

Vicar's Notes

The Summer Fête is now almost upon us, and I hope that everyone will rally round to make it the success it nearly always is—but a bigger success than ever this year, please. We need from it at least £250 to supplement our annual direct giving of £750 (I wrongly put this figure as £650 in last month's magazine). Even £1000 a year falls far short of what we really need to carry on our work, but it does just enable us to scrape through. In due course, when we have learnt more fully the joy and privilege of direct creative giving, I hope that we shall be able to hold fêtes and similar events purely for the fun of the thing, with no pressing need to raise money from them (ten people giving 10/- a week for a year would produce the same financial result as we look for on July 6th). But we have not yet reached this happy state, and a great deal depends on this year's effort, because we have now reached financial rock-bottom and drained dry all our reserves. We do therefore need most generous support on July 6th, whatever the weather—and if wet, the challenge to be doubly generous and give direct whatever would have been spent will have to be sounded.

There is no need to give details here, as these are on the programmes being brought round to your doors and otherwise readily available. The only thing I need add here is that we should welcome the loan of tricycles, seesaws, and other toys and games for the Children's Corner. If you can help in this way, please notify our Fête Organiser, Mr. Rockliffe (Tel.: Mol. 4909). He has had an unusually heavy burden to carry this year, but his cheerfulness,

patience and courtesy have never failed despite the strain.

Please note the arrangements for the morning of July 14th and the evening of July 21st. On July 14th there will be no Service of Holy Communion at 8.0 a.m., to enable us to make preparation for the Confirmation and Parish Communion at 9.0 a.m. We hope to have breakfast afterwards as we did in 1955—at Wayside, or, if very fine, on the Vicarage lawn—but owing to limited accommodation we cannot invite the whole congregation, but only members of the Church Council and Choir, and the candidates and their families and friends. There will be no Service at 11.0 a.m. either, but Matins will be said at 11.30 a.m.

On July 21st the next Combined Service for Congregations of the Hampton Churches will be held—this time according to the Anglican tradition at All Saints', Hampton, so that there will be no need for us to have Evensong here first.

By the time this appears in print Mr. Rodney Bishop will have been admitted by the Bishop of London to the office of Reader, and licensed to serve in this parish. We shall perhaps also have formally welcomed him back after his licensing as our Junior Reader, and presented him with his badge of office. Mr. Bishop recently finished the final examination papers which he had to pass before he could be presented to the Bishop. He has had to take four stiff papers altogether, on the Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, and Prayer Book, and on the last one he received a Distinction. I have invited donations from members of the congregation towards the cost of his badge, which we wish to give to him as a token of our affection and appreciation.

AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about people, activities & organisations

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

On April 24th Mrs. Burge paid us her promised return visit. She led a discussion for us, on the Art of Family Life.

The discussion fell into three main groups, the choice of mar-

riage partner, sexual harmony in marriage, and the problems of teen-age children.

As is usual on these occasions, the discussion was carried on by a few articulate young wives, and while we are sorry that not more

members will voice their views, we hope that the quieter ones amongst us were both interested and helped by our deliberations.

M.H.W.

A representative group of Young Wives attended the Hampton Methodist Y.W. Meeting on May 6th, at the invitation of their Chairman.

Mrs. Baker, an Assistant Governor of Holloway Prison, gave us a detailed and interesting description of prison life, and many varied questions were answered by her in the discussion which ended a most absorbing evening.

J.W.

At the May meeting the Rev. R. T. Greenacre from All Saints', Hanworth, came to talk to us about the Church in the modern world. He showed us what the Church had been for nineteen centuries and still was today—the "body of Christ"—in spite of the human weaknesses of its members and servants ("there is no other plan.").

He spoke of how power came through sacraments and prayer together and so brought Christ into the community in which the local church was living and so to a greater or lesser extent on world affairs.

In answering questions he suggested that a modern weakness was disloyalty of those who called themselves church members and in speaking of youth in church he stressed the importance of young people being made to feel that they were in fact part of the Church from baptism on.

This was Mr. Greenacre's third visit to the Group and we were grateful for his help especially as he had had to leave his own church council meeting in order to be with us.

C.H.B.

On the evening of May 24th a party of 40 members and their friends ("friends" being mainly husbands) went to see "The Chalk Garden" at the Haymarket Theatre. We much enjoyed the acting of Dame Edith Evans and Miss Gwen Frangcon-Davies, and the whole trip was most ably organised by Mrs. Smith.

The annual "Babies' Party" was held on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 12th. The tea-party

was given a splendid start by the delightful June weather, and it was therefore able to be held out-of-doors in the friendly and family atmosphere of the Vicarage garden. It was very enjoyable to see a good attendance of mothers and babies relaxing in the sun in groups. The arrival of the guests reached a climax when twin girls were carried on to the lawn in identical caricots.

We hope very much to meet many of the mothers again at our monthly meetings.

M.H.W.

RENOVATION FUND

Early in June Mrs. Gloyns held a very successful Beetle Drive to help towards the original cost of the oranges and so we closed the accounts for this year's "Marmalade Drive" with a net profit of £11-9-1.

Oranges and sugar cost £6-13-4 and eleven ladies made over 220 pounds of marmalade, some of them buying the sugar and oranges. We are very grateful to them.

The success on the marmalade was all the more welcome, as the last dance in support of the Fund made a loss, after all payments, including the minimum amount for hiring the hall, had been met, of about £2.

Several boxes have been opened recently, one having over £3 in it, and others with encouragingly large amounts. For other box-holders there will be the usual opportunity for having their boxes opened at the "At Home" at Wayside after the Evening Service on St. James's Day.

THE SCOUT GROUP

Cubs

On the Tuesday after Whitsun Kim assisted by S. Scout Roy Frampton took a party of 20 Cubs for a day's outing to Oxshott Woods, which proved a very successful and enjoyable day.

The District Cub Sports will be held at Denmead Sports Ground on **Saturday, July 6th**, at 2.30 p.m. All parents and friends will be very welcome.

Scouts

A very successful Whitsun week-end Camp was held at Sunbury. "Guv," assisted by Derek, Ted and Kim, ran the Camp on

Patrol lines, 12 Scouts taking part. Patrol-Leader Robin Ford led the Eagle Patrol to victory in the Camp Competition.

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, July 2nd (7.30): Table Tennis Evening (all welcome) at Wayside.

Friday, July 19th: Coffee Party at Wayside. Gifts brought along (10.30 a.m.—12) (7.30 p.m.—9.30 p.m.) at the same time for the Fête's "White Elephant" Stall will be greatly appreciated by Mrs. Long.

Sat., Sept. 7th, 3.30 p.m.: Fête at Laurel Dene.

With regard to this last, the Fête Organizer sends the following letter to all supporters:

Dear Friends,

September 7th will be a great day in the history of the 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group. With the help of their parents they are Dene to raise funds for their own holding a Grand Fête at Laurel sorely-needed Headquarters.

Business commitments permitting, Miss Marjorie Proops of the "Daily Mirror" has kindly consented to declare it open at 3 p.m.

Everyone is being catered for. There will be a Stamp Exhibition by the L.T.E. Philatelic Society; a Display by the Twickenham Group English Folk Dance and Song Society; we are also hoping to have a display by the Kingston District Scout Band. There will be many stalls for you to spend your money on, and all the "Fun of the Fair."

We hope you will all come along and support us on this Red Letter Day.

Admission is by Programme, 6d.

Don't forget the date—September 7th. Write it up where you constantly see it—over the mantelpiece, along side the T.V., anywhere so that you won't forget it! **September 7th, Laurel Dene, at 3 p.m.**

Yours sincerely,

A. R. COOK.

MUSIC IN OUR CHURCH

THOMAS TOMKINS

As promised in May, here is a biographical note on Thomas Tomkins. It is of necessity much condensed, as I would beg you to consider earnestly the appeal at the end of it.

The Tomkins family originated in Cornwall. The father moved to S. David's, Pembrokeshire, as "Master of the Choristers and Organ Player." Later, he took Holy Orders, became Minor Canon at Gloucester, and Vicar of S. Mary de Lode, a little Church almost under the shadow of the Cathedral. He was Precentor for a short period only, dying in 1625.

Thomas was born at S. David's, later was a pupil of William Byrd, and became Organist at Worcester Cathedral about 1696. He took his Mus. Bac. degree at Oxford in 1607. In 1621, he was appointed one of the Organists of the Chapels Royal, and for writing some of the music for the Coronation of Charles 1st in 1625, he received 40 shillings. Court intrigues deprived him of the job of Composer in Ordinary to the King in 1628, the appointment going to the son of the previous holder, one Alphonso Ferrabosco. However, he remained at Worcester until 1646, when the musical services were suspended by the Puritans after the second siege of the city during the Civil War. When music returned with the Restoration in 1661, his nephew Giles took his place for a short time, until dismissed by the Dean for 'contumaciously absenting himself.' He thereupon took Holy Orders, and was Rector of Martin Hussingtree for fifty years! No comment!

Thomas spent his later years at the Manor House, Martin Hussingtree (Worcs.), the property of the wife of his only son, Nathaniel. He lived to the ripe old age of eighty-three, the entry in the Martin Hussingtree Register being as follows:—

"Mr. Thomas Tomkins organist of ye King's Chappell & of ye Cathedrall Church of Worcester was buried ye ixth. day of June 1656."

Tomkins wrote much fine music, sacred and secular, choral and instrumental. Although his last work is dated 1654, the bulk of it was written by about 1620. He therefore stands in the company of the great polyphonic composers of the late 16th and early 17th centuries—the Elizabethans. What a company to be in—taught by Byrd, ten years older than Orlando Gibbons, and a contempor-

ary of Weelkes and Wilbye. Music such as he and his 'school' have left us is a real joy to study and perform, and that thought, alas, brings me to a more sombre note.

We are finding difficulty, just now, in replacing the natural wastage of boys, and in finding any men at all. The boys (bless them) WILL grow up, their voices change earlier nowadays, and so many demands, formerly non-existent, encroach on their spare time. I know this is a pretty common problem these days, but I have hoped that in such a parish as ours, there could be found enough people willing to give time to practise on Fridays and attend on Sundays. The boys we have are quite keen, and would relish the opportunity to explore more music than we are able to do now, for sheer lack of a reasonable complement of other 'parts.' As stated in an earlier appeal, you do not have to be a trained singer. If you have a limited knowledge only of music, it does not matter. Experience will eliminate inexperience.

Once again, may I beg of you to consider this appeal, and see if you can come and help. Ladies or gentlemen, the Church will be grateful to you, and so will I. In anticipation, thank you!

R.E.B.

SMALL ADVERTISEMENT

For Sale: Man's Bicycle, in good condition. Made for man whose height is 6 feet or over. Apply Mr. H. J. Hawkins, 7, Burton's Road.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- July 1.—8.0 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches (St. Mary's).
- July 2.—8.0 p.m. Prayer Group (V).
- July 3.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union Enrolment Service.
- July 6.—3.0 p.m. Summer Fête (Laurel Dene).
- July 14.—9.0 a.m. Confirmation and Parish Communion. (N.B.: No Service at 8.0 a.m.; Matins said at 11.30 a.m.).
- July 18.—8.0 p.m. Standing Committee of P.C.C. (W).
- July 21.—6.30 p.m. No Service here, but United Service at All Saints' Church, Hampton, sponsored by Hampton Council of Churches.

July 25.—St. James. Patronal Festival.

7.15 and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

7.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

8.15 p.m. "At Home" and Opening of Renovation Fund Boxes (W).

July 26.—7.30 p.m. Magazines should be ready. (V).

July 28.—11.0 a.m. Family and Parade Service.

(Sunday Schools close for Holidays, to re-open Sept. 15th).

July 31.—8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group. (W).

BAPTISMS

June 23.—Catherine Margaret Dobson, 24, Holly Road.

„ 23.—Janice Elizabeth Greening, 28, Wellington Rd.

„ 23.—Theresa Ena Saville, 5, School Road Avenue.

MARRIAGES

May 18.—Philip John Cooper to Jasmin Mary Raven.

June 1.—Derek Randall Emery to Barbara Elsie Turner.

„ 29.—Leslie Edward Killick to Elsie Elizabeth Mabel Keet.

BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

May 2.—Charles Edward Drew, 18, Wolsey Road, aged 69 years.

„ 14.—Mary Ann Chipperfield, Edgware, Middx., aged 72 yrs. (at Teddington).

„ 15.—William Nash, 53, Wolsey Road, aged 90 years.

„ 20.—Maud Hannah McRae, Ravine Road, Poole, aged 86 years.

„ 23.—Archie Arthur Coe, 26, Cromwell Road, Whitstable (Interment of Ashes), aged 76 years.

June 13.—John Herbert Baker, 76, Windmill Road, aged 78 years.

„ 19.—William Ernest Singleton, 23, Edward Road, aged 69 years.

„ 20.—Margaret Ellen Howard, 12, Seymour Road, aged 49 years (at S.W.Middx. Crematorium).

„ 22.—Phoebe Ellen Davey, 19, Ormond Drive, aged 88 years.