlemen group. Some of the Tuesday ladies also come with their husbands to the Thursday group. Both groups contain members from our church and other churches.

In both groups week by week we study God's word taking a particular book in Scripture and going through that book chapter by chapter.

We come together for that purpose and in so doing form a deep commitment to each other, and close friendships naturally follow as a result. We stand together in everything, supporting each other in the good times and the not so good times, each of us seeking the Lord for each other.

In each group we alternate between the Old Testament and the New Testament as they are essential to each other.

In Thursday Group at present we are going through Isaiah and as there are 66 chapters we have a bit of a way to go yet.

In Tuesday group we have just studied 1 Peter. Throughout the year we meet together socially and celebrate birthdays and various special events.

All of us in the two groups look forward to next year excited to see all that God has for us and all that He will reveal to us.

Sue Leach

Our home group, small as it is, has continued to provide support to each other through the year. It has been a blessing to work through God's word together and explore how we can apply it in our everyday life. However it has been the discussions of everyday life problems viewed through the supportive eyes of fellow Christians which have been particularly important, I feel.

I can only thank the members and Cathy, my co-leader in particular, for all their contributions, honesty and wonderful fellowship. I look forward to another year together.

Jo Drury

Pastoral Visiting

The visiting team was set up to ensure that anyone who wanted a visit knew that there was someone who would be happy to come to see them. However, we have usually had to invite ourselves, which is probably an indication of my conversation and store of jokes!

It has been good that other people have come to our house, but this may be due to our being a convenient car parking space for Stoke Mandeville Hospital. We have made a number of visits in 2014 to try to get to know and to keep up with people. This will continue in 2015, as will our encouragement to people to visit us – one of the joys of being retired is that we have more time to chat.

Martin and Penni Spriggs

Monthly Soup Lunches

We have continued our monthly soup lunches and have looked at a few topics to help us seek God's will in our lives. Our spiritual responsibility of praying for the unsaved (1 John 1:9 Colossians 1:9-12) and the Wife of a noble character Proverbs 31:11-12.

Great discussion, prayer and fellowship has been given and received. It is hoped that in the New Year 2015 that the lunches will be opened up to ALL LADIES and will be held on the second Friday of every month. Queen Esther provides us 'ladies' with a good example of praying together "...go gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for 3 days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do..." Esther 4:16. Although we may not 'fast' we pray to our Lord for our partners, husbands and family.

Gill Brownell

Aston Clinton Baptist Church Annual Accounts 2014

2013 £	Budget Head	Actual £	Budget £
<u>Receipts</u>			
51,739	Church Offerings	55,119	51,600
10,340	Tax Recovered	11,134	10,250
1,013	Gift Aid On Small Donations (GASDs)	1,383	1,250
5,122	Donations	6,327	6,000
<u>77</u>	Interest	<u>47</u>	<u>80</u>
<u>68,291</u>	Total Income	<u>74,010</u>	<u>69,180</u>
<u>Payments</u>			
29,504	Pastor's Salary, NI & Pension	28,697	30,200
4,037	Pastoral Expenses (inc Manse)	4,366	4,520
0	Preachers	35	100
3,500	Payments to the Building Fund (2)	5,700	3,000
1,392	Church Cleaning	1,280	1,450
4,775	Church Premises Running Costs	4,670	5,850
11,626	Youth Leader Salary, NI & Pension (4)	12,117	12,470
810	Mission – Youth Café & Youth (4)	1,682	1,655
584	Mission – Adults, Allsorts, etc (4)	919	900
2,593	Equipment & Miscellaneous (3)	3,320	3,500
<u>6,215</u>	Church Gifts to Other Causes (1)	<u>5,840</u>	<u>5,535</u>
<u>65,036</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>68,626</u>	<u>69,180</u>

<u>3,255</u>	<u>Surplus Against Budget</u>	<u>5,384</u>
<u>3,255</u>	<u>Overall Surplus / (Deficit)</u>	<u>5,384</u>
2,929	Individual Gifts to Other Causes	3,296

<u>Reasons for the difference between actual and budget</u>		
	Additional Offerings	3,519
	Additional Tax Recovered / GASDs	1,017
	Lower Hall Lettings	-623
	One Off Donation	950
	Pastor & Youth Leader Employer NI	1,807
	Lower Premises Running Costs	1,180
	Increased Allocation to Building Fund	-2,700
	Increased Church Gifts to Other Causes	-305
	All Other Variations	<u>539</u>
		<u>5,384</u>
Church Cash Balances		
		01/01/2014
		31/12/2014
	Church Account	13,473
	Building Fund (Note 2)	<u>5,307</u>
	Total	<u>18,780</u>
		<u>23,913</u>

Aston Clinton Baptist Church Annual Accounts 2014

<u>Total</u>	<u>Gifts to Other Causes (Note 1)</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Personal</u>	<u>Total</u>
1,373	Home Mission	1,460	13	1,473
955	Aylesbury Vale Youth for Christ	1,020	0	1,020
1,038	Iain Rennie Hospice	440	0	440
344	Spurgeon's Children's Homes	0	388	388
<u>32</u>	Communion Fund	0	<u>31</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>3,742</u>		<u>2,920</u>	<u>431</u>	<u>3,351</u>
1,175	BMS World Mission (Inc Birthday)	1,165	525	1,690
791	Toybox	585	310	895
545	Children for Christ Romania	585	0	585
545	Hands of Mercy – Philippines	585	0	585
<u>2,346</u>	Other Causes – DEC, Agri, Mexico, Youth, etc	<u>0</u>	<u>2,030</u>	<u>2,030</u>
<u>5,402</u>		<u>2,920</u>	<u>2,865</u>	<u>5,785</u>
<u>9,144</u>	Total	<u>5,840</u>	<u>3,296</u>	<u>9,136</u>

Building Fund (Note 2)

Building Fund – Income

Brought Forward from 2013	5,307
Income – From Church Funds	5,700
	<u>11,007</u>

Building Fund – Expenditure

Manse Boiler	2,220
Church Ceiling Repairs	1,665
Electrical Circuit Testing	600
Tree Works	540
All Other	<u>926</u>
	<u>5,951</u>

Building Fund – Carry Forward to 2015 **5,056**

Equipment & Miscellaneous (3)

Fire Check	200
New Office Computer (Minister)	400
Boiler Maintenance (2 Boilers)	382
Toner / Printing, etc	540
CCLI Licence	244
Memberships / Subs	299
Paper Hand Towels	285
New Vacuum Cleaner	240
Other	730

Total **3,320**

Aston Clinton Baptist Church Annual Accounts 2014

<u>Mission – Youth, Children, Cafe, Adults (4)</u>		
<u>Main Items</u>		
11,626	Youth Leader – Pay, NI & Pension	12,117
2,501	Pulse Worker – Support for Café (see below)	2,400
64	Christmas Leaflets (Inc Live Nativity 2014)	145
0	Soul Survivor	755
133	Allsorts / Allsorts +	167
0	Light Party	169
486	Youth Club & Youth Café	1,696
106	CY Course / Explore/Groups	226
240	Urban Saints Youth Resources	240
47	Village Events	147
0	Clay Pigeon Shoot (Men’s Evangelism)	290
340	CAP	0
100	Youth Church	50
0	All Other	53
15,643		18,455
2,032	Less Contributions Rec’d YFC /Pulse Worker	1,969
469	Pulse Reserves Used	431
122	Less Grants Utilised	<u>1,337</u>
13,020	Net Expenditure	<u>14,718</u>
1,163	Pulse Worker Contributions c/f to 2015	<u>732</u>
630	Grants / Youth Funds Remaining in Reserves	<u>1,788</u>

<u>Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December 2014</u>		
<u>Assets</u>		
13,473	Church Account	18,857
5,307	Building Fund (Note 2)	5,056
1,163	Pulse Youth Worker (Note 4)	732
2,601	Other Funds	3,332
1,258,238	Church Buildings (Insured Value)	1,272,071
91,113	Church Contents (Insured Value)	92,115
<u>182,028</u>	Manse (Insured Value)	<u>184,194</u>
1,553,923		1,576,357
1,553,923	Pledge to Future Church Members	1,576,357

<u>Manse – Charity Number 273094</u>		
2,142	Council Tax & Water Rates	2,184
242	Insurance	229
295	Maintenance & Gas Boiler	302
0	New Boiler	2,220
0	Replace Fridge/Freezer	265
94	Window/Fence (2013)	0
141	Phone Rental	<u>141</u>
2,914	Deficit for the Year	<u>5,341</u>

The manse is provided for the residence of the Minister of Aston Clinton Baptist Church who under the terms of his appointment is granted rent free tenure. All expenses of upkeep of the manse are paid by the church.

Accounts prepared by Cathy Graham, Church Treasurer

Aston Clinton Baptist Church Annual Accounts 2014

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Deacons and Members of Aston Clinton Baptist Church

In accordance with the provisions of Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, I have examined the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities of the church on pages 19 – 21 relating to the year ended 31st December 2014.

I confirm that the accounts and statement accord with the accounting records of the church and that such record satisfy the requirements of the Act. I am not aware of any matter to which attention needs to be drawn in order to obtain a proper understanding of the accounts.

Signed
(Independent Examiner)

Mr John Brown

Date

30th January 2015