

Parish News

CHURCH LAWTON

1993

OCTOBER



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THE LAWTON REVIEW - OCTOBER 1993

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Magazine Editor
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Revd. Graham Joyce, The Rectory, Liverpool Road West (0270 882103)
Revd. Joe Yates-Round, 5 Willow Tree Grove, Rode Heath (0270 883425)
Mr. Robert New, 52 Sandbach Road, Rode Heath (0270 874602)
Mr. Harold Dowler, 91 Chatterley Drive, Kidsgrove (0782 786763)
Mr. Roy Giltrap, 5 Woodgate Avenue, Church Lawton (0270 873839)
Mr. Graham Tyler and Mr. Vincent Jones
Mrs. Judy Breedon, 14 Crossway Road, Church Lawton (0270 882995)
Mrs. Louisa Turner, 2 Grove Avenue, Church Lawton (0270 878355)
Mrs. Sue Dowler, 91 Chatterley Drive, Kidsgrove (0782 786763)

Mrs. Mary Adams, 33 Woodgate Avenue, Church Lawton (0270 874619)
Mr. Robert New and Mr. Trevor Tooth
Messrs. Don Breedon, Paul Cruyton, Harold Dowler, Roy Giltrap, Robert New,
Graham Tyler, Derek Woodward, Joe Yates-Round.
Mesdames Mary Adams, Elsie Beech, Lilian Bishop, Nicola Bishop, Judy Breedon,
Margaret Cruyton, Susan Dowler, Joyce Fletcher, Anne New, Rachel Patrick,
Jean Steer, Louisa Turner, June Tyler, Rita Woodward.

CALENDAR

Date	Time	Service	Sidesmen	Servers	Cleaning & Flowers
October 3rd 18th after Pentecost	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Holy Communion	Mr. Taylor Mr. & Mrs. D. Breedon Mr. & Mrs. A. New	J. Steer M. Cruyton	CL: Mr. & Mrs. V. Jones FL: Guild Wedding In memory of Rev. Lewis
October 10th 19th after Pentecost	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Communion Songs of Praise	Mr. Washington Mrs. N. Fryer & Mrs. E. Freeborn Mrs. B. Bailey	Miss E. Turner Miss R. Adams	CL: Mr. & Mrs. J. Tyler FL: Guild
October 17th Last Sunday after Pentecost	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Communion Evening Prayer	Mr. R. Richardson Mrs. I. Patrick Mrs. K. Giltrap Mrs. D. Leese	J. Steer Miss E. Turner	CL: Mrs. E. Bellerby Mrs. D. Leese FL: Mrs. A. Taylor
October 24th 9th before Christmas	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Service Evening Prayer	Mrs. K. Hughes Mr. & Mrs. V. Jones Mrs. A. New	Miss E. Turner	CL: Mr. & Mrs. R. New FL: Guild
October 31st 8th before Christmas	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Communion TEAR FUND PRAISE SERVICE	Mr. G. Tyler Mrs. C. Bellingham & Mr. J. Turner Mrs. B. Bailey	M. Cruyton Miss R. Adams	CL: Mrs. Giltrap & Mrs. Dowler FL: Guild
Nov. 7th 7th before Christmas	8.00 10.45 6.00	Holy Communion Family Communion Evening Prayer	Mr. B. Plant Mrs. L. Bishop & Mrs. A. Joyce Mrs. D. Leese	J. Steer M. Cruyton	CL: Mr. & Mrs. H. Dowler FL: Mrs. Turner

DIARY DATES

- Midweek Communion - Each Wednesday at 10.15 a.m.
- Saturday Morning Prayers - In The Rectory at 9.00 a.m.
- House Groups - Each Monday at The Rectory - 8.00 p.m.
- Each Thursday at 65 Brown Avenue - 9.45 a.m.
- Each Thursday at 55 Brown Avenue - 8.00 p.m.
- Mothers' Union - First Wednesday in month The Rectory - 2.15 p.m.
- Third Wednesday in month The Rectory - 8.00 p.m.
- Youth Group - Sundays at 7.00 p.m. Contact Margaret Cruxton
- Junior Church - Every Sunday (except Family Service)
at The Rectory - 10.30 a.m. Contact Anne New
- Music Worship Group - Contact Robert New
- Outreach Group - Contact Don & Judy Breedon
- Bellringers - Contact Harold Dowler
- Holy Communion at
*Lawton Manor Nursing Home
*Southdown Home - Alternate Wednesdays at 11.00 a.m.
*Aidenswood Home

COPY FOR THE NOVEMBER MAGAZINE TO BE WITH EDITOR BY 16th OCTOBER

From the Rector

"God is there, and he matters!"

This was the first title taken up by our new House Groups during September. It is also a statement that is believed by more than two-thirds of the parents who were interviewed in a survey carried out by National Opinion Polls for the Independent newspaper. *More than two-thirds of parents think children should be taught that there is a God and say prayers in school, while nearly half believe they should learn that the Bible is true.* said the Independent on Monday, 6th September.

From where I sit it seems that many in Church Lawton would echo this view, but have not considered its implications. If there is no God then all that we do as Christians is futile. But if God is there then it is ridiculous to respond to him with anything less than our whole being. If God is there then our lives need to revolve around him.

In the beginning God made everything that existed. In his perfect timing he made all of us! Have you ever stopped to ask why he should do all that?

Our church exists so that we have a forum to worship God, and so that we encourage each other in finding out more about him. At the centre of our Christian belief is the man, Jesus, the Son of God, who lived and died voluntarily so that in so doing he might take upon himself the punishment for sin that all people deserve. As we take hold of the fact, and receive God's forgiveness, we become more and more aware of God's immense love for us as individuals, and for all people everywhere. As we take hold of that love we realise that God has made himself known in Jesus, and that a personal friendship with God is accessible to everyone.

All the evidence points to the fact that God is there, and he matters! If you are one of the many people who believe in God, but do not yet know his love and power in your life, - if you do not have that all important personal friendship with Jesus, then come and join us in church for any of our services and find our more. If you would like a chat about these things in the comfort of your own home then just ring me, Joe or Rob and we will be pleased to visit you.

If that sounds a bit threatening, then pick up one of three small books at the back of church. *Journey into Life* by Norman Warren is a well known guide to knowing Jesus personally, as are David Watson's *Start a New Life* and Nicky Gumbel's *Why Jesus?* Each book has its own characteristics - choose the one that is best for you.

Looking at our Church yard it seems as if the growing season has nearly come to an end. We are enormously grateful to John Murray and his team for the hard work they have done. When they began work the whole area was horribly overgrown, and they have done magnificently in bringing things under control. I learned recently that some people think that John is employed by the church to tend individual graves. This is not the case, and graves remain the responsibility of those families concerned. John is available to work on individual graves but arrangements for him to do this must be made with him by the families concerned. John's telephone number is in the advertisements in this magazine.

One of the biggest pitfalls facing any church is **misunderstanding**. I value the opinions of those who form the membership of All Saints, and I value the views of all our parishioners. It is both helpful and important to let me have your views on all that we do together as a church. Both Harold and Roy (our Church Wardens) are around during services, and may be contacted by telephone. In addition I welcome views which are expressed to me directly - face to face, on the telephone, or in writing. I cannot promise to agree with every view that is expressed, but I will do my best to listen; it is my experience that saying what we feel does help us to avoid misunderstandings. Our unity as a church is a very fragile item. I am keen to preserve our unity and to serve the needs of both church and community. Don't sit there grumbling to yourself - get in touch with us and tell us what you are thinking!

A BIG THANK YOU to all who contributed to the sample copy of our new magazine, and to all who expressed appreciation of it. Please be writing and submitting for our first "proper" edition which should be with Mary, our Editor, early in December.

May our good, great and generous God bless us all super-abundantly!

Yours sincerely
Graham Joyce

NEWSBITS!

The Decade of Evangelism is high on our agenda during October, with several meetings where the Archbishops' Advisers in Evangelism will be speaking. Both Canon Michael Green and Bishop Michael Marshall are excellent speakers, and I encourage all who are able to go along and hear what they have to say.

On Monday, 4th October all the clergy from the Diocese will be together for the day at Northwich. Both Michael Green and Michael Marshall will be speaking, so we will all be returning full of enthusiasm and wisdom for the task of evangelism. Look out Church Lawton!

On Thursday, 7th October Michael Green will address a joint meeting of clergy from our own Congleton Deanery and neighbouring Nantwich Deanery. *Please pray for this meeting that we would keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and the commission he has given to us (see Matthew 28, verses 19-20).*

On the same day the entire P.C.C. will be travelling to Nantwich to hear Michael Green. Any others who would like the opportunity to hear Michael Green are most welcome to come along - have a word with me!

On Sunday, 10th October, our service at 10.45 a.m. will be one of family Communion, with a guest preacher and President, the Archdeacon of Macclesfield, the Ven. John Gaisford. I hope that all members of All Saints will be present on this occasion, and that together we will benefit from John's ministry to us.

Our Songs of Praise Service is on the same day at 6.00 p.m.

To compensate for the changes on 10th October our services on 3rd October will be 10.45 a.m. Morning Prayer, and 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion.

On Saturday, 16th October there is a conference called "Reason to Believe" at Stockport Town Hall, starting at 9.30 p.m. and finishing at 4 p.m. The speakers will be Canon Michael Green and Canon John Holmes (Ripon Diocesan Missioner). I would like two or more members of our church to represent us at Stockport - offers please to me as soon as possible.

On the same day **Tear Fund is holding its 25th Anniversary event** at the Manchester Freed Trade Hall. Tickets are £5 each and are available through me. Presenters include singer Garth Hewitt, poet Stewart Henderson and singers/musicians Wellspring. This event carries my personal recommendation!

Our Guest Speaker on Sunday, 17th October at 10.45 a.m. is Rev. Trevor Blackshaw from Crosslinks. Trevor will be also speaking over lunch at the Rectory - lunch tickets are available from Emma Turner (0270) 878355) price £2 each.

We all get an extra hour in bed as clocks should be put BACK ONE HOUR before going to bed on Saturday, 23rd October. British Summer Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, 24th October.

On Sunday, 31st October, at 6.00 p.m. our Evening Worship will take the form of a Praise Service. Our Guest Speaker will be Brendan Bowles who works for Tear Fund. This is one of the organisations that we have chosen to support, and it is an organisation in which I have taken a personal interest for many years. It would be marvellous to have the church full on this occasion - you will not be disappointed!

Finally, Monday, 1st November is ALL SAINTS DAY. We will be having a special service at 7.30 p.m. Please come along to take part in the praise, prayer, and saying thank you to God for all that he is doing amongst us.

The Schools interest in the church

During the last school term the top junior children of Church Lawton Gate School, undertook a project about the church. This was to be the initial research for the year six children on buildings, because it had been arranged for them to continue their

Chester Diocesan News

No. 816

October 1993

The Church Commissioners

Many people in the diocese will know about the well-publicised troubles of the Church Commissioners: reports from a group appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and from Coopers & Lybrand, chartered accountants, were published at the end of July. They criticised the Church Commissioners' management of their assets and made potentially far-reaching recommendations for the future.

CDN does not offer the space for a detailed analysis of the problems facing the church in the light of these reports, but we are quoting from a letter sent to all parishes by Peter Mills, the Diocesan Secretary, Laurie Evans, the Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance, and Stewart Darlow, Chairman of the House of Laity of the Diocesan Synod.

"We explained last autumn that the support given by the Commissioners to clergy stipends and housing in the Diocese of Chester will have gone down by nearly a third between 1990/1 and 1994/5. The situation is now worse than we expected. The indications are that there will be no allocations from the Commissioners in four years time.

We would like to make just one comment. A loss of £800m has been reported. 90% of this is no more a real loss than is a temporary reduction in house values and will disappear if asset values recover. The loss of the Commissioners' income is the more serious issue.

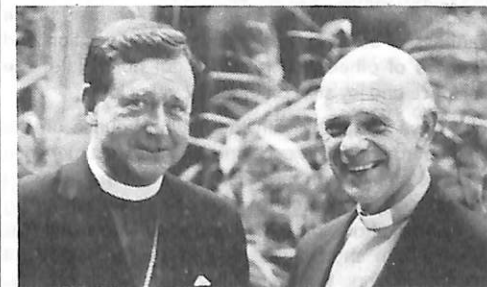
Although we should not be seeking recrimination, there may be some anger around in the parishes. It is important to realise that the persons principally concerned in making the decisions which are now seen to be wrong (even though they were made in good faith at the time) have already left the Commissioners. The Archbishop of Canterbury and Sir Michael Colman, who now heads the Church Commissioners as First Estates Commissioner, are determined that the church should learn from the mistakes. Action will be taken, and soon.

It is still too early to say what the full implications for the Church of England will be, but it goes without saying that the next few years will not be easy. We shall monitor closely the cost of diocesan administration. We might have to review again the operation of the Ministry

Support Fund. We imagine that some pastoral reorganisation might be necessary in order to save costs; this cannot be undertaken quickly.

But we wonder how far it will be necessary or desirable to take drastic action. There is no reason why we should not maintain the same number of clergy (but perhaps not the same number of church buildings) given the right approach to Christian stewardship. The Biblical standard of giving is one tenth. The Church of England challenges its members to give 5% of net income to and through the church. If we could reach this level, we would be financially secure! We hope that all parishes will pursue the 'Love to Give' initiative available from Diocesan House."

It must be emphasised that parishes do not contribute any new money to the Church Commissioners' funds, except that the Commissioners operate a centralised payroll system and the diocese sends them money to pay the stipends of parish clergy.



The Bishop of Chester writes on page 2 about the visit to the diocese of Bishop Michael Marshall (left) and Canon Michael Green.

CDN is edited and typeset by the Revd T R Barker at All Saints' Vicarage, Highlands Road, Runcorn, WA7 4PS (tel: 0928 575666; fax: 0928 581868). It is printed by Cowdall's Printing Company, P O Box 1, 16 Flag Lane, Crewe, CW1 3BQ (0270 212389).
Deadline for November: Monday 4 October, please.

The Bishop of Chester encourages us to

Take the plunge

The boy climbed up on to the springboard which was overhanging the swimming pool. With the eye of a holidaying observer, I looked to see the dive - but it did not happen. Instead, the boy started bouncing on the springboard with all his vigour. After quite a while another lad joined him. Together they bounced with even greater energy and the springboard certainly sprang impressively! Yet neither dived in.



Springboards are, of course, for springing off, not for springing on: they are meant to give us a life either for swimming or for gymnastics. So it is with the visit of the Archbishops' SPRINGBOARD team to the diocese this month. It is easy to discuss evangelism, to train for it and to watch others

doing it. We can go on springing for ever, but the actual diving in and doing it can still not happen.

I have sympathy with the youngsters at the swimming pool. Frankly, I only go to swimming pools out of a sense of duty, and I would rather spring on the board than dive in. We all have inner hesitation about actually sharing with others the gospel or what Christ means to us. So do I. In curacy days on going out house to house for evangelism, I always dragged my feet and went out late; but once under way, I was always amazed at the openness of so many (as well as the opposition and bitterness of others), so I always got home late. The reluctance and joy still continues 37 years later.

I also have sympathy with those who bounce on the springboard and fall in accidentally. My own experience of that as a child probably caused my dislike of diving. I was not ready; I seemed to swallow half the swimming pool. I was afraid, did not manage to swim and just sank. So with sharing the gospel: we can fall into it without warning. We were bouncing happily on the training board when suddenly, perhaps, we were asked a direct question at work or college or school as to why we are a Christian. We sank and did not swim, failing to cope and retreating embarrassed - reluctant ever to be drawn again.

Others do the training and dive in, but again find it very difficult to put theory into practice.

So, if you feel reluctant about evangelising, you are in good company but you must get back on the board. This is why the visit of the SPRINGBOARD team to our

diocese is an opportunity for us all, even for experienced witnesses.

The SPRINGBOARD team is headed by Bishop Michael Marshall and by Canon Michael Green with his wife Rosemary and with Martin Cavender. They are from very different churchmanships, but are endowed with outstanding evangelistic gifts. This is why the Archbishop of Canterbury invited them to return from the USA and Canada to help the whole Church of England in this Decade of Evangelism.

They will not only use their gifts on various outreach occasions amongst us, but will also share in training us to spring and dive more effectively. These gifted leaders understand what today's pool is like, the society and world in which we seek to bring the gospel. They are immensely effective communicators and strategists in 'bringing Christ to this generation'.

We welcome them to the Diocese of Chester and pray that their visit may be a further significant milestone in the Decade of Evangelism in our diocese and in all of our lives.

Don't miss out on the springboard, nor on taking the plunge, for Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. The more who plunge in, the bigger the ripples and waves that will result!

Yours sincerely,

+Michael

Springboard events

There are two major lay training days on Saturdays from 9.30 am to 4 pm, one at Ellesmere Port Indoor Centre on 2 October and the other at Stockport Town Hall on 16 October. There is a day for all the clergy on Monday 4 October at the Memorial Hall in Northwich. Many other events and gatherings are going on across the time our visitors are with us this month: open meetings for men in Macclesfield (The King's School, 7.30 pm, 5 October), for women in Broadheath (Blessed Thomas Halford School, 8 pm, Wednesday 6 October), and for young people at Bebington (St Andrew's Church, 8 pm, Sunday 10 October). Bishop Michael Marshall spends Saturday 9 October with the Readers at the Cathedral. There are evening evangelistic meetings at Wallasey Town Hall (12 October), Christ Church, Birkenhead (22 October) and St Mary Magdalene's Church, Ashton-upon-Mersey (23 October). Just turn up for these events - but local clergy will be able to put you in touch with event organisers.

Canon Michael Green is speaking at the **Chester Bible Focus** in Chester Town Hall on the first three Tuesdays in October. Information and tickets from Ravens Bookshop (0244 377696).

Notes and news

The charity **Help the Aged** is encouraging churches to mark the National Sunday for Elderly People on 3 October. Details are available from Stephen Goddard at Help the Aged (071 253 0253).

The Rt Revd Derek Bond, national president of the **Retired Clergy Association**, will attend the inaugural meeting of the Chester diocesan branches at 3 pm on Friday 8 October at St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall, Parkgate Road, Chester. It is hoped to form branches in Chester, Nantwich and Stockport. Contact the Revd Bernard Elsdon (061 456 6824) for details.

The Bishop of Chester will be taking part in a programme in the new series of '**Close to the Edge**' to be broadcast on 10 October on ITV; the Bishop of Birkenhead took part in a programme broadcast in September.

Liverpool City Mission is holding a presentation entitled 'Fifty more ideas for Sunday School teachers' at Liverpool City Mission, Jubilee Drive, Liverpool 7 on Tuesday 12 October at 7.30 pm. For further information, contact Iain Gopsill on 051 260 8866.

There will be a service in Manchester Cathedral on Monday 25 October at 6 pm to mark the inauguration of the BBC's bi-media **religious broadcasting** department in Manchester and to welcome staff who have recently moved to the region. Anyone who wishes to attend the service will be most welcome.

On 31 October, Christians throughout the country will be encouraged to leave a legacy for Christian work in their will. **Good Will Sunday** is being sponsored by a number of Christian agencies to promote good capital stewardship. For details, write to Good Will Sunday, 3-4 Old Bakery Row, Wellington, Telford, TF1 1PS.

Prisoners' Week is observed in November each year. A day conference in preparation for this will be held at

Styal Prison on Saturday 13 November. Parish clergy will be receiving details, but the chaplain at Styal Prison can be contacted on 0625 532141.

There will be a meeting for **hearing-impaired clergy** in Birmingham on 18 November. Details from Canon Geoffrey Babb (061 832 5785).

Many people are already planning for **Have Another Look** in Lent 1994. To be added to the mailing list for this practical project for evangelising together at the local level, write to: Lent 94, CCBI, Interchurch House, 35-41 Lower Marsh, London, SE1 7RL.

Small ads

Halton Family Groups, a small organisation supported by the Diocesan Board for Social Responsibility, is looking for a volunteer treasurer. The work would involve about one hour's work per week and attendance at quarterly meetings in Runcorn. For further information, please contact Sue North on 0928 572433 or Judith Barker on 0928 575666.

The administrator of the National Trust's **Dunham Massey Hall** is looking for a dozen prayer books which might be suitable for display in the hall's chapel. Contact Mr Alford on 061 941 1025 if you can help.

There will be a concert in **Holy Trinity Church, Blacon**, Chester on Wednesday 20 October at 7.45 pm to raise money for the restoration of Newquay Parish Church in Cornwall, where Blacon's choir have spent their annual holiday.

St Paul's Church, Macclesfield needs copies of the **New Cathedral Psalter**. If you can help, contact Keith Yearsley (0625 424215) or the Revd Simon Marsh (0625 422910/501773).

Services on Radio Merseyside on Sundays at 8.30 am this month include a blessing of animals service from Hargrave Parish Church (10 October) and a St

Parish Magazine Competition

There will be a national parish magazine competition next year, with parishes invited to submit the best edition of their newsletter, magazine or newspaper published in December 1993, January or February 1994. The winners in each category (newsletter, magazine and newspaper) in the diocesan competition will go forward to the national competition, with awards being presented in July 1994.

Entries will be judged, in both the diocesan and the national competitions, on layout and presentation, editing, quality of writing and appeal to common interest. The aim of the competition is to highlight good practice and offer advice on how an entrant's product can be improved. There will be three prizes for each category in the diocesan competition. The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group has agreed to sponsor the national competition with prizes to a total value of £4,000.

Entry forms for the competition are available from the Revd Tim Barker (address in CDN editor's notes box)

There will be a training day at Knutsford on Saturday 20 November to help those who have responsibility for writing for parish magazines and newsletters (clergy and lay) to improve their writing skills. Contact the Continuing Ministerial Education administrator on 0925 263434 for details.

Luke's-tide service from Halton General Hospital in Runcorn (17 October).

The Church Holiday Bulletin for 1994 is now under preparation. Anyone wishing to offer accommodation in the UK or abroad for church members, or wishing to arrange a clergy locum, should send immediately for an application form (SAE please) to Mrs S M Bernardi, The Ascension Vicarage, Beaufort Road, Ealing, London, W5 3EB.

Christian singles? New friends, fellowship groups, social activities in Cheshire, single parent families group (0277 233848), friendship/marriage introductions. The registered charity, Christian Friendship Fellowship, seeks to help Christian singles and those now on their own. Details from CFF/DS10, Edenthorp, Doncaster, DN3 2QD.

Mid Cheshire Hospitals (NHS) Trust is holding an open day at **Leighton Hospital, Crewe** on Sunday 10 October from 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is free and many of the hospital's departments will be open to view, including theatres and casualty. For further information, contact the quality assurance department on 0270 255141 extn 2087.

The **Vale Royal Singers**, a distinguished broadcasting and recording chamber choir of 24 voices, currently has a vacancy for a tenor for a busy and exciting 1993/4 season which includes a BBC recording. A good standard of sight singing is required. Contact Brian Greensill at Well House, 8 Smithy Pathway, Chester, CH4 7NU (0244 677408).

Unwanted church seating can be refurbished and recycled, with proceeds going towards Christian Aid's work. Call Peter West at Christian Aid on 071 620 4444.

Around the parishes

The young people have moved to Adswold in the parish of St George, Stockport, as members of a **Root Group** sponsored by the missionary society USPG. Root groups offer young people the chance to form a small community and 'to join a church' in another area or culture within Britain, to experience church life and ministry at the sharp end whilst being supported and challenged by community life.

The churches in Congleton are joining together for a month of mission, **Light up Congleton**, this month after a wide range of activities during the year.

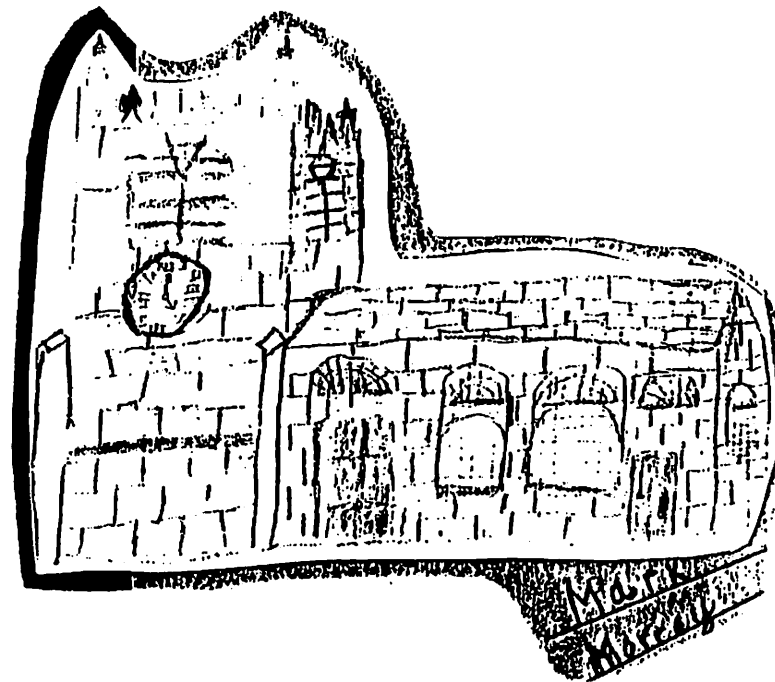
Heswall Parish Church in Wirral makes sure that its lesson readers do more than just read lessons: the **Guild of Lesson Readers** meets each October and over the years, members have received advice on elocution, had talks about the different versions of the Bible and been encouraged to prepare themselves for their reading. 'We readers all feel it a very great privilege to read the Word of God,' said Mr James Rushworth in a letter to CDN's editor.

A parishioner of the Church of the Resurrection, **Upton Priory, Macclesfield**, sent a poem to Radio 2's *Good Morning Sunday* programme, thereby winning for the parish a supply of *Good Morning Sunday* coffee.

work on the topic at Alsager High School, throughout the autumn, in certain subjects.

During the first visit to the church they explored the grounds and the inside, being genuinely interested and fascinated with the gravestones. The children discovered the history of the church and the connection with the Lawton family, as well as learning about how the church runs.

On a second visit the children were shown where the bells were and how they were used. There were also given the opportunity to ring them. Climbing up the dark, winding staircase was an adventure to most.



The whole experience was most valuable and enjoyable, and the children would like to thank Reverend Joyce and his family for making the project possible. A display of some of the children's work can be seen in the entrance to the school.

Canon Roy Barker writes about

Faith at work in the business world

I wear bifocals, everybody pioneering a new venture needs them. Foreground vision is needed to set about the job! How does a chaplain to city shops and offices start? It is a venture of faith, stepping out into the unknown.

There are about a thousand businesses in Chester city centre, and over 10,000 workers. The bigger stores and offices are entered only after an interview with the one at the top: they have all been extremely friendly - curious and questioning, but welcoming. The not-so-strange notion is that I am after money or help, but I am delighted to say that I am asked by the city centre churches to affirm that God is alive, that people matter and that the world of work is just as much God's as anywhere else.

Every visit is different - speaking at staff meetings, free access to staff in their canteens. It is constant introductions and explanations; at this stage, mainly about being there. That is the foreground vision.

Then there's the long vision: what's the long term purpose? The gospel itself is expressed, God's representative stands where the people stand during their working hours. Love, concern and caring are expressed and waiting to be exercised as requested. People have to be given time to trust a chaplain: their questions usually demand integrity, impartiality and confidentiality. Already, I am glad to say, there have been calls for help. Help can be freely given because of the backing of the local churches.

I am only a 'temp' and very much a part timer. I am at heart a parish person, but I see the need to serve Christ among people at work, some of whom struggle to express their Christian faith and need encouragement. Please do two things: pray for chaplains in industry and commerce and invite them into your church to raise the issues that trouble the business community.

TO THE EDITOR

Concerning the article "Looking Back" in "The Lawton Light!" of September, 1993. The shop referred to was that of Tommy Richardson. The name referred to by Reg Nibrel was a nickname.

The shop stood by the side of the canal opposite The Red Bull Hotel, and was a general store used by the barges among other people.

WEEKLY GIVING

Weekly collections for August were as follows:-

Week ending	1st August 1993	-	£178.73
	8th August 1993	-	£105.50
	15th August 1993	-	£255.63
	22nd August 1993	-	£317.34
	29th August 1993	-	£201.61

MOTHERS' UNION

6th October - 2.15 p.m. - The Rectory.
Speaker - Mrs. Maisie Mottram
(Deanery President)

20th October - 8.00 p.m. - The Rectory
Speaker - Mrs. Annette Dodd
(Enrolling Member of Audley's M.U.)

CHURCH LAWTON OVER 60'S CLUB

The speaker at our meeting on the 12th August was Mr. David Moy. He gave us some very valuable advice on safety in insurance regarding such things as fire and safety locks. His talk was much appreciated by the members.

At our meeting on the 26th August we had our Fancy Dress parade. All those who took part are to be congratulated on their ingenuity and the trouble they took over their costumes. The judges, Mr. & Mrs. Bob West, had a very difficult task choosing the winners. Also at this meeting we handed over all the sewing equipment and materials we had collected for the Third World to Mrs. Anne Fryer. This has engendered such a good response that it has been decided to make it on-going, and we shall continue collecting articles for this very good cause.

Our annual Autumn Show was on the 9th September. There was a marvellous display in all classes and our Judges, Mrs. Asbury and friends, admitted how hard it had been to select the winners. The excellent show was much appreciated by all members.

LAWTON CHURCH

Standing like a Sentinel,
Upon a burial mound,
Guarding all the souls who lie,
Within this hallowed ground.

This Church has stood for centuries,
Mid meadowland and wood,
A symbol of our Christian faith,
In bad times and in good.

The tower, gaunt and rugged,
Looking up into the sky,
The Church clock quietly keeps the time,
As the world goes madly by.

The Bells ring out their joyous peel,
Across the country air,
At Matins, or at Evensong,
They call the folk to prayer.

The porch of recent origin,
A memorial to the young and brave,
Who gave their lives regardless,
Your life, and mine to save.

The wondrous sound of the organ,
Fill the Church with mystic glow,
As we listen to the works of the masters.
Who died so long ago.

The east window faces the rising sun,
As it's glories begin to unfold,
While the brass on the altar table,
Is magically turned to gold.

When your heart is really troubled,
Your burden too heavy to bear,
Just quietly pray in this house of God,
For He is always there.

Suns may rise, and suns may set,
Centuries roll away,
May the work of the ancient craftsmen,
Forever with us stay.

*Written by Molly Stubbs for the Over 60's Craft
Fair 29.7.1993.*

GUIDE & BROWNIE CRAFT FAIR

Church Lawton Guide and Brownie Units are holding their annual Craft Fair on Saturday, 9th October 1993 at Alsager Civic Centre. This is an ideal opportunity for you to begin your Christmas shopping with quality crafts and help the Youth Groups in the community with their funds.

*Church Lawton Parish is steeped in history
We are considering the formation of a*

Lawton Heritage Society

If you are interested in assisting in this venture, please contact:
EITHER

Mrs. Audrey Gleaves
29 Liverpool Road East
Church Lawton
Stoke-on-Trent ST7 3AQ
0782 784825

OR

Mr. Robert Farrell
9 Woodgate Avenue
Church Lawton
Stoke-on-Trent ST7 3EF
0270 878386

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms: We welcome the following children into the family of the church of Jesus Christ.

5th September Alex Robin Whittington, son of Robin and Fiona Whittingham
....By our baptism, then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from death by the glorious power of the Father, so also we might live a new life. (Romans 6:4).

Funerals: We offer our sympathy to the relatives of those who have been laid to rest in the faith of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

On 4th August Barbara Welch (age 67)
On 10th September Data Price (age 40)
On 16th September Ruthy Price (age 88)
....there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 8:39).

*A QUARTERLY magazine aimed at
Christian worship leaders and
musicians has been launched by the
Christian publishers Herald House,
Worthing.*

*DEO - meaning to, for or in God -
has grown out of Christian Music
magazine, run for several years in
conjunction with the Music &
Worship Foundation, who continue
their interest in the new-style
magazine.*

MAGAZINE FOR MUSIC 'FOR GOD'

*Editor Jane Hicks says: 'We aim to
push out the boundaries on all sides
of the music and worship spectrum,
catering for ... those interested in
evangelism through performance as
well as those interested in church
worship.'*

GUIDE TO SHOPS AND SERVICES

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47 Woodshutts St., Butt Lane.
Tel: S-o-T 775346 Alsager 872722

Angela J. Ellison
Dept. of Trans. Approved Driving Instructor
Door to Door. Local Area

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(Dave Weatherby)
Meadows Road, Kidsgrove

M.O.T. Testing. Servicing and Repairs
(Most makes of vehicles)
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ANNE NEW (CATERING)

52 Sandbach Road, Rode Heath
Tel: (0270) 874602

Buffets for all occasions
Prices to suit

LAWTON GARDEN MACHINERY

(Phil & Tina Ouseley)
Lawton Garage, Crewe Road,
Church Lawton. Tel: Alsager 882492

- Machines and Spares
- All Makes
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LAWTON MEMORIAL HALL

Mrs. SHAW, Hall Green Farm,
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or Mrs. ENGLISH

For Weddings and Private Parties
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Tel: Alsager 874108

JOSEPH EDWARDS & SONS

144-146 Crewe Road
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G. SHAW

22 Liverpool Road West
Church Lawton

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W.J. GALLIMORE

Member of the B.D.A.
368 Turnhurst Road, Packmoor
Tel: Stoke-on-Trent 812902

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Deep Vac and Carpet Shampooing
Deep Vac is free with all decoration
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**St Luke's Day
18th October**

St Luke, patron saint of doctors and the writer of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles, is the only non-Jewish writer in the New Testament. He came from Antioch and was a doctor by profession.

Luke travelled with St Paul on his missionary journeys. He was with him in Jerusalem and shared Paul's voyage and shipwreck on the way to Rome.

St Luke's Gospel gives us the fullest life story of Jesus that we have. His choice of stories show his own warm interest in people; especially the sick and helpless, the poor, women, children, the social outcasts.

Luke dedicated both his books to the same Roman, Theophilus (which means Friend of God so he was writing them to us too because we love God), and both were written for the same reason - to give the true facts of

Christianity. St Luke stresses that he wrote down the stories of people who were there and actually saw the things for themselves.

The word 'Gospel' means 'the good news' and that is what Luke wanted the world to know - the good news of Jesus Christ.

LLLLLLLLL

All the answers in this Bible Quiz begin with the letter L - some have clues to help. So can you say which L...

1. Wrote to Theophilus?
2. Town where Paul healed a cripple (Acts 14).
3. Abraham's nephew whose wife turned to salt? (Genesis 19)
4. Country famous for its cedar trees (Psalm 72).
5. The soldiers cast these to decide who would have Jesus' robe (John 19).
6. Mary and Martha's brother, Jesus raised him from the dead.
7. The flowers of the field (Matthew 6).
8. The 3rd book of the Bible.



Doctor, doctor, I keep thinking I'm a pair of curtains.
Pull yourself together.

Doctor, doctor, what are you writing on my ankle?
Just a footnote.

1. Luke 2. Lystra 3. Lot
4. Lebanon 5. Iots 6. Lazarus
7. Iilies 8. Leviticus

GUIDE TO SHOPS AND SERVICES

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BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION SHOP
16 Victoria Street, Crewe. Tel: (0270) 250377
Local Contact: Louisa Turner, 2 Grove Avenue,
Church Lawton. Tel: (0270) 878355

ALWAYS NEED: Good quality clothing,
shoes, books, toys, jewellery, records,
tapes, videos, bric a brac.

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