

SERVICES AND MINISTRY

We are grateful to those Readers from neighbouring parishes, and the clergy, by whose services we have been able to maintain the Sunday worship in our church during the vicar's holiday and subsequent stay in hospital. It is good to know that there are people willing to help out when unexpected difficulties arise.

There is in the Church of England at present a shortage of priests, and unless there is a change of view on the type of ordained ministry that the Church should have, this shortage will continue and become more acute. There is a tendency to take the vicar very much for granted, and it is only when he is ill, or the arrangements that he has made for a holiday period fall through, that the situation is brought home to us. In previous years it has been possible to make last minute arrangements, as when the vicar had to go into hospital for an eye operation last year. This year we have not been so fortunate. On two Sundays no priest has been available to celebrate the Parish Communion and we have had to fall back on our own resources or have no service at all. The position would be aggravated if the clergy expected the amount of holiday that is now customary for those of us involved in other occupations. Most people have three weeks holiday these days, many four, and some more; yet for years we have been accustomed to the vicar being away for only two Sundays each year. Apart from a spell in hospital last year, the last time that the vicar was away for any form of illness was at Easter about eighteen years ago, and so we rely also on the fact that he enjoys good health.

We should begin to think about what we really expect from our clergy, and perhaps of ways in which the staffing situation can be eased. The present general situation may lead to some change in the form of the ordained ministry. Is this where the Spirit is leading us?

S.H.

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At the time of going to press the news of Mr. Brunt's progress is variable. We have faith in due course he will make good progress, although when he comes home he will have to have a good rest before resuming his duties. Our thoughts are constantly with our good and valued friend, and we hope that he will be assured of our love and prayers.

Magazine Committee.

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is a word which has become accepted in the Church today, but some of us can look back and remember the state of affairs before the first Stewardship Campaign was launched. There was a continual shortage of money; for heating, for repairs, for giving. While underlying all social functions was the nagging query of how much money had been made. Now, as

a result of our present steady income, everyday expenditure can be budgeted, giving can be generous, and after a social event the only question is how much it has been enjoyed.

It is seven years since we were last asked to consider the implications of Stewardship and in that time there have been many changes in Hampton Hill and many changes also in our individual circumstances. So this autumn another campaign will be held and Church members will receive an invitation to a dinner to be held at York House on Monday, November 22. Further information will be sent during October.

LAY TRAINING

At this time of year many people are considering whether to take evening classes during the winter. There are many courses available within reach of Hampton Hill, but unfortunately not in the immediate area which would be of interest to any who wanted to widen their knowledge of the Bible and the Christian faith.

Last month we gave details of a course at Hounslow.

In **New Malden** (almost on the 265 'bus route) there are two courses.

Thursdays at 9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m. (crèche provided for mothers with young children)

24 lectures on the New Testament.

Mondays at 7.30 p.m. 24 sessions on the Bible in the Modern World.

At **Merton**.

Thursdays at 7.30 p.m., 24 lectures on the Old Testament.

Mondays at 7.30 p.m., 12 sessions on an Introduction to Theology.

If anyone would like further information on any of these courses, Seymour Harris can provide or obtain it.

S.H.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

There is to be a Rally in Trafalgar Square on Saturday, September 25th at 3 p.m. when proclamations concerning the present moral pollution of this nation will be read out and then presented to representatives of the Government, the Church, and the Mass Media.

This will be followed by a walk to Hyde Park where there will be "a festival of music and listening to those who have something to say. The way to the Light—the power to make a change—hope for the future—a fresh start now", as the programme puts it.

Besides the meeting in London, the whole Festival of Light starts with a meeting in Central Hall, Westminster on the 9th September, and continues with Regional rallies across the country. The 19th is to be a Nationwide day of prayer, "that moral standards be re-instated, and for spiritual awakening in the nation".

On Thursday 23rd beacons will be lit throughout the country "to alert the nation to the dangers of moral pollution, and the need to turn to God in this dark hour".

Why not join the Saturday meeting? It is hoped a Y.P.F. party will attend. If anyone is interested in going and making up a party, will they contact Hannah Stanton (979 5821) or Helen Taylor (979 7042).

THE PARISH HALL

Improvements to the heating and lighting of the Hall are in hand. The next steps in the programme will be the carrying out of various minor repairs and complete redecoration of the interior.

In order to reduce the need for costly professional assistance, the Management Committee have decided to carry out some of the work by voluntary labour. The weekends of 9th, 16th and 23rd October have been reserved for this venture and the committee will be glad to hear from anyone who can help with the work.

To enable the work to be properly organised, it would be helpful if volunteers would give their names to Mr. Leatherdale (979 6999), or Mr. Gostling (979 3748), as soon as possible.

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At some time in the past a Parishioner lent a free-standing electric heater to the Scout Group to supplement the heating of the Hall.

This heater is still in working order, and if the owner wishes to have it back he should contact Mr. Leatherdale who will make the necessary arrangements.

LETTER OF THANKS

Dear Friends,

I am writing to thank you very much indeed for your kind gift of your Whitsun offering towards helping with Medical work amongst the Southern Sudanese. You will know from Miss Stanton something of the troubles of these people, and in particular you may know about the mother of one of the schoolboys whom she helps. This woman was three-and-a-half months without any medical treatment until she got into hospital in Uganda. The help you have given will go towards re-establishing some basic medical facilities for these people. A small group of very trustworthy and hard-working Medical Assistants, assisted by a larger group of dressers and medical orderlies, works among Southern Sudanese. They work without pay, and have recently undertaken long journeys to vaccinate and treat people in cholera-stricken areas. Your gift, however, will be used to purchase essential surgical equipment, much of which was lost in January when the one small field hospital was destroyed.

Mr. Robinson has had a receipt for £30.—Ed.

HAMPTON CHORAL SOCIETY

In the last two years the Hampton Choral Society has grown from a group of 35 to 65 and is still growing. The Society is now tackling more ambitious works and will perform Brahms' German Requiem on Saturday November 23, with professional orchestra and soloists.

New choir members—of all voices, but especially Tenors—from "the Hamptons" will be particularly warmly welcomed. You do not require previous experience; all that's needed is regular attendance, a pleasant voice, a musical ear and/or a modest ability to read music—Francis Deacon, the conductor, will do the rest!

Rehearsals for Brahms' Requiem restart at 7.45 p.m. on Tuesday September 21 in the Thames Valley Institute in Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham, where you can enrol on Tuesday, September 14. The choir is run in conjunction with the Borough evening classes and fees are only £4.20 for the whole year. John Dansie (977 1873) or Judith Terry (977 6407) will gladly furnish any further information.

CARNIVAL AND VILLAGE FAIR

This lively event, organised by the Hampton Hill Old People's Welfare Committee and Forget-Me-Not-Club, took place on Saturday, September 4 and was heralded by a procession of carnival decorated floats through the streets of Hampton Hill. The Twickenham A.T.C. Trumpet Band led the procession, and the music and the applause added greatly to the festivity of the occasion.

Members of St. James' must have been particularly pleased to see the St. James' Church float. The Rev. and Mrs. John Fitz Wygram were well in evidence and most impressive. Many other members of the congregation were in attendance, dressed in Edwardian costumes, long skirts and boaters, and there were some very alluring can-can girls displaying their bloomers to the passers-by. Altogether it was a very lively and attractive float, and was given third place in the competition. Roy Grove children took first prize, and the Brownies with the scene of the mermaid under the sea, took second. Lady Connor and Mr. David Harris were the judges.

The Village Fair was held at Holly Road Recreation Ground, and this seemed a very good and central area of meeting. Mrs. Rupert Brunt opened the proceedings at 2.30, and stressed the important part which the Old People were themselves playing in the organisation, not only of this particular day, but in the work of the Old People's Welfare Committee generally.

A tremendous amount of work had been put into the stalls and side-shows; there were bargains to be found everywhere, and all was most attractively set out. Stalls included cakes, vegetables, groceries, toys, stationery, and jewellery, and items of work made by club members were well in evidence. There were raffles and lucky dips, bowling for a pig, hurling of sopping

sponges at poor victims in the pillory—who fortunately didn't seem to mind a bit! The children must have loved the roundabouts and swings, and there were horses to be ridden. The Forget-Me-Not-Queen Contest was particularly enjoyed, and the country dancers were very popular.

A flower arrangement competition was organised by the Hampton Hill Floral Art Club in the Parish Hall.

Everyone is to be congratulated on making the day a very great success, and at the time of going to press the amount made is £380.

H.S.

SCOUT GROUP

The 3rd Hamton Hill Scout Group—sponsored by the P.C.C. of St. James's—have both Cub and Scout sections. These sections have attained a high standard of Scouting in the district and command the respect of the other Scout Groups in Twickenham. The Group is, however, very short of adult officers and would welcome any offers of help for either section. Anyone who feels they could help should contact the Group Scout Leader, Mr. S. R. Childs, at 2b Seymour Road (979 9054) or go to the Hall on Wednesday or Friday evenings when the Cubs and Scouts meet.

M.J.C.

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES

We were delighted to welcome several visitors to the opening meeting of the new session. Despite the much regretted absence of the Vicar we held a service in church; this was conducted ably by Mrs. Bellingham, and the lesson, from Philipians, chapter 4, was read by Mrs. Oliver. Miss Stanton based her inspiring address on the Joy of Christianity on this passage. We are most grateful to her for "coming to the rescue" so ably. Later we had a "conversazione" at Wayside when tea was served by Mrs. Edmonds.

All will be welcome to attend the next meeting on October 6 when Lady Latey will speak on the vexed question of "Euthanasia".

HAMPTON HILL O.P.W. FETE

The sum of £13.41 was raised by the Parish Cake Stall at this event on September 4. Many thanks to all who helped to obtain this, also to those who manned the stall and withstood the onslaught of the wasps!

I.V.R.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

September

30 8.0 p.m. Harvest Supper (H).

October

2 3.0 p.m. O.P.W.C. Party (H).

3 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group: Sponsored Windsor Walk (District).

5 8.0 p.m. Tuesday Club. Miss S. Pound, "Work in Pestalozzi Village" (W).

6 2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union. Lady Latey, "Euthanasia" (W).

8 Cub Scouts' District Swimming Gala.

13 8.0 p.m. P.C.C. Meeting (W).

19 8.0 p.m. Tuesday Club. Mr. Heath, "Hampton Hill in the Last Hundred Years".

M.U. Overseas Sale, Church House, Westminster, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

20 M.U. Overseas Sale, Church House, Westminster, 11 a.m.-4.30 p.m.

23 Scouts' County Swimming Gala.

24 Holy Baptism 4.0 p.m.

25 M.U. Quiet Day, St. James's Church, 2.30-4 p.m.

7.30 Deanery Synod. St. Stephen's Church, East Twickenham.

26 8.0 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches, Methodist Church, Hampton.

November

22 Stewardship Dinner.

BAPTISMS

August

15 Susan Mary and Anne Margaret Moon, 4 Alliance Road, Selcourt, Springs, Transvaal, South Africa.

22 Vicki Pamela Crane, 45 Taylor Close, Hampton Hill.

Joanne Louise Hancke, 159 High Street.

Louise Ann Hawkins, 61 Elmcroft Crescent, North Harrow.

MARRIAGES

August

21 Alan John Maxted to Roberta Elaine Carribine.

September

4 John Richard Fleet to Gloria May Lansley.

11 Raymond Charles Keith Miller to Jane Elizabeth Perry.

FUNERAL

September

7 Ethel Curson, 28 Gloucester Road, Hampton, aged 71 years.