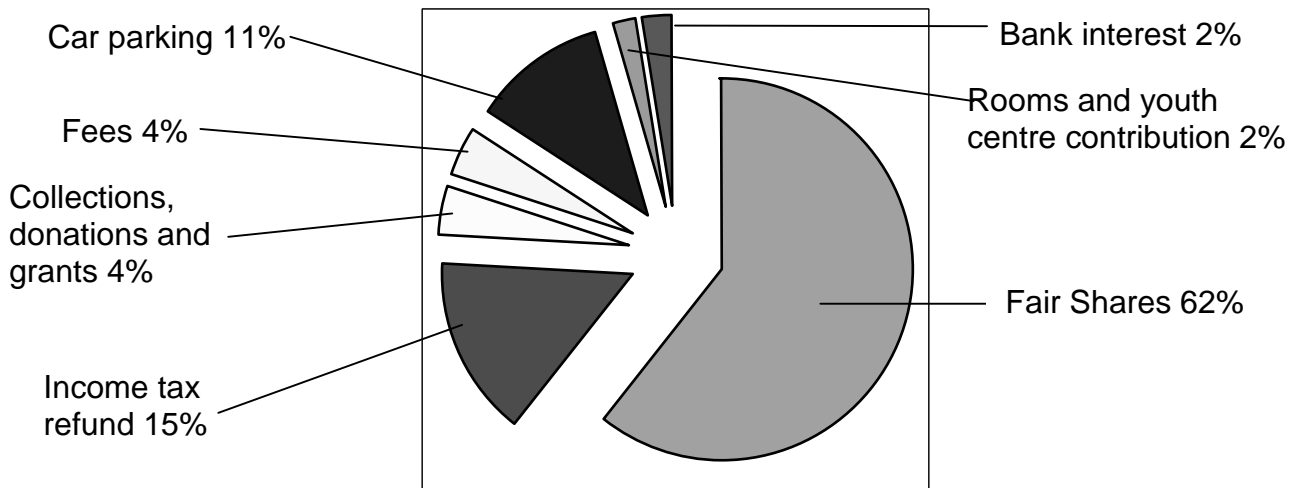


Where does all the Church's money go?

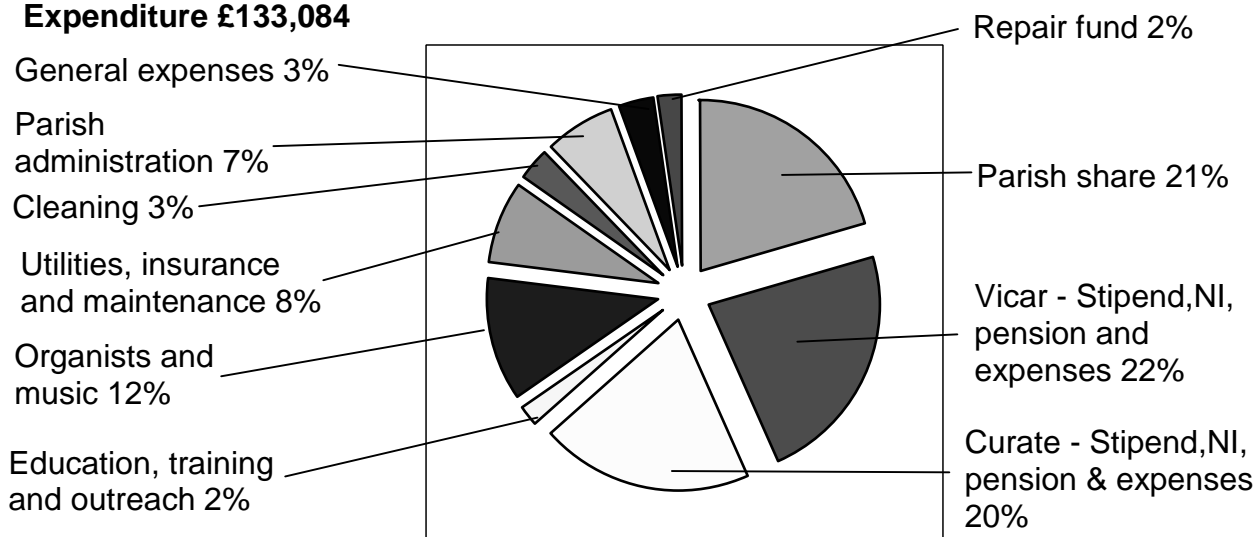
The PCC have agreed the housekeeping budget for 2004 with an income of over £107,000 and an expenditure of nearly £131,000. But where does all this money come from and where does it all go?

Income £107,200



Fair Shares is the scheme in which church members give money regularly to pay for the Church's housekeeping. Members usually give by monthly standing order or by weekly or monthly envelopes. Janet Kendall-Bryant manages the scheme and she treats all contributions confidentially.

Expenditure £133,084

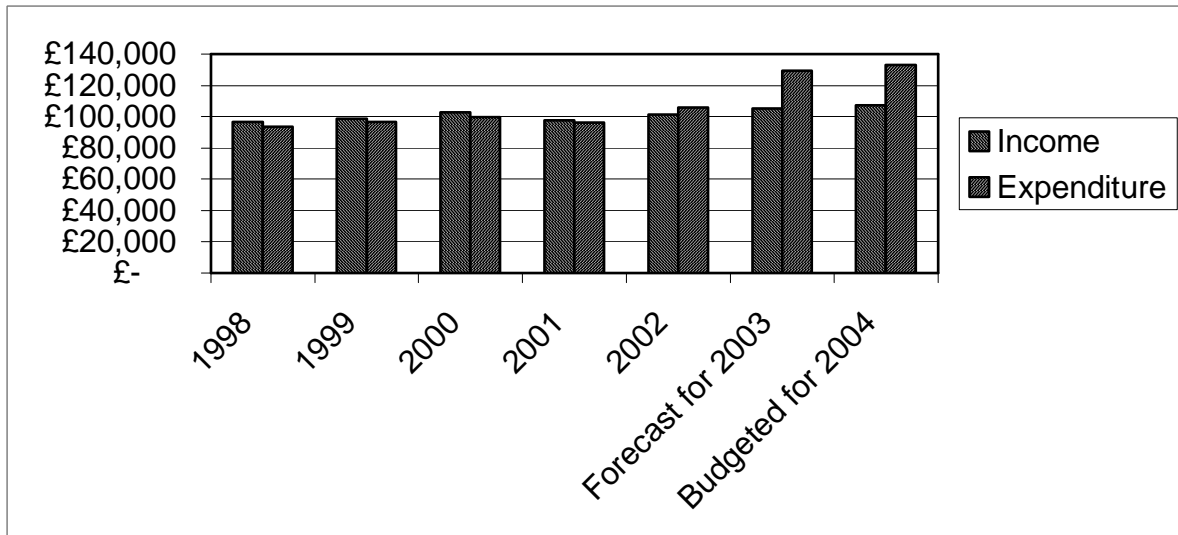


The budgeted expenditure for 2004 of £133,084 represents an increase of over £27,000 as compared with 2002, the last year for which final figures are available. Expenditure has increased to pay for:

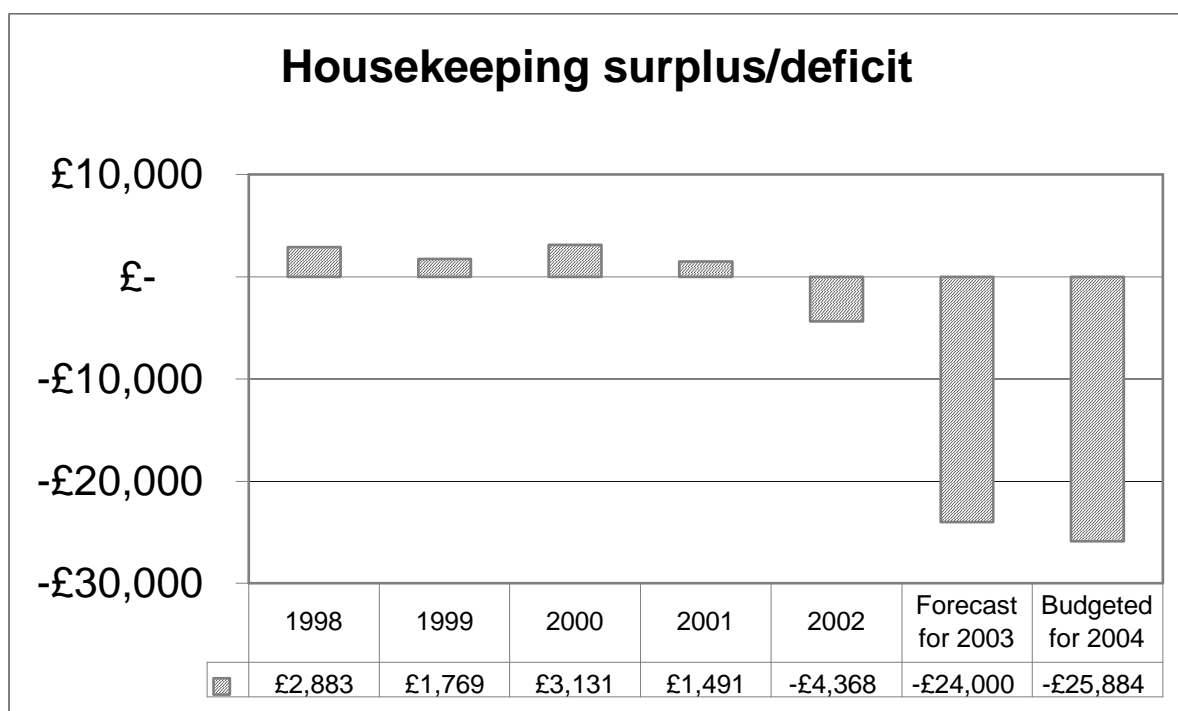
- salary increases for the Vicar and Curate (up 3.56% on 2003);
- their additional National Insurance and pensions contributions;

- salary increases for other staff, agreed by the PCC;
- the Parish Share payable to the Diocese (up 11.83% on 2003);
- inflationary increases in service charges and general running costs.

Over the last three year our expenditure has outstripped our income. In fact in 2000 if we had had a Vicar for the full year and in 2001 a Curate for the full year, our expenditure would have exceeded our income.



We increased our annual Fair Shares income from £68,188 in 2001 to £77,392 in 2002 (including tax refunds under Gift Aid) and we were right to feel pleased with this. However, during 2003 we lost several Fair Shares members who had been contributing very generously and as a consequence we expect to raise only about £68,942 based on current giving. Therefore, our accounts for the year are likely show a deficit of around £24,000.



We are clearly living beyond our means, but (as can be seen from the expenditure pie chart,) there is very little scope for reducing expenditure without radically changing the role and work of Bromley Parish Church.

We recognise that in future we have to increase our income not only from Fair Shares but also from other sources. We are currently investigating:

- using some of the rent from St Paul's House, as we are having to do in 2003;
- letting another property left to us by a parishioner through a local housing association;
- using the interest which we earn on our bank accounts;
- taking some money from our revenue reserves although we cannot go on doing this indefinitely.

We all have a responsibility as members of Bromley Parish Church to pay our share of the housekeeping costs. We should:

- join Fair Shares if we are not members already;
- review our annual giving if we are already members in the light of BPC's current needs and the CoE guidelines that recommend we give 5% of our income after tax;
- pay our contributions under Gift Aid so that BPC can recover the tax from the Inland Revenue, (currently some 15% of our income).

In future years, we will launch our Fair Shares campaign much earlier so that we know what we are likely to receive from Fair Shares and Gift Aid before the start of the year so that we can budget for our expenses appropriately. We hope that for 2005 members' pledges will be made on Advent Sunday in 2004

The responsibility is ours.

Matthew Young

Blessed is the person who sees the need,
recognises the responsibility, and actively becomes the answer.
William Arthur Ward

December Solution

U	T	O	D	G	T		
A	Z	E	R	B	A	I	J
		Y	S	E	A	B	
C	H	R	I	S	T	L	A
	O	N		L	L	R	
G	O	L	G	O	T	H	A
	T		A	B		A	
L	E	V	I	S	H	A	D
	N	N	H		O	L	
Z	A	D	D	I	K	S	A
	N	I	E	H	A		
I	N	C	E	N	T	E	N
	Y	T	T	M	S	N	

Answers Across

- 7 Azerbaijan
- 8 Am
- 9 Christ
- 11 Larger
- 12 Golgotha
- 14 Yank
- 15 Levi
- 17 Shadrach
- 19 Zaddik
- 20 Samuel
- 21 In
- 22 Centennial

Answers Down

- 1 Uz
- 2 Trying
- 3 Oast
- 4 Djellaba
- 5 Gnarly
- 6 Tabernacle
- 10 Hootenanny
- 13 Tashkent
- 16 Indict
- 18 Romans
- 20 Shem
- 23 An