

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

JULY 1998

SUNDAY DIARY

5. FOURTH AFTER TRINITY

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

12. FIFTH AFTER TRINITY

8.00am Communion
10.30am Morning Service
Youth Service in
Scout & Guide Hut
6.30pm Evening Communion

19. SIXTH AFTER TRINITY

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

26. SEVENTH AFTER TRINITY

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Service & Baptism
6.30pm Evening Communion



*Veterans Cycling Club annual meeting at Northleach, Gloucestershire (Photo: Paul Felix)
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MIDWEEK DIARY

Communion: Every Wednesday in the Church Lounge at 10.00am

Prayer Focus: Wednesday July 1st at 8.00pm in the Church Lounge

Home Groups: Tuesdays & Wednesdays July 7th/8th and 21st/22nd

Church Council: Wednesday July 15th at 7.45pm

CMS Meeting: Monday July 6th at 7.30pm in St Bartholomew
Westhoughton

WHO'S WHO

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

Vicar: Paul Ellis
St Andrew's Vicarage
Crescent Avenue (651851)

Readers: Christine Kilsby
1386 Junction Rd West (492351)

David Dewhurst
11 Braemar Gardens (651347)

Nola Worsfold
22 Melbourne Road (659099)

Wardens: Philip Gore
12 Ellesmere Rd (63798)
Bryan Shephard
57 Molyneux Rd (01942 817288)
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 Road West (492351)

CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS

Buildings & Fabric: Mike Kirkby
Worship: Nola Worsfold
Social: Bryan Shephard

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist: Jim Needham
130 The Pewfist
Westhoughton (01942 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: Julie Cooper
64 Melbourne Road (660946)

Caretaker: Ian Cooper
64 Melbourne Road (660946)

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
Pat Boulton (655068)

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

Pathfinders: 11 to 14 years
Ian Gardiner (660460)

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

C.Y.F.A.: 14 to 18 years

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

BELL RINGERS

Practice Night Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.
David McCormick (654503)

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.
Maureen Edwards (419374)

Mothers' Alternate Wednesdays
Union: at 2.00 p.m.

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.
Clare Miles (63355)
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.
Jane Wadsworth (657254)

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

27th June, 1998.

The large number of banns of marriage which are being called in Church on Sunday mornings at the present time belies the fact that far fewer people are being married in Church nowadays. For instance last year we conducted only 13 weddings as compared with 47 twenty years ago. (This year's weddings are largely concentrated in July and August and hence the large number of banns at present). There are two main reasons for this decrease.

Firstly, the total number of weddings, both civil and church, is continuing to fall. Many couples are content to live together in a "common law" relationship without proceeding to marriage, for in present day society there is little stigma attached to such an arrangement. With 4 out of 10 first marriages and 6 out of 10 second marriages failing, many couples are reluctant to commit themselves to marriage for fear that they too will become part of this terrible statistic. At the back of their minds is the thought that if their "trial marriage" doesn't work out then at least they will be sparing themselves all the hassle of having to go through divorce proceedings.

Since the majority of those couples who come to see me enquiring about being married in Deane Church are already living together, I usually ask them what they find unsatisfactory about their present state. Invariably they confess that their primary reason for wanting to proceed to marriage is because they now wish to start a family and they wouldn't want their children to be brought up outside of marriage.

If the total number of weddings has fallen, then the percentage getting married in Church has fallen even more. This leads me to the second reason. It has to do with the recent change in the marriage law. Until recently a civil marriage could only take place in a Register Office; now hotels, country houses and even sports arenas, like the Reebok Stadium, can be licensed for this purpose. Without doubt there have always been those whose sole reason for wanting to be married in a medieval Church like our own was that it was photogenic. I welcome the fact that such couples no longer have to make a convenience of the Church, for some of these recently licensed buildings are at least as photogenic as our Church.

There is an additional financial reason why some couples decide not to be married in Church – they imagine that it will be too costly. There can be no denying the fact that weddings are expensive, but it is not the church fees which are to blame. In point of fact they are one of the least expensive items. No, it is the many incidentals which people associate with a Church wedding – expensive dresses, photography, videos, flowers and hire cars etc. At the end of the day these things are only of secondary importance. A more modest expenditure on these items does not detract from the ceremony.

I conclude by sharing with you the contents of a most encouraging letter which I have received from a couple of young science graduates whose wedding took place recently in our Church.

"We would like to express our sincere thanks for conducting our marriage ceremony in such a touching, personal manner with the blessing of God. You helped us greatly to free us of our nervousness so that we could understand our vows, and you created a relaxed atmosphere for us to enjoy the occasion. It was made very clear to us what lay ahead in our commitment for each other, of which we have no doubts and our minds were not clouded by the superficial trimmings of the event. Our marriage service really was the highlight of our day as it should be and we will cherish the moments in our thoughts. We would also like to take the opportunity to thank your wife Mary and her team for the beautiful flower arrangements, the choir, organist, bellringers and all those involved in the upkeep of your beautiful Church and grounds".

Our Church's ministry to those getting married involves a lot of people as this couple rightly recognise. I hope all those mentioned in their letter will be as encouraged as I am by this expression of their appreciation.

Roger B. Jackson.

BITS & PIECES

Britain will be awash with bishops this month as hundreds of them from overseas converge on Canterbury for the **Lambeth Conference** which takes place every 10 years. One of the bishops, Henry Paltridge, a New Zealander who serves with the Church Mission Society as a bishop in Kenya, will be spending a weekend with Simon Tatton-Brown, the Rector of Westhoughton. There is an opportunity to meet the bishop and his wife, Phyllis, at an open meeting organised by C.M.S. at St. Bartholemews Church Westhoughton on Monday July 6th at 7.30 pm.

STUDYLINK



This is an organisation to which we have contributed over many years through our Church's Christian Giving Programme. It provides the finance to make it possible for a few very able clergy from overseas to come to our universities to study theology at a more advanced level than is possible in their own country. The aim is to equip them for the responsibilities of leadership in their own Church in future years.

Many of these we have supported in the past are now bishops and will be coming to the Lambeth Conference. Our most recent bursar has been Jacob Ayebo from Ghana. He has been awarded a very good degree by the University of Durham. He wishes to thank our two congregations for the hospitality he received in December 1996 and for the financial support and prayer support he has received over the past couple years.

Two ladies who are retiring from their present commitments are...

Lily Jarrett who has been the Brown Owl of our 67th Brownie Pack for well in excess of 20 years. We thank God for her many years of faithful service. From now on the pack will be led jointly by Clare Miles and Ann Crompton and we thank them for accepting this responsible rôle.

Judith Valentine who for several years has been the secretary for the Climber and Explorers sections of our Sunday School. This has involved keeping good records of children's attendances for we need to refer to these when parents apply for Church Secondary School places. We are still looking for a replacement for Judith. Ideally it needs to be a reliable person who can keep records or two people who can work in tandem with each other so that they can still attend the Sunday morning service in Church. If you think you could serve God in this way please have a word with the Rector.

The Ladies Guild's Auction on Tuesday June 30th is an open meeting to which all are welcome. On July 14th Miss K. Hughes will give an illustrated talk on "Holidays Abroad". A fortnight later on July 28th Captain Knott will be speaking about the work of the Salvation Army.

The Mothers' Union meets this month on Wednesday afternoon July 8th.

Churchyard Problems. For over 9 months we have been without water in the Churchyard. We have not been sure as to whether this was due to a leak underground or to a faulty meter or both. After a very long delay North West Water eventually changed the meter, but still there was no water reaching the tap. Very painstakingly **Bill Calderbank** followed the tortuous route taken by the underground pipe and he traced the leak to being under the roots of a tree. As it was well nigh impossible to repair the leak he has laid a new pipe, this time observing the well known mathematical principle that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. This has not been easy since it has meant having to negotiate a path around ancient graves and cutting through some of the roots of sycamore trees. Tom Stokes is not the only one who has admired the cleanly cut trench which Bill cut with his spade before laying the new pipe. We trust that he got as much pleasure in completing a task well done as visitors to the Churchyard are in having a water supply restored. Thank you Bill.

Visitors are much less pleased, however, when they discover that bedding plants which they had placed on their family graves have been stolen within a few days. This has been an all too common experience this year.



AFRICA

SUDAN

700,000 people are feared to be facing starvation in southern Sudan, victims of war and drought. Following a needs assessment, Tearfund consultants report that many children in the area are severely malnourished, but that there is hope that the emergency programme will start in time to prevent a complete catastrophe.

Pray for the relief effort as a whole, that the warring parties would allow aid to reach those who need it most; pray that the peace talks might be taken seriously on both sides, and as a result there might be a time of justice, peace and recovery throughout Sudan.

SIERRA LEONE

Pray that the restored government of President Kabbah will be able to establish peace and unity in the country, so that refugees will feel confident to return.

KENYA

The damage caused by El Niño rains has added to Kenya's economic difficulties, creating further tensions in the fragile political situation. Pray that these tensions will not escalate.



ASIA

INDONESIA

Pray that the new government of President Habibbi might bring not just stability and economic reform, but also a new commitment to justice.



EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

IRELAND

As we give thanks for the support given to the peace agreement, pray that it may turn to a genuinely new start of peace for people of all communities.

MIDDLE EAST

The peace process here appears to be at an end. Pray that some new way forward may be found, and pray for those tempted to despair and renewed violence. Remember the Christians within the Palestinian and Jewish communities.



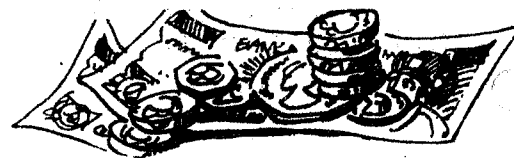
LATIN AMERICA

BRAZIL

Ação Evangélica, Tearfund partner in north-east Brazil, reports that the drought continues, and the situation is serious. There has been rioting in the streets and huge cutbacks in the amount of rationed water available. 25% of children are suffering malnutrition, as are 10% of the adult population. 18 million people need rain, but they are also looking for political action.



MONEY MATTERS



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

	Planned Giving Envelopes	Loose Collections	Totals
May 3	£640.42	£106.32	£746.74
10	612.72	84.33	697.05
17	650.64	65.68	716.32
24	407.99	100.10	508.09
31	681.54	42.85	724.39
Standing Orders	155.50		155.50
Weekdays		109.36	109.36
	----- £3,148.81 =====	----- £508.64 =====	----- £3,657.45 =====

In the corresponding period last year the amount given was £3,556

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IN THE NEWS



Thanksgiving On Sunday June 14th we gave thanks for the birth of –
Katie Elaine, the daughter of Robert and Michelle Bonner, 130 Beaumont Chase.
Jacob Dada, the son of Anthony and Monica Yakiah, 11 Falconwood Chase, Worsley.

Attendance Awards have recently been distributed to the following children in....

Climbers for	50 attendances: Rachel Foreman
	125 attendances: Ross Shephard
	150 attendances: Emma Martindale
Explorers for	120 attendances: Bethany Dewhurst-Taylor

THANK YOU!



Ruth Smith writes: "Thank you for your prayers, visits, cards, beautiful flowers, gifts and many acts of kindness during my recent illness. Your love and support have assisted so much towards my recovery".



Congratulations to **Elizabeth Valentine** who is the latest in a long series of members of our Guide Company to have gained the Baden Powell Trefoil Award. Her sister, Sarah, has now completed her training to be a Guider attached to our Guide Company.