

Deane St Mary's

May/June 2010

Three important Christian festivals fall in May this year—Ascension Day, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday. We learn a bit about each in this month's magazine.

Terry has written to encourage us to be strong, take heart and trust in the Lord.

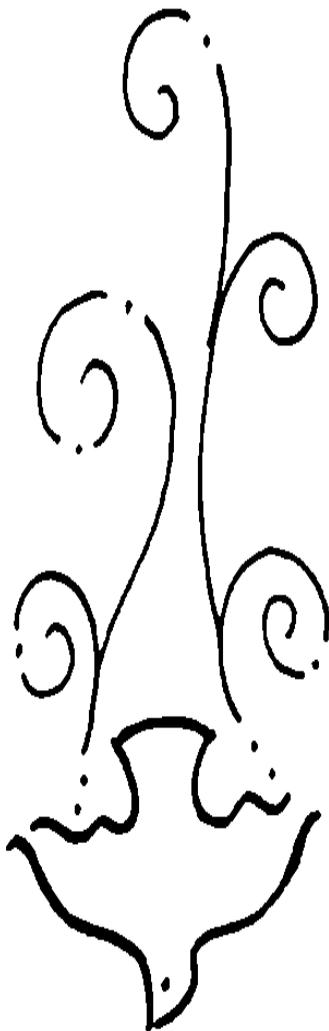
Our Timeline topic tells us how much we as Christians owe to the Romans.

We learn of a little known aspect of the life of Bolton Wanderers and our book review shows the Christian origin of many well known football teams.

Sally Cooper is the subject of this month's profile.

There's a report of the APCM; a walk to try, poems to read, an online petition to sign and a few notices.

We hope you enjoy the magazine and are as always open to suggestions from you the readers.



St Mary's Info: May/June 2010

	9.00	10.30	6.00
May 2	Holy Communion	All-age including Baptism	Evening Service Informal Communion Who are you?
	Ephesians 6:10-24; (John 13:31-35)		
May 9	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service Who are you? Free
	Ephesians 6:1-9; John 14:23-29		
May 16	Holy Communion	Morning service	Evening Service Who are you? Saint
	1 John 3:11-24; John 13:34, 35		
May 23	Holy Communion	Morning Service	Evening Service Who are you? Useful
	Acts 2:36-41; John 14:15-27		
May 30	Holy Communion	All-age Service	Evening Service Who are you? Safe
	Psalm 119:97-112; (Matthew 4:1-11)		
June 6	Holy Communion	All-age including Baptism	Informal Communion Evangelism Part 1
	1 Cor. 11:23-29; John 13:3-7		
Jun 13	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service Evangelism Part 2
	Matthew 6:5-15; Col. 1:9-14		
Jun 20	Holy Communion	Morning service	Evening Service Evangelism Part 3
	Acts 4:23-31; 2 Kings 19:14-19		
Jun 27	Holy Communion	Sermons Outdoor	Evening Service Creationism/ Evolutionism
	Psalm 1; Matthew 7:14-29		

Be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord

The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?

I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Psalm 27:1&13-14



Now that it's nearly Summer, it's good to see that Spring has finally arrived! Why do things rarely seem to happen at the speed we would like them to happen? Wisdom that tends to come through Christian experience is that God's timing is perfect after all and that sometimes we just have to wait on him. Sometimes he seems to be working at twice our speed and then we need to get our skates on and catch up with him. Either way, he is always at work in the lives of people all around us... and in our lives... *even if we don't see it right now.* This should spur us on in prayer.

Waiting on the Lord isn't always easy is it? We so want to know what the future holds. Yet, throughout the Bible we meet a God who has our best interests at heart—a God who is Lord of all things and of all time; a God whom we can trust. If we really did believe that the Lord is the stronghold of our life, wouldn't we trust him—with everything... and not be afraid!?

I see the goodness of the Lord so much in lives at Deane—in the church family and in the wider community, including at St Mary's Church of England Primary School. There is so much that we should be encouraged by. As we are reminded at Easter and Pentecost, Jesus is very much alive and well and active in the world *now* by his Holy Spirit and through his living word in the Bible. Last weekend I was doing some training for youth leaders down at Derby and one of the

phrases that we kept coming back to was "*As the Bible is read, God's voice is heard.*" How good are we at hearing the voice of the Good Shepherd and then following him?

In my job, I have the privilege of being alongside people in the mess of life and in many of the best bits of life. And every week I am reminded that I get to see, perhaps more than most do, God's grace across a wide range of lives and situations. God is at work in so many ways at Deane Parish Church!

Hopefully everyone has now heard or read my 'Rector's address' from the annual meeting so I won't go over that ground again except to say that we need to work hard at building up that genuine loving, serving, Christian community at Deane. It's the kind of thing that people on the outside see and want to be part of. So how do we do that? Just getting to know each other better would be a good start. I thought I was the only one at Deane who didn't know many folk... but not so! Home groups will be key and these will be launched/re-launched and developed over the next year. As we have been learning, at our Sunday morning services, from Paul's letter to the Christians in Ephesus, God is building a new community in the world and we are part of that. God is in the business of building community, as well as redeeming communities, and community means people engaging with each other as well as with God. God is community (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and he has created us in his image, *internally wired us* if you like, to reach our best potential within Christian community - whether we realise it or not!

So if the Lord is your light and your salvation, how can you play your part in community-building at Deane for, to be sure, you have a part to play!?

God bless.

Terry Clark

Rector of Deane

13th May Ascension Day

Forty Days with the Risen Christ

May continues the season of Eastertide, and 40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. It may seem crazy to call it Eastertide when Easter is clearly over, but these are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to his disciples, following his death and resurrection.

Jesus was seen by numerous disciples—on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged his disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent him, he was now going to send them—to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses.

These post resurrection appearances are stressed by Paul as essential evidence of the lordship of Christ. If he did not rise from the dead, he teaches, then our faith is in vain.

The significance of the Ascension (Acts 1) is often missed, perhaps for the simple reason that its commemoration is always on a Thursday (that being 40 days after Easter Day!). But it is the day when we commemorate the crowning of Christ as King and his being seated at the place of authority, the right hand of the Father in heaven. 'Crown him with many crowns,' 'Rejoice, the Lord is King,' and, though often mistaken for an Easter hymn, 'Hail the day that sees him rise to his throne above the skies.' It is the day which sees the completion of his work for our redemption. Many people spend some time in the days between Easter and Pentecost as a season following on after Lent, in which to think about the completion of the victory of Christ, begun as he sacrificed himself on the cross, reading through the post resurrection appearances of Christ and other things which focus on his victory.

If you want to add more detail to Christ's appearances, the stories can be found in Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20 and 1 Corinthians 15 for Paul's teaching on the resurrection.

23rd May

Pentecost

Pentecost was the old Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which took place at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles - but he knew they could not do the work themselves - they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues - to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

Again it is Paul who spells out for us the significance of the outpouring of the Spirit and how essential it is that we as Christians should seek to live our lives guided by that Spirit within us as a gift of the risen Lord to the church as a whole and to individuals believers. Here's a chunk of Romans—The Message version.

'...what the law code asked for but we couldn't deliver is accomplished as we, instead of redoubling our own efforts, simply embrace what the Spirit is doing in us. Those who think they can do it on their own end up obsessed with measuring their own moral muscle but never get around to exercising it in real life. Those who trust God's action in them find that God's Spirit is in them—living and breathing God! Obsession with self in these matters is a dead end; attention to God leads us out into the open, into a spacious, free life. Focusing on the self is the opposite of focusing on God. Anyone completely absorbed in self ignores God, ends up thinking more about self than God.

That person ignores who God is and what he is doing. And God isn't pleased at being ignored.

'But if God himself has taken up residence in your life, you can hardly be thinking more of yourself than of him. Anyone, of course, who has not welcomed this invisible but clearly present God, the Spirit of Christ, won't know what we're talking about. But for you who welcome him, in whom he dwells—even though you still experience all the limitations of sin—you yourself experience life on God's terms. It stands to reason, doesn't it, that if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bringing you alive to himself? When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ's!

30th May

Trinity Sunday

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself - way out there in space - unapproachable in its fiery majesty - is the Father. The light that flows from it, and which illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play. The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit.

Again, Paul... ' For through him (Jesus) we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. And in him (Jesus) you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.' (Ephesians 2). See also Luke 24:49—Jesus' own words.

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we stand in its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follows.

Timeline

What did the Romans do for us Christians?

(illustrations inside back cover)

2010 is the 1600th anniversary of the year when the Roman army, which had occupied Britain since 43 AD, left to defend Rome against invaders from the north. Over the next 500 years Britain would be invaded not by one large army but by waves of Angles, Saxons, Jutes and Vikings.

But what kind of place did the Romans leave behind? Were there any Christians here? We all can remember stories of how anyone who Romans discovered to be a Christian was immediately arrested and fed to the lions in the arena but the truth is much more complicated than that. There were times when it was very dangerous to be a Christian. But persecution was not continuous, and by the time the Romans left Britain, there were Christians in many places..

The first evidence for Christianity comes from Manchester. A Christian word square (inside back cover) has been found, dating from 179-175 AD in the Roman army camp in Castlefield, near Deansgate station. The words are meaningless,; the sower, Arepo, guides with care the wheels! But scholars think that this was a secret symbol so that one Christian could recognize another. The words read the same up and down and right to left! The letters can be re-arranged so that Pater Noster (Our Father in Latin) forms a cross with A(Alpha and O(Omega) left over. (Insid back cover) This is the earliest evidence for Christianity in the whole of Roman Britain.

The best known Christian Roman Briton is St Alban, the first British Christian martyr. He died on June 22nd, sometime before the reign of the Emperor Constantine (scholars have not agreed on the actual year!) Alban was a Roman soldier who was converted by a priest to whom he gave shelter from persecution in his own home. When the priest's hiding place was discovered Alban dressed in the priest's clothes and was arrested in his place. Even under torture Alban refused to renounce his new faith and so was beheaded on the

spot where his cathedral now stands.

Soon after Alban's death the whole situation for Christians changed. In 306 the Emperor Constantine was declared Emperor while he was in York. Initially Constantine was far from being a friend to Christians. But after a vision of a cross in the sky, Constantine decreed that Christianity would have special status in the Empire, though it is uncertain whether Constantine himself was ever baptised, and if so probably on his death bed. To say he was not a nice chap would be an understatement. It suited Constantine politically to embrace Christianity and Christianity went in a few years from being a religion practised often in secret to one practised openly and supported by the imperial family. Constantine's mother, St Helena, travelled widely in the Holy Land and founded many of the churches we see there today. Back in Britain Christians were thriving. In 314 Bishops from Britain attended the Council of Arles. There is evidence for churches in the 4th century in Silchester, Colchester, Richborough, Lincoln and St Alban's. Many Roman villas have representations which are overtly Christian. The most common is the Chi Rho symbol. This represents the first three letters of Christ. Chi which looks like an X is Ch in Greek and Rho which looks like a P is a Greek R. (inside back cover)

The Chi Rho symbol can be found on wall paintings, mosaics, goblets, dining plates, vases and wine jugs. Many of these items also depict Biblical scenes. But there is other evidence too. A 4th century painting in Dorset seems to depict St Peter. At Lullingstone in Kent there are wall paintings of men praying, wearing what look like priestly robes. The remains of baptismal fonts have been found. They are the size of baby baths and candidates for baptism stood in the shallow water and had water poured over them. And for the end of life, the Christian practice of burial on an east-west axis and without grave goods became more frequent.

So by the time the Roman army left in 410 there is evidence for Christians in many places. Their descendants would soon be pushed to the west by the incoming pagan Anglo-Saxons, who in their turn would be converted after the arrival of St Augustine in 597.

BWFC Chaplain Rev Phil Mason talks about his ministry at Bolton Wanderers...



"You're not praying hard enough Rev! Get on your knees and try harder".

So go the comments by many after a difficult match, which reveals what people often think a Chaplain of a football Club is for and what they are there to do.

So what kind of ministry is it really all about?

I guess like any Chaplaincy one of the key factors is to offer pastoral support and that happens to people right across the Club from those that clean the Reebok Stadium to the First Team players.

The first team all have my number and can get in touch at any time. I also offer one to one support at times of concern or crisis in order for each player to be able to focus upon their football.

Within the Academy I do some teaching in "core skills" that includes looking at issues like success and failure. The Christian Faith is always a great reference point in teaching. Jesus knew what it was like to go from hero to zero. Using Jesus as a role model it is good to teach a different understanding of success, rather than the type of car you drive and how much money you have.

For many people the Reebok Stadium is like a Cathedral, a "spiritual home". In a society when we have a displacement of spirituality and there is a widening gap between Church and society people look in other places to fulfil their spiritual needs. I believe that is why we have an ever increasing number of roadside memorials, where people lay flowers and leave messages to loved ones who have died.

At the Club through the Chaplaincy we offer what we describe as "Celebrating Life's Significant Moments with BWFC". People can request a service where they have their loved one's ashes scat-

tered on the pitch. We also have a book of Remembrance where the names of loved ones are recorded. This Book is on view at the front of the Stadium 24/7 and the pages are turned every day of the year. There are receptacles for people to leave flowers at significant anniversaries. We also have a Walk Way of Fame that contains memorial bricks for those who have died.

At the end of the season each year we then hold a service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving, where people can light candles in memory of their loved ones. Each year this service grows and now has over 300 attending, most of whom are "outside" Church,

Pastoral care and support is also offered to the wider staff team who work within the club and counselling support for those who are facing difficult times.

As the Chaplain I also engage in a variety of club activities, including the writing of policies. We are currently working on a Charity policy and looking at how we can widen our support to the local community and beyond.

We have started an outreach programme entitled "Unity in Diversity" where we are using football as a vehicle to look at community cohesion in some of the more challenging areas of Bolton. We have found that children playing football together from different backgrounds, cultures and religions is a positive step to breaking down barriers and prejudice that exists.

So pray for a win I do not, but in a new prayer group I have started this season with a number of our players, which meets before every home game, we pray for God's grace and love.

Come on you Whites.

God Bless

Phil Mason BWFC
Chaplain

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Books 4 U

THANK GOD FOR FOOTBALL

by Peter Lupson

Azure Paperback. 2006

This paperback account of the Christian origins of a number of football clubs, including our own Bolton Wanderers, is an excellent read for anyone interested in the origins of the game. Twelve clubs are covered in detail; a number of others are mentioned in passing, and there is a real flavour of the harsh life led by many of our ancestors in the final years of the nineteenth century. The book is pleasantly written, with many fascinating stories, and would be enjoyed by a variety of age groups.

Alongside the origins of Bolton Wanderers, which I covered in detail in our last magazine, there are details of the origins of Manchester City, Spurs, Liverpool and Everton, Aston Villa and Fulham. Lupson gives a great deal of information from records and newspapers of the period, and brings to life the interesting characters, usually from humble origins, who started the clubs. With their basis in Sunday Schools and Working Men's Clubs and Christian Societies they were in poor and deprived districts. Not all the instigators were males; Manchester City, for example, owes a great deal to the work of Anna Connell, the eldest daughter of the Rector of St Mark's, Gorton, who founded Working Men's Meetings at the church, initially to discourage too much time being spent in local public houses.

We have to take ourselves back to a time when there were a puzzling variety of ways to play the game, including a Rugby like variation that later would change into Rugby Union and League; and the fact that sometimes teams played one set of rules in one half and another in the second. `A game of two halves` indeed! Few clubs had settled grounds, and had to borrow or rent farmer's fields, and buy their own footballs. These teams were based on amateurs, who gave up their few hours of leisure time at weekends to coach and play, returning to the mills and factories on Mondays. The money men and vast fortunes that inhabit the modern game seem a long way away from football's early origins as shown in this book.

This month's profile

Sallyann Cooper

My full name is Sallyann Cooper but all my friends call me Sally and I have just reached that milestone of turning the big 40. I have been happily married to Ian since March 2006, and we have lived in Hunger hill since Aug 2005. I have two sons Tom aged 16 and Hayden aged 13.

I am from a very strong mining family background, both my Dad and Granddad worked in local mines and are very well known within the mining communities of Howe bridge and Leigh. My mum worked in the school meals service. I started out my church journey with Leigh United Reformed Church, and this is where I was confirmed, married and both my sons were baptised. I was a church elder and until I was around 26 I did most of the youth work in the church, running the small Sunday school and helping with the uni-formed groups. My first marriage to Bill lasted 11 years, and I was devastated when I had to make the decision to end this marriage and move out of the family home. I was even more upset at the reactions of the people around me—as the saying goes 'no-one knows what goes on behind closed doors'. Having been through the ordeal I believe as Christians that we should offer prayer and friendship not criticism to those facing or going through divorce.

I am registered as Ian's main carer as he was born with 2 holes in his heart and has a condition called Eisenmengers syndrome and this leaves him with mobility, breathing and stamina difficulties especially walking distances of over 200 meters or standing for too long, so he uses his wheelchair when out shopping and so on. When I met Ian in 2002/3 he was deciding about having a double lung and heart transplant. He eventually decided against this, and a new miracle drug Bosentan became available, which helps Ian enormously and helps keep his condition very stable. I also share the care for Ian's mum Pat who has dementia and help my Dad to care for my Mum who

has Alzheimer's. We try to support Ian's sister who cares for Ian's nephew, Damien, who has learning difficulties, autism and behaviour difficulties. He is now 18 and can be quite a handful when he is distressed or angry.

I also work 16 hours a week as a carer for 2 young ladies both of whom have physical disabilities caused by cerebral palsy. I help them with day to day personal care tasks, social outings, voluntary work and medical appointments where needed. I have always worked in the care sector, working mainly with adults with learning disabilities and/or physical and sensory impairments. I also managed a sheltered flats complex in Moss Side/Old Trafford for a while. I enjoy some voluntary work of my own and I am a trustee of Bolton carers' support and voluntary development worker for BADGE a Bolton based disability user led organisation. Where possible I try to do the odd shift helping out with voltage with Karen and her team here at Deane Parish. I am passionate about raising the profile of disability and carer issues.

I am very strong in my faith now despite some difficult times through my divorce. I came to be at Deane parish church when Ian and I were asked to be godparents to Jacob Harris. We came a few weeks before the ceremony and spoke to Dan Howard as Ian had never been baptised and we felt this should happen before he became a godparent. Many of you will remember that indeed Ian was baptised at Deane church just before the children were baptised that day. I really feel Ian and I have found our spiritual family here at Deane church, and we had an amazing day when Ian was confirmed and I retook my confirmation vows. We had a fantastic time on the church weekend away and made some new friends and from there we began to join in the Tuesday home group with Edna and I enjoy my prayer 'triplet' session with Margaret, Nola, Mel and Alison which we all manage to somehow fit into very busy lives each Monday evening. We have nearly finished the 'Exploring Christianity' course that we
(Continued over)

started on Friday evenings and this has helped me to allow God to have a bigger role in my life.

My eldest son Thomas went along to Soul Survivor with the Deane church youth group last year and came back to pronounce that he had become a Christian. He now attends most evening services and enjoys Element on Thursdays and CYFA on alternate Sunday evenings. I am still praying that the Holy Spirit will work within my youngest son Hayden who is very resistant to the idea of faith and Christianity.

I am excited for the future of Deane church. I pray that God will show us his will around what to do with the memorial hall. I look forward to a time when my disabled friends can come to Deane church and there will be accessible toilet facilities; somewhere they can fit their chairs into the congregation comfortably and leave feeling they are welcome in and belong in our spiritual family. I look forward to being a part of the Deane church family for many years to come.

God Bless you all.

Poverty. Let's end it. - Christian Aid Week 2010

That is the message for this year's Christian Aid Week - 9 to 15 May. What began as the churches' response to the horrors of the refugee crisis in Europe after the Second World War has become the country's biggest 'house-to-house' collection - with 300,000 volunteers delivering envelopes and picking them back up from households in the week. In all, it raises more than £9 million a year.

Watch the weekly sheet for how we will participate in Christian Aid Week this year and in the meanwhile, many thanks to Phil Ray who has organised this for St Mary's in past years.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 21 April

The meeting gives us an opportunity to look back over the past twelve months and forward to the next. It is amazing to think that at the last APCM we were saying goodbye to Ian and Jean, and twelve months on we already have a new Team Rector in place. We hear of many churches where there are long periods without a vicar and we thank God so much for being at work in the process of us appointing Terry. Terry is certainly excited about what God has in store for us at Deane.

At the APCM we appoint people to serve in various different ways over the coming twelve months, and this year the appointments were as follows:

Church Wardens: Les Kilsby, Beccy Rutter and Ken Tidmarsh;

Members of the District Church Council (DCC): Josie Crompton, Karen Greenhalgh, June Gill, Jane Hampson, Lee Higson, Michelle Moxom, Bryan Shepherd and Charles Winder;

Members of the Deanery Synod and District Church Council: Edna Barlow, Nola Kilsby, Eric Morgan, Simon Perris and Paula Small.

As many of you will know this year Craig Mochrie has retired as Warden and Pat Sewell has retired from Deanery Synod and DCC. We thank them both very much for everything they have done (in many different capacities!) and for their commitment to seeing the kingdom of God grow in Deane.

Ken Tidmarsh has been appointed to take over as Warden from Craig, and although previously a member of the DCC this will be Ken's first year as Warden. We also welcome Josie Crompton, Lee Higson and Simon Perris onto the DCC for the first time.

A number of people were also appointed to serve as Sidespeople over the coming twelve months.

The Parish accounts, which include Deane and St Andrew's accounts, were also presented. Pulling these together is a huge task and we thank Les Kilsby very much for the work which he undertakes as Treasurer, which quite often goes unseen. Again we thank Keith Ac-ton for his assistance as Independent Examiner.

BORSDANE WOODS-

A Daffodil Walk

I have enjoyed walks in Borsdane Woods with my two spaniels (and sometimes their friends!) for a number of years but have never thought to put it as a suggestion in the magazine because it is basically an up and back walk. At this time of year the banks are carpeted with daffodils, a fine sight.

I am sure there are suitable buses along the A58 to Wigan that you could catch, but I know the route only by car. Follow the A58 all the way, from Wigan Road, under the motorway and into Westthoughton. At Westthoughton don't forget to do a left dog leg at the traffic lights by the new Sainsburys and Aldi. Continue until you see signs for Hart Common. Just after this you'll see the Welcome to Wigan sign with Hindley on it. A few metres afterwards you'll see on your right a cemetery with a church, and when the wall ends a cross-roads with Sandy Road on your left and Hindley Mill Lane on your right. Turn right down the lane which descends, ignoring roads off, until you come to a rutted section with a big bridge ahead. This is the train line to Wigan and there is a pedestrian tunnel under it and a faded sign for Borsdane Woods. The road, by some houses, is quite wide here and you can park safely to one side. It does not look too wonderful under the tunnel but don't be put off!

Once you are through the tunnel the scene opens out with a mill race on your left and soon a broad brook on your right, wonderful for paddling in and pooh sticks (several bridges). The path goes up through the wooded broad leaved gorge for about two miles, with several shallow points and bridges crossing and re-crossing the stream, so you can take the opposite bank from time to time, although it can be muddy. The valley is sheltered and very pleasant, crossed by a number of footpaths, until the final bridge forces you to take to the opposite bank and out of the gorge by a ruined mill. You should then turn and retrace your steps to your starting point. It is almost impossible to get lost! A hidden gem well worth a visit.

Barbara Winder

When you plan your garden this Spring

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of mind

Peace of heart

Peace of soul.

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip

Squash indifference

Squash grumbling

Squash selfishness.

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful

Lettuce be kind

Lettuce be happy

Lettuce really love one another.

No garden should be without turnips:

Turnip for service when needed

Turnip to help one another

Turnip the music and dance.

Water freely with patience and

Cultivate with love.

There is much fruit in your garden.

Because you reap what you sow.

To conclude our garden

We must have thyme:

Thyme for fun

Thyme for rest

Thyme for ourselves.

Deane Church Shop

A really big thank you to everyone who supports or helps out in the shop. The profit from the shop goes towards the cost of the new church hall. We are always looking to improve or expand our activities, so here is an idea we haven't tried before.

I have the feeling that people may have small items of gold jewellery, such as broken chains, single ear-rings and so on, which they might think individually are not worth bothering about, but if we all pooled our bits and pieces the result could be quite interesting. We are in touch with a reliable local dealer who will test articles for us free of charge and give us a valuation - it doesn't matter if we're not sure whether a particular item is gold or not. If you would like to contribute something, no matter how small, please let me have it, or drop it off at the shop. We might just be quite surprised at the result!!

The shop would also welcome any general items, especially clothing. If you are unable to get to the shop, give me a call and I'll be pleased to pick them up. Bob Benyon 01204417794

A large number of historic church buildings

are under threat because they will soon lose the right to a special refund which allows historic churches and other places of worship to claim back the VAT on the cost of repairs and maintenance, is due to end in March 2011. This will apply to us here at St Mary's.

This grants scheme enables listed places of worship to claim back the VAT (17.5%) on all costs incurred for repairs and maintenance to the building, professional fees and repair works to fixtures such as bells and organs. In real terms this has meant over £100 million since April 2001.

Such financial support has helped safeguard our national heritage (churches receive no other government funding or grants), and ensured that cathedrals and churches across the country can continue to be vital community resources, meeting people's spiritual, social and educational needs.

If the Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme is allowed to expire, many communities will struggle to keep their churches open and in good repair. In any case all maintenance and repair jobs will cost 17½% more than they would otherwise cost.

During the campaign period for the General Election the e-Petitions system will be closed to new submissions and signatures. The Government will also not issue responses to petitions during this period. This is to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Civil Service Code on party political neutrality.

So, after the election, go to www.savetherefund.info to sign the petition. It reads like this:

We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to safeguard the nation's heritage and vital community buildings by ensuring that the VAT exemption scheme (Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme) is renewed indefinitely from March 2011.

**Submitted by Ven Cherry Vann of Church of England -
Deadline to sign up by: 29 August 2010.**

So... a local connection!

Thank you!

Terry and Irene Ashley would like to offer their grateful thanks to all the church family for the support and comfort they have received over the weeks from your prayers, love and concern. We are feeling the benefit now and hope to get back into circulation soon. God belss you all!

Editor PS—it's been lovely to see Terry and Irene back at the 9.00 service and Irene at Ladies' Guild.

Ladies' Guild

May 11 Coffee Morning arrangements

May 15 Coffee Morning (watch notice sheet
for details)

May 25 'Thank you' Supper

For the time being at least the magazine will be published every other month.

The next magazine will be published on July 4th.

Copy to the Editor by June 12th, please.

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01204 849468

or via a member of the team

Once again, the team would like to invite any member of the congregation to contribute to the magazine—a favourite Christian poem, a testimony, a prayer...

THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN

RUDYARD KIPLING (1865-1936)

The image of a kingdom, state or community as a garden, with all its accompanying connotations of natural growth and development, seasonal change, decay and rebirth, is ages old. The main literary traditions on which Kipling draws are those established by the Bible and Shakespeare.

Our England is a garden that is full of stately views,
Of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues,
With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by;
But the *Glory of the Garden* lies in more than meets the eye.

For where the old thick laurel grows along the thin red wall,
You find the tool and potting sheds which are the heart of all;
The cold frames and hot-houses, the dungpits and the tanks,
The rollers, carts and drain pipes, with the barrows and the planks.

And there you'll see the gardeners, the men and 'prentice boys
Told off to do as they are bid and do it without noise;
For except when seeds are planted and we shout to scare the birds,
The *Glory of the Garden* it abideth not in words.

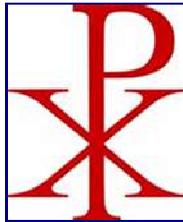
And some can pot begonias and some can bud a rose,
And some are hardly fit to trust with anything that grows;
But they can roll and trim the lawns and sift the sand and loam,
For the *Glory of the Garden* occupieth all who come.

Our England is a garden, and such gardens are not made
By singing:-` Oh, how beautiful!` and sitting in the shade,
While better men than we go out and start their working lives
At grubbing weeds from gravel paths with broken dinner knives.

There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, nor yet a heart so sick,
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the *Glory of the Garden* glorifieth everyone.

*S A T O R
A R E P O
T E N E T
O P E R A
R O T A S*

*P
A
T
E
R
(A/alpha) P A T E R N O S T E R (O/omega)
O
S
T
E*



Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner in the *Glory of the Garden*.

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the *Glory of the Garden*, that it may not pass away!
And the *Glory of the Garden* it shall never pass away!

S t M a r y's D i r e c t o r y

Team Rector	Terry Clark	01204 61819
Team Vicar	John Armstrong	01204 651851
OLM	Elizabeth Plant	01204 63730
Retired Clergy	Joyce Mitson	01204 655081
Readers	David Dewhurst	01204 651347
	Nola Kilsby	01204 665700
Wardens	Les Kilsby	01204 665700
	Beccy Rutter	01204 654737
	Ken Tidmarsh	01204 652184

DCC

Lay Chair	Jane Hampson	01204 848433
Hon Treasurer	Les Kilsby	01204 665700
Hon Secretary	Bryan Shephard	01942 817288

Other Responsibilities

Flowers	Josie Crompton	01204 655964
Gift Aid Sec	Les Kilsby	01204 665700
Handicraft Group	Dorothy Benyon	01204 417794
Ladies' Guild	Josie Crompton	01204 655964
	Pat Sewell	01204 61278
Magazine Editor	Anne Roberts	01024 849468
Memorial Hall Bookings	Elizabeth Tidmarsh	01204 652184
Music Group	Beccy Rutter	01204 654737
Organist	Alan Bevis	
Verger	Josie Crompton	01204 655964
Weddings Admin	Anne Roberts	01204 849468

Sunday Schools

Climbers (3-7)	Lynda Smith	01204 62093
Explorers (7-11)	Sean Cornforth	07875531677
Pathfinders(yr 7-9)	Elizabeth Tidmarsh	01204 652184
CYFA (yr 10-13)	Karen Greenhalgh	01204 654737

Youth Groups

Voltage/Element	Karen Greenhalgh	01204 654737
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Uniformed Organisations

Rainbows	Margaret Latchford	01204 657101
Brownies	Anne Calderbank	01204 398206
	Liz Valentine	01024 651692
Guides	Carole Baxendale	01204 419167

Please tell Anne Roberts of any error or omissions.