

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

APRIL 1999

SUNDAY DIARY

4. EASTER DAY

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

11. SECOND OF EASTER

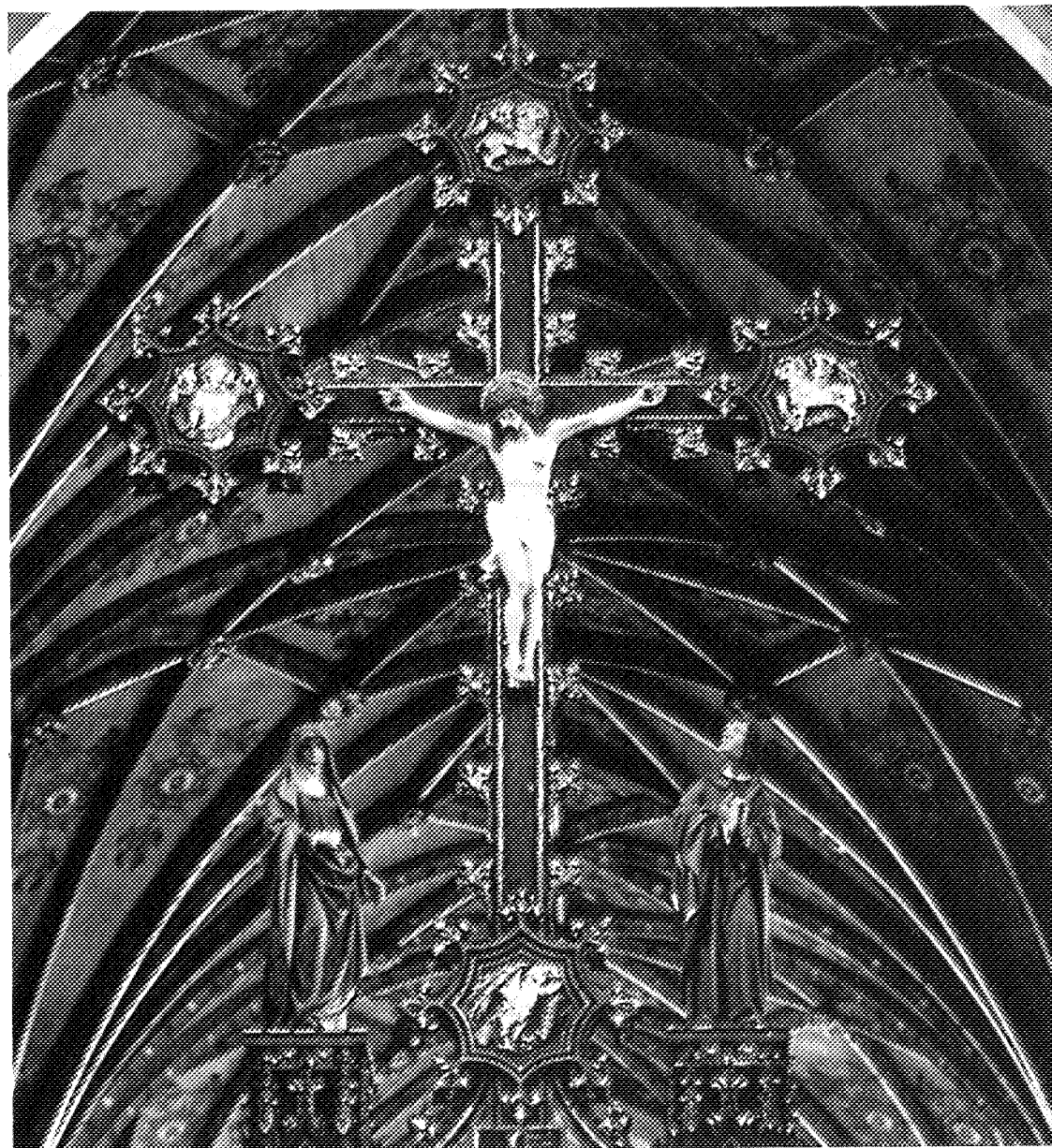
8.00am Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer
and Baptism
Youth Service in
Scout & Guide Hut
6.30pm Evening Communion

18. THIRD OF EASTER

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

25. FOURTH OF EASTER

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family/Parade Service
2.30pm George Marsh Memorial
Service
6.30pm Evening Communion



Holy Rood, Brant Broughton near Newark-on-Trent (Photo: Clifford Knowles)
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MIDWEEK DIARY

Communion: Wednesday at 10.00am in the Church Lounge
except April 21st

Prayer Focus: Wednesday April 7th at 8.00pm in the Rectory

Annual Church Meeting: Wednesday April 28th at 7.30pm

WHO'S WHO

Rector: Roger B Jackson
The Rectory
234 Wigan Road (61819)

Vicar: Paul Ellis
St Andrew's Vicarage
Crescent Avenue (651851)

Readers:

David Dewhurst
11 Braemar Gardens (651347)

Nola Worsfold
22 Melbourne Road (659099)

Wardens: Philip Gore
12 Ellesmere Rd (63798)
Bryan Shephard
57 Molyneux Rd (01942 817288)
Les Kilsby
1386 Junction Rd West (492351)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Lay Stan Wilson
Chairman: 11 Clough Meadow (492034)

Honorary Keith Acton
Treasurer: 3 Mallowdale Close (842723)

Honorary Les Kilsby
Secretary: 1386 Junction Road West (492351)

CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS

Buildings & Fabric: Mike Kirkby
Worship: Nola Worsfold
Social: Bryan Shephard

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist: Jim Needham
130 The Pewfist
Westhoughton (01942 812692)

Flowers: Mary Jackson
234 Wigan Road (61819)

Verger: Betty Calderbank
32 Junction Road (655375)

Archivist: Rodney Howard
42 Elswick Avenue (652417)

Covenant Sid Harris
Secretary: 11 Manningham Road (656355)

MEMORIAL HALL

Bookings: Julie Cooper
64 Melbourne Road (660946)

Caretaker: Ian Cooper
64 Melbourne Road (660946)

WHAT'S ON

Creche: under 3 years
Elizabeth Gardiner (660460)

Scramblers: 3 to 5 years

Climbers: 5 to 7 years
Denise Cox (653326)

Explorers: 7 to 11 years
Pat Boulton (655068)
All meet in the Memorial Hall on Sundays at 10.30 a.m.

Pathfinders: 11 to 14 years
Ian Gardiner (660460)
The Memorial Hall, Fridays 7.15 - 9.00 p.m.

C.Y.F.A.: 14 to 18 years

The Memorial Hall, Fridays 7.15 - 9.00 p.m.

BELL RINGERS

Practice Night Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.
David McCormick (654503)

CHURCH CHOIR

Rehearsals on Sundays at 11.45 a.m.
Jim Needham (01942 812692)

MUSIC GROUP

Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m.
Ray Howarth (652602)

LADIES GROUPS

Meet in the Memorial Hall

Ladies Alternate Tuesdays
at 7.45 p.m.
Maureen Edwards (419374)

Guild:

Mothers' Alternate Wednesdays
Union: at 2.00 p.m.

Parents & Thursdays at 1.30 p.m.
Toddlers: Julie Cooper (660946)

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut

Brownies: 1 Tuesdays at 6.30 p.m.
Clare Miles (63355)
2 Wednesdays at 6.30 p.m.
Janet Barnsley (665896)

Guides: Mondays at 7.15 p.m.
Carole Baxendale (419167)

Cubs: Thursdays at 6.45 p.m.
Wendy Gooding (653277)

Beavers: Mondays at 5.45 p.m.
Jane Wadsworth (657254)

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

27th March, 1999.

Easter Faith.

On Easter Day Christians celebrate the glorious Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. In common with other Christian Churches we shall be singing in notes of triumph "Jesus Christ is risen to-day. Alleluia". Many people, however, will be enjoying the Easter holiday weekend careless of the fact that this holiday is the greatest of all holy days. In many cases this is out of ignorance; they are totally unaware of the connection, or if they are aware it simply doesn't interest them. Then there are those who reject the belief in the Resurrection. Even those of us who do believe, because we live in a critical and uncertain age, have our moments of questioning. Why, we ask, is the truth of the Resurrection not made so plain that even the most sceptical and indifferent must acknowledge it?

I have heard it said that the Resurrection is the most certain fact in history. Though I believe this to be true I'm not so sure that it is the best way of presenting the Gospel of the Resurrection for it could be misunderstood as meaning that faith is not needed when it most certainly is. What is beyond dispute is that very soon after the crucifixion of Jesus His disciples were firmly convinced that He had overcome death, and that this belief was the cause of the origin and spread of Christianity in the first century Mediterranean world. Likewise we can say with equal certainty that this conviction which the disciples had arose from experiences such as those recorded by St. Paul in 1 Corinthians Ch.15 and in the 4 Gospels.

Here is where we step into the region of faith. Were these experiences fact or fiction? Did the disciples experience the risen Christ or were they suffering from hallucinations? This is where St. Paul has something to offer. How did he come to his faith in the resurrection? Probably he had never seen Jesus in the flesh, but he had a spiritual conversion on the road to Damascus which indicates that, in spite of himself, he had already felt the attraction of the person of Christ. He did not, however, base his belief only on this personal experience. In 1 Corinthians Ch.15 he gives a careful list of the appearances of the Risen Lord, of which the appearance to himself is the last. He looked at the evidence. But the final stage of Paul's understanding of the power of the Resurrection was the long period when he lived day by day in the faith of Christ crucified and risen. Towards the end of his life he could say more than "I know that the Resurrection really happened", he could say from his heart "I know whom I have believed".

Nowadays we often covet answers to our questions which are so clear and conclusive that we are left with no option but to accept them. Though we may be disappointed that we are denied such answers at least it has the advantage that we have to choose between taking a step of faith or refusing to do so. We are never required to exercise unreasonable faith or to stifle the questioning of our minds. Our faith, if it is a healthy faith, will never cease from seeking understanding. We shall probably discover that as we go forward in trust, we shall grow in our knowledge of God and in our certainty.

Easter Vestry.

This is the ancient title given to the annual meeting when all parishioners can have a say in the appointment of Churchwardens. Since it took place in the Church vestry one must assume that it was not a well attended meeting. For many years now it has been combined with the Annual Church Meeting when we receive reports from the outgoing council and appoint a new council. This is the Church's most important business meeting of the year and I want to encourage every member of the Church Electoral Roll to attend on Wednesday April 28th at 7.30 pm. The Memorial Hall is large enough to accommodate us all. I look forward to seeing you then.

Roger B. Jackson.



IN THE NEWS



Thanksgiving. On Sunday March 7th we gave thanks with the following parents for the birth of their children:

Ian and Jackie Bateson of 46 Winterfield Drive, for their son Adam Robert, Rennie and Joanne Craggs of 14 Troon Close, for their daughter Corris Ellen.

Baptism: On Sunday February 28th we welcomed into membership of Christ's Church the following children:

Abigail Haslam, 20 Wyndham Avenue, Middle Hulton.
Benjamin Wild, 67 Stonehaven, Knutshaw Bridge.

Attendance Award was gained by Lucy Hampson for 125 attendances on February 28th.

Admission to Communion. In connection with the policy of admitting young people to communion before confirmation as part of their preparation for confirming their faith and membership of Christ's Church in due course, the following were welcomed into communicant membership on March 21st.

Tim Atkinson, Raymond Glover, Stephanie Horridge, Andrew Oakes, Elizabeth Simpson, Melanie Smith and Matthew Vickers.

Sympathy. We extend our condolences to the families of two former members of our Church Family who have died recently.

Marjorie Bishop, the widow of our former vicar Canon Kenneth Bishop has died at their retirement home in Keswick. She was a great support to her husband in his ministry here, especially during his periods of illness.

Ethel Ryley, had a distinguished career in local government service where in addition to serving as Mayor of Bolton and Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Lancaster, she was Chairman of the Education Committee in the 60's and 70's.

March for Jesus

What is it?

- It is a national and an international event which calls Christians into the streets to praise Christ Jesus in joyful celebration.
- It is a prophetic act which symbolises the whole body of Christ moving forward to bring the Christian Gospel to all people.
- It can lay a foundation for effective evangelism by bringing boldness to God's people and by building relationships among Christians of different Churches and traditions.

What happens?

- Praise – an extravagant display of love for Jesus.
- Prayer – that God's Kingdom will come and His Will be done.
- Proclamation – affirming the lordship of Christ and the truths of the Gospel.
- Unity – grassroots believers of different ages, cultures, races and Church backgrounds together using prayer themes and linked across towns, regions and nations for greater impact.
- Visibility – the Church out on the streets to honour Jesus publicly in the local communities across the land.

What is Planned?

- Thursday May 6th at 7.30 pm the Bishop of Manchester will speak at a preparation meeting to be held at Bolton Pentecostal Church, Bury New Road.
- Saturday May 22nd assemble in Victoria Square at 12 noon for this year's march around the town centre followed by a short service. The whole event should last no more than 1 hour 30 minutes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SIERRA LEONE

Sierra Leone gained independence from the United Kingdom in April 1961 and became a republic ten years later. In April 1992, a coup d'état brought Captain Valentine Strasser to power, but he was deposed by his colleague Brigadier Julius Bio in January 1996. Elections then brought in a civil administration under President Ahmed Kabbah.

An unexpected coup in May 1997 against President Ahmed Kabbah and his government came after a period of relative calm. A peace accord had been signed between the government and Sankoh, leader of the rebel forces, and there had been a general feeling of optimism. Many people displaced by the civil war had returned to their own villages.

Since then, there has been ongoing fighting between ECOMOG, the West African peace-keeping force, and rebel soldiers. This had largely been concentrated in the north and east of the country, but on January 6th 1999 rebels launched another offensive on the capital Freetown.

ECOMOG forces are now officially in control in Freetown but rebel activity still continues in areas of the city, particularly at night. Fear of rebel attacks has meant that people are attempting to flee Freetown, and there appears to be little confidence in ECOMOG. Displaced people are sheltering in sites across the city and reports suggest that 65,000 have fled to Kenema in the east of the country. Estimates of the number of people killed are as high as 3,000.

The rebels are intent on creating an atmosphere of fear and instability. They have been carrying out amputations as 'warnings', chopping off hands, arms and feet indiscriminately. They have also deliberately destroyed large parts of Freetown, mainly by fire. Human rights abuses by ECOMOG have also been reported, including summary executions of civilians and suspected rebels.



Please pray

- for a lasting and just peace, rather than an escalation and prolongation of the conflict
- for Tearfund partners EFSL (Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone) and CHASL (Christian Health Association of Sierra Leone) as they respond to the urgent relief needs (food, shelter and healthcare) of the population in Freetown
- for good communications between Tearfund and its partners at this time of turmoil and volatility
- for partners EFSL and CHASL as they deal with personal loss yet operate where the needs are overwhelming
- for humanitarian agencies and governments as they try to bring immediate assistance to the Sierra Leonean population and influence key leaders in the country and region
- for an outpouring of God's love, grace, mercy and peace on this nation

**WORLD
WATCH**
PRAYER LINK

Registered Charity No 265464

This prayer poster has been produced as part of Tearfund's **World Watch Prayer Link** scheme. For further information please contact Tearfund's Enquiry Unit on 0845 355 8355. Email address-enquiry@tearfund.dicon.co.uk Our telephone prayer bulletin Tearline also provides up-to-date information 24 hours a day: call 0181 977 2079. Revised 22/2/99

Tearfund, 100 Church Road Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8QE Telephone 0181 977 9144



CHRISTIAN ACTION WITH THE WORLD'S POOR

MONEY MATTERS



Thank you to all who have contributed to God's work through our church.

	Planned Giving Envelopes	Loose Collections	Totals
Feb 7th	£567.91	£ 83.38	£651.29
14th	643.95	87.28	731.23
21st	518.40	73.65	592.05
28th	683.94	175.55	859.49
Standing Orders	175.50		175.50
Weekdays		193.55	193.55
	----- £2,589.70 =====	----- £613.41 =====	----- £3,203.11 =====

In the corresponding period last year the amount given was £3,291

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The treasurer wishes to acknowledge the receipt of two recent anonymous donations of £100 on February 21st and March 21st. He is also most grateful for the £90 which has been donated by the relatives and friends of the late Geoffrey Williamson in lieu of flowers.

Marjorie Stokes thanks those who have recently handed in their Children's Society collection boxes. Their total contents raised £122.51 which is an increase on last year's total. Marjorie has now handed over the job as parish representative to Edna Barlow who can be contacted on telephone number 01942 817434. Thank you Marjorie.

BITS & PIECES

One of our Brownie Guide Packs (the 66th Bolton) which meets on Wednesday evenings are celebrating their 50th Anniversary. They are having a party in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday April 14th from 6.30 – 8.30 pm. to which former members are welcome to attend. They are asked to make contact beforehand with either Janet Barnsley (tel. 665896) or Elizabeth Gardiner (tel. 660460)

The Ladies Guild meet this month on April 6th when Mrs. L. Keams MBE will describe what happens at an Investiture at Buckingham Palace. On April 20th the guest speaker is Councillor Ken McIvor who will speak about the Lancashire dialect.

"Just In" is a bi-monthly publication produced by Wesley Owen Books and Music who have the Christian bookshop in Deansgate. This is an excellent guide to what's available in the shop. It is issued free and can be found on the magazine table in Church. Please help yourself to a copy and don't hesitate to visit the shop where you may be surprised to see some very familiar faces!