

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

FEBRUARY 1992

SUNDAY DIARY

2. FOURTH AFTER EPIPHANY

Theme: The New Temple

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9. FIFTH AFTER EPIPHANY

Theme: The Wisdom of God

8.00am Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer
2.00pm Classical Guitar
Concert
6.30pm Family Communion

16. NINTH BEFORE EASTER

Theme: Christ the Teacher

9.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

23. EIGHTH BEFORE EASTER

Theme: Christ the Healer

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.30pm Family Communion



*'A fine head' - Nelson's 'Victory', Portsmouth, by Ivan J. Belcher
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MIDWEEK DIARY

Communion: On Wednesdays at 10.00am in the Church Lounge
except on February 12 when it is at the Rectory.

Home Groups: Tuesdays February 11 & 25; Wednesdays February
12 & 26; Thursdays February 13 & 27.

Prayer Focus: Wednesday February 19 at 8.00pm in the Church Lounge.

Who's Who

Rector	Roger B. Jackson The Rectory 234 Wigan Road (61819)
Vicar	A. Robin Hazlehurst St Andrew's Vicarage Crescent Avenue (651851)
Curate	Michael W. Saunders 281 Deane Church Lane (64313)
Hon. Assistant	Anthony J. Woodward 6 Barrisdale Close (654863)
Readers	Ken Allan 159 Newbrook Road (63231) Alison Saunders 281 Deane Church Lane (64313)
Wardens	Keith Acton 3 Mallowdale Close (42723) Terry Oakes 14 Salford Road (64362) Stan Wilson 11 Clough Meadow (492034)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Lay Chairman	Harry Ridyard 918 Wigan Road (651157)
Hon. Treasurer	Keith Acton 3 Mallowdale Close (42723)
Hon. Secretary	Peter Marron 18 Milverton Close (492643)

Chairmen of Working Groups

Mission & Unity	Michael Saunders
Pastoral	Joyce Sutcliffe
Worship	Stan Wilson
Buildings & Fabric	Harry Ridyard
Social	Brenda Dixon

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist	Jim Needham 130 The Pewfist Westhoughton (0942 812692)
Flowers	Mary Jackson 234 Wigan Road (61819)

MEMORIAL HALL

Bookings	Ron Morris 13 St Mary's Avenue (62548)
Caretakers	David and Eunice McCormick 34 Junction Road (654503)

What's On

Crèche	under 3 years
Scramblers	3 to 5 years
Climbers	5 to 7 years
Meet in the Memorial Hall Lounge on Sundays at 10.30 a.m.	
Pauline Ridyard (651157)	
Explorers	7 to 11 years
Meet in Church at 10.30 a.m. before going to the Memorial Hall	
Eric Downs (653049)	
Pathfinders	11 to 14 years
Worship in Church on Sundays	
Club Night in the Memorial Hall on Fridays from 7.15 to 9.00 p.m.	
David Dewhurst (651347)	
C.Y.F.A.	14 to 18 years
Meet on Sundays at 7.45 p.m.	
Alan Cheetham (61152)	

LADIES' GROUPS

Meet in the Memorial Hall	
Ladies' Guild	Alternate Tuesdays at 7.45 p.m. Pat Sewell (61278)
Mothers' Union	Alternate Wednesdays at 2.15 p.m. Janetta Makin (658270)
Mums and Toddlers	Alternate Thursdays at 1.30 p.m. Alison Saunders (64313)

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut	
Brownies 1	Mondays at 5.45 p.m. Jean Hanley (654010)
Brownies 2	Tuesdays at 6.30 p.m. Lily Jarret (63511)
Guides	Mondays at 7.15 p.m. Carol Baxendale (62106)
Rangers	Alternate Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. Judith Ashcroft (657430)
Cubs A	Thursdays at 6.45 p.m. Wendy Gooding (653277)
Cubs B	Wednesdays at 6.15 p.m. Marjorie Oakes (64362) Pat Boydell (61450)
Beavers	Thursdays at 5.30 p.m. Susan Ash (62657)
Rainbows	Fridays at 6.30 p.m. Margaret Latchford (657101)

The Parish Office at the Rectory, 234 Wigan Road (61819) is open on Saturdays from 10.00 to 11.00 a.m. to deal with initial enquiries for Baptism and Banns of Marriage.

The Rector writes

Earlier this week I spent an evening with our present "Believing and Belonging" group. This is a gathering of adults who meet fortnightly to discover what Christians believe and what it means to belong to the Christian Church. Under the heading of "Christian lifestyle" we were asking ourselves a very practical question, namely "What should be the distinguishing marks in the life of someone who claims to be a Christian?"

Since our meeting I have been reflecting further, asking myself "Is there a Christian lifestyle for Church Councils and Committees?" Are there any particular features which distinguish a Church Committee from any other committee? Well, I would like to think that Church committees begin with a prayer(s). This having been concluded, however, I suspect that in all too many cases the business proceeds no differently from that of a non-Church assembly. There are minutes, agenda papers, financial statements and policy documents. I would hope that the business is conducted with a little more restraint and courtesy, though I must confess that in my experience this is not something you can take for granted. In the end decisions are made on a majority vote, sometimes a close run thing. This is how democracy works, and, of course, "democracy" is one of the "in words".

I return, however, to my question "Is there a Christian lifestyle for Church Committee work over and above that of restraint and courtesy?" Indeed ought there to be? Can the Church be satisfied that having been faithful to the democratic procedure the proper course has been followed? After all the Christian Church is not a democratic society. The Apostles were not elected to their apostleships. They were called to it by Christ.

So ought there to be more "waiting on God", more looking for the leading of the Holy Spirit, more delay until there is something closer to a unanimity of heart and mind? For instance, it used to be the policy of the Church Council representing the largest congregation in the C. of E. (All Souls Langham Place, London) never to act until they were unanimous. For all I know it may still be their policy, but I suspect that if we adopted it we might never act at all! The way isn't easy. We are so accustomed to worldly methods, especially in the matter of finding money. We have just been notified that English Heritage (through whom the Government channel money for buildings of historical and architectural merit) are willing to make us a grant of 40% of the total cost of covering the Church roof with metal sheeting to replace the asphalt which is coming to the end of its life. This means that we shall have to find 60% - something of the order of £80,000. There are those who will want us to pursue the path of special fund raising efforts which sap our energies and at the end of the day only produce "peanuts" compared with the amount we require. Those who make these suggestions usually find it extremely difficult to see how anything else will work. My hope and prayer is that our Church Council will have the faith to go for methods which emphasize the importance of "giving to a cause" in preference to "paying for a service".

Perhaps on Sundays we ought to give more time to praying that our week-day Committee work will show a more distinctively Christian lifestyle. If such were achieved it would in itself be a much needed witness to the secular society in which we find ourselves. Here is a suggestion:

Lord we pray for our Church Council and its committees,
Our Deanery, Diocesan and General Synods.
Grant that not only what is decided, but the way
it is decided may be in accordance with your will and
Spirit. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Roger B. Jackson.

It is our intention to Put the spotlight on one or more of the missions and charities that we support through our Christian Giving Programme. In 1991 we allocated £375 to the Bible Society towards its world-wide work of Bible translation production and distribution. For example, the New Testament translation into the Mataco Indian language of N. Argentina recently completed by our Link Missionary, Bob Lunt, is being printed at the present time and hopefully will be distributed at the 70th birthday celebrations of their church in May. In addition a further gift of £200 has been sent from the accumulated balance in the Church Bookstall Account. This has been specifically earmarked for the distribution of the Scriptures in those Eastern European countries where previously Bibles could only be smuggled in.



The Bible Society reports that there are many exciting opportunities and requests for new translation projects, but owing to shortage of finance they are hard pressed to answer them all.



We endeavour to maintain a balance between overseas and local projects. One of the projects near to home that we support is the Bolton Hospice to which we allocated £200. The Hospice will be receiving its first patients shortly. One of our own members, Raymond Speakman, is Chairman of its Council of Management.



The Hill Wiltchinsky Guitar Duo are giving a concert in aid of a local charity on Sunday afternoon, February 9th at 2.00 pm. Those who are inclined to look down their snobbish noses regarding guitars as "banjos" would be astounded at the varied and exciting repertoire of



these two very accomplished musicians. In addition to performing regularly on T.V. and radio they travel to give concerts throughout the world. Tickets costing £5 (and £3 for the usual concessionaries) are available from the Rectory and the Vestry.

Faith Fitness and Fun

Unfortunately the wrong date was published in last month's edition of the Deane Church News. This workshop will be on Monday February 3rd from 9.30 to 2.00 pm at St. Luke's Chorley Old Road. It will be led by Liz Pendlebury, and it is for YOU whether you are 19 or 89. There will be a creche so that you can bring your children with you. The cost of £2 will cover the expenses and drinks, but you will need to provide your own packed lunch. Please let Mary Jackson know by January 31st if you are planning to go.

Apologies for the very poor quality of the reproduction of the second page of the last issue. In school terms we are able to use the excellent facilities of the Deane School Reprographic Department, but during school holidays we have to turn elsewhere and sometimes these sources prove to be less reliable. One victim of last month's poor production was Ron Morris's contribution which he has requested should be included again -

On January 21st last year, church people from all over Greater Manchester gathered in the Free Trade Hall for a service of praise and dedication to launch "The Decade of Evangelism" in this part of England.

It is true that we must keep church services going, raise money for essential works clear up misunderstandings, teach the young, plan special events and recruit people for tasks which need doing.

The "Decade of Evangelism" serves to remind us that the Church is not here for its own sake, but in order to communicate the Good Message about God's love in Jesus and help people to respond to that. Christians are here with Good Message which needs to be told, and there are many ways of telling it, by actions as well as words. We find it harder to do "the good message" bit, yet without it, Church attendance will continue to fall, Churches will continue to die, and, more important still, the state of the nation will continue to decay. So we are challenged to do something about it in the remaining part of this century, thus offering new hope to people as they move into the next century.

I hope that we at Deane will continue to put more of our thinking, planning, and action in that direction.

BITS & PIECES

Brenda Dixon writes on behalf of the Social Committee .. by popular demand, we have arranged a second visit to Borg Castel on Friday 27th March 1991. The coach leaves Deane Memorial Hall at 6.45pm. Wine Tasting, Talk, Colour Slides and Supper are included in the price of £9. The list is on the Notice Board in Church. Book now for a great night out. Will we get lost this time?

Marjorie and Tom Stokes celebrated their Golden Wedding on January 3rd and have sent in the following note of thanks ... We wish to thank all who sent such lovely cards and good wishes on the occasion of our Golden Wedding Anniversary. Words do not come easily to express adequately our feelings after half a century of wonderful family life, and the growth of so many friendships. May the Good Lord be with you always.

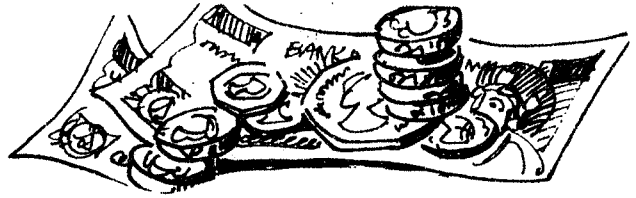
The Ladies Guild started a busy year with a review of 1991 from Joyce Owen. She gave us an entertaining and informative reminder of last year - many amusing incidents which we all enjoyed. Joyce was warmly thanked for her very diligent leadership - have a good break now Joyce and sit back. The new Committee will meet to plan "coming events" In February two meetings have been arranged (Margaret Gorse has once again found us some varied and interesting speakers - we are all fascinated as to where she finds them!). On February 4th Betty Bamford will talk to us about her Faith and on the 18th Mr Paine gives us a talk entitled "Vision Aid".

The Mothers Union have two meetings arranged for February. One on the 5th and the second on the 19th when the Speaker will be Mrs Forrest from Horwich Parish Church - always a very interesting Speaker.



It was announced as "the most important meeting of the month". The Prayer Diary suggested that we should "pray for a good attendance at tonight's meeting" - What was that meeting? - the monthly Prayer Focus. What was the result of those exhortations? The lowest number gathering yet - just 12 people willing to join together publicly to pray and to learn about groups, people and places needing our more informed prayer. Why is it that we think the notices and meetings are for someone else and not for ourselves? Perhaps our prayer should be "Lord change me, Lord speak to me" If your diary was already booked for January 8th and you hadn't sufficient notice of the date, then can you book February 19th and March 4th **NOW** and make a real effort to come to join the few? It will be an encouragement to the few to have you there, to swell the singing; to learn of prayer needs and to pray, either silently or aloud, We are told "Prayer changes things". It is **MY** prayer that I will see **YOU** there on February 19th.

If you would like to learn to pray with others and meet with someone else each week for prayer, we have "Prayer Triplets" for this purpose. Each trio decides on the time and place of meeting best suited to themselves. It may be morning, afternoon or evening and should last no longer than 45 minutes. Periodically we need to reform our "Triplets" and now is just such an occasion, so if you'd like to be included, please let Roger or Mary Jackson know.



CHRISTIAN GIVING

Thank you to all who have contributed to God's work through our Church by their regular giving.

	<u>Planned Giving Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Collections</u>	<u>Totals</u>
December 1	£ 654.38	£ 84.81	£ 739.19
8	635.70	93.08	728.78
15	567.91	86.75	654.66
22	532.20	177.94	710.14
25	-	300.92	300.92
29	646.45	183.89	830.34
Weekdays	-	113.96	113.96
	<u>£3036.64</u>	<u>£1041.35</u>	<u>£4077.99</u>

In the corresponding period of the previous year the total given was £3837. The more recent figures represent a 6.2% increase in the level of giving which is just above the current rate of inflation.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

A cheque for £573.37 has been sent to Tear Fund for their relief work amongst children in need through the world. This sum was made up as follows:

Donations from pensioners at the Crompton Charity meeting	£ 50.74
Church Carol Singing Party	26.00
Donations (loose and envelopes)	<u>508.63</u>
	585.37
Less promotional materials	<u>12.00</u>
	<u>£573.37</u>



The book trolley in the Church Library has recently been sorted and re-organised in the hope that this will enable people to find what they want more easily and make greater use of our library situated near to the main Church door. As a rough guide the shelves contain :

1. Bibles and Bible study books
2. Christian Teaching
3. Books for children and about children; baptism and marriage
4. Prayer
5. Biography and autobiography
6. Christian fiction

A book and pencil are available for you to record what you have borrowed and when you have returned it.