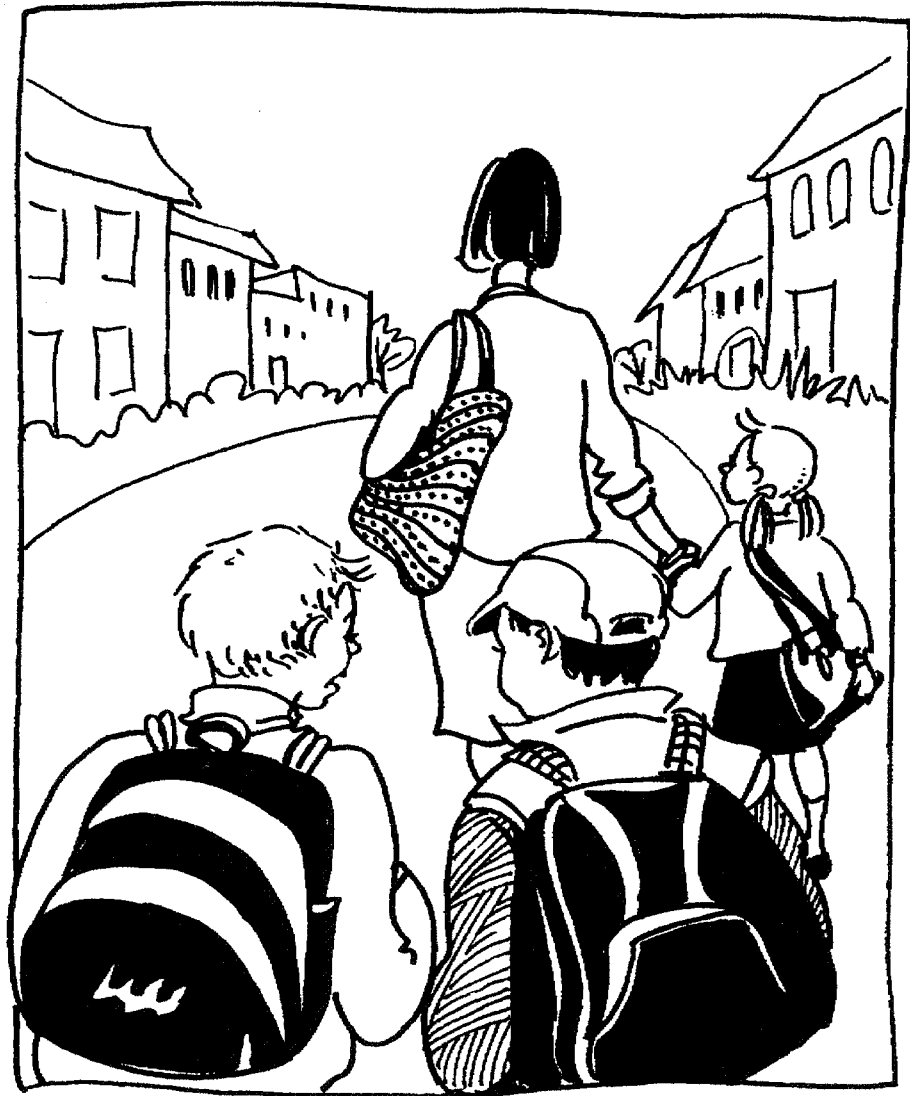


Deane Parish News

September



September 2004 Diary

September 5 Trinity 15

9am Communion CW

10.30am Family Worship and Parade

6pm Communion

September 12 Trinity 16

9am Communion 1662

10.30am Service of the Word

6pm Service of the Word

September 19 Trinity 17

9am Communion 1662

10.30am Family Worship and Baptism

6pm Communion

September 26 Trinity 18

9am Communion 1662

10.30am Family Communion

6pm Service of the Word

Communion Readings for September 2004

September 5 Trinity 13

Jeremiah 18 v1-11

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14 v25-33

September 12 Trinity 14

Jeremiah 4 v11-12&22-28

1 Timothy 1 v12-17

Luke 15 v1-10

September 19 Trinity 15

Jeremiah 8v18 to 9v1

1 Timothy 2 v1-7

Luke 16 v1-13

September 26 Trinity 16

Jeremiah 32 v1-3a&6-15

1 Timothy 6 v6-19

Luke 16 v19-31

October 3 Trinity 17/Harvest

Lamentations 1 v1-6

2 Timothy 1 v1-14

Luke 17 v5-10

The Rector Writes

Last week in my sermon in church I tried to bring home the point that it's OK for people to grieve. Sometimes bad things happen to us and those whom we love and it's written that we should be able to grieve. I think that one of the most important things I wanted to convey is that we should not be sloppy in our grieving and that the process of grieving often has to be worked through over a long period of time.

It's true to say that in life we are often confronted by things which make us cry, "Why?" "Why me?" "Why now?". I don't think that we will ever be capable of answering all of these questions. Our lives fit into a vast and complicated tapestry that only God can unravel, because he is the one making it. There are things that happen in our lives which affect other people and other situations in a way which we are completely oblivious about. I've heard of enough bizarre connections to know that this is happening more than we probably realise.

Someone gets sick, goes into hospital, and ends up leading the person in the next bed to Jesus. And like a domino effect the repercussions of that person coming to faith in Jesus takes things forward in yet another direction.

So often we ask the question, "Why?" I have a feeling that God may say, "You don't have the time for a complete answer to that question. Besides, you haven't lived long enough to see the end of it. Sorry, I can't explain it to you at the present time. You just have to trust me". Our work is to look at what is happening in our lives and learn what God is trying to teach us. There are no mistakes with God. God doesn't go "Whoops! What happened there?" he doesn't say to the angels "OK what went wrong? Which one of you was supposed to be taking care of Mainey?"

Here's the truth of the matter, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28). Which is another way of

saying that Gods purpose is in everything that you and I go through, whether we are able to see it or not. And that purpose is producing something good in and through our lives, no matter what happens. Do you believe that?

We all have things in our lives in which it is hard - almost impossible - to see Gods purpose. That doesn't mean anything except that we cannot see the long game. But its at times like these that we need to keep on believing and knowing that god is working things out for the best.

How are things with you at the present time? Is something bad happening to you right now? Then think back on a time when you felt like this before but can now see in retrospect that God had a purpose in it, and believe that God is continuing his work in you, even if you can't see it at the present time.

A prayer as we look ahead to Harvest

The early Celts were keenly aware of Christ's command to love our neighbours. This is from 'Celtic Fire'

Remember the poor when you look out on fields you own,
on your plump cows grazing.

Remember the poor when you look into your barn
at the abundance of your harvest.

Remember the poor when the wind howls and the rain falls,
as you sit warm in your dry house...

The poor have no food except what you feed them
No shelter except your house when you welcome them,
No warmth except your glowing fire.

Sam Booth (1908 - 2003)

Last year Sam passed away. Many in the church where unaware of his death and were sad that they had not been able to attend his funeral. It emerged later that Sam had left a legacy to the church and therefore it was thought fitting that we should include a short tribute to Sam's life in this edition of the Deane Church News.

Sam Booth was born in Deane on June 12th 1908 and was brought up on Willows Lane. He served his engineering apprenticeship at the Crook Street foundry of Hick Hargreaves & Co, and was married to Jennie from Morris Green shortly before entering the Army. At the outbreak of the Second World War he served in France with the Royal Engineers, and was a survivor of the Dunkirk evacuation. During the remainder of the war he was posted to North Africa, Italy and other parts of Europe and for one spell was away from the U.K. for a period of five years.

For over fifty years he lived in the same house at the top of Sapling Road in Morris Green. He became a well-known figure and he and his wife would stroll down to the Morris Dancers public house for a leisurely drink. His other great interest was cricket and he loved to visit the cricket club and watch the match while enjoying a bacon barm!

Shortly after moving to Morris Green Sam was appointed as Chief Engineer at the Swan Lane Spinning Company. The largest spinning mill complex in the world. Sam loved walking and would be regularly seen strolling to and from work. He liked to return home for lunch. When the weather was inclement he was equally well known in his orange V. W. beetle. He remained at Swan Lane until his retirement. He was always smart and even after Jennie died he kept his home and gardens in tip top order.

Sam was brought up at Deane Church and attended the local school and served as a boy chorister. There was a long waiting list for places in the church choir in those days. He had fond memories of those days. His long time friend Derek Franklin said, "He was very proud of his church and referred frequently to Canons Worsley and Bishop." His wife Jennie was a life-long member of St. Bede's Church and Sam would go there along with her, eventually becoming a sidesman.

It was after her death that he began returning to his beloved Deane Church where he felt so much at home and had such happy memories of his boyhood. He would walk down Hulton Lane to the church come rain or shine. When his physical strength weakened in his late eighties he was delighted to move into the Bakewells Rest Home in Junction Road, as this had been the former Deane Vicarage from 1927 - 1976. Whilst a resident there he was able to be picked up and brought along to the 10.30 service by members of the church. It was only in the last months of his life that it was necessary for him to be moved to a nursing home, where sadly, he was never as happy.

Sam died peacefully asleep in his chair on December 8th 2003 in his 96th year having remained mentally alert to the end.

Bits and Pieces

Ladies Guild

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| September 7 | Bolton Carers' Support | Florence Holden |
| September 21 | China | Joyce Mitson |

Champions Holiday Club: A Huge Thank You

During the last week of July 50 children from St Mary's and other schools in the area took part in Champions, a Christian holiday club. Each morning the children enjoyed games, songs, activities, drama and learned more about Jesus. We wholeheartedly thank Mark Attwood and Karen Greenhalgh who master-minded the week and all who acted as group leaders and helpers. However the week would not have been possible without support from St Peter's, Halliwell and other Bolton churches. We owe them all a great debt of gratitude.

Harvest

Our Harvest Festival this year is to take place on October 3rd with the main celebration at the 10.30am family service.

Operation Christmas Child

Don't forget to get ahead with filling your shoeboxes with small gifts for children overseas. Fill your box with crayons, pencils, a comb, sweets, a toy, socks, gloves or a hat. September is a good time to buy inexpensive pencil cases while back to school promotions are on. Further details will be available later in the autumn.

Happy Retirement and Many Thanks

We wish a health and happiness in a long, well-deserved retirement to Betty Calderbank who retires from her post as Verger after many years of service. Betty's husband, Bill, retired as church grounds man earlier in the year. We wish them well in their retirement.

Prayer Meeting

Do come and join those who pray regularly in church on a Thursday evening from 6.30 to 7.30pm. Everyone is most welcome.

Remember those long-ago schooldays?

As thousands of children start the new term this month, some of us older ones are casting our minds back to our long-gone schooldays... were they the happiest days of our life?

- * Remember having a nap in the afternoon, either at the desk or on fold-up beds?
- * Remember playtime with its marbles and skipping ropes?
- * What about the blotchy ink pens, strange initials carved on the desk, and those handwriting competitions?
- * Remember sports days, your proud parents at the sack races, dropped batons and wobbly eggs that fell off their spoons?
- * Remember those awful school dinners and saying grace? The dinner ladies on patrol to make sure everyone ate their soggy cabbage!
- * PE in the playground in vest and knickers, with beans bags, rush mats and a 'horse' that was just too big for anybody to get over!
- * Remember school milk delivered in one-third pint bottles. In summer it went sour and in winter it froze, and pushed the milk top up.
- * Remember outside toilets and rationed toilet paper!
- * Remember the relief to see your Mum at the gate at the end of the school day.

How to Grow Deane Church:

Understanding the Culture

The men of Issachar 'understood the times and knew what Israel should do' (1 Chronicles 12:32). We are called to understand the times in which we live, and respond appropriately to the changing culture. So what do we see which affects the church today?

- * a rapid cultural change at all levels of society:

Post-modernity is succeeding modernity, leaving us with a cultural 'melting pot' of traditional, modern and post-modern perspectives. Generally the 'big stories' that explain life (e.g. Christianity) are being rejected. Therefore, increasingly people are not asking whether Christianity is true or works, but 'do I feel comfortable with it'?

- * a consumer dominated culture:

We live in a culture focused on consumerism, in which personal identity is found in shopping, leisure and image. Choice is the core value for everything: 'what fits me', including Christianity.

- * an increasingly fragmented society:

We travel distances for work, leisure and shopping, and such mobility has created a network society, where people operate within a network of different relationships. Increasingly people travel to attend churches either for a particular worship style and/or for friendships.

- * a culture increasingly unconnected with church:

Across the denominations, roughly 10% of the population attend church 5-8 times in a two-month period, while a further 10% attend 1-3 times in the same period. This leaves 40% who have attended church at some point in their life, and a further 40% who have never attended church, except for weddings or funerals. Here is the challenge!!

What effects have these cultural changes had on the life of our church over the last 10 years?

In what ways we responded and what more could be done?

September 3 feast day of Gregory the Great (c 540 - 604)

It was Pope Gregory who sent St Augustine to convert the English. He never called himself 'the Great', but instead 'the Servant of the Servants of God'. Nevertheless, Gregory was one of the most important popes and influential writers of the Middle Ages. The son of a very rich Roman senator, he left the service of the State upon his conversion as a young man. Gregory then sold off his tremendous estates to found six monasteries in Sicily and a seventh in Rome, and gave generously to the poor. He became a monk and adopted an austere lifestyle. But he was destined to be a frustrated monk, because successive popes kept appointing him to jobs with major public responsibilities.

Christians in England owe him a great deal. When Gregory came across some English slaves for sale in Rome, he asked who they were, and was told, 'They are Angles.' Moved with compassion for these humiliated and despised men, he replied, 'They are not Angles, but angels!'

He wanted to lead a band of missionaries to England to evangelise the Angles, but then plague broke out in Italy, and during this time he was elected Pope. Reluctantly he accepted, and then sent to work to deal with the crises facing Christendom: plague, floods, famine, and a Lombard invasion. But busy though Gregory was, he did not forget the Angles. He sent Augustine to England, and so became the apostle of the English.

I don't believe it!

A father was in church his five year old daughter. During this particular service, the minister was baptising a tiny infant. The little five year old girl was taken by this, observing that he was saying something and pouring water over the infant's head.

With a quizzical look on her face, the little girl turned to her father and asked: "Daddy, why is he brainwashing that baby?"

Deane Church Down Under

Recently we received this rather intriguing e mail from the owner of an art gallery in Victoria Australia.

We recently acquired (at auction here in Melbourne) a painting by the Scottish artist James Howe Carse (1818-1900), oil on canvas, 70x90cm (27x35in), showing a church and people strolling in the churchyard, in a parkland setting. The painting is not dated, but we believe it was done circa 1860.

James Howe Carse was born in Edinburgh and trained at the Royal Scottish Academy, of which his father had been a founding member. From 1860 to 1862 he exhibited landscape paintings in London, and c.1867 he moved to Australia where he lived and worked until his death in 1900.

In an effort to identify the church we contacted various organisations in the UK and Scotland, including the National Trust, the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies, the National Monuments Record Centre etc, and we have just been advised by the Ancient Monuments Society that they believe the painting is of St Mary's Church, Deane, Bolton, Lancashire. AMS also commented that "the spire has gone, but it is otherwise much the same".

Armed with this information we located you on the internet, and we would be most grateful if you could confirm that our painting indeed concerns St Mary Dean Church. We attach several images for your consideration and look forward with interest to hearing from you. Any further information you may be able to provide - especially with regard to the history of the church - would be most welcome.

Having looked at the picture and compared it with old prints of the church I am convinced that this is indeed a painting of Deane church and have written back to say so. The only anomaly would appear to be the spire. As far as I am aware the church tower never had a spire.

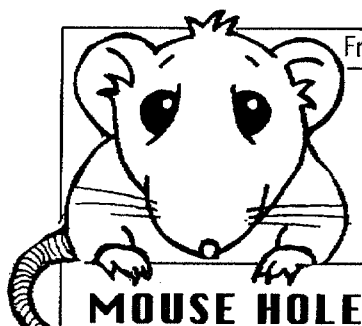
Certainly the earliest print I can find, of the church in 1836, does not show a spire. Maybe a member of the congregation can throw some light on this. Anyway I thought you may be interested to see the picture so below is the copy that was sent via the wonders of modern technology.



A prayer for student days: for faith and fruitful study

Here is a prayer used at King's College, Cambridge

Almighty Father, grant that our universities and colleges may be houses of faith and fruitful study; and that their students may so learn truth as to bear its light along all their ways, and so learn Christ as to be found in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.



From my home in the church I learn about all sorts of things...

MOUSE HOLE

My Favourite Things

Make a place mat with pictures of your favourite foods on.



Draw pictures of your favourite foods in pencil or paint or cut pictures from old magazines.

Glue onto a sheet of card then cover with clear sticky-backed plastic to make the mat easy to wipe clean.

What's the fastest vegetable on earth?

A runner bean

After the great flood GOD said:
"As long as the world exists,
there will be a time for planting
and a time for harvest.
There will always be cold and heat,
summer and winter, day and night"
Genesis 8:22



HARVEST

is a time to REMEMBER
that GOD made the world:
He made the land we live on,
the air we breath,
the water we drink and the food we eat.



HARVEST

is a time to SHARE
with others all that
GOD has given us.

is a time to say
THANK YOU to GOD
for giving us all the
things we need to live.



Can you think of different foods to
finish these HARVEST 'acrostics'?

Honey.....
A.....
R.....
Vegetables.....
E.....
S.....
Tomatoes.....

H.....
Apple pie.....
R.....
V.....
E.....
Sausages.....
T.....

