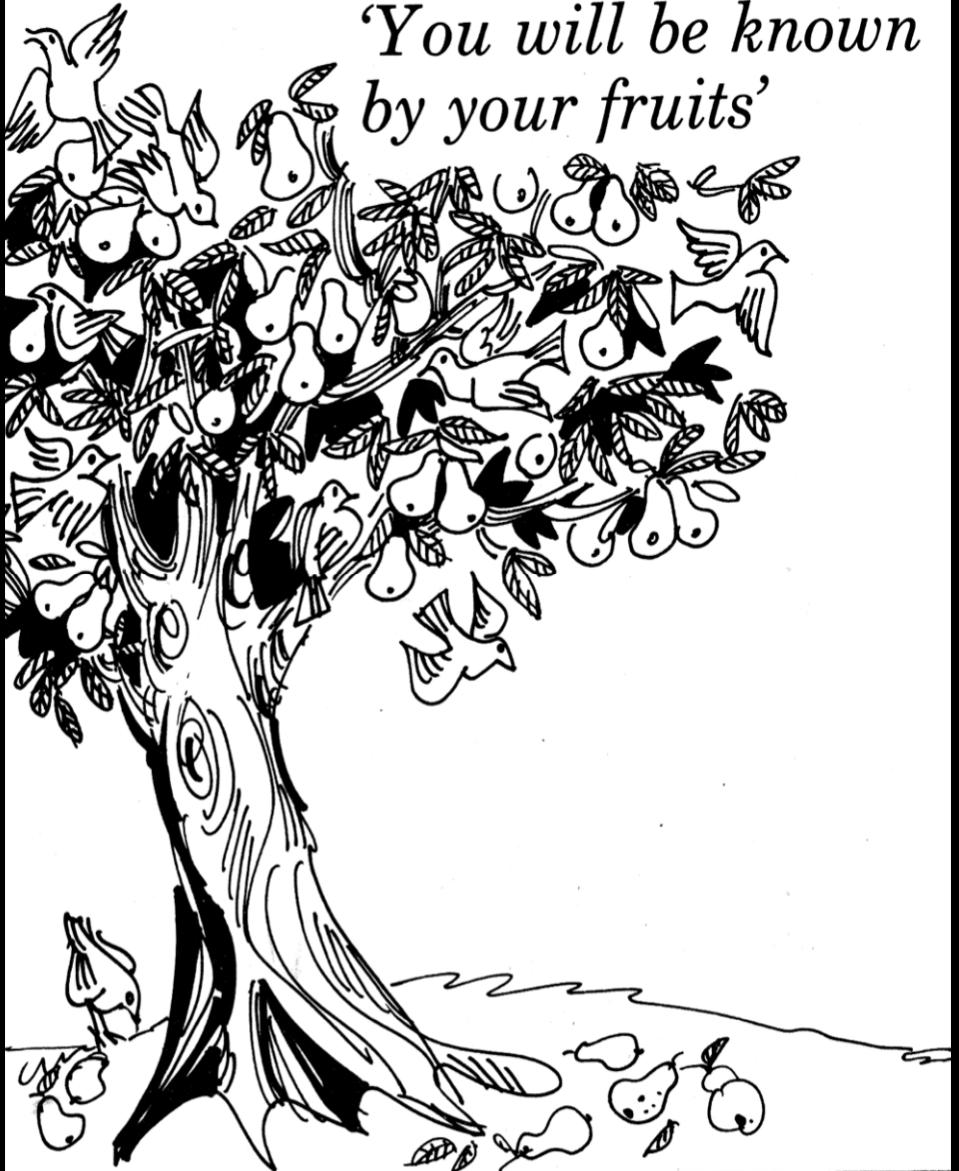


Deane St Mary's

July/August 2010

*'You will be known
by your fruits'*



St Mary's Info: July/August 2010

	9.00	10.30	6.00
4 July	Holy Communion	All-age including Baptism	Evening Service Informal Communion
	Rom 10:11-15; Acts 1:4-8		
11 July	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Service
18 July	Holy Communion	Morning service	Evening Service
	Phil 2:1-11; Luke 10:25-37		
25 July	Holy Communion	Morning Service	Evening Service
01 Aug	Holy Communion	All-age Service	Evening Service
	Luke 13:18-21		
08 Aug	Holy Communion	All-age Holy Communion	No Evening Service during August
	Luke 10:25-37		
15 Aug	Holy Communion	All-age Service	
	Luke 12:13-21		
22 Aug	Holy Communion	All-age service	
	Luke 14:1& 16-24		
29 Aug	Holy Communion	All-age service	
	Luke 15:1-10		

Read anything good recently?

I was chatting with a member of our CYFA youth group the other day about forgiveness. We pray in the Our Father '*forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us*', but what does it mean to really forgive? This teenager correctly traced it all back to the Cross. He'd understood forgiveness Biblically. But how do we understand anything Biblically? Well, reading the Bible and praying that the Holy Spirit would teach us and help us to apply it to our life is the primary way.



Listening carefully to sermons is good. Incidentally, do you take notes during sermons? If nothing else it helps keep you awake. And reading good Christian books can also be a real boost to our understanding and walk with God. But there are so many to choose from aren't there! Going into a Christian bookshop for a book can be like going into a wine shop for a bottle of wine. Where do you begin? The one with the prettiest label isn't necessarily the best, in bottles of wine or books!

Getting to know good authors who you can trust is a help. I would recommend pretty much anything by Don Carson, Tim Keller, John Stott, Wayne Grudem, John Piper, Bill Hybels, John Ortberg, Alister McGrath or Vaughan Roberts. But even among those few authors you will find different views. For instance Grudem and Piper have a more charismatic theology, Carson much less so.

I remember when I had just become a Christian, 22 years ago now, my vicar at the time (David Fletcher) gave me a copy of John Stott's recently published *The Cross of Christ* (1986) and suggested that I read it. Since I had huge respect for David, I did read it and it transformed my understanding. From then on I could see how pretty much anything in the Christian faith has to be rooted back at the Cross in order to make sense Biblically - forgiveness for in-

stance, God's forgiveness of us and our forgiveness of others.

Perhaps the other book, after the Bible, that impacted my thinking more than any other was John Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. The complete edition was published in Latin in 1559. A modern English translation runs to around 1300 pages, so you may need a couple of months to read it and then another couple of months to prayerfully process it, so I'm not suggesting you start with that one if you are new to reading Christian books. I read it when I was at theological college... one of the more useful bits of my training! Then there's the book that has most challenged me in my ministry as a vicar: Richard Baxter's *The Reformed Pastor* (1656). The text of this book and of Calvin's *Institutes* are available for free download on the internet, e.g. at www.ccel.org.

But as you're sitting on the beach at St Tropez this summer, or sitting in your back yard in Bolton, what will you be reading? A newspaper, a magazine, a novel? Why not have a good Christian book on the go alongside anything else that you're reading? What to read depends on where you are in your walk with Jesus. And if you are not praying then reading a book on prayer probably won't suddenly get you praying! The blockage there is to do with something else.

But let me recommend a few great books for reading this summer:

If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat
(John Ortberg)

The reason for God (Tim Keller)

The prodigal God (Tim Keller)

Desiring God (John Piper)

Our Father (Richard Coekin)

-all available on the church bookstall!

Enjoy... and grow!

Terry Clark

From John Armstrong

Team vicar

The Benefit of Foresight

They say that foresight is a quality that is hard to come by. Whatever the truth of that: it is certainly the case that we here at St Andrew's, Over Hulton have benefitted from the foresight of previous generations.

It was back in the late Nineteenth Century that people at Deane decided that something needed to be provided for the then small village community of Over Hulton. So they decided to build a school which itself incorporated an area that could be used for Sunday worship.

This church-school became the focus of the Over Hulton community. Many of the older members at St Andrew's have happy memories of the old building and the events, services and meetings that it hosted.

However, the reality of the foresight shown by our Victorian forebears in the parish was really shown in the years following World War II. During the 50s and 60s many new and sizable housing development began to spring up in Over Hulton. This changed the nature of the community as it changed from being essentially a rural place into an outpost of the Bolton Suburbs.

The growth of the population was matched by the growth of the Church. As the years went by, it was clear that the old buildings would need to be replaced. In the late 1970s this dream became reality. Thanks to the generosity of the parishioners and the late Sir Geoffrey Hulton, together with co-operation from the Diocese and the Council, a new church and vicarage were built on the old site, and a new school was built on Hulton land at the other side of Crescent Avenue.

The story of the growth of St Andrew's does not end here, however. At the beginning of the new millennium, an extension was built. This extension, called the Fellowship Room, is used for Sunday

Groups, Church meetings, and increasingly by the community, so much so, that there is now a second extension being built to keep pace with the demands made on the church and its buildings.

St Andrew's was built to be the centre of its community. Today, over a century later, it still is. Thanks be to God! Please do pray for us that God's work in Over Hulton would continue to grow and develop.

Isn't foresight a wonderful thing?

John Armstrong

Prayer Letter from **David and Gina Hucker**

with CMS in Arica, N. Chile

May 2010

England seems like a distant memory as we cope with the reality of Arica and its many blessings that the Lord brings to us by serving Him here. Our time in England was wonderful, catching up with friends and family whilst being in a privileged position of visiting many churches and seeing how God is working across the North West.

Caleb and I were brought back to reality when we landed at the International Airport of Santiago. Although arrivals were processed inside through the main terminal and all seemed pretty normal, the outside was a different story. There were large tents that dealt with national and international departures, where the tents seemed more apt for a large wedding.

After two months of being away from Arica nothing seemed to have changed, except for the weather, which in comparison to England was stifling hot! Of course, what was prevalent on people's mind was the earthquake in the south. The talk in Arica is about the big one and when the next big one will come. We live in a zone where we continually have tremors of varying magnitudes, the last with a

magnitude of 6.5. Experiencing a tremor of this size can only make us begin to imagine how horrifying the earthquake in the south of Chile was. A 6.5 tremor was harrowing enough and the strongest one here for quite a few years.

There seemed to be a renewed urgency to work on the church building and we have made considerable progress. Having now finished the electrics it is a joy to turn a switch and see the lights come on. We have almost completed the inside and are only awaiting the availability of workmen to install the ceiling, and then we are going to paint it on the inside. That only leaves the facade and one side wall that need to be replaced with bricks instead of the MDF boards that are presently in place. The plan is to have the temple finished by August when the Bishop is rumoured to be coming. Then we can go ahead with the inauguration.

Wesley now has started university. He is studying at the local university that has a good reputation for the career of electronic engineering that he has decided to study. It is quite a change from school, but I know that he is enjoying the flexible hours, where he only has two classes per day. We are more than happy to have him living at home rather than living somewhere else, far away. Caleb has once again entered school and has two years left before he goes off to university as well. He should be going with his classmates to Brazil for a school at the end of the year. As parents we have never been keen on this trip, as we have heard some very concerning comments of how the youngsters behave there. Caleb decided that he wants to spend time with my family in Australia instead and thankfully I have some air miles so that we can send him there. Having only been there once in the past 25 years it would have been nice to have visited more as a family, but as you can imagine the cost of fares to travel there is astronomical.

We recently went to our first football match to see the local team from Arica play. The coach is from Santiago and has been coming to our services when he is in town. He asks for prayer for the team to win. Now I don't know the theological basis for this, but they

have been doing well after a bad spell! He has been soliciting prayer as the newspaper reported that he was going to be sacked if the team didn't improve, thankfully they have improved recently. The most important thing is that the coach, Hernan Godoy, "Clavito", would have a deeper understanding of the Lord.

There have been some interesting prophecies about Arica recently. One in particular, we were advised by a pastor from Antofagasta that a prophecy went forward from a church that there was going to be an earthquake on such a day and such an hour. The day approached, but nothing happened! One thing that we did decide was that we needed to put aside food supplies for two weeks for whatever may come in the future.

Apart from all the points within our newsletter, other prayer points are:

- for Winfield and his desire to be ordained / work for the church**
- for our vision of an English language service which we are considering**
- for ongoing growth of the congregation - people come and go for different reasons**
- for the family, Wesley and Caleb**
- for our health and strength**
- for another member, Gloria as she battles her family's decision to have her child make her first communion in the Catholic church**
- for our future, as our ministry in Arica reaches the end of a chapter, at least**

God bless you and thank you for your prayers which we never take for granted, but greatly appreciate.

David and Jean Hucker

Crosslinks Focus

Myanmar

Geography & People

Formerly known as Burma, Myanmar consists of the great central valleys of the Irrawaddy and Salween Rivers and a series of north-south mountain ranges, such as the Arakan Yomas in the west and the Dawna Range in the east.

The climate is of the monsoon type, with both high rainfall and high temperatures throughout the year.

The largest ethnic group is the Bama people who make up two-thirds of the population. There are many smaller tribes living mainly in the hills of the west, north and east, including the Kayins, the Shans, the Kachins, the Mons and the Chins.

History & Politics

The Mons were the earliest civilised inhabitants of lower Myanmar and were dominant from the 1st until the 9th century AD, when the Bama people moved down from Tibet and settled in the Irrawaddy Valley, establishing their capital at Pagan. The Pagan Empire from the 11th to the 13th century is the most glorious part of the country's history and many imposing ruins remain. Pagan was captured by the Mongol Chinese in 1287. After a period of decline the Bliama people reasserted their position in the 18th century and dislodged the Mons from lower Myanmar, becoming the dominant tribe for the whole of the central river valley.

Following an invasion of Assam in 1824 by Myanmar forces, the British captured Rangoon and thereafter had increasing influence, with Myanmar being incorporated into British India in 1885. The Japanese invasion of 1942 drove the British out for three years and on their return they were faced with increasing demands for independence



which were granted in 1948 when the Republic was established with a democratic form of government.

In 1962, a military coup paved the way for setting up a one-party Socialist Republic. Increasingly isolationist in outlook, the government has had to contend with continual guerilla activity in its border area where the various minority groups are fighting for independence. In 1988 civil unrest reached the capital Rangoon in a series of much-publicised anti-government demonstrations.

In 1990 elections were held in which the opposition party under Aung San Suu Kyi won 85 % of the votes. However the military regime refused to hand over power.

Economy

The country is largely agricultural with rice the main crop. Teak and other hardwoods are exported. The discovery of petroleum deposits in the north made the country self-sufficient in fuel for a while. More recently large deposits of natural gas have been discovered. However, the unrest and the government's policies have not encouraged economic development and most of the country is very backward with little sign of progress in recent years. Opium is grown widely and forms the basis of an extensive black market and much corruption.

Poor communications and political unrest makes travel within Myanmar difficult.

Religion & Church Life

Most ethnic Myanmar are Buddhists. Most villages have a monastery while the Shwe Dagon pagoda in Rangoon is one of the more important Buddhist shrines in the world.

There is freedom of religion. Church worship is allowed but permission is required for larger gatherings and any political involvement is not tolerated.

The Church is strongest among the tribal animistic peoples, especially the Kachin, Chin and Karen. The Baptists are by far the biggest Protestant denomination, following the pioneering work of the American missionary Adoniram Judson at the beginning of the 19th century. There is a similar number of Roman Catholics.

The Anglican Church first arrived in Myanmar in mid-19th century. Today there are about 50,000 Anglicans. The Church of the Province of Myanmar has 6 dioceses

Crosslinks & Myanmar

BCMS missionaries first went to Myanmar in 1924 and worked in the Kachin State in the north, among the Shans in the east, and the Khami Chins in the west. Along with all non-nationals, the society had to withdraw its workers in 1966 because of a government edict and since then contact has been limited.

Nevertheless, Crosslinks continues to provide financial help for the church and to encourage prayer for its work. Despite the isolation of the country for 30 years, constant internal unrest and economic stagnation, the church continues to grow especially in the animistic areas.

Bits and Pieces

- Synonyms are words we use when we can't spell the other one!
- Life should be measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that leave us breathless.

Did you miss it?

In the last magazine I asked if people would like to contribute odd pieces of gold from, say, broken chains, watches or single earrings, etc, which on their own don't amount to much but collected together can be quite valuable. I am pleased to say that a result of the appeal in May, through the church shop, we were able to raise over £100. A big thank you to the donors. I wonder if we do the same (or better) again.

Timeline of Christianity

The Celtic Church in Britain

By David Currie

Primitive Christianity in Britain is best known for the Celts, an Indo-European language group of migrants who spread across Europe and into Britain from Austria. These migrants generally settled in Cornwall, the South West of Wales, Scotland and Ireland. Important aspects of the life of the Celts reveal that they were the first in Britain to embrace Christianity and that they were intent on following the faith and practice of the primitive Christians of the New Testament who were indeed the foundation peoples of the Christian church. While it is not certain the exact year that Christianity first came to Britain it is confirmed that the original Christian beliefs and practices were maintained well after the Italian mission of Augustine in 597AD.

While some legends state that Jesus Himself came to Britain, it is probably more correct that some of the followers of Jesus made their way to Britain after being driven out of Palestine by hostile Jews. With the occupation of Britain by the Romans, many European and Eastern Christians brought their brand of Christianity to Britain. However early the church was founded in Britain, it is quite clear that it produced some excellent leaders such as Patrick of Ireland, Columba who eventually strengthened the ties of Christendom in Scotland, David of Wales and Aidan of England to name just a few.

Most of the information that is known about the Celtic church in Ireland commences with the age of Patrick. This early leader was born in Kirkpatrick, Scotland in 389 and eventually after a term as slave in Ireland and then in exile on the Continent, he returned to Ireland where he had first been as a slave. He ministered to the spiritual needs of that country in quite a remarkable way. There was some evidence, but not authenticated or thoroughly documented, that Patrick

also returned for a short time to Scotland. However, Columba went to Scotland after ministering for some time in Ireland, where he had founded a number of monasteries and churches. He founded the settlement at Iona which has since been one of the most hallowed spots on Scottish soil. During the 7th and 11th centuries, 48 Scottish kings were buried on Iona. Some of their tombstones can be seen today.



A second 'Iona' was established by Aidan at the 'Holy Isle of Lindisfarne'. This 'Isle' in north England became a marvellous base for the promulgation of the gospel in England and in parts of the Continent.

Source of text unknown.

Lo, I am with you always

Wide fields of corn along the valleys spread;
The rain and dew mature the swelling vine;
I see the Lord in multiplying bread;
I see him turning water into wine;
I see him working all the works divine
He wrought when Salem-ward his steps were led;
The selfsame miracles around him shine;
He feeds the famished; he revives the dead;
He pours the flood of light on darkened eyes;
He chases tears, diseases, fiends away;
His throne is raised upon these orient skies;
His footstool is the pave whereon we pray....

*From a poem by
John Charles
Earle 1749 - 1818*

Key July debates on women bishops

The Church of England is going to vote this month on whether it should proceed with the next step towards women bishops - or not. The paperwork behind it all is impressive: a 142-page report from the Revision Committee that details the draft legislation needed to enable women to become bishops in the Church of England.

The hours spent so far in discussing it are impressive: the Committee has met on 16 occasions over the past 12 months and considered 114 submissions from members of the General Synod and a further 183 submissions from others.

After much discussion the Committee rejected proposals aimed at fundamentally changing the approach of the legislation (whether by converting it into the simplest possible draft Measure or by creating more developed arrangements). Instead, the draft legislation continues to provide special arrangements for those with conscientious difficulties by way of delegation from the diocesan bishop under a statutory Code of Practice.

The legislation has been amended in a number of detailed respects. Provision for statutory declarations by bishops unable to take part in the consecration of women as bishops or their ordination as priests has been removed as has an obligation on the Archbishops to nominate particular suffragan sees to be occupied by those who do not consecrate or ordain women.

Added to the Measure are new provisions requiring each diocesan bishop to draw up a scheme in his or her diocese that takes account of the national Code of Practice and provides local arrangements for the performance of certain episcopal functions in relation to parishes with conscientious difficulties. A further new provision allows such parishes to request, when there is a vacancy, that only a male incumbent or priest-in-charge be appointed.

It is expected that much of the July group of sessions of the General Synod in York (9-13 July) will be devoted to debating the Revision Committee's report and conducting the Revision Stage of

the legislation. This is the moment (equivalent to a parliamentary Report Stage) when all 470 members of the Synod have the opportunity to consider the draft legislation clause by clause and to vote on proposed amendments. Proposals rejected by the Revision Committee can be debated afresh at the Revision Stage.

Once the Revision Stage has been completed - and provided the Synod does not decide that further work is necessary in Revision Committee - the draft legislation will have to be referred to diocesan synods and cannot come back to the General Synod for final approval unless a majority of diocesan synods approve it.

The earliest that the legislation could achieve final approval in Synod (when two-thirds majorities in each of the Houses of Bishops, Clergy and Laity will be required) is 2012, following which parliamentary approval and the Royal Assent would be needed. 2014 remains the earliest realistic date when the first women might be consecrated as bishops.

The three documents, the Report of the Revision Committee, the draft Measure and the draft Amending Canon can be read via <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/news/pr4210.html> .

As previous debates have shown, a majority of the members of the House strongly support the admission of women to the episcopate. At the same time there remains a strong commitment on the part of the House to preserve an honoured place within the Church of England for those unable to receive this development. There continues to be a variety of views within the House over the best way of achieving that, while enabling women fully to exercise their new ministry.

All in all, the July Synod has the potential to be one of the most demanding meetings of the Synod for many years. It will, in the view of the House, be an occasion when all concerned will need to listen with particular care to those with views that differ from their own and to acknowledge the passion and sincerity with which those views are held.

Source: parishpump.co.uk

This month's profile

June Gill

June was born in a terraced house in Division Street, Great Lever, Bolton in 1939. She had two sisters and a brother. Her father's parents, who had a very large family, lived in a house three doors away and that was where her father was born. It was a very close-knit family.



June attended St Mark's nursery, primary and junior schools. The buildings were near the home of her maternal grandmother who was able to look after June and her siblings while her mother worked, as many women did then, to help with the War effort. Meanwhile, June's father was serving in Germany and the family only saw him briefly when he was on leave. Hence, he was practically a stranger until after the War.

St Mark's also had a Sunday School which June attended and she enjoyed all the activities that were organised by St Mark's Brownie and Guide groups including annual camps in the New Forest. At the age of 13 June transferred to Haywood Senior School, which she left to begin work as a sewing machinist for Burton's Tailoring. She remained there until she met and married her husband Fred and her first child was born. Then she stayed at home for a few years to raise her family but she also found time to teach at St George's Sunday school.

June and Fred have been married for 53 years and they have lived in the St Helen's road area of Bolton for 30 years. They have two daughters, Elaine and Karen, five grandchildren, and recently a great grandson, Alexander, has joined the family.

As the girls got older June was able to return to work in a number of jobs including a Geographical Clerk, Line Management Supervisor and Security Officer for Littlewoods a mail order

company. She remained there for 26 years until her retirement.

June began to attend St Mary's Deane in 1999, having previously worshipped at St George the Martyr's Church Daubhill.

She was fortunate in having parents who gave their family security and love and who taught her the importance of qualities such as honesty and reliability. In addition, her maternal grandmother, a true Christian, encouraged her to attend church and gave her a sound grounding in belief and faith in Jesus Christ. Hence, June has learned to trust in God in all situations even though they seem impossible to resolve. He has always been faithful to her and has answered her prayers in some unusual and unexpected ways. Her favourite passage from the Bible is Romans Chapter 8 verse 28 "For we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him"

June is an active church member. She sits on the DCC, which involves meetings at Deane and also regular meetings with the DCC from St Andrews, Over Hulton. At these meetings a number of issues are discussed which affect the life and organisation of both churches. June has been particularly involved with the Witness Group, which has the desire to reach others within the community with the message of the Gospel and communicates with parents who seek baptism for their children.

Other duties for which June is responsible are communication with Winter Watch, the distribution of Prayer Diary notes, Sides person Duties, Refreshment Rota and Church Cleaning.

In spite of all her work for the church June still finds time for hobbies such as knitting, gardening and researching her own and Fred's ancestry. Consequently she treasures old family albums, photographs and mementoes of her father's army days. She likes to read and her favourite book is "Pilgrim's Progress" by John Bunyon and she enjoys books by Maisie Mosco. She likes to eat out and loves all kinds of fish and pasta.

Holidays have always been an important part of June's family life and there have been many with children and grandchildren. However, there have been some special holidays such as a holiday in Florida for the whole family in 2001 when Fred retired, a trans-

atlantic cruise that ended in Brazil, to celebrate June and Fred's Golden Wedding and a two-week trip to Israel visiting all the holy places, synagogues and ancient biblical sites. The trip included a four-night stay on a Kibbutz.

June is a great admirer of Desmond Tutu for his sincerity, humility and humour and, just as he has dreams for the fostering of Christianity throughout the world, so June has dreams and hopes for St Mary's Deane. She would like to see a strong congregation built across the three Sunday services, many more young families joining us in worship and the reaching out of the church into the community for Christ. June hopes that the church shop will continue to be a real and vital source of contact with the people of Deane and that a new church hall in the future may with God's timing and blessing become a reality to help to further God's Kingdom in the community of Deane.

Nigel Beeton writes: You hear people - Scientists, Christians, anybody - pontificating about the Creation. God says, 'Where you actually there?' This is a reflection on Job 38, and may be sung to the tune 'Hyfrydol' (Alleluia, sing to Jesus) (Parish Pump)

Where were you?

Where were you, at Earth's creation?

Tell me, if you understand.

Who marked off the globe's dimensions?

Were you there when it was planned?

Have you ever called the morning?

Or shown dawn its rightful place?

Did you set ablaze the sunlight?

Or blow clouds across its face?

Can you bind the seven sisters?

Can you loose Orion's cords?

Will you bring forth stars and

seasons?

Can you do this, with your words?

I'm your God, the Lord Almighty

The beginning and the end,

Can you test me, without knowledge?

My own laws, can you defend?

Do not strive, just let Me help you.

Do not try to understand.

Let Me lead you through life's pathways

Let Me take you by the hand.

Do not struggle, rage, and question;

Leave it all for Me to do.

You cannot begin to fathom

The great depth of My love for you.

A Walk by the Hodder and the Ribble

Perhaps this landscape was in the mind of Professor Tolkien when he wrote "Lord of the Rings". He certainly stayed regularly at Stonyhurst College during and after the Second World War and it was during this period that he was writing.



There is a wonderful walk of about six miles, which begins at Warren Fold near the Hurst Green War Memorial. It goes through the college grounds, giving impressive views of the buildings and of Pendle Hill. You walk down through woodland to the Hodder and shortly come to Cromwell's Bridge, which the Ironsides are said to have crossed before the Battle of Preston. Following the river you come to its confluence with the Ribble where woods, water and river bank blend. The path continues along the winding of the Ribble, past seventeenth century Hacking Hall and finally through more woodland back to Hurst Green.

You emerge by the Shireburn Arms, across the road from where you began. At the hotel, or from the Clitheroe Tourist Information Centre, you can buy a necessary guide to the walk, *In the Footsteps of J. R. R. Tolkien*, including instructions, a map and information particularly about Stonyhurst College, which has other strong literary associations. We have previously printed poems by the priest, Gerard Manley Hopkins, who taught there and may well have taught Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes. Some say that Baskerville Hall was partly based on the College. Nowadays you will meet neither hound nor hobbits but you will need boots because some of the terrain is muddy.

FOUNDER OF BWFC HONOURED

If you have read my previous two articles on the origins of Bolton Wanderers, you will know that the club owes its beginnings to two men; Tom Ogden, the Headmaster of Christ Church School for boys, and Reverend Joseph Farrall Wright, the Vicar of Christ Church in Deane, Bolton in the 1870s.



Peter Lupson, who wrote `Thank God for Football` (reviewed in last month's magazine) after considerable research, had discovered the grave and memorial stone of Reverend Wright at Christ Church, Walmsley. After work on the stone to improve the existing lettering and add additional words, a rededication ceremony took place to honour the founder, on the morning of Friday 27th June 2008.

A service took place, attended by Club dignitaries, including Chairman Phil Garside, former players, Peter Lupson and members of the public. Lupson said, `I have a great sense of relief that he will not be forgotten... The service has given him back to the town, which I feel is important`. Phil Garside added, `He'd have been amazed at the effect that he has had on the community, not just this one, but worldwide as well... Some of the principles on which Christ Church was founded still exist in the fabric of Bolton Wanderers Football Club`.

The stone reads; `In Memory of Revd. Joseph Farrall Wright, Vicar of Christ Church Bolton-Le-Moors, who died June 19th 1883 aged 56 years. With Christ which is far better`. To this has been added, `Founder of Bolton Wanderers Football Club 1874`.

Ladies' Guild

6 July
20 July

Irene Hall
Evening Meal

3 August
17 August

Pat Boydell
Joyce Mitson

WHAT HAPPENS TO EXAM PAPERS WHEN YOU'VE DONE THEM

an examiner's eye view

As I've been an English examiner for AQA for at least 40 years at GCSE and A level, and it's now exam time for many of our congregation (either as students or parents), I thought it may be of interest to know what is likely to happen to your papers when they are sent off. There may be slight variations between papers and boards, but broadly the pattern is much the same across the three main English exam boards.

First I will deal with coursework. Your school will have attended a number of meetings during the year to help with their moderation and will have a coursework advisor. Initially your file of work will be internally moderated by the school, who will decide on the marks sent to the exam board. All centres will be allocated an external moderator. If your centre has a large number of candidates (the usual cut off number is over 20) they will send a sample of around 15 that the moderator has asked for (the moderator usually asks for the top and bottom candidates and a reasonable range in between). If they have a smaller number of candidates they will send the complete number to the moderator. The moderator usually looks at a sample of the files and decides if they can agree the centre's marks. If they can, then that is fine and you will get the mark awarded, even though your particular file may not be seen. If there is a problem, such as the centre being too lenient in its marks, the moderator will look at a wider sample. If a centre's marks are likely to be changed, a senior examiner looks at the sample also, and the final decision is with the exam board. A feedback form goes to the centre after the process has been completed with advice. The files are returned to the centre around the end of July for you to collect your work.

The other main area is written examinations. In this case these are done on the day and are sent to examiners across the

country; although the majority are English centres, an examiner may have ones from abroad (I once had one from the south sea islands which took 3 weeks to get to me on a boat!). Allocations per examiner vary but are usually around 200 candidates/papers. An examiner cannot mark a centre or candidate they have an interest in, that is if they work there or know them personally.

Exam Papers are written by senior examiners for each subject some months before, but are also checked by a special board of academic advisors including people from the universities, before they are agreed. The senior examiner also prepares a mark scheme for each question. These are sent out to the examiners on the day of the examination. Before they receive papers, the examiners will have attended a number of standardising meetings to check they are all marking to the same standard. These are run by senior examiners and consist of going through papers and coming to an agreed mark. New examiners are given additional support. All examiners are placed in teams of around six or seven, with a senior examiner checking their work. When they return home, they have to send a first sample of 10 scripts to senior examiners for checking on its accuracy. If the senior examiner isn't happy with the marking, they send a second ten. Examiners can be stopped examining at this stage. Halfway through their marking they also send a batch of fifty scripts to be moderated by their senior examiner. All examiners are graded for their accuracy by the senior team. Marks are also checked against the centre's estimated grades (which are sent in before the exams start) and how you did on other papers in the same subjects. Any papers showing wide variation from these would be looked at again by senior examiners.

At the end of the marking process, all senior examiners in a subject team meet centrally for what is known as the grade boundary review. In summer this usually takes place around the end of July. At this point they check samples of papers across the subject to make sure the standard is the same, that is an A is the same across all papers and so on. Having done that they decide the pass/fail mark for each subject. The Board can then start inputting final

marks into the system for results days; A level the week before GCSE. Universities always receive your results a few days before you do, which means they can get their offers in the post to you for the day.

After the exam result is in you have the chance to have a photocopy of your marked written exam papers and possibly a re-mark, which is always done by senior examiners. The earlier you do it the better, but it is always worthwhile asking your teacher's advice, as in some cases centres ask for their own re-marks and you may not have to pay for it. A photocopy can be very useful as it shows you what the examiner thought of your work and should identify any weaknesses. Also you can see if more than one examiner marked the work; look for multiple initials or comments.

I hope you have found this account useful, and even reassuring. A great deal of care goes into making the exam process as fair and just as possible. All the best to you all taking / having taken them this summer!

Christian radio covers the FIFA World Cup

The Christian Sports Media Agency, 2K Plus International Sports Media, will be reporting from the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa for radio stations around the world. With a team based in Johannesburg, and working with international partners HCJB World Radio and FEBA South Africa, they will offer a range of services in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

Services include 12 one-minute programmes featuring top footballers including Brazil's Lucio and Kaka talking about their sport and faith, and 20 scripts for 3-minute items exploring ethical and spiritual issues with well-known footballers. From 9 June to 12 July they are producing a 30 minute English Programme called "Up for the Corner" featuring reports from fans at matches, analysis and Christian comment. Visit www.2kplusgateway.org

Team Rector	Terry Clark	01204 61819
Team Vicar	John Armstrong	01204 651851
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
	Beccy Rutter	01204 654737
	Ken Tidmarsh	01204 652184

St Mary's mini Directory

Please pray for:

Soul Survivor

16th-21st August Somerset.

Karen Greenhalgh

Beccy Rutter

Sean Cornforth

Liv Brown

Molly Stevenson

Gemma Small

Gemma Donlan

Claire Walker

Andrew Simpson

Dave Armstrong

Julian Tomlinson

Danny Bartrupe

Tom Ingram

Pray for us to get there and back safely, to get to know God better, and to have a fab time.

Venture camp

Elizabeth Tidmarsh

Seburgh 13th to 22nd August

14-18 yr olds, about 50 young people

30 18+yrs training helpers

30 leaders plus cooks and child minders travelling from all over Britain

prayer for

enough leaders and full booking for young people's places

safe activities and journeys whilst there

wisdom and energy for all open hearts for all to hear

the gospel and accept Jesus as Saviour