AGM 20th June 2010
Feedback from Parishioners

WE GIVE THANKS FOR ...

Church and East End:
Beautiful church building and chapel
Beautiful church
Beautiful place being created
Visual beauty developing
Being part of vision and growth of St Paul's

Peter:
Our priest Peter
Great sermons
The chance to grow and improve as a person when taking Peter's sermons into my life
Relevant teaching
The Rector and his distillation of the word in sermons and advice
Ministry of Peter
Provocative teaching
Sincere services

Spirituality:
Theology and liturgy
Spiritual growth
Spiritual support
Opportunity to theologise
Involvement in the mass
Creative expression
Spiritual awakenings
Participation in public worship
Finding the life force within
Energy/life
Healing
Energy
Spirit of searching and openness I find here
Sense of energy
Generosity of spirit
Intellectual stimulation
Closeness to the divine
Sharing
Sacred space
Peace and quiet

Music:
Songs, voices, smiles and care
The joy of music, support and loving leadership in the choir by its members
Music
Music ministry
Choir
Choir
Worship services and choir
Joy in music
Music
Choir enthusiasm
Music

Garden:
Garden
Garden
Garden and building

Friendship – Fellowship:
Care, friendship and life of the church
Opportunity to share with wonderful people of God
Openness, smiles, naturalness, ability to share their view
Ongoing growth and friendship of the people and the joy of belonging to this parish
A parish that is alive and worshipping with joy and thanks for what we have
Friends
The people
Friendship
My "St Paul's" family
Friendship and community spirit with caring people
Fellowship
Emotional support and friendship
Friendship and fellowship
Happy smiling faces
Caring of the people
Fellowship
Love that comes out of the people
Friendship of the community
Friendship
Support from friends spiritually and emotionally
Giving of and generosity of love from all the community
Support in time of need
Sense of belonging
Sense of belonging
Support in day to day living
A place to be myself

Community:
Community (x 4)
Love and blessings of this community
Community spirit
A close and friendly community
Belonging to a caring community
Sense of community
Community spirit
Community of faith
Generous community

Gifts:
Sharing the tasks
Giftedness of the people
Volunteers
Cooking
Cleaning

Being part of things – archives

Commitment of the people

My return to St Paul's after many years of marriage and attendance elsewhere

Sunday School
Joining families at Sunday School
Children

Saving the cost of a gym membership!

Satisfaction in doing a job
Activities for giving and receiving

Email discussion group that kept me spiritually connected while away
Gabby's photos and book excerpts

Fun and great range of activities
Coffee

Home Group
A chance to participate in Bible Study

"Beyond Church"
Reaching out to the world
Social justice

Structure, order, routine I can rely on when I am feeling the complete opposite

WHAT I'D LIKE TO CHANGE ...

I want to see a service with modern music – everyday language that is a holy reflection of living faith
Greater variety in music choice
More contemporary music
Music – update style of music chosen

To know more about decisions made before they happen
To know about the decisions that are made when they're made – i.e. ? notice in hall - ? part of pew sheet
Communication from rector to parishioners – do not ignore
More information as to what is our future – not to hear about things from somebody else

More pastoral care
Pastoral care

Less talk of money
Vision for new community hall/kitchen
Greater ownership of financial responsibility
Capacity to pay for a second priest
Paying off chapel in two years

Not knowing the names of many parishioners
Name tags

Make sure new people are welcomed
New people should be given something – e.g. about St Paul's and follow-up
New people

Get Pinakarri people back
"I miss Jeremy"

Church camp not on grand final weekend – maybe back to May

Stories of faith of the people (including Peter) sharing in the church to inspire one another
A "knowing" of each other

Cakes baked on hot rocks

Less noise in church
No talking in church
Keep the service as "sacred" as possible – e.g. no social chit-chat
No talking before the service
More contemplative spaces in the liturgy
Silent prayer
More respect for sanctity of service time from some adults including respect for the choir when singing the postlude

Multiculturalism

Sustainability
Some emphasis ecology when considering development of gardens – i.e. providing habitats for bugs, birds and reptiles
More native plants, more insects

Bicycle racks

More dancing

Take care of tendency to "Group Speak" – i.e. jargon and forced wording

More diverse involvement in worship presentation
A greater sense of all involvement

Cushions at the middle section of the communion rail
Kneeling cushions at rail
Kneeling pads all the way along the communion rail

All the children have a turn at lighting the candle
Children contributing directly to worship service
More activities involving our children

Fewer "after church" notices – e.g. family birthdays

The Agnus Dei – The Creed!

Not so much emphasis on food and wine

Heating and cooling in the church
Cold in church in winter – hot in summer
Fans in church

More small study groups for people to mix

Our ability to attract some younger members who will ultimately take "over the reins"
More young people
A teenage program which grows into a committed Christian involvement

Gossip, backbiting and complaining
Negative talk about other people
Gossip
Cliques

More focus on leadership of all – not just a few to share the load

Inspiring ways to raise money
Fundraising for all

Audio system for hearing impaired
Sound system

A mid-week communion service

More storage space needed for Archives etc

The use of more people's talents

Who chooses committees? Who has a say?

A more coordinated approach to the East End development with more respect and love for those involved
Never an end to the need for repairs

WHAT WE SEEK TO REALISE IN THE YEAR AHEAD ...

More fun activities that express creativity as a way to the divine
Singing, drama, games
More of the same wonder music, Sunday lunches, worship and study groups

Promote the "community" of St Paul's to hopefully attract new attendees
Outreach to community – advertise the existence of what we have

Advertise the venue for weddings – a good source of income

Emphasis on spiritual growth for young people of the parish and the broader community
New church members
Bring in more children
Continuation of children's ministry

Just keep it all up – including me

Drama/music in the amphitheatre
Exploitation of chapel and amphitheatre
Performances in amphitheatre
Interfaith events in chapel
Repair to front of church – near doors

More meaningful worship

Less is more – rest awhile ?
Youth group

Stop bitching – really show interest and care for one another – pretend community towards real community

Wheels on the piano in the hall

A slightly more functional kitchen one day
Cleaning out the gutter
Refurbishment of hall and associated structures
Hanging the bell and ringing it for calling the faithful
A plan for refurbishment of new kitchen and studio
Community kitchen – cafe plans
Community kitchen/meeting room
Repairs to church stonework and hall

Possibility of people being able to rent a place somewhere on the block

A plan for our future senior/aged care outreach

Greater involvement by community in their spiritual growth

Variation of persons greeting people at church door at Sunday service – not just handing out books

To be more involved in the needs of the community when there are gaps in caring

Half (at least) of the loan paid
Financial ownership of the church
Growth in giving
More help raising funds to repay debts
Create innovative and sustainable fundraising for Snowlands School and other outreach projects
Pay of one third of the loan

Taking social justice into the wider community

Honesty with one another
Honesty with care, compassion and love

Development and realisation of beautiful gardens

Native plants
Consider planting now fo the future – some local species tress that will give us and creatures shelter
See garden grow
Gardens growing

Development of 166/168 housing project

More recognition from rector/council

More people onboard rather than the same people contributing all the time
Sound system for the church

Another service with contemporary music

Bring new people more diversity of praxis
A concentrated effort once or twice a year to bring a friend or pick up an elderly person to bring to church

A space in the church for small children/parents – like the old play/crying room

Get help for Peter to grow St Paul's
Be on lookout for new members

Provide storage for Archival material

Contemplative time without words

A "Way of the Cross" style walk around the church, amphitheatre and garden for lent

More giving so that we may have the opportunity to expand, grow and develop

Being more "real"

Focus outward on others
Follow-up and support for people new faith

More pastoral care