

*St Francis, New Denham*



*St Mary the Virgin, Denham Village*



*St Marks, Denham Green*

# Denham

# Parish

# News

**Magazine  
of the Church  
in Denham**

**February 2012**

**Price 50 pence**

# LETTER FROM THE CLERGY



Dear Friends,

Pictures, Prose or Poetry

Which of those do you find most moving, inspiring or thought provoking? Which stays in your memory longest?

Sometimes a picture stays with us and sums up an event. This may vary from family snaps to iconic pictures of war or famine. It may include religious pictures too. They shape our ideas as well as touching our emotions.

Sometimes a piece of poetry provokes or inspires us. From political rhymes to war poets; from poets of the fells and mountains, to those of the urban streets, in a few words they tell us how it looks and feels and what it may symbolise.

Sometimes a book presents ideas and thoughts about how the world works, and our place in it. These may be what the book is about or simply threaded through the text and story where we may not notice.

All these things have a bearing on what we believe and think.

In Lent we make a deliberate effort to look, read and see. We try to weigh things up and compare it with our experience of God in our own life. We think about ideas or viewpoints new or different to our own. We hope to deepen our knowledge and prepare ourselves to 'see' Jesus on the cross dying for our sake.

We hope to understand more and to love him more deeply and become more and more like him.

This year, we will again have groups who read a book or follow a course to spiritually prepare for Easter. You may decide to join us this year, but even if not please make some space to think about what you see or read. Weigh it up and compare it to your experience of God and let him teach you about Himself.

*Love, Sylvia*

# CHILDAID

## Transforming Lives with Christ's Love and Yours

It was back in November that I was "interrogated" by Rev Hirst about the work of ChildAid – actually it was great fun and I really appreciated the warm welcome from St Mary's.

Perhaps I can share some more about our work:

Since 1973 we have transformed thousands of young lives in Russia, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. Children like *Yaroslav who was tied to a table and brought up as a dog for most of his early life, or Darya who saw her dad hang himself in front of her.*

Those abandoned, unloved, exposed to abuse, trapped in violence or poverty, or living with physical or learning disabilities will, through our nine local partners, be provided with:

- Security, love and care
- Family foster care
- Free therapy for chronically sick children
- Empowerment for those with disabilities to play a full part in their communities
- Education, training and skills to orphan "graduates" to enable them to find work and build a normal life
- Social welfare and material aid

Most important of all we'll bring them the Love of Jesus and build up their Spiritual Welfare.

Why? Because we serve Christ by serving his children.

Your prayers will help secure their future. Your support is essential. One off gifts are so valued. Specific projects/children can be helped through our sponsorship programme.

For example, we are desperately seeking another 100 sponsors for our project in Belarus helping young people with severe learning difficulties. The cost is £16 per month (54p per day). Contact ChildAid (020 8460 6046) to find out how or go to the Child Sponsorship section of their website ([www.childaidrr.org.uk](http://www.childaidrr.org.uk)).

As one of St Mary's faithful congregation says: "I have heard such pitiful tales about living in Eastern Europe ... that it makes me thankful every day for all my blessings ... I feel at one with them".

*Martin Wilcox*

*ChildAid to Russia and the Republics*

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## **RON WHITE**

Ethel and family would like to thank all those who sent such lovely messages, prayers, flowers and cards, also donations to British Lung Foundation and Breathe Easy website in remembrance of Ron who passed away after a long suffering illness on 8<sup>th</sup> December, and is now at rest.

A big thank you to all who attended Breakspear Crematorium to celebrate his life, especially Stephanie and Joan, and many of our friends and colleagues. A lovely service which was conducted by Adrian.

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## **THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**

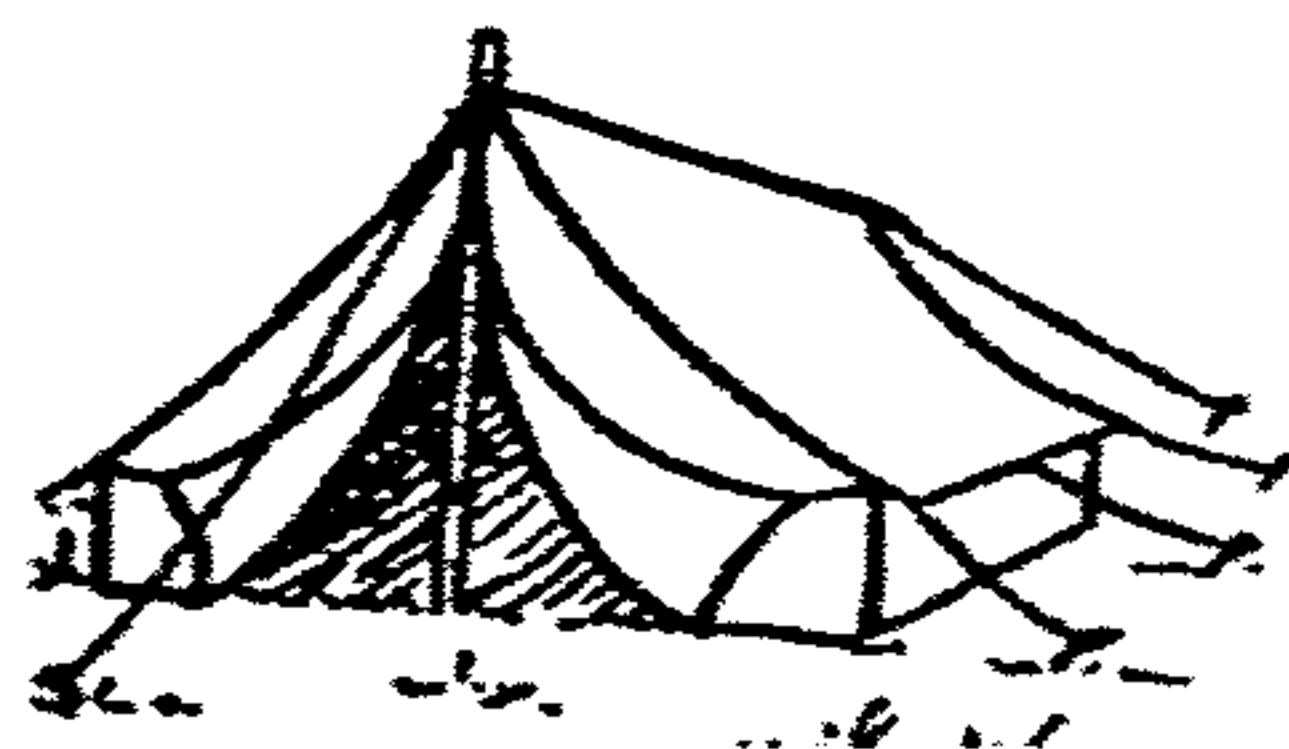
The Christingle service held last December raised £235 for the Children's Society, and the Christmas greetings card in church raised a total of £80.

It is now time for the boxes to be collected, so if you have a Children's Society box please leave it at the back of the church as soon as possible.

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## **HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW DENHAM QUIZ**

Apologies for the incorrect answer to the last question. It was Lord Baden Powell not Captain Scott who was the predecessor to Stephen Hilhouse as president of the Camping Club.



# HISTORY OF DENHAM

By Mr Cyril Timms

Before the Village Hall was built, the only place available for public functions was the Bowyer Room, which was the main schoolroom in the Old Charity School. Where is now the Village Green there used to be a block of about half-a-dozen cottages (Island Cottages) plus a large single story building which belonged to the 'Falcon' P.H., which used to house the large brewery dray and stable the horses. This building was – on occasions – used as the village mortuary.

There was no main water supply at that time and people were dependent upon the village wells and some fortunate people had a pump adjacent to them. It almost reminds one of biblical times to see the cottagers come to the well with their buckets, fix a bucket on to the end of a long pole by means of a latchet hook and pull up their full buckets. I well remember the well outside Misbourne Cottage, the one half-way up on the left hand side in Cheapside Lane and the one at the junction of Ashmead Lane with Cheapside Lane. None of these are now in use although the water was pure and not impregnated with fluoride.

Mention must be made of the two footpaths leading off from the Pyghtle, which went under the names of Orchard-dane and Partridge-Urn, which names are reputed to revert to Saxon Times.

Denham was probably better served for recreational purposes – for the male sex, at least, - than it is today. At the rear of Winton House, there used to be a large building, owned by Col.Way, known as the Reading Room, which was the centre of most village sporting activities, prior to the building of the present Village Hall. It contained a full size billiard table, a bagatelle table, a library, a gallery for playing cards and adjacent to it was an indoor rifle range. It was strictly administered by a committee under the supervision of Col. Way, and was also used for meetings of Boy Scouts, Church Lads' Brigade and other organizations. Records show that the Church Lads' Brigade was under the command of 'Major Way 'whose indefatigable efforts built up a strong company'. Apparently on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> 1909, the C.L.B., challenged their seniors (The Denham Rifle Club) to a match and beat them by 11 points!

This article first appeared in Denham News in July 1980



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# DENHAM VILLAGE FAYRE 2012!

Date for 2012 is Monday 4 June

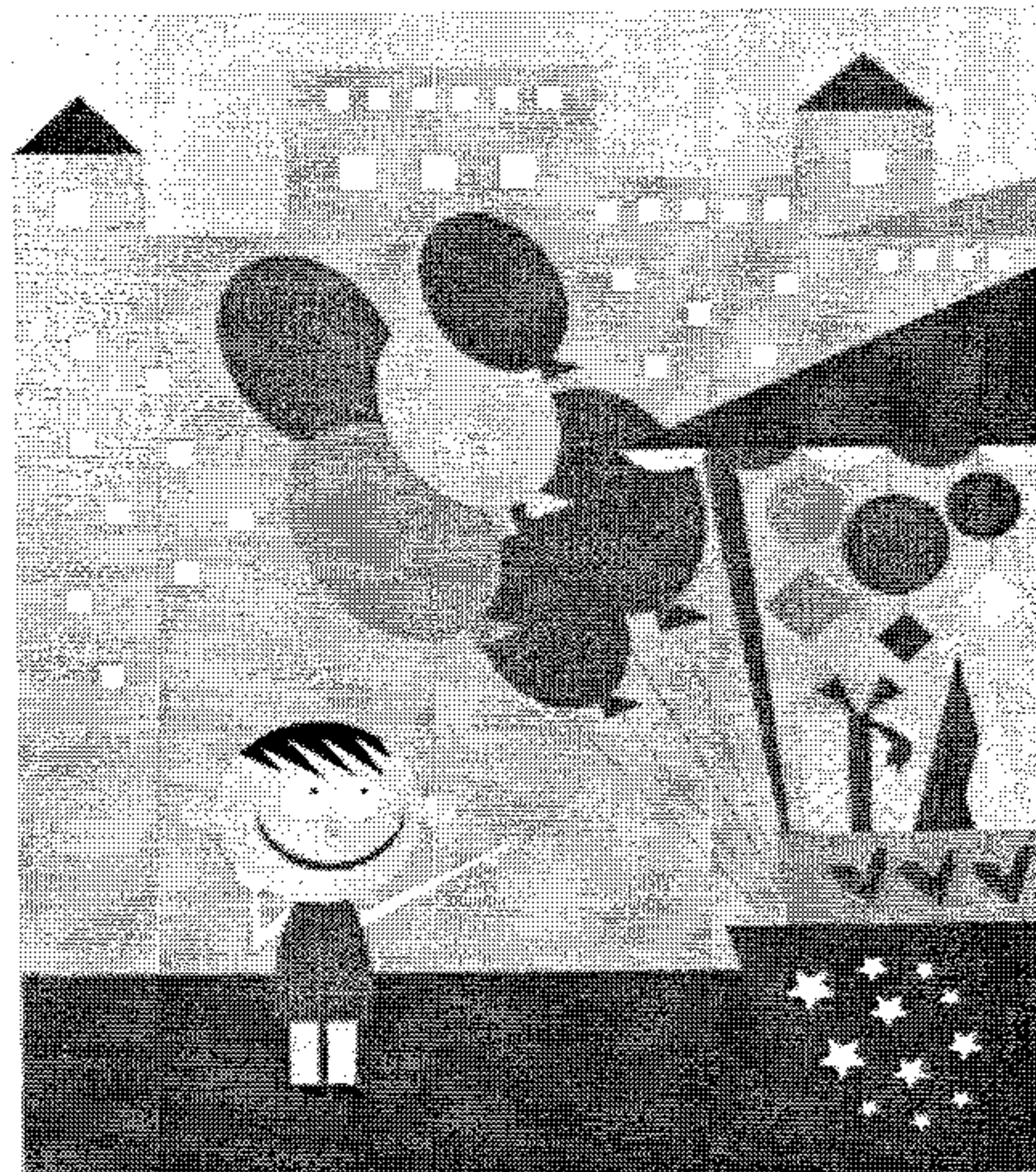
I hope you all had a very happy Christmas and a good New Year.

With the New Year now started preparations are now underway for this year's fayre. We desperately need more people to help with stalls on the day if it is just for an hour or two. We need people at the start of the day to help put up the stalls, then there is help on the various church stalls. At the end of the fayre we need people to help take the stalls down and to clear up any mess. If you are able to help in this area please contact me on 01895 832553.

If you have any unwanted presents that you would like to donate to the tombola or any unwanted books or if you have any bottles for the bottle tombola please bring in to church and pass to either Gerald, Tony, Barbara or myself. We do have somewhere we can store these small items. We don't want any bric-a-brac thank you as space is limited.

Remember with your help (which is desperately needed), we can raise the funds that are vital in keeping our church safe and able to carry on.

*Sharon Williams*  
*Fayre Coordinator*



## **HELP, PLEASE, HELP, TOMBOLA, HELP**

The Fayre Committee is trying to find somebody who would be happy to take over the running of the Tombola for Fayre Day, 4 June 2012. It can be organised by one or two people and does needs a bit of planning.

This stall can raise in excess of £1000 for the church funds but it does need to be co-ordinated. With regard to help, we do have people who are happy to help on the day but don't wish to co-ordinate the stall.

The stall is set up in Village Road on Fayre Day from 8.00 am. The Fayre officially opens at 10.00 am, and finishes at 4.00 pm, though if you sell out beforehand you will finish earlier. Items will need to be laid out in an eye catching way as several stalls have tombolas.

Prize donations are requested from congregation and Denham News readers and "topped up by" suitable prizes brought from a local warehouse. These comprise of items suitable for both adults and children and should be new and unwrapped.

If you feel you would be interested or happy to take on this role please contact Barbara Randall 01895 237498 or myself 01895 832553. If you have never run a stall or a tombola before please don't worry as guidance will be given.

Many thanks

*Sharon Williams*

*Fayre Co-ordinator*

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## **CHILDREN'S WRITINGS**

I asked my mum why we said 'Old Men' at the end of prayers at school. I don't know any old men apart from Grandpa.

A Mosque is a sort of church. The main difference is that its roof is doomed.

The closest town to France is Dover. You can get to France on a train or you can go on a fairy.

# BOOK REVIEW

## WITH HEARTS & HYMNS & VOICES

by

PAM RHODES

ISBN 0 7459 3701 2

A few months ago a friend offered me this book to read telling me she thought I would like it.

Well – I was hooked by page 8 where there is some dialogue about the vicar being a day late with his input for the Parish Magazine! All the characters in the book are very human, and it is possible to see likenesses to a lot of people we know.

The book is all about 'Village Praise' coming to a small Suffolk Village to record a service to be broadcast on Palm Sunday on the BBC. It gives a great insight into how these programmes are made and it is very illuminating to read about how much work and worry goes into the production. All the presenters and crew work incredibly hard to make a half hour television programme. It also gives some good observations of human nature and how the non-churchgoers try to wangle their way in for the service, and the back-biting amongst some of the other villagers. Conversely there are some characters who really get involved with the church in a life-changing way.

The inhabitants of the village are very varied in character, including the schoolchildren who took part, though I did think it was stretching the story a bit to have Denis the donkey come into the church and walk up the aisle given his unpredictable nature! There is a really touching part written from the donkey's viewpoint – all he wants is to beat home comfortably tucked up in his stable not in a church full of too much light and too many noisy people.

After the visit of Village Praise to St Michael's, Sandford, life would never be the same again.

*Janet Drane*

If you have enjoyed a book and would like to share it with others, do write a review and I will include it in the magazine. For more information please ring me on 01895 470717.

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