

# Deane Parish Magazine

**May**

General Election

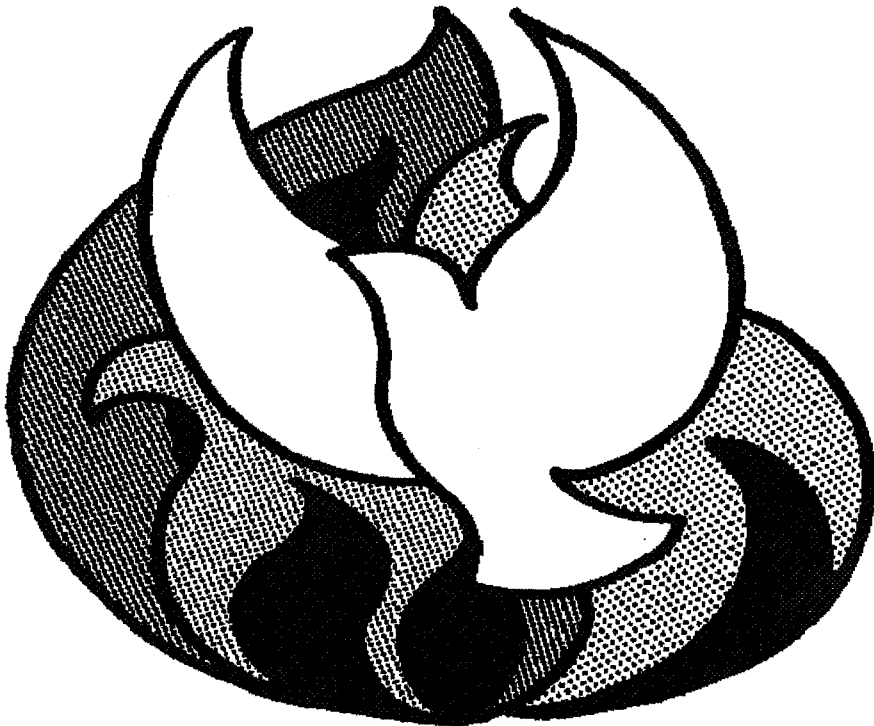
Pentecost

Christian Aid Week

Church and hall redevelopment

FAIRTRADE CHURCH

**2005**



## May 2005 Diary

- May 1 Easter 6**  
 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Common Worship)  
 10.30 a.m. Family and Parade Service  
 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion
- May 5 Ascension Day**  
 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion (Preacher: Rev Paul Ellis)
- May 8 Easter 7**  
 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion 1662  
 10.30 a.m. Service of the Word  
 6.00 p.m. Service of the Word
- May 15 Pentecost**  
 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion 1662  
 10.30 a.m. Family Worship with Baptism  
 6.00 a.m. Holy Communion
- May 22 Trinity Sunday**  
 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion 1662  
 10.30 a.m. Family Communion  
 6.00 a.m. Service of the Word
- May 29 Trinity 1**  
 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
 10.30 a.m. Praise Service  
 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion



The speaker at all three services will  
be Baroness Cox (see article p.10)

### 9.00 and 6.00 readings

- May 1 Easter 6**  
 Acts 17.22-31; John 14.15-21—the Promise of the Spirit
- May 8 Easter 7**  
 Acts 1.6-14 - The Ascension; John 17.1-11
- May 15 Pentecost**  
 Acts 2.1-21—The Promised Spirit; John 7.37-39
- May 22 Trinity Sunday**  
 Tbd
- May 29 Trinity 1**  
 Genesis 25.19-34—Esau sells his birthright; Matthew 7.21-29

Please note that the deadline for copy for the magazine is the second Sunday of the month. The Directory containing the names and details of the church offices elected at the APCM and other leaders will be printed in the June magazine.

Cover image from [www.lindisfarne-scriptorium.co.uk](http://www.lindisfarne-scriptorium.co.uk)

# The Rector Writes

**What we all want, but find so difficult to offer**

I want to write about something that I suspect we are all in need of in one way or another - forgiveness. This is a really important subject. Why? Because it seems to me that large doses of forgiveness are required in order for our relationships with one another to flourish.

Authentic fellowship, and particularly fellowship within the life of the church, requires forgiveness, for without it we can end up with phoney fellowship, the kind of fellowship which, if you scratch the surface, is not real fellowship at all. Instead it's a phoney fellowship - the kind that skips over the sins, the disappointments and the letdowns of our lives. Of course I can easily understand why such phoney fellowship is found within many churches - because sins, disappointments and failures are often too painful for us to face up to.

Now of course none of us would need forgiveness if we were all perfect. Now unfortunately, when I last looked at myself in a mirror I came to the conclusion, one which my wife came to years ago, that I am not perfect. And worse, it looks like there is no possibility of my becoming perfect in the immediate future. That's why I desperately need those around me to be forgiving if I am going to get anywhere near them. I have so much in me that will stand in the way of real fellowship. And that's why you desperately need forgiveness as well, for, believe it or not, you are in the same boat as me! There are only two things that can happen to those things which we have allowed to hurt one another - we can either allow them to become barriers between us, we can try to ignore them, or we can allow them to be forgiven. I really don't see there being any other way round this.

We are all going to fail each other's expectations, so let me expand on these three possibilities before us. Firstly, we can hate or fear or mistrust each other—or all three—and completely avoid fellowship with one another. Secondly, we can carry on in a superficial relationship in which we hide most of our real feelings behind a mask of pretence. Or thirdly, we can come out into the open and love each other, applying forgiveness

liberally to both ourselves and to others. At the end of the day, I believe that forgiveness is the only way to avoid an eventual build up of resentment and anger. Real fellowship is impossible without forgiveness. Let's consider some words of the Apostle Peter.

**"Above all, love each other deeply,  
because love covers over  
a multitude of sins."  
(1 Peter 4:8).**

Whose sins are being covered over here? The answer is, everyone's. Love enables us to look past the sins of others so that we can be in relationship with them. And love enables others to look past our sins so that they can be in relationship with us.

Fellowship is great, but don't even try it without having a commitment to forgive each other. Otherwise your fellow "ship" will never even get out of the harbour.

In the movie, "The Mission", one of the leading characters is converted from being a slave-trader of Brazilian Indians. Eventually he becomes a Jesuit priest. But he insists on doing penance, dragging a heavy cross through the jungle back to the Indians he used to enslave. Once back, in a dramatic, cliff-side scene, where the cross threatened to make him fall, the Indians cut away the cross. The people he had formerly enslaved forgave him and set him free. We have the power to do that for each other.

We are a priesthood of believers who are to be priests for one another, forgiving one another as God for Christ's sake has forgiven us. <sup>1</sup>  
For did not Jesus say, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." If we have received the Holy Spirit, let us be people who exercise the power to forgive.



**'Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.'  
(The Lord's Prayer)**

## The General Election—from [makethecrosscount.com](http://makethecrosscount.com)

These days, many people see politics as dull, corrupt and irrelevant to their lives. In the last General Election turnout hit an all-time low, with only 59.4 per cent of the electorate registering a vote.

Christians should respond to this growing sense of apathy and disengagement with vision and purpose and seize the opportunity to transform our society. Casting a vote is crucially important and does make a

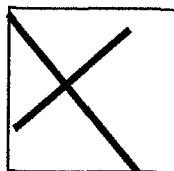
difference, so first of all it's good to

- check you are registered to take part in the election. The next step is to
- use your vote,

but at CARE we believe that exercising citizenship does not end at the polling station, but also involves a daily engagement in the political system. Once polling day is over, it is important that we support and challenge our elected representatives as they serve their term.

[www.makethecrosscount.com](http://www.makethecrosscount.com) provides you with inspiring information on practical ways to take the next steps of Christian involvement during and after the General Election Campaign. We want to challenge you. We can make a difference. We can change our society.

**We can make the cross count.**



### What do you think the Bible say about politics?

At first glance, very little. There's no outline for a good transport policy, no advice as to whether health care should be provided by the state or the market, and no tips for setting interest rates....

But politics has been defined as the 'art of living together in community' and the Bible is precisely about what it means to be part of God's people living in God's world. It sets out His vision for His creation - and for the beings that inhabit it.

What does it mean to be truly human? How can we be good stewards of God's creation? How can we be salt and light in our world? And because we all have to practice the art of living together in community, how can we live out our faith with integrity in the public square? If you're interested in finding the answers to some of these questions, then please download our Bible studies [www.makethecrosscount.com](http://www.makethecrosscount.com)

## The Special Days of May 2005

### May 5 Ascension Day

On Ascension Day the sequence of events that began at Easter was completed. Christ ascended to his Father in heaven, and now it was the turn of the Holy Spirit to come to earth (the story is in Acts 2:1 - 8).

### May 15 Pentecost

Pentecost is the feast on which the Church celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit. With his enabling power, the Church soon saw an incredibly dramatic expansion in its earliest, formative period. No wonder Pentecost Sunday is a major feast in the Christian year. In fact, in many Christian traditions, Pentecost comes second in importance only to Easter itself.

The Holy Spirit is of major importance to Christian thought and life. When we read through the book of Acts, we find evidence of his presence everywhere - guiding, encouraging, and empowering the apostles. In more recent times, the worldwide church has come to an increased awareness of the powerful role of the Spirit in each of our Christian lives.

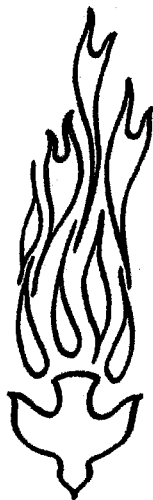
Pentecost falls on the fiftieth day after Easter, when, according to Luke's account, the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples in Jerusalem, who were gathered there on Jesus' instructions. ("Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised.")

Even so, the Holy Spirit's arrival astounded everyone. The disciples certainly did not expect a sound like a mighty rushing wind from heaven, tongues of fire coming to rest on their heads, and the gift of being able to praise God in languages unknown to them.

### May 22 Trinity Sunday

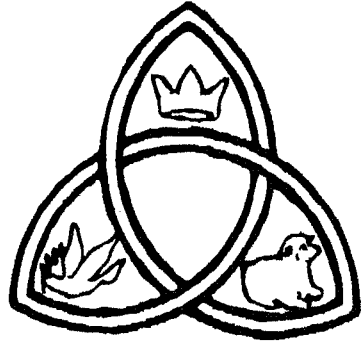
Trinity Sunday is the last major feast of the Christian year. It celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, in which God is understood to be revealed as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The remainder of the year is reckoned in terms as 'Sundays after Trinity' until the cycle resumes again on Advent Sunday.

There are only two verses in the entire Bible that seem, at first glance, to be capable of a full Trinitarian interpretation:



Matthew 28.19— 'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...'

2 Corinthians 13.14— 'May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all...'



But of course the doctrine is not based on just these two verses! Its foundations are built on the pattern of divine activity found throughout the Bible. Time after time, New Testament verses link together the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. What emerges is that the Father is revealed in Christ through the Spirit.

The one who is arguably responsible for the development of the distinctive word Trinity is Tertullian, born about 160 AD, and the first theologian to write in Latin. He invented the Latin word trinitas. And such was his influence on Christian theology, that his term became the one used within the western church.

## REPORT

### FROM CHURCH AND HALL REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

We have had several meetings with the architect, looking specifically at the reordering of the church.

We are now at the stage where we feel reasonably clear in our own minds as to what the reordering would look like. There are still some decisions that we need to make before the next stage which is to submit our plans to the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC), the fire officer and English Heritage. As these bodies could reject or recommend changes we do not feel we are ready to present any plans to the PCC and the congregation at the moment. If all goes well we are hoping to have presentation plans ready for September.

Please keep praying for us as we are trying to create something that is within keeping with our historic building and at the same time enabling us to be a church that will meet the present and future needs of the church and the wider community.

Nola Kilsby.



**Christian Aid Week, 15-21 May 2005**

**Making poverty history  
the trade justice campaign**

The UK government is committed to making 2005 a year when poverty is on the international agenda. To tackle poverty it must address the injustices in world trade. Christian Aid Week this year asks churches to call for trade justice.

**You can take action for trade justice this Christian Aid Week!**

**2005: Poverty on the agenda**

Important international meetings in 2005 will give our government an excellent opportunity to take a lead for trade justice.

**July: G8 Summit meeting in the UK**

The meeting of the world's richest eight nations returns to the UK in July. The UK government wants the agenda to address poverty in Africa.

July-December: The UK holds the presidency of the EU.

December: ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organisation.

**The Big Vote for trade justice**

Imagine the impact if every household in the UK and Ireland voted to ask their governments to do something about global poverty. This Christian Aid Week we are giving people the chance to help shape the world: by giving, and by taking a very simple action, to vote for trade justice.

**If you can help with house-to-house collecting please sign on the list that will be in church (we need about 70 collectors to cover our area) or contact Phil Ray on 01204 654232.**

**This is how your donation can make a difference this Christian Aid Week**  
**£5** buys five chickens, helping to restore a family's livelihood in Mozambique. **£6** maintains one girl at the Bridge School in India for a month, giving her a chance of education that otherwise would not be available. **£66** will pay for the internet connection for a computer school for children orphaned by HIV/AIDS in the Democratic Republic of Congo. **£11** will buy the network card to access the internet, so students can train in computer programming.

**£112** buys a water tank for a Peruvian village. This means that the villagers can get water without having to walk to the nearest stream that could be over 2 km away.

**When making your donation don't forget about Gift Aid! Gift Aid is a government scheme that allows Christian Aid to claim back the tax paid on any donation made by a UK taxpayer. See the form on the red CAW envelope.**



## **Growing Deane Church**

### **Cross-cultural mission**

The events at Caesarea are recorded in chapters 10 & 11 of Acts! For the first time Gentiles became Christians, when Peter shared the gospel with Cornelius.

What about our 'cross-cultural' mission? Nationally 40% of the population have never been to church, except for weddings or funerals, and only 4% of children attend church on a Sunday. Our mission must involve reaching out to different cultures e.g. young people, 18-30s, ethnic groups. What lessons can we learn from Caesarea?

#### ***Prayer & Vision***

It needed two men at prayer and two separate visions to bring the gospel to a totally new community. Cornelius was told to fetch Peter from Joppa, while Peter's vision prepared him to go into the house of a Gentile. Effective mission begins with prayer and God's vision for the way ahead.

#### ***Expect the Unexpected***

God used Peter, a Jewish fisherman, to instruct Cornelius, a Roman officer, about himself; even before Peter had finished speaking the Holy Spirit fell on Cornelius! Are we expectant, and ready for the Spirit to lead us in unfamiliar paths in sharing the gospel?

#### ***Go to Where People Are***

Peter shared the good news in Cornelius' home. It reminds us that we cannot expect people to come to us in church on a Sunday; we have to go to where they are. How can we reach out to them?

#### ***Refuse to be Prejudiced***

God addressed Peter's prejudices before he could use him. What are our prejudices? Are we embarrassed when certain people come to church, the differently dressed, the poor, the gay etc? Don't be surprised to find that God is already at work in their lives!



**Who is your  
'roman soldier'?**

**'God does not show favouritism.'  
(Acts 10:34,5)**

## **Baroness Cox**

We are privileged to have Baroness Cox as our speaker at all three services on May 22nd, Trinity Sunday. Here is an outline of her biography written by Andrew Boyd. It gives an idea of what we have to look forward to on her visit to Deane.

### **Baroness Cox: Voice for the Voiceless**

**Andrew Boyd**

**£9.99, 448pp, May 1999 ISBN 0 7459 37357 (paperback)**

The story of Baroness Caroline Cox reads like a thriller novel. Andrew Boyd's story opens with Caroline Cox's secret expeditions to buy freedom for slaves captured by Arab traders in Sudan's war against black Africans. This is just one campaign in the Baroness's tireless patrol of the world's least glamorous causes.

In his fascinating account, Andrew Boyd tells the story of Baroness Cox's humble beginnings as a nurse and her subsequent nine-year fight as a sociology lecturer and Labour supporter against intimidation by the hard left. Her elevation to the peerage by Margaret Thatcher enabled her to draw greater attention to the causes she espoused.

'A Voice for the Voiceless' casts the spotlight on outrages the world chooses to ignore, and on the extraordinary energy of one woman who risks her life to bring hope and comfort to some of the most oppressed people in the world today.

**Baroness Cox will also speak at the meeting of the Diocesan Evangelical Union on Monday 23rd May at 7.30 p.m. in Deane Church.**

#### **A FAIRTRADE PRAYER**

Tilt the scales,  
O God of the mustard seed:  
That the poor shall see justice.

Share the feast,  
O God of Eden's abundant garden:  
That each crop may fetch a fair price.

Upset the tables,  
O God of the upside-down Kingdom:  
That the least can benefit from their trade.

Open our eyes,  
O God of life in all its fullness:  
That we may learn to walk the way of your son  
tilting, sharing, upsetting this world

Not satisfied  
until the products we bring to our table  
Give a better deal, to all who hunger for one.

In His name, Amen.

# Notice Board

## Wedding News

Mike and Judith Valentine are delighted to announce that their elder daughter, Sarah, will be marrying David Sutton in Deane Church on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm. Any members of the church family who would like to join them at this service will be most welcome.

## Ladies' Guild

May 3<sup>rd</sup> Hilda Barton  
Lancs.Dialect  
May 17<sup>th</sup> Mrs Curray  
Curiouser  
May 31<sup>st</sup> Katie Thorley  
Careline

## Sermons Special

Sermons Weekend this year will be 18/19 June. There will be a Ceilidh on the Saturday evening in Ladybridge High School. We shall share our open air service at 10.30 on the Sunday with the Salvation Army and URC.

## FAIRTRADE

The PCC recently voted that we are to become a Fairtrade church. Why not visit the website?

[http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get\\_involved\\_ideas](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get_involved_ideas) for lots of ideas, prayers, recipes... and look out for the Fairtrade prayer on p10..

## Deane Guides Celebrate 75 Years (1930-2005)

Guides at Deane celebrate their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June from 6.30pm at Deane HQ by holding a barbeque/campfire evening. Everyone who has been connected with the company over the years (e.g. former Guides and helpers) is warmly invited. Photographs for a display are also required. To help the catering for the evening please telephone Carole (419167), Sarah (651692) or Karen (62359) if you would like to go along.

## LADIES' GUILD COFFEE MORNING

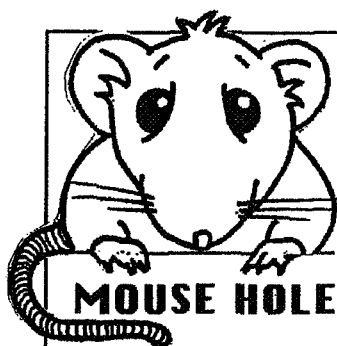
Saturday 7th May Memorial Hall

10.00 to 12 noon

Proceeds to local charities,  
expenses and speakers



We welcomed Lisa Atherton as our new church organist on Sunday April 10th. The 6.00 p.m. congregation very much appreciated her debut!



## Worm Holes

Worms are wonderful creatures they love to wriggle around in the soil eating dead leaves and other rotting plant matter. They help enrich the soil and make it good for plants to grow in.

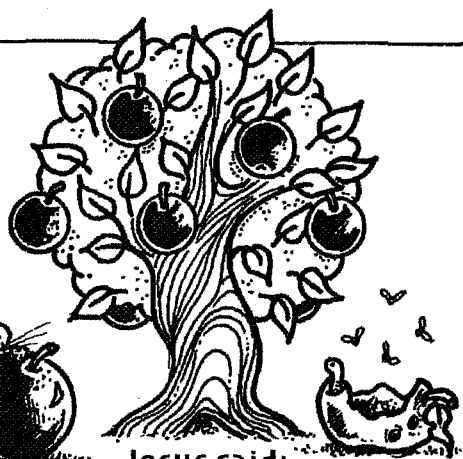
Watch the worms at work by making your own worm house.

- Fill a large jar with alternate layers of soil then sand.
- Put in 5 big garden worms, add a layer of

dead leaves on top and cover with a cloth.

• Leave for a few days then take a look... Have the worms made any tunnels? Is the soil still in neat layers? Are the leaves still on top?

Don't leave the worms in the jar for long... put them back in the soil outside.



Jesus said:

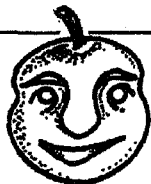
*"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognised by it's own fruit..."*

*The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart."*

Luke 6:43-45

It's God's Holy Spirit that gives us the strength and help we need to be changed from the inside, from being someone who thinks and does bad things to someone who thinks and does good things.

He helps us turn our hate to love, our impatience to patience, our unkindness to kindness, so we can be like a good tree that grows good fruit.



## Apple Heads

With the help of an adult, peel and core a large apple.

Carve out eyes, nose and mouth then soak in a bowl of salt water for half an hour. Spear onto a pencil, place in a bottle and leave for 3-4 weeks to dry. Decorate the bottle to look like clothes.

