

# THE PARISH OF DEANE

# DEANE CHURCH NEWS

**JANUARY 1995**

## SUNDAY DIARY

### 1. FIRST AFTER CHRISTMAS

Theme  
The Incarnation

8.00am Communion  
10.30am Family Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 8. FIRST AFTER EPIPHANY

Theme  
The Baptism of Jesus

8.00am Communion  
10.30am Morning Service  
6.30pm Family Communion  
and Baptism

### 15. SECOND AFTER EPIPHANY

Theme  
The First Disciples

8.00am Communion  
10.30am Family Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 22. THIRD AFTER EPIPHANY

Theme  
Signs of Glory

8.00am Communion  
10.30am Family Service  
6.30pm Family Communion

### 29. FOURTH AFTER EPIPHANY

Theme  
The New Temple

8.00am Communion  
10.30am Family Communion  
and Thanksgiving  
6.30pm United Service at  
St Andrews



*'Transport by power', Didcot, by Ivan J. Belcher  
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## MIDWEEK DIARY

Communion: Every Wednesday at 10.00am in the Church Lounge

Prayer Focus: Wednesday January 4 at 8.00pm in the Church Lounge

Home Groups: Tuesdays and Wednesdays January 10/12, 24/25

Church Council: Monday January 16

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: January 18 - 25

## 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:** Charles D Moore  
281 Deane Church Lane (64313)

**Reader:** Christine Kilsby  
1386 Junction Rd West (492351)

**Wardens:** Craig Mochrie  
4 Laxford Grove (652324)

Terry Oakes  
14 Salford Road (64362)

Les Kilsby  
1386 Junction Rd West (492351)

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

**Lay** Stan Wilson  
**Chairman:** 11 Clough Meadow (492034)

**Honorary** Keith Acton  
**Treasurer:** 3 Mallowdale Close (842723)

**Honorary** Les Kilsby  
**Secretary:** 1386 Junction Rd West (492351)

### CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS

**Finance:** Keith Acton  
**Pastoral:** Stan Wilson  
**Worship:** Philip Gore  
**Buildings & Fabric:** Mike Kirkby  
**Social:** Brenda Dixon

### OTHER OFFICIALS

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

**Flowers:** Mary Jackson  
234 Wigan Road (61819)

**Vergers:** Betty Calderbank  
32 Junction Road (655375)

**Archivist:** Rodney Howard  
42 Elswick Avenue (652417)

**Covenant** Sid Harris  
**Secretary:** 11 Manningham Road (656355)

### MEMORIAL HALL

**Bookings:** Keith Holden  
3 Beaumont Drive (653075)

**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.  
Jane Hampson (848433)

**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 8.00 p.m.  
Charlie & Sara Moore (64313)

**CHURCH CHOIR**  
Rehearsals on Sundays at 11.45 a.m.  
Jim Needham (0942 812692)

### MUSIC GROUP

Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m.  
Ray Howarth (652602)

### LADIES GROUPS

Meet in the Memorial Hall

**Ladies** Alternate Tuesdays  
**Guild:** at 7.45 p.m.  
Pat Boyde (61450)

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

**Parents & Toddlers:** Thursdays at 1.30 p.m.  
Julie Cooper (660946)

### UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut

**Brownies:** 1 Mondays at 5.45 p.m.  
Janet Madden (665896)  
2 Tuesdays at 6.30 p.m.  
Lily Jarrett (63511)

**Guides:** Mondays at 7.15 p.m.  
Carole 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.  
Francis Barlow

**Beavers:** Thursdays at 5.30 p.m.  
Jean Aspinall (63948)

**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

## School Worship

18th December, 1994.

The law as it stands at present demands that there shall be an act of worship in every school each day, and that it should be broadly Christian! In theory this is absolutely splendid, and most Christians would approve. However, the reality of the situation to-day is that the law is only reflecting an ideal which is not being achieved in practice because it is proving to be unworkable. For instance, in our own town we have county primary schools where up to 95% of the children come from an ethnic background of a Muslim and/or Hindu culture. Then in the secondary school sector many headteachers are finding it extremely difficult to find members of staff who are able and willing to lead an act of school worship. There are many fine Christian teachers in our schools, but they are outnumbered by those who are not practising Christians and never have been. Of those teachers who are Christians not many have the confidence or experience to lead Christian worship. For those who are not Christians an act of Christian worship is as alien and unfamiliar as Hindu or Muslim worship would be, and for them to lead an act of worship would be a sham, only reinforcing the view which many teenagers hold, namely that Christianity is just not true.

School worship is not only a problem for the teaching profession, it is a problem for their pupils too. We need to face up to the fact that neither school worship on weekdays nor Church worship on Sundays switches them on. Our Pathfinder and CYFA leaders find it increasingly difficult to encourage even those of their members who say they believe to come to Church because I suspect that in many cases they would receive some "stick" from their friends. Moreover, they find it hard to be seen to be joining in and enjoying school worship. So what is to be done?

The Evangelical Alliance, generally regarded as a conservative body, has recently come out with a suggestion that has outraged some of its supporters. It is calling for a change in the law so that schools only be required to provide an act of worship twice a week, and that pupils "opt in" rather than "opt out" as at present. I believe that this position at least has the merits of recognising (i) the realities and difficulties of the present situation more than its critics do and (ii) that ultimately Christian worship has to be freely entered into, for compulsory worship is a contradiction in terms. In practice however, I would hazard a guess that very few teenagers would opt in, for it would require great courage and strong convictions to go against the prevailing stream of the secularism of their peers.

Our own Philip Gore, who is a spokesman for a group of General Synod members, accuses the Evangelical Alliance for "running up the white flag of surrender". He quotes the statistic from a recent survey which showed that 70 percent of parents wanted daily worship for their children. Personally I would treat this figure with a pinch of salt, for only a small fraction of these parents take part in an act of Christian worship regularly on Sundays, and far fewer still on a daily basis. This is the kind of hypocrisy and sham which teenagers rightly see through. I suspect that they are probably the same kind of people who complain bitterly when a congregation reluctantly decides that the time has come for its Church building to be closed. Experience shows that invariably the greatest opposition to closure comes from those who only use the building on rare occasions.

There are those who claim that the answer lies in strengthening our Church schools, both in the primary and secondary sector. In theory at least it is part of their ethos to assemble together as a community to worship God. Moreover it is assumed that this was one of the factors which caused parents (and their children?) to choose a Church school. At the risk of putting my head on the chopping block I must confess that I detect the same degree of cynicism and dislike of Christian worship amongst pupils at Church secondary schools as I do from those brought up in the county sector.

Cont'd on next page.



## IN THE NEWS

**BAPTISM.** On December 4th we welcomed into membership of our Church Family at Deane:

Daniel Stephen Holt.	83 Adrian Road, Halliwell.
Richard George Simpson	5 Langside Drive, Ladybridge
Andrew John Simpson	5 Langside Drive, Ladybridge
Gemma Marie Small	20 Harrop Street, Deane.

**ATTENDANCE AWARDS** have recently been received by the following children in....

Climbers for	25 attendances: Melissa Bates, Andrew Bateson
	50 attendances Lis and Oliver Hodgkinson, Emma List, Richard Simpson
	125 attendances Elizabeth Cox, Adam Smith
Explorers for	40 attendances Neil Hewitt, Stephanie Horridge
	120 attendances Matthew Cox, Wendy Whittaker.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Sheila and Norman Pitfield who have recently celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary and to Norman and Mary Grundy who celebrated their Golden Wedding on December 13th. They very much appreciated the many congratulatory messages which they received. Mary writes "We have been very fortunate in reaching such a milestone. On one of our cards it said "He has brought you this far". We know this to be true. Along with the prayers and support from our Church Family, especially the members of the Ladies Guild, these recent years with our failing health would have been so much more difficult".

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So where does this leave us? It leaves us asking ourselves what is worship? Worship literally means "worth-ship", recognising and valuing the worth of something. Christian worship is recognising and valuing the worth of Almighty God, and to do this we need to engage our minds and bodies as well as our spirits. Those of us who have the responsibility of leading Christian worship are not in the entertainment business. Our job is not to keep folk amused. Nor is it about making them bored to bits! It's about taking ourselves and the congregation into an awareness of God and of His greatness, so that we wish voluntarily to fall down as it were before Him in worship. We have a long, long way to go before achieving this, but this I believe must be one of our principle aims this coming year. I suspect that it is not only in school during the week, but in Church on Sundays, that in much of our so called worship we are merely going through the motions.

When our Worship Action Group consulted the congregation earlier in the year the greatest area of dissatisfaction surrounded the monthly family/parade service. At this next month's service the congregation will be invited to answer a questionnaire in which your opinions and suggestions are being sought. I trust that you will give it your serious consideration.

Finally on behalf of Mary and myself I wish to thank all those of you who have so kindly sent us your Christmas Greetings. We offer you our sincere Christian Best Wishes for the New Year.

Roger B. Jackson.

# BITS & PIECES

## PARISH WEEKEND HOUSEPARTY MAY 12TH - 24TH

After several years a Rhos-on-Sea, North Wales, it has been decided to try a new venue this year. Thornleigh at Grange over Sands is a large house situated on the northern edge of Morecambe Bay and on edge of the Lake District National Park. It can accommodate up to 54 guests in single, twin and family rooms. Further details will be posted on the notice board together with a booking list. It will be 'first come first served' so don't leave it too late before booking a place.



THE BOLTON CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP which is now situated in the far better position opposite the main post office in Deansgate is holding a BOOKSALE starting on December 27th at 10.00am and finishing on January 21st. Amongst many other bargains they are offering 18 of their best selling titles at the 'give away' price of £1.99. Warmly commended are any books by John Stott and Alistair McGrath, both of whom are not only gifted intellectually, but are brilliant communicators of the Christian Faith. Joyce Huggett's books are very practical in the way in which she tackles subjects such as relationships and domestic matters.

THE LADIES GUILD always begin the year with their Annual Meeting combined with a White Elephant Stall. This takes place on Tuesday January 17th. A fortnight later, on January 31st they have invited Miss Fawell to speak on 'Welldressing'.



THE CUB SCOUTS who meet on Thursday evenings from 6.45-8.15 are looking for help in assisting the present leader, Wendy Gooding. The need arises because Pat Ashton who has now moved to Darwen feels that the time has now come to hand over to someone else. Offers should be made to Wendy (Tel.653277).

It is a sad reflection on the men that everyone of the present leaders of our boys' organisations is a woman! It may be worthwhile pondering the following poem (Editor)

We men ... we are the stronger sex, it always has been so.  
We sent our gifts to mission fields, to which the women go.

While up the steepest jungle paths a woman bravely treads,  
we men who are the stronger sex, do pray ... beside our beds.

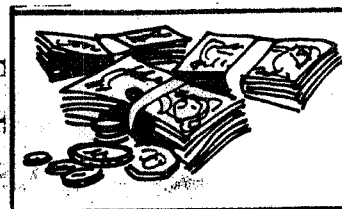
When women leave to go abroad the heathen souls to reach  
we men, who are the stronger sex, do stay at home and preach.

While women in some far-off shack to brave the flies and heat  
We men, who are the stronger sex, in cool and comfort eat.

Fatigued and weary, needing rest, the women battle on  
We men, who are the stronger sex, do write and cheer them on

O valiant men, come let us sleep and rest our weary heads  
for we'll not be the stronger sex if we neglect our beds!

# MONEY MATTERS



We wish to thank those who have contributed to the work of God through His Church in Deane.

	<u>Planned Giving</u> <u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose</u> <u>Collections</u>	<u>Totals</u>
November 6	£ 692.74	£123.16	£ 815.95
13	550.77	105.44	656.21
20	556.46	116.19	672.65
27	534.40	131.14	665.54
Standing Orders	133.75	-	133.75
Weekdays	-	94.30	94.30
	<u>£2468.17</u>	<u>£570.23</u>	<u>£3038.40</u>

In the corresponding period last year the total given was £2725.

## THIS YEAR'S DATES



January 4th	Prayer Focus
16th	Parochial Church Council
29th	United Evening Service at St Andrews
February 12th	Education Sunday, Family Service at 10.30am with Helen Franklin and the Confirmation Service at 6.30pm with the Bishop of Manchester.
15th	Prayer Focus
March 1st	Ash Wednesday
16th	Final meeting of the present Church Council
April 11th	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
13th	Maundy Thursday Agape
May 10th	Archdeacon's Visitation Service
12-14th	Parish Week-end at Grange over Sands
14-20	Christian Aid Week
June 18th	Deane Sermons with the Dean of Lincoln and the Bishop of Manchester
October 8th	Harvest Thanksgiving