

## Teddington Methodist Church Refurbishment

On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February the Mayor of Richmond upon Thames, Local Councillors, Chair of the London District Jenny Impey, and many friends and members of the congregation gathered to celebrate the completion of Teddington Methodist Church's latest refurbishment project.

Some 50 years after the initial construction of Teddington Methodist Church, with around 1000 people utilising the premises in an average week, church members had a vision. This vision was to transform the premises so that we could look forward to a future of serving God and our neighbours from premises that looked outwards to our community. We wanted to provide a building that was a visible presence and witness and was inviting to those who wished to worship as well as to the many local organisations who have found a home in it.



By February 2004 church members had raised sufficient money to carry out the first phase of the work, enabling the church itself to be converted into a comfortable, multi-purpose, worship area. Now, as a result of further fund-raising, gifts from church members, legacies and grants from various bodies including the London District of the Methodist Church and the local Hampton Fuel Allotments Charity, the next phase of upgrading the Youth Hall and main entrance has been completed. Our Youth Hall was constructed in 1952, along with the current church, to replace the original building on the site that was demolished by a flying bomb during WW2. Now, not only have the facilities been improved for our many users, but at last passersby can see that we are a church!

This is not the end though. The vision continues, the mission continues and the challenge continues.

Jan Brooman - 17 February 2011