

## **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

### **Know your church 8**

The Chancel, the east end of the church, now plays a lesser role in Anglican and Episcopal Churches because communion is today consecrated on the 'nave altar.' This represents the modern attitude in churches which seek to involve the laity in the services. In St Cuthbert's at the 10.30 service members of the congregation take an active part as Ministers of the Word, Ministrants, and Readers as well as giving the Prayers of Intercession. (Volunteers always needed.)

Our Nave Altar is dedicated to the memory of Betty and Douglas Potter who took an active part in the life of our church until their deaths in the mid 1990's. Malcolm Goldsmith introduced us to 'a nave altar' (as he called it in The Sigh March 1996). The new organ has been sited nearer the congregation probably owing to the limited space in the Chancel. However our old organ and its pipes can still be seen behind the north side of the choir.

The Reserved Sacrament is kept in the Chancel. It was introduced to our church by the Rev. William Perry in the 1930's. This saved him from having to drive to St Mary's Cathedral whenever he required to give communion on his pastoral visits.

The most striking part of our Chancel is the ceiling. Unfortunately this cannot be moved into the nave but is well worth a visit this part of the church to view. An article in the magazine for October 1935 states that Sir Oliver and Lady Riddell were responsible for 'the costly decoration of the nave roof and the chancel.'

The font which is used in all our baptism Services was also a gift to the church from Lady Riddell.