

# Atworth Independent Church

“It is time to seek the Lord” Hosea 10 v.12

Affiliated to the  
Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches

[www.atworthindependentchurch.org.uk](http://www.atworthindependentchurch.org.uk)

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## Report to the Atworth Parish Assembly 2012

The past twelve months have seen both encouragement and disappointment, the Christian church not being immune from the ups and downs of life that we all face. However our faith is firm in the Lord Jesus Christ who never changes.

We are pleased to continue the coffee mornings and this now alternates each second Friday of the month with a soup lunch. Various speakers or musicians have added to the success of these informal gatherings.

The building continues to be used as a venue for the Police Surgery each month and no doubt the duty officer is warmer sometimes than others.

A church picnic and games was enjoyed by the congregation at the home of our Pastor. So it was with great regret a while later the Church members had to accept the resignation through ill health of our Pastor for three years, Rev. John Schofield and his wife Viv. We shared a tea together at the chapel and John and Viv were given gifts from the fellowship in much appreciation of their devotion to the work of the chapel. The Sunday services at the chapel continue to be led by visiting lay speakers or retired Ministers. It is our hope to be able to appoint a new Pastor in the future.



The main body of the chapel was completely redecorated in the late summer and was finished just in time to be open for two days during Heritage Week. A number of visitors came from near and far and were able to enjoy light refreshments as they looked around and browsed various artefacts and photographs. We were especially pleased to see some people from the village who had not seen inside the building before. We are planning to be open again in September this year.

The members have a keen overseas Missionary interest and it was a great joy to welcome Malcolm and Jean Hunter once more during the year. Malcolm, son of former village Headmaster John Hunter, is a specialist in Nomadic Peoples.

At Christmas our Carol Service took the theme of “Carols around the World” which had been postponed from the previous year because of snow and ice.

Whilst the congregation is small in number we continue to enjoy the occasional combined meetings of other churches in the area who belong to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC).