

Deane St Mary's

June 2008

This Month

June at St Mary's

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Contentment

God's World

Global Warning

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Profile

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The 6.00 Service

Cover Picture

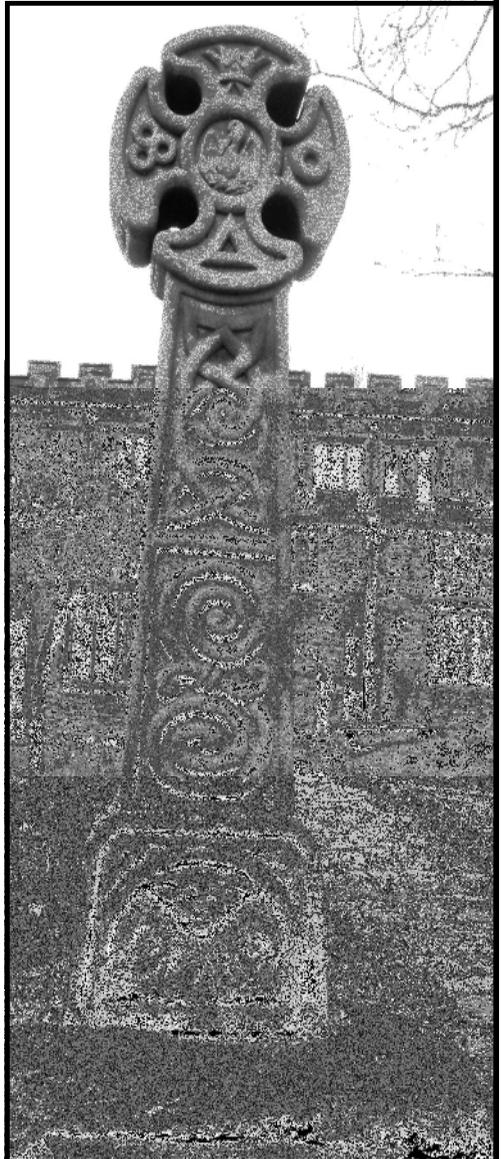
News from SAMS

Family History

Surnames

Books 4U

Triumph from Tragedy



St Mary's Info: June 2008

	9.00	10.30	6.00
Sunday 1	Holy Communion	Family Worship and Parade	Evening Service with Communion
	Noah - a man of God: Genesis 6: 9 - 22, 7:24 & 8: 14 - 19; Matthew 7: 21 - end		
Sunday 8	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service
	Abram - called by God: Genesis 12: 1 - 9; Matthew 9: 9 - 13 & 18 - 26		
Sunday 15	Holy Communion	Family Worship and Baptism	Evening Service
	Abram - a friend of God: Genesis 18: 1 - 15; Matthew 9: 35 - 10: 8		
Sunday 22 Sermons Day	Holy Communion	Family Worship/ Holy Communion	Evening Service
	Isaac & Ishmael: Genesis 21: 8 - 21; Matthew 10: 24 - 39		
Sunday 29	Holy Communion	Service of the Word	Evening Service
	Abraham - tested by God: Genesis 22: 1 - 14; Matthew 10: 40 - end		

Each month a photograph will appear in/on front of the magazine. You are invited to find out where and what it is in the church or churchyard before turning to a later page (wherever we have space) for the answer.

From the Rector

Finding Contentment in a Discontented World

The Now Culture

Are you one of those people who want things now? I think I am at times. For instance in the life of the church I would like us to have a new church hall *now*. I would like to see us moving ahead with the re-ordering of the church *now*. I suppose that wanting things now is rather symptomatic of the culture we will in today. This is the *now* culture. We don't like to save up to have things. Even in the political realm we want our politicians to sort out the nations problems *now*.

Where is our Christian contentment?

Maybe this fixation with wanting things now is one of the reasons why there is so little evidence of contentment in our own lives. And yet perhaps what the Lord is trying to teach us is to be content with the things we have now, to appreciate them and to value them.

Of course contentment doesn't come easy; it needs to be learned.

Paul wrote in his letter to the Philippian church,

**"I know what it is to be in need,
and I know what it is to have plenty.**

**I have learned the secret of being content
in any and every situation,
whether well fed or hungry,
whether living in plenty or in want."**

(Philippians 4:12)

So, how do we become more contented?

Firstly we can learn to be more contented if we don't compare ourselves with others. This nearly always leads to discontent. There will always be people who **appear** to be better off than ourselves. The truth of the matter, however, is that we never know another's



circumstances fully and whereas there might be things in their life we would wish for ourselves there may well be other things that we wouldn't want for all the tea in China.

But what is true for us as individuals is also true for us as a church, for as a church we are not to compare ourselves with others. We can all look at supposedly "successful" churches and wish our church was like that. But even "successful" churches have their own set of problems and heartaches.

Who we are and what we have

Secondly, we are to be grateful for who we are and what we have. We need to stop what I would call "when and then" thinking... "*When* I am....., *then* I'll be happy." You may well be for a while but give things time and something else will emerge to make you discontented again. We need to be contented with what we have now. Recently I thought about this when I was returning from an afternoon spent visiting folk. Nearly all the people I visited had said how much they had appreciated people from the church popping in to see them and offering practical help. It made me realise that there was more going on in the life of the church than met the eye. And although we can all see fault lines in the church maybe we should be more grateful for what is wholesome and good in the church.

Seeing what God has done

Thirdly, we would be more content if we looked more at the things that God has already given us. So often we allow what we don't have to dominate our focus to the point that we forget the many wonderful things we already have—not only material things but things of far greater importance—the love and support of family and friends.

God has given us so much as a church, and there is a danger that we take it for granted. Often in a communion service at 10.30 a.m. on a Sunday when people are coming up to the rail I think to myself, "How many ministers would love to have this many people in church." Do you feel the same? If not, think what it must be like to be in a church where the main Sunday service totalled fewer than 30 people.

Think about others

Fourthly, let's give ourselves to others. For if we begin to give ourselves to others, to share with others what we have, to share our time and our talents, I'm sure we will begin to learn what it is to be content. God designed us to serve and share with others and unless we do that we will always be discontent.

Finally, let's focus on those things which have eternal value.

Remember what Jesus said in Matthew 6:19,

**"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth,
where moth and rust destroy,
and where thieves break in and steal.**

**But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where moth and rust do not destroy,
and where thieves do not break in and steal."**

As Christian people we need to ask ourselves, "What will last forever and what will last but a short time? Based on eternal values what are to be the things that are most important to me? Where, and with whom, should I invest my time and energy?" These are questions we also need to be asking as a church.

May God guide us both as individuals and as a church as we think about such things. *(Taken from the rector's address at the AGM)*

THUNDEROUSLY, INARGUABLY, THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PROVES THAT BEFORE GOD WE ALL STAND ON LEVEL GROUND: MURDERERS AND TEMPER-THROWERS, ADULTERERS AND LUSTERS, THIEVES AND COVETERS. WE ARE ALL DESPERATE AND THAT IS IN FACT THE ONLY STATE APPROPRIATE TO A HUMAN BEING WHO WANTS TO KNOW GOD. HAVING FALLEN FROM THE ABSOLUTE IDEAL WE HAVE NOWHERE TO FALL BUT INTO THE SAFETY NET OF ABSOLUTE GRACE.

Source unknown

God and Global Warning

Operation Noah is a new movement which examines green issues and their relation to religious commitment. With the Bolton Inter-faith Council and the Local Strategic Partnership, it organised a public meeting in April at the Church of St Andrew and St George. Speakers presented the evidence for global warming and considered its present and future effects.



There were striking photographs, graphs and diagrams and an emphasis on God's intentions for us and the world we inhabit. During the first session a lively, inventive drama group from Canon Slade School gave additional expression to the theme. The blend of the formal and the informal prepared the audience for the second session in which varied questions were put to a panel, including Dr Iddon, M.P. for Bolton South-East. In contrast to Martin Miller of the Manchester Diocese Dr Iddon expressed scepticism about global warming. He and other members of the panel considered comments about energy, carbon, plastic, transport, man's responsibility and impact on creation.

The meeting, which lasted all afternoon, could easily have continued and no doubt Operation Noah will reach out to us again. In addition to the speakers mentioned, we were addressed by Dr Kirsty Thorpe of the United Reformed Church and Iftikhar Awais of the Altrincham Muslim community. We were grateful to them all. The suggestions for green action and thinking, compiled by Les Kilsby over several weeks for our service sheet, provided a good introduction to the ideas which were presented and discussed.

Charles Winder

The Parochial Church Council

Have you heard notices about meetings of the Parochial Church Council and wondered what it's all about? Do you know who is on the PCC and why? Are you not really that bothered?!

This will hopefully give you a quick flavour of what the PCC is, who has been elected to serve on the PCC this year, and maybe even encourage you to think about standing next year.

First - the legal bit

The Parochial Church Council is the executive body for a Church of England Parish - that means it makes decisions. The PCC effectively deals with the management of the church.

The PCC is responsible for finances and care and maintenance of the church building and its contents. It is also responsible for promoting the mission of the Church, which includes pastoral care, evangelism and social activities and working with other Churches.

It includes the clergy, churchwardens and other members of the church elected at an annual parochial church meeting. Because Deane Parish includes both St Mary's and At Andrew's the full PCC includes representatives from both churches. We meet together as a full PCC four times a year. We also meet separately in between those joint meetings.

Who is on the Deane half of the PCC this year?

Ian Mainey	Dan Howard	Jane Hampson	Les Kilsby
Craig Mochrie	Nola Kilsby	Pat Sewell	Charles Winder
Mike Kirkby	Edna Barlow	Philip Gore	Karen Greenhalgh
Paula Small	June Gill	Michelle Moxon	Bryan Shepherd
Ken Tidmarsh	Eric Morgan	Beccy Rutter	

A secretary, treasurer and lay chair are elected from within the PCC. This year the Treasurer is Les Kilsby, the Secretary is Bryan Shepherd and the Lay Chair is Jane Hampson.

Beccy Rutter
More on the PCC next month.

News Round Up



In Deane

Hope 2008 is an initiative helping to demonstrate Christian faith in action and to explain the meaning of that faith throughout the UK. 'Hope' is

intended to provide churches of all shapes and sizes throughout the UK with a fresh opportunity to work together across their communities over a twelve month period. On Bank

Holiday Monday we held our first 'Hope' event of the year. We had four teams doing different activities:

Deane Central - a team outside the Co-op on Wigan Road giving away free balloons and sweets and telling people what else was going on during the day.

Park Team - a team of people at Willows Park leading sports and games activities, doing face painting, hair braiding, bracelet making.

Café Team - free café in the Memorial Hall—plenty of homemade cakes and biscuits— with a display about the Church so that people could see some of the things that go on within the life of the Church.

Action Team - a team of people armed with litter pickers and bin bags. Starting at the Co-op, they made their way to Willows Park via the Stags Head and Queen Anne car parks, Hulton Lane, Kirkebrock and Deane Church Lane.

The day started at 9:30—breakfast and a team meeting, worship and prayer. Teams headed out from the Hall at 10:00 to get everything set up and ready to start at 11:00. Events ran till about 3:00 (except the face painting queue was so long that we had to keep going!)

Teams headed back to the Hall for refreshments. It also gave us an opportunity to share some of the positive stories from the day.

There were 36 volunteers including 17 from Element and Voltage. A huge thank you to all those who volunteered. We met lots of new people, had some good chats, and got the opportunity to invite people to our church services and youth groups. The thing that the team

Parish Away Day

There were about forty of us in St Andrew's Parish Hall for welcome, prayer and opening hymns. The Rector spoke from Acts chapter 2 about faith, learning, activity and caring. St Peter drew on the same sources that we have inherited, particularly the accounts that became the New Testament. Through our own continuing study we can begin to know the Bible. Through shared activity we can discover true fellowship and through our care for each other the church will grow.

A film about the Christus-Kathedrale in Karlsruhe illustrated the theme. This church is a centre for mission and the church of David Heinke's grandfather, has many visitors and is engaged in activity abroad. The openness and ease of members of the church, interviewed for the film, were matched by the joy of children in Calcutta, who received its gifts. In Palestine Jewish and Arab children played together. The Holy Spirit was amongst them.

Nola Kilsby's presentation about our own church followed naturally. Change will meet the needs of our own congregation and the community beyond. Plans for alteration to the building represent the continuing insights of Nola's committee and their responses to questions and comments from the congregation. Mike Kirkby presented plans for the new hall, accompanied by attractive images of its likely final appearance. The hall will be our first project and the church has undertaken a search for the people who will lead it.

In speaking from Ephesians 4 the Rector drew together our ambitions for the church and our commitment as Christians. St Paul speaks of our need to preserve unity within the church so that we can use our varied gifts in developing its work.

It was a day in which our practical purposes and the life of the Spirit were seen as one. The children, under the leadership of Karen Greenhalgh, had been thinking deeply as well. We were grateful to them and to Eric Morgan who demonstrated the new and growing website for Deane Church. Our worship during the day was enriched by Beccy Rutter's music and "Tell out my soul", our final hymn, expressed the mood we had created between us. Finally, we said the Grace.

This Month's Profile

Elizabeth Plant our new Ordained Local Minister



June 2008 will be a very special month for Elizabeth Plant. Not only is she celebrating a big birthday, it is the month when she will be ordained Deacon in Manchester Cathedral. In June too it will be exactly forty years since Elizabeth's family came to live in the then new development of Ladybridge and started worshipping at St Mary's.

Elizabeth was born in the Isle of Man. She first moved to Bolton in late 1952 when her father, Fred, came to work at Marks and Spencer on Deansgate. Elizabeth went to High Lawn CP School and Bolton School. From there she went on to the University of London where she gained a BA Hons degree in Latin and Greek. She got her postgraduate certificate in education from the University of Manchester.

Elizabeth was at university when the family moved to Ladybridge. Before that they lived in Sharples and attended St Paul's, Astley Bridge. Elizabeth went to St Paul's Sunday School and was a Brownie, Guide and eventually a Sunday School teacher there. It was when she was only about ten that she had her first thoughts of ordination. She remembers an elderly curate who had been called to ordination on his retirement and her thinking that perhaps, by the time she retired, women would be able to be ordained and perhaps that was what God would want her to do. Elizabeth never forgot that thought. Over the years, she followed the movement to ordain women knowing it had special significance for her.

Elizabeth started her teaching career at Manchester High School, moving to Bolton School in 1979 where she was promoted to the post of Deputy Headmistress. From 1990 to 1999 she was Head of Parsons Mead School, Ashted. In recent years she taught part-time at Westholme, Blackburn.

Elizabeth is very close to her sisters, Lynda and Catherine, who were both married at St Mary's. She has nine nephews and nieces and a one-year-old great nephew and a two-month-old great niece. Elizabeth enjoys reading and travel. With her mother, Olive, who died in 2006, she visited some very exotic places, Brazil (where Olive was born), Israel, Libya, Peru, China, Japan, South Africa and Australia.

Over the last 40 years Elizabeth has been involved in many activities in Deane. She was a Pathfinder leader in the late 1970s and early 1980s. She has often been a PCC member. She edited the church magazine from 2001 to 2006. She started to preach once a month in 2001. Before she was selected for training for ordination she had many interviews (too many to count) and a three day selection conference. She was thrilled when the Bishop of Manchester phoned to say that she could start training.

Elizabeth has enjoyed everything about the three year OLM course, though it has been demanding. It has involved at least twelve hours of private study a week, a teaching session in Manchester every Wednesday evening, and, each year, four study weekends and three study Saturdays.

Before ordination on June 29th all the ordinands go on retreat from the Thursday to the Sunday morning. This year there are 22 men and women being ordained Deacon, including Bishop Nigel's wife Celia. This is one of the largest number of people ever ordained together in Manchester Cathedral.

Elizabeth is very much looking forward to the service and beyond to when she is serving God in her new capacity in Deane.

Finally the thought, which the ten-year-old Elizabeth had, will become a reality.

New Look Services at Deane

Sunday evening worship

Since January we have been running a different type of service on a Sunday evening to complement our current 9:00am and 10:30am services.

The service varies from week to week but always includes the central aspects of our time together as a Church family - meeting to praise God, to confess our sins, to confirm together what we believe and to listen to God's word and learn from it. We do this in a relaxed way, which we hope people who are new to the Church will find welcoming, accessible and enjoyable.

On the first Sunday of the month we have a Communion service. We have a band which includes members from Voltage and Element, our two youth groups, who lead worship twice a month.

Since January we have done a short series on Colossians (New Year, New Clothes, New Life), a series looking at what it means to be Church, and in the run up to Easter a focus on the cross, which finished with a party on Easter Sunday with balloons and chocolate cake! We are currently part way through a series looking at the book of Judges (one of those strange but fascinating books in the Old Testament!).

After every service we have refreshments, so there is plenty of opportunity to chat and get to know new people.

If you've been thinking about inviting somebody to Church, maybe the evening service is the perfect opportunity! The service starts at 6:00pm. If you want to know more speak to Dan Howard (01204 855112), Karen Greenhalgh or Beccy Rutter (01204 654737).

Beccy Rutter

Magazine deadline June 9th for the July edition.

Thank you!

Cover Picture

THE GEORGE MARSH MEMORIAL

Foxe's "Book of Martyrs" was published in its first English edition in 1563. Like the new English translations of the Bible it was very widely read and has been in print ever since. The first two chapters describe martyrdom amongst the earliest Christians. Foxe then illustrates in disturbing detail the persecution of heresy in mediaeval Europe, through to his own century, the sixteenth.

The Reverend George Marsh of Deane is portrayed in the tenth chapter. Committed to the gospel and to Protestantism, he preached in Cambridgeshire and "in the parish of Deane, as elsewhere in Lancashire", after the Roman Catholic Church was officially reinstated under Mary Tudor. Examined by the Bishop of Chester, he refused to recant to save his life, saying "I would as fain live as you, if in so doing I should not deny my master, Christ." Foxe's record leaves us in no doubt about the admiration and respect in which Marsh was held even by his opponents. When he was in prison "some of the citizens who loved him for the gospel's sake...did sometimes in the evening call and ask him how he did." Before his execution he was offered a pardon once more. "He answered forasmuch as it tended to pluck him from God, he would not receive it upon the condition."

The carving on the Communion table shows how dreadfully he died in flames and burning pitch. "The fire being unskilfully made, and the wind driving it to and fro, he suffered great extremity in his death, which notwithstanding he bore very patiently. "Within very few years George Marsh was recognised as a martyr in Foxe's book, properly called "The Acts and Monuments of the Church". History tells us that another volume could have been written about those who suffered martyrdom for their belief in the Roman Catholic Church in the earlier and later parts of that century.

Charles Winder

NEWS FROM SAMS

SAMS is one of the societies supported directly by St Mary's. Each year the church makes a donation from its income to the society on our behalf. Elizabeth Plant is our representative and she can arrange for you to have a quarterly magazine.

Past links with Deane

The work of SAMS (South American Mission Society) continues to flourish. Many at Deane will remember Bob Lunt who has spoken at St Mary's on a number of occasions since the 1970s. Until 1999 Bob spent much of his life in Argentina translating the Bible into Wichi, the language of the indigenous Chaco people who live in the north of the country. Bob is now back in the UK and working on study material for Mission Education. He has been joined in his work by his daughter, Elizabeth.

Modern Mission

However there are many other aspects to Mission these days as well as straightforward spreading the gospel. A lot of work is focussed on helping the poor and voiceless in society to help themselves in the struggle for justice, security and a livelihood.

SAMS is especially proud of its current work with the Chaco people in their struggle against deforestation. The Chaco people, many living at subsistence level, use the dry tropical forest to supply themselves with plants and animals for food and wood to build homes. But forests are being cut down at the alarming rate of a hundred acres a week. Two bulldozers with huge chains in between can pull down many acres in one day. Health suffers as diet gets less varied. The poor can become reliant on the government which is allowing this to happen because they need more and more handouts. The government is content with the situation as the few landowners who acquire the newly cleared land pay export tax when their crop of soy, now in increasing demand in China and Europe, leaves the country. The landowners get rich on their profits. Everyone, except the poor, is happy.

Empowerment

SAMS in association with ASOCIANA, the social action arm of the

South American Anglican Church, have been taking a lead in empowering the Chaco people in their struggle to protect their lands.

This has involved research and evidence gathering which the Chaco people can use in their struggle. It involves the provision of legal and technical advice. It involves keeping themselves and the Chaco people ahead of often less than transparent government officials. This struggle against deforestation is ongoing. There is forest still standing which would have been cut down already if it had not been for this work, but the Chaco forest is not yet protected. The work must go on.



One struggle which seems to be reaching a happy and secure conclusion is that of the granting of land rights to another group of indigenous northern Argentineans. It was 44 years ago that a SAMS missionary and the indigenous people of the province of Salta first raised the issue of land rights with the provincial government, but it was only in October 2007 that an Act was signed by the indigenous communities and the government of Salta. The agreement paves the way for the handing over of 1550 square miles of land to the indigenous people.

However the handing over has not yet taken place and ASOCIANA and SAMS are there to support the people to ensure that the written agreement is converted into action. But if the agreement is carried out, it should mean security and a means of subsistence to the indigenous communities of Salta.

You can find out more about SAMS at www.sams.gb.org. You can help SAMS every time you use a search engine on your computer by logging on to www.everyclick.com. If you specify SAMS as your chosen charity, SAMS will receive 1p for every click.

Stop Press!

We have just been sent the names of David and Jean Hucker who will be our next SAMS mission partners. They are based in Arica in northern Chile, close to the border with Peru. Arica is one of the driest places on earth. It never rains!

GETTING STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY: SURNAMES

The more unusual your surname, the easier it is to trace your family history. My father's family, the OSBISTONS are clearly unusual, but I have found just as much success with my mother's STONES and CROFTS, because they helpfully stayed in the same small area of Derbyshire for over 500 years. Some useful web-sites will give you the distribution of your surname in the 1881 census, thus giving you an idea of where the majority of your ancestors were located. Surnames themselves are a relatively recent phenomena, arriving around a thousand years ago; before that in a small population, first names were sufficient to identify someone.

Categories of surnames

The origins of surnames fall into four broad categories, although some surnames may be found in more than one (my own surname WINDER, for example may be a location or occupation surname). The first and largest category comes from those linked to FIRSTNAMES, and they usually give you an idea of your ancestor's likely first name. In the UK the tradition is to take the father's surname, so most first name surnames are based around a male first name. Thus we have WILLIAM/S and also WILLIAMSON, and in Scotland MAC as in MACDONALD, in Ireland O as in O'DONNELL. However I have also come across MARGERISON and WIDDOWSON so not all are male in origin.

A further group of surnames centre around LOCATIONS. Sometimes it is the actual place where your ancestors may have lived, and we have a number of MANCHESTERS and BOLTONS. Sometimes it may describe the location such as the number of northern surnames linked to a BOTTOM or valley and the common surnames WOOD or FIELD. Some are not quite as they seem because of the change of word use, so SHAW comes from the Anglo Saxon for small wood, not a seashore.

Yet another large group may describe what your ancestors did for a living. The changing industrial landscape of Britain gave us many SMITHs for example, and numbers of BUTCHERs and BAKERs. However some surnames are more obscurely linked to occupations. Thus the KELLOGG that we associated with breakfast cereals had an ancestor that killed pigs, and the number of FLETCHERs suggests the importance of Archery to our ancestors, and the FROBISHERs once polished armour. CHAUCER , the famous poet's ancestors, originally made tights.

A final smaller but very fascinating group of surnames surround NICKNAMES or descriptions of ancestors. Sometimes they are simple, thus BLACK or BROWN probably describe hair colour, but others may describe their appearance (CAMPBELL for example comes from the Old Irish for `crooked mouth`, CAMERON for `crooked nose`, and the original GIFFORD had a `fat face`). A final group suggest their characteristics, thus LIVESEY is from the old Norse who `loved victory`, PRATTs were surprisingly `shrewd`, TODDs `lonely` (from the name for foxes), and Mrs GOTOBED was presumably lazy!

Beware of spellings!

A warning about spellings of surnames. Many family names began to appear in records long before the majority of our ancestors could read and write. Even into the nineteenth century, our public records show how few of our ancestors could even sign their names, and many gave the simple mark or cross on documents. The spelling of surnames on documents depended on the skill of the census taker or parson, and would rarely be checked, and in less common surnames vowels were particularly likely to be changed, and an S or E on the end of a name could appear or disappear. Thus my Derbyshire OS-BISTONs appeared as OSBESTONs, OSBASTONs, OSBISTONEs and even HOSBISTON, AUBESTON. WINDERs can have an S or not, as can CROFT. The same person was sometimes spelt differently on different documents. Be flexible about spellings or you will miss vital records.

BOOKS4U

This month we recommend two very moving and challenging books. Perhaps these books are primarily for women, but don't worry, gentlemen, there will be books4u later!

STARTLING BEAUTY by Heather Gemmen

'My Journey from Rape to Restoration'

Published by Life Journey

'Raped in her own home, in fear for her children's safety, and battling with a decision about the 'morning-after pill', Heather Gemmen could have seen her life as one extended nightmare. But she didn't.

Written with a rare blend of grit and subtlety, Heather's gripping true-life story brings hope for anyone going through dark times.'

These are words from the back cover and the book does not disappoint. It is very real, startlingly honest and truly uplifting. God's grace was at work in the darkest of times for Heather and her husband. It is one of many illustrations of the truth that there is no pit which is too deep for God to be with us in it. His everlasting arms are still underneath.

HARVEST FROM HEARTACHE by Gail Chamberlain

'A little boy dies and a dream is born'

Published by Kingsway

'Gail's story shows the role that even the deepest pain can play in our lives. A pain made no less severe by faith, but bearable. After nearly five years enjoying her two sons' early childhood, the clock started ticking. A journey began that would take mother and son through heartache, through serious illness and gruelling treatment... and through death.'

Gail's son was diagnosed with leukaemia in 1983 and he died in 1987 and the book tells of the hopes and fears of those years, but the abiding theme is hope that grace and love can shine through tragedy with the presence of God, our loving heavenly Father.

Try These!

- 1 What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?
- 2 What is the longest chapter in the Bible?
- 3 Which chapter is in the centre of the Bible?
- 4 What is the centre verse in the Bible?

Answers at foot of page

snippets

Ladies' Guild June

- 10 Day Trip 17 Slides of Tigers Brian White
24 Buckingham Palace Mrs Dyson

Sermons
Sunday
June 22nd

Crosslinks Burma Cyclone Appeal

It seems right to point out that Crosslinks, one of the missions we support as a church (see article in July issue) is at work in Burma (Myanmar) and responding to the cyclone disaster there.

Crosslinks has a long history of involvement in Myanmar. More than 50 mission partners were there prior to the Japanese invasion of 1942. 25 went after the Second World War but had to leave in 1966. However, Crosslinks has continued to serve the church there in many different ways.

They would like to offer the opportunity for churches and individuals to contribute to the relief and rebuilding that follow on from the cyclone. They have contact with Anglican Christians in Myanmar and they are carrying out an assessment of what and where help is needed. Secure arrangements have been made for financial help to get to the Anglican Church.

The address of Crosslinks is
251 Lewisham Way, London, SE4 1XF or donations can be made via the website <http://www.crosslinks.org> Follow the link to the Burma appeal and there are instructions there.

Now it's your turn!

Here are some pointers for those of you who might consider contributing to the magazine.

What's going on in your group or organisation within the church? Short or long, email, written notes or over the phone, please keep us up to date. Photos would be wonderful!

Book Reviews/Recommendations Is there a book you've read which has made you think? You may want to make some comments about your reactions and what you liked/didn't like/learned. It may be a Christian book or not—a novel, biography, prayers, about God or his Church. Use quotes from the cover or the recommendations within the book itself if you like, but it's always to hear original comments.

Prose, Prayer and Poems Here are the copyright rules: You may quote freely if the author has been dead for more than 70 years or, if it was published posthumously, it is more than 70 years since publication. Such material is said to be in the **public domain**. You may quote in a **review** up to 40 lines of poetry providing this is not more than 25% of the length of the poem, or up to 800 words of prose. Give full details of author, publisher etc if you do this.

Your involvement in the community—charity shop, school governor, magistrate, luncheon club... We can come along and listen to you if you'd rather that than write it all down. We can give details of charity events too, such as that on the previous page.

Mini Directory

Team Rector	Ian Mainey	01204 61819
Team Vicar	John Armstrong	01204 651851
Curate	Dan Howard	01204 855112
Retired Clergy	Joyce Mitson	01204 655081
Wardens	Les Kilsby	01204 655700
	Craig Mochrie	01204 652324
	Beccy Rutter	01204 654737