

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

MAY 1997

SUNDAY DIARY

4. FIFTH AFTER EASTER

Theme:
Going to the Father

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

11. SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

Theme:
The Ascension

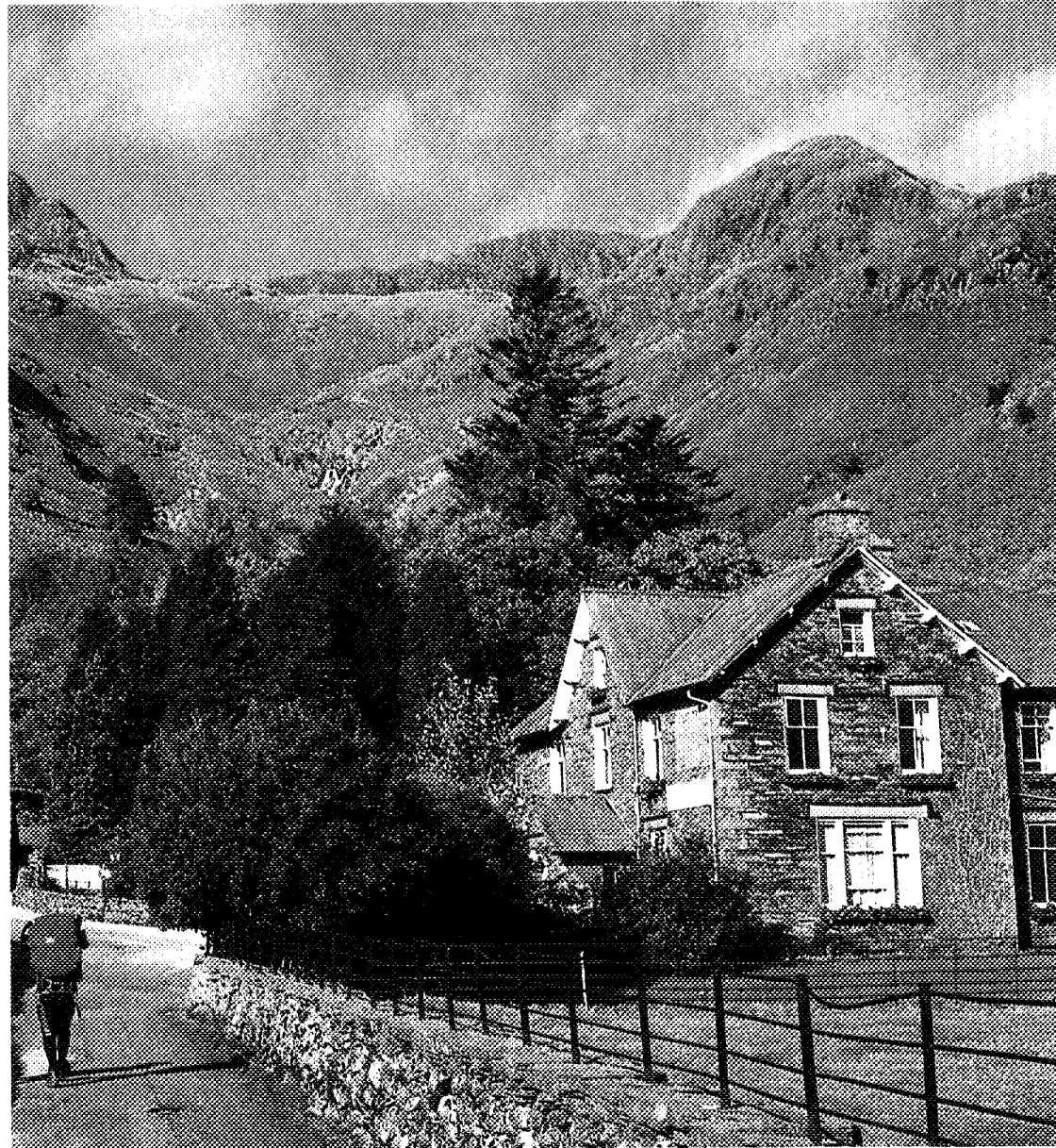
8.00am Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer
6.30pm Family Communion

18. PENTECOST

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

25. FIRST AFTER PENTECOST TRINITY SUNDAY

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Service
3.00pm Churches Together in
Bolton United Service
in Queen's Park



'Langdale Pikes' by E Lockwood

DD series cover published by Chansitor Publications Ltd,
16 Blyburgate, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 9TS
Printed in Great Britain by Stott Brothers Ltd, Halifax

MIDWEEK DIARY

Communion: Every Wednesday at 10.00am in the Church Lounge
Ascension Day: Thursday 8th May, Holy Communion at 10.00am
in St Andrew's and at 8.00pm in St Mary's
Christian Aid Week: May 12th - 17th
Archdeacon's Visitation Service: Tuesday May 13th at 7.30pm in
Holy Trinity, Horwich
Diocesan Jubilee Service: Saturday May 17th at 7.30pm
in the Cathedral
Church Council: Monday May 19th at 7.45pm
Home Groups: Tuesday and Wednesday May 27th and 28th

WHO'S WHO

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

Vicar: Paul Ellis
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)

Pat Boydell
21 New York (61450)

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

Pastoral + Mission: Craig Mochrie
Worship: Philip Gore
Buildings & Fabric: Mike Kirkby
Social: Bryan Shephard

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist: Jim Needham
130 The Pewfist
Westhoughton (01942 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)

Caretaker: David McCormick
34 Junction Road (654503)

WHAT'S ON

Creche: under 3 years
Elizabeth Gardiner (660460)

Scramblers: 3 to 5 years

Climbers: 5 to 7 years
Denise Cox (653326)

Explorers: 7 to 11 years
Jane Hampson (848433)

All meet in the Memorial Hall on Sundays at 10.30 a.m.

Pathfinders: 11 to 14 years
Chris Kilsby (492351)

The Memorial Hall, Fridays 7.15 - 9.00 p.m.

C.Y.F.A.: 14 to 18 years
Charlie Moore (64313)

Dorothy Cox (62889)

The Memorial Hall, Sundays 8.00 - 9.30 p.m.

CHURCH CHOIR

Rehearsals on Sundays at 11.45 a.m.
Jim Needham (01942 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.
Brenda Dixon (653333)

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 Tuesdays at 6.30 p.m.
Lily Jarrett (63511)

2 Wednesdays at 6.30 p.m.
Janet Barnsley (665896)

Guides: Mondays at 7.15 p.m.
Carole Baxendale (419167)

Cubs: Thursdays at 6.45 p.m.
Wendy Gooding (653277)

Beavers: Mondays at 5.45 p.m.
Jean Aspinall (63948)

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

The Rector writes

26th April, 1997.

THE GENERAL ELECTION

On May 1st we have the opportunity, the privilege and the responsibility to cast our vote and thus influence the course of our nation into the next millenium. In addition we have the opportunity to bring to the notice of the candidates, one of whom will serve as our M.P. in the new Parliament, some of those issues which should be of concern to Christian men and women. We live in a society in which it is common place for us to ask ourselves "Which party is likely to do the best for me?" and then to vote accordingly. It is important, therefore, for Christians to ask ourselves, the canvassers on our doorstep and, if we get the chance, the candidates themselves "which party forming the future government is most likely to share God's concern and do best for the poor and needy, the destitute, the marginalised and oppressed, whether in our own country or in the rest of the world?" Here are two examples:-

* In this country the gap between the rich and the poor is growing wider. We have recently created a job in our churchyard for a young man who had been unemployed since last August. The main Church account is subsidizing the churchyard account in order to pay him what the Trades Unions' regard as the minimum wage of £4 per hour. His gross pay of £160 per week becomes £132 per week after deductions for national insurance and tax. This isn't a lot of money on which to support his partner and child. By contrast I understand that some members of our congregation thought nothing of spending a comparable amount when they went out to a local hotel for their Christmas dinner.

* There is the problem of international debt. In the 1970's the banks in the Western World encouraged Third World countries to borrow huge sums of money. Since then interest rates have risen dramatically so that debt repayments have soared. In 1982 the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund stepped in to give these poorer countries more time to pay, but they imposed strict conditions. At present for every £1 which is given in aid by organisations like Tear Fund, Christian Aid, Oxfam, Save the Children etc. £3 is returned to Western Banks in debt repayments. To service these repayments spending on food, health and education has had to be cut back. It is estimated by the World Health Organisation that about half a million children die each year because of cut backs to health services caused by debt repayments.

This deadly spiral of debt is one of the most serious issues facing the world to-day because it not only affects poor countries but the more affluent like our own. The poor debt-ridden countries cannot afford imports from the rest of the world, and this has been a factor in the global recession and high levels of unemployment in this and other countries in the western world. This has led to a new initiative in the U.K. called.....

Jubilee 2000.

This takes up a Biblical principle to be found in the Old Testament. Every 50 years slaves and debtors were set free. What is being suggested is that one way of celebrating the forthcoming millenium is for the rich countries of the western world to cancel and write off the unpayable debts of the world's poorest countries. This would break the chains of debt and give a billion people a better future. Jubilee 2000 is becoming a fast growing coalition of organisations like Tear Fund, Oxfam and the World Development Movement. They are canvassing support from individuals too, and I commend the Petition to you for your signature. It reads as follows:-

* We the undersigned, believe that the start of the new millenium should be a time to give hope to the impoverished people of the world.

* To make a fresh start, we believe it ought to put behind us the mistakes made by both lenders and borrowers, and to cancel the backlog of the unpayable debts of the most impoverished nations.

* We call upon the leaders of lending nations to write off these debts by the year 2000. We ask them to take effective steps to prevent such high levels of debt building up again. We look for a new beginning to celebrate the millenium.

If you feel able to lend your support to this initiative then you will be in a better position to ask the candidates in the election if they would feel able to work for its success within their party and within Parliament if elected.

I trust that whichever party wins the election we will all feel able to pray for our government that matters such as the growing gap between rich and poor in this country and international debt will be given a high priority. They will need our support.

For Jackson.



IN THE NEWS

THANKSGIVING



On April 13th we gave thanks with the following parents for the birth of their children.

David and Alison Healey of 42 Cow Lees, Westhoughton, for Katie Alice Stuart and Rhona Edney of 3 Yew Close for Samuel George.
Lynn Weston of 40 Chip Hill Road for twins Adam James and Michael Christopher.

Climbers Attendance Awards were given to the following children for....

75 attendances: Claire Gardiner, Ross Shephard
100 attendances: Mark Haldon
125 attendances: Johanna Scammell, Ben Vickers.



In addition Matthew Vickers has received a Bible for his 120 attendances at Explorers.



CONGRATULATIONS to Andrew Wardley and Deborah Haslem, members of our evening congregation who were married on April 26th.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on March 24th the following people were elected to serve on the CHURCH COUNCIL

Churchwardens: Pay Boydell, Les Kilsby, Craig Mochrie.
Councillors: Keith Acton, Julie Cooper, Ian Gardiner, Mike Kirkby, Eric Morgan, Pat Sewell, Bryan Shephard. Joyce Sutcliffe.

The Clergy, Reader (Chris Kilsby), General Synod member (Philip Gore) and Deanery Synod members (Pat Boulton, Terry Oakes, Stan Wilson) are all ex-officio members of the Council.

----- // -----

PREPARING FOR 2000 - a celebration of Christian Unity, will be held in Queen's Park on Sunday May 25th at 3.00 pm. (or in the Victoria Hall is wet). Leaders of the mainline Christian Churches are planning to be present at this open air service together with youth bands. Similar events are also being held in Stockport, Tameside and Bury as preliminaries to the Big One in Manchester in the year 2000.

As a consequence of this event there will be no evening service in Deane Church that day.



BEANE PARISH CHURCH

SUMMARY OF RESPONSE TO CONGREGATIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION B Welcome and Atmosphere before the Service

Overall the welcome is thought to be good but, as a congregation, we are not good at following through, eg sitting with new people or talking to them afterwards.

Many people think that there is too much congestion at the back of church, hindering people getting books and newcomers receiving a more specific welcome.

75% of the comments on atmosphere stated that it was too noisy before the services begin and not conducive to preparation for worship.

A minority liked the "hubbub" as it is friendly and provides a chance to meet/talk with friends.

A significant number suggested 2 or 3 minutes' silence before the services start, perhaps with music playing.

SECTION C During the Service

Most people who attend the 8.00 am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer Rite are very satisfied.

Some problems of audibility are experienced at the 10.30 am service. The clergy and others leading are generally well heard but some readers and intercessors cannot be heard easily. The pillars are a problem for some in seeing what is happening 'up front'.

The leadership is generally thought to be helpful and clear. Quite a few people feel that the indicating of page numbers during the services is helpful. One or two find it unhelpful and distracting.

A large number of those commenting find the services last too long. This is especially true of the 10.30 am services. People seem happy with the length of the 8.00 am and the 6.30 pm services.

Those commenting on the length of the services feel that a shorter sermon would be preferable.

A number of people feel that the use of the new Family Service card generally makes that service shorter and they welcome this.

SECTION D Music

Most people prefer a mix of traditional and modern music at all services, though many would like more traditional music at Morning Prayer and more modern music at Family Service.

Although the majority prefer psalms to be sung as hymns or songs, 20% prefer chanting. Nearly two-thirds would like an explanation of how chanting works.

Many people think that there should always be some songs the children can sing at Family Service and perhaps Explorers and Climbers could sing at the front more often.

A stronger lead is needed from Choir and Music Group, particularly when a new song is being learned which may have tricky rhythms. It was suggested that the two bodies of singers could join forces. Music Group is more effective when the instrumentalists and singers are closer together.

There is a lack of enthusiasm in the congregational singing, not always as a result of the lead from the front. There is little joy in our worship and people should feel free to clap or not to clap as they feel most comfortable in appropriate circumstances.

More singers in both Choir and Music Group are badly needed.

SECTION E Sermons and Prayers

Sermons Of the 152 returns, 80 contained no comment but many showed satisfaction by ringing high numbers. Of the rest, 42 were mostly positive and 30 contained negative comments.

There is overwhelming support for short (10 minute) Family Service talks, aimed wholly at the children.

Sermons in other services should be no longer than 15 minutes and should be presented in easily understandable language.

People find illustrations, stories, modern parables, etc helpful.

It is occasionally helpful to hear sermons on topical issues or on themes, eg lives of saints.

Exposition of Bible reading is valuable but so is how the reading can be applied to our everyday lives.

Generally, satisfaction with the standard of preaching in Deane Church was expressed.

Prayers Many people requested more silence for personal prayer and reflection and expressed concern about "chatting" and "gossip" before and during services.

People generally find the content very helpful and usually relevant but there is not enough spontaneity and sometimes prayers seem rigid and overplanned. More passion and excitement about prayer would be appreciated, along with more personal and, yet, more global prayers.

Clear and simple prayers are appreciated.

Lay involvement is to be encouraged wherever possible.

Prayers are sometimes too long.

Generally, thanks were expressed to all who do the prayers in church.

SECTION F Pathfinder and Prayer & Praise Services

Overall comments regarding the Pathfinder Service were very positive, especially as a service for young people, but also much enjoyed by adults.

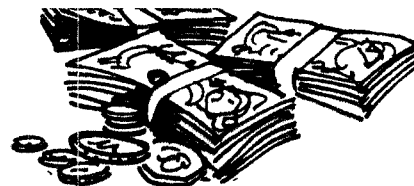
Concern was expressed about the conflict of loyalty between attending the Pathfinder Service or the Church Service which deterred some adults from attending the former.

There were suggestions that "Pathfinder type" services be held in church on a regular basis with visiting speakers and young people participating.

Comments regarding the Prayer & Praise Services were very favourable and, as with Pathfinder Services, it is the different style of worship - informal and modern language and greater congregation participation - that is most appreciated.

There were requests for Prayer & Praise Services on a regular basis.

MONEY MATTERS



Thank you to all who have contributed to God's work through our Church.

		<u>Planned Giving</u>	<u>Loose</u>	
		<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Collections</u>	<u>Totals</u>
March	2	£647.37	£73.28	£720.65
	9	568.31	122.21	690.52
	16	697.86	132.09	829.95
	23	659.59	131.69	791.28
	30	759.67	182.07	941.74
Standing Orders		133.75		133.75
Weekdays			179.49	179.49
		<u>£3,466.55</u>	<u>£820.83</u>	<u>£4,287.38</u>

In the corresponding period last year the amount given was £3,808

----- // -----

Following the Rector's recent sermon on Christian giving, a brief outline of which appeared in last month's issue of this publication some people have asked how they could give. The best ways are:-

By using the **Christian Giving Envelopes**. The above figures show that the overwhelming majority of our income comes from this form of giving. To receive a set of envelopes, one for each week of the year, all you need to do is either to ask the clergy or to fill in a little slip and place it in the box provided at the back of Church.

By **Standing Order**. At present not many people use this method but it has a lot to commend it, not least because it ensures a regular income all the year round, especially in the main holiday periods of the year.

If you currently pay income tax at the standard rate of 23p in the £1 then by "**Covenanting**" your gift the Church can claim back from the Inland Revenue some of the tax you have already paid at no additional expense to yourself. Our Covenant Secretary Sid Harris will gladly advise you on this.

This year's **Lent Appeal** raised £253. for God's work overseas through the Church Mission Society (CMS). This sum represents the contents of 38 Lent Boxes and we are grateful to those who have contributed.

The Ladies Guild have planned the following programme for this month.

May 6th Miss N. Powell will give a talk on Joyce Grenfell illustrated by monologues and slides.

May 17th The annual all day outing

May 20th Mr. Steve Freeborn Head Pharmacist at the Royal Bolton Hospital will give a talk entitled "Keep on taking the Pill".

The Mothers' Union meet on Wednesday afternoons May 7th and 21st.

Dorothy Cox and the Church Army.

If you are on the electoral roll, some time during May you will be receiving a letter from me asking you to consider giving financial support to Dorothy during the three years that she will be training with the Church Army. The letter will be arriving through the post, courtesy of a member of the congregation, because we thought that this was the best way of reaching as many of you as possible. Please don't be offended by this method of approach and please don't see this as putting undue pressure on anyone; we just want everyone to have the chance to contribute if they wish. If you aren't on the electoral roll and you would like a copy of the letter, there will be some available at the back of church on the magazine table.

Many thanks.

Chris Kilsby.