

Annual Report and Accounts 2012

For Edward Road Baptist Church



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Charity Status

Edward Road Baptist Church was formerly an “excepted charity” under the Charities Act 1993. The Heart of England Baptist Association takes responsibility as custodian trustee for the church building. The church does not own a manse. The church was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in its own right in January 2011, when its annual income exceeded £100 000.

Managing Trustees

The following are Managing Trustees of the Charity:

Senior Minister	Revd Alexander B Samy
Youth Minister	Revd Steve Blower
Secretary	<i>position currently vacant</i>
Treasurer	Dr Eric Pennington
Elders	Mr Grenville Dooley Mrs Peggy Gouthwaite Dr Steve Howard Mr Ian Levett Miss Betty Milton

No-one else served as a Charity Trustee or Custodian Trustee in the financial year in question.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Church means members of the charitable unincorporated association governed by the approved governing document of the Baptist Union of Great Britain which was adopted as its constitution on 5 October 2008.

Recruitment & Appointment of Trustees

The Church Ministers, Elders, Secretary and Treasurer are the managing Trustees of the charity. The Ministers are trustees ex officio and the Senior Minister is the Chair. The Elders, Secretary and Treasurer are chosen from among existing church members who show the reality of their faith by the consistency of their Christian character and by their loyalty to the cause of Christ as set out by the governing documents.

Election is for an initial term of 3 years, which may be renewed. Annual elections are held at the Church Annual General Meeting by ballot. Nominees must secure a vote of at least 66% of those present and eligible to vote.

Organisational Structure

The Church is governed and regulated by its own members. All aspects of the work of the Church are subject to the approval of the Church Members’ Meeting which is normally held quarterly. The Ministers of the Church are paid Managing Trustees and with the Elders give leadership to the Church. The Elders (including additional Ministers), Secretary (when the post is filled) and Treasurer assist the Senior Minister in this role and together prepare the business for the Church Meeting.

Baptist Union of Great Britain & Heart of England Baptist Association

The Church is part of the wider Baptist family and is therefore a member church of the Heart of England Baptist Association (HEBA) and also of the national body, The Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB). Both organisations are registered charities. The Church pays an annual subscription to BUGB based on its membership numbers and also makes donations to HEBA (Home Mission Fund) for the Baptist family in the UK (see accounts).

Custodian Trustee

The custodian trustee for the Church is the Heart of England Baptist Association (HEBA), which holds the deeds of the Church property:

Edward Road Baptist Church, Balsall Heath,
Birmingham B12 9LY

No property valuation has been undertaken on the Church in recent years, and the value shown in the accounts is the insured value.

Relationships Between the Charities and Related Parties

The Church is an active member of the “Churches Together in Balsall Heath” ecumenical partnership.

For over 20 years the Church has maintained strong links with the Jericho Centre and the Jericho Foundation - two Christian charities initially established in the 1980 by the Church to offer support in Balsall Heath. Church members continue to sit on both boards and to offering prayer support in these difficult times for charities. A new weekly drop-in is planned to open at the church in 2013 in partnership with the Jericho Centre to extent on the existing joint worth amongst youth.

Objectives and Activities

Objects of the Charity

The principal purpose of the Charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination.

Statement of Faith

As a Member of the Baptist Union the Church subscribes to the Union’s Declaration of Principle:



“That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.

That Christian baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who ‘died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day’.

That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.”

As a member of the Evangelical Alliance, the church has adopted the Evangelical Alliance Basis of Faith. This can be found at:

<http://www.eauk.org/about/basis-of-faith.cfm>



Charity’s Aims

The Mission Statement of the church is:
“Making Disciples”

This Mission Statement helps shape the main aims of the church. This is manifested in the discipling and nurturing of believers as well as the proclamation and evangelisation of unbelievers in our community. The church also recognises its Christian obligations to lift up the oppressed, alleviate suffering and to improve quality of life. These obligations also help shape the community outreach aspects of the church’s aims.

The Activities as set out in the constitution:

- regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching;
- baptism, as defined in the Union's Declaration of Principle;
- the Communion of the Lord's Supper which shall normally be observed at least once a month;
- evangelism and mission, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally;
- the teaching, encouragement, welcome and inclusion of young people;
- nurture and growth of Christian disciples;
- education and training for Christian and community service;
- giving and encouraging pastoral care;
- supporting and encouraging charitable social action in the United Kingdom and abroad;
- encouraging relationships with and supporting Baptists and other Christians.

Verse For The Year

Each year, the leadership of the church seeks God's face to guide in the choice of the verse for the year on which to set the year's direction. The verse chosen helps shape not only the All-Age Bible School series, but helps set the emphasis in the church's teaching. This year, as a church we sought to become more rooted in Christ and in his Word revealed to us in the Holy Bible – God's infallible written word.

*“Plant your roots in Christ
and let him be the foundation
for your life.”
Colossians 2:7*

Five Year Goals 2011 - 2015

The church agreed goals in the following areas:

1. Prayer & Spirituality - To develop an effective prayer ministry through which to discern the will of God and underpin the life and ministry of the church.
2. Worship - To teach and uphold clear biblical principles to encourage the church, under the power of God's Holy Spirit, to live lives of submission to God that reflect Christ. To provide opportunities in which each individual may experience God more fully and grow in their relationship with Him.
3. Discipleship - Create appropriate nurture structures to meet the needs of all those affiliated to the church, believers and seekers alike, to effectively disciple them and bring them closer to Christ. To create opportunities for such discipleship to take place formally, informally and personally.
4. Fellowship - To increase fellowship activities, such as meals, church events, away days, DIY days and so on. To ensure that such activities are planned to develop a deeper sense of community.
5. Mission - Maintain and develop our wider commitment to global missionary work and other expressions of “the body of Christ” so that we retain a good perspective of our place within the Universal Church and its ministry. To encourage a church-wide sense of responsibility for local mission aimed at corporately fulfilling the Great Commission through activities that proclaim Christ's saving gospel as well as practically demonstrate His love in the community.
6. Stewardship – To seek God's will each year concerning the main activities on which to focus. To effectively explain, promote and resource such activities that support the ministry team leaders in accomplishing these objectives. To review regularly the ministry of the Church to ensure that it does not stray from the Church's Mission Statement.
7. Fabric - To maintain and re-develop the Church buildings and equipment, as good stewards, to ensure that they are fit to fulfil the church's Mission Statement.

Details of Significant Activities

- Leadership
 - Ordination of Youth Specialist Minister
 - New leadership structure
- Public Worship and Discipleship
 - Over a hundred worship services
 - Baptisms
 - Baptism classes
 - Funerals
 - Blessings
 - Alpha
 - Chinese Alpha
 - Two open air services
 - Weekly prayer & discipleship meetings
 - Men's breakfast
 - Monthly symposia
- Local Mission and Social action
 - Parent and toddler group
 - ESOL classes for ladies
 - Community engagement
 - Free community film nights
 - Tae Kwon Do Classes
 - Fitness Classes
 - Book Table
 - Friendship First Course
 - Men's Drop In
 - Job Club Training
- Youth Work
 - Numerous community youth clubs
 - Youth training programmes
 - Youth Leadership Training & Mentoring
 - Trips & Youth Residential Weekends
 - Dance groups
 - New house group
 - Youth Alpha
- Children's Work
 - Sunday Schools
 - Sunday School volunteer training
 - School assemblies
 - Children's holiday club
- Church Fellowship activities
 - A week at Spring Harvest
 - Bring and share meals
 - Barbeques and picnics
 - Church spring clean
- Fabric repairs and maintenance, including roof repair

Charity's Strategies

The Church continues to believe that sacrificial investment in the wider congregation as well as the local un-churched community is the best strategy for achieving the objectives of the Church.

Senior Pastor's Reports

This year has been an exciting year marked by continued change and readjustment. New arrivals into the fellowship – some young, some not so young - some new in their faith, some mature and committed believers - some with long term plans to settle, some with the intension to just pass through - have brought a palpable sense of vitality to church life and opened up opportunities for the church to better achieve its God-given mandate of "Making Disciples". Embracing these opportunities allows God to shape His church and gives purpose and potential for growth to those who make Edward Road their home. However, as we embark on finding ministries for all believers in the church, we have become aware of the leadership and administrative challenge that that brings about – a challenge that if met will doubtless bear fruit for all involved. For this to happen, effective team working would be vital, and as such, 2012 has been marked with a drive towards more effective leadership and management. This, in the first instance, led to the establishment of weekly team meetings between myself, Pastor Steve, Nikki Kelly (the children and families worker) and Carol Smith (the church administrator).

The ordination and calling of Pastor Steve Blower, our Youth Specialist Pastor, has been the single greatest achievement in this regard in 2012. It has been such a privilege for us as a church (and for me personally) to have played a part in the equipping of a new Minister with such strengths and potential. Pastor Steve's timely call to pastoral ministry at Edward Road has given us the capacity to train, lead and manage new volunteers, especially from among the youth and students. His contribution, as a Trustee, to the leadership and oversight of the church has also made a substantial difference and has increased the leadership's engagement with the junior church's activities.

Nikki Kelly's contribution to the children's ministry has steadily grown with the adoption of a new, biblical, Sunday school study material, the organisation of more holiday clubs, outreach through school assemblies and the expansion of the children's work to people of other faiths in our community. She has also established and trained up a wider team of volunteers to deliver Sunday school, to ensure that all Sunday school leaders have the opportunity to attend church for their own growth. Sadly, Nikki will be traveling to Canada in July 2013 for 2 years with her husband John. We wish her every blessing during her time away and eagerly look forward to her return.

Likewise Carol Smith, our new church administrator, has also made her mark on the working practices at Edward Road. Her passion for the needy, wisdom and experience in management have been put to use far beyond the day to day administrative duties. Indeed, many in our community have benefited from her experience in offering prayerful advice on housing and benefits matters as well as a raft of other issues besides.

Besides this team, strategic changes have also taken place. In an effort to better manage volunteers and an increasingly dynamic program of weekly activities, a dramatic restructure of the executive element of the church leadership was explored early in 2012. This resulted in the membership of the church restructuring the existing ministry teams of the church. While retaining the existing oversight offered by the trustees, made up of Elders and office holders, the 12 Ministry Team leaders introduced in 2011 were replaced by 5 Ministry coordinators. This has vastly improved communication and unity of purpose within the leadership and enabled more productive co-operation.

As a result of more regular Leadership Meetings, there now exists a far clearer vision to serve the community of Balsall Heath as our corporate act of worship, to which most members feel strongly committed. This has attracted numerous new attenders that have been drawn by the fruitful outreach activities of the church. Most notable, we welcomed this year into fellowship David Bebb, who is serving God in reaching out to the community of Balsall Heath for the coming two

years in preparation to serving God overseas as a development worker.

David has served faithfully in numerous church activities, especially in worship leading and in the newly formed Men's club. He has also taken on a number of new initiatives including representing Edward Road Baptist Church in the Balsall Heath Food Bank and in organising our first Winter Night Shelter.

The night shelter has provided food and shelter for ten men once a week for six weeks as part of larger project run by Housing Justice during the snows in this year's severe weather shortly after Christmas. This project enjoyed great support from the church in terms of prayer, volunteers and financial contribution. Edward Road's contribution to this project was especially significant: after the first night Carol Smith, the church Administrator, accompanied the most vulnerable of our guests to the local neighbourhood centre and organised for him City Council accommodation. Having been a rough sleeper for over four years, he now enjoys the safety and security of his own permanent accommodation.

Likewise, we have been joined by John and Irene Johnson who lead the Birmingham Reach Global team. Both John and Irene have enthusiastically contributed to existing church outreach projects including the women's ministry and the Men's Club.

The Men's Club has also been an excellent point of contact with our community. As well as providing a welcoming environment in which people of different faiths can meet, it has practically served the needs of our local "Bin Men", who come in for a cup of tea and a snack during their shift around Balsall Heath. A number of our Men's Club attenders have begun to attend church regularly, two of whom, Alex Diyalanthonige and Talus Rich, are currently preparing for baptism in 2013.

This year began in celebration, as Eve Simpson and Angie Rialy declared their faith in God through Baptism. We then welcomed Angie and her mother, Yvonne Roberts Crawford into membership. Both Angie and Yvonne have played a significant part in church life, joining almost every ministry available.

It is with sadness however, that we note that we have lost some very significant brothers and sisters

from the fellowship. The death of Pastor John Mallard, who faithfully served as minister for 27 years and member for 40 years, was a significant loss to the life of the church. Likewise, Mrs Williams will be greatly missed by those who knew her. A number of dear friends who had for many years made significant contributions to the life of the church have also moved on to serve God at different churches. These include Steve and Leonar Howard, Agnes Gardner, Maureen and Zepheniah Mathews and Alison Dooley. With thanksgiving to God for their years of service, love and commitment to Edward Road, we continue to wish them every blessing in their constant walk with Christ.

As we look back at this past year, we thank God for the direction in which He has taken us – for the verve that has helped us to remember our need to be constantly “rooted in Christ” and for His abundant blessing. We pray that as we find our direction, hope and strength in Him we may continue to bear fruit for His glory in years to come.

Pastor - A. Samy

Ministry Coordinator's Reports

During this year much prayerful consideration was given to replacing the rather unwieldy Ministry Team leadership that was first introduced in 2005. A leaner and more manageable leadership structure was finally agreed at the July Church Members' Meeting. As such, the Church's activities are now organised and run through five ministries, rather than twelve. Much like the previous structure, each Ministry is coordinated by a Ministry Coordinator who is independently responsible, under the oversight of one of the trustees, to fulfil the Church's aims within a set budget allocated for the year. There is now better communication between the Elders and coordinators through more regular meetings and through forging better relationships between the coordinators and their overseeing elder.

While this structure only took effect in the latter part of the year, the annual report has been laid out to reflect the new structure.

Families' Ministry

The recently merged children, families', youth and students ministry teams have seen a number of changes during 2012. In various ways the ministry resources have reduced, yet the gracious hand of God continues to work wonders in our midst.

Junior Church has changed significantly over the past 12 months with some leaders moving on and other new leaders in training. Nikki's development of a rota-system is proving to be invaluable as a means of supporting volunteers to continue doing the excellent job they do with the cherubs, seekers, younger youth and older youth groups.

Though relatively few in number, Students have actively taken part in various aspects of life at ERBC, engaging with home groups and numerous other areas of service in the church, for which we are continually grateful. In the autumn term, one student led three excellent exploring leadership sessions with a group of young people.

The now well-established Friday Youth Club continues to see development and growth. Young people from 11-15 years old have increasingly been involved in planning and delivering sessions. Further to this, a number of young people have successfully obtained funding for table tennis workshops, litter picking events, dance programs and other innovative projects for the benefit of the community.

Our Children and Families Worker, Nikki Kelly, has had a busy year devising new curricula for Sunday Schools and sourcing new exciting material. There has been two half term holiday sessions for children within the church, one called Powerhouse, all about the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and the other, Battle Busters, about putting on the armour of God. These were great fun and enjoyed by all - children and workers alike.

The Bridge Holiday Club was run for a week during the main Summer holidays. It engaged many children from the community this year. Our theme was the values of the Paralympics and how they

related to God and our lives. The response was positive from both the children and their families.

Using contacts from the Bridge Club, Nikki devised a mailing list to invite families within the church and the community to a Halloween alternative party: a Light Party. The hall was decorated with all kinds of lights and children and their families went around various stalls throughout the evening. The result was phenomenal with over 150 people attending the event: praise God!

For a number of volunteers and young people the highlight this year was the Youth Alpha course, a nine-week program exploring the Christian faith. The young people's feedback was thoroughly positive, except for disappointment that it had to end! However, participants were plugged into a new youth home group that launched in September.



This year's Youth transformed residential again proved to be a highlight amongst the young people - inspiring, encouraging and equipping them for the future, whilst the Autumn residential at the Pioneer Centre was a fantastic opportunity for young people to explore the book of Daniel and learn about a wise young Godly leader.

The Sports ministry has been developing steadily this year, including Samson's popular Tae Kwon Do classes and new urban dance classes that extend

provision to younger children in the community. Again, we took a minibus full of parents, children and young people to the always-spectacular world B-boy championships!



An increasing number of sports related qualifications among volunteers alongside the acquisition of excellent new equipment provided free of charge (new table-tennis table, tennis equipment, pool table etc.) points towards a sports ministry that will continue to develop in 2013.

The year ahead will focus on team support and development with training opportunities including the Families Ministry Conference for which we have been gifted two places.

Our thanks go out to all the volunteers who have invested so much this year in the service - and likeness - of our Lord Jesus Christ. The workers are indeed few, but it is a special honour for us to minister in this community and we look forward to building, supporting and equipping the families' team for this good work in the future.

Rev. Steve Blower

Discipleship Ministry

At Edward Road Baptist Church we are called by God to make disciples. This year has been shaped by a verse of scripture given to us by God from Colossians 2:7 which states, "Plant your roots in Christ and let him be the foundation for your life." As a church we have made a significant drive towards re-discovering the biblical foundations of our faith. We have continued to encourage everyone to read the Bible regularly and faithfully.

The teaching at the church has been consistently biblical but suitable varied in style, with over 12 preachers have preached in our morning and evening services. As well as expository preaching and teaching, inspirational preaching by visiting speakers who shared their mission experiences, and training, utilising the Friendship First course in our evening services, we have also incorporated inductive learning techniques through our All Age Bible School.

This year, two All-Age Bible Schools were held, one in Spring for 3 weeks and the other in Autumn for 4 weeks. In Spring we began an overview of the biblical themes of the Old Testament, while in Autumn we began to see the biblical foundations of our church statement of faith (to be completed in 2013). Both these studies have helped us plant our roots in Christ and in His Holy Word, and have been a blessing to the church.

In addition to the teaching we provide, 35 members of our congregation went to Spring Harvest in Skegness again this year, looking at the topic of "Church Actually" concerning God's plan for His Kingdom through the Church. There was good teaching on this important topic which strengthened our hope.

With awareness that much of our growth comes from our own personal devotion, we have continued to give out UCB "The Word for Today" notes to aid in private bible-study time. The uptake has continued to be quite good and we pray that the material is being used well in people's homes.

The Tuesday morning prayer and Bible study group, the Thursday evening growth groups held on Eastwood Road as well as Dave Blower's monthly Symposia continued faithfully. We are particularly encouraged by the renewed rise in attendance of the Tuesday morning prayer and Bible study group with the addition of Pamela Hirsch and Yvonne

Roberts-Crawford. The monthly men's group on Sunday mornings has also continued steadily with faithful attendance.



Likewise, the worship has been suitable varied, meeting the needs of the diverse congregation. A number of Open Air services have taken the church outside the walls of the building to worship publicly and to declare God's awesome sovereignty over all His creation. While the introduction of intimate Emmaus meals, in place of the evening Communion Service, has allowed the fellowship to feast together on God's word and His personal presence among His people. The Good Friday March of witness, along with other Churches together united services and pulpit exchanges, have practically testified to our commitment to God's Universal church, wherever His word is preached and His people worship in spirit and truth.

The addition of David Bebb to the worship band has made a great difference. The choir has faithfully persevered, with the addition of Yvonne, despite the loss of a couple of their singers. For these visible acts of worship as well as the many other unmentioned, private acts of worship, we continue to give God the glory.

In 2013, as we look at how we may better "equip the Saints for works of service" on Sunday mornings our prayer is that we grow in our faith and our ability to be used by God for His glory, in every aspect of our lives.

Pastor - A. Samy

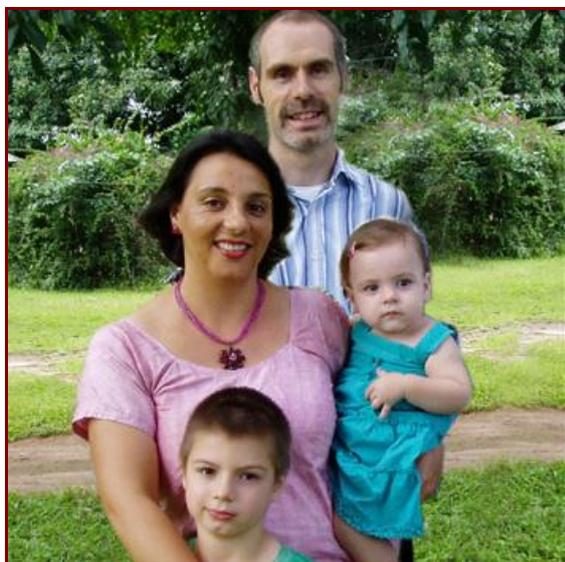
Mission Ministry

With the reorganisation of the existing ministry teams in 2012, Local Mission and Global Mission now sit under this Ministry.

Global Mission

The scope of Global Mission is broad and consists of all mission which is not initiated by ERBC, and can be local, national as well as international as the title suggests. Organisations we support include BMS World Mission, WEC, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Birmingham City Mission (BCM), the Gideons, the Leprosy Mission, Compassion and Agape, for whom our own members David and Kate Blower work.

Through BMS World Mission we continue to support Simon and Solange Wood and their children in their work in Guinea and over the last few years have also supported teams of young people involved in short term mission overseas. This year's Action Team are currently working in Lebanon.



Thelma Balfour serves as our link with the Gideons by distributing and collecting back the tubes which several of our members use to save coins. Pet Officer continues as an agent for Fairtrade .

The Church has maintained its strong links with BCM this year and has been involved in distributing

gifts of food from our harvest thanksgiving and toys at Christmas to needy families in the area.

We aim to hold monthly mission slots during our Sunday morning services to keep the congregation informed about mission work in which our own members are involved, as well as those overseas missionaries in which we have a special interest. The slot would also be the ideal time for us to pray as a Church for any countries experiencing problems that we are aware of.

We would encourage any member of the fellowship who has an interest in any mission, either one of the existing ventures we support or a new one to ERBC, to contact one of the Elders to see how we can support or raise awareness for the cause.

Local Mission

Existing regular activities which have continued throughout 2012 include:

Sparklers continued to meet the needs of mothers and young children in the community, building bridges, reducing prejudices and teaching about what Christians believe.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes for local women continued to develop; delivering better than ever service to the community with its growing number of volunteers.

The Book table was faithfully manned on the steps of the Church every Friday while the weather permitted. Many of our neighbours stopped and chatted while others took note of our visible presence in the community.

New Regular Activities:

The men's drop-in club is held most Wednesday mornings in the Church Hall. Early in the year the number of people attending was low, but the club has gone from strength to strength over the year and now the can be up to 15 people coming into the hall for cakes, games and fellowship with the volunteers. Friendship and trust has been built up between the volunteers and the men attending the club, some of whom have felt sidelined by society in the past. Two of the men that attend this club are

currently preparing for baptism in the coming year. There are hopes to introduce a job search element to the drop-in club in 2013.

The Church hosted several film nights over the winter months in 2011/12 and has done so again this year, holding two nights before Christmas with another due in January 2013. These events, which included free food and drink as well as a short biblical message, were regularly attended by over a hundred of our local neighbours each month.

Existing Annual Activities:

Once again the Church held its open air service and community barbeque, and despite the terrible weather large numbers of our neighbours joined us for food and fellowship under our gazebos.



Due to new layouts, the routes for the annual Skyride and half marathon did not pass down Edward Road this year and so we did not have the opportunity to host outdoor services for these events, which had gone down well in the past.

Unfortunately, due to the second wettest summer on record, the Balsall Heath Carnival was rained off in 2012. Members from ERBC have for many years made a significant contribution to the organisation and running of the carnival.

The team supported the Families Ministry as, once again, the Church held its second Children's Holiday Club based on material produced by Birmingham City Mission. The club was again a success, attracting a number of children from the local community. It will be exciting to see how the planning of the club develops in 2013.

For the second year in a row we also held our carol service on the steps of the Church. It was an ideal location to witness to our neighbours whilst handing out soup and fruit pies to passers-by. One such passer by has since begun to regularly attend the church, having not done so for many years.

New Annual Activities:

The team supported the Families Ministry in holding A Light Party on Halloween for children from Church families and the neighbourhood. The party was organised by Nikki Kelly as a positive alternative to the usual Halloween parties. Thanks to Nikki and the other volunteer's hard work the event was a resounding success (see the Families' report for more information about these events).

Jericho

It is noteworthy that a significant amount of the outreach work carried out by the church among the youth takes place in partnership with the Jericho Centre. It could be said that the Jericho Centre dovetails with what we as a church are trying to achieve in our community and as such needs our continuing support to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of local young people, fills gaps where the Church is not currently involved and remains focussed on trying to do what God wants to do in Balsall Heath.

There is no defined team for this Ministry; people can be involved in as many or as few of the activities that ERBC undertakes throughout the year. If you would like to become involved in any of the activities mentioned above, or have a good idea for an activity that we haven't tried before, then please get in touch with either Ali Grubb or Pastor Samy.

A. Grubb

Stewardship Ministry

In 2012 there was a week of pointing work when lime mortar was used to point much of the outside of the church. Access was gained by the use of a cherry picker lorry. The Lord blessed us with a hot sunny week in March in a year of record rainfall.

An identifiable liquid called Smart Water was applied to the roof lead. This acts as a deterrent to thieves.

Volunteers from St. Paul's Trust paved the remaining part of the church garden. There is now a good sized patio area. An unwanted large tree sapling was removed from the grounds.

Repairs to the leaded glass windows began. Each new pane is mortared in so reducing draughts. The upstairs sash windows were repaired.

In the previous year work had begun to replace old electric wiring with modern wiring. This work was completed.

The big boiler for the main church received addition of ventilation ducting and a chimney pot. This work permitted us to have a repair contract so that future repairs will be quicker and cheaper.

A lot of decorating was done throughout the church and hall. Other repairs included communion chairs, upstairs hand basin replacement, toilet seats and cisterns, replacement of a radiator and the kitchen sink.

The church cleaner resigned her position and returned to her native Tanzania. The position was not filled and a decision was made that church members will take on the responsibility of keeping the church clean and tidy. This is mostly being done as part of the regular church mid-week activities.

Thank you to the many people who helped with all this work.

S. Pennington

Administration Ministry Coordinator's Report

As a Church we continue to see God at work in all aspects of our Church life. We see our older members continue their steadfast walk with the Lord and continue being the real prayer warriors of the Church. We see our young people growing in spirit and maturity and we look forward to the fruit which they will produce in future years. Our 30 pluses continue juggling family, work and life whilst being real ambassadors for God. Nevertheless, Edward Road remains a very busy Church, actively involved in a growing assortment of church outreach community activities.

Below is some factual information of interest:

Current Membership	=	75
Baptisms	=	2
Infants Presented	=	1
New Members	=	3
Average Sunday morning Attendance	=	90
Deaths	=	2

Despite having three paid staff, with an ever growing number of activities, we are heavily reliant on volunteers. The work done at Edward Road could not be done if members of our fellowship did not volunteer their time, expertise, skills and good will. We thank God for each and every one who has helped. We also thank God for all those from outside the fellowship who support the ministries of this church – especially those from our partner churches in Balsall Heath Churches Together.

Over the year we have been truly blessed by the preachers some from our own fellowship and also visiting preachers who came and ministered God's word to us as well as the worship leaders who brought us into God's presence week by week.

Church Administrator – C. Smith

Treasurer's Report

Financial review

The Church has two principal sources of income:

- a) Weekly, monthly and annual offerings given by members of the congregation, friends of the Church and visitors. With the addition of Gift Aid, this funds the vast majority of the day to day running costs of the Church, including the stipend, National Insurance and pension costs of a full time Baptist Minister, a three quarter time Youth Pastor and a half time Children and families worker.
- b) Rent from hire of the church buildings and associated rooms. The Nigerian Fellowship continues to rent the church building on Sunday afternoons. Other occasional rental of the Church hall or rooms takes place from time to time. Overall this is a small percentage of the Church's income.

Reserves Policy

The Church spent slightly more than it received in 2012 (by about £600). This shortfall was met from reserves. The Church currently holds £89592 in its savings accounts. A second savings account was opened on the instruction of the Trustees, to gain a better rate of interest on some of the savings. A total of £582 interest was earned on the 2 accounts, an improvement on the £210 earned in 2011. The Trustees, in line with Baptist Union guidance, feel it is prudent to keep a minimum reserve of 6 months running costs (at present approximately £50000) in the savings account. The reserves currently are therefore satisfactory.

Plans for Future Periods

The principal focus this year has been on ministry, human resources and outreach, so mainly routine maintenance of the church building has been carried out. It is anticipated that this situation will not change in 2013, and that with prudent management, income will closely match expenditure, but even so our budget estimates

show the likelihood that we will need to draw on reserves in 2013.

Our Baptist Minister Reverend Alex Samy is a paid Trustee and is called to lead the Church in preaching and worship, pastoral care, mission and all other aspects of Church life.

From the middle of the year he was joined by the Reverend Stephen Blower, on completion of his ministry training, as a three quarter time Youth Pastor. He is also a paid Trustee of the Church.

Our Children and families worker is Nikki Kelly, who is employed on a half time basis. Her contract with the Church runs to August 2013, after which her calling and plans are elsewhere.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

- i. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii. State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- iv. Prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with charity law. The trustees are also responsible for safe guarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Accounting Policies

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP revised 2005).

Income from donations and other voluntary income are recognised on a received basis. The charity has not given any financial consideration for voluntary help received during the year, and is not able to quantify such assistance.

Grants, gifts and donations were made to various organisations in the furtherance of the charity's objectives. Monies received for specific causes are held as restricted funds pending remittance of monies to the appropriate beneficiary. The principal beneficiaries are listed in the statement of accounts.

The Church pays pension contributions for its Minister to the Baptist ministers' Pension Trust Ltd, a final salary defined benefit scheme, which is not contracted out of the State pension scheme. The scheme is a multiple employer scheme and it is not possible to identify the assets and liabilities of the scheme which are attributable to the Church. Ministers pay 8% contribution and the Church as employer pays 10% contribution to this scheme plus 11% deficiency contributions, as determined by the Baptist pension Scheme.

Funds held by the charity are either Unrestricted General Funds which can be either used or designated in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees, or Restricted Funds which can only be used for their particular restricted purpose within the objectives of the charity.

Tangible Assets

The Church building is a historic Grade 2b listed building with a very long life and as such it is not practical or cost effective to place a value on the property or its land. The latest insured value is shown in the statement of accounts.

The Church does not own a manse or any other tangible assets.

Capital Expenditure Commitments

The Church does not anticipate any capital expenditure in 2013. It is anticipated that £1500 will be spent on minor refurbishment and £1500 on routine maintenance, and that these amounts will be met from the general income of the Church through the year.

Other future plans are discussed in the Fabric Ministry Team report.

Treasurer – E. Pennington

Examiner's Unqualified Report

Independent examiners' report

To the trustees of Edward Road Baptist Church.

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2012, below.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities.
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Michael Peart

Relevant professional qualification or body: C Eng MIEEE

Address: 44 George Street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham B12 9RG

Date: 10/2/2013

Name: Mrs B Officer

Relevant professional qualification or body: Retired Nurse

Address: 50 Newport Road, Moseley, Birmingham B12 8QD.

Date: 10/2/2013

Income 2012 Edward Road Baptist Church

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	
		<u>unrestricted</u>	<u>restricted</u>
		<u>funds</u>	<u>funds</u>
Offertory	£63,526	£65,187	
Inland revenue	£12,698	£15,499	
Use of premises	£2,734	£1,550	
gifts and legacies and other income	£567	£600	
pastoral care	£1,000		£200
flowers	£70		
minibus	£1,398		£1,737
worship	£50		
local mission	£2,285		£120
Sunday School Child sponsorship	£324		£78
Spring Harvest			£3,665
Baptist Beirut Seminary	£2,200		£1,800
Other Mission and donations	£1,407		£1,054
Fabric - building fund	£20,000		£4,261
Youth including trips and events	£1,966		£2,921
other committed income	£400		£50
		<u>£82,835</u>	<u>£15,886</u>
<u>year totals</u>	<u>£110,625</u>	<u>£98,721</u>	
Interest received (see balance sheet)	£210	£582	
<u>Total income</u>	<u>£110,835</u>	<u>£99,303</u>	

Note: £2287.07 received for building fund in January 2012 reimbursed work done in 2011

Expenditure 2012 Edward Road Baptist Church

	<u>2011</u>		<u>Budget</u>	
			<u>2012</u>	<u>2012</u>
			<u>unrestricted</u>	<u>restricted</u>
			<u>funds</u>	<u>funds</u>
Pastors Stipend AS	£27,377		£14,500	£14,575
Tax and NI A Samy	£5,878		£4,950	£4,945
Baptist Ministers Pension Fund AS			£6,864	£6,864
Manse Allowance AS			£6,000	£6,000
Council Tax and Water Rates Manse AS			£1,414	£1,514
TOTAL Pr Samy & on costs			£33,728	<u>£33,898</u>
S Blower stipend	£2,350		£7,250	£6,773
Tax and NI S Blower			£1,200	£1,245
Pension fund SBlower			£1,075	£0
Manse allowance S Blower			£3,000	£3,000
Council tax and water rates manse S Blower			£700	£511
Total S Blower & on costs			£13,225	<u>£11,529</u>
N Kelly Pay	£3,015		£11,150	£9,292
Tax and NI N Kelly			£1,000	£983
Total N Kelly & on costs			£12,150	<u>£10,275</u>
Subscriptions	£180		£190	£361
Church Telephone and internet	£301		£350	£330
Copyright License	£385		£460	£433
Other finance expenditure	£163		£165	£143
Ministers and others study Courses			£200	£0
Pastors' and other travel costs			£0	£0
Total Utility & Other			£1,365	<u>£1,267</u>
Electricity	£1,394		£1,800	£1,297
Gas	£1,527		£1,800	£2,251
Water Rates,insurance, fire extinguishers	£3,734		£3,800	£3,732
Renovation and major projects	£18,316	£26,194	£1,500	£0
minor repairs and maintenance	£1,807		£1,500	£948
Total Fabric			£10,400	<u>£8,228</u>
TOTAL FINANCE & FABRIC			£70,868	<u>£65,197</u>
Minibus fuel			£0	£59
Minibus maintenance, tax, insurance		£1,055	£1,500	£0
Flowers		£283	£250	£48
Office Supplies	£449		£450	£257
TOTAL ADMIN			£2,200	<u>£363</u>
Worship Materials	£193		£200	£51
Visiting Speakers	£100		£200	£100
Fellowship		£260	£0	£0
discipleship	£354		£100	£100
Spring Harvest				£1,605
Ames Sanitary	£316		£275	£252
Lucy Francis (church cleaner)	£749		£500	£471
Other Hospitality and housekeeping	£339		£350	£259
TOTAL WORSHIP			£1,625	<u>£2,837</u>
Home Mission	£3,200		£3,200	£3,200
BMS	£3,200		£3,200	£3,200
Agape	£1,200		£1,200	£1,200
Beirut Seminary - Hikmat Kachouh	£1,200	£2,200	£1,200	£1,200
Other charities and donations		£1,235		£1,189
local mission	£543	£2,284	£2,000	£1,298
Sparklers				£0
Jericho			£0	£0
TOTAL MISSION			£10,800	<u>£11,287</u>
Sunday School Child Sponsorship	£180	£324	£504	£426
various materials and resources	£281		£500	£586
Youth ministry	£1,782	£1,966	£1,500	£1,999
Trainee youth worker bursary and expenses	£5,248		£3,255	£2,570
Course fees Centre for Youth Ministries and Staf	£3,730		£0	£350
TOTAL FAMILIES			£5,759	<u>£5,931</u>
	<u>£89,491</u>	<u>£35,801</u>	<u>£91,252</u>	<u>£85,615</u>
				<u>£14,294</u>
<u>YEAR TOTALS</u>	<u>£125,292</u>		<u>£99,910</u>	

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of 31 December 2012

Cash Funds

Cash funds at 31 December 2011 **£89,617.72**

Current Account

Opening balance for year	£23,328.00
Net income	£98,721.35
Net Expenditure	£99,910.00
Transferred to National Savings Account	£0.00
Withdrawn from National Savings Account	£10,000.00
Transferred to Santander Savings Account	£25,052.00
Withdrawn from Santander Savings Account	£52.00
Closing Balance for Year	£7,139.35

National Savings Account

Balance 1 January 2012	£66,289.72
Transferred to current account	£10,000.00
Transferred from current account to National Savings Account	£0.00
Interest 2012	£357.87
Balance 1 January 2013	£56,647.59

Santander Savings Account

Account opened March 2012	£0.00
Transferred from Current Account	£25,052.00
Transferred to current account	£52.00
Interest 2012	£223.64
Balance 1 January 2013	£25,223.64

Total Cash Funds at 31 December 2012 **£89,010.58**

Other Monetary assets nil

Investment assets nil

Assets retained for Charity's own use nil

Value of Church premises (Insurance valuation) £3,771,931.00

Value of Pipe Organ (Insurance valuation) £115,502.00

Liabilities

The Church has a liability to the shortfall in the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund. This is being met by a monthly Deficiency Contribution which is included within the figure for Pastor Samy's stipend and on-costs and is additional to the pension contributions paid by the Church. In 2012 this was £182 monthly.

Note: The Church building is held in Trust by Heart of England Baptist Association who hold the deeds to the Church premises.

