



**Dean Row Chapel, Wilmslow SK9 2BX**

**Chapel website: [www.deanrowchapel.co.uk](http://www.deanrowchapel.co.uk)**

**Services every Sunday at 11.15 a.m.,**

**Meditations – Friday evenings 7.00pm-7.30pm**

**All enquiries regarding weddings, baptisms,  
Naming ceremonies or funerals should be made to  
Mrs. Peggy Charmer 01606 892039**

**News-sheet No. 80  
October/November/December 2011**

**Worship at the Haldean Chapels August/September**  
**Services at Hale Chapel begin at 9.30 unless otherwise stated**  
**Services at Dean Row Chapel begin at 11.15 unless otherwise stated**

	<b>Hale Chapel 9.30am</b>	<b>Dean Row 11.15am</b>
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Harvest service: Mike Cuerden	Harvest service: Mike Cuerden
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Rev Andrew Parker	Rev Andrew Parker
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Anna Jarvis	Anna Jarvis
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Rev Linda Phillips	Rev Linda Phillips
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Chrissie Wilkie (including Communion)	Chrissie Wilkie (followed by Communion service)
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Liz Shaw	Liz Shaw
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Tony Cupper	Tony Cupper
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	David Buckley	David Buckley
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Rev John Allerton	Rev John Allerton
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Toy service: Mike Cuerden	Family Group Toy Service in the Hall
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Anna Jarvis	Anna Jarvis
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol service: Chrissie Wilkie and Mike Cuerden	Carol service: Chrissie Wilkie and Mike Cuerden
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve</b>	<b>6.00pm Service: Rev Penny Johnson</b>	<b>8.00pm Service: Rev Penny Johnson</b>
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day	No service today	No service today

<b>Sidesmen's Rota</b>		
<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mr and Mrs Booth	6 <sup>th</sup> Mrs Charmer and Mrs Scott	4 <sup>th</sup> Mr and Mrs Briscoe
9 <sup>th</sup> Mr and Mrs Cuerden	13 <sup>th</sup> Mr Upham and Mrs Mitchell	11 <sup>th</sup> Mr and Mrs Earp
16 <sup>th</sup> Mr and Mrs Earp	20 <sup>th</sup> Mr and Mrs Cupper	18 <sup>th</sup> Mrs Hardy and Mr Wenham
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mr and Mrs Elias	27 <sup>th</sup> Mr and Mrs Gylee	24 <sup>th</sup> Mr and Mrs Booth.
30 <sup>th</sup> Mrs Rodger and Mrs Hollis		

**Details of later dates are displayed in the Vestibule. If the date allocated to you proves to be inconvenient please try to exchange it. If you are unable to do so please inform Elizabeth Earp so that an exchange can be arranged (0161 439 3079). Additional volunteers are always welcome. If you are willing to join the Sidesmen please contact Elizabeth.**

## Chairman's Letter

Dear Members,

We have just passed through a difficult period in the long history of our Chapel and now it is time to put it behind us and look to the future as we seek a new Minister.

I would however be failing in my duty to you if I did not set out the challenge that faces us in our search for a new Minister. Our Denomination is not only small, but is unique in that each Chapel is independent and with that freedom comes the sole responsibility for running our affairs, which includes finding a new Minister to fill our Pulpit Vacancy. Therefore that task will fall to the Haldean Committee acting on behalf of ourselves and Hale Chapel as it is a 'shared Ministry'.

The scale of our task is illustrated by a recent survey of the Ministerial Role that showed of the 142 Ministers listed 70 were retired, leaving only 72 Ministers to serve 170 Chapels. The Annual Report showed that whilst 4 new Ministers had been added to the roll, 7 had been lost due to death and retirement.

The reason I am taking this opportunity to see you have a clear understanding of the extent of the challenge is that on the last occasion an unfounded rumour circulated amongst our Congregations that there were 7 or 9 Ministers interested in our vacancy. In fact despite our Brochure being circulated to 46 selected Ministers, we only received one response, the Rev. Alan Kennedy. Our recent Minister, the Rev. Dr. Vernon Marshall did not apply until some time later.

The most valuable asset we have in facing this challenge, is the trust and very special relationship that exists between you for each other in our Congregation at Dean Row Chapel. We will, as we have done in the past win through sustaining what is much loved and dear to us all 'Our Chapel'.

Mike Cuerden is doing a splendid job in seeing that our Pulpit is filled each Sunday, involving a number of Ministers who have been invited to take a Service. There is also our own and other dedicated Lay Readers and I would ask you to join me in seeing that we do all we can to see they are supported by our attendance on Sunday mornings. In doing so we demonstrate our dedication to our Chapel and is the strongest illustration the Haldean Committee can have in their effort to find a Minister.

I promise you all, on behalf of the Haldean Committee, that we are not and will not be sitting, waiting for 'something to turn up'. We will be seeking opportunities that we can turn into success.

God Bless - Tony

## **Secretary's report (Chrissie Wilkie)**

The last few weeks have been difficult for our Congregation and that of Hale Chapel. We find ourselves without a Minister again. However, I hope that you are all able to remember how we all pulled together and kept our Chapel alive and kicking after Jeff left us and continue with your support.

There are many people in our Congregation who devote much of their time to ensure that we do remain successful. Without the input of the Chairman, Treasurer, Committee, Wardens, Women's League, Family Group, Flower Group, Sidesmen, Coffee Team, Stroke Club Team, and all the other Members of the Congregation who give freely of their time and not forgetting our invaluable Organists and Choir, we would be, as they say, in a bit of a pickle. All these people dedicate so much to our wellbeing; on your behalf I thank them all.

The position of Wedding Co-Coordinator has now been reinstated and Peggy Charmer has agreed to continue with that exacting job. She will also be dealing with Baptisms and Funeral queries. This is a very important job, liaising with the couples and finding a suitable Minister, ensuring that all the forms are correctly filled in and soothing nervous brides. She will also continue as an 'Approved Person' for weddings along with Avril Slade, our excellent Newsletter editor.

You will also see that we have a busy programme of events for the rest of the year. Your support in these enterprises is always strong and I hope that it will continue to be so. I should like to thank on your behalf, Hilary and Peter Shaw for the fantastic 'At Home' they held on the 17 September. I feel sorry for those of you who missed the wonderful food, drink and camaraderie. It was a splendid night!

Rev. Linda Phillips, The Director of Ministry, will be taking the service at both Chapels on the 23 October. After our service, she will be talking to us about some of our options for our future Ministry and will be happy to answer questions. Hale Chapel have also been invited to join us after the service. I do hope that you will be able to attend this important meeting.

I am sure that we are all looking forward to growing and securing the future of our Congregation. As Tony says, 'our Trust Deed of 25<sup>th</sup> May 1725 dedicates this ancient Meeting House to you, the congregation members, as your place of worship. No man, be he Minister or Chairman, is greater than the Congregation of Dean Row'.

## **Women's League (Anne Gemmell)**

The Chapel Lunch we organised was, as usual, a very successful event, and it is always good to be able to get everyone together in such a happy relaxed atmosphere. The food was excellent and plenty left for seconds! If you haven't been to one of our chapel lunches, please try and bear it in mind for the future. The next one will be the Harvest Lunch at the beginning of October and we look forward to seeing you there !

We seem to have a lot of events going on between now and Christmas, so do look at the list in this newsletter and make a note of them in your diary! If anyone wishes to join us on our outing to Chester on Thursday the 6th October please speak to Muriel Hollis as soon as possible The cost is £13.

We have an 'Open Meeting' - where everyone is welcome - commencing at 2,30pm on Thursday 3rd November, Our speaker will be our very own Julie White who will be talking about Chrones Disease - a very debilitating condition which she knows a lot about. We would like to give her all the support we can so do try and come along.

Our /Christmas Fair /coffee morning is a week earlier than usual, taking place on Saturday the 26th November. This year we will be looking for gifts for our Christmas Tombola Stall. Anything relating to Christmas. This will include chocolate of course, but we thought we would try something a little different this year! So get your 'thinking cap' on and see what you can come up with!

Finally, DONT FORGET the Birthday and Christmas Card sale which will be held at my house (37 Albany Road, Bramhall) on Tuesday morning the 18th October from 9.00-am until 12.30pm. All the money we raise from the cards is for chapel in one way or another, and we don't keep a penny for ourselves. The monies raised from this sale will be going to the Women's League and their charity for 2011/2012 which is 'Combat Stress' a very worthwhile cause, and is just as relevant today as it always has been.

## **Family Group (Anne Gemmell)**

It will not have gone unnoticed that this year we have not had our usual summer fair. Time seems to have overtaken us, but hopefully, over the next couple of months we will be organising a get-together, maybe an afternoon event with a 'Bring & Buy' sale. Unfortunately, at the moment we are down on Family Group members who have time to spare, so if anyone out there has the time to help us organise any events, we would love to hear from you!

After our summer recess Cathy and I are ready to tackle Harvest and Christmas! We still do not have many children at our Sunday morning meetings but nevertheless, we

continue to be ever hopeful! This year we are hoping to make some new costumes for our Toy Service with the help of Doris Brayne who has been very busy over the last few months, gathering together materials and trimmings wherever she has been! If we have any sewing enthusiasts in our congregation, please let us know because I'm sure we will need all the help we can get.<sup>1</sup>

## **Wardens Comments (Ian Harrison)**

In the last newsletter I omitted to mention the efforts to clear the Hall roof of a heavy coating of moss.

Ian Booth made a sterling effort some time ago to clear a large patch at the back of the hall and since then everyone has been up a ladder (except me) to try and clear the lower half. The upper half requires an ability to clamber on the roof without fear and stay there for hours carrying out the very slow job of scraping the tiles. Enter left our very own Spiderman – Ian Barber whose exploits up trees have left us gasping. However even he has taken to wearing a safety belt and rope (age catching up?). The problem is what to attach the rope to and here's where memories of Laurel & Hardy come to mind. An unnamed member of the team attached it to the outside kitchen door handle. Unfortunately the kitchen was in use and another unnamed member innocently opened the door to cries of abuse from the roof. Another assault on the roof is planned shortly but where they are going to attach the rope remains a mystery.

Talking of Laurel & Hardy brings me to Briscoe & Casey. Mike is continuing with the slow job of tiling and making an excellent job of it. Ian was set up to pressure clean the paving round the toilets and up to the Chapel. Unfortunately they both required electricity and there is only one outlet in the shed. There was very slow progress at first as each tried surreptitiously to remove the other's plug. The light eventually dawned that an extension lead would allow them to both operate at once.

The path cleaning is going ahead but due to insufficient water pressure we can only operate one machine at a time, so it will be another 2/ 3 weeks before we are finished, depending on the weather. In the meantime Larry was very sensibly keeping out of the way doing an excellent job clearing overgrown graves which are a real problem this year.

**Thank You. Mary and Ian would like to thank everyone who kindly sent greetings and cards for our Diamond Wedding Anniversary. We were quite overwhelmed by the warmth of the feelings. Thank you so much.**

## Mike's Musings (from Mike Heale)

Some thoughts on us and the way we relate to the world:-

1. "Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no-one thinks of changing himself."  
(Leo Tolstoy, Russian Novelist).
2. "Socialism never took root in America because the poor see themselves not as an exploited proletariat but as temporarily embarrassed individuals.  
(John Steinbeck, American writer).
3. "The only graceful way to accept an insult is to ignore it; if you can't ignore it, top it, laugh at it; if you can't laugh at it, it's probably deserved."  
(Russell Lynes, American Essayist)

## Events in October, November and December

**Women's League outing to Chester** Thursday 6 October - Tickets £13.00. Meet at chapel 9.30a.m.

**Birthday and Christmas Card Sale** on Tuesday 18 October 9.00am - 12.30pm at the home of Anne Gemmell.

**Fish and Chip Supper and Quiz Night** Saturday 22 October 7.00pm in the Chapel Hall. Teams of up to 6 people. Contact Chrissie 0161 456 5643 if you would like tickets. £6.00

**Women's League Meeting** Thursday 3 November at 2.00 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. the meeting is open. The speaker is Julie White on Living with Crone's Disease.

**Christmas Fair** Saturday 26 November 10.30 – 12.00 £1.00 including coffee & mince pie. If you are able, please bring donations of home produce and prizes for the Christmas tombola. (Items such as crackers, Christmas napkins, candles, chocolate etc.

**Toy Service** 4 December – If you are able to, please bring gifts of toys which will be donated to local children identified by the Local Press appeal.

**Christmas Music Sing Song** – Saturday 10 December 7.00pm, please bring your own picnic supper and good voice. Volunteers for Class Turns will be welcomed. Mince pie and Christmas Punch will be provided. Tickets £3.50

## Dean Row Book Club

All gatherings start at 8 pm and we meet on the last Wednesday in the month. New bookworms are always welcome. Please contact Wendy Cuerden for further information. Tel: 0161 439 8165

The following books have been chosen for September 2011 to February 2012:

Wednesday 28 September

***A Deadly Mission*** by Judith Campbell

Wednesday 26 October

***The Hare with the Amber Eyes*** by Edmund de Waal

Wednesday 30 November

***Sisters of Sinai*** by Janet Soskice

Please note there will be no meeting in December

Wednesday 25 January

***Taken on Trust*** by Terry Waite

Wednesday 29 February

***Time After Time*** by Molly Keane

### **Baptisms in June, July, August and September 2011**

Dean Row Chapel	5 <sup>th</sup> June 1.30	Charlie CAPEL
Dean Row Chapel	12 <sup>th</sup> June 1.30	Alfie ARDEN
Dean Row Chapel	3 <sup>rd</sup> July 1.30	Joshua BLACKIE
Dean Row Chapel	7 <sup>th</sup> August 1.30	Oliver & Harry PICKERING
Dean Row Chapel	4 <sup>th</sup> September 1.30	William JORDAN
Dean Row Chapel	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2011 12.00	Juliette Handbyo

### **Weddings in June, July, August and September**

Dean Row Chapel	Fri. 10 <sup>th</sup> June 12.00	Horn/Pickford
Dean Row Chapel	Fri. 10 <sup>th</sup> June 14.00	Mostyn/Howard
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 25 <sup>th</sup> June 13.00	Henry/Naven
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 9 <sup>th</sup> July 13.00	Cabrejas/Keen
Dean Row Chapel	Fri. 15 <sup>th</sup> July 13.30	Leach/Millard
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 16 <sup>th</sup> July 13.00	Straiton/Swindell
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 13.00	Brown/Nield
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 13 <sup>th</sup> August 14.00	Wilson/Keogh
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 20 <sup>th</sup> August 16.00	Start/Hope
Dean Row Chapel	Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup> August 14.00	Taylor/Taylor
Dean Row Chapel	Fri. 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 13.00	Dean/Howard
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 14.00	Hatton/Hanson
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 17 <sup>th</sup> September 13.00	Hanson/Hirst
Dean Row Chapel	Sat. 17 <sup>th</sup> September 15.00	Merrick/Briscoe

**Chairman of Committee:**  
**Tony Cupper, 87 Leek Rd., Congleton CW12 3HX 01260**  
**276197**

**Treasurer:**

**Peter Shaw Tel. 01625 584881**

**Secretary:**

**Chrissie Wilkie 0161 456 5643;**

**Email [chrissie@wilkies.me.uk](mailto:chrissie@wilkies.me.uk))**

**Women's League Secretary:**

**Anne Gemmell (0161 439 2302)**

**Wardens:**

**Ian Booth 01625 262819 and**

**Ian Briscoe 0161 485 5033.**

**Family Group:**

**Cathy Smeaton (01625 537126);**

**Anne Gemmell (0161 439 2302)**

**Flower Secretary:**

**Beryl Mitchell (0161 439 3775)**

**Items for Newsletter to Chrissie Wilkie**