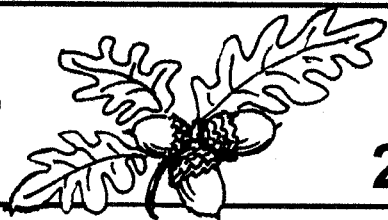


Deane Church News

October

2004



October 2004 Diary

October 3 Trinity 17

- 9.00 am Holy Communion CW
- 10.30 am Harvest Family Worship
- 6.00 pm Holy Communion

October 10 Trinity 18

- 9.00 am Holy Communion PB
- 10.30 am Service of the Word
- 6.00 pm Service of the Word

October 17 Trinity 19

- 9.00 am Holy Communion PB
- 10.30 am Family Worship and Baptism
- 6.00 pm Holy Communion

October 24 Trinity 20

- 9.00 am Holy Communion PB
- 10.30 am Family Communion
- 6.00 pm Service of the Word

October 31 Trinity 21 All Saints Sunday

- 9.00 am Holy Communion PB
- 10.30 am Praise Service
- 6.00 pm Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Communion Readings for October 2004

October 3 Trinity 17

Habakkuk 1:1-4;2:1-4 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10

October 10 Trinity 18

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19

October 17 Trinity 19

Genesis 32:22-31 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8

October 24 Trinity 20

Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14

October 31 Trinity 21

Isaiah 1:10-18 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12 Luke 19:1-10

The Rector Writes



In case you're wondering - no this is not a picture of me! Although some have suggested that there be a photograph of me in the magazine. Not many I confess, but some. No, I have included this picture because since writing an

article for the Deane Church News in mid August a lot has happened, not least the Olympic Games in Athens. I suppose as we look back over that event there are a number of incidents that really stand out. Kelly Holmes winning two gold medals. Amir Khan making that unexpected breakthrough in boxing and winning a silver medal. Matthew Pinsent achieving yet another gold medal in rowing. The British sprinters pulling off an extraordinary when they beat off the Americans to win the 4x100 metres relay. Although many of the commentators predicted few Olympic medals this time round in fact we had, as a nation, a great games.

And yet in spite of all the achievements one other thing stood out and that was the failure of Paula Radcliffe to win any medal, and that in spite of being the favourite in the marathon. Some vilified Paula for putting in such a poor performance, not even finishing in the two events she entered. Others saw her as a heroine. Personally I don't know what to think. All I know is that I am in no shape to have even entered the events Paula did.

Having however seen Paula fail I was reminded of another Olympic incident. It's recorded in Games historian Budd Greenspan's epic tome "100 Greatest Moments in Olympic History". In the book he relates the tale of the Tanzanian John Stephen Akhwari, the last man home in the Mexico City

marathon of 1968 - over an hour behind gold medallist Mamo Wolde of Ethiopia. John entered the stadium with his leg bloodied and bandaged, wincing with pain at every step. One writer wrote of him "Today we have seen a young African runner who symbolises the finest in human spirit...a performance that lifts sport out of the category of grown men playing at games." When asked why he did not give up when it was obvious he had no chance of winning Akhwari replied: "I don't think you understand. My country did not send me to Mexico City to start the race. They sent me to finish the race."

That incident got me thinking of what the apostle Paul wrote to Timothy (2 Timothy 4:7) "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." In the Christian life there are no gold medals for the few who come first. Everybody who finishes the race is a winner. But there's the rub. There are many who start the Christian race and then, for whatever reason, give up. Maybe they find the going too hard. Maybe they become discouraged. Maybe they get sidetracked by other concerns or weighed down by worries. But the truth of the matter is this; the heavenly prize is not given to those who start the race, but only to those who finish it. Your heavenly Father did not choose you to start the race, he chose you to finish it.



"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." (Hebrews 12:1)

October 4 is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi

St Francis (1181 - 1226) is surely one of the most attractive and best-loved of all the saints. But he began by being anything but a saint. Born the son of a wealthy cloth-merchant of Assisi, Francis' youth was spent in fast-living, parties and on fast horses as a leader of the young society of the town. Then he went to the war between Assisi and Perugia, and was taken prisoner for a year.

By the time of his release, Francis had changed. Perhaps his own suffering had awakened him to that of others. In any case, he abandoned warfare and carousing, and began to help the poor and the lepers of his area.

Then one day a voice which seemed to come from the crucifix in the small, semi-derelict church of Damiano Assisi said to him 'Go and repair my house, which you see is falling down'. This religious experience was a vital turning point in Francis' life: Jesus Christ became very real and immediate to him.

His first action was to begin repairing the church, having sold some of his father's cloth to pay for materials. His father was not amused, in fact he was furious - until Francis renounced his inheritance and even his clothes by his dramatic stripping off in the public square of the town. The Bishop of Assisi provided him with simple garments, and Francis began his new life.

Francis rebuilt San Samiano, and then travelled as a pilgrim. His compassion for the poor and lepers became famous. Soon disciples joined him, and they set up a communal life in simple wattle and daub huts.

In 1219 Francis visited the Holy Land, and his illusions about the Crusaders were shattered. He went on to seek out the Sultan, and tried to convert him. Back home, he found his Order was now 5,000 strong, and growing. Francis stepped down as head, but continued to preach and was immensely popular. He died after a prolonged illness at 45, and was canonised in 1228.

Bits and Pieces

Ladies Guild

October 5 Hospital Saturday Peter Green

October 19 Harvest Supper

Thank You!

Gillian Gregory and her friend, Iola Hart, successfully completed their Liverpool to Leeds canal walk in June. The weather was very kind to them and they completed the distance on schedule. They wish to thank all sponsors for their generous support, resulting in a total of **£5,876.55** being raised for Christie's against Cancer.

Baptisms

On Sunday August 15th we welcomed through baptism the following children into membership of the church family:

Isabelle Grace Blanter, daughter of Neil James Blanter and Lindsay Jane Stower

Christopher James Bulpit, son of David and Nina Jayne Bulpit

Clocks go back!

Do not forget that clocks go back on the night of Saturday 30th/Sunday 31st October. Put your clock back one hour before you go to bed. Do not be the one to arrive in church an hour early the next day.

A Reminder

Remember to keep on collecting items for the Christmas shoebox appeal. Details are now available in church.

Quotes

God will not give you tomorrow's grace today, but when you wake up in the morning it'll be there.

- Bob Gass

God's biggest problem with labourers in his vineyard is absenteeism.

- Anon

Good deed

A man arrived one day at the pearly gates, waiting to be admitted. St. Peter looked through the Big Book, but after several minutes furrowed his brow, and said, "I'm sorry, I don't see your name written down here."

"How current is your copy?" the man asked.

"I get a download every ten minutes." St. Peter replied. "Why do you ask?"

"I'm embarrassed to admit it, but I was always the stubborn type. It was not until my death was imminent that I cried out to God, so my name probably hasn't yet arrived to your copy yet."

"I'm glad to hear that," Peter says, "but while we're waiting for the update to come through, can you tell me about a really good deed that you did in your life?"

The man thought for a moment. "Well, there was this one time when I was driving down a road and I saw a group of yobs harassing this poor girl. I slowed down, and sure enough, there they were, about 20 of them.

Infuriated, I got out my car and walked up to the leader of the gang. He was a huge guy with a studded leather jacket and a chain running from his nose to his ears. As I walked up to the leader, his mates told me to get lost or I'd be next.

"But I ripped the leader's chain off his neck and smashed him in the face. Then I turned around and yelled to the rest of them, 'Leave this poor innocent girl alone! You're all a bunch of SICK, deranged animals!

Go home before I really teach you a lesson in PAIN!'"

St. Peter, duly impressed, said "Wow! When did this happen?"

"About three minutes ago."

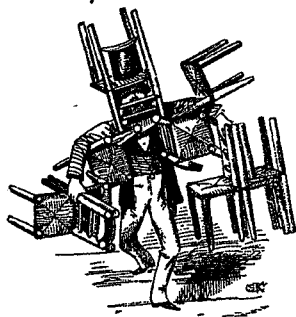
Does our church have an invisible 'no trespass' sign?

Are people more frightened to come to our church than to go into hospital? According to a new book, they may well be.

"Creating a Culture of Welcome in the Local Church" is about the sad news that many churches make newcomers feel incredibly UNwelcome. The so-called 'Fellowship Time' after a church service may in fact be an exclusive social club. "All too soon our comfort zones only include those like us, in the know, in the inside," says the author, the Rev Alison Gilchrist, a curate in Preston. This, she says, gives newcomers the impression that the local Church really doesn't want you, if you are not already 'in' it.

Alison Gilchrist then points to organisations like McDonald's. "The whole matter of welcome and hospitality is taken very seriously by those who are keen to have us visit, shop/eat at, or join their own organisation." She even points to McDonald's whopping 750-page training manual and the English Tourist Board's 'Welcome Host Scheme' as useful guides as to how to make 'newcomers' welcome.

"Creating a Culture of Welcome in the Local Church" goes on to give examples of best practice, and includes exercises in how it feels to be the newcomers. It urges local churches to welcome the strangers in their midst, and to actively build their community.



As usual, Gordon had forgotten that the Harvest services were so popular.

How to answer the door on Halloween

When October 31 comes and the streets fill with crowds of kids dressed as ghosts, ghouls, vampires and witches, the reaction of many Christians is to batten down the hatches and refuse to answer the door.

This is an understandable reaction. Why should we encourage and reward 'trick or treaters' for glorying in the works of the devil? And while it is a harmless bit of fun for many children, there is always a more malicious minority that the more vulnerable among us would not want to open our doors to.

And yet, Halloween represents a great opportunity for us. When else does the local community come flocking to our doors? And what a perfect opportunity to tell the gospel to those who are flirting openly with the devil and his minions. I've tried this approach in recent years with great results: why not give it a try this year?

What I always do is comment positively on the time and trouble they have taken on their costumes. And then, bowl of sweets in hand, I ask: 'Who do you think is the most powerful spiritual being in the world?' This line has never failed to start a discussion among the doorknockers. After I have said 'no' to each and every one of their answers, I rephrase: 'OK then, who do you think the Devil is really scared of?' The smart ones work out where I'm heading and sometimes glaze over, seeing that they've been pulled in.

But after some head scratching, I lay the wonderful answer on them: 'God sent a little baby once, who grew to a man. He was the most powerful spiritual being who ever walked the earth - and his name was Jesus of Nazareth. Every time he met a demon, it screamed and fled. Every time the devil tried to tempt him, he left frustrated. And at the very moment that Old Nick thought he'd finally got him - as he died on the Cross - the trap snapped shut, and the Devil himself was defeated. So have a good time tonight - but don't forget you're supporting the losing side!' Then after dispensing the sugar-coated

goodwill, I send them on their way sucking a sweet and holding a gospel tract - hopefully a little wiser than when they arrived.

This open-door, open-conversation approach is much more likely to open doors for the gospel than a snarling or aggressive response when the doorbell rings. So, if you're up to it, don't leave the door shut on a great gospel opportunity.

Tim Thornborough

The Good Book Company has published a short, simple and colourful tract this year to give away at the door. They cost just £2.00 for 10. Ring for a sample on 08452250880, or check out the text on www.thegoodbook.co.uk.

Iraqi Christians flee violence

Iraqi Christians are continuing to leave their homeland "at an alarming rate", according to the Jubilee Campaign. The news followed continuing terrorist violence against the country's indigenous Chaldo Assyrian community.

Thousands of Christian families have now left Iraq for Syria and Jordan. It is expected that they will probably head to Chaldo Assyrian communities in Europe, the United States and Australia.

SUMMARY OF INCOME FOR MONTHS OF AUGUST 2004 VS AUGUST 2003

	AUGUST 2003	AUGUST 2004
LOOSE COLLECTION	576.87	682.83
PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES	3,030.48	2,435.80
STANDING ORDERS	900.70	942.00
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>4,508.05</u>	<u>4,060.63</u>
ACTUAL INCREASE/DECREASE		-447.42
% INCREASE/DECREASE		-10%

WHO'S WHO

Rector: Ian Mainey
(Telephone 01204 61819)

Vicar: Paul Ellis
(01204 651851)

Readers: David Dewhurst
(01204 651347)
Nola Kilsby
(01204 492351)

Wardens: Les Kilsby
(01204 492351)
Bryan Shephard
(01942 817288)
Craig Mochrie
(01204 652324)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Lay Chair: Jane Hampson
(01204 848433)

Honorary Treasurer: Alan Cheetham
(01204 405829)

Honorary Secretary: Les Kilsby
(01204 492351)

CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS

Buildings & Fabric: Mike Kirkby
Worship: Elizabeth Plant
Social: Chris Dewhurst-Taylor

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist: Jim Needham
(0161 723 5860)
Flowers: Josie Crompton (01204 655964)
Archivist: Rodney Howard
(01024 652417)
Gift Aid: Les Kilsby
Secretary: (01204 492351)
Deane: Elizabeth Plant
Church News: (01204 63730)

MEMORIAL HALL

Bookings: Julie Cooper
(01024 660946)
Caretaker: Ian Cooper
(01024 660946)

WHAT'S ON

Scramblers: 3 to 5 years
Climbers: 5 to 7 years
Lynda Smith (01024 62093)

Explorers: 7 to 11 years
Elaine Cockerham (01204 650347)

All meet in the Memorial Hall on Sundays at 10.30am

Pathfinders: 11 to 14 years
CYFA: 14 to 18 years
Ian Gardiner (01204 660460)
The Memorial Hall Fridays 7.15 - 9.00pm

BELL RINGERS

Practice Night Wednesdays at 7.30pm
Kenneth Higson & Anthea Morris (01024 63754)

CHURCH CHOIR

Rehearsals on Sundays at 12 noon (except third Sunday – see Music Group below)
Jim Needham (0161 723 5860)

MUSIC GROUP

Rehearsals on each third Sunday at 12 noon
Beccy Rutter (01942 814946)

LADIES GROUPS

Meet in the Memorial Hall
Ladies Guild: Alternate Tuesdays at 7.45pm
Pat Sewell (01204 61278)
Parents & Toddlers: Thursdays at 1.30pm
Jean Mainey (01204 61819)

DEANE LUNCH & LEISURE

Wednesdays 12 noon to 2.30pm
Julie Cooper (01204 660946)

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut

Brownies: 1. Tuesdays at 6.45pm
Ann Calderbank (398206)
2. Wednesdays at 6.30pm
Janet Barnsley (01772 322247)

Guides: Mondays at 7.15pm
Carole Baxendale (419167)

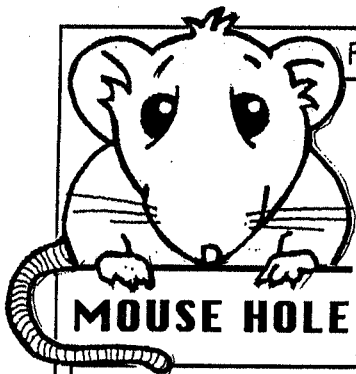
Cubs: Thursdays at 6.45pm
Mike Ash (436036)

Beavers: Monday at 5.45pm
Liz Yarwood (855163)

Rainbows: Fridays at 6.30pm
Margaret Latchford (657101)

www.deaneparish.info

Initial enquiries for Baptism and Banns of Marriage should be directed to the Rector



MOUSE HOLE

Pips and Seeds

Save the pips from the next apple you eat then:

- Fill a pot with potting compost, water, then press the apple pips into the soil around the pot.
- Cover the pot with a plastic bag secured with an elastic band, then put in a warm, dark place until the first shoots appear.
- Bring out into the light, water, and take the bag off the pot when the shoots are bigger.



Try growing other pips and seeds like: orange, grapes, melons, pears, lemons, cherries...

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

A great crowd of people had gathered to hear Jesus, so Jesus told them this parable:

Once there was a man who went out to sow corn.

As he scattered the seed in the field

some

of it fell

along

the path

where it was

stepped on

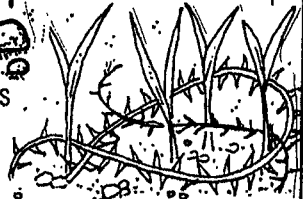
and the birds ate it up.



- Some of it fell on rocky ground and when the plants sprouted, they dried up because the soil had no moisture.



And some seed fell in good soil; the plants grew and produced corn, a hundred grains each.



Some of the seed fell among thorn bushes, which grew up with the plants and choked them.

**To find out what
this parable
means read:
Luke 8: 4 - 15**

Lord Jesus,
Help me to carry on believing in you,
help me to live my life for you,
help me to never give up on you even
when things get tough.

AMEN.

