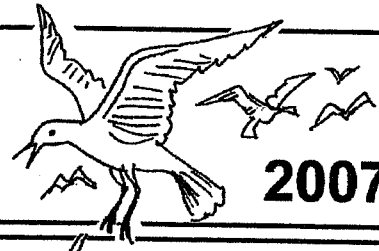
Deane Parish Magazine

October



2007

St Mary's Diary: October

	9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Sunday 7th	**HARVEST SUNDAY**		
	Holy Communion (CW) Nehemiah 5: 1–13 Luke 24: 13 – 34	Family Parade TEAR fund	Holy Communion (BCP) Nehemiah 5: 1–13 Luke 24: 13 – 34
Sunday 14th	Holy Communion (BCP) Nehemiah 6: 1–16 Acts 1: 1–8 & 2: 1– 6	Holy Communion Luke 17 : 11–19	Service of the Word Nehemiah 6: 1–16 Acts 1: 1– 8 & 2: 1–6
Sunday 21st	Holy Communion (BCP) Nehemiah 8: 9– 18 Acts 2: 14 – 39	Family Worship (Baptism) Luke 18: 1–8	Holy Communion (CW) Nehemiah 8: 9– 18 Acts 2: 14 – 39
Sunday 28th	Holy Communion (BCP) Jeremiah 3: 11– 18 Acts 4: 32–5: 11	Service of the Word Luke 18: 9–14	Evening Prayer (BCP) Jeremiah 3: 11– 18 Acts 4: 32–5: 11

St Mary the Virgin
Junction Road
Deane, Bolton
BL3 4LT

(for contacts,
please see back page)

Jonathan Baldwin

Jonathan Baldwin of Hunger Hill died peacefully in his sleep on 25th June, age 96 year. Dearly loved and loving Dad of Ruth, a loving Granddad, great Granddad and great, great Granddad.

The Rector Writes

The Truth about Kate and Gerry McCann

I've been thinking about this magazine article for quite some time. I don't mean that I have known for the last few weeks that the copy deadline has been approaching, I mean I have been thinking for quite some time about the topic I want to write about this month. It's been one that has been taxing me for the last few months and recent events have only made me think about it more. And what is this topic? Truth.

You see, like you I have been reading in the newspapers the latest reports regarding the case of the missing girl Madeline McCann. What had started off as a fairly straight forward, though tragic, missing person story has now become a story full of intrigue, mystery, claim and counter claim. Recently the story has taken a new and perverse twist with the theory being spread around that Kate McCann was responsible for her own daughter's death and that both Kate and Gerry McCann then covered up the murder.

All of this seems to hinge on the police and forensic investigators finding traces of Madeline's blood in the apartment, her hair in the boot of the car, trained police dogs detecting the presence of a dead body in both the apartment and the car, and a host of other things. The problem with all this is that no conclusive evidence appears to have come to light. Also the story, which is being spun by sections of the media, seem to me at least frankly bizarre. For instance if Kate McCann had inadvertently killed Maddy what did she do with the body between the death of Maddy and the disposal of the body which must have taken place at least ten days later, for that was when they hired the car the forensic evidence is suppose to have been found in. Also, there are aspects of the story which do not as yet, appear to have emerged such as: 'if Maddy's hair has been found in the boot of the car who had rented the car before the McCann's rented it?' I'm afraid that in my own naivety I just think that the story is just too incredulous, either that or we have the most intriguing and complex murder case of this century so far.

What I find disturbing however in all of this is the reporting coverage in the newspapers. It seems to me that we are now at the stage where the newspapers are not reporting the news but making the news. They are doing this by spinning their own stories fed off rumour and innuendo. But the problem with this is that many people do not read them with

this view. Theory in some peoples mind becomes fact. This explains why a Radio 5 phone in on the case had to be pulled within an hour because of the vitriol that was being thrown at the McCann's. It is also why the Leicester Mercury, the couples local newspaper, had to close its blog site because people where writing in derogatory remarks about the couple. Theory is being read as fact, and this against a background where none of us can say that we really know all the facts of this case, in fact does anybody know all the facts of this case?

Over the years and having read articles on subjects I did know something about, in which I was aware of at least some of the facts of a case, I have become increasingly sceptical about what I read in the press purporting to be fact. And I'm afraid this is especially so with local newspapers, probably because I am actually more aware of what the *real* story is. With local newspapers I think the problem for them is that there is just not enough local news to justify their existence, so incidents get embellished or blown up out of all proportion just to make a story and fill more newspaper columns. I can understand why this happens but I can't condone it.

And so that brings me back to the subject I have been thinking about and the focus of my article for this month – truth. I suppose we all find ourselves in situations where we do not know the truth of a matter – why a marriage fell apart, why someone left the church, why someone won't speak to someone else etc. But there is truth to be found and it is to be found in God and in His Word. We worship a God of truth. Titus writes for instance of the "God who never lies" (Titus 1:2), or more literally translated "the unlying God". Since the words of the Bible are God's Words, and since God cannot lie or speak falsely, we can conclude that there is no untruthfulness or error in any part of the words of Scripture. It follows from this that God's Words are the ultimate standard of truth. As we read God's Word in the Bible what we are reading is the ultimate definition of what is true and what is not true: God's Word is itself truth. For that reason we are to think of the Bible as the ultimate standard of truth, the reference point by which every other claim to truthfulness is to be measured. Those assertions that conform with Scripture are "true" while those that do not conform with Scripture are not true.

What then is the truth? Truth is what God says, and we have what God says in the Bible. So maybe in our quest for truth we need to be reading our Bibles more and our newspapers less.

HARVEST BEETLE DRIVE

A HARVEST BEETLE DRIVE WILL BE HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL ON SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER 6.00 PM FOR 6.30 PM

TICKETS ARE £3.50 FOR ADULTS ; £1.50 FOR CHILDREN
FAMILY TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR £7.00

REFRESHMENTS ARE INCLUDED
BUT PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS
YOUNG CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Harvest Sunday Decorations 7th October 2007

The Church is being decorated for Harvest on Saturday 6th October at 9.30 a.m., and the harvest goods will be distributed on Monday 8th October at 9.30 a.m.

We are asking for assistance, especially on the Monday. Please speak to Bob Benyon if you are able to help out with this.

Also if you would like to make a contribution to the additional costs associated with extra flowers/decorations for the church, please would you direct these donations to Josie Crompton, either directly or via a church warden.

Report from the Church and Hall Redevelopment Committee

We are now well on the way with the plans for the new hall, and are at the point of submitting the outline plans to the conservation planning officer and the planning department at the Town Hall. The new hall is our opportunity to have a building that we can be proud of and that will not only serve our own needs but enable us to serve the needs of the community.

But in order to start building we need the money to do so. It is estimated that the new hall will cost somewhere in the region of £500,000 - £600,000, possibly less, but could be more.

The PCC has set up a fund raising committee which consists of Dan Howard, Mike Kirkby, Elizabeth Tidmarsh, Les and Nola Kilsby.

We have started the process of finding out where we might be able to apply for grants. If you know of any grant making bodies that you feel we could apply to please let one of the committee know and we will investigate it further. But we cannot nor should we rely on external funding alone to build the hall, nor is it the sole responsibility of the fund raising committee to find all the money.

This has to be a collective responsibility and effort which will involve sacrifice on our part in terms of money, time and commitment. Listed below are some suggestions on how we each might be able to help build our new hall.

- **Direct giving** – this could be smaller amounts over a longer period or one off larger amounts. More ideas on how this could be done in next month's magazine *(remember this has to be over and above our weekly giving)*
- **Interest free loans**,
- **Supporting fundraising events** – buying tickets and not mind paying a higher charge.

Please pray and think of ways in which you could help. As the plans progress we will keep you informed.

Nola Kilsby
Chair of the redevelopment and fundraising committees

Aspects of Christmas

1st December 2007 8.00 p.m.
Memorial Hall, Junction Road

A evening to get ideas for Christmas
and to enjoy spending time with friends

Seasonal Demonstrations and Light Refreshments
Opportunities to buy Christmas gifts and produce

Cost £5.00
(please gift aid if you are a taxpayer)

Tickets available from Angela Howard , Nola Kilsby
Jean Mainey, Elizabeth Tidmarsh

Aspects of Christmas is planned to 'kick off' the fundraising events for the rebuilding of the church hall.

The evening will include demonstrations such as making table decorations and icing a Christmas cake. There will be stalls with home-made preserves and Christmas cakes, Christmas craft products, Christmas bulbs and pots and Christian books and music. This is also an evening where you can bring friends to enjoy festive nibbles and drinks round tables.

We would like volunteers to help us out! Please consider what you can offer to do to make the evening successful. We need contributions of home-made Christmas cakes or preserves, save jars, provide bulbs or pots for the plants, help decorate the room or set up tables and chairs for the evening, help to make table decorations, bring along friends from outside church. We can all make a small but valuable contribution and at the same time have a pleasant evening. Please speak to one of the ticket sellers to let them know how you are able to help.

Junior Heroes
Holiday Club 2007

The first week of the summer holidays is traditionally Bible Holiday Club for St Mary's..... And 2007 was time for Junior Heroes to get ready for 'Spiritual Battle'. The theme was 'The Armour of God' as described by Paul in his letter to the church of Ephesus (see Ephesians 6 verses 14-17), and we also looked at six Bible characters who were 'young heroes'; Samuel, the boy who gave the five loaves and two fishes to Jesus, David, Naaman's servant girl, King Josiah and Miriam.

The Drama Team

There were 52 children and about 30 adult/teenage helpers throughout the week.

Children were split into six teams, all having a 'hero call' as their name; Pow, Kerboom, Zap, Neeaow, Whoosh and Zoom.

The morning started with a team meeting for the adults (and a welcome cup of coffee) before the children started arriving from 9.45

Junior Heroes

The Swords of the Spirit

a.m. At 10.00 a.m. there was a welcome, singing, a talk on the armour for the day, drama and another talk on the Bible story. We then split into Juniors and Infants to do craft and games with refreshments served in the middle. This was followed by a small group time, and finally the morning was rounded off with the songs and a summary of the morning's teaching. The leaders then met together again to discuss the morning and plan for the next day.

There are so many people who helped to make Holiday Club a success and we hope that those who helped were also encouraged spiritually. It was a joy to see the church full on the Sunday as we rounded up a week of fun, laughter and Bible teaching.

Pow leaders: Sean & Beccy

Deane Handicraft Group

Coffee Morning

Saturday 27 October 2007 10.00 a.m. — 12.00 Noon

Memorial Hall, Junction Road

Admission 50p including refreshments

Last year was a tremendous success, so please support us again.
Everyone will be very welcome

Starting a Reading Group

Reading Groups, otherwise known as Book Clubs, are becoming quite the thing. Magazines promote them as do TV chat shows and publishing houses and they've even been the subject of a novel or two! You may not have heard, but a few of us began an experimental reading group in the summer. We've only met twice, it being summer (our next meeting is as the Magazine goes to press), but it's been great! Our purpose is to read Christian books and talk to each other about how we've found them—whether we found them helpful, irritating, challenging or what.

None of us had ever tried the genre of the first book—Christian chick lit! It was funny, easy reading and we all enjoyed it and it gave us a lot to talk about—lifestyle, 'getting a man', what faith is all about... This couldn't have been a greater contrast with the second book. 'Harvest from Heartache' is a mother's story of her little boy's fight with leukaemia and it left no eyes dry as we read it. Again this opened up a great deal of discussion about the way we can't understand God's ways and how we all cope differently with tragedy. This month's book, which we meet to discuss next week as I write, is Michele Guinness's 'Woman, the full story'. Personally I didn't know that that had yet been written and whether or not it is the full story only the reader can judge. I imagine we'll have some fairly lively discussion over our coffee and cake (yes, that's always a part of the deal!).

Why not give it a try? We find that six or seven is an ideal number—not too small if some folk can't attend and not too big for everyone to have their say. Perhaps there are folk who've recently joined the church and don't see their way into a house group yet or folk who've been around for ever for that matter but don't find a house group their thing. There's plenty of food for thought and spiritual growth in these books. We take our recommendations from 'Woman Alive' magazine and the group decides which we'll go for next time we meet. We'd love to hear from anyone who's thinking of starting a group and do anything we can to help.

If we can be of any help to anyone thinking of starting a group I'll be happy to hear from you. Otherwise, just get on with it and let us know how you get on!

Anne Roberts 01204 849468
Angela Howard 01204 855112

Terry and Irene Ashley wish to thank the church family for their prayers and good wishes on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding.

Make it a Fair Trade Christmas!

There are lots of ways you could make it a Fair Trade Christmas this year and in so doing help people in the Third World have a better future. Firstly at the back of church there is a Tearcraft and Traidcraft catalogue that include a wide variety of fair traded goods that would make excellent present for people. Why not have a look over a cup of tea after the service and see if there is anything you could give to someone? Orders can be given to Alison Partington anytime before Sunday 4th November.

Secondly if you will be busy baking over the next few months in preparation for Christmas remember that the stall in church on the first Sunday of the month has a variety of dry fruits, nuts and sugars that could be of use. It also has Fair Trade Advent calendars, chocolate money and other goodies that may be of interest to old and young alike. Why not come and take a look and at the same time you will be helping others to a better future.

A Note of Thanks from the Shephards

Just a note to say a big big thank you to everyone for their kindness, prayers, cards and offers of support following the death of our dear wife and mother Elaine. The Church was full for the funeral and this was a true testimony of the many lives she had touched over the years. We are still finding out who actually attended there were so many!

Whilst Elaine will leave a massive hole in our family and the Church family, we are sure that whilst she is no longer here in person her spirit will live on. We as a family know from our own experiences so far we are always thinking "What would Elaine say?" "What would Elaine do?" in situations that we are experiencing already.

Bryan, Lauren and Ross

St Mary's Church Directory

Team Rector:	Ian Mainey	01204 61819
Assistant Curate:	Dan Howard	01204 855112
Retired Clergy:	Joyce Mitson	01204 655081
Readers:	David Dewhurst	01204 651347
	Nola Kilsby	01204 665700
Wardens:	Les Kilsby	01204 665700
	Craig Mochrie	01204 652324
	Beccy Rutter	01942 814946
PCC Lay Chair:	Jane Hampson	01204 848433
Honorary Treasurer:	Les Kilsby	01204 665700
Honorary Secretary:	Bryan Shephard	01942 817288
PCC Sub-Committee Chairs:		
Nurture:	Charles Winder	01204 841947
Service:	Nola Kilsby	01204 665700
Witness:	Dan Howard	01204 855112
Worship:	Beccy Rutter	01942 814946
Archivist:	Rodney Howard	01204 652417
Flowers:	Josie Crompton	01204 655964
Gift Aid Secretary:	Les Kilsby	01204 655700
Handicraft Group:	Dorothy Benyon	01204 417794
Ladies Guild:	Brenda Dixon	01204 653333
	Pat Sewell	01204 61278
Magazine Editor:	Angela Howard	01204 855112
Memorial Hall Bookings:	-	-
Memorial Hall Caretaker:	-	-
Music Group:	Beccy Rutter	01942 814946
Organist:	Lisa Atherton	01204 840741
Parent and Toddler Group:	Jean Mainey	01204 61819
Verger:	Josie Crompton	01204 655964
Sunday Schools:		
Climbers (age 3-7):	Lynda Smith	01204 62093
Explorers (age 7-11):	Paula Small	01204 650981
Pathfinders (age 11-14):	Angela Howard	01204 855112
CYFA (age 14-19)	Dan Howard	01204 855112
Youth Groups:		
Voltage (age 11-14)	Karen Greenhalgh	07821 304564
Element (age 14-18)	Karen Greenhalgh	07821 304564
Uniformed Organisations:		
Rainbows:	Margaret Latchford	01204 657101
Brownies:	Anne Calderbank	01204 398206
	Liz Valentine	01204 651692
Guides:	Carole Baxendale	01204 419167

Please inform the editor of any errors or omissions