

NEWCOMERS' PARTY

New developments in the Windmill Road area, and an unusually high incidence of removals from the parish making way for new arrivals, made it necessary to hold the Newcomers' Party on June 13 in the Parish Hall.

About 80 people were present, some 25 of them members of the P.C.C. and Stewardship Committee gathered together to welcome the visitors and help the social committee with their attractive and greatly appreciated catering arrangements.

An excellent spirit prevailed, the newcomers and the members of the Church joining in friendly introduction and conversation; as one person remarked—"it was impossible to feel a stranger in a Parish with such a friendly and welcoming atmosphere."

A short address of welcome to the visitors, inviting them to make use of the services and facilities which the Church and Parish offered, preceded a most informative and enjoyable glimpse into the history of Hampton Hill since the "coming of St. James's" by our historian Mrs. Orton who, with many humorous anecdotes and some excellent slides, pictures and snaps, conjured up an intriguing picture of the "village" (as Hampton Hill is still called by many of the older inhabitants) over the last hundred years.

Mrs. Orton's stories and slides left us with the feeling that in spite of the spread of suburbia around us, Hampton Hill was still very much a village with its life and activities centred around its parish church.

One newcomer to the parish from "over the Border" was very surprised to see himself and his dog portrayed in one of the recent slides of the High Street.

Mrs. Orton answered some interesting questions asked by the visitors, and their interest and expressions of appreciation made us feel that it had all been very much worth while.

F.E.P.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM CANADA

Dear Laos of St. Jim's,

I've been to several Churches since I came to Toronto and have received a marvellous welcome from them all. First, to Matins at the Anglican Church. The service is nearly the same as our old one. The choir consisted mainly of girls—quite good singing, but not a patch on the Dafforne Singers Unlimited! As it was Rogation Sunday we each were given a packet of seeds. Mine were nasturtiums, which I shall plant on my balcony.

I have found people very friendly and my workmates have been very longsuffering. I have made quite a lot of mistakes. Two Canadian girls from work took me to see something of the surrounding countryside, and I was pleased to see some hills as I have the impression when I went to Niagara that Ontario was absolutely flat. Niagara is very wonderful, but would be greatly improved by the addition of a few hills.

Monday, June 25, was Dominion Day, another Bank Holiday, and I was invited to a weekend camp with the Y.H.A. We went by the Polar Bear Express train on a 675 mile journey, northbound to Moosonee on Moose River, St. James's Bay, Hudson Bay. The train

consisted of one passenger carriage and luggage galore. It was rather like a country 'bus. There are two trains per week to Moosonee which is almost entirely populated by Indians, as is Moose Factory, an island just off the coast. The only interest is the history of fur trading. The hospital looked quite new and modern. The houses are mostly wooden. The church at Moose Factory has a mooseskin altar, lectern and pulpit cloths, decorated with beading.

I saw a few Eskimos here.

Altogether I have found people very friendly and helpful and I now have a permanent apartment, with a balcony.

Thank you all for your prayers and good wishes. Much love to you all.

RUTH MILLS.

45, Woodlawn Ave. E.,
Toronto 7.

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (Concluded)

The Vicar went on to speak of new concepts of Ministry. Should a clergyman be expected to work for the church only part-time? Cooperation between churches growing — how far should it go? where should it end? Only a church with its priorities right will survive, and it must be upward and outward looking. At the present rate of decline, in 20 years time only a remnant of the churches will remain, becoming weaker all the time. The church must offer local people service and friendship, with no strings attached.

The following were elected to represent our church at the Ruri-Decanal Conference:

Mesdames Milns, Orton; Messrs. I. Melville, F. E. Peel and A. Taylor.

These people are automatically members of the Church Council, and with the following make up the full Church Council:

The Vicar and Churchwardens.

Mesdames J. Bellingham, D. Childs, M. Leatherdale, L. Mills, J. Robinson, I. V. Rockliffe, D. E. Warwick, Miss O. Wright .

Messrs. R. Bridges, R. Brooks, J. Gostling, D. Leatherdale, D. Nunn, H. Severn.

Mr. Robinson presented the accounts for the year and said we were in a satisfactory financial position, although receipts were down by about £240.

The Fabric of the church was reported to be in good order generally, but the roof of St. James's Hall needs repair and this is being looked into.

The reports from the various Church groups had been circulated previously.

Mr. Rockliffe agreed to prepare a rota of duties for Sidesmen.

Further representatives were elected as follows:

WELCARE: Mrs. I. V. Rockliffe.

SCOUTS: Mr. H. Severn.

HAMPTON HILL OLD PEOPLE'S

WELFARE COMMITTEE: Mrs. L. Mills, Mr. F. E. Peel.

HAMPTON COUNCIL OF CHURCHES:

Mrs. D. E. Warwick, Miss J. Weston, Mrs. Milns.

J.B.

“HOW THE OTHER HALF”

The views of one prone to be roped in on Social Committee activities at short notice and with little room for evasive action, might pardonably be tinged with reserve on occasion, but the Barbecue on June 29 could only arouse feelings of admiration.

Admiration for the customers, who, undeterred by the cooking (rare or charred according to location) and the clouds of smoke which from time to time enveloped food, cooks and customers alike, and, only slightly fortified with maltous liquors, pressed forward with every appearance of enjoyment (an appearance maintained even after consumption of two or three—in one heroic case, eleven—portions of mixed beefburger, sausage, onion, etc.).

Admiration also for the cooks, whose ignorance of the culinary arts was cleverly concealed behind a facade of bonhomie and badinage, unshaken even when the barbecue burst into flames.

Respectful admiration for the bartenders, who throughout the entire proceedings filled and refilled not only the guests', but also their own glasses, with undiminishing vigour.

And for the Brunts, quite unruffled despite having their garden filled with sideshows, tables, and cooking odours of peculiar pungency, and their kitchen invaded and crammed with rolls and coffee-cups; our most grateful admiration and many thanks.

P.S.—Some people complained that they weren't *asked* to come—the Social Committee would like it to be widely known that the functions are open to all parishioners, and are often oversold. MORAL—*don't* wait to be asked; you'll always be welcome, but *do* GET YOUR TICKET EARLY!

THE SCOUT GROUP

The A.G.M. was held on 10th May, and as on previous occasions the Vicar very kindly took the Chair.

The G.S.L. gave a full report of the Group's activities over the past year. Thanks to work put in by enthusiastic parents the long grass on the Camp Site had been dealt with and “The Triangle” had been used extensively by the Cub Scouts. Last September we had held a Games afternoon and Barbecue and in November our first Bonfire Party. He had spent a week-end at Artington with the Cub Scouts and also visited the Scouts in Camp at Normandy.

We again ran our two annual money-raising projects, i.e. the Jumble Sale and Christmas Bazaar, both highly successful. Also a family New Year's Party was organised by Hathi, a very enjoyable evening. The G.S.L. also expressed his appreciation of the work put in by Hathi in organising the Bazaar with the help of parents and Supporters. He felt very sad that he had to report the closing down of the Scout Troop owing to its being below the minimum standard required.

The maintenance of the Hall presented a very real problem as we were still without a part-time cleaner, also now we come under the G.L.C. the various inspections undertaken by that Authority have been of a very thorough nature, one result being that all the Fire Prevention equipment had to be replaced.

The C.S.L. then gave a most interesting report on the work of the Pack. Their activities were numerous, Saturday morning football being

a regular event. We again won the District Swimming Trophy and were runners-up in the District Football League. They were now working under the new Training Scheme and very many Badges had been awarded.

We were pleased to welcome to the Committee:—Mr. & Mrs. Anthony, Mrs. J. King, Mr. Pusey, Mr. Rhoades. Also as representatives of the Supporters' Association:—Mr. & Mrs. Birchall, Chairman and Deputy, Mrs. Savage, Secretary, and Mrs. Pusey, Treasurer.

PLEASE NOTE: New Hall Secretary—Mr. E. H. Pusey, 73, St. James' Avenue. Tel.: 979-3567.

D.C.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

M.U. members have undertaken to organise a CAKE STALL at the Fete at Laurel Dene on Saturday, September 7. We shall need contributions from all the cooks in the parish, male or female. Please contact any member of the Committee—Mrs. Bellingham, Mrs. Edmonds, Mrs. Harries, Mrs. Oliver, Mrs. Young or myself, and let us know whether you wish your cake (or cakes) to be collected on the day. As the President of Hampton Hill Old People's Welfare Committee is Mrs. Mills, one of our own members, we want to make a great effort for this event.

Our first meeting on September 4 will take the form of a Bring and Buy and Social Get-together, and we shall be delighted to see any who are not M.U. members, especially Young Mums and babes. The Opening Service will be on the first Wednesday in October. Happy holidays to you all.

I. V. ROCKLIFFE.

KEEPING THE MAGAZINE GOING

Financially, we mean. The hard-working Editorial Board keeps it going otherwise, though not without some difficulty, especially at holiday-time, when copy is in short supply, and one is tempted to make up for its lack by falling back on the devices of the 'silly season.' One reason why the magazine is late this month is that we have been waiting hopefully for some expected articles to come in, but they have not yet arrived: next month we shall no doubt have a glut of matter and much may have to be left out or held over.

But to return to the other side of magazine production. How important is it that people should get their Spire? Obviously many people welcome and value it. We know this in various ways: by the letters of appreciation which we receive, and by the repercussions and queries which always arise when, for one reason or another—perhaps some delay in publication, as this month, or a distributor's being prevented from delivering her copies as quickly as usual—the magazine does not come to hand at the expected time. People ring up and ask: 'What's happened to the magazine this month? I haven't had mine yet—shall I be getting one?'

In spite of the increased cost of printing—this of course goes up regularly year by year—we were able in 1967 to have an additional 50 copies printed each month. At the same time we succeeded in making a slight reduction in the amount which we receive by way of subsidy from Church funds. This was made possible as the result of

an appeal similar to this made a year or so ago, which brought in a number of very helpful and generous donations.

The demand for the magazine in fact goes on increasing all the time. Every newcomers' party brings in more requests, which we are of course glad to meet—we don't want to have any just left on our hands, and we still have a few copies to spare; but with more and more new homes being built we shall soon have none, and then will have to consider whether once again to increase the number printed or have a waiting-list.

One day we may be able to realise the ideal which some of us hold—to supply a copy free of charge to every home in the parish—but the expense of this could not be justified yet, with so many other urgent calls upon us. But we want to continue our present policy of supplying the magazine to all who are sufficiently interested to ask for it—and we hope that some of them will be moved to make a contribution towards the cost, either by slipping a coin (or a note!) now and then into the box at the west end of the church, or by a cheque to our treasurer, Mr. F. E. Peel, 34, Burton's Road.

We should like to end by saying how helpful our advertisers are to us, and we should like to feel that everybody makes as much use as possible of the services they offer.

THE CHOIR

Are there six ladies, each of whom would kindly volunteer to wash and iron about four surplices every three months please? I feel that it would be very nice if the whole choir appeared whiter than white at the same time!

There are vacancies for the following singers :

Boys	age 7 to 10
Girls	age 12 to 18
Contraltos	any age
Tenors	any age
Basses	any age

R.J.C.D.

SERVICES, ADULT EDUCATION AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The Church Council has agreed to the continuation of the Series Two Order of Communion for another year, when the matter will be reviewed again, and also approved of the introduction of the Series Two Orders for Baptism and Confirmation when applicable. The new form of Infant Baptism will be used for the first time at the Parish Communion on August 4, when Seymour and Dawn's second child, Simon Ward Harris, is christened.

It is getting more and more difficult to obtain the services of a priest for holiday duty: the Diocesan Clerical Registry say that they cannot be certain of supplying anyone unless the booking is made a year in advance! There will be services only at 9.30 a.m. (followed by the usual light refreshments at Wayside) and at 6.30 p.m. on Sundays, August 25 and September 1, but whether the 9.30 service will be Matins or Parish Communion depends on whether a priest can be found or not. So far we have drawn blank, but are very grateful for the cooperation of the clergy of SS. Peter and Paul, Teddington,

and their Reader, Mr. John Twaits (whom many of us met when he was a candidate in the recent local elections).

When the Sunday Schools reopen on September 29, we are going to experiment with modern teaching methods in the junior and infants' departments, and also to make it more convenient for parents and for brothers and sisters who like to come along together, we are changing the time of the infants at Wayside to 11.15 a.m.—but they will be welcome from 11.00 a.m. onwards, when the parish breakfast is just about finishing.

The Liturgical Committee is hoping to arrange something very interesting and exciting for all children in the parish in the Easter holidays—and also something for adults fairly soon. As a result of the discussion in church on July 7, when a strong demand for something like this was expressed, plans are being made for a series of six weekly meetings in October and November on 'Fundamentals of the Faith, and how they apply to life in the world to-day.' More details about all this later—and in the meantime, do not forget your booking for the parish weekend at Hildenborough Hall, May 16-19, next year.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Sept. 4.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union (W).
„ 7.—2.30 p.m. Old People's Welfare Committee: Fete at Laurel Dene.
„ 13.—10.30 a.m. Editorial Board (52, Park Road); 8.15 p.m. Liturgical Committee (90, Ormond Drive).
„ 15.—The Sermon at Evensong will lead up to a Discussion—'What do we mean by Reconciliation, and how do we make it effective in life to-day?'—which will take place in church, and be followed by light refreshments at Wayside.

N.B.—Sunday Schools re-open after summer recess on September 29. Remember the change of time for the Infants' Department from 9.45 to 11.15 a.m.

Services on August 25 and September 1 at 9.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. only—see paragraph above.

BAPTISMS

On July 28 :

Lynne Jennifer Cowderoy, 44, Ringwood Way.

Robin Thomas Frederick Tobin, 33, Myrtle Road.

On August 4 (at the Parish Communion) :

Simon Ward Harris, 33, Beech Way, Twickenham.

MARRIAGES

On July 27 :

Brian Lloyd Kay to Jean Wilder.

On August 3 :

David Norman Hawkins to Anne Margaret Buck.

BURIAL & CREMATION

On June 10:

Mary Eliabeth Hyde, 95, Hampton Road, aged 77 years.

On June 25

Albert John Bennett, 89, Connaught Road, Teddington, aged 80 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).