

## HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT 2014/2015

As the years move on so do we at Memorial Church Anglican. With God's grace we have been able to continue functioning with all our commitments. We still have a very small congregation of approximately 30 members of which very few are tithing members.

We appointed M/s. N R Rajagopalan & Co. as our External Auditors to enable us deal with the Income Tax Department. Meanwhile Mr. T C Anbalagan continues as our Internal Auditor.

The Cottolengo Convent continues to be our main Outreach project. As we all know, the sisters at this convent take care of children and adults from all walks of life – cast, colour, and creed no bar. They also run a special school for mentally and physically handicapped children. They have resident and non resident children, and ALL are cared for and loved. The physiotherapy department continues to function, with well-trained staff, for all who need their help.

In October Rev. Karunakara, Mr. Cecil K Dewars, Mrs Margaret Lunel and I attended the General Council Meeting in Lucknow. At this meeting we pledged a sum of Rs. 12,50,000/- as our contribution towards the printing of The Book Of Common Prayer for The Church of India – CIPBC. We fulfilled our commitment in March this year.

This Christmas season too, we held a party for the children at the Cottolengo Convent. This time it was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> December with all the excitement of the children present. Once more, Mr. Narayana Swamy was there with a group of children from the Frank Anthony Public School Brass Band who accompanied us all with the singing. They also entertained us with their marches, tangos, and cha-cha-cha during the evening.

For the Carol Service – Lighting the Way, which was well attended and Excelicia, a young lady visiting our Church, sang a couple of Solos. This lent much meaning to the entire Carol Service. Midnight Mass on the 24<sup>th</sup> night was also well attended. This was followed by fellowship with all sipping hot coffee and enjoying good plum cake. Once more we were able to host a lunch for the sisters and children who were still in the Cottolengo Convent.

As usual, our Calendar for 2015 was printed and distributed to the congregation and 50 copies were sent to the Metropolitan at Lucknow.

Our other outreach work continued with our paying medical aid of Rs. 13,000/- for Carlina Mary in February 2015.

As February came along we began preparing for our annual fund-raiser. That is our

Festival of Spring Souvenir, for which we get advertisements from friends and well-wishers. The funds generated from this venture help us maintain the church and carry out some of our Outreach work during the year. The service for The Festival of Spring fell on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2013, where we gave thanks to our heavenly Father for all His Grace and blessings showered on us through the past year. Unfortunately this year we started late requesting family, friends and local businesses for adverts and donations and this led to very poor collections for the Souvenir, which was only launched on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March. This needs to be started in October this year.

Through the Lenten season Rev. Karunakara tried to conducted Lenten Bible classes for the members of the Parish but was unsuccessful as the response was poor.

We continue to share with the C.S.I. congregation, the expenses of salaries of church staff, and maintenance of the property. We also continue to pay our tithes to the Diocese and taxes to the Government. We have no outstanding towards either....by God's Grace we have been able to render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's and unto God, God's.

Mrs. Sydney Smith  
Hony. Secretary