



# Treasurers' Newsletter

Diocese of Gloucester

June/July 2009

## Second Quarter Newsletter - 2009

Dear Colleague,

In this newsletter, as well as details on the current year's parish share and the Diocesan yearend position for 2008, this newsletter has details of our annual Treasurer's Workshops. Although these workshops are happening later in the year than normal, they are still designed for new treasurers; detailing all the aspects of the role that must be fulfilled, and offering useful hints and tips. However all are welcome, including non-treasurers, as the workshops will contain useful information for anyone who is interested in the financial side of PCCs.

There has been another change in the Finance team. Gail Harrison, the Church House receptionist, will be covering Jess' role in the department on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday whilst Jess is still on maternity leave. This follows Kerry's move to the Bishop's office full time. If you have any queries on cash received or invoices sent from the Diocese, please contact Gail and she will be happy to help.

I'd also like to send out a request to anyone who would like to know anything about the Treasurers role, or the Diocese, which can be put into future newsletters. This can be a one-off item, or a regular slot in the newsletter. This newsletter is designed to help you in your capacity as Treasurer, so please feel free to offer suggestions for its content.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or problems that we can help with, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Matt Brunt

Diocesan Management Accountant

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## **Parish Share 2008/2009**

I'm pleased to say that of the £277k outstanding at the end of 2008, a further £162k has been contributed by parishes, leaving the shortfall at just £115k or 2.1%. This is higher than the 2007 shortfall, but still better than we have seen in last couple of years.

The 2009 Parish share is currently showing a shortfall of £2.9m (as at 26<sup>th</sup> June) or 42.75% of a target of 50%, giving a shortfall percentage of 7.25%. This is a nice decrease over last year, which at the end of June had a shortfall of 8.13%.

The problems we were encountering with the Diocesan website have not been fixed, and once the 30<sup>th</sup> June bank statement has been reconciled, the end of June figures will be published at the following link:

<http://www.gloucester.anglican.org/finance/parishshare/>

These sheets have all the new Deanery figures (as officially changed in June) and are going to be updated whenever possible, so that you can check on your parish, benefice or deanery totals at any given time.

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## **Diocesan Year-end Accounts**

The Diocesan Report and Accounts have been accepted Bishops' Council and are now with the auditors for signing. These will be available for viewing on our website by the end of July.

The Diocese was affected like many companies by the collapse in share prices last year, which led to an unrealised loss of £3.5m on investments. Despite an ongoing loss of around £800k, property sales were made at the peak of the market and helped strengthen cash flow, although there was still an overall net movement in funds was a loss of £2.7m.

At the end of 2008, the Diocesan funds stood at £69.4m, of which £51m is held on Endowment, and £1.6m is in restricted funds. £12.3m is held in designated accounts, of which £9m is made up of Houses Capital.

A summary leaflet of the accounts will be produced in August; if you could let me know how many copies your parish would like it will help guide the size of print run we make.

## Finance Return 2008

Thank you to everyone who has completed and sent back to Church House their parishes Finance Return for 2008. However we are still outstanding a large number of returns. If you have not yet completed your return, please could you do it as soon as possible, and send it to the Finance Department in Church House. If you require a new form, please contact reception for a copy to be sent out.

We also require a copy of the signed Annual Report and Accounts from every parish for 2008. Again, if you have not yet sent in a copy, please can you do so as soon as possible.

If you have any questions regarding the form or your accounts, please contact the Finance department and we will assist you.

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## Treasurer's Workshops

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have had to move back our annual Treasurer's Workshops to later in the year. We currently have the week beginning the 14<sup>th</sup> September booked, and will be holding workshops during the day at Glenfall House in Cheltenham, The Christian Adventure Centre at Viney Hill, and at Church House in Gloucester. We will also be holding a late afternoon/evening workshop in Church House.

Actual times and dates of these workshops are still being finalised, but we have provisionally booked the following:

Christian Adventure Centre: 14/9/09 afternoon  
Church House: 15/9/09 afternoon  
Glenfall House: 17/9/09 afternoon  
Church House: 23/9/09 evening

Please contact us if you would like further details to be sent out once dates finalised. In the meantime, if there is anything you think would be helpful to discuss, or that other Treasurers may find useful, please contact the Finance department.

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