

COMMUNITY SELF-HELP

Some months ago I was asked to be on a sub-committee of the Hampton Council of Churches to see if there would be any call for starting a co-ordinating body to encourage more liaison between caring and welfare organisations, personnel and people in the districts of Hampton Hill and Hampton.

The Rev. Dennis Green, Dr. David Woodroffe and I met several times, and at length feeling the need of a larger Committee, contacted the two Residents' Associations, and a number of interested friends including Mrs. Coe the Senior Social Worker in this area. All were keen for the idea to go forward.

It is felt that it would be good for representatives of organisations to meet, get to know each other, and ascertain what more can be done for community care in this area. The idea is to encourage the co-ordinating of the professional with the voluntary services; for groups to come forward to work on specific projects. Much is already done for Old People's Welfare; but is there enough done, for example, for the physically handicapped, particularly those who are house-bound? Are the needs of the pre-school child sufficiently catered for? Are there enough emergency help schemes?

Letters have now been sent to all the voluntary organisations on the Richmond Council of Social Service list; to all the members of the medical profession who live locally; to the members of the teaching profession; to the clergy and congregations of the churches in the area; to the Councillors and to the local government officers concerned. Views and reactions are asked for, and the next step will be a meeting and the setting up of a Co-ordinating Committee. If any readers of this magazine would like to be involved in future plans, please send in your names.

Hannah Stanton.

LINKS WITH GERMANY?

A prospect has opened up for St. James's of possible links with a parish in West Germany. A school friend of mine is married to a vicar at a Lutheran church in Wuppertal, and we have been exchanging information on church life in our respective parishes. I have found this very stimulating; naturally we can learn a lot from each other's experiences.

A few days ago I was very thrilled when my friend asked whether we might be interested in closer, personal ties with their congregation. She suggested an exchange of visits, accommodation being arranged in private families.

I am sure such an exercise would be most attractive from a spiritual as well as a sight-seeing point of view. Obviously language difficulties have to be overcome, and to be truly beneficial, visits need to be well prepared.

But there is plenty of time for that. I could think of various ways of establishing links prior to an exciting trip, or welcoming guests here. Initially I would be very pleased to hear from anybody who might be interested in any kind of contact with the parish in Wuppertal.

(As a guide to what this might cost, I have just received a quotation from a travel-agent - £16 for 5 days, travelling by coach.)

Hilde Bucknell

Tel: 979 3529.

(The Stewardship Committee, of which Mrs. Bucknell is a member, has already shown great interest in this project, and if this is shared by a sufficient number of those who read this, it would seem to be the appropriate body to further it. -Ed.)

World Day of Prayer. St. James's Church. 2.30 and 8.0 p. m. Friday March 1.

The special preachers will be:- Mrs. Orchard, a Methodist Lay Preacher, in the afternoon, and Mrs. Hope Hay of the Society of Friends' Community Relations Committee in the evening. If we know by Friday morning that it is needed, a creche will be available during the afternoon service.

"Make us Builders of Peace" is the theme written into the service this year by the women of Japan. Their Chairman Mrs. Michiko Okuda writes "It has been quite an honour for each of us, that we could be involved in this particular process of the Women's World Day of Prayer Movement. The experience has given us an opportunity to exchange ideas on most urgent problems of today, to examine our thoughts and attitudes, and to renew ourselves - souls and minds. We praise the Lord".

At the moment it does not seem likely that we can arrange the usual study in preparation for this day, and that is a pity because, as usual, there is so much good in the published service, that would reward more than the hour given to it on the day. I have duplicated study sheets to go with the Service. Please ask if you would like to have one.

There is a tendency which St. James's strongly endorses, to make a more universal appeal on this day, and although the posters, when they go up will still be headed Women's Day of Prayer, men will be welcome at our services.

C. H. B.

PROGRAMME OF LENT COURSES.

Monday at 8.0 p. m. Starting on March 4 at 63 Park Road, Hampton Hill.
Hostess. Hannah Stanton.

Theme: "Salvation Today"

This will follow, though not closely, the study course produced by the Adult Group of the Conference of Missionary Societies of Great Britain and Ireland. There are tapes to be listened to which will arouse a number of interesting aspects on this theme.

Leader: Hannah Stanton

Tuesday at 8.0 p. m. Starting on March 5 at 75 St. James's Avenue
Hampton Hill.

Theme: "Salvation Today"

See notes above. The two groups will try and keep in step

Leaders: Olive Wright and Jean Western.

Wednesday at 8.0 p. m. Starting on March 6 at 33 Beech Way, Whitton.
(4 evenings in all) Hosts. Seymour and Dawn Harris

Theme: Prayer

Leader: Seymour Harris.

Thursday at 8 p. m. This is a continuing group at 68 Park Road, Hampton Hill
for young people, and meets every Thursday evening. Hosts: Alan and Helen Taylor.

Present theme: The Epistle to the Hebrews.

Leader Alan Taylor.

Friday at 8.0 p. m. Starting on March 8 at 71, St. James's Avenue
Hampton Hill.

Theme: Doctrine

Leader: Don Rawlins.

Hostess. Mrs. Milns.

For further information about the Programme of Lent Courses, apply to the group-leader or host - and it would also help if you would notify the host in advance of your intention to be present. Members of other churches will be warmly welcome - as of course will also those with no church affiliation who want to find out more about the Christian way of life. This year there will be no central meetings arranged by the Hampton and Sunbury Council of Churches.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Before Christmas 1973, a simple card conveying the warmest Christmas greetings was distributed to every house and flat in the Parish. On the card were a list of the Christmas services, and there have been a number of expressions of appreciation of the card with its greetings and information.

The members of the Liturgical Committee feel that a card of greeting should be sent out next Christmas, and that perhaps this should be a more ambitious double card with a design on the front.

It has been suggested that there might be a competition for the design. We have many artistic members of the congregation, and we would be very grateful if they would give this some thought. It would be very good to have a Christmas card designed by one of our many contacts in Hampton Hill.

We feel that publicity should be given to this idea early in the year. By the time the autumn comes round time is pressing; orders have to be given to the printers early, and everything can easily get rushed. May we have your artistic designs and ideas in please, within the next few months?

H. M. S.

CONFIRMATION AND LICENSING

On December 16, the occasion of our Dedication Festival, Donald Rawlins and Hannah Stanton received their licenses as Readers, and then helped in the Service, at which six members of our parish were confirmed - Alexander Loyd, Richard Loyd, Margaret Greenhalgh, Jacqueline Bowes-Cavanagh, Marion Brittain and Gillian Brown - as well as six pupils of The Lady Eleanor Holles School.

NEW YEAR PARTY

1974 was heralded in style at St. James's Parish New Year Party on Saturday 12. January.

The guests were welcomed on arrival by Tweedle Dum - or Dee - and "The Queen of the Fairies".

The glass of hot punch on entry, was a welcome restorative against the evening drizzle outside.

A record number of tickets had been sold, and the party was soon in full swing under the guidance of Reg our M. C. and his willing band of helpers. The theme this year for fancy dress costumes was Pantomime, and many people put a tremendous amount of effort into the production of some excellent costumes. The characters portrayed ranged from ugly sisters in true panto style through to Cinderellas and fairies via a White Queen.

The Social Committee produced an ample buffet of cheeses, pork pies, sausages and biscuits etc., followed by fancy cakes and coffee. Bars serving fruit cup and beer, cider and lemonade were in action during the proceedings.

A good time was had by all, thanks to the Social Committee's efforts. D. P.

OUR HALL AND THE EMERGENCY

Do we have three days without electricity or not? That was the question facing the committee. First we thought definitely "yes" and cancelled all Thursday, Friday and Saturday bookings. Oh, dear me! what problems we ran into, especially on the Saturday bookings! So, 'phone calls were made, meetings were held, the D. T. & I. and Electricity Board contacted and all was well, we could stay open. Wrong again! More 'phone calls, meetings and "advice": only parish functions could be held in Parish Halls. Still wrong. Finally we think we have established the correct answer, and have a press cutting to prove it. The hall stavs open all the time, using only 50% lighting, the hours of heating and the temperature have been reduced, and the users asked for co-operation in economy. We hope that is the end of our decision-making, but who knows - it can change over night!

Those who regularly use the hall will have noticed our new bright stacking chairs; we hope you enjoy using them. We feel they are a great improvement, and intend replacing all the wooden ones eventually.

Hall Management Committee.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE PLANS

There will be a grand Quiz at Wavside at 8.0 p.m. on 26 February. Teams will be from the Mothers' Union, Y. P. F., and men from the P. C. C. Admission is by ticket only, price 10p., obtainable from Mrs. Leatherdale, 18 St. James's Road.

We have arranged to run a coach for an evening visit to the Ideal Homes Exhibition on 21 March. Tickets will be available from members of the Social Committee, price 75p.

WASTE PAPER COLLECTION

The present fuel crisis has focused our attention on the great wastage of commodities such as paper, metal, glass etc. Paper is made from wood pulp which is nearly all imported, and vast quantities of paper are destroyed because local authorities find it uneconomic to segregate even bundles of newspaper from other waste.

Research by waste-paper merchants. has shown that the average householder collects about $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. , of newspaper and periodicals per month. The present value is £8 per ton, so that 320 houses would give us £32 for an assumed 4 ton load. The proceeds from the sale would make a valuable contribution to charity and, in addition, would save ratepayers money.

A number of churches and other organisations collect paper, and the Kew Liberal Recycling Society collects both paper and wine bottles. At Kew, residents bring these to a central collecting point once a month, while volunteers help with the collecting and loading. The whole operation is completed in a few hours on a Saturday morning, the paper being collected and loaded into the paper merchant's van without having to be stores.

It is hoped to start a similar scheme in Hampton Hill shortly. To ensure the success of the project, it is necessary to enlist the support of 300 - 400 householders who would be willing to save and bundle their newspapers and periodicals, preferably delivering them on the appointed day to the collecting point. Volunteers would also be required to collect and help with the loading.

Many people have already shown interest, and it is hoped that St. James's Church and the Hampton Hill Association will support the scheme. If so, the first collection will be made early in March. Meanwhile, if you would like to help,

please start saving your paper now. If you would be willing to assist in operating the scheme (other than by just saving your paper) please ring David Nunn (979-6325) between 9 a. m. and 10 a. m. or 6 p. m. and 7 p. m. on any weekday.

D. E. N.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

There was a large attendance of members at the first meeting in 1974, when, in the presence of the Deanery Presiding Member, Mrs. Betty Parnell, the Vicar admitted Mrs. Brunt as Enrolling Member - an office to which she is no stranger. Owing to the fuel crisis, the service was held in Wayside; Mrs. Wigginton acted as pianist, and the hymns were sung heartily. The Vicar in his address on Membership gave us all much food for thought.

The traditional mince-pie tea followed the service, and proved a very sociable conclusion to the afternoon. It was good to have Mrs. Ogden with us, looking very sprightly despite the 90th birthday she celebrated recently.

The good wishes of all the members are extended to Mrs. Brunt for a very happy term of office.

I. V. R.

Our annual Jumble Sale will be on Saturday afternoon, March 16. If you have suitable goods for disposal, it would be a great help if you could bring them to the Parish Hall between 11.00 and 12.00 noon on that day. If you would like it collected, please ring 979 1589, or tell any member as soon as you can.

C. H. B.

THE SCOUT GROUP

Those of you who imagine Scouting is nothing else but "tying knots" and playing "wide games" will be interested to hear of an evening held by the Troop last December.

We were privileged to have a visit from Tom Laver a U. S. P. G. Missionary who up to 2 years ago was Superintendent of St. Michael's School for the Blind at Ranchi in India. As a young man, he felt God's call and was accepted as a lay missionary, giving many years of service in both Africa and India.

He is also a keen Scouter and gave an interesting talk, also showing films of his work as County Commissioner in India. Our boys were very interested in their Indian counterparts, and asked numerous questions. One good thing that was made evident was how, in spite of the rigid caste system, Christian and Indian boys of many creeds were able to meet and join together in fellowship through the brotherhood of Scouting.

We were pleased to welcome our friends of the B. P. Guild, also Akela brought several of the senior Cubs along. The Scouts themselves were responsible for the refreshments, and everyone felt it had been a very good evening.

S. R. C.

A CONCERT

Many of us no doubt have had cause at some time to be grateful to one of our local hospitals, and may be interested in a Concert which is being arranged by The League of Friends of St. Mary's and Teddington Hospitals.

This is being held at Thames Valley School on Saturday February 23. when Toby Jessel will appear as piano soloist with Hampton Choral Society. Another soloist will be the singer Linda Scott.

Tickets at 60p. (Children and O. A. P. 30p) can be obtained from:-

D. E. Childs, 2B Seymour Road. Tel:- 979 9054.

DEANERY INTERCESSION LIST

February

- 17 All hospitals in the District.
24 All Old People's Homes in the area.

March

- 3 Bishop Wand Secondary School, Sunbury, and all Church
Primary Schools.
10 Schools and Colleges in the Deanery.
17 Wel-Care.
24 All other Christian Denominations in the Deanery.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

February

- 19 8.00 p. m. Tuesday Club: Mrs. Potts - 'Hats' (W)
20 7.30 a. m. Holy Communion (in Vestry)
22 8.00 p. m. Liturgical Committee (68, Park Road)
23 7.30 p. m. Concert in aid of local hospitals (Thames Valley School)
24 5.15 p. m. Members of Y. P. F. lead service at Laurel Dene
26 SAINT MATTHIAS : 7.30 a. m. Holy Communion (in Vestry); 8.00p. m.
(Quiz (W))
27 ASH WEDNESDAY: 7.45 p. m. Parish Communion;
8.30 p. m. Parochial Church Council (W)
28 7.30 a. m. Holy Communion (see note below about weekday
Communions in Lent)

March

- 1 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: 7.30 a. m. Holy Communion (in Vestry)
Special Form of Service (drawn up by Christians in Japan) at 2.30 &
8.00 p. m.
3 5.15 p. m. Senior members of congregation lead service at Laurel Dene
4 8.00 p. m. Stewardship Committee (106 Park Road); 8.00 p. m. Lent
House-Groups begin to meet (see announcement earlier in magazine)
5 8.00 p. m. Tuesday Club: Speaker - Police-Sergeant Hall (W)
16 2.30 p. m. Mothers' Union: Jumble Sale (Hall)
19 7.00 p. m. Tuesday Club - Theatre Outing

N. B. Throughout Lent there will be Holy Communion in the Vestry every morning from Tuesday to Friday at 7.30.

MARRIAGES

January

- 18 Paul Malcolm Nolan to Glynnis Joy Rees
26 Glen Terrence Thomas to Jeanette Anne Warwick

BURIALS & CREMATION

January

- 4 Winifred Mary Spratt, 5 The Wilderness, aged 53 years (at Feltham
Cemetery)
11 Harriet Rose Gwynn, 52 Uxbridge Road, aged 85 years.
14 Clunes Montague Tuffley, 74 Park Road, aged 60 years (at South-
West Middlesex Crematorium).