

Deane St Mary's

August 2009

A holiday month for many but not for those with increased responsibilities now/when Ian/Dan have/will have left. Our OLM gives us food for thought as we all help shoulder the responsibility. We're brought up to date with the matter of finding God's person to be the new Rector.

Elizabeth has told us about her experience of ordination and Alison Partington as subject of this month's profile tells us of her heart for the poor and for the church.

We've also an update on progress toward the new hall.

It's a bit early to be talking of Harvest Sunday (Oct 4) but as there will be no September edition of the magazine there is information about our Harvest focus.



We hope the various her articles will interest you and if you have matters which you think will interest others in the context of this magazine the invitation is still open to let us have your contributions.

The team is:

Anne Roberts, Margaret Howard, Elizabeth Plant, Barbara Winder, Charles Winder. Don't be shy!

The deadline for the October Magazine is September 11th (publication date is 20th September).

St Mary's Info: August 2009

	9.00	10.30	6.00
Aug 2	Holy Communion	Family Parade	
	Psalm 51:1 — 12 John 6:24 — 35	Holiday Club service	
Aug 9	Holy Communion	Family Service	
	Gen 37:1 — 11; John 6:35, 41 — 45		
Aug 16	Holy Communion	Family Service	
	Gen 37:12 — 36; John 6:51 — 58		
Aug 23	Holy Communion	Family Service	
	Gen 41; John 6:56 — 59		
Aug 30	Holy Communion	Family Service	
	Gen 42:1 — 13; Mark 7:24 — 37		
Sep 6	Holy Communion	Family Service	
	Gen 45:1 — 13; Mark 7:24 — 37		

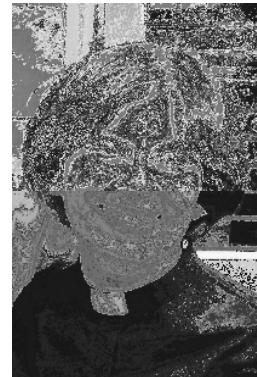
Joseph

Come with Joseph through many adventures, dangers, good and bad times, and see that God always knew what to do to keep him safe and to fulfil his purposes for Israel.

The 2nd reading will not apply at the 10.30 service.

Our OLM Writes

Well, we really will be on our own soon! Many felt the interregnum started when Ian took his last service here at the end of April. In fact legally it did not begin until June 1st when he was installed as Vicar of St James, Southport. But I think the full force of the interregnum will only become apparent when Dan and Angela move to Thornton Hough in mid August. Within a matter of a few months we will have lost both our stipendiary clergy. The process to find Ian's replacement is moving comparatively quickly. But the next Rector will not be in post before Christmas at the earliest, and it could take much longer. And until a new Rector has been here for some time, the diocese will not allocate the parish another stipendiary curate.



So what does this mean in practice? Legally the Church Wardens are responsible for all that goes on at St Mary's. The Revd John Armstrong, the Team Vicar, based at St Andrew's, is the leading clergyman. Sunday by Sunday, the Readers, Nola and David, and I will be leading most of the morning services with the help of visiting clergy. We are grateful to Joyce Mitson, Roger Jackson, Julia Davies, OLM at St Andrew's, and Roger Cooper, Vicar of Blackrod and Area Dean, for what they have already done and have agreed to do in the future.

What can you do to help? The first thing I would ask is for your prayer and understanding. Les, Craig, Beccy, Nola, David and I already had a full workload before Ian left. Beccy and David have full-time jobs. We are all volunteers. None of us is paid by the diocese. No one person can take on all that Ian and Dan did! I want to do all I can to serve you and to serve God during the interregnum. I know I will be the only priest based at St Mary's, but I am not the acting Rector. Many of the tasks undertaken by Ian and Dan are being

shared out. When these are finalised and made known, please do take note of them so that you know who to contact. Some are already agreed. I will be the first contact for church funerals, John Armstrong for wedding enquiries and Beccy Rutter for baptisms. One area in which the church family can help is by keeping the lines of communication open. Don't assume that THEY know. THEY (Ian and Dan) are no longer here! We no longer have the Rectory as the focal point through which most things go. Another is, if you spot a job that needs doing, tell one of the wardens or, (if possible) do it yourself! For example, at the back of church, out-of-date notices, magazines, posters etc can be taken down and put in a recycling box by anyone! If every member of the church family did just one extra little job during the interregnum, it would make life much easier for all.

At the start I said that we would soon be one our own. That is true in the sense that we no longer have Ian and Dan. But there are many senior clergy in the diocese to whom we can turn for advice and support. But, of course, no Christian is ever entirely alone. We may not have a Rector or curate, but we have God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We need to remember Jesus' words in Matthew 28 v20.
I am with you always to the very end of the age.
I end by recalling the words of ML Haskins made famous by George VI in the dark days of WW2. '*Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That will be better than any light and safer than a known way*'. So I went forth and finding the hand of God trod gladly into the night.

Smile Awhile

The scientific theory I like best that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage!

Life is a mirror. If you frown at it, it frowns back; if you smile, it returns the greeting. (William Makepeace Thackeray)

Ordination as Priest

Where do I begin to describe the day I was ordained Priest? With the seagulls' alarm call at 5am in the morning at the ordination retreat in Llandudno? With our arrival at Manchester Cathedral at 4.30pm to be met by the other half of our year group who had been ordained at the afternoon service? Or as we took our oaths in the Chapter House before the service, oaths of allegiance to the Sovereign and of canonical obedience to the Bishop of Manchester? But perhaps I should start as we processed into the Cathedral through the great west door, especially opened for us, for the 6pm service.

After the opening hymn, *Christ is the King, O friends rejoice!* the eleven ordinands were called forward by name to stand in front of the ordaining Bishop, the Bishop of Bolton. After the Bible readings the sermon was given by the Revd Canon Alma Servant, rector of Hulme, who had led our ordination retreat. Then began the ordination itself. We all knelt as, in turn, each went before the Bishop for the laying on of hands. At the moment of ordination each of us was surrounded by priests, known to that individual, who joined the Bishop in the laying on of hands. This was the most moving part of the whole service as we realised we were part of the great apostolic succession which goes back to St



Peter himself. After we all had been ordained Priest, the Bishop gave each of us an inscribed Bible as a symbol of our calling, our palms were

anointed with oil and our incumbents came forward to adjust our stoles or scarves. Those who wore a deacon's stole (which is worn across the body) needed them adjusted to the priest's position hanging from the neck! Since at Deane we wear black preaching scarves, my scarf needed no adjustment, and so Ian, who had returned especially for the service, just checked it was straight!

At the Peace we were all able to go and greet family and friends. Then the communion part of the service began. There were many points for the distribution so that everyone was able to take communion.

The service ended with *We have a gospel to proclaim*. Then after the blessing, the Bishop of Bolton led us out to have our photographs taken.

By now the rain which had begun just after we were all ordained, grew even heavier so that we had to retreat to the Quire to be photographed. Bishop Nigel was keen to point out that, in many parts of the world, rain is seen as a sign of God's blessing. My family therefore were doubly blessed, as I found out later that the rain had come in through the Cathedral roof and soaked their seats to the extent that they were forced to move!

But, of course, in many ways the ordination was not complete until we had presided at our first communion service. This I did at 9am the following morning. I was thrilled that so many of the church family and my own family were able to come to the service.

I do want to thank everyone who has supported me in any way on my journey towards ordination, especially my family, Roger Jackson, Ian Mainey, Dan Howard, my support group and the many people who came to the Cathedral and the 'bring and share' lunch we had after the Sermons Sunday service. It is my hope and prayer that we will all continue to support one another in the weeks, months and years to come.

A chrysanthemum by any other name
would be easier to spell!



6 The Transfiguration

the day Jesus met Elijah and Moses...

The story is told in Matthew (17:1-9), Mark (9:1-9), Luke (9:28-36). It was a time when Jesus' ministry was popular, when people were seeking him out. But on this day, He made time to take Peter, James and John, his closest disciples, up a high mountain.

High up on the mountain, Jesus was suddenly transfigured before his friends. His face began to shine as the sun, his garments became white and dazzling. Elijah and Moses, of all people, suddenly appeared, and talked with him. A bright cloud overshadowed the disciples. Peter was staggered, but, enthusiast that he was, immediately suggested building

three tabernacles on that holy place, one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. But God's 'tabernacling', God's dwelling with mankind, does not any longer depend upon building a shrine. It depends on the presence of Jesus, instead. And so a cloud covered them, and a voice spoke out of the cloud, saying



Wall painting in the Church of the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor

that Jesus was his beloved son, whom the disciple should 'hear'. God's dwelling with mankind depends upon our *listening* to Jesus.

Then, just as suddenly, it is all over. What did it mean? *Why Moses and Elijah?* Well, these two men represent the Law and the Prophets of the Old Covenant, or Old Testament. But now they are handing on the baton, if you like: for both the Law and the Prophets found their true and final fulfilment in Jesus, the Messiah. (cont)

Appointing a new Rector

Ian's left and Dan will also be leaving us shortly, so you might be wondering where we are up to in terms of finding a new Rector for the parish and what happens next?

The process began before Ian actually left and the first job for the PCC was to prepare what is called a Parish Profile. This document sets out a range of details about the church and the parish, the activities that we are involved in and what we would like to do over the next few years. It also gives us an opportunity to identify some of qualities that we would like to see in the new Rector. There is a copy of the document at the back of church near the notice boards, and included within it is a summary of the views that you expressed through the prayer time we had in church in May.

At a meeting of the PCC on the 22nd June the Parish Profile was agreed and two representatives (Les Kilsby and Beccy Rutter) were appointed to represent the parish through the interview process.

An organisation called the Simeon's Trustees is the Patron of St Mary's Deane, which means they are responsible for overseeing the appointment process and ensuring that the person is appointed as the Rector of St Mary's, Deane will provide a Bible-based and evangelical ministry. This is an historic arrangement. The Simeon Trustees representative who will be involved in this appointment process is the Archdeacon of Halifax, Robert Freeman. Robert will hopefully be joining us at our 10:30am service on 20th September.

The Archdeacon of Halifax, along with the Bishop of Bolton, the Archdeacon of Bolton, John Armstrong as the Team Vicar, and the two parish representatives will make up the shortlisting and interview panel.

The post has now been officially advertised in the Church Times and Church of England Newspaper and the closing date for applications is the 14th August. Interviews are due to be held on the 23rd and 24th September.

It is difficult to say when a new Rector might be able to take up the vacant post, but it is unlikely that this will be before Christmas.

So, please pray:

- That somebody out there will be ready to respond to God's call to bring them to Deane
- For all those involved in the appointment process, that they will be open to hearing the leading of God in the decisions that need to be made
- For Elizabeth, David, Nola and Joyce
- For Dan, Angela, Abigail and Bethia that they will settle in well to their new home on the Wirral, and that God will bring them lots of opportunities to share the gospel in their

Ballade of Good Counsel

*Flee from the crowd and dwell with truthfulness:
Suffice thee with thy goods, tho' they be small:
To hoard brings hate, to climb brings giddiness;
The crowd has envy, and success blinds all;
Desire no more than to thy lot may fall;
Work well thyself to counsel others clear,
And Truth shall make thee free, there is no fear!*

From a poem by Geoffrey Chaucer, d1400

Mission Focus

Flushing Away Poverty this Harvest

A few months ago when I came home from work I discovered that the water supply to our home was off. As we have a combi boiler, no water means no water, all we had was 10 litres of water we keep in the garage for emergencies. Trying to get tea was hard work as I had to prepare raw meat so I needed to regularly wash my hands; we couldn't flush the loo; the washing I had hoped to do had to be postponed, and the children couldn't have a shower after their Ju-Jitsu lesson. It was nearly 18 hours before the water was fully restored but it made me realise once again what a precious gift water and sanitation is and how much we take it for granted.

Water from a tap and somewhere to go to the toilet are things that we expect in the UK. We can't imagine what it's like not to have access to clean water and sanitation, but for billions around the world what we expect is an unimaginable luxury. The figures are overwhelming; almost 900 million people (one sixth of the world's population) are without access to clean water, the majority of them women and children. While over 2.5 billion, one third of the world's population are without a clean and safe place to go to the loo. This harvest we are going to be learning more about this issue and how churches in south west Uganda are helping their communities tackle this problem.

Water and sanitation is the forgotten development issue that so rarely makes the headlines, yet 1.8 million children die every year as a result of diseases caused by unclean water and poor sanitation. This amounts to around 5000 deaths a day. Water-related disease is the second biggest killer of children worldwide. Water and sanitation are neglected by donors and developing country governments alike, yet at any given time, almost half the population of the developing world is suffering from one or more of the main diseases associated with inadequate provision of water and sanitation, and half of the developing world's hospital beds are occupied by patients

suffering from such diseases.

Lack of access to safe water and sanitation disproportionately affects women and girls. Women and girls across Africa and Asia are walking on average 6km a day to collecting water weighing up to 20kg. The time it takes to get water each day - usually the girls job - means they often have to miss school. Another factor in their lack of attendance is lack of adequate sanitation facilities: young girls,

particularly after puberty, are less likely to attend classes if schools do not have suitable hygiene facilities. Improving school sanitation can increase the demand for education among girls by 11%.

Giving people clean water and safe sanitation also makes economic sense. For every \$1 spent, the economic rate of return in saved time, increased productivity and reduced health costs is \$8.4. The reduction in diarrhoea alone would result in a gain of 272 million days in school attendance and a gain of 3.2 billion working days. Annual time savings from more convenient water supplies would amount to another 20 billion working days, most of them gained by women.

In June this year I had the privilege of meeting 3 people from Tearfund's partner the Diocese of Kigezi Water and Sanitation Programme,, featured in the DVD we will see during our Harvest Service on October 4th. They explained first hand the difference the church is making in the villages of their diocese, which is in south west Uganda. In the village of Kigazi, the girls have to trek, barefoot, down a steep and stony mountain track every day to collect water. 13 year old Stida has already walked 13,000 miles in her life just to fetch water. At the water source the girls are often beaten, stabbed and even raped. They then have to trek back up the path carrying water weighing up to 20kg. (continued)



Update on the New Hall

We are now at the stage where the architect is working on the detailed drawings of the building. These will then have to be submitted for building regulation approval.

Once this has been granted we will then be in the position to go to tender (asking building contractors to submit a price for the build). We are hoping to do this in October with the aim of contracting with a builder sometime in November.

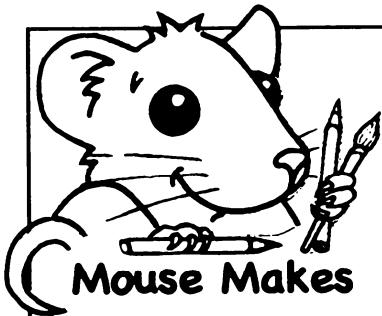
We are still intending to close the current hall at the end of this year and plan to start the new hall in the early part of 2010.

The cost of building the hall is still estimated to be £550,000, but this will not be confirmed until tender prices are received from potential contractors. Taking into account fees already paid, hall investment funds held by the PCC, funds pledged by church members, income from the Deane Church Shop, money from general fund-raising activities, and income from the rental or sale of 281 Deane Church Lane, it is estimated that up to £350,000 will have been raised through the church by the end of 2011.

This leaves about £200,000 to be raised from external sources. To guide us through this process, the PCC has agreed to appoint an experienced, professional fund-raiser, as a consultant, who will help identify grant awarding bodies and prepare applications to these bodies.

With the time fast approaching when the present hall is closed, the next urgent issue to be addressed by the PCC and church members is how we accommodate activities like youth groups and the Sunday school, during the nine months to a year before the new hall is ready?

In the meantime, the Church and Hall Redevelopment Committee is working on the planned new pathway from the hall to the church, and the provision of the new glass inner entrance door to the church.



Mouse Makes

The little boat was being tossed about in the storm.
"Be still, be calm" said Jesus, and the wind and the waves obeyed him!

Read Mark 4:35-41

Cut out the square at the bottom of the page and follow these instructions to make your own little boat.



1. Fold in half.

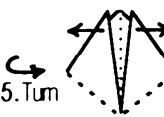
3. Fold up all sheets except the last, flip over, fold up last sheet.



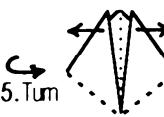
2. Fold corners to bottom.



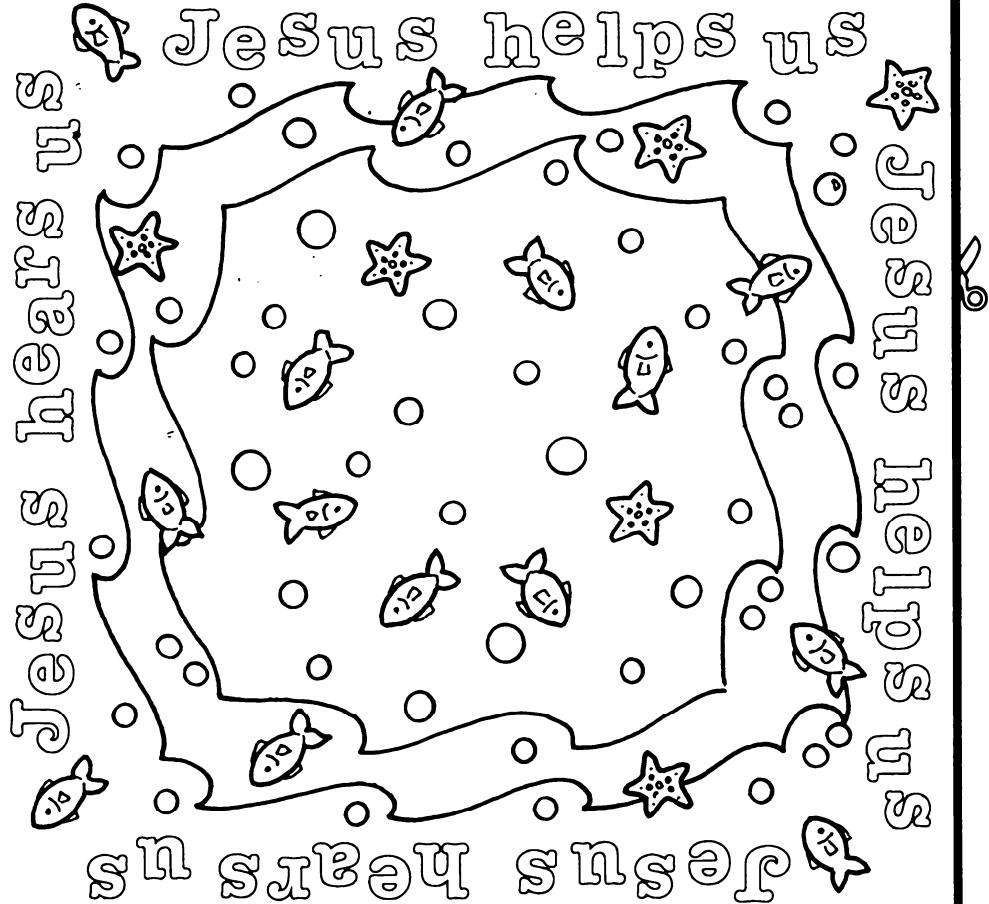
4. Hold corners, push to flatten.



5. Turn



6. Holding top points pull out into a boat.



This month's profile

Alison Partington

I was born in London and lived there for nearly 8 years before moving to Bolton when my Dad became vicar here. I returned to Bolton after studying Geography at Leicester University and Planning at Sheffield University. Since then I have worked as a Town Planner at Salford City council. I have been married to Phil for 14 years and we have 2 children, Joseph (11) and Emma (9). Most of my spare time at present is spent acting as a taxi service for Joseph and Emma, which I guess most mums can relate to. But when I do manage to get some time to myself, I like to keep fit by swimming and running.

I went into planning because I wanted to make a difference to people living in poverty, which is one reason why I like working in Salford. This passion for helping people in poverty is also reflected in some of the tasks that I do in Church. For example, I am the church representative for Tearfund, which is a Christian relief and development agency that works throughout the world. Tearfund's 10 year vision is to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty through a network of 100,000 local churches Deane Church is one of those churches and my role as church representative is to try to inform people in the church about Tearfund and to encourage them to give financial support. I do this by writing articles in the magazine and also by focusing our Harvest service and giving on Tearfund's work. This year we will be discovering about their work in providing water and sanitation by concentrating on churches in south-west Uganda.....you will learn more about that in the September magazine. I also run a Fair Trade stall on the first Sunday of every month. This



helps people in poverty by ensuring that they get a fair price for the goods they produce. Supermarkets are now stocking a lot more Fair Trade goods but the stall also tries to stock items that you cannot get in supermarkets yet. Running the stall also involves liaising with Justicia – the Fair Trade shop in Bolton, which is where we get all our stock from, as well as setting up and running the stall every month. Probably my favourite job is co-ordinating the Shoe Box Appeal for Operation Christmas Child. Filling the shoe boxes and seeing the videos of the joy they bring to children around the world is such a joy that it makes promoting this work really easy.

My hope for the church is to see us all growing more spiritually. Crucial to this, in my view, is the development of the Home Groups and also Prayer Triplets where we can support one another in a much deeper way than we can on a Sunday. I know from personal experience how valuable both these kinds of groups are and I long to see everyone in church also being a member of a Home Group.

Blame Bob Benyon for this one!

Jack was painter. To cut costs he would often thin his paint to make it go further. So, when the church decided to do some maintenance, Jack was able to put in the lowest bid and got the job. As always, he thinned his paint down with turpentine. One day while he was up on the scaffolding—the job almost finished—he heard a loud clap of thunder and the skies opened. The downpour washed the thinned paint off the church and knocked Jack off the scaffolding. He landed on the grass among the gravestones and puddles of worthless paint.



Jack knew that this was a warning from the Almighty so he got on his knees and prayed, 'Oh God, forgive me! What should I do.? And from the thunder came a mighty voice, 'Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more!'

Reflections

Born in Yorkshire and brought up in Kent, Geoff Brazier came to Bolton during his war service in the RAF, married and has lived here since. For many years he has been a member of our congregation, playing an important part in the life of the church, and has been further enriched by extensive travel in the United Kingdom, Europe and beyond.

All these aspects of his experience are evident in the poetry he writes. He remembers adventures on the White Cliffs

'Climbing where

One dare not now scale'

And walking by the River Dour which flows rapidly and

'Now peacefully by cloistered walks

Where nuns once moved quietly, deep

In prayer.'

He travels to Scotland,

'Intent on the Loch

Where heron stood frozen, beak poised to strike'

and through Wales to the south-west, with his wife, and to the Lake District where he is haunted by Wordsworth's vision of daffodils. His travels take him further to Crete, whose climate, contours and friendly people draw him back in memory. On a journey, real or imagined, to South America he is less certain about a welcome for the British and reflects on the antagonisms which have arisen in the past.

Geoff's journeys through the past take him to Fountains

Abbey and the contradiction between great wealth and dedication to the religious life. There is no such contradiction in his exciting description of St Paul's travels in the Mediterranean and the challenges he faced in satisfying his mission that all men should hear of the death and life of Jesus. So thoroughly is St Paul's teaching absorbed that Geoff composes his own "Personalised Epistles", a

response to the opening chapters of Colossians. Prayer, humility, love and suffering meet in the knowledge of sacrifice and redemption,

'And so the peace of God, won by the Son,
May rule in my heart.'

In another sequence, he presents the Nativity, the Crucifixion and Resurrection with their elements of hope, misery and joy. These are for all time and for our time. We suddenly find ourselves in our own time as Geoff recollects his wartime experience of Bolton in a pastiche of the local dialect and records changes that have occurred in our town. This is very different from his boyhood Kent, but shares its importance as a phase in his journey. The poems speak of a life rich in experience, reflection and devotion where whatever Geoff has known has been illuminated by his knowledge of God's presence.

Half a million to be invited 'Back to Church'

Churchgoers across the Church of England are set personally to invite up to half a million people to services on Back to Church Sunday, 27 September 2009, making the event one of the largest co-ordinated evangelistic events shared across the Church in recent history.

The Church's 44 dioceses are taking part in the initiative this year, by encouraging churchgoers to invite someone they know who used to attend church to come back on a particular Sunday. Churches will focus on extending an even warmer welcome than usual on the day, supported by 'Back to Church Sunday' resources such as special red 'welcome' T-shirts and subsidised 'party packs' of fairly-traded catering products, produced in partnership with Traidcraft.



TWO GOLF COURSES WALK

I estimate this walk to be around 5 miles but there are options for small extensions. A fair amount of it is on roads and tracks, so dogs should be kept in close control for the majority of it. The roads are on the whole quiet and pleasant with nice houses and gardens to look at and enjoy. It is a local walk which crosses two golf courses and winds its way through a hidden valley under Rivington Pike.



Drive up Beaumont Road to the junction with Chorley New Road. Turn left at the traffic lights towards Horwich. Turn right up Ravensdale Road, and park in the layby on your right.

Walk up the metalled road, through Dob Hill farm yard. The unmade road crosses a field across a cattle grid, eventually coming to a group of ancient cottages on your right. In front of the cottages you'll see a rather awkward stile into a small field. Take the path through the field until you cross an interesting stile into an old deep lane. Turn right and walk up the lane, with the ruined grounds of Burnthwaite House which used to a children's home, on your left, and then a small private fishing lake. You emerge on to Old Hall Lane, and turn left past some pretty cottages and gardens. The lane at this point becomes increasingly narrow and rutted so the limited cars along it tend to travel slowly, and many locals exercise their dogs along it.



After the houses, you'll begin to see Bolton Golf Course on your left beyond a low wall. If you wish to see the small High Rid Reservoir on your right, take the field path that loops round it and then returns to the lane. Continue along the road as it winds

round the golf course past many fine houses into Fall Birch Road, which drops to meet Chorley Old Road again.

Cross the road with care and go down Ox Hey Lane, which becomes Mill Lane. You will see signs to the cycleway and bridleway and the Wanderer's Training facilities. At the end of Mill Lane by the old factory buildings, turn left into the bridleway which runs alongside the facilities on your left. This pleasant new track wanders between hedges and banks until it meets Regent Park Municipal Golf Course, which it crosses, emerging at Regent Road.

Turn right down Regent Road until you reach Lostock Junction Lane by the station. Turn left up the lane, taking care as the footpath and lane are narrow. The lane rises to emerge at Chorley Old Road again. Cross it with care, turn right along it, and you will find Ravensdale Road, where you have left the car, is the first road on your left.

Silly Signs from around the world.

Do not use as an ice cream topping.

warning on hair colouring

Do not use near an open flame.

warning on a cigarette lighter

Please be quiet. We need to hear a pin drop!

sign in a bowling alley

Do not use for drying pets.

on a microwave oven

Ladies may have a fit upstairs.

in a tailor's in Hong Kong

Emergency telephone 174 km ahead.

road sign in USA

May cause drowsiness.

on sleeping tablets

Some assembly required.

on a jigsaw puzzle box

Blame Bob for these too!

GETTING STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY: SCHOOL RECORDS

One often neglected area of family research is school records. These can include a wide variety of information from student names, previous school, to when they came, and when and why they left, where they lived and who was their head of family, what they did for a living, how they behaved and what was their family's sect or religion.

One way to judge the basic education level of your ancestors is to find public records which required their signature. Well into the nineteenth century many poorer families could only give a mark or X, especially the women on marriage, birth or death registers. Unless your family was fairly wealthy and could afford to send their children away to school or employ a governess, you are unlikely to get school records before the mid-19th century, and most will be from the late 19th century onwards, despite the tendency for census takers to label every child under 12 as a 'scholar'. Some records are online but the majority will mean digging in library archives. However this can be a rewarding experience, as resources in Bolton, for example, include teacher's year books of some schools, including their difficulties, inspections, fires and floods, feast days and holidays, and, of course, what was taught. In the Central Manchester Archives I found some records from Belper in Derbyshire linked to one of my ancestors. The school was a literal Sunday school for those boys and girls whose parents were employed by the mill, and the school was founded by the local mill owner. They included (in 1841) one ancestor being expelled for fighting aged 11! Schools were often founded by churches or local industrialists before the coming of national schools and compulsory education for all at the end of the 19th century.

One difficulty researchers have is identifying the correct school that their ancestor attended, especial in sizable towns or cities.

Again the census may be useful in pinpointing which schools are nearest their residence, although in the late nineteenth century, new schools sprung up regularly. Remember almost all of these were fee paying, and although the fees were small they were hard to find for a poor family, especially with a large number of children. Children left for a variety of reasons; their family left the neighbourhood, or they went to work are the most common ones. My father went to work in the mines aged 12 in 1911, my mother travelled to the Belper mills with her older sisters aged 13 in 1919. Childhoods were short.

In some cases you may discover that the school your ancestor attended still exists. It is always worth writing to them with the details to ask if they have any existing records from that period. Identify briefly what records you would like to obtain and enquire about fees. It is worth also looking for such things as school photos and magazines. I have both my father's and mother's class photographs, as well as several from my schooldays including school magazines and school plays and concerts from the 1950s and 60s. Some schools have ex-students associations and web sites too these days. Be ready to be asked to prove your relationship to the ex-student, possibly including a photocopy of a death certificate.

Next month is my 15th and last of this series. I will try to suggest where you might look further in your researches.

How are yours powers of observation?

Spend 10 or 15 seconds reading through the following short paragraph and count the number of times the letter 'F' occurs. Then check your answer on the back page.

FINISHED FILES ARE THE RESULT
OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY
COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE
OF MANY YEARS.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS IN DEANE CHURCH 3

The last two windows in the North Aisle both have top lights as well as the main windows, which are well worth exploring.

The George Marsh Window (given in 1897).

The window was given by James Boardman who had been a warden of the church from 1867-72 and then moved to London.

Both he and his wife were born in Deane and gave the window in thanks for their 40 years of marriage. James Boardman also wrote the 'Records and Tradition of Deane Church' in two volumes.

The window commemorates George Marsh, the Deane Protestant martyr, who was tortured and questioned at Smithills Hall and then burnt at the stake at Chester in 1555, the reign of Mary I.

This three light window depicts Faith Charity and Hope which St Paul identifies as the greatest gifts in 1 Corinthians 13. In the left light Faith holds a cross and the verse referred to (Acts 14 verse 27) shows Gentiles receiving the Faith through the teaching of Paul and Barnabas. The central light shows Charity, the giving of food and clothing. The right light shows Hope holding an anchor referring to Titus Chapter 2 verse 13.

Above this larger window is a pretty three light window representing Moses, Aaron and David.



BOOKS 4 U

War and Grace

Short Biographies from the World Wars

By Don Stephens

Reviewed by Angela Howard

The lives of thirteen people are opened up to the reader through this book, giving insight to the remarkable ways that God worked through them individually as they lived through global war. They include :

- a Japanese pilot who lead the attack on Pearl Harbour and later became the principal of Japan Biblical Seminary;
- the British secret agent who was the inspiration for 'Q' in the James Bond 007 series;
- an American US army chaplain who became pastor to the high-ranking Nazis at the Nuremberg trials;
- a Jewish girl who came to know Christ whilst she was hiding from the Nazis;
- a Scottish minister who helped hundreds of stranded Allied servicemen in France to liberty during the 2nd World War.

Each story is a wonderful recognition of how God rescues 'ordinary people' and uses them to fulfil His perfect will. The challenges that these people faced seemed hopeless, or too dangerous, or just incomprehensible..... BUT GOD enabled them to conquer through their situations.

A fascinating read for anyone, but probably more so for those who have an interest in wartime history. I found the book raised all kinds of emotions. It helped me to grapple with Ephesians chapter 2 verse 10: 'We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' Only God knows what our lives will be..... are we ready to take up His challenges?

Available for about £8.50 from on-line book shops. Read the reviews on Amazon - they are much better than mine!

Flushing Away Poverty (cont)

To help overcome this problem the church in Kigezi has trained and mobilised 28 women to construct 4,000 litre rain water-tanks. The training of local people to do this means they know how to fix it too when things go wrong. The church has also helped to introduce latrines in the village and school and has introduced hygiene lessons in school. As a result the number of deaths from water and sanitation related diseases has fallen dramatically, and as for Stida, she can now go to school rather than go to fetch water and realise her dream of being a teacher.

This Harvest either instead or as well as a traditional Harvest gift, please consider giving a financial gift to support this work to improve water and sanitation around the world. Special gift envelopes will be available in church from the end of September.

Answer to puzzle 6. Well done if you got it first time!

Transfiguration (continued)

Why on top of a mountain? In Exodus we read that Moses went up Mount Sinai to receive the sacred covenant from Yahweh in the form of the Ten Commandments. Now Jesus goes up and is told about the 'sealing' of the New Covenant, or New Testament of God with man, which will be accomplished by his coming death in Jerusalem. That day made a lifelong impact on the disciples. Peter mentions it in his second letter, 2 Peter 1:16 - 19 - invariably the reading for this day.

The Eastern Churches have long held the Transfiguration as a feast as important as Christmas, Epiphany, Ascension and Pentecost. But it took a long time for the West to observe the Transfiguration. The feast starts appearing from the 11th and 12th centuries, and the Prayer Book included it among the calendar dates, but there was no liturgical provision for it until the 19th century.