

# Deane St Mary's

## October 2008

- The Rector has sent in two articles challenging us to be more adventurous in our **discipleship**—so no battenning down the hatches just because winter is approaching (see quote below)!

- Practical ways of being Christ's disciples are suggested as we come towards **Shoebox Sunday** again (doesn't time fly?) and as we are encouraged to support our new link missionaries.

- Looking back, we see how folk at Deane have faced the need for **renovation and restoration** in the past and at two **Christian martyrs** with whom there's a local connection! Can you spot it? They are remembered in some parts of the church on October 6th.

- There are newsy bits about goings on in the summer, a profile of Craig, one of our Wardens, and a book recommendation which brings alive parts of the Bible for us.



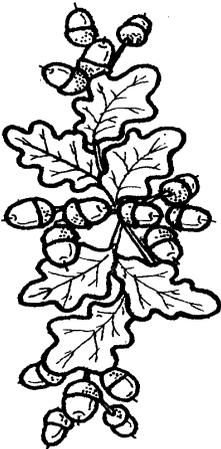
### Where is it? What is it?

- Bolton Choral Union is featured and there's more about researching your family history. Watch out for dates to put in your diary, including some for the Christmas season!

**"I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away"**

# St Mary's Info: October 2008

	9.00	10.30	6.00
<b>Sunday 5</b> Harvest	Holy Communion	Family Parade Service	Holy Communion
	Matt 21:33 — 46 Phil 3:4b — 14 Accept or reject?		Psalm 51
<b>Sunday 12</b>	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service
	Nehemiah 1:1 — 11 Depending on God		Psalm 22
<b>Sunday 19</b>	Holy Communion	Service of the Word & Baptism	Evening Service
	Nehemiah 2:1- — 20 The planning process		Psalm 46
<b>Sunday 26</b>	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service
	Nehemiah 3:1 — 32 Working together		Psalm 103



## Harvest Sunday

October 5th

The emphasis is once again on bringing dried and tinned goods for use by Winter Watch. Sheila encouraged us in last month's magazine to bring biscuits and pot noodles for the Reach Out Centre so that would be good too. We have also been encouraged to consider giving to Tear Fund's partner's project in Burkina Faso (see September magazine)

# The Rector Writes

## A Risky Obedience

A few years back I was in the south of France enjoying a holiday with the family. A friend of ours had lent us their house for a week. One of the places we really enjoyed visiting was Avignon. For those who have not been there it stands on the banks of the Rhone. It is a small walled city and inside can be found the Palace of the Popes, for when the pope was exiled from Italy he was offered sanctuary in Avignon by the then King of France. And so for many years the seat of papal power was not Rome, but Avignon.



I noticed that across the river on the other side was a very fine castle so I decided to explore—I am into castles!. The castle was in a town called Ville d'Avignon and it was built by the King of France in order to keep his eye on the pope. There was a tower nearby and we paid the entrance fee and all climbed to the top. The view was magnificent. Not only did you get a really good view of the layout of Avignon but the view across the surrounding countryside was stunning. But one of the things that stuck me whilst on the top was that there were no security fences round the top. You could have easily stepped back and fallen off. I remember commenting to my wife that I would have hated to bring our children up here when they were smaller because my heart would have been in my mouth, and I wondered what had happened to European Union safety laws in this part of France!

I was thinking about this when looking once more at the parable of the ten minas in Luke 19. You know the story, a king was going to a far country and so he gave each of his ten servants ten minas (which was about three months' wages) and told them to make the money work for him while he was away. The servants did so—all but one that is. He had done nothing with the money given to him so when the king returned he was punished and what he had was given

to another, a more profitable and faithful servant. Jesus concludes the parable by saying "I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away" (v.26).

I quite like the way The Message translates this particular verse, **"Risk your life and get more than you ever dreamed of..."**

I like that because I think that in order to obey God we need to take risks. Risk is the essence of the Christian faith because it requires us to take step 1 before we see step 2. Risk compels us to action, even when there seems to be no guarantee of what will be on the other side. But it is those risks, both large and small, that God uses to stretch us from living by sight into living by faith. By taking the risk of following God we move from a life of independence and self-direction into a life of godly dependence and Holy Spirit direction. The irony in all this of course is that actually we take a greater risk by remaining independent of God than by putting our faith in Him. If we believe what we say we believe, then regardless of what we see on the other side of our risk, the reality is that God is there. What actually seems as a no-guarantee situation actually comes with the greatest guarantee of all, a God-given guarantee, that He is on the other side of our choices, working all things out for our good (Romans 8:28).

Whilst in Israel a few years ago, one of the trips was a boat trip across the Sea of Galilee. In the middle of the lake we read the story of Jesus calling Peter to come to him when they spotted Jesus walking on the water. Now tell me where, in this incident, was the safest place for Peter to be? Well of course the obvious answer is—in the boat. But the truth is, the safest place for Peter in that storm was standing next to Jesus.

In the life of our church we are being called upon to exercise faith. We have just taken on the lease of the charity shop. We are seeking to raise money for the building of the new hall. We could say that in looking at the situation we are not going to make it. But as Christian people, are we to be ruled by what we see? Are we going to walk by sight or by faith? That's the question God asks of us.

# Introducing our new Link Missionaries

It's official! The paper work has been completed making **David and Gina (Jean) Hucker** our SAMS link missionaries in succession to Bob Lunt who served in Argentina for many years. David and Gina have been with SAMS in **Chile** for ten years. Although Gina herself comes from Merseyside they are a very international couple. They met in Mexico while working on a Christian youth project, got engaged in Florida and married in Liverpool. Their first son, Wesley, was born in 1991 in Texas and their second, Caleb, in 1994 in the Dominican Republic.

Like all of South America except Brazil, was colonised by the Spanish. Spanish is its main language. Chile has had a chequered career politically over the years (Pinochet was its dictator) but democracy has now returned and the country is settled and peaceful.

David and Gina are based in Arica in the far north close to the Peruvian border. To the south is the Atacama desert, one of the most desolate places on earth. Arica is known as the place of 'eternal spring'. It never rains. Unlike many modern cities, there is very little crime.

David and Gina's main tasks are to grow the Anglican congregation, reach some of the 3000 university students in Arica, start Alpha courses in both English and Spanish, and, last but by no means least, complete the actual building of the church. A temporary roof has been put on, but a permanent one is needed, not to keep out the rain, but to protect worshippers from the sun! £30,000 is needed to complete the work.

David and Gina are delighted that we are linked to them. They are looking forward to visiting us when they are next in the UK.

**Please remember to include them in your prayers.**



# Operation Christmas Child

This year again as a church we will be supporting the Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Campaign. This annual project encourages people and organisations to fill ordinary shoe boxes with small toys, stationery, sweets, and other gifts for needy children around the world. Since 1990 the project has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 60 million boys and girls throughout the world. Last year 1.30 million shoe boxes were sent from the UK to children in hospitals, orphanages, Internally Displaced Persons' camps, homeless shelters and impoverished neighbourhoods. This included nearly 100 shoe boxes from Deane Church.

The shoe boxes may seem small and insignificant to us but the children who receive them feel special and valued, and it lets them know that somebody cares about them. For many it may be the first gift they have ever received. Here are some stories from the team who took shoe boxes to Romania, the destination for the boxes from Deane Church last year.

Winter in Romania is cold, hard and bitter and living conditions are poor and entire families live in the sort of poverty that we, in this country, would find difficult to imagine. One family we visited, Elena and Shony and their 2 children, lived in a single room and considered themselves to be one of the lucky ones. Shony had work in Cluj and walked into town each day (a four-hour round trip) and he brought home a wage - around £25 per week. Although this covered the absolute basics, it certainly didn't stretch to presents. I asked Elena if they would be having anything special to eat on Christmas Day and she replied that they were simply happy to be able to eat, but they would be treating themselves to a bottle of coke.

## **Children's Oncology Hospital in Cluj**

The following day included a visit to the Children's Oncology Hospital in Cluj. One child, six-year-old Louis, was fascinated with my digital camera and began taking photographs of his teddy bears. Luckily, my camera was quickly forgotten as he opened his shoebox and took out his first ever toy car—something he was engrossed in for the rest of the visit. I later discovered that it was probably Louis's last Christmas. He was suffering with a stomach tumour that had returned,

despite three lots of surgery.

### **Gypsy Village , Ticau**

A lot of our time was spent in the van, travelling to some of the more remote parts of Northern Romania . A series of bumpy roads took us to the gypsy village of Ticau . Hundreds of smiling faces greeted us and the children all sang traditional Christmas Carols, pretty much at the top of their voices! When distributing



the boxes I was worried there wouldn't be enough, but thankfully, every single child received a shoebox. One little boy of about 10 went off into a corner to open his box. As soon as he saw a packet of pens, his face lit up. "It's the best box in the village!" he shouted. The pens and paper now meant he would be allowed to go to school - and he couldn't wait.

On one visit, a little girl was presented with her shoebox. She opened it, looked at everything in awe and then packed it all away again and returned the box. She could not comprehend that the presents were hers to keep.

To get involved all you need is a shoe box and a leaflet which will be available in church during October . Why not take two and encourage a friend, family member or work colleague to fill one too? The leaflet explains what you can and cannot put in the shoe box. Filling a shoe box is a fun and rewarding activity —especially when you know these gifts are going to be used and treasured. Then bring your shoe box to church on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November for our special "Shoe Box Sunday" service. If you have encouraged a friend to fill a shoe box why not invite them to come with you to church that week too?



The boxes are collected after church by volunteers who help Samaritan's Purse run the appeal. The boxes will then be processed by volunteers and sent to their destination to be distributed through local overseas churches and charities and you can be sure that every single one of the boxes will be given to a child in real need.

# The Halls of St Mary's

The church website contains a detailed proposal for a Village Club by the Reverend H.S.Patterson, Vicar of Deane 1877-1912, and dated 1891. Whilst attacking the sale of alcohol, the document is positive in spirit and Mr Patterson supports the will to "reinforce the better side of human nature". He calls for "a philanthropic effort" to raise £550, which would help establish a club on the present site with gymnasium, refreshment room, club rooms and bowling green and dedicated to temperance principles. There are plans in the church archive, dated 1892, but the club seems not to have progressed beyond the planning stage. It was a time of heavy expenditure and significant alterations had been made to the church in the 'eighties. At about the time of Mr Patterson's proposal repairs were made to the tower and additional bells were bought to complete the octave, for which there was a successful public appeal, launched in "The Bolton Chronicle".

Evidently an energetic man, considerate of his parishioners' needs, Mr Patterson did not let his idea go. On the website and in the archive there is another appeal, dated 1904, for a Church House. A prefabricated building had already been purchased, to be erected on the Junction Road site, satisfying the principles outlined in 1891 and providing similar facilities. Mr Patterson concludes, "I think I may ask the public to give us £550 for purchase and erection of the building". This time he was successful and was able to provide a venue for social activities in Deane. Church House did not last the forty years he had in mind and, in 1927, long after his retirement, there were proposals for alterations and improvements. Maintenance had become very expensive and there was a "great falling off of receipts during the summer months due to the growing popularity of tennis". The plans for improvement included tennis courts.

We have not rediscovered minute books of the period but there is a record in the archive, dated 1934, of two different proposals for a replacement, to be called the Memorial Hall. This would recognise the sacrifice of men and women in Bolton who died during

the Great War. There are detailed plans in the Bolton Local History Library which include billiard room, dance and assembly hall with a stage and dressing rooms. Accompanying the plans is an application from the Reverend R.C. Worsley, Vicar of Deane, for a licence to permit music, dancing and singing. There were difficulties at the planning stage and, when the building had been completed, in the allocation of managerial duties. For example, the local builder, who had been consulted about alterations to Church House in 1927, had, it appears, been promised consideration in tendering for the building of a replacement. Owing to transfer of responsibilities between committees the promise was forgotten and the work was not offered for competitive tender. Mr Worsley sent a cheque in compensation which the builder returned and it remains in the Memorial Hall file. A problem arose over the management of the new Hall, because the former Church House lease "gave almost absolute power to the vicar". There was a long correspondence involving vicar, bishop, lawyers, newspapers and the parochial council, which ended with a re-allocation of responsibilities and the prospect of shared management.

There is no record in the Memorial Hall file of an appeal or of total costs but there is a list of ninety-one individuals and groups, who are possibly amongst those who subscribed. Like the present time the economic climate of the nineteen-thirties was difficult. Perhaps recollections of the war prompted people to give generously. At the opening ceremony, which was attended by service men, further donations were invited and these amounted to a useful sum. There is more to be discovered about the planning and financing of the Memorial Hall, built as an act of faith during a period of severe recession. It was built to enhance the life of the parish. Many people must have memories of its earlier days and its role within the changing village of Deane. We would be glad to receive recollections or borrow any photographs to remind us of a social and religious tradition that a new Hall will help the church to continue. There has been a strong relationship between church and community. Each can give strength to the other and the planned new building, flexible and thoughtful in its design, will enable those strengths to meet. Charles Winder

# Restoration

Tom Stokes, for many years churchwarden, wrote in his autobiography about work on the fabric of the church during the twentieth century. For the five hundredth anniversary the eight bells were recast and the east window was cleaned; the stained glass was removed piece by piece, sent to a specialist in London, eventually returned and set in place again. Twenty years later the Lady Chapel was created and new windows had to be cut in the church walls. The architects miscalculated the thickness of the walls and the church agreed to pay above the original estimate. Some of the stone is now in local garden rockeries.

In the 'eighties attention was given to dry rot, interior decoration and stonework. Resources were very seriously challenged at this time when thieves stripped lead from the roof. The asphalt replacement lasted fifteen years and was replaced in its turn by stainless steel. We had help variously from Preservation of Ancient Churches, the Greater Manchester Council and English Heritage. The congregation and friends of St Mary's contributed generously, particularly following a special gift day. Tom concluded, "There are maintenance problems with all church buildings, but I hope these brief paragraphs will illustrate the burdens that incumbents have to bear, particularly with ancient places of worship, in order to pass on for future generations the amenities which we have enjoyed." CW

## **Cover story—a Huguenot Grave**

The Huguenots were French Protestants who, due to religious persecution, were forced to flee France in the 16th and 17th centuries. Since they were in large part artisans, craftsmen, and professional people, they were usually well-received in the countries to which they fled for refuge. Most of them went initially to Germany, the Netherlands, and England, although some found their way eventually to places as remote as South Africa. Many Huguenot graves have this outline of a glove, as many of them were indeed glovers. Others were lace makers, weavers and silversmiths. The grave is 50 yards or so from the east end of the church.

# Ewald and Ewald

## Martyrs in Old Saxony about 695

They were two priests and natives of Northumbria. Both bore the same name, but were known as Ewald the Black and Ewald the Fair, from the difference in the colour of their hair and complexions. They spent several years as students in the schools of Ireland. Ewald the Black was the more learned of the two, but both were equally renowned for holiness of life. They were acquainted with St Willibrord, the Apostle of Friesland, and were inspired by his zeal for the conversion of the Germans, but they did not set out from England till after St. Willibrord's departure. They began their mission about 690. The scene of their labours was the country of the ancient Saxons, now part of Westphalia, and covered by the dioceses of Münster, Osnabruck, and Paderborn(!). At first the Ewalds took up their abode in the house of the steward of a certain Saxon earl or ealdormen. Bede (who wrote about much of early Christianity in England) remarks that "the old Saxons have no king, but they are governed by several ealdormen who during war cast lots for leadership, but who in time of peace are equal in power". The steward entertained his two guests for several days, and promised to conduct them to the chieftain, as they affirmed they had a message of considerable importance to deliver to him.

Meanwhile, the Ewalds prayed often, recited the daily liturgy, and celebrated Mass. The pagan Saxons began to suspect that their aim was to convert their over-lord and destroy their temples and their religion. In jealousy and anger, they resolved that the Ewalds should die. Ewald the Fair they quickly despatched with the sword, but Ewald the Black tortured, because he was the spokesman and showed greater boldness. He was torn limb from limb, after which the two bodies were cast into the Rhine. This is understood to have happened at a place called Aplerbeck, where a chapel still stands. When the ealdorman heard of what had been done he was exceedingly angry, and took vengeance by ordering the murderers to be put to death and their village to be destroyed by fire.

# Ventures at Casterton 3

Well,- we went, had a great time and got back safely .... but that doesn't tell the half of it!

The leaders got there first and transformed a very respectable girls' boarding school into a Super-heroes lair. The fifty stunned members(14 to 18 years old) arrived to be greeted by about fifty slightly older superheroes - and the fun began. Tom, Danny and Julian didn't know what had hit them .... for at least five seconds!

We had blow up obstacle courses and Sumo suits and water slides, archery, silly games, mad games and exhausting games; climbing, caving, karting, kayaking and horse riding.; jewellery making, glass painting, mask making and card making; tennis, football and Netball; paint balling and going ape; standing on chairs to sing mad songs; no-hands pudding.. (don't ask) and being zapped at breakfast with water guns. So we had plenty of bruises and stories to tell.

We hunted the leaders in ridiculous disguise and Kirby Lonsdale looked on with mild surprise....does this really happen to them normally?

But most of all we came to know our Lord and love him even more. We had quiet times, Bible studies, Buzz groups (discussion on major things), and The Main Event where Dan H played the guitar with the band and we had terrific songs and talks that gradually showed us how God had planned it that we could be forgiven for all our sins when we repent and go on to live a life walking along with Him....or footballing, or horse riding.... Or paint balling ....or singing.

'Thank you' Dan and Angela for persuading us that it would be good. It really was! And we appreciate the effort you put in to get us there and look after us. Thank you too to Bethia and Abigail for keeping an eye on us all and helping to eat all that fantastic food.

Dan Bartupe Tom Forrester Elizabeth Tidmarsh

# Farewell To The Original Element

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August we said our official farewell to the founding members of The Element. We had a candle-lit meal and awards ceremony (hosted by our very own Sean Cornforth) and were joined by some of the church members that the young people have got to know over the years.



Awards included "worst hair-do", "best sound effects" and a "look-a-like" award. We were even joined by "live video link" from Derbyshire for Simon ("prune-dog") Butterworth (one of our favourite youth leaders from the past) to accept his "Down with the Kids" award.

It's been a privilege to work with this lively group of young people over the last four years, and I hope that the whole church will be committed to praying for them as they settle into their universities, making new friends, getting used to new surroundings, praying that they will be aware of God's love and presence with them as they go.

**Please pray for:** James Caffrey going to Leeds to study Sports Science, Matthew Hetherington going to Liverpool John Moores to study Geology, Matthew Malloy studying Computer Science at Lancaster, Shaun Coughlan studying Economics at Hull and Ryan Quinlan studying Law at Bolton.

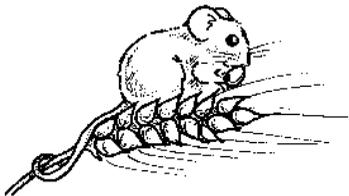
## Ladies' Guild October

14th Harvest Supper

28th Keith Hughes  
Slides and Talk

7.30 p.m. Memorial Hall

All ladies welcome.



# GETTING STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY: DEATH CERTIFICATES

**Death certificates** are the final public document you might find, and the least likely to be collected. This is a pity since they often give a good deal of information about your ancestor's lifestyles and relationships. My work helping to index central Bolton burial records has produced a fascinating insight into nineteenth century health issues.

The actual certificate offers the name of the deceased, their gender, age at death, occupation (unless a child in which case their father's or a married woman in which case their husband's in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries), cause of death, where and when they died, when the death was registered, who registered it and their relationship to the deceased, the signature of the registrar. From April 1969, the deceased's date and place of birth, and the maiden name of married and widowed women were added.

More often than not people died at home in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but it is possible they died in hospital which may mean a different registration district. Ages are usually accurate (in case of babies heart breakingly so, to the minute) but sometimes with older people, rounded up or down. In 1874 the Registration Act laid down that all deaths should be certified by doctors. Before that, and especially in poorer districts, many of the deaths were self-certified, thus we have example of causes of death including `teething` and `old age` or even `visitation by God`. After that, the causes of death are frequently in medical Latin but web-sites exist that can help you translate them. Anyone looking at 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century deaths in a town such as Bolton will see examples of whole families lost in epidemics of Asiatic Cholera, Measles, and Chicken Pox; commonly young men and women in their twenties died of tuberculosis, and women died in childbirth, multiple births rarely survived a few hours. Look for any certificate indicating a coroner's inquest. Records should survive of such proceedings including witness statements,

very often found in local newspapers of the time. I have an excellent account of a Winder ancestor killed in a drunken collision with a milk cart on Bury Road in the 1860s.

Next month I intend to look at the very useful area of census

### What kinda Tater are you?

Some people never seem motivated to participate,  
but are just content to watch while others do the work.

They are called "**Speck Taters.**"

Some people never do anything to help,  
but are gifted at finding fault with the way others do the work.

They are called "**Comment Taters.**"

There are those who say they will help,  
but somehow just never get around to actually doing the promised help.

They are called "**Hezza Taters.**"

Some people can put up a front  
and pretend to be someone they are not.

They are called "**Emmy Taters.**"

Then there are those who love and do what they say they will.  
They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and  
lend a helping hand.

They bring real sunshine into the lives of others.

They're called "**Sweet Taters.**"

What kinda Tater are you?

### Scout Hut

Deane Guides, Brownies and  
Rainbows are holding their  
annual coffee morning in  
the Scout Hut on



**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October from 10am to 12 noon.**

There will be the usual variety of stalls. Entrance is 50p for adults,  
but free for children accompanied by an adult. This price includes re-  
freshments. Please go along and support the event.

**Everyone is warmly invited.**

# This Month's Profile

## Craig Mochrie

I was born and brought up in Dundee where I served an apprenticeship as a toolmaker before becoming a draughtsman and then a design engineer. I studied at Dundee Tech. and got an HNC in Mechanical Engineering. I have been married for nearly forty six years and have three children and five grandchildren.

We moved to England in 1971 to Bradford and after five years there moved to Wiltshire for about two years before coming to Bolton. We have lived here for thirty years and feel completely at home and intend to remain here. We began coming to Deane Church about a year after we came to Bolton and after much soul searching decided to become Anglicans. I was Manufacturing Director of an Electronic Company in Oldham and retired about five years ago.

Since becoming members of Deane Church I have had spells on the PCC and have been a Warden on three separate occasions, firstly with Major Crook and Harry Ridyard—so that goes back a long time. At present in addition to my duties as Church Warden I count and bank the collection every week with the help of other Church Members, assist the Graveyard Administrator with the Graveyard accounts and also help on a cleaning team. Since retiring I have enjoyed gardening and have even acquired an allotment. We are heavily involved with our grandchildren and pick our youngest grandson up from school on Wednesdays. We have made many friends in Deane Church and have even been on holiday with several of them!

I have been a member and we have hosted home groups and find this rewarding from the growth of my faith and in sharing with others church members and would recommend this activity to you all. So give it a go.

I am looking forward to the re-ordering of the church so that it is more suited to the different types of services we are developing. It is my intention to retire from the PCC at the end of the church year in April.



# **BOOKS4U**

## **A Lineage of Grace**

### **Francine Rivers**

If you have ever wondered what it felt like to be a woman in Old Testament and New Testament times, 'A Lineage of Grace' by Francine Rivers is for you. Rivers tells the story of five women, Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Bathsheba from the Old Testament and Mary from the New. All the women played a significant part in history. Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Bathsheba are all ancestors of Joseph, husband of Mary.

Rivers bases her accounts firstly on what we learn in the Bible and then fills them out with well-researched background material. Every story rings true. We are with Rahab as the Israelites surround Jericho. We come to see how Ruth must have felt as she left her homeland forever, how lonely she must have been on her arrival back with her widowed mother-in-law Naomi, how worried she was about the way she should approach Boaz and her joy when they marry and their son Obed was born. We sympathise with Bathsheba when she comes to understand the consequences of her night with King David.

At the end of every chapter is a six part Bible study, suitable for use at home or in a house group—or you can leave that bit unread!

This is an excellent book, well worth reading.

A Lineage of Grace by Francine Rivers (ISBN 10-0-8423-7110-9 and 13-978-0-8423-7110-0) is published by Tyndale Fiction.

**A date for your diary**

**Parish W/E 2009**

**Beechwood Court, Conway, has been booked for the**

**weekend of May 15, 16, 17**

**BE SURE TO MAKE A NOTE OF IT NOW!**

# BOLTON CHORAL UNION

A number of members of Deane Church are members of Bolton Choral Union. Formed in 1887, it is starting its 122nd season but is always happy to welcome new members. When I retired from teaching four years ago I didn't want to give up choral singing, which I'd always enjoyed. The conductor of our staff and student choir in Blackburn, Michael Greenhalgh suggested I joined as he was BCU's conductor.

Although I was brought up to enjoy music and sing I had never learnt to `read` music. Michael reassured me that this was not necessary; I could sing in tune and quickly pick up a line, and there were no annual auditions for entry.

Practices are in the St Andrew and St George Church Hall on Friday nights from 7.30-9.30. You are allowed to miss the occasional Friday without comment, and we do have breaks, including a long summer holiday. There's an annual membership fee, payable in the Autumn period, halved for retired or unwaged members, and working out at less than a £1 a week—a bargain. Around 60-80 people attend.

Most concerts are of sacred music, but vary in period and difficulty. We often sing with other choirs, such as a children's choir at the annual carol concert, Manchester Camerata and Bolton Girls' School Choir. We have a brass band with us for the Carol Concert.

2008/9 has a varied programme. On **22<sup>nd</sup> November** at the Victoria Hall we are singing a programme of **Christmas music with Bach's Magnificat and excerpts from Handel's Messiah**. The **Family Carol Concert** in the Victoria Hall is on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December**, and includes Blackburn and Darwen Brass Band and Walmsley C of E Primary. Bolton Parish Church is the venue for **Faure's Requiem**, and a modern piece, **Son of God Mass** on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Finally this season, we will have a summer concert at St Andrew's including **Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle at 7.30 on 13<sup>th</sup> June**.

If you would like to join us, just turn up at any Friday rehearsal and make yourselves known, or talk to one of the union's Deane church members, who I am sure will be happy to arrange to go with you on your first visit.



## Harvest Church Decoration

We will be decorating the church for Harvest Sunday on  
**Saturday October 4th from 9.30 a.m.**

and distributing the goods on

**Monday October 6th from 10.00 a.m.**

**We really do need help on both days.**

In particular, anyone with transport would be  
invaluable on the Monday for an hour or two.

**Please don't leave it to someone else.**

**Your church needs YOU!**

## Deane Handicraft Group

As most of you will know a handicraft group has been opened for quite some time. It is held in the Memorial Hall on Monday afternoons from 1.15 to 3.15. We knit, embroider, sew, make cards and so on. All the things we make go to our coffee morning, the money raised going towards the funds for the rebuilding of the church hall. You can bring your own materials or if you don't know what to do we will help you to get started with something. At the moment we are a friendly group of ten. We discuss what we can make and other topics of conversation over a cup of tea and a biscuit. If you are interested in joining us, just come along. You will be most welcome and it is absolutely free!

For more information contact Dorothy Benyon (417794).

P.S. a note for your diary:

**Saturday October 25th**

**Handicraft Group Coffee Morning**

**10.00 to 12 noon**

**Please come along and support us**

**Tickets 50p including refreshments**

# Why aren't we more reckless?

Think about living recklessly and you might think about excessive drink, getting into debt or behaviours that lack moral fibre. We know that the values of the world are not the same as the values of the Kingdom of God, but here's the thought: **Shouldn't recklessness be one of our Christian characteristics?**

A woman is extravagant, even reckless when she anoints Jesus with expensive perfume (John 12:1ff); another woman's entrance embarrasses dinner party guests when she wants to anoint Jesus' feet with her tears (Luke 7:36ff). Zacchaeus is reckless beyond what the law requires when he compensates for fraud and gives to the poor (Luke 19:1ff). So much of Kingdom life is counter-cultural. If we live by Kingdom values more, perhaps the world would see us as reckless?

We've all tasted it; surrendering our lives to God in the first place is pretty reckless. Then there's dishing out extravagant love and kindness to people who don't deserve it: "Father, forgive them, they don't know what they are doing" - that's reckless. And what about forgiving others seventy times seven, what about tithing and trusting what we cannot see? What about life after debt? What about grace itself - all completely reckless!

It's safer to not do 'worldly' things, than to do Godly things. It's comfortable to stick with what we know. But this doesn't feel like generous living. We are those with a ridiculous hope, a generous lifestyle, a reckless grace. "If I acted crazy, I did it for God; if I acted overly serious, I did it for you. Christ's love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do" (2 Cor 5:13-14 The Message).

- Has our faith become too comfortable, too predictable?
- In the light of Paul's words should we practice a "reckless wisdom"?
- Think of something reckless you can do this week - and do it!
- How can you help others move out of their comfort zone?

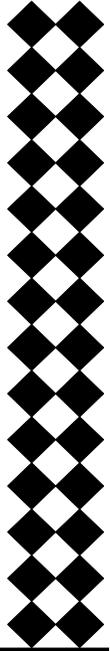
**Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.**

T S Eliot

# PIED BEAUTY

GERALD MANLEY HOPKINS (1844-89)

Glory be to God for dappled things -  
For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow:  
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;  
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;  
Landscape plotted and pieced - fold, fallow, and  
plough;  
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.  
  
All things counter, original, spare, strange;  
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)  
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dimm;  
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change;  
Praise him.



On a sunny day in September I found this prayer in the  
Book of Common Prayer

**O Lord God who hast justly humbled us by the  
late plague of immoderate rain and waters, and  
in thy mercy hast relieved and comforted our  
souls by this seasonable and blessed change of  
weather: We praise and glorify thy holy Name  
for this thy mercy and will always declare thy  
loving-kindness from generation to generation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

It may be raining again by the time you read this, but it's interesting to note how Christians in the past saw far more of the immediacy of God in his creation. Whilst we may not agree with all the sentiments in this prayer, perhaps it's at least a challenge to us to seek ways of appreciating God's immediacy, perhaps in the way Hopkins and other poets have. Next time you go for a walk...



# All Hallows Eve 31st October

Modern Hallowe'en celebrations have their roots with the Celtic peoples of pre-Christian times.

In those long-ago days, on the last night of October, the Celts celebrated the Festival of Samhain, or 'Summer's End'. The priests, or Druids, performed ceremonies to thank and honour the sun. For there was a very dark side to all this: Samhain also signalled the onset of winter, a time when it was feared that unfriendly ghosts, nature-spirits, and witches roamed the earth, creating mischief. So the Druid priests lit great bonfires and performed magic rites to ward off or appease these dark supernatural powers.

Then the Romans arrived, and brought their Harvest Festival which honoured the Goddess Pomona with gifts of apples and nuts. The two festivals slowly merged.

When Christianity arrived still later, it began to replace the Roman and Druid religions. 1 November - All Saints' Day - was dedicated to all Christian Martyrs and Saints who had died. It was called 'All Hallows' Day'. The evening before became an evening of prayer and preparation and was called 'All Hallows' Eve', The Holy Evening, later shortened to 'Halloween'. For many centuries, however, fear of the supernatural remained strong. During the Middle Ages, animal costumes and frightening masks were worn to ward off the evil spirits of darkness on Halloween. Magic words and charms were used to keep away bad luck, and everybody believed that witches ride about on broomsticks. Fortune telling was popular, and predicting the future by the use of nuts and apples was so popular that Halloween is still sometimes known as Nutcrack Night or Snap-Apple Night.

Today, Christians have learned to turn to prayer instead of charms to overcome the powers of darkness. And the deeper, true meaning of All Hallows' Eve, should not be forgotten. As Christians, we all draw closer to Christ when we remember and give thanks for our loved ones and for others who have gone before us through the gates of death.

# CHRISTMAS



# AT DEANE

**Youth Christmas  
Worship**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
7:15pm - 9:15pm  
Deane Memorial Hall  
For more information speak  
to Karen Greenhalgh on  
01204 654737**

## CHRISTMAS SING

COME AND SING CONCERT WITH 8MS  
SINGERS

**SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
7:30PM**

DEANE CHURCH

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK  
TO BECCY RUTTER ON 01204  
654737



## Family Nativity

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December  
10:30am  
Deane Church**

## Carols by Candlelight

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December  
6:00pm  
Deane Church  
If you'd like to sing speak  
to Beccy Rutter on 01204  
654737**



**Deane Parish Church  
St Mary the Virgin**

# St Mary's Directory

Team Rector	Ian Mainey	01204 61819
Team Vicar	John Armstrong	01204 651851
Curate	Dan Howard	01204 855112
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
	Craig Mochrie	01204 652324
	Beccy Rutter	01204 654737

## PCC

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

## PCC Sub-Committee Chairs

Nurture	Charles Winder	01204 841947
Service	Edna Barlow	01942 817434
Witness	Dan Howard	01204 855112
Worship	Beccy Rutter	01204 654737

## Other Responsibilities

Flowers	Josie Crompton	01204 655964
Gift Aid Sec	Les Kilsby	01204 665700
Handicraft Group	Dorothy Benyon	01204 417794
Ladies' Guild	Brenda Dixon	01204 653333
	Pat Sewell	01204 61278
Magazine Editor	Anne Roberts	01024 849468
Memorial Hall Bookings	Elizabeth Tidmarsh	01204 652184

Memorial Hall Caretaker		
Music Group	Beccy Rutter	01204 654737
Organist	Lisa Atherton	01204 840741
Parent/Toddler Group	Jean Mainey	01204 61819
Verger	Josie Crompton	01204 655964

## Sunday Schools

Climbers (3-7)	Lynda Smith	01204 62093
Explorers (7-11)	Paula Small	01204 650981
Pathfinders 7-9	Angela Howard	01204 855112
CYFA (10-13)	Dan Howard	01204 855112

## 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.