

# Deane St Mary's

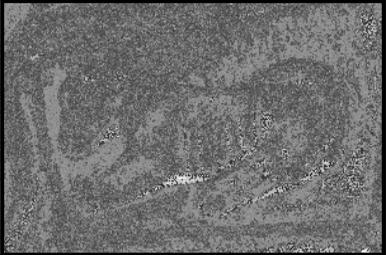
## September 2008

We all feel **discouraged** at times—The Rector has written helpfully about these times this month.

We've reports about **what's been happening over the summer**, at home and away and pointers to what we might get up to in the winter—suggestions about **taking a greater part in the life of the church**.

**Our Harvest focus** is on a project in Burkina Faso supported by Tear Fund. A deeply moving book, **The Kite Runner**, is reviewed and recommended. The subject of our people focus this month is **Nola Kilsby**, one of our lay readers and she shares her hopes and dreams for the church.

You may never have heard of (St) **Jerome** despite his importance in the early church. If not, a gap in your knowledge is filled as his day in the church calendar is 30th September. Another **historical note** is struck, nearer home, with information about **St Mary's 500 years ago and more**. Barbara Winder continues her series on researching our family history.



**Where can you find a dog in church?**

On the back cover is the full **St Mary's Directory**. Please cut it out and keep it for reference as we don't have room for it every month.

**Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**  
(Galatians 6:9).

# St Mary's Info: September 2008

	9.00	10.30	6.00
Sunday 7	Holy Communion	Family Parade Service	Holy Communion
	<b>Matthew 18:15-20</b> Romans 13:8-end		
Sunday 14	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service
	<b>Matthew 18:21-35</b> Romans 14:1-12		
Sunday 21	Holy Communion	Service of the Word & Baptism	Evening Service
	<b>Matthew 20:1-16</b> Philippians 1:20-end		
Sunday 28	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service
	<b>Matthew 21:23-32</b> Philippians 2:1-13		

## MAKING A CONTRIBUTION

We would love to have contributions from members of the congregation for the magazine. You can see the kind of things we include and although we have regular contributors we would love to hear from more of you. If you are a leader of any group or organisation within the church and want to make an appeal for help, please don't hesitate to contact us. We don't guarantee a result but at least we'll try. Email [anne-roberts@talktalk.net](mailto:anne-roberts@talktalk.net) or speak to Margaret Howard, Elizabeth Plant, Barbara Winder or Charles Winder. Thank you in anticipation!

# From the Rector

## Resisting Discouragement

For you who are reading this the summer holidays will be just about over but as I am writing this article in the middle of August I'm still in holiday mood. One of the things I like about this time of the year is that things go a bit quiet on the church front with organisations closing down and people going off on holiday so it gives me the opportunity to get in some



reading. Yes, some good general reading—I'm in the middle of a rather gruesome crime novel at the moment—but also some Christian reading. One of the books I am enjoying, (or should it be learning from?) is a book about church leadership. The opening chapter of the book lists a number of the problems ministers face—a lack of boundaries, poor pay, loneliness, the pressure to be perfect, working with volunteers.

But the problem that really caught my eye was discouragement. As the writer says in the opening paragraph "Discouragement is a killer!" How right he is! I agree with him that one of the greatest problems that ministers face is discouragement. But do you know what? I don't think it is just ministers who face this problem; I think we can all fall prey to the enemy of discouragement from time to time.

St Paul had every reason to be discouraged at times. There were many situations where I am sure he was tempted to give in and head off back to Tarsus for a quieter life. There were those in the churches in the province of Galatia who, it would seem, were also in danger of becoming discouraged, so Paul wrote to them these words, **"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."** (Galatians 6:9). That's good advice for us for when we are discouraged we become ineffective because there is the temptation to give up.

Let's face it, becoming discouraged is a great temptation for all of us. Just ask yourself, how you handle failure. When things don't

go your way do you get grumpy? When things don't go your way do you get frustrated? How do you rate in the perseverance scale?

When we feel discouraged we need to remind ourselves that nothing worthwhile ever happens without endurance and energy. A sculptor is a good example in this regard. When a sculptor begins to create a work of art he has to keep on chipping away at the stone to get the required result. He doesn't hit the chisel with the hammer once and all of a sudden all the excess stone falls away to reveal the beautiful masterpiece he had in mind; he keeps chipping away at the stone to achieve his aim. And that's true in life also. Nothing really worthwhile ever comes easy in the Christian life. We need to keep hitting it and going after it and little by little, in God's strength and by his grace, our lives and situations become transformed.

I know that all this is easier said than done. I'm only too aware that in my life discouragement often comes knocking on my door. And I know that there are going to be occasions when many of you will be discouraged for all kinds of different reasons. Some of you may be discouraged over your children; some about the state of your marriage; some about the state of your finances, or your health, or about unanswered prayer.

I want to say something really hard, but it's something I need to hear myself. If we are discouraged, then it is our choice. We have made a choice to be discouraged. We have made the choice to let discouraging feelings get a grip on our lives. But do you know what? We can also make a choice to change the way we feel and to let our thoughts be taken captive by God. We have the choice to focus on God's purpose for our life or our problems, on God's power or on our weakness or our circumstance.

Now what I'm not suggesting here is that we just go and bury our heads in the sand; we need to be realistic. But we also need to be optimistic. Remember what Paul wrote when faced with all kinds of problems? "I can do all things through him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13). Faith starts with optimism.

If you are discouraged about anything at this present time then ask God to transform your discouragement into patience and to give you the strength to finish the race that God has set before you.



# Holiday Club 2008

## STARSHIP

## DISCOVERY

The Starship Discovery holiday club blasted off in the memorial on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Forty two children aged 4 - 11 years old came along to the club at some point during the week, with twenty four children coming to all five days.

We spent 2 hours a day singing and dancing, making cool spacey stuff like jet-packs and rockets, playing games, praying, and learning about Jesus: how he calls each one of us to choose to follow him, that we can trust him, that he died so that we can be forgiven for our sin, that he sends the Holy Spirit to help us, and that he is always with us. Both the children and the leaders had loads of fun.

The week ended with a family service on the Sunday where the children shared some of the songs they had been learning over the week, and were awarded with their certificates to congratulate them on attending the week, and to invite them to join us at church, Sunday school and our youth groups.

**A big thank you** goes to all who helped out: leading groups, doing the drama, playing music, giving talks, leading our warm up, helping with the technical sound and visual stuff, behind the scenes keeping us supplied in juice and cake, registering children and providing craft supplies—your kitchen rolls are now memory verse rockets!

Karen Greenhalgh



And a **BIG thank you** from everyone to Karen herself for being at the helm!

PS First picture? Don't ask!

# Soul Survivor

Seven members of The Element, James, Liam, Tom, Ben, Nicola, Ruth and Margaret, went to Soul Survivor this year (along with Karen and Sean). This was the third year in a row that The Element had been to this festival, but our first year at the



"northern" version (meaning we only had to drive as far as Stafford Showground, rather than Somerset). Most of the young people who came had never been to Soul Survivor before and weren't quite sure what to expect. But they certainly made the most of it, attending... **the morning and evening meetings**—with lively music, passionate teaching relevant to the lives of the 3000 young people there, and plenty of opportunities to pray for each other, and just spend time talking with God;

**up to three seminars a day** including seminars from the ever-popular "Soul Sista" and "Soul Man" streams, seminars on leading worship, preparing for university, "The Old Testament in an hour", prayer, prophecy, life as a new Christian...;

**In the evenings** they still found the energy to go to Mr Boogies (the Soul Survivor disco) gigs by Christian bands, the Dreggs Café (the land of complete daftness.... not a safe place for youth leaders!), and the Soul Action Café (the land of fantastic cake and fair-trade coke!), and then chat their way into the early hours of the morning!

Not to mention the games of cricket, Frisbee (in the dark!) and nerf-ball they managed to slot in!

We were a little confused at Soul Survivor this year; as we'd gone straight from Starship Discovery, we could be seen putting on our imaginary jet packs and "jet-packing" from one venue to the next, singing the holiday club theme song, But we all had a great time, and all came back knowing our God a lot better. (If you want to know more about Soul Survivor, go to [www.soulsurvivor.com/uk](http://www.soulsurvivor.com/uk))Karen Greenhalgh

# BOOKS4U

## `THE KITE RUNNER` KHALED HOSSEINI

Now an A level set text, the most appropriate reading age group in my view would be at least 17 plus, since it deals with a number of sensitive adult issues. It is not the comfortable story of boyhood friendship that some reviews of the film of the book would suggest.

The story deals with three periods in the narrator, Amir's life. The first section concerns his boyhood in Kabul in Afghanistan. Amir's father is a powerful and rich businessman and his mother died at his birth. He grows up in a privileged background, but his best friend is Hassan, the only son of his father's favourite servant, whose mother has disappeared. Hassan is of a so-called inferior race, the Hazara, Shi'a Muslims, and is bullied because of this and his cleft palate. Hassan and Amir become friends, but Amir is jealous of his father's good treatment of Hassan. The section comes to a climax in the Kite Flying Contest when Amir is twelve, which ends in his betrayal of Hassan's loyalty.

After this point the Russians invade the country and Amir and his father flee to America. The second section involves their life near San Francisco. In this period Amir grows up and marries, and his father dies. Amir has made a good life in the USA and has become an academic, but he has never forgiven himself for his treatment of Hassan, and he and his wife are childless. When he hears from his father's friend that Hassan's son is orphaned and trapped in Kabul at the time of the Taliban, he decides to go there despite the dangers, to try to find and rescue him, in order to redeem himself.

The book is beautifully and movingly written, with a good deal of authentic Afghan background. I felt that afterwards I knew far more about the distant place where our soldiers fight, and its people. The author was born in Kabul and fled to America in 1980, so it has autobiographical authenticity. It is never sentimental and deals with real moral issues and the lives of ordinary people, set against the background of significant world events.

Barbara Winder

# Step Up To The Plate

## Harvest 2008

Over the last few months we have heard a lot about the credit crunch and the raising cost of basic items in the shops. For many, a lot more thought has had to be given to what we buy, but at least for us we do not return home and have no food in the cupboards and whilst the food in the supermarkets may be more expensive, we can still afford to buy food. This Harvest we will be learning about the work of Tearfund's partner CREDO (Christian Relief and Development Organisation) in Burkina Faso, a country in West Africa, the poorest region in the world.

Burkina Faso is in the "Sahel" area of the Sahara Desert. In the last 40 years this area has experienced a 25% drop in rainfall and an increasing number of very harsh droughts. With 90% of the population reliant on agriculture for an income this is leaving many very vulnerable. In the last two years the price of some food items has more than doubled, which pushes them well beyond the reach of most of the population.

CREDO works mainly with villages in the northern province of the country to secure food for themselves. They teach alternative farming and irrigation methods to improve yields and to reap a second harvest of vegetables which not only provides food when the traditional cereal crop fails due to drought, but also supplements their diet and helps combat malnutrition. They are able to sell some of these vegetables at the market and the money raised helps to pay for education for their children and medicines when they are ill.

As well as on-going agricultural support, CREDO also runs food-for-work initiatives (where farmers receive grain for digging irrigation channels), cereal banks (where local people can purchase below market price food during times of inflation) and livestock farming to encourage people to eat meat and breed animals for food and to sell. They also have health education workers who hold weekly food demonstrations to educate mothers on how to clean up

conditions at home, vary cooking habits and learn about protein-rich foods. You can find out more about the work in the leaflet enclosed with this magazine and also in the harvest service.

This year instead or as well as a traditional gift please consider whether you can give a financial gift to support this vital work in Burkina Faso. If as a church we are able to raise £250 we will be able to pay for a health worker for a year to reach 200 people to do food training and on-going work with malnourished babies. Alternatively you could consider a regular monthly gift to this work—£12 a month would secure meals for a family at risk of food shortages, through vegetable allotments, supplementary feeding and improving crop yields.

Alison Partington

**West Africa  
showing the  
position of  
Burkina Faso**



## **BITS AND PIECES**

A coach tour operator's brochure promised to show passengers everything of interest, including places that no longer exist!

A family on holiday visited a local church. Afterwards the father said he enjoyed the sermon; the mother said the organist was good; the daughter said the choir anthem was cool; the young son said he thought it was a good show for £1.

A notice in a church magazine stated that the garden party would be held on Saturday afternoon, but in the event of rain it would be held on Saturday morning.

In a church magazine: There will be a crossword puzzle in next month's magazine with a £10 prize for the first correct solution. For those wanting to play for fun the answers would be on the back page.

# What does God Deserve?

The answer is simple—God deserves your best. God has given you all kinds of gifts and talents and do you know what? God expects you to make the most of what you have been given. So don't let another day go by without using what you have been given. Instead, start finding out and clarifying what God intends for you to be and to do.

Begin by assessing your gifts and abilities. The best way to discover your gifts and abilities is to experiment with different areas of service. I could have taken a hundred gifts and ability tests as a young man and would have never discovered that I was gifted at teaching because I had never done it! It was only after I began accepting opportunities to speak that I saw the results, received confirmation from others, and realized, "God has gifted me to do this!"

**Point to ponder: The time we've been given here on earth is best used in service to serve God.**

**So what will you do about it?**

Let me suggest that you think about how you might try serving in a new way. Get involved in a ministry you've never been involved with before and see if you're gifted to serve there. Ask God to show you where to serve, when to serve and how best to serve. Ask him to open up the right doors (and there are many of them in the life of our church) and to give you clear direction about your unique area of ministry. You know that may not be something upfront (although it might be!), it might be something as simple as getting involved in one of the housegroups, signing up for the cleaning rota, attending the prayer meeting and by your attendance and contribution helping those who are travelling the same road you are on.

After the summer break we have a chance to reconsider our Christian journey and how that is expressed in our participation in organisations and activities in church and outside it. Rather than just drifting on, we can ask God to guide us towards new horizons. Over the next several pages are a few things for your consideration and prayers. Perhaps you could slip it out of the magazine and keep it where you'll remember to think and pray about it.

# STARTING AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

## Home Groups

Last year we studied St Mark in the Autumn and Jonah in the New Year. St Mark leads his readers to new understanding of Jesus and what it is to follow Him. In Chapter Thirteen Jesus speaks of the destruction of the Temple, judgement and the coming of the end. The chapter is a powerful prelude to the description of His death and resurrection. To read and discuss all these sequences enables a group to grow in faith.

Jonah is disobedient and learns how powerful God is. His despair and acknowledgement of God's power are wonderfully presented. Even so Jonah's history ends on an uncertain note. Accompanied by a video commentary, this short book prompted discussion in both groups about our relationship with God. To extend understanding through preparation and discussion is to increase awareness of the church's role in our lives.

Groups are lively, welcoming and hospitable. They work best when everyone feels free to join and, like the church, they are open to everyone. There are plans for the coming Autumn and the following year and these will be presented in September. Each group looks forward to welcoming new members and new members may mean the formation of additional groups.

Charles Winder

## Ladies' Guild

meets fortnightly on Tuesdays at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall and all ladies are welcome. The meetings are varied but usually consist of opening worship, reading and prayers and a talk on a subject of general interest. Each springtime the Lent course is followed and leads to lively discussion. Social events are included and a coffee morning and trip out are held annually. The September programme:

2nd Pasty Supper

16th Miss Curray Slides and talk

30th Chandra and R Law Customs and Culture of Malaysia

# CHURCH CLEANING

We are fortunate at St Mary's Deane in that, on the whole, the tasks that need to be done by volunteers are usually completed, even if a bit of persuasion has to be used. One of the tasks that has a very low profile and yet is essential to the appearance of the church building, and to the impression that we give visitors, is the cleaning of the church. We like to think that anyone visiting the church for the first time would be struck by the architecture, the age and beauty of the church and, of course, the floral decorations. None of this would count for much, however, if the church was dirty and untidy.

We currently have three teams of cleaners of varying numbers. Each team cleans once every six weeks since the church is cleaned fortnightly. There are not enough cleaners to do a weekly clean, if there were, then the task would be much easier and completed much more quickly.

Most of the cleaners are ladies. However, we do have some gentlemen who join in! All the equipment is supplied and each team has a leader who can direct operations. At the moment, two teams clean in the morning and the third team in the evening.

It would be wonderful if we could have enough volunteers to create at least one other team, and particularly, if we could have some younger volunteers! It would be sad if the appearance of the church were to become less impressive than it is now.

If there is anyone who could perhaps give up an hour or so every four to six weeks to help with the cleaning would they please speak to any one of the wardens or to Una Mochrie for further information. Those of us already in the cleaning teams would give them a very warm welcome!

Margaret Howard

## THE GRAVEYARD

We could do with a team of people prepared to weed/garden generally tidy up in the churchyard - i.e. the front of church. This idea is in embryo at present, so anyone interested should speak to one of the wardens.

## **THE MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING**

is held on the first Wednesday of each month, at 7.30 pm in church. At the meetings we join in worship by singing songs and listening to short talks as well as praying about particular issues, or for our church, our community or the world at large. Those attending do not have to pray out loud! The content is different each month, and the purpose of the meeting is fellowship with one another as well as bringing our praises and intercessions to the Lord

## **Get involved with youth!**

**VOLTAGE** is our youth group for young people in years 7 - 9. We meet in the memorial hall on Friday nights from 7.15 - 9pm to chat, play loads of games (like football, basketball, hockey, dodgeball, chairball, pool, table tennis, Guitar Hero, Singstar, Buzz, Jenga) and eat a lot of sweets. It costs 50p to get in, and you might want some money for the tuck shop. Anyone's welcome to come along as long as they're the right age, so get yourself down there and feel free to bring your mates.

### **VOLTAGE STARTS BACK ON FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**THE ELEMENT** is our youth group for those in Year 10 up to those who are 18. We meet on Thursday nights 8-9.30 in the memorial and spend our time chatting, playing daft games, and talking about what we believe and the stuff that's important to us. It's £1 to get in, but you get drinks and snacks thrown in for free.

We like our trips at The Element, so if you want to come along sometimes but can't make it all the time text Karen so she's got your number and can let you know if we're going somewhere different (07821304564).

### **THE ELEMENT STARTS BACK ON THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

Extra helpers would be fab at both either weekly or every now and then, they just need to have a chat with me to work out what they want to do and sort out the child protection side of things.

Karen's phone numbers 01204654737/07821304564

**Thank you!**

# Urban Outreach Bolton

U.O.B is a Christian Charity striving to meet the needs of the most vulnerable people in our town, (addressing homelessness, runaways, prostitution, offender resettlement,)

The Reach Out Project works specifically with women exploited through prostitution with the aim of empowering the women to make positive changes in their life with a goal of exiting Prostitution  
Two evenings a week we run **Reach Out Centre** where the women can come for support and have a brew.

**We are always in need of Biscuits and Pot Noodles!**

If you feel you could donate any of these items please put them in the box which we will leave at the back of Church. This will be much appreciated.

Sheila Dewhurst-Taylor (Reach Out Coordinator)

**And don't forget Winter Watch.**

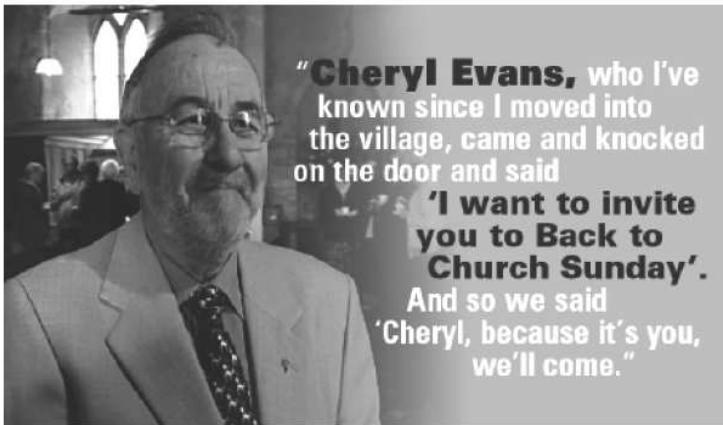
For how to help contact Yvonne Pile on  
01204 385848 or [winterwatch@urbanoutreach.co.uk](mailto:winterwatch@urbanoutreach.co.uk).

## CHARITY SHOP

We need additional volunteers to help with the charity shop, which we hope will open by the end of September. We already have 17 or 18 offers, but we need more if we are to have at least two or three people in the shop throughout its opening hours. Duties would include serving in the shop + sorting, pricing and displaying goods for sale.

Volunteers would need to indicate how much time they can offer in terms of days or half-days, and which day(s) of the week. Mike Kirkby is coordinating this and people can give their names to him or to one of the wardens - or there is a signing up list at the back of church.

**Cover picture** —he's on the top of a pillar near the back of the church where you collect hymn books.



**Back  
To  
Church  
Sunday  
28  
Sept**

Now is the time to think about who you could invite to church on Back to Church Sunday! It could be someone in the parish or even a few miles away:

- A family member
- A neighbour
- A work colleague

A friend or acquaintance at a club or social group etc.

Here is some helpful advice from the Back to Church website Research carried out by Back to Church Sunday\* and experience over four years shows:

Newcomers are especially attracted to the idea of coming to church when there are likely to be **other new people** there.

**Personal invitation** works better than general mailings.

The concept works best where the **congregation is wholeheartedly engaged** in the idea. In the run-up to the day everyone is encouraged to think and pray about a friend to invite.

Some churches need help to develop their **skills of invitation and welcome**. This is best delivered locally, through a participating diocese.

Some returners worry they will be **signed up for tasks in church**. They just want to 'be' at first.

What does success look like? Not a target, not a line on a graph, not a trend, but a person - **success is one**.

*\* Marketing strategy by 'Propaganda' 2006*

# **Start!**

Discovering Christianity  
in six small-group sessions

Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & November 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>

Last term we were delighted to take 5 people through this fun and informative short course. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from looking closely at Jesus Christ and our faith, then the *Start!* course is ideal. For more details, please talk to:

Dan Howard 01204 855112 or Nola Kilsby 01204 665700

## **Cost of Living**

**We're all feeling the pinch...**

...so get involved in *CAP Money!*

In a few months' time, we are hoping to offer some

## **Money Management Courses**

to people in the parish - which could include you!!

So, watch this space...

But first, in order to run this, we need 2 or 3 volunteers to be trained as a 'money coach'. Could you volunteer for this? Here's what it involves:

Attend a 1-day training course in Bradford.

Work with other money coach(es) at St Mary's, to run some money management courses - each course comprises 3 sessions, based on a DVD and workbook provided by Christians Against Poverty.

By doing this you will be helping people to get more control over their personal spending.

You do not have to be an experienced trainer or accountant - just able and willing to be a witness to Christ by helping people in this important part of life.

Please contact Dan Howard for more details, 01204 855112.

September 30th

# Jerome

Jerome (Eusebius Hieronymus 347— 420) was a Father of the Church\* and a Doctor of the Church^ whose great work was the translation of the Bible into Latin, the edition known as the Vulgate. This may not sound to us a very useful thing to do, but at the time it was only available in Hebrew (Old Testament) and Greek (new Testament) and this meant that the majority of the people in what we now call Europe had no access to it in their native or even second language which for most of them would have been Latin, just as English is the second language for many in the world today. He was born of well-to-do parents who sent him to Rome at the age of 19 to pursue his intellectual interests. He was baptised in the same year.

He led a very austere life and encouraged others to do the same. He moved around quite a lot but it was back in Rome that Pope Damasus I appointed him confidential secretary and librarian and commissioned him to begin his work of translating the Bible into Latin. He lived and worked in Jerusalem for the last 34 years of his life where he continued his translation and a great deal of biblical commentary.

A difficult and hot-tempered man, he made many enemies (there's hope for us all! Any correspondence quickly degenerated into an exercise in flame throwing. His friendship with Augustine, conducted by letter, nearly ended before it began, but fortunately Augustine sized him up correctly and was extremely tactful thereafter. Jerome was, however candid at times, admitting his failings and was never ambitious for churchly or worldly honours. He was a militant champion for theological orthodoxy and a scholar of rare gifts.

It is said of he was an equal ops curmudgeon—he despised both men and women—and that he was 'not all shy of advising his lady friends of the virtues of going without baths!' Don't you just love Him!

Anne Roberts

\*Certain teachers and writers of the early church, eminent for their learning, orthodoxy and sanctity of life. ^A title given by the church to individuals whom they recognise as having been of particular importance, especially regarding their additions to

# This Month's Profile

## Nola Kilsby

I was born and brought up in Hull. When I left school I trained and qualified as a radiographer. I was involved in my local church, through being in the choir, a Sunday school teacher and on the PCC. I left Hull in 1971, and between then and coming to St Mary's I have belonged to two Christian Communities, one in the Dales and one in Northern Ireland, got married and had two children, joint managed a Christian hotel in the Lake District during which time I trained to be a Lay Reader. I moved to Bolton in 1992. Sadly, in 1994, my first marriage broke down and I came to live in Deane and started attending St Mary's. Just before moving to Deane I qualified as a careers adviser and worked for the careers service (which later became the Connexions service) in Bolton. I retired two years ago. As most of you will know I remarried again in 2001 to Les, seven very happy years.

I was licensed as a Reader in the Manchester Diocese in September 1997. I'm also a member of the choir, on the PCC, a member of the Deanery Synod and chair of the redevelopment committee. I also do church cleaning and help with decorating the church for the major festivals.

I see my role as a Reader to help and support the clergy in the preaching of God's word and the leading of God's people in worship. Much of my time and focus over the last 4 or 5 years has been working with the committee on the re-ordering of the church and the plans for a new hall.

**To help me relax,** I enjoy gardening, flower arranging and doing puzzles, especially cryptic crosswords, Sudoku, and jigsaws.

**Some of my favourites -**

- Meal - lamb chops, fresh garden peas and home cooked chips (in dripping), followed by Raspberry Pavlova.
- Book - Pride and Prejudice

- Film - Much Ado about Nothing - with Kenneth Branagh and Emma Thompson
- Holiday - two weeks in Switzerland - staying on the shores of Lake Lucerne.

### **What keeps me awake at night?**

- trying to work out answers to problems. I don't like not knowing what to do about something. It's an area I feel God is trying to teach me about - to trust Him more.

### **What are my hopes for the church in Deane?**

On a practical level I hope that we will get the plans for the hall and the church approved by the necessary statutory bodies and that the process will not be a long drawn out one. I would also like to see the Charity Shop giving us a positive presence in the area.

But on a spiritual level I also hope that the congregation will be excited about the potential the plans have for us to be a church that is at the heart of the community and show we have a heart for the community, so that we can share God's love with those who do not know His love for them. With that in mind I would like to see more people join house groups and come to the monthly prayer meeting, as both building ourselves up as God's people and praying together are the keys to us being a significant presence for God in the Parish.



## **'Outrageous Grace'**

### **The Evangelists' Conference 2008**

Thursday 9th October, 10am - 4:30pm

St Andrew's church, Leyland

This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in promoting evangelism - sharing the good news of Jesus. The main speaker is Ian Garrett from Jesmond Parish, and seminar leaders include Rico Tice and Tim Chester. You can be sure of receiving biblical encouragement and practical help in gospel work. More information from [www.thegoodbook.co.uk/bookings](http://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/bookings) - or ask Dan Howard.

# GETTING STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY: MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES

If I had to choose which certificate to get hold of for any given ancestor it would be their **marriage certificate**, because they have a wealth of information, directly linking one generation to another and two families to each other. When you are looking for the correct certificate in the indexes, remember to note the number, as the bride and groom's entries will always have an identical one, thus confirming you have the correct marriage.

The actual marriage certificate will have the date and place of marriage, names and ages of the couple (sometimes on early certificates given as `of full age` i.e. over 21), condition (widow, bachelor etc), rank or profession, residence address, father's name and profession (for both), the couple's signatures or marks, witness names, name of the minister or registrar, religious denomination, and whether the marriage was by licence, certificate or banns.

Some of the information needs to be treated with caution. The age of the couple may not agree with their birth certificates. It was fairly common for couples under 21 who could not get their parents' permission to marry to lie about their ages. Significant age gaps between the bride and groom were often frowned upon, so it was not uncommon for ages to be adjusted to lessen the gap. I have an ancestor who actually became younger on his second marriage than his first!

Sometimes to avoid the stigma of illegitimacy, one of the partners in a marriage made up a father's name. I have an ancestor who gave his father's surname as a mixture of his own name and that of his step father. If the partners were widowed the second marriage certificate may have more honest information. Divorce was very rare and expensive. However bigamy was by no means uncommon in days when centralised record keeping was limited. I have, for example, found an ancestor who was married to a man `at Ashbourne fair` who later proved to have a wife in Southampton! Also because of a need for an address in the parish, some residence addresses were merely

those of convenience.

Until the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century it was not possible to legally marry your brother or sister in law after your partner died. However such marriages did take place and I have several in my family trees. Sisters in law came to look after the children, brothers in law helped on the farm, and relationships developed. In some cases this was disguised by changing the church where they married or reverting to a maiden name, but in many cases it seems to have been merely accepted with the full knowledge of the local community.

Don't ignore details such as witnesses, as these may give you more details about your ancestors and their friendships in the community. Occasionally in rural areas these seem to be professional witnesses, who may have had a position in the church. I have a farming ancestor who seems to have been a witness at numerous weddings in the Wirksworth area.

Barbara Winder

### What am I?

I spend my life above a star and yet I never burn; I have eleven neighbours and yet they never turn. My name is PQR and sometimes S.

### Who am I?

NICE SPANNERS  
ROUSING MORTALS  
I TREAD SAFER  
SEMI BARKING  
HAM DIVED BACK  
LIBYAN ROT  
HE BUGS GORE  
LACKING TONE  
ANNOY SCREEN  
SOBBING CRY

Answers on page 23

## Brain Exercises

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. Merely by a fluke it kept people looking so hard for the facts, and for others it was a revelation. Some were kept in a jam especially since the names of the books were not capitalised. But then the truth finally struck home to various readers. For others it was a hard job. It should be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really difficult ones to spot, others will need brains like judges to help them. I admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them. There will be loud lamentations if it is not found. One lady says she brews a cup of tea to help her concentrate. See how well you can compete. Relax, for there are sixteen books hidden in this paragraph to find.      Answers on page 23

# Annals of St Mary's

## Five Hundred Years Ago

In 1522 the timber chapel built within the church at the expense of Richard Heaton of Heaton and dedicated to the Trinity and Saint Anne was violently demolished by "evill disposed and riottouse persons .... arrayed after the manner of warre". This act of sacrilege expressed the spirit of turbulent times.

In 1537, the Abbot of Whalley was executed for his part in the Pilgrimage of Grace, the northern rebellion designed to preserve the Roman Catholic Church in England. The abbey was seized in the name of Henry VIII along with all its possessions, including the Chapel of St Mariden, Bolton. In 1541 the Parish of Deane was created and in 1542 William Rothwell was instituted as vicar, remaining until 1575. His attempt to draw an additional stipend from Eccles was unsuccessful because of the new independence of Deane.

## More than Five Hundred Years Ago

Tradition gives 1111 as the date when the Norman Chapel of St Mariden and the church of Eccles were erected. Together they formed the extensive parish of Eccles containing fifteen townships. Written records place the chapel on the present site of St Mary's in 1228. Both church and chapel were gifted to Stanlawe Abbey, Cheshire, by John de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, in 1235. In 1296, following fire and flood, the Cistercian monks of Stanlawe moved to Whalley. By then they had received from Thomas de Perpount the gift of all his land adjoining the chapel of St Mariden "to wit, from the cemetery of the said chapel on the west side directly into the Kirkebrok, following the Kirkebrok to the Mukelbrok, following the Mukelbrok to the ditch descending to the same Mukelbrok, following the ditch into the hedge which comes across from the cemetery of the said chapel on the east side, and so following the hedge to the cemetery aforesaid. To hold and to have of me and my heirs for ever ..." (Translated from the original Latin).

Charles Winder

**Footnote:** The source for these notes is James Boardman's *Records and Traditions of Deane church, Village and Parish* (1904). Mr Boardman was warden of our church 1867-72 before moving to London.

## Answers to puzzles

**What am I?** The number 7 on a mobile phone pad.

**Who am I?** PRINCESS ANNE; LOUIS ARMSTRONG; FRED ASTAIRE; KIM BASSINGER; DAVID BECKHAM; TONY BLAIR; GEORGE BUSH; NAT KING COLE; SEAN CONNERY; BING CROSBY.

I once made a **remark** about the hidden books of the Bible. Merely by a **fluke** it kept people **looking** so hard for the **facts**, and for others it was a **revelation**. Some were kept in a **jam** especially since the names of the books were not capitalised. But then the **truth** finally struck home to various **numbers** of readers. For others it was a hard **job**. It should be a **most** fascinating few moments for you. **Yes there** will be some really difficult ones to spot, others will need brains like **judges** to help them. I admit it **usually** takes a minister to find one of them. There will be loud **lamentations** if it is not found. One lady says she **brews** a cup of tea to help her concentrate. See how well you can **compete**. Relax, for there are sixteen books hidden in this paragraph to find.

Thanks, Bob, for these and for the smiles on page 17!

Take time to pray

God of truth,  
whose word is a lantern to our feet  
and a light on our path,  
we give you thanks for your servant Jerome  
and those who, following in his steps,  
have worked to render the Holy Scriptures  
in the language of the people:  
and we pray that your Holy Spirit will overshadow us  
as we read the written word  
and that Christ, the living Word,  
will transform us according to your righteous will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and The holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

Team Rector	Ian Mainey	01204 618
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.

# St Mary's Directory