

**Special points of interest:**

- The Vicar's Vision
- Some good news for a change - the Church Tower Renovation
- Phase III Community Garden



## The Vicar's Vision

The Reverend Graham Morris had a vision that he wanted St. Catherine's Church to become the focal point for the community spirit of Ventnor - not just a place of worship but a venue and meeting place for the whole Town.

Phase I of this vision was to modernise the inside of the building. Phase II to save the Church Tower from further deterioration. Phase III is to make

the churchyard at the front of the building into a user friendly area that can be accessed by disabled persons from the Grove Car Park by opening up an entrance near to the BT Telephone kiosk next to the perimeter wall.

With Phase I and II complete; it is hoped that Phase III can be realised (with the continued support of the Friends.



## Tower Renovation

### We've done it!

When the Friends of St Catherine's Church was formed in June 2009, we were tasked with raising the remaining £30,000 to complete the renovation to the crumbling stonework on the church tower.



Above: Crumbling stone work on the tower.

Thanks to a lot of hard work and effort by Committee members and the support of your good selves, (as well as some generous grant

and individual donations) we reached the target in just under a year. The restoration work started earlier this year and is now complete. The scaffolding has come down and the work completed, both on time and in budget.

A thanksgiving ceremony, to be held over a weekend sometime in the New Year, is anticipated and all 'Friends' and supporters will be sent an invitation to attend nearer the time. On behalf of the Reverend Graham Morris and the Committee of the 'Friends' of St. Catherine's Church (now affectionately abbreviated to FOSCAT's) - we thank each and everyone of you for the financial support provided to make this renovation possible.



# Fundraising, Where From?

**"Every journey  
begins with the  
first step"**

The overall breakdown of how the target was achieved:

Major grants	£ 20,750
Interest free Loan	£ 5,000
Membership fees	£ 790
Fundraising Events	£ 2,445
Donations	£ 2,033
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 31,018</b>

**(Balance of £1,018 available towards loan repayment and/or next target)**



Above: The Church before the renovation

## Friends Fundraising

The committee and friends of the church made a fantastic contribution to the fundraising efforts. The breakdown of their contribution to the fundraising target is as follows:

Concerts	£ 1,290
Barbecues, Meals etc.	£ 604
Ventnor Bay Festival 2009	£ 329
Sale of Planters	£ 140
Other Events	£ 82
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 2,445</b>



Above left: The Tower before the renovation work was completed. Above right: during the restoration.

**Above:** The church tower now that the restoration is complete .



# Phase III Community Garden



Phase III of the Church plan is to develop the area in front of the Church Tower into a community garden. The plan includes clearing the area of monuments and headstones and paving the area. A gate for pedestrian and wheelchair access to the council car park is also planned.

There is good support for phase III and the plan is going to be completed at a more leisurely pace and is expected to be finished within 18 months to 2 years. The Church Architect has indicated the cost of this project would be between £70,000 - £80,000 and also suggested the work could be completed in stages. Above shows an artists impression of the community garden.

**The Friends of  
St Catherine's Church  
would like to wish you a  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year**



# The Friends of St. Catherine's Church Ventnor

St. Catherine's Church  
Church Street  
Ventnor  
Isle of Wight  
PO38 1NR

**Contact:** Gordon Pollard (Secretary)

**Tel:** 01983 866546

**Email:** [gordonpollard@btinternet.com](mailto:gordonpollard@btinternet.com)



## Current Committee

**Patron:** Richard Dickson

**Chairman:** Rob Reed

**Secretary:** Gordon Pollard

**Treasurer:** Ann Daly

### Members:

Jill Lock

Ken Lock

Martin Rayner

Jenny Hopkins Holder

We would like some new Committee members from local community groups, who could benefit from the new facilities that St. Catherine's Church has to offer.

***Come and join us!***

## TO JOIN OR TO RENEW YOUR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

We warmly invite all who share in our vision for St Catherine's to join the Friends. Many people who joined the Friends of St Catherine's Church during its first year have already renewed their subscription for 2010-11. We very much appreciate this and invite those who wish to join or renew their membership to complete the form below:-

I/we wish to pay £ .....\*\*

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

E-mail .....

Tel. No. ....

Single membership £10 p.a.

Family membership £20 p.a.

Group membership £20 p.a.

\*\* If you wish to pay by standing order and require a form for your bank please tick here ...

Please return this form to: The Secretary, FOSCAT, 28 Wilton Road, Shanklin, PO37 7BZ

## The Hub

### The Hub

at St. Catherine's Church is open:-

**Monday to Saturday**

**10.30 am to 1.00 pm**

for the public to come and enjoy tea,  
coffee and light refreshments.  
Pop in for a drink and a chat.



The Hub is currently collecting plastic milk container tops (*any colour, as long as they are marked with the recycling sign on the inside of the top*) for the

### **Earl Mountbatten Hospice**

All contributions to this worthy cause are gratefully accepted so please do bring them along.



**Isle of Wight Hospice**  
EARL MOUNTBATTEN HOSPICE

To contact **The Hub** Tel. 01983 857795