

Christmas Bazaar Committee Review meeting
Wednesday 18th January 2006 @ 7.30pm

Present: Dee Timmins, Deacon Peter, Vera Pitman, Pauline Sobey, Mary Roberts, Mary Hough, Pegg Johnson, Vic Curry, Tom Wells, Phyllis Allen, Janet Lewis, May Greening, Kate Doyle, Hilary Stone, Sheila Penny, Jane George, Eileen Huggen.

Apologies: Fr Bernard, Pat & Peter Harrison, Steph Porter, Diane Brown.

1. Thanks received from Fr Bernard to all who contributed to the success of the bazaar. Chairman (Dee Timmins) added her thanks for all the hard work by many parishioners.
2. Financially, the final figure for the bazaar, raffle and auction combined was up on last year.
3. Stall holders reminded that they are required to clean around their stalls and dispose of their rubbish at home. Mr Upton (Headmaster) remarked how the hall was left very clean and tidy, but this must not be left to a few people. All must help.
4. Auction comments - A lot of goods, a lot of which went very cheaply. Some items were considered out of date. It was felt that fewer items of better quality would attract more people to participate. Ideas put forward; canvas local supermarkets / a meal for 2 at a local restaurant / vouchers / hairdressing or nails / children's events e.g. at Bitton railway – **more ideas welcome**.
5. Dates for 2006 bazaar. 2nd December or 25th November (Consensus was for 2nd December) Confirmation from Fr Bernard needed. **ACTION**.
6. Reviews from particular stalls-
 - a. Toiletries – Good position in hall. Mixed items of differing quality/appeal together which worked better than dividing up more expensive & cheaper items at separate ends of the stall. More was sold as a result of this.
 - b. Plants – It was felt that the early date of the bazaar worked against them. Struggle to get people interested. Hoping for a later date next year and thinking of other ideas.
 - c. Irish coffee – Felt that numbers were down on last year. People worried about drinking and driving? Also, as no plugs near the stall, it causes a hold up as have to go across kitchen to boil kettle. **ACTION: Dee to supply extension lead to alleviate situation.**
 - d. Sweets – Very busy throughout the afternoon thanks to a large donation of very good quality decorations which attracted a lot of interest. Jane has some leftover for next time.
 - e. Raffle – Janet and Peter felt it took the average amount of money.
 - f. Key game – Eileen had great fun running the game and although the £10 prize was won half way through the afternoon, people still took a great interest in the game.
 - g. Some stallholders felt they needed more in the float to start the afternoon. e.g. Kate on refreshments had a lot of people coming early with £10 & £20 notes to buy a drink of squash!. Vic Curry, in charge of the money side asked if **stallholders could give him some idea of**

what they would like n the float. It was suggested that we could have a runner to change notes for smaller change.

- h. White elephant – An awful lot of goods left over. See note below about boxes in the Narthex early enough to help this situation.
 - i. Books & videos – Again, early collection from Narthex to check suitability for sale would help. The soup run happily took good quality books that were left.
 - j. Hamper / raffle – went very well but more help is required on the day. As there were 3 other prizes offered this year it attracted more interest and is hoped to continue this year.
7. Dee thanked Janet for all her efforts to decorate the stalls. Stallholders agreed.
8. Theme – It was felt that we should have a theme, but to try & keep it simple as it can take time, money & effort to produce a costume and stall decoration.

Discuss at a later date.

9. Idea to have labelled boxes in the Narthex early enough for stallholders to be able to take goods away, so they can check/price-up/dispose of earlier.
- REMINDER – to all stallholders, you must check regularly to empty the Narthex of goods as it can end up looking like a junk shop and not a great first impression of our church.**
10. Everyone present said how important it is to have all stallholders attending meetings or if several on a stall, a representative to regularly attend.
11. Even though many thought that numbers were down on last year, takings on the door were up on last year.
12. It was decided to commence the bazaar at 2pm and end at 4.30 with perhaps the auction between 3-3.30pm. **Open to suggestions.**

Next meeting – Wednesday 26th April 2006 at 7.30pm in the Parish hall.

(All present enjoyed a glass of wine and buffet. Many thanks to Fr Bernard.)