

THE SPIRE



THE MAGAZINE OF ST. JAMES'S CHURCH
HAMPTON HILL, MIDDLESEX

JANUARY 1968

St. James's Church, Hampton Hill.

CHURCH OFFICERS

VICAR

The Rev. R. H. Brunt, B.A., A K.C., The Vicarage, St. James's Road. 01-979 2069

CHURCHWARDENS

Mr. G. I. Robinson, 36, St. James's Road. 01-979 2426

Mr. L. Rockliffe, 40, Gloucester Road, Teddington. 01-977 4909

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

Mr. R. J. C. Dafforne, 7, Blandford Road, Teddington. 01-977 3439

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Secretary: The Vicar (pro. tem.)

Treasurer: Mr. G. I. Robinson, 36, St. James's Road. 01-979 2426

SOCIAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Mr. R. M. Brooks, 81, Park Road 01-979 1983

CHURCH OFFICER FOR BOOKINGS OF HALL AND WAYSIDE

Mr. R. E. Bridges, 19, St. James's Road. 01-979 6865

SUPERVISORS OF WAYSIDE

Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Gostling, 21, St. James's Road. 01-979 3748

MAGAZINE SECRETARY & TREASURER

Mr. F. E. Peel, 34, Burton's Road.

ORGANISER FOR CHURCH FLOWERS

Mrs. L. Mills, 40, Oldfield Road, Hampton, 01-979 6626, who will be pleased to hear from people willing to arrange flowers for any particular Sunday.

CHURCHYARD GUARDIANS

Mr. D. W. K. Leatherdale, 18, St. James's Road. 01-979 6999

Mr. R. M. Brooks, 81, Park Road 01-979-1983

DEANERY WEL-CARE WORKER

Miss D. M. Kemp, 15, Bulstrode Road, Hounslow. HOU. 3594.

SECRETARY OF BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

Miss Ann Stuart, 64, Windmill Road.

SUNDAY SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Holy Communion	Every Sunday	8.00 a.m.
Holy Communion	First Sundays in month and		
		Festivals	12.10 p.m.
THE PARISH COMMUNION		Every Sunday	9.30 a.m.
(Followed by Parish Breakfast —		coffee and rolls — at Wayside	10.40 a.m.)	
Family & Parade Service	Fourth Sundays	9.30 a.m.
Holy Baptism	Fourth Sundays	4.00 p.m.
		and at Parish Communion by arrangement	(10 day's notice to be given)	
Evensong	Every Sunday	6.30 p.m.
Young People's Fellowship	Every Sunday in Wayside	8.00 p.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOLS:				
Nursery and Infants'	Every Sunday except Fourth		
		in Wayside	9.45 a.m.
Junior and Senior	Every Sunday except Fourth		
		in Church	11.00 a.m.
Rectory	Every Sunday in Rectory		
		School	2.30 p.m.

Services are also held frequently in Laurel Dene which members of the congregation are asked to support. Dates given in the body of this magazine. Any alterations to the above pattern which may occur from time to time will also be noted there, as well as details of week-day services and organisations.

THE ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP REVIEW

The annual stewardship review was held at St. James's Hall on the evening of Wednesday, November 22. It was the sixth review since stewardship began in earnest in 1961. It was attended by 103 people who first enjoyed an excellent buffet supper.

After the supper, members of the Stewardship Committee reported on different aspects of the scheme, the Vicar being in the chair.

Mr. Severn gave a clear picture of the finances. In 1965, when the scheme had a special impetus, 192 pledges of financial support were given. Now there are 135 and the average weekly pledged income of the church has dropped from £50 to £35. However, £580 was recovered this year through the tax-rebate on covenants and this form of support is very valuable. Every £1 given under covenant is worth £1-14-0 and it would be most helpful if anyone who had not covenanted his gift would do so.

The annual income of the church, after the development programme of 1965, was £3600; it is now £3100. This is quite a reduction, but fortunately expenses have fallen. Church maintenance and repairs engulfed much of the income of the past three years but there are now no major plans of this nature in hand for the church and it is hoped that the parish can now look outward at opportunities for the increased financing of outside projects.

Mr. Brunt, introducing Mrs. Rockliffe, said that people's time, talents and energies are consecrated in a stewardship scheme just as much as their money. Mrs. Rockliffe pointed out that everyone had talents. Whether these were cultivated and used or allowed to lie fallow was the responsibility of the individual. When the scheme began there were 600 offers to help with 40 different categories of jobs or forms of service within the church and local community. The organiser of each section had a list of helpers on whom he could call in turn. Some people had not yet been called on because the need for their special contribution had not yet arisen, but this did not mean that their offer had been forgotten. On the other hand, there had been a great many volunteers offering to tend graves in the churchyard, but the overall result had been disappointing.

The development of the time and talents aspect of stewardship had further fostered the friendly spirit which newcomers remarked upon in the church. It also meant that the work of the church was not now done only by the same few willing but overworked people, but by a much larger number, and all felt that they were wanted and had a part to play.

The Chairman added that one of the things that the offering of money for God did was to release the time and energies of **others** to do things for God and men which we could not do ourselves. Money was transubstantiated into manpower and love-power, into all kinds of aid, and in the years ahead there would be a continually increasing need for Christian compassion and love to be expressed in many different forms of mission and ministry at home and overseas. We were now going to be given a vivid description of some aspects of Christian service as illustrated in the great work of the Church Army — work made possible only by the gifts of people like ourselves.

Captain Collier then told us how the Church Army discharged its varied ministry in the modern world, basing his remarks on a very interesting and informative filmstrip which, starting with the beginnings

in Victorian times, soon brought us slap up against the human problems of the late sixties with which Christians now have to grapple. We heard about open-air missions and crusades, homes and help for the needy, the old, the despairing and the lonely. To carry out this vast range of work is costly in love and costly also in money. We felt glad that our church supported work like this, but also deeply challenged to make it more.

Mr. Melville, after thanking Captain Collier, then brought together the two strands about which we had been thinking — work within the parish and the growing needs of the world outside. By stewardship this parish had put its own house in order, but it must not rest there in self-satisfaction and become an inclosed and insulated Christian community. Circumstances changed, and no one could tell others how much they ought to give: only the families and individuals concerned could determine the level on which their commitment would express itself, but the needs of the world-wide family must be faced, and faced willingly. All of us, then, bearing this in mind, should review our promises and make them realistic.

In conclusion, the Vicar referred to the debate held in the Church Assembly a fortnight earlier on sacrificial giving, and to the amended motion finally passed after a vigorous discussion. This was to the effect that the Assembly, bearing in mind the need to give sacrificially, particularly to meet the bodily and spiritual needs of the world's poor, called on its members prayerfully to consider their incomes, needs and responsibilities, together with the principle of tithing, with a view to pledging themselves to give a set proportion of their disposable income for Christian and charitable purposes. If one added to this one's disposable time, then here in a nutshell was the message and challenge of the whole evening.

J.R. & EDITORS.

THE EMPTY PLATE

Many of us will be doing this Christmastide what we have done for years, and what the Lord Mayor did at his Guildhall Banquet — have an empty plate on our tables to represent the absent guest — the symbolic representative of those hungry millions who eat less in a week than we do in a day. The need to help is now more urgent than ever because of the devaluation of the £, which means that more must immediately be sent to maintain the amount of relief now given, whereas the great need is to expand both short- and long-term projects. The Lord Mayor's scheme seems for the moment to have been monopolised by War on Want, but his intention was that all the six major overseas charities including Christian Aid, the main channel for our support, should benefit.

If you want to give part of the plate to help desperate and needy people at home as well, we would suggest Shelter and/or Homeless in Britain.

If you bring your 'plate' (the contents of it!) in an envelope, marked on the outside with the name of one of these charities helping the absent guests, to church on any Sunday in January, we will send it off at the end of the month with all the other plates.

THE CHOIR

As several members have recently moved away from the parish, we urgently require men to sing tenor or bass, also boys aged 7 to 12. I am glad to report that the vacancies for girls have now been filled.

We are most grateful to Mrs. McCarthy and the Misses Browne for the arduous and skilful work which they are doing in overhauling and mending the choir's robes, and also to Mrs. Brooks, who has kindly undertaken to deliver and collect them and see to their dry-cleaning.
R.J.C.D.

MISCELLANIA ET PERSONALIA

Some people will remember that ten years ago we changed for a time to the Tomkins setting for the Preces, Versicles and Responses at Matins and Evensong. These were, however, found to be too difficult for the congregation to join in with any comfort, and so, despite Mr. Bougourd's enthusiasm for them (Thomas Tomkins was a distinguished church musician of the 17th century), we had to go back to our old familiar ferial setting. Now the Liturgical Committee and our present organist are sponsoring the introduction of a modern setting by Dr. Moreton, organist and choirmaster of Plymouth Parish Church—a setting we found being used by our neighbours when we attended the united service at All Saints'. It is hoped to make a tape-recording as soon as the choir has learned them, and there will be an opportunity to hear them before they are introduced at Evensong, perhaps on the last Sunday in January.

St. James's gives regularly to the Church of England Children's Society, but there are also a number of people who like to make an individual contribution in addition through boxes. Miss Wright, 15, School Road, is the local secretary, and she is concerned by the fact that the number of boxholders is going down owing to death and removals. She would be very happy to see the trend reversed, and give new boxes to any who will contact her.

We also give to the Missions to Seamen, but this year our support has been greatly increased because of the activity of the local Flying Angel League. Mainly as a result of a recent coffee morning and sale organised by our secretary, Mrs. Milns, a sum of £20-8-9 was raised.

Our Sunday Schools are going on January 20 to a pantomime with a difference—one that is essentially for children, but which grown-ups will also enjoy. There may well be room for a number of members of the congregation: if you would like to join the party, please contact the Vicar or any Sunday School teacher as soon as possible. The total cost for this, including a seat on the coach, will be 14/-.

After speaking in the September issue of our parish as a relatively stable community, we have had in the last few months a far larger than usual spate of comings and goings. We must mention one family in particular who will leave a very big gap—the Jacksons. Michael and Joyce were active on the Church Council, on many committees, and in many ways, and they made a great contribution to our parish life. They and their children were familiar figures at nearly every parish breakfast, at parish weekends, and many other gatherings. We shall miss them immensely, but heartily congratulate Michael on his appointment to an important lectureship at the University of Lancaster.

We are glad that Mrs. Winifred Slade and Mr. Frank Peel are back at home again in time for Christmas and making good recoveries after long stays in hospital — but sorry to hear that Mr. Ronald Bridges will be spending his Christmas in Teddington Hospital. Anne Warwick will also be away from home at Christmas, but for a happier reason — beginning a pleasant but hard-working assignment in Athens.

Mrs. Bellingham (43, Wellington Road, 977-2542) has now kindly relieved Mrs. Brunt of the task of organising the weekly parish breakfasts. If you would like to take your turn on the rota of helpers, please contact her, or sign the list on the notice-board at Wayside one Sunday morning.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

At the December meeting the Rev. N. C. Wells, the first speaker we have had this session, gave us a most enlightening talk on his experiences as a part-time Chaplain in a large London hospital. To judge from the many questions he was asked later, it was obvious that all his hearers had been deeply interested.

Our time in the Wave of Prayer, when all branches in the London Diocese pray especially for the Diocese of Sierra Leone, is from 10.00 to 10.15 a.m. on Friday, January 12, 1968. Only a quarter of an hour is asked from us, so PLEASE make a big effort to come along to church then. If you cannot be there, please remember to pray at home at that time for the Mothers' Union work, and the workers, in Sierra Leone.

On Monday, 29th January, from 11 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall of Mary Sumner House there is to be a meeting for ALL interested in Overseas work (from recent Sale efforts this means all the Branch!). Take a sandwich lunch with you, coffee will be provided. Dr. Lilian Powles will speak on "The Bishops come to Lambeth." The Rev. J. R. Harwood, formerly Chaplain to the Bishop of Sierra Leone, will give an illustrated talk on that Diocese.

I.V.R.

THE SCOUT GROUP

It is some time now since our last news letter and during the past months the Group have had a very busy time. The Summer Camps, the Scouts at Normandie and the Cub Scouts at Artington, were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

In September in response to a request by the P.C.C. we helped with the Fete at Laurel Dene.

Our new Camp Site, officially known as "The Triangle," in addition to normal activities has been in use most successfully on two special occasions. On September 16 we held an afternoon Games Meeting for the boys followed by tea and a Barbecue for the parents. Then on November 4 Akela and Hathi, helped by parents and friends, organised a most successful Bonfire Party. The boys brought their own fireworks along to be let off under supervision, and the Tomato Soup and Hot Dogs brought from the Hall by trek cart were well appreciated. We have also held our annual Jumble Sale, Christmas Bazaar and a new innovation, a Mini Bazaar, to raise funds for our future Headquarters which we hope will be erected on the Site in the near future.

Besides the usual Christmas Parties for the boys it is hoped to hold a New Year Family Party on December 30, also a Wine & Cheese

evening on January 17 for all members of the Supporters' Association.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all supporters of the Group for their efforts in the past and hope I can count on them in the future.

S.R.C.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Plans are now well in hand to make our Parish Party the best ever—the date is January 13 and our theme is “Any Other Time”—from Prehistoric to the Space Age—there are plenty of costumes from which to choose! Even if you cannot manage to dress up—come along just the same—we can promise you an enjoyable evening.

Don't forget the Valentine Dance on February 17—tickets will be available soon, so put the date in your diary.

R.M.G.

HAMPTON HILL ASSOCIATION

Question Time 14.12.67—Panel—Councillors Harris, Muir and Scott.

If the audience was somewhat smallish it was certainly enthusiastic in following up questions to which the answers were often unrewarding. The predominantly male element (with a few female supporters) was vociferous in discussing such matters as the continuing state of potential danger and near chaos caused by thoughtless and foolish unprohibited parking round the junction of Windmill Road with High Street; the disgraceful state of the pavement and roadway in Windmill Road itself; the siting of a new access road immediately opposite Windmill Road School; the fatuity (unanimous decision) of the costly plan to install a 9-hole golf course over much of what remains of Fulwell Park; the present—not to mention the future—overcrowding of local schools; the disfiguring and impeding used-car marts in the High Street and the undesirability of unilateral parking there, etc., etc.

What seemed to emerge from the generalised form of some of the answers was the indication that willing and hardworking as local councillors must be, they cannot hope to keep in touch with everything affecting their district and that much of the planning is now so impersonal and unco-ordinated and goes through so many mills, all grinding exceedingly slow, that councillors and public alike are becoming increasingly frustrated—the councillors in their sense of achievement and the public in the expectation of results. *(To be concluded)*

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Jan. 1.—The Circumcision. Holy Communion at 9.0 a.m.
- .. 3.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union Christmas Entertainment (W).
- .. 6.—The Epiphany: Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m.
- .. 8.—8.0 p.m. Committee of Hampton Council of Churches (W).
- .. 9.—8.0 p.m. Liturgical Committee (33, Beech Way).
- .. 10.—8.0 p.m. Stewardship Newcomers' Subcommittee (30, St. James's Road).
- .. 12.—10.0 to 10.15 a.m. Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer (Church);
11.0 a.m. Editorial Board (52, Park Road).
- .. 13.—7.45 p.m. Parish Christmas Party—'Any Other Time' (Hall).
- .. 14.—6.30 p.m. Evensong, followed by discussion and refreshments at Wayside. Subject for discussion: “In some of our hymns, heaven is presented in terms of ‘a happy home above the bright blue sky.’ Is this our idea of heaven to-day? If not, what is?”

- .. 18 to 25: WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY.
- .. 18.—8.0 p.m. United Services at Teddington Methodist Church and at All Saints', Hampton.
- .. 20.—3.0 p.m. Old People's Christmas Party (Hall); 5.0 p.m. Coach leaves for Sunday School Christmas Outing to Pantomime "Give a Dog a Bone" at the Westminster Theatre.
- .. 23.—3.0 p.m. Party for Mothers and recently-baptised Babies (W); 8.0 p.m. Forum to answer questions about Christian Unity (St. Alban's Church Hall, Teddington).
- .. 24.—8.0 p.m. Parochial Church Council (W).
- .. 25.—The Conversion of Saint Paul: 9.0 a.m. Holy Communion; 8.0 p.m. United Service—Mass in English according to the Roman rite—in the Church of St. Francis de Sales, followed by an ecumenical social gathering and an address by Bob Walsh in the church hall (to mark the end of the Week of Prayer for Unity).
- .. 28.—5.15 p.m. Members of Y.P.F. lead service at Laurel Dene.
- .. 29.—11.0 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Mothers' Union Overseas Meeting (Mary Sumner House, Westminster).
- .. 30.—8.0 p.m. Newcomers' Party—by invitation (W).
- .. 31.—8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group: Mrs. Monica Heaford — 'Lampshade Making' (W).
- Feb. 1.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union: Mrs. Lawrence — 'Hiding our Heads' (W).
- .. 2.—Candlemas—the last of the 40 days of the Christmas season: Holy Communion at 9.0 a.m.
- .. 4.—5.15 p.m. Adult members of St. James's lead service at Laurel Dene.
- .. 6.—8.0 p.m. Stewardship Committee (106, Park Road).

BAPTISMS

On November 26 :

Jacqueline Clare Eaton, 5, High Tree Close, Ongar Hill, Addlestone.
 Karl Eliot Lamins, 111, Uxbridge Road.
 Jeremy John Marsh, 247, Uxbridge Road.
 Donna Jane Tate, 31, Ringwood Way.
 Fraser Waddington, 15, The Wilderness, Park Road.

On December 3 (privately) :

Philip David Reddick, 32, Westbank Road.

BURIAL AND CREMATION

On December 4 :

Mary Elizabeth Drane, 31, Elsyngge Road, Wandsworth, and formerly of 72, Myrtle Road, aged 87 years (at Teddington Cemetery).

On December 7 : Philip David Reddick, 32, Westbank Road, aged 6 months (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).