

End of year 2008

## ST. THOMAS'S

This thriving church was closed in 1994 due to its unsafe structure. A trust was formed of local residents in 2001 (launched in 2002). The Trust has leased the building to repair and refurbish it and to reopen it as a dual purpose.

### **Community hall and Church for Parkgate**

**£242k** has been raised so far but further donations are sought for equipping, completion & re-opening.

**Work completed so far.** Major structural work & new roof (using original slates) with insulation. Removal of organ & pews (2 retained). Wooden floor altered to one level throughout (removal of raised area at altar and infilling of aisle to the height of the pew area). Sloped entrance access to main floor constructed.

**Renewal of central heating, radiators and plumbing, including installation of new combi-central heating boiler, new gas supply and new gas meter. Demolition of the old boiler house. Complete electrical re-wire including re-instating electrical supply and timer to the exterior illuminated cross and provision for outdoor lighting and electrics for the church garden. Installation of small kitchen (with water boiler for tea/coffee) under the balcony & installation of accessible W.C. and wash basin in old vestry. Woodworm treatment throughout.**

**Work in Progress** Professional cleaning and repair of the historic church windows, including re-galvanising of the protective exterior grills.

**Work to follow.** Redecoration throughout the interior, WC drain connection to main sewer in the road, sloped access path from gate to front door to exclude any steps. Lowering of the Fire Exit door. Surface finishing of main floor. Equipping etc.

## **Fundraising this year included**

**Bric a brac sale Feb. £643,**

**Organ/piano recital at Mostyn House including donations £4000,**

**Sandwiches and cream teas at the Cricket Club marquee Fun Day Sunday in July £372,**

**Sales of Christmas cards (including two sales at Neston market and the Neston Parish Christmas Fair) approx. £400. We have a new Christmas card this year, a painting by Tom Harker.**

**Plus a number of kind donations from local families, including proceeds from fun runs, carol singing, In Memoriams, etc.**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP & DONATIONS**

## **Volunteers**

**A hard working group of locals maintain the grounds. The Trustees meet monthly and group of fundraisers plan and carry out events. Enquiries 0151 336 6146**

The Bishop's Trust for St. Thomas's, PO Box 80, Parkgate,  
Neston, CH64 6WE Charity no. 1090232

Website [www.stthomasparkgate.co.uk](http://www.stthomasparkgate.co.uk)

E-mail [stthomasparkgate@hotmail.com](mailto:stthomasparkgate@hotmail.com)