

# Church Finance Officer

I was looking through previous reports and found what I wrote in 2005

*Last year I wrote: "It would be great by next year to have paid the remaining £11000 of the mortgage not only in financial terms, but also it would be a completion of a step of faith that the church had a few years ago when we had the opportunity to purchase the bungalow." Praise God we have paid of the mortgage and completed a step of faith that was taken. Over the next year and the next few years we are going to have to take another step of faith in putting into action the vision of a larger church building. God honoured the step taken a few years ago to purchase the bungalow through the commitment of his people and will do the same again.*

I can look back since then and see how God has honoured the commitment of his people in ways we would not have envisaged. I know he will do the same again as we look to the year ahead which will one be of:-

**Challenge:** - having all our church activities being in different venues.

**Change:** - seeing the bungalow being knocked down and letting go of the past.

**Excitement:** - seeing the new church being built and making plans for the future.

Through this I would love to see a unity and love for each other and a trust in God like we have never had before. This would result in us being able to reach out to the people of Redditch and beyond with the love of God. I would love this to be written about us

***Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*** Acts 2v46 47

Finally I would like to on behalf of the Church Session to thank everybody for their generosity in giving to the work of OCC and to remind you of the gift aid scheme. This scheme applies to any gift to the Church not just tithes and offerings but money given for any other purpose i.e. missions, building fund. Money must be put in a numbered or named envelope. If you are not part of this scheme and are a taxpayer please come and have a word with me, as for every £1 given then the church can claim 28 pence from the Inland Revenue.

I would like to thank Pam Laydon for her help in counting the collection, Denise Stain for her help in the shops bankings and last but not least Josh Baker for his help with the accounts and all the other things he does around the office.

Diane Tolson