

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

MARCH 1995

SUNDAY DIARY

5. FIRST IN LENT

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.00pm Evensong

12. SECOND IN LENT

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

19. THIRD IN LENT

8.00am Communion
10.00am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

26. FOURTH IN LENT

8.00am Communion
10.30am Mothering Sunday
Family Service
6.30pm Family Communion



*Spring blossom, by Ivan J. Belcher
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MIDWEEK DIARY

Ash Wednesday, March 1 Communion Services in the Church Lounge at 10.00am and at St Andrew's at 8.00pm.

Lent Studies on the Lenten Gospels in the context of Holy Communion in the Church Lounge on Tuesdays at 8.00pm and on Wednesdays at 10.00am and 8.00pm.

Church Council: Thursday, March 16 at 7.45pm.

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)

Verger: 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 Boydell (61450)

Mothers' Alternate Wednesdays

Union: at 2.00 p.m.

Janetta Makin (658270)

Parents & Thursdays at 1.30 p.m.

Toddlers: 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 Rector writes

25th February, 1995.

On behalf of the Worship Committee of which I am a member, I wish to thank those of you who took the trouble to reply to our recent **FAMILY SERVICE QUESTIONNAIRE**. Though I had hoped for a better response than a 34% return from a Christian congregation, nevertheless with 105 replies the committee felt that this provided a reasonable basis for serious consideration. We have identified 3 main areas to which we have committed ourselves to give attention. They are:

1. The Form of Service. The present service drawn up about 30 years ago is a family service aimed to cater for parents and children, but in the opinion of many it is failing to achieve this aim. Many of you have asked for a shorter, simpler and more informal service which is specifically child-orientated with more child participation. Between now and our next meeting in May we are seeking to draw up a series of 2 or 3 alternative services, each of which can be contained on 2 sides of an A5 sheet. If you have ideas and suggestions the committee will welcome them.

2. The Music. All age groups have expressed a distinct preference for the modern worship songs and a desire for more of them. New ones are being written almost every week. Some are "winners" whilst others will have a very brief "shelf life". The Deane Church Song Book compiled 5 years ago has a limited selection which some regard as out of date! We will need to supplement these with one or two more recent songs at each Family Service. The shape and size of our building means that the overhead projector and screen have severe limitations and so these additional songs will have to be placed on separate sheets without falling into the trap of having too many bits and pieces to handle.

3. The Talk. This came in for the strongest criticism for being too long and too difficult to understand. Those of us who share this responsibility have to accept this criticism with humility and seek, from henceforth, to give a children's talk rather than an all-age address.

As I am the one who is ultimately responsible for the Church's worship I wish to make the following entirely personal observations.

1. Whilst some of those proposals can be carried out immediately, others will take time to put into effect. Consequently a degree of patience is called for, trusting the committee to have not only listened, but also to carry out these suggestions.
2. I can sympathise with those who find it hard to worship in what inevitably is bound to be a noisier and more restless service. If you feel that these proposals will only make things more difficult for you then why not attend the evening service on those Sundays when there is a family service in the morning? There is an altogether different "atmosphere" about the evening service which may well satisfy your particular needs.
3. Included in the treasures of our rich Christian inheritance are some of the great hymns. For instance, I don't know of any simpler and yet more profound hymn about the death of Jesus than "There is a green hill far away..." I believe we will be guilty of selling our children short if we don't teach them some of these ancient hymns.
4. With a greater emphasis upon a child-orientated service it is important that we adults do not lose sight of the difference between child-likeness and childishness. Child-likeness is a Christian virtue, for it involves being a humble learner with a simple trust in God our Heavenly Father. Childishness is something to be avoided, for it is to remain like infants who don't grow up. Children never stay long at one thing; they move from one to another. I suspect that there are many childish Christian adults who never become mature. We look for some new excitement to keep us going for a short while, and then we are looking for something else. This is a lot easier than discipline, repentance and study, but it is childish, and we must grow out of it. The Lent programme, the details of which appear overleaf, is designed to help us do just this. I want to encourage you to avail yourself of what has been planned for our benefit, not only on Sundays, but during the week too.

St. Paul encourages Christians to be "happy with those who are happy and to weep with those who weep". In our Church Family we have cause to be happy that two of our members, Alan and Audrey Rushton, are to become our next Mayor and Mayoress in May. We weep with Mary Grundy in the death of Norman after a long illness, but we do not grieve as those who have no hope..

Roger B. Jackson.

LENT 1995

On Sundays at 8.00am

Seven times in St. John's Gospel Jesus says "I am..." and those sayings have provided the Christian Church ever since with seven profound word pictures of the character of Jesus. Because they are well known sayings it is tempting to pass over them. We cannot afford to ignore them and so we shall be considering them at our early morning communion services on:

March 5 I am the light of the world

12 I am the way, the truth and the life

19 I am the gate (or door)

26 I am the Good Shepherd

April 2 I am the vine

9 I am the bread of life

16 I am the resurrection and the life

On Sundays at 10.30am and 6.30pm

At our main services in Lent we shall be examining some of the different names or titles for Christians which we find in the New Testament. The first one, "Christian", was actually a nickname coined by the inhabitants of a pagan city in Syria. This indicated how others saw the first followers of Jesus. The rest were used by Christians revealing just how they saw themselves. Though some are more common and familiar than others, all are meaningful and can be applied to-day.

	At 10.30am
March 5	Christians
12	Believers
19	Soldiers
26	Mothering Sunday
April 2	Servants
9	Athletes

At 6.30pm
Disciples
Saints
Stewards
Brothers
The Way Forward (see below)
Pilgrims

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Instead of the usual home group programme there will be 3 parallel Communion services each week in the Church Lounge on Tuesdays at 8.00pm and on Wednesdays at 10.00am and 8.00pm. In the context of these services we shall discuss a few verses from the Lenten Gospels. These studies have been prepared in connection with "The Way Forward" and as such have been warmly commended by our bishops who hope that as many as possible will make the effort to come to one or other of the services each week

March 7/8	The Way Forward through the wilderness. St. Matthew Ch.4 v 1-11
14/15	The Way Forward through tears, tables and teaching. St. Luke ch19 v 41-48
21/22	The Way Forward through the Cross. St. Luke Ch. 9 v 18-27
28/29	The Way Forward through the Mountain. St. Luke Ch.9 v 28-36.
April 4/5	The Way Forward through service. St. John Ch.12 v 20-32.



The Way Forward

Looking to the Future in the Diocese of Manchester

As part of the Bishop of Manchester's initiative every parish is to receive a visit from his commissioned Visitors who will bring a video message from him and then invite reactions and response. In our case this will happen in the context of the evening service on April 2nd in the Memorial Hall.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM....

Philip Gore **WHY I SUPPORT SCHOOL WORSHIP**

Following the recent article by the Rector, I thought I would make some points by way of reply.

In all the debates about school worship there are two over-riding issues for Christians who seek to live by the Bible.

First the Bible is objectively true for everybody. This means its moral teaching is good for everybody. A non-Christian who seeks to be faithful to his wife will live a happier life than a non-Christian who is unfaithful although it will not save him. The Bible is so powerfully true that Paul was able to say that he rejoiced even if Christ was preached from false motives by people who wanted to stir up trouble! (Phil 1:18)
If a non-Christian teacher reads the Bible to a school assembly, then the Bible is still powerful and the spoken words can be used of God.

Second neutrality is impossible. The values of a school can be either for Christ or against Him. The question is not whether we worship but what we worship. There is no lowest common denominator of belief which will keep everybody happy. Either Jesus Christ will be honoured or men will worship "created things rather than the creator". (Rom. 1:25)

We know that according to school inspectors practically all primary schools have daily worship. The problem is in secondary schools where according to a recent report 60% come near to fulfilling the law. There are teachers and young people who have come to faith through school assemblies. There are certainly difficulties, but let us concentrate on the opportunities.

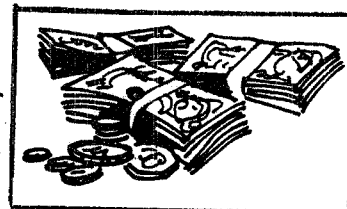
The Archbishop of Canterbury is right. We must not under-rate the importance of a daily Christian assembly and we ought not be shaken by remarks from head teachers, some of whom would like completely secular schools.

The Social Committee have planned the following programme of social events to cater for different tastes.

Saturday April 1st	All Fools Quiz Night. Tickets are now on sale at £1.50 including a pastie and peas.
Wednesday May 3rd	An evening outing to Bolton Little Theatre.
Friday-Sunday May 12th-14th	Parish Weekend at Grange-over-Sands. There are still a few vacant places.
Saturday June 17th	Safari Supper.
Saturday October 7th	Square Dance
Saturday December 2nd	Annual Dinner Dance at Deane Golf Club.

TEAR FUND in thanking us for the donation of £534 from our Christmas Appeal report that they have recently allocated £20,000 to the Sudanese Church of Christ to enable them to provide one cooked meal per day for a group of children displaced from the Nuba mountain region and now living in poor housing in Khartoum. These children will also have the opportunity within this strictly Islamic environment, to hear the Christian Gospel and see it demonstrated in the lives of Christian staff around them.

MONEY MATTERS



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

	<u>Planned Giving</u>	<u>Loose</u>	
	<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Collections</u>	<u>Totals</u>
January 1	£ 354.51	£ 36.75	£ 391.26
8	654.95	111.04	765.99
15	684.99	110.55	795.54
22	584.32	134.11	718.43
29	604.54	82.13	686.67
Standing Orders	133.75		133.75
Weekdays		64.89	64.89
	<u>£3017.06</u>	<u>£539.47</u>	<u>£3556.53</u>

In the corresponding month last year the total given was £3,633.

BITS & PIECES



Thanksgiving . On January 29th we gave thanks with these parents for the birth of their children:

David and Nina Bulpit of 17 Broadford Road for Stephen Mark.

Shaun and Jayne Hughes of 7 Baysdale Avenue for James David.

Kenneth Pope and Margaret Bennett of 23 Grange Road for Emily.

Attendance Awards at Climbers have been gained by:

Johanna Scammell and Alicia Harrison for 25 attendances

Lauren Shephard for 50 attendances

Bethany Dewhurst-Taylor for 125 attendances.

Friday March 3rd

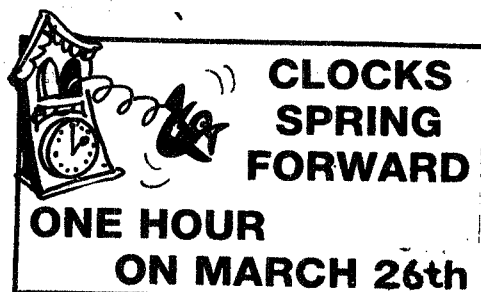
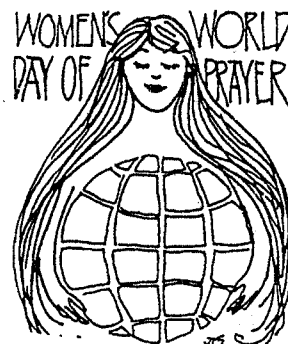
Theme: The Earth is a House for all People.

Services at The Salvation Army Citadel, St. Georges Road 2.00pm.

Speaker: Sister Marion Aspinall

Astley Bridge Baptist Church, Eden Street 7.30pm

Speaker: The Revd. Anne Sherratt.



.....which means you have one hour less in bed before coming to the popular **MOTHERING SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE** at 10.30am. It can be embarrassing to be arriving as everyone else is leaving!