

## STOURBRIDGE DEANERY



St. Peter's, Pedmore



Rector: and Rural Dean  
**Revd Andrew Hazlewood**  
The Rectory, Pedmore Lane  
Stourbridge, W. Mids. DY9 0SW  
Administrator:  
Joan Coleman  
Churchwardens:  
Mary German  
David Ball  
Readers:  
Robert Higham  
Richard & Corrinne Sarjeant  
Alan Sibley

**Please inform your  
P.C.C. about\_**

- #1**  
Bishop + John's  
Address to Synod
- #2**  
Next Deanery  
Open-Air Summer  
service
- #3**  
Deanery  
Re-Organisation Plan
- #4**  
PCC response  
deadline -  
**19th Jan. 2009**
- #5**  
FairTrade returns  
to Worcester
- #6**  
'The Well'  
Resource centre
- #7**  
Next meeting\_  
7:30pm  
**9th Feb. 2009**  
**Old Swinford**

# DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Notes from the Synod meeting



19th November 2008 Meeting

Issue: December 2008

## Pedmore

After Opening Prayers, led by the Rural Dean, the Synod approved the Minutes of the June meeting - before hearing the final deliberations of the 'Parish Share' working party. It was acknowledged that the Inland Revenue's figures used in calculations referred to parish populations and not to congregations. Synod then accepted into the Minutes a précis of Bishop + John's **Address to the Synod** at the service which took the place at the September meeting.

The Synod also discussed the probability of repeating the success of the Open-Air service of 13th July 2008- and set **Sunday 20th June 2010** as the target date.

The main topic before the meeting that evening was the **Stourbridge Deanery Re-Organisation Plan**.

The Rural Dean explained the requirement for all the Worcester Deaneries to present their plans on coping with the diminishing number of available clergy - by a 1st Feb. 2009 deadline.

The Synod received a Power-Point presentation explaining the current thinking before hearing the deliberations of the Pastoral Committee on the matter.

Since the next scheduled meeting of the Synod - at which the Plan needed to be formally adopted - was 9th Feb. (and, although technically past the deadline, the Diocesan Office would be informed of the impending arrival of the plan) .. **all PCC's will need to have discussed and to have produced their considered responses by 19th Jan. 2009** - in order to give the Pastoral Committee sufficient time

to consider matters before coming to Synod.

AOB included:...

A reminder to send the FairTrade returns back to the Diocesan Office: they were 'key' to recording Worcs. Progress towards this aim..

Roger Eames gave an update on the work of the "Living Springs" charity and the resources available to churches and parishioners at **'The Well' bookshop in Stourbridge**.

Deanery members were encouraged to consider directing their purchases - in person or on-line - from this local source.

Synod heard about an appeal from St. Paul's church at Nabikuyi, Uganda, for funds to build a roof (or a floor) for their church.

## Main Topic

The **Pastoral Committee's vision** is that by 2016 the number of stipendiary clergy in the deanery will be no more than eight, There will be two mission teams, whose exact nature has still to be determined and may have to evolve over the next few years.

**The Town Team:**  
The town parishes would be

paired in the following way: **Oldswinford and Wollescote; Pedmore and Lye; Wollaston and Norton; Amblecote and St Thomas** with one priest sharing 2 churches.

**The Country Team:**  
This would consist of **Hagley** (both churches), **Belbroughton** with **Fairfield & Clent**, and **Churchill** with

**Blakedown & Broome** - all served by 2 clergy; leaving 2 clergy "spare", giving a measure of future-proofing .. *after all, we do not want to have to re-organise the deanery again in 2016.* These two clergy will allow us to make the most of the many mission opportunities in the deanery, provide lay and clergy training, and allow 'cover' for services.