



20<sup>th</sup> October 2009

**To all at St Andrew's Church and St Mary's Church, Deane**

I'm thrilled to have been appointed as the next Team Rector of Deane Parish and am very much looking forward to moving to the parish in January and to start working with and for you on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

My licensing service will be at St Mary's at 7.30pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February and I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to be there.

I have been appointed to lead the parish and clergy team, and to have particular responsibility for St Mary's, just as John will continue to have particular responsibility for St Andrew's.

For the past nine years, I have been on the staff here in Whitfield Parish, Glossop. I came to Glossop straight from Wycliffe Hall where I trained for ordained ministry, and over the past five years have been the minister of St Luke's Church, one of the two churches in our parish.

For those of you who are interested in biographies, I was born in Wolverhampton in 1962, and grew up a few miles from there, attending the local comprehensive school, then 6<sup>th</sup> form college before going off to Leeds University to study Plant Biology. After that I moved to Oxford University and worked on the biology of mahogany trees in the rain forests of the Far East, which included four months field work, mainly on Borneo.

I had been attending church since my late teens but only really got going as a Christian in my late twenties through attending a church in Oxford called St Ebbe's and being struck by the gospel of grace that was being preached there... I think that up until then I had thought that you had to earn salvation somehow.

I worked for St Andrew's Christian Bookshops in Oxford for a while, helping churches and student unions develop their book ministries. Then I went back up to Leeds to do teacher training, staying up there to teach at Woodkirk High School. During those five

years, I was a member of St Peter's Church in Shipley... the vicar of which was Chris Edmondson, now a bishop in a diocese near you! So blame Bishop Chris for me being your new Team Rector since it was he who put me forward for ordination 12 years ago!

I am passionate about introducing people to Jesus Christ and seeing them find their best identity in him. I am passionate about helping Christ-followers grow towards Christian maturity. I am passionate about preaching. I am passionate about small groups where Christians can help each other to walk the Christian walk.

There is a bit more about me on my website ([www.clark.cc](http://www.clark.cc)) and, if you have trouble sleeping, there are lots of my sermons on there also which you can listen to!

Looking forward to meeting you personally. Please pray for me, and for St Luke's Glossop, as I prepare to leave here. And be assured of my ongoing prayers for you.

God bless you.

**Terry Clark**