

CHURCHYARD

This summer has been a disappointing one in respect of volunteers to keep the Churchyard tidy. During the August holidays it has not been possible to cut the grass in the "new" area, although the lawns are as well tended as ever.

The graves area is a constant problem to your Properties Committee, for if the grass is left uncut until next Spring it will become a tangled undergrowth which is difficult to remove.

Therefore SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 has been declared "OPERATION CLIPPERS" Day, and it is hoped parishioners, young and old, will turn up in large numbers at the Churchyard, armed with suitable implements, to clear the whole Churchyard in one day! Weather permitting!

Please reserve some of your time on that day for a vital task which will benefit the whole parish and the local environment.

Don't forget SATURDAY OCTOBER 30—spread the word abroad!

PIANO WANTED

The renovated Parish Hall is in urgent need of a piano in good condition.

It is unfortunate that many pianos become neglected through lack of use, bad ventilation and irregular tuning, so that the strings become slack and eventually, when an attempt is made to restore them to the correct pitch, they break, and the cost of replacement in many cases is more than the instrument is worth.

Any member of the Hall Management Committee or the writer would be very pleased to hear of a piano which has been cared for but is no longer wanted and which can be offered for sale or as a gift. The Church piano tuner who attends to all the pianos on the Church premises at frequent intervals would be asked to examine it with a view to estimating the cost of any renovation which might be necessary.

R.J.C.D.

PERSONALIA

News of two former parishioners, now resident in British Columbia, has come to hand lately. Mrs. Vicky Coates (née Wells) writing from Vancouver on St. James's Day says, "I spent many happy hours on that day. It was then we broke up for our month's summer holiday. We met at the three different schools, Girls', Boys' and Infants', got in line, two by two, in School Road and every other one on each side carried a small Union Jack. Headed by a band we marched along Windmill Road to High Street as far as Park Road to the Church where we all went in for a short Festival Service, the small children with their mugs on tape around their necks. Some mugs got there whole—some didn't! After the service we formed in twos again, marched along

St. James's Road to the Vicarage Field (which I believe is no longer there). Here we sat down to milk or soft drink and buns; after this races and games were a highlight of the day. Later the older girls, Standards 6 and 7, went on to the Vicarage lawn to entertain invited guests who had had afternoon tea. After a very happy day we dispersed to enjoy our summer holidays. I have lived it all over again today, although it is nearly 65 years ago."

It is rumoured that there are still some of these china mugs preserved by older members of the congregation.

Excerpt from the Vancouver Sun Weekend Magazine of July 24:

"Saddle up your Pew"

The horse standing nearest to me at the church service was a bit restive as the offertory hymn was sung and the collection taken. But otherwise there wasn't even a whinny to disturb the Sunday morning calm.

About forty horses and their riders were part of the congregation outside St. Stephen's Anglican Church in Saanichton B.C. when the Reverend Ivan Futter conducted the service for, he said, people who couldn't attend church because they had to exercise their horses.

'This will be brief', were his opening words. 'I'm certain of the patience of my usual congregation—but not of their horses.'

After the service I chatted with the Rev. Ivan Futter, an energetic red-bearded forty-year-old who was in the British Merchant Marine before coming to Canada fifteen years ago. I asked if he had any service in mind for rounding up Sunday golfers. He said he hadn't, but I wouldn't be surprised to hear he's planning to lure from the links to St. Stephen's.

Many in the parish will remember when Ivan was a server at the church.

I.V.R.

As we go to press we regret to have to announce the deaths of two elderly ladies who have been associated for many years with the parish.

Miss Kolbe died on September 21 and was buried in the churchyard on September 27. She had been a very devoted member of St. James's Church for many years, and all will remember her dignified figure at the Parish Communion to which she felt unaccustomed at first, but which she loyally attended.

Mrs. Harvey was 87 when she died on September 25 and she was buried in St. James's churchyard on Thursday September 30. During the Rev. F. P. P. Harvey's incumbency at St. James's, from 1923–1950, Mrs. Harvey was a most loyal help and support to him. She will be remembered with respect by many as a familiar figure at the annual fêtes and all the parish functions.

H.S.

HAMPTON HILL OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE

Thank you so much for supporting our Village Fair. The amount raised enabled us to subsidise a very pleasant holiday for thirty-five elderly ladies and gentlemen to Broadstairs for two weeks. The weather was exceptionally nice, which added to the enjoyment. Mrs. Winchester and Mrs. Durness were in charge and arranged outings to Dover and Folkestone and evenings to the Lido, and the Pavilion where they quickly became known as the "Hampton Hill Mob". Mr. and Mrs. Beard were their hosts and made them very comfortable. The holiday ended with a Fancy Dress Party on Thursday evening, and on Saturday evening some of the holiday-makers had enough energy to go with us to the Teddington T.V. Studios for the David Nixon Magic Box Show.

L.M.

HARVEST FESTIVAL 1971

Rejoicing and Renewal were the outstanding feelings at our Harvest Festival 1971.

On Sunday September 26 a gala atmosphere built up in St. James's. Our church was beautifully cleaned and decorated, the harvest produce was well arranged, the congregations were large and happy, and YES, our VICAR was BACK! I am sure that all the parish rejoices in his safe return to "part-time" duty and wishes him a full and speedy recovery.

At the Harvest Supper close on 120 parishioners and friends sampled the gastronomic delights of cold turkey, salad, followed by peaches and cream, cheese and biscuits and coffee. The heroic display by the Drama Group kept everyone on tenterhooks. Our thanks go out to all those who helped to make our festivities so joyful.

In October and November we expect to partake in two more harvests. The seeds of redecoration and renewal were obvious at the Hall, the seeds of Christian Stewardship renewal have also been sown. Let us carry on the spirit of our Harvest Festival into these undertakings and we will reap a great harvest.

A.F.B.

WELCARE

Welcare are having a Bring and Buy Coffee Morning at 15 Belstrode Road, Hounslow, on Thursday October 28 from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Anyone who is interested in the work of Welcare is invited, and proceeds are to the Workers' Discretionary Fund. Would anyone wishing to go please contact Mrs. Taylor, 979 7042, who is hoping to provide transport.

The workers already have Christmas in mind and are appealing for gifts suitable for children, especially games for 7-9 age group, and little cars, etc., for small boys.

We recently sent a parcel of new baby clothes to Welcare which was very well received, and these are always welcome; so also are clothes for children up to the age of 9.

H.T.

FIREWORKS PARTY

Our Annual Fireworks Party will be held on Saturday, November 6 in the grounds of Laurel Dene, starting at 6.30 p.m. sharp. The cost of tickets will be 25p each, and they will be generally available from members of the Social Committee on and after Thursday October 28.

No one can be admitted without a ticket, which will not be available on sale at the gate, and unaccompanied children will not be allowed in—nor will private fireworks be permitted.

As usual, the price of the ticket includes hot soup and baked potatoes.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

On Tuesday, September 14, a party of M.U. members and friends left Hampton Hill at 9.30 a.m. for a visit to Old Alresford Place in Hampshire. This lovely Georgian House was formerly the Rectory of Old Alresford, in which, in 1876, Mary Sumner founded the Mothers' Union.

As one sat drinking coffee in the spacious Drawing Room you could almost feel the atmosphere of peace and "gracious living" that existed in Mary Sumner's day. How different from the continuous stress of life today. After a picnic lunch we went on to Winchester Cathedral, arriving home again about 5 p.m.

Everyone felt very happy that the Vicar and Mr. Rockliffe were well enough to come along, and a thankyou must be said to Joan Bellingham, who must have put in a deal of hard work beforehand to ensure such a delightful outing.

D.E.C.

THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

Nine members of our Church experienced a marvellous act of Christian witness on Saturday September 25, five being Y.P.F. members who made the journey to Trafalgar Square in true pilgrim style by walking all the way. About 35,000 people crowded into the Square to hear the speeches and the proclamations, details of which appear to have been accurately reported in the Press. The gathering then moved off to Hyde Park, where it doubled in numbers to hear pop-concert style music and some very inspiring if unorthodox oratory and teaching. It seemed to all of us that the great thing about the Festival was the joy, fellowship and happiness of the ordinary people taking part. A tremendous demonstration of positive Christian values.

A.T.

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

It is very good to be back with you all again, and what a splendid occasion to begin my duties, that of our Harvest Festival, which seemed more joyous than ever this year in a particularly beautiful setting. I am very grateful to all those who

maintained the services and ministry of the Church during my absence and subsequent period of incapacity, and especially to Seymour Harris and members of the Liturgical Committee, who arranged and conducted forms of service at short notice when no priest was available, and when one was, made him feel at home and at ease amongst us. I greatly appreciated all the help and support I received from so many people whilst in hospital. I had the same critical point as last year, and again I am sure that it was prayer that then made all the difference. As I told the Meditation Group in September, in hospital I thought and meditated a great deal on God's grace in saving and healing, and the various ways in which this comes to us—directly, and through the ministry of surgeons and nurses, and through prayer and the sacraments of the Church; of the difficulties it has to contend with in our anxiety, lack of trust, and perhaps unconscious reluctance to be saved. I hope to write more about this next month. In the meantime, there is a great deal to look forward to, as the parish sweeps with increasing momentum into an autumn programme of wide scope and interest.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

October

- 22 Liturgical Committee (68 Park Road).
- 25 10.30 a.m. Editorial Board (63 Park Road); 8.00 p.m. Properties Committee (151 Uxbridge Road); 8.00 p.m. Deanery Synod (St. Stephen's Church Hall, Chertsey Road—N.B. Refreshments served from 7.30 p.m.).
- 26 8.00 p.m. Annual General Meeting of the Hampton Council of Churches (Methodist Church Hall, Percy Road).
- 28 SS. Simon and Jude. Holy Communion at 10.00 a.m.; 10.30 a.m. onwards Wel-Care Coffee Morning (15 Bulstrode Road, Hounslow).
- 30 ALL-DAY MASS ATTACK IN CHURCHYARD: 'OPERATION CLIPPERS'.
- 31 At Evensong, an augmented choir will sing solos and choruses from 'The Messiah'.

November

- 1 All Saints' Day. Holy Communion at 10.0 a.m.
- 2 8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club, Discussion (W).
- 4 2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union, Annual General Meeting, followed by the showing of Holiday Slides (W).
- 6 3.00 p.m. Old People's Monthly Party (H); 6.30 p.m. Parish Fireworks Party—admission by ticket only (Laurel Dene).
- 8 8.00 p.m. Parochial Church Council (W).
- 11 8.00 p.m. Men Visitors—first Training Session (W).
- 13 2.30 p.m. Scout Group, Autumn Bazaar (H).
- 14 Remembrance Sunday. 5.15 p.m. Members of YPF lead service at Laurel Dene; 6.30 p.m. Special form of Service of Remembrance and Dedication.
- 16 8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club, First Aid (W).

- 21 Sunday Next before Advent. Stewardship Sunday. 5.15 p.m.
Senior members of congregation lead service at Laurel Dene.
- 22 7.30 p.m. Stewardship. Parish Supper at York House (by invitation).

December

- 12 9.30 a.m. Confirmation and Parish Communion; 6.30 p.m.
Preacher from the Church Missionary Society, who will show a film and answer questions at Wayside after the service.

BURIALS

September

- 27 Emma Kolbe, 64 Windmill Road, aged 83 years.
- 30 Hannah Mariah Harvey, 10 Lawn Close, Tenterden, aged 87 years.