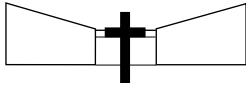




Brunswick Parish Church

Annual General Meeting, March 18th, 2007



Reports

for the year 2006-2007

Andy Hall

It's been 6 months since we began worshipping with y'all at Brunswick and what a 6 months! I can quite safely say that I've never been in a church like Brunswick and I'm 99% sure I'll never find one in the future either.

So what have I been up to in the last 6 months? Some of you have had the joy/pain of working with me on many occasions, others of you only see me on a Sunday. Here's a chance for everyone to know a little more. I'm going to share what I've been doing as well as offering my impressions of the church. I hope this will be helpful, as often a new pair of eyes see things in a very different way.



What have I been up to? There are a few things that appear in my diary every week. It all starts on a Monday morning when I knock on the rectory door and wait till Simon finds his keys (so that's the morning filled...hehe). Seriously though, we reflect on what's been and pray about what's coming up and occasionally have mad ideas about pancakes (mmmm). I go back to school in the afternoon where I learn all kinds of things I was never taught as a kid as well as getting to know some great children from all kinds of backgrounds. At school I work with a few children that also come to 7up, which is what I do later on in the day. This hasn't been too confusing for me or the children and has enabled me to get to know a few of a larger group much better. The other definite weekly activity is Sunday morning. It seems my tendency to be a touch informal when leading and preaching on a Sunday morning fits in quite well with an ATS which I've really enjoyed being a part of. A service for everyone is a very hard thing to get right, but I think Brunswick does an excellent job of making it work. I've had some really helpful feedback on the services I've been a part of that aren't ATS and I am working on the challenge of better using an informal style to communicate in a more formal environment.

On an occasional basis I've been trying to visit members of the church to get to know people a bit better and practice pastoral visiting. Thank you to those brave enough to have me round. It's been a real privilege to share that time with you.

Impressions of Brunswick: The first big impression of Brunswick was the emphasis on child friendly church. This extends much further than a typical once a month service and affects everything that goes on. This is a real pleasure to see in a church and I think is very rare. That said I do worry now and then that there isn't enough space for adults to be themselves in worship before God. I'm increasingly interested in how everyone else views Sunday mornings and will be attempting a mini survey to enable helpful feedback for the future.

My second impression was the way in which Brunswick is run so well as a community resource. It is a shame that my college time clashes with so much that goes on mid-week, but it is clear that Brunswick is extremely well placed as a centre for community activity.

Challenges: It is interesting that we are so community focused as a church and yet so many of us live so far away! I struggle in my own mind as to how I can be involved in the community around the church and at the same time be a presence amongst the communities around my house. I want to do both, but what should I do if a neighbour became interested in my faith? Should I invite them to a church outside their community? If not should I get to know churches round here? It must be even worse for those who work in yet another community! A very difficult question being asked nationally that is not going away.

Encouragement and Thanks: It's been a really great six months and an experience that has influenced me greatly. I'm really looking forward to the rest of my time here (I'll officially be finishing in late May when I move on to a new church for the summer, but I'm sure you won't completely rid yourselves of me...) and hope that I can give back some of what I've received.

PURPOSE

The Parochial Church Council of Christchurch Brunswick, together with the incumbent (Reverend Simon Gatenby) have the responsibility of enabling Christian Mission, Worship and Nurture to take place within and beyond the parish boundaries. It also has responsibility for the Church complex located on Brunswick Street, Manchester 13 and a property at 35 Portland Crescent, Longsight, Manchester 13, known as Barnabas House.

ANNUAL REPORT

PCC Membership

During the year the following served as members of the PCC

Incumbent Rev. Simon Gatenby
Curate Rev. Christine Mullins (to December 2006)

Church Wardens Mr David Donnelly (to March 2006)
 Mr. Chris Rogers
 Mr. Tim Craft (from April 2006)

Representatives on Deanery Synod
 Ms Suzy Farrow
 Mr John Wilson
 Mrs Kerry Colyer

Elected Members Mrs. Yuko Ang (from March 2006)
 Mrs. Kerry Colyer
 Mrs. Judith Keeble (Vice Chair)
 Mr. Paul Keeble (to March 2006)
 Mr. Jim Owen
 Mr. John Wilson
 Mr. Gordon Flear (Secretary)
 Mrs. Penny Kelly
 Mr Alan Price
 Ms. Claire Stableford
 Mr Gareth Baxter (to March 2006)
 Mr Matt Harrison
 Mrs Sally Jones (Treasurer)
 Mr Peter Hicks (from March 2006)
 Ms Alannah Keeble (from March 2006)

PCC Organisation

The PCC operates through Sub groups, which meet between reporting to full PCC meetings. During the year and discussion of Church strategy and priorities these groups were revised to be:

- Inside Out: Looking at the Church's Mission from a nurturing start point to enable the Church to reach outwards
- Outside In: Looking at Events and Mission outside the Church which will encourage others to "come -in",
- Standing Committee: Attending to the maintenance of Fabric and administrative issues
- Global Justice: Looking at wider issues, campaigns and support that the Church can be involved in - including support of Missionaries.

Representatives of these groups met with the Rector on a regular basis as a Support Group, whose purpose was to support the Rector, agree priorities for PCC discussion and take soundings on the Spiritual temperature of the church body.

Church Attendance

There were 74 parishioners on the electoral roll at the AGM in April 2006

Morning Service Attendance

	Average	Highest	Lowest
Adults	51	80	9
Children (<16)	22	43	3

There were a few Sunday evening meetings, mostly during the Autumn.

Previous years average attendance/Electoral Roll

2005	56+28	=85	71 Electoral Roll
2004	57+26	=83	71
2003	58+23	=81	79
2002	62+31	=93	73
2001	57+23	=80	73
2000	56+20	=76	74
1999	61+21	=82	79
1998	59+19	=78	83

It is worth saying that young people from the Brunswick area have immense respect for the church building and always insist that young people from other areas who don't have the same strength of relationship and history with the building and M13 treat it with utmost respect too. We find this immensely encouraging.

Thank you to everyone in Brunswick for your support and prayers. A big thank you to Tim Craft, who continues as Treasurer to help us keep our finances organised.

We are always grateful of and encouraged by your prayers for the young people, our work and our future fundraising endeavours. If you would like more information for prayer (or anything else), please contact: Helen Gatenby, M13 Youth Project, Urban Action, 35 Portland Crescent, Longsight, Manchester, M13 0BU, 0161 225 0201

Email: info@m-13.freemove.co.uk Website: www.m13youthproject.co.uk

Mid-week Building Use Report

In the past year, mid-week building use has, generally, been increasing.

Many of our regular groups remained the same, from our own church organised groups such as 7 Up and the Parent and Toddler Group, to Sure Start groups such as the Twins Group and the Baby Massage sessions, to the increasingly popular Circuit Training sessions.

Unfortunately, some regular groups have ended, such as the Aerobics class, and one of our occasional users has stopped operating, but we have had increasing use from other occasional users, some of which have even become regular bookings, such as the Make and Take Group. We also now have several regular bookings, which are not weekly, such as Healthy Ardwick, the SureStart Advisory Group and the Ardwick Ward Forum.

Over the coming years we should hope to see an increase in regular groups through the soon-to-be refurbished kitchen (we already have a Cook and Taste Group lined up for when the kitchen is finished) and several promising bookings from the City Council as it looks at improving the Brunswick Estate in a way similar to what we've seen in Grove Village.

Evan

Barnabas report 2006

Barnabas is the name of the house owned by the church. It is a large Victorian semi just off Hathersage Rd. There are 7 rooms that could be used as bedrooms, one of which is used by the M13 youth team as an office.

This year, residents Evan and Hannah have been joined by Eun Jin from Korea. We have also been a temporary refuge for Marion during the summer.

A survey of the house was undertaken and simple plans drawn up to register the house with the council as a house of multiple occupancy. The council then told us that, as we have fewer than 5 residents, we can defer registration until we are fuller.

Bigger decisions about the future of Barnabas as a building need to be taken, and there have been thoughts about moving nearer to church when the area comes up for regeneration. All ideas welcome.

Anne

M13 Youth Project 2006

Great News in 2006! Brunswick Young People are the “Pride of Manchester”!

The best news this year has to be the achievements of local young people and the recognition they received from Manchester City Council. Two groups which M13 support, Community Spirit and Ardwick Community Football Project (ACFP) were nominated for the Council’s ‘Community Awards’; Community Spirit for ‘Young People’s Contribution to the Community’ and ACFP for ‘Sporting Achievement’. Both reached the final and were invited to a slap-up meal and evening’s entertainment at the Town Hall in April.

ACFP narrowly missed out on winning their category to a retiring veteran sports coach. However, to their and our delight, Community Spirit won their category and went on to compete for the overall winner-of-winners title, “Pride of Manchester”. To their amazement, but thoroughly well-deserved, they won! Much partying was done that night! We are really proud of all the young people who have given their time and efforts to run the Community Spirit Youth Club through 2005 and the ACFP Football coaching sessions, which still continue. They are: Jodie Nelson, Amy Eddleston, Rochelle Haddon, Daniel Anderson, Leon McArdo, Airen Hanley, Bernard Bowen, Adam Eccleston and Ann-Marie Robinson. Check out the trophies and photos proudly displayed in the cabinet by the front door of church.

2006 saw further staff changes for M13’s team; Mark Hewardine, who had been with us for over five years, moved on to work with the local Youth Offending Team in May 06. Mark has been a real asset to and dedicated worker for M13 - we shall miss him and wish him all the best in his future work. We were unable to recruit a suitable worker in June, which left us with a reduced staff team for the remainder of the year. Currently, we are:

Helen Gatenby	Project Co-ordinator
Chris Macintosh	Senior Youth Worker
Hannah Black	Female Youth Worker (joined Oct 05)
Andy Brower Latz	Administrator (joined July 05)

Congratulations are due to Chris and Debbie Macintosh on the birth of baby Beth Cerys in October 06. That wasn’t the only birth this year.... check out our new website on www.m13youthproject.co.uk.

The M13 Youth Project aims to enable young people aged 11-19 to think, love, be creative, participate in their community and make a positive difference to their world. We do this by building long-term relationships with local young people, listening to them and developing creative activities together. We hope through our relationships together with young people to reveal the good news Jesus has for each one of us, of life in all its fullness and hope for our future.

Most of our work begins with young people out on the streets. When we have established trusting relationships, we are able to plan activities, projects and time away together. At the moment we are working with over 120 white, black and Asian young men and women, in Brunswick, Longsight and Victoria Park.

Regular M13 work in Brunswick includes one or two detached sessions a week and the Thursday evening Drop-In at Brunswick Church for 13-19 year olds. The relationships developed over several years with young people make for a relaxed, safe environment for young people, where they can play pool, chat, listen to and make music using computers. The drop-in also provides a good opportunity for workers to offer support and advice to young people, for example, with work, education or housing.

PCC Review of Year

The full PCC met 7 times in 2006 and had approx. 76% attendance. Sub Groups met between full meetings and submitted reports and suggestions for PCC approval. Full reports of each Sub Group can be found attached to this report, with a financial report from the Treasurer.

PCC discussed a number of issues throughout the year and minutes for PCC members plus summaries for all Church Members were provided.

Major items on PCC’s discussion time were...

- a) Financial matters-including employing a Church Buildings manager.
- b) Meeting with the Church Patrons to understand if any changes could be made and ensure our patrons (the Church Society) were aware of our differing views (to theirs) on female ordination.
- c) Church strategy priorities and direction- Including a whole meeting analysing church activity, weakness and strengths as an input into a review of the sustainability of local C of E churches. Outcome was that Brunswick was “thriving/sustainable”.
- d) Obtaining faculties to start process of improving heating and renewing Church kitchen.
- e) Formalising our support for Dave and Jo West and continuing to give 10% of our income to Mission based activity.
- f) The November House party - an “amazing” time away at Scargill House with Robin Gamble.
- g) Preparing and planning a “prayer sabbatical” in early Autumn where we tried to spend less time doing and more time praying and being with God.

Regular events included continuing “Bring and share lunches” once a month after an “All Together” service.

Groups from Church attended Spring Harvest, Keswick Convention and Greenbelt Arts Festival.

You can read more about all these events and other regular church activities in 2006 in the following reports that follow.

*On behalf of Christchurch Brunswick PCC
Reverend Simon Gatenby*

Wardens' Report

Condition of Buildings

The building remains in good condition. We have had a number of significant items of work carried out in the year, including:

- Painting the external window frames
- Redecorating the lounge and internal window frames on the Brunswick Street side of the worship room
- Installation of the gas supply in preparation for the new weekday heating system.

We are working to have contractors complete work on minor roof repairs and to install the new heating system. Installation of a projector in the worship room ceiling is also proceeding, and we are making progress with the planning for the new kitchen. The good news is that we will not need to go through a permission seeking exercise with the diocese for this work (which would have taken at least 3 months).

Other work that we should aim to carry out in the next year includes:

- Painting the internal window frames on the Rectory side of the worship room (another chance to use a scaffolding tower!)
- Revarnishing the front and side doors
- Finishing repainting the doors in the Rectory garden

It should also be noted that this summer or next it will be time to repaint the roof again. Our efforts of a few years ago are now looking rather darkened.

Thanks to everyone who contributes to keeping the building maintained in many different ways. We could not keep it going without you!

Sundays And Events

It has continued to be a privilege to help make Sundays and events happen by stewarding and welcoming. Many thanks to all, both on and off the rotas, who help to make this happen. We have realised that we are currently a little short of people in the sidespeople's team. One or two more in the team would help things to go more smoothly and make more time for the important part of the job, which is having time to talk to people. Please consider whether you could join the team for one Sunday per month or be available to help out occasionally. There are a variety of people who do the job in a number of ways, which is great.

Chris and Tim

Chris' Last Word

The AGM will be the end of my last year as warden (although I am not going anywhere and will continue to be involved at some level). My last thank you is to everyone in church who has supported me in this varied role over the last five years. Please pray for and support Tim and my successor.

Chris

Ruth Cox's Work for Oasis Global

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your prayers, financial support and interest over the last year. There have been some real highlights to the year but at the same time some real challenges particularly in relation to the production side of things in India. This has taken up a lot of my time and caused considerable anxiety. I am really pleased to say though that many of the issues have been slowly resolved and Oasis India is in a far better place now than it was in the summer of 2006.

One of the main highlights was the week I spent in Zimbabwe in March because in spite of the country spiralling out of control, I still found a real sense of hope and commitment amongst my Oasis colleagues. They are doing a wonderful job there and still manage to have a great sense of fun and humour even though the country is on it's knees.

Key Activities During the Year

- 1) Visits made to Zimbabwe (March) and India –Bangalore, Mumbai and Chennai (June) to attend strategic planning meetings, build relationships and give advice.
- 2) Compiling and writing the main body of a Best Practice Manual for setting up and running a vocational training project (the manual is now being edited).
- 3) Working with Marion White and team on the Stop the Traffik Tour, with responsibility for organising the fair trade markets at each event as well as attending 5 of the events personally.
- 4) Working with UK buyers to obtain on going and new orders for Oasis India as well as with Oasis India to develop better systems for managing orders.
- 5) Product ranges developed for Oasis India (Jacobs Well) in order to stimulate sales.
- 6) Design project with Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) embroidery students, which have formed the basis of two new collections. 4 further MMU students have also been out to India on short-term placements.



Designed alongside MMU students



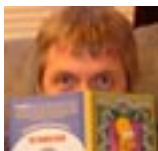
Introducing a new weaving technique in Zimbabwe

Ruth x

P.S. A big thank-you especially to all of you that helped with the Stop the Traffik event in Manchester. Your help was MUCH appreciated!

Paul Keeble 2006

This time last year I wrote this as we were preparing for PeaceWeek 2006. I have a strange sense of déjà vu... PeaceWeek 2007 is less than a month away and we have one and half less workers in the office (i.e. none) so it's stress-ville... By the time you read this I'll probably be in post-PeaceWeek "I'm-never-doing-that-again" mode, but you want to know about the previous 12 months. Let's see now... let's see now... *[cue weird music and that shimmering effect denoting a flashback sequence...]*



Aforementioned PeaceWeek was the biggest yet with the addition of PeaceFM, a 28 day radio station, 'Good Riddance' a local weapons hand-in in partnership with the Police and lots more (see: www.carisma.me.uk). I discovered recently the protocol worked out for the hand-in was used for the city-wide one in the Autumn and that led to a change in the law about weapons amnesties! Apart from PeaceWeek Carisma has continued to settle into its restructuring as a charity. This included an excellent training day looking at different models of community organisation and how we could focus and develop. The shooting of Jessie James in September initiated a whole new surge of activity in Moss Side and also some re-thinking and 'reality-checking' in the statutory organisations. Members of Carisma have been involved in a number of ways, mostly behind the scenes.

The third Street Pastors team got going in Gorton in September. We're currently trying to recruit more volunteers, particularly for Moss Side as we have a situation where the Police and Council are really favourable to Street Pastors and there are a number of opportunities for them which we cannot fulfil. A classic Luke 10 v2 situation (I'll pause while you look it up). I'm still also involved with Street Pastors nationally, mostly through running the website (www.streetpastors.org).

I've continued as part of the Liaison Group for the Bible Society 'Unexpected' Campaign which is gathering momentum and will hit a huge number of billboards, buses, taxis and beer mats near YOU this May/June. Two new initiatives I've got involved with are 'www.churchmcr', a spin-off from work with the local group for the Seedbed Trust, and CUF Xchange, a networking and story/opinion/experience swapping mechanism for faith-based social action projects. Both of these are still at the development stage but will appear officially in the next few months.

All of the above under the umbrella of Urban Presence as before. More directly with UP we've held several more RefUrbs, run a 10 week Urban Spirituality evening course, been involved in some national consultations and taken part in another Urban Theology Collective.

That's some of the main stuff from 2006. It also included several short trips to N.I. to visit mum, still adjusting to life on her own, an F.A. Cup semi-final thanks to a generous friend (just don't mention the result... though there was the consolation of Chelsea being Champions... again), Daniel getting engaged, Keswick, Greenbelt, an ace holiday back in Luxembourg, and of course another year of support and friendship from Brunswick, for which we are very thankful.

As for 2007... well, Daniel is getting married. Yes, we are that old. Work-wise the big change is that I am taking a 6 month chunk of this year as a sabbatical/study leave (well, if it's good enough for the vicar...) hoping to look at – or attempt to find – some of the theology behind what I've been doing with Carisma etc over the last few years (clue: 'mission with'). Plus a few other ideas. I've been aware of a need to do this for a while, and others have too – most notably the Urban Presence trustees. It will start in March sometime and involve stopping most of my commitments... as far as I know. Just reading, writing, resting, re-focussing... and not answering the phone. It means cramming a LOT into the next few weeks however... making arrangements, loose-end tying, 'could you just before you go...' requests. Please pray that the time out works.

Outside In and Global Justice 2006

This has been a quiet year for the Outside In and Global Justice groups, probably reflecting the fact that key protagonists have been busy on issues of mission and justice individually rather than corporately.

Perhaps the most significant development has been the growth in the number of 'outside groups' coming 'into' our buildings. This has been due in large part to the presence of Evan, our Church Resources Administrator, and the links he has built with a number of local groups in the area – particularly SureStart and the Healthy Ardwick group. Baby massage and men's circuit training have been particularly popular and represent 'fringe' activities that present opportunities for us to share good news.

In a year when the national media once again visited Moss Side after the shooting of 15-year old Jessie James, Paul Keeble and others took part in Peace Week and we held a special service on the topic in March. Paul has also been instrumental in putting together Easter and Christmas editions of Brunswick News – the former considering the rapid 'regeneration' of the area and notions of being 're-born'.

Global Justice Group has remained focused on activity rather than meeting and much energy has been devoted to supporting Dave, Jo and Grace West as they have gone to Kedesh in Mozambique. A number of services have helped us think about the situation in Mozambique and the call to care for our brothers and sisters in poorer parts of the world. Kerry and Edwin have also kept fair-trade and green issues high on the church's radar.

2007 looks set to be an exciting year with plenty of fresh ideas on the horizon, not least the Bible Society's 'Unexpected' campaign and a focus on the 200th anniversary of the abolition of slavery.

Ed Cox

Inside Out

It would be fair to say this group has lost momentum this year as attendances have dropped to 4 or 5. The last time it met officially was actually in February 2006 when we discussed trying to implement hospitality Sundays and finding some official system for encouraging volunteers, to be started in September... 2006. However, we did meet during the prayer sabbatical last Autumn when some others joined us to pray for the life of the church.

There is a sense among those who come that although we have ideas on, welcoming, hospitality and other issues, in practice these are hard to sustain due to general busy-ness and commitments of all of us at church. We therefore question quite what the role of this group should be. If it is to continue it probably needs somebody who will take on a coordination role and give it fresh impetus. We also need to be very clear if this group has a useful function in the way the church is run at the moment. Is it duplicating the areas covered by other groups such as Strategy Group, Preachers & Leaders, Prayer Team, Pastoral Net?

I would like to thank those people who have stayed committed to Inside Out for a long period of time and contributed ideas and practical help.

Judith Keeble

Pastoral Network

The pastoral net was started to try to ensure we were aware if people had stopped coming to church due to illness and other reasons and so we would be in a better position to pray for and support them. This is particularly important in a church with a lot of congregational mobility. A small group of church members look out for people (over 16 years old) with whom they have some contact. Examples of this would be toddler group families, fellowship groups, students and so on.

We meet twice a year to share and to make sure we incorporate new people into this scheme.

This year Richard and Sheenagh Young have stepped down due to changes in their fellowship group roles. We are all grateful to them for their involvement for the last four years. They are to be replaced by other people from the fellowship group. Thanks go to both of them for their willingness to support the pastoral net. Other people who are involved in this kind of support are: Claire Stableford, Penny Kelly, Violet Palmer, Ros Carr-Brown, Matt Harrison, Simon Gatenby and Judith Keeble.

We all need to take responsibility to care for each other. If you miss people or have some concerns, please let Simon, Judith or one of the rest of the team know about them.

Judith Keeble

Fellowship Group

The group have spent time together sharing and praying for one another as well as working through a variety of different subjects. In the summer Edwin encouraged us to look at some more difficult issues entitled 'Where is God when....' these included, failing at work, miscarriage, death and loss and depression. More recently the group have been working through a Faithworks DVD entitled 'Intelligent Church in the 21st Century' this has encouraged us to look at what we believe, how we share our faith and how we make the church relevant to the needs of the local community amongst other things.

Sheenagh and Richard formally stepped down as leaders of the group in September having shouldered much of the responsibility for arranging material and leading as well as hosting on a weekly basis for many years. Their generous hospitality and hard work has been much appreciated by the whole group.

The group is now meeting every other week at Ruth Cox's house with Sheenagh and Richard still hosting socials (which often include some kind of 'tasting' – anything from cheese, to wine and smoothies!) from time to time at theirs.

The group are keen to encourage anyone in the church who would like to have an opportunity for more open sharing, fellowship and learning together, to feel free to come and join as and when they are able.

Ruth Cox

Missionary Committee

The highlight of 2006 was the departure of the Wests to Mozambique. Their support is organised by their own support group which has a link with the Missionary committee who recommend to PCC how much financial support the church should provide. In 2006 this was £80 per month plus £200 to help them cope with the effects of the hurricane.

Progress has been very slow in trying to develop links with Grace Church, Khomasdal, Namibia. Chantelle August, from the church spent a day with us in September as part of a youth exchange. She had a good time with the discipleship group.

The rest of our Missionary giving in 2006 was as follows:

Urban Presence	£720
M13	£480
Oasis (Ruth Cox)	£480
TEAR Fund	£600
Barnabas Fund	£200
Scripture Union	£200

You can read about the work of the individuals we support below.

John Wilson

Dave, Jo & Grace West

The past year has been an exciting and eventful one for the Wests and we thank you for your prayers and financial support. This year saw us leave Redcliffe College, Gloucester having spent a year on an overseas missions course for Mozambique in south east Africa.

Since September we have been working at Kedesh - an independent Mozambican children's centre. A lot of our time since then has been spent preparing a house for us to live in (learning new skills such as plumbing, construction and wiring electricity), and adjusting to a new culture, language and way of living.

Jo has begun some micro-enterprise ideas with local women.



Sustainable and affordable ideas have included jam and cake making. She plans to do some sewing as well.

Dave is about to start teaching English in a local school and concentrate more on language learning.

The rest of our time has been spent trying to build relationships with the young people at Kedesh.

Grace enjoys eating mangos and playing with the boys.

Thanks again for your prayers, letters, emails and financial support.

The Wests



times another topical issue. Other changes have also been made which give us more opportunities to get alongside the children and chat with them, as we felt that good relationship building was a priority.

In terms of those attending, we have a number of new children attending from the current year 3 as well as a few older children who have joined this year. A number of children left the club in the summer as they have moved on to secondary school. Many of these we miss as we have known them for a long time. Could we as a church find a way to put a team together to work with the 11-14 age group? It would be good for us as 7UP leaders to know that there was something in the church for these children to move on to.

In terms of our leadership team, we have been very pleased to have Andy Hall join us this year. We would also like to say thank you to all who have helped out either a little or a lot. Particularly to Gordon who stills comes when he can, to Matthew who has stood in for absent leaders on a number of occasions, and to Michelle (Ben's mum) who is a fantastic help in the kitchen.

Helen Rogers, Suzy Farrow, Richard Young, Peter Hicks, Ali Clay

Toddler Group Report 2006

Once again the Toddler Group has continued to provide a safe and stimulating place for babies and toddlers to play while their carers can relax and play with them and chat to each other. We have continued to meet on Wednesday mornings during term-time and sometimes during holidays too. From October we moved to the slightly later time of 10.30 – 12.30, to allow time for early arrivals to participate in morning prayer. As well as a wide range of toys for the children to play with each week, craft and singing activities have also been available some weeks.

Numbers attending have usually been over 20 (adults and children), with a spell in the spring when numbers were regularly over 30, and a record attendance of 47 one week in May!

We have been privileged to meet people from a wide variety of countries and cultures, including Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Greek, Turkish, Spanish, Iranian, Pakistani, Sierra Leonean and Senegalese, as well as British. This variety has resulted in a tasty assortment of foods at our 'bring and share' parties following our Easter and Christmas 'Toddler-friendly' services. Thanks are due to Christine and Simon for presenting the Easter and Christmas stories in a way that was appealing and accessible to our toddlers, and non-threatening to all cultures.

We appreciated Christine's input to the Toddler Group for much of the year as she shared her experiences and a listening ear, even when she was feeling unwell herself. She is fondly remembered. Thanks are also due to Alan for his continued faithfulness in serving and clearing up our refreshments.

Penny Kelly

Music group 2006

The music group has continued to lead the sung part of our Sunday worship throughout the year, and hope that this has been a good experience for all! We have enjoyed leading the church in worship, both when there have been many of us, and when we have been few. Highlights of the year have been a couple of services which the young people have helped to plan, which lots of them then joined in with, and the houseparty, where adults and children alike joined in enthusiastically with worship at the starts of the sessions. There have also been some great new songs that we have learnt, particularly after some of us went to Keswick in the summer.

We have occasionally tried, in the last few months, to introduce worship before the service from around 10.30am. The aim of this has been partly to encourage the congregation to prepare for worship when entering the worship room, and partly so that there is something for any newcomers to join in with when they arrive at 10.30 expecting the service to start! The success of this has, however, been limited, for a number of reasons. We may try again soon in the new year.

I continue to be grateful that we have enough musicians at Brunswick to allow us to have a rota for music group, which also means that members can increase or reduce the amount which they take part depending on other commitments. I am keen to start meeting on our own again, to pray and play together, something which we haven't managed in 2006. I hope that these gatherings may again be a good time of fellowship for current members, but also a time when anyone who would like to join us can come along and join in.

Helen Rogers



Student Plus

We've had lots of events on this year, and have been welcomed into wider church activities too. There are a few less of us at the moment, as some students are on placement years whilst others have graduated. We can usually be found clutching cups of tea in the lounge after the service, so please feel free to come and chat!

- Specific student plus activities over the past year included:
- A picnic and walk at Lyme Park and Styal Mill (the chance to get some fresh air)
- Pre-exam BBQ (the chance to have a break from revision)
- Student lunches (the chance to eat something nutritious)
- Film afternoons (the chance to put off that all important essay)

In particular we have had a few afternoons/evenings where we have looked at various 'Nooma' films, with the chance to discuss our thoughts and perspectives in relation to each, and this is something that is planned again for the future. We also have a hotly (no pun intended) awaited curry night and games afternoon planned for this term.

All those within student plus are offered the opportunity to be linked with a family within church, and this is something which has been beneficial to many students throughout the year. Therefore I'd like to thank all those who have given up their time and offered their hospitality as student links over the past year. Finally, thank you to everyone at Brunswick for your continued support and prayer.

Ali Clay

Discipleship Group report 2006

Here follows a random selection of things that happened in discipleship group this year. We met more regularly, managing weekly towards the end of the year. We prayed a lot. We looked at how to keep life in balance, what sort of people we are and how God could use us and we recreated revelation in the worship room. We did stuff with other people - Refresh FM, Breathe, Chantelle from Namibia, the houseparty. We enjoyed ourselves - Socials - invited some friends, played pool and Rachel beat people. A gala dinner at pizza express. Karaoke. We were involved in 2 All together services - the environment and the potato one (remember the Quechua?). And all together, it was good.

DG

Crèche

Crèche continues to be available in the lounge for most Sundays except ATS Sundays and during the long holidays. Sunday school's Bubbles group is for 3 years-olds and up, but children move on when they are ready rather than arbitrarily moving up to the next group.

If anyone is interested in taking a part in Crèche, please speak with Yuko or Penny. (You do not have to be a parent!) Many thanks for all the people staying out in the lounge on different Sundays to look after the little ones.

Yuko Ang

Sunday 314

Sunday 314 (our Sunday morning work with young people) continued uninterrupted during the year thanks to a dedicated team of leaders and helpers – Nick and Ros Carr-Brown, Nick and Sally Jones, Ed and Ruth Cox, Emma, Adam, Richard Young, Helen Rogers, Naomi Flear, Cathy Anderson, Kerry Colyer, Anne Flear, Anne Foley, Alannah Keeble and Heidi Carr-Brown. (Apologies if I have missed anyone out who has helped this year!).

Nick Carr-Brown co-ordinates Sunday 314 which comprises Bubbles (pre-school year), Splash (reception – year 2), X-treme (years 3 to 6) and The Grid (years 7 to 9). The groups meet every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays. On 1st Sundays we share in the All Together Special service and on 5th Sundays the groups meet together as one group. Sunday 314 is organised so as to ensure that as few adults as possible miss the Sunday services.

We used the Scripture Union Light resources again this year and generally found them to be useful. Liaison between Nick and the preachers and leaders meant that the teaching usually synchronised with the adult teaching. Thanks to John Wilson for his continued support in buying and delivering the resources to us each quarter.

The number of young people attending Sunday 314 during the year remained steady with the usual fluctuations when there were visitors or baptism parties.

We still have the issue of space in which to house the four groups and have been using the foyer, the space outside the office and part of the lounge (along with crèche!), none of which is ideal, but we have yet to come up with any better ideas!

Please pray for the leaders and helpers of Sunday 314 as we try to create the foundations of the faith of the young people who come along. They are a joy to work with but the preparation and delivery of meaningful teaching takes time and effort. We welcome and are grateful to the new leaders and helpers who have joined the team this year. If anyone else would like to become part of the team, either as a leader or helper, please speak to Nick Carr-Brown or any of the others named above.

Sally Jones

7UP Report 2006

7UP have had lots of fun this year. We have had lots of cool trips, including a night hike on Werneth Lowe and Ice Skating in Blackburn. We have continued to play games, make interesting things, do lots of scrummy baking (often involving chocolate), practice circus skills, and other fun things too. We had a weekend away in May, when we visited Richard and Polly, (ex Wife and Curate in Brunswick- Ed.) and enjoyed the many things which we found to do nearby. We also had a great fun day in the summer, where we were able to welcome the children and some of their families too.

We had some time off when the church had a prayer sabbatical in the autumn. We were then able to start afresh with some new ideas following a very helpful session led by Helen Gatenby when the leadership team thought through what it is that we are aiming to achieve. As a result, instead of there been a God spot each week we have group times, giving us the chance to share more with the children, sometimes something God related, some-