

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

AUGUST 1992

SUNDAY DIARY

2. EIGHTH AFTER PENTECOST

Theme:

The Fruit of the Spirit

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9. NINTH AFTER PENTECOST

Theme:

The Whole Armour of God

8.00am Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer
6.30pm Family Communion

16. TENTH AFTER PENTECOST

Theme:

The Mind of Christ

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
and Baptism
6.30pm Evensong

23. ELEVENTH AFTER PENTECOST

Theme:

The Serving Community

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.30pm Family Communion

30. TWELTH AFTER PENTECOST

Theme:

The Witnessing Community

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.00pm Evensong



Bowls, Poole Park, Dorset, by Ivan J. Belcher
(Y series cover published by Chansitor Publications Ltd, 16 Blyburgate, Beccles,
Suffolk, NR34 9TB; printed in Great Britain by Stott Brothers Ltd, Halifax and Oxford)

MID WEEK DIARY

Communion: On Wednesdays at 10.00am in the Church Lounge
except on August 12 when it is at the Rectory.

Prayer Focus: Wednesday August 26 at 8.00pm in the Church
Lounge.

Church Council: Thursday August 13 at 7.45pm at St Andrews.

Coffee Morning: Saturday August 8 - 10am to 12 noon.

WHO'S WHO

Rector: Roger B Jackson
The Rectory
234 Wigan Road (61819)

Vicar: A Robin Hazlehurst
St Andrew's Vicarage
Crescent Avenue (651851)

Curate: Michael W Saunders
281 Deane Church Lane (64313)

Honorary Assistant: Anthony J Woodward
6 Barrisdale Close (654863)

Readers: Ken Allan
159 Newbrook Road (63231)

Alison Saunders
281 Deane Church Lane (64313)

Wardens: Keith Acton
3 Mallowdale Close (42723)

Terry Oakes
14 Salford Road (64362)

Stan Wilson
11 Clough Meadow (492034)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Lay Craig Mochrie
Chairman: 4 Laxford Grove (652324)

Honorary Keith Acton
Treasurer: 3 Mallowdale Close (42723)

Honorary Peter Marron
Secretary: 18 Milverton Close (492643)

CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS

Mission & Unity: Michael Saunders
Pastoral: Joyce Sutcliffe
Worship: Roger Jackson
Buildings & Fabric: Terry Oakes
Social: Brenda Dixon

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist: Jim Needham
130 The Pewfist
Westhoughton (0942 812692)

Flowers: Mary Jackson
234 Wigan Road (61819)

Verger: Betty Calderbank
32 Junction Road (655375)

Archivist: Rodney Howard
42 Elswick Avenue (652417)

MEMORIAL HALL

Bookings: Ron Morris
13 St Mary's Avenue (62548)

Caretakers: David and Eunice McCormick
34 Junction Road (654503)

WHAT'S ON

Creche: under 3 years
Scramblers: 3 to 5 years
Climbers: 5 to 7 years
Meet in the Memorial Hall Lounge on
Sundays at 10.30 a.m.
Pauline Ridyard (651157)

Explorers: 7 to 11 years
Meet in Church at 10.30 a.m. before
going to the Memorial Hall.
Eric Downs (653049)

Pathfinders: 11 to 14 years
Worship in Church on Sundays
Club Night in the Memorial Hall on
Fridays from 7.15 to 9.00 p.m.
David Dewhurst (651347)

C.Y.F.A.: 14 to 18 years
Meet on Sundays at 7.45 p.m.
Alan Cheetham (61152)

LADIES GROUPS

Meet in the Memorial Hall

Ladies Alternate Tuesdays
Guild: at 7.45 p.m.
Pat Sewell (61278)

Mothers' Union: Alternate Wednesdays
at 2.00 p.m.
Janetta Makin (658270)

Mums and Toddlers: Alternate Thursdays
at 1.30 p.m.
Alison Saunders (64313)

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut

Brownies: 1 Mondays at 5.45 p.m.
Jean Hanley (654010)
2 Tuesdays at 6.30 p.m.
Lily Jarrett (63511)

Guides: Mondays at 7.15 p.m.
Carol Baxendale (62106)

Rangers: Alternate Wednesdays
at 7.30 p.m.
Judith Ashcroft (657430)

Cubs: A Thursdays at 6.45 p.m.
Wendy Gooding (653277)
B Wednesdays at 6.15 p.m.
Marjorie Oakes (64362)
Pat Boydell (61450)

Beavers: Thursdays at 5.30 p.m.
Susan Ash (62657)

Rainbows: Fridays at 6.30 p.m.
Margaret Latchford (657101)

The Parish Office at the Rectory, 234 Wigan Road (61819) is open on Saturdays from 10.00 to 11.00 a.m. to deal with initial enquiries for Baptism and Banns of Marriage.

The Rector writes

25th July, 1992.

Whether we like it or not (and the older we are the less we like it) we live in very changing times. What many of us find so bewildering is not just the changes themselves, but the rate at which the changes are taking place. For instance, let us consider the matter of LIVING TOGETHER BEFORE MARRIAGE

In the earlier part of my ministry in the 1960's couples coming to Church for their wedding rarely lived together before marriage. They may well have been having regular sexual relations for all I know, but they didn't cohabit. To have done so was regarded as "living in sin", and this would have been a cause of embarrassment to their family and friends. Since then the situation has changed beyond all recognition, and especially over the past 5 years, for nowadays about 60% of those getting married at Deane Church have already been living together for sometime. Not only do couples show no embarrassment about this, they believe it is the normal pattern and the accepted thing to do. Indeed not to cohabit before marriage is considered very odd!

I am, of course, aware of the fact that even some members of our own congregation, and the sons and daughters of other members of our Church Family have chosen to love together before marriage. Consequently I need to be very sensitive in what I say, for I do not wish to be hurtful or judgemental. This puts me in a difficulty. If I say nothing this may appear as approval; if I merely condemn I will be accused of lack of compassion and understanding.

I realise that couples who do choose to live together before marriage may have special reasons which in their view justify their action. Some people justify it on financial grounds. It is cheaper to live together than to live separately. This is probably true when the partners had already left their parental homes and were living in separate rented accommodation, but it is doubtful in those cases where they deliberately choose to leave their respective homes to live together. Financial expediency is not necessarily a good guide for behaviour. Other couples claim that in the light of the very high failure rate in marriage it is wise to live together for a trial period before making a permanent commitment to one another. On the surface this sounds good common sense. But it is not. The latest official statistics from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) show that couples who live together before marriage are 50% more likely to split up and divorce than those who did not. Why should this be? Probably because those who are self-disciplined before marriage are more likely to be self-disciplined within marriage. Moreover, if we have a casual attitude to the start of a relationship we are more likely to have a weaker commitment to its continuance. Perhaps more importantly, we need to recognise that there is no such thing as "trial marriage" because a trial by its very nature lacks commitment, and commitment is at the very heart of every successful marriage. I believe it needs to be said loud and clear that if you want to make your marriage more likely to fail, then cohabit beforehand! Other couples justify living together on the grounds that this is their own personal decision and, therefore, nobody else's business. I believe there is a dangerous half truth here. Certainly, as a Christian, I would not be happy with the "arranged marriages" common in other cultures. A couple must be free to make up their own minds, free from the external pressures of parents and circumstances. However, we must not ignore the place of the community in which we live. A stable society must be able to order its relationships, to give its stamp of approval to those decisions which its individual members make in private. This is one of the things that is being done in a wedding ceremony whether it is in Church or at a register office. Cohabiting, especially when as in the majority of cases it breaks down before leading to marriage, is selfishness, because it fails to consider the society in which we find ourselves.

I like to think that I can understand why many couples choose to cohabit before marriage, but as I understand it this is not a Christian option. Though I cannot agree with them as a Christian, it does not mean that I think anything less of them as people. When such couples come to us enquiring about a wedding in Deane Church my colleagues and I do not discriminate against them. Indeed we rejoice that they have decided to marry each other, and to do so before God and in Church. It is always my hope and prayer that in coming to Church for their marriage they are doing so not simply because it is a "nicer ceremony" in more photogenic surroundings, but because they humbly seek God's help in enabling them to achieve a lifelong commitment to each other.

Roger B. Jackson.

BITS & PIECES

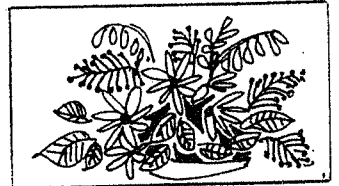
COFFEE MORNING



The Ladies Guild hold their annual Coffee Morning on Saturday August 8 from 10.00 to 12 noon. At their fortnightly meetings on Tuesday evenings Gillian Platt will give a flower arranging demonstration on August 4th and there will be an evening outing on August 18th.

The Mothers Union meet on Wednesdays July 29, August 12 and 26th. They hold a Rummage Sale on Tuesday August 25th jointly with the Ladies Guild.

CONSIDERING THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH - thoughts by Ron Morris.
"Consider the Lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not neither do they spin". St. Matthew 6 v 28 A.V.



This text does not mean only lilies - the flowers displayed so expertly week after week in Church, and for special occasions, are of many kinds and the Constance Sprys in our midst are to be congratulated on their excellent work, thought, skill and knowledge in providing the congregation and visitors with themes, pleasing not only to the eye but to the senses in every way.

Deane has been very fortunate in that the Flower Ladies of the congregation have worked so well and have taken great pains. Their work has been unsung and unpaid for very many years, but their labours have generated and inspired an interest for many of us. We thank them!

Editor: The flower ladies are Sheila Acton, Irene Ashley, José Crompton, Mary Jackson and Brenda Lord. They are not an exclusive bunch for they will be delighted if others could join them.



In connection with the Raise the Roof Appeal an AUCTION is being planned for Saturday September 19th with a viewing the previous evening. Items already given include a pair of binoculars and a 2 week Time Share Apartment on Spain's Costa del Sol! Stan Wilson will be very pleased to hear of other offers (Tel 492034)

A Men's Working Party is required on Saturday 1st from 9.00 am until 12 noon for the purpose of returning a number of gravestones in the Churchyard to their upright position having been previously knocked over by vandals. Bringing a spade with you could be useful.



Glenys Sumner is recovering from major brain surgery for a rare condition at the Midland Centre for Neurosurgery and Neurology in Birmingham.

As an expression of her deep gratitude she and her family are planning a sponsored cycle ride to Southport on September 5th and she is looking for sponsors. The proceeds will be divided between a trust which funds research into Glenys' condition and the Childrens Cancer Unit at the Royal Manchester Childrens Hospital. Further details, together with the sponsorship list, are on the noticeboard in Church.



IN THE NEWS



On Sunday July 12th we gave thanks with the following parents for the birth of their children:

Warren and Julie Barlow for Michael
Carl and Christina Farrow for Daniel
Vincent and Jane Kelly for Lauren
Alan and Deana Swinburne for Victoria

The marriage took place quietly on Sunday afternoon, July 12th of Roy Pomfret and Doreen Entwistle.

The Rector officiated. The bride was given away by Mr Christopher Riding whom Doreen used to wheel in his pram several years ago! The best man was Mr John Clapperton a long standing friend of Roy's through their work in the textile industry. Mrs Joan Clapperton was in attendance. In the ceremony Gillian Sumner sang two solos - 'Rejoice Greatly' from Handel's Messiah and Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'All I ask of you'. Mary Jackson read the lesson. We send them our love and very best wishes for their new life together.



Prom Praise at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester on Saturday, October 24th at 2.30pm and 7.30pm with Noel Tredinnick and the All Souls Orchestra from London. The players are professional musicians, business people, medical students and teachers who assist regularly in the leadership of worship at this famous West End Church next to the BBC. Their conductor Noel Tredinnick (a member of the All Souls team who came to Deane for a weekend several years ago) gives Prom Praise its special

flavour through his own love for music for all kinds - Jazz, film themes, hymn tunes ancient and modern, as well as classical music - they all enthuse his energetic baton. This year's programme includes a selection from Leonard Bernstein's 'West Side Story', Malcolm Arnold's 'English Dances', Saint Saens Organ Symphony and Nigel Swinford's 'Bridegroom Song'. If you enjoy popular concert music, joining in singing hymns and songs and the experience of 'the Last Night of the Proms' atmosphere, then you will enjoy Prom Praise. You can book by signing the list in Church.

money matters

REGULAR CHRISTIAN GIVING

Thank you to all who have contributed to God's work through our Church by their weekly giving:

	<u>Planned Giving Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Collections</u>	<u>Totals</u>
July 7	£ 674.30	97.48	771.78
14	487.85	112.33	600.18
21	655.92	280.31	936.23
28	420.63	92.34	512.17
Weekdays	-	120.63	120.63
	<u>2238.70</u>	<u>703.09</u>	<u>2941.79</u>

In the corresponding period last year the amount given was £2846. This year's figure represents an increase in the level of giving of 3.3%



At the most recent meeting of the Church Council, the treasurer reported that the amount of money actually banked was £44,008. In addition a further sum of about £7000 has been promised and/or can be recovered from the Inland Revenue over the next 3 years. The treasurer expects to have to pay a first instalment of about £18,000 to the main contractor this month.

It is encouraging to hear how groups outside our church membership are responding to the appeal. We understand that "The Queen Anne" are planning to donate the rental charges for their Car Boot Sale on August 2nd to the Roof Appeal. Advance bookings at £5 are now being taken. The charge is £7.50 on the day. In addition to the sale there will be a Bouncey Castle and a Skittle Alley.

Though Tom and Marjorie Stokes are aware of the need to fund the Roof Appeal, they are also aware of escalating problem of starvation on the African continent, especially in Somalia. The pictures on our TV screens show how children and adults are suffering beyond human endurance. They have given the Rector a cheque for £100 to send to Tear Fund for their relief work in Somalia and they invite others to join with them in this charitable work. Donations in envelopes marked "For Tear Fund's work in Somalia" will be forwarded to the treasurer in the early part of this month.

