



**ST MARY'S**  
Growing in the heart of Watford

## **St Mary's Men's Group – September 2009 Newsletter**

Hi everyone,

Whilst avoiding any rubbish jokes about 'winter draws on', there is definitely a 'start of the new term' mood around, whether at school, work or wherever. This is of course true of St Mary's where the various groups start to begin regular meetings. I am optimistically predicting an Indian Summer during September, and, as a sign of faith, have planned a **Croquet game on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September**, commencing at 2pm, in David Phillips' garden. This is rather short notice which is why I advertised it by email last week and the church weekly newsletter. As numbers are limited by space, the first 8 lucky respondents will be able to play. I will have to close the list anyway by late Wednesday to gauge if we have enough to make a game – David will need to work on his lawn if it is to go ahead!

As it happens, I am now aware that there is competition for your attention on Saturday as Frances Collins will be abseiling down the church tower to raise funds for the New Hope Trust. A very brave lady who deserves as much sponsorship as you can give.

In terms of the programme for the rest of the term, I envisage it as follows:

October – Men's Breakfast

November – Evening discussion (with wine and cheese)

December – Christmas Games Night - with partners - this seemed to be popular last year.

No dates given yet as I hope Men's Group members might volunteer to take on the organization and running. I also thought that the Men's Breakfast and evening discussion might be based on the 'Vision' theme, which will be developed within House Groups over this term. By discussing the 'Vision' within the Men's Group events, we may be able to bring a useful perspective to the work going on in other groups.

**Reach** – copies of a new edition of the magazine 'Reach' have been placed under the Men's Group noticeboard in the church centre. This is produced by 'Christian Vision for Men' an organization which does what it says on the tin. I would be happy to hear any feedback you have on this publication, or the content of the website [cvm.org](http://cvm.org).

And finally....

By the end of this year I will have served 2 years as coordinator/leader of the St Mary's Men's Group. Whilst there is no fixed term for this post, I believe that the Group would benefit from a fresh approach and I therefore intend to hand over the reins in the new year.

Who I hand them to is the key question, of course. I would intend to follow my predecessor's example and challenge the Men's Group as a whole to identify the next incumbent. I fully intend to remain a member of St Mary's congregation, but to return to the 'back-benches' for a while. Full training will be given!

God's Blessings on you all.

*Ian*

*7<sup>th</sup> September 2009*

**Ian Peck**

**Coordinator**

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