

## **The Anglican Church of Luxembourg Webmaster's AGM Report 2014 - 2015**

This has been a year of big changes for the church website. In 2014, the Communications Committee kicked off the project to revamp the site, and during the third and fourth quarter of the year executed that project. Many thanks to Patrick Granger, who designed and built the new website, and the members of the Communications Committee, who spent a great deal of time collaborating on the design. The new site was finished in November, and replaced the legacy website in December. I also took over the webmaster duties at that time.

The new website offers a fresh look and layout which makes it easy for newcomers to explore and learn about the church, and for members to find the church information that they need, from upcoming events to forms and documents. It also brings updates in terms of how the website is updated and maintained, which make it possible to add new pages and content without touching any code. This opens up new opportunities for the website by lowering the technical barriers to posting information.

The rollout of the new site was a bit rocky in the first few weeks, with two events which caused downtime. The first event is a bit of a mystery, as two key files for the website went missing from the server. The logs from the hosting provider did not indicate what happened to those files. Fortunately this problem has not recurred. The second event involved the site being hacked. The original password for the administration console for the website was not strong, and an unauthorized user accessed it and changed all of the links on the site to point to a scam website. Based on the traffic patterns of the unauthorized user, it appears to be an automatic hacking script, rather than an individual hacking in real-time. Following the event I replaced all of the credentials associated with the website with strong passwords, and I also started switching the passwords regularly. The perpetrator of the hack stopped attempting to access the administration console shortly after I changed the passwords, and has not returned. After those events in December, however, the website has been stable with no downtime.

One of my goals for the new site is for it to evolve over time, so even though it is live, I am making updates and launching new features in my spare time. So if you have comments or suggestions for the site, please let me know at the AGM or any time by email at [webmaster@anglican.lu](mailto:webmaster@anglican.lu)

***John Dimond***