

HOT SUMMER/COLD WINTER

The saga of the church heaters

While the weather is so very warm and we have to keep the church doors open during services to allow the breeze through – can you remember the cold drafts of winter?

Last autumn, when the heaters in the new church had their annual service, six needed major work to get them through the winter. The remainder were found to be on their last legs. The maintenance company advised us that the heaters would not be passed as fit for use in autumn 2006.

The heaters will cost almost £22,000 to replace.

We need to replace them if we are to have adequate heating in the church for the coming winter season. To do this will seriously deplete the church resources at a time when running costs have risen very substantially (the gas bill has risen from £360 to £800 per month, for example) and are barely covered by regular committed giving.

We hope that at least half the cost of new heaters can be met by donations from the congregation. If this is not achieved other urgent tasks in the church will not be done – or we will all need to wear very warm coats next winter!

What are you being asked to do? The answer is simple. Please give generously to the “Heater Appeal” - by Gift Aid if possible.

Details about how to do this will be announced soon.

PETER ABERNETHY
CHAIR, STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE