

HAMPTON HILL PARISH MAGAZINE.

PAROCHIAL NOTES.

Vicar—The Rev. R. H. Brunt, B.A., A.K.C., The Vicarage, St. James's Road. Telephone: Molesey 2069

The Vicar may usually be seen without appointment between 9-15 and 10.0 a.m., and 6.45 and 7.15 p.m. Messages about people who are sick or in special need should be sent to him as soon as possible.

Churchwardens—Mr. W. F. Wigginton, 9, Oxford Road Teddington
Mr. E. Beckett, 35, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill

Organist—Mr. C. Haydn-Bull M.I.G.C.M.

Parochial Church Officer.

Mr. S. V. Forrow, 68, Sunnyside Road Teddington.

Sunday School.

Held at 11 a.m. every Sunday

In the Parish Hall Infants—Superintendent—Miss B. Rooney.

Boys—Superintendent—Miss O. Wright.

Girls' Fellowship—Superintendent—Mrs. G. Casey

In the Club Room Senior Girls—Superintendent—Miss R. Phillips
Junior Girls—Superintendent—Miss B. Stewart

Children's Service every Sunday at 3 p.m. in Church

Missionary Committee.

Hon. Treas.—Miss Cox, 6 Queen's Road, Hampton Hill.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Stanton, 63 Park Road, Hampton Hill.

Mothers' Union.

Monthly Meetings, First Wednesday in each month in the Club Room, 3 p.m., and Quarterly Services: Corporate Communion First Thursday 10.30 a.m.

Enrolling Member: Mrs. Brunt.

St. James's Youth Club.

Meetings in the Club Room, on Mondays and Fridays at 7.30 p.m.
Hon. Sec.: Mr. L. J. Sumner.

Girl Guides. Captain—Miss Cynthia Hayward.

Brownies. Brown Owl—Miss D. Proctor.

Meetings in the Club Room on Thursdays at 5.30 p.m.

Scouts. Scout Master: Mr. G. Casey, 89 Connaught Road, Teddington

Cubs Cubmaster: Mr. S. R. Childs, 126, Uxbridge Road, Hampton Hill

District Nurse—Mrs. S. Shaw, 5, Regina Court, Gloucester Road Teddington

Churchyard.

Contributions towards the up-keep of the Churchyard will be gratefully received by Mr. E. Beckett, 35, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill.

Magazine Committee.

Hon. Treas. and Advt. Sec.: Mrs. H. F. Beckett, 6, Cross St.

Hampton Hill.

Hon. Sec.: Miss H. Stanton, 63, Park Road, Hampton Hill.

Vicar's Doles.

THE CHURCHYARD:—This matter has been a source of great concern to me since coming into the parish, and trying to deal with the various individual problems that have arisen in connection with it has taken up a great deal of my time. Now, after writing many letters, buying three legal books, and having had an interview with the Diocesan Registrar, I think I have got the position clear.

One thing to be borne in mind is that a parish churchyard is different in many respects from a public cemetery. In a cemetery a person can purchase a piece of land from the Borough Council to be his own property for ever. But a parish churchyard is regarded in law as the common grave of the parish and not as a collection of graves. No one can claim any portion of it as his own personal property. Every parishioner has a right to be buried in the churchyard in normal circumstances, but not in any particular part of it. In the past, people have formed the impression that they have purchased in the churchyard pieces of land on payment of a fee—usually very much smaller than that required in a public cemetery, and no one has objected to this, as far as I know. But these fees, given and received in good faith, have no legal authority. They have been in operation here for many years—perhaps ever since the churchyard was opened—but their only justification is in long-standing custom. They do not give any exclusive right to any particular grave-space, and no ground can legally be reserved in advance on payment of a fee. Even the erection of a headstone and curb gives no exclusive right to the whole area thus enclosed—though normally, of course, while there was plenty of room remaining in the churchyard the incumbent would not permit anyone except a member of the same family to be buried therein.

The only way of obtaining an exclusive right to a grave-space is by faculty (i.e. permission granted by the Chancellor of the Diocese). This is not usually granted unless there is plenty of room left in the churchyard, and the applicant can show some special connection with the parish. If granted, the legal fee would be about five guineas.

In the past, the question of reservations for family-graves has not caused much difficulty because there has

been plenty of space left elsewhere. Now, when there is only a little space left, it is acute. In future, it will have to be recognised that everyone buried in the churchyard is, as it were, 'buried at his own risk'. There can be no guarantee that other members of his family will be able to be buried near him.

With regard to the many difficulties left over from the past, it is thought that the first thing to be done is for those who have had pieces of ground reserved to them to meet together and send in a joint application for a confirmatory faculty; otherwise their reservations have no legal validity.

A faculty may also be granted for the deepening of a grave in certain conditions, so that husband and wife may be buried together. (One trouble here has been that in winter, graves can rarely be dug deep enough for more than one interment.)

In the four or five special cases with which I have been dealing lately, there is every hope that faculties may be granted, but not in any future cases, when the position has been made clear.

To help people in any special problems, to answer any questions, and to help in the preparation of the applications for the faculties required, I shall be in the Vestry on Wednesday, July 11th, at 8.0 p.m., and I hope that all who feel that anything written in this article concerns them will do their best to be present.

THE SUMMER FETE:—This is an important social occasion in the life of the Parish, and it is also a time when we must do all we can to raise a very handsome sum of money to help meet the ever-rising expenses connected with our church. We have many commitments, and I have been impressed by the way in which they have been fulfilled in the past. The only way in which we can continue this excellent tradition is by working hard and giving generously on particular occasions such as this as well as Sunday by Sunday throughout the year.

Whether it is wet or fine, then—turn up on JULY 7TH. We all hope that it may be fine, so that we may enjoy the lovely gardens of Laurel Dene—we are grateful for the permission kindly given to us by Middlesex County Council to have this privilege. But if it is wet—well, let the Hall be full of people whose enthusiasm cannot be damped by the weather!

In the evening, the members of the Peter Pan Club are generously organising an Old-Tyme Dance in our support.

THE PATRONAL AND DEDICATION FESTIVALS:— July 25th is the Day of our Patron Saint. There will be the usual Wednesday 7.30 a.m. celebration of the Holy Communion, and a short evening service at 7.30 p.m. after which my wife and I will be "at home" at the Vicarage to the members of the Church Council, Sunday School teachers, and gentlemen and ladies of the Choir. (We should like to invite the whole congregation as well, but owing to limitations of space this is impossible on the same occasion).

The following Sunday, in the Octave, will continue the Festival.

We ought also to make the anniversary of the day on which our church was consecrated one of special observance. This will be an important occasion in twelve years' time, when we shall hope to be able to celebrate the centenary. But it should also be worthily commemorated every year. At the moment all we know is the year, 1863, but not the day or the month. Mr. Forrow is however exploring the old records and minute-books in his care, and I hope that the information which we need will soon be discovered.

THE MEN'S SOCIETY has now been formed, and application has been made to C.E.M.S. headquarters that we be registered as a branch. Later, an admission service for the first members will be held in church. The vicar is president, and the other officers have been elected as follows:— Mr. J. N. Cornish, chairman; Mr. F. Sargeant, secretary; Mr. W. F. Wigginton, treasurer. Our next meeting, at which details of the future programme will be discussed, is on Tuesday, July 10th, at 8.0 p.m. in the Hall, and we invite all men interested to join us. It's good to be in at the start!

Despite an unfortunate error which crept into the magazine notes last month after the proofs had been corrected, fourteen of us went down to the Men's Service at St. Mary's on June 13th.

OLD PEOPLE AND OTHERS:— I have been impressed by the vigour and extent of the work that is done in this district to help old people and to make life happier and less lonely for them. The local Darby and Joan Club is a fine example of this, and I know how much the members look forward to its weekly meetings. I am wondering whether it might not be possible in time to develop similar ways of bringing friendship and help to people who are not qualified by age for membership of Old Peoples' Clubs, but who are cut off from much normal life and social activity by some disability. The Infantile Paralysis Fellowship is doing splendid work for people whose disability springs from one specific cause: but there are many others for whom there seems to be no society or association which they can feel exists especially for them. Is there room for such a body? I should be glad to know what others think about this.

CIVIL DEFENCE:— During my last months at

Nottingham, I began a course of training for the warden section of Civil Defence. I recently attended a meeting for the wardens of the Hampton area, and learnt that the number for the whole borough is less than a quarter of what it should be to be of any use in an emergency. There are less than twenty for the whole Hampton district, and only three (of which I am one) for the Hampton Hill section of this. So if the scheme is ever to be of any value, in a situation which we hope will never arise, there is room for very many more volunteers.

Reports and Announcements

SUNDAY SCHOOL EXCURSION:— Arrangements are in hand to take the Sunday School children to Eastbourne this year, on Friday, August 3rd. Coaches will depart from the church at 8.15 a.m.

There will be some seats available for Parents, the price will be 8/6 each.

If a sufficient number of Parents so desire it may be possible to book tea for them at the Cambridge Cafe, Seaside, who are catering for the children. The cost would be approximately 2/6d. each.

Tickets will be ready on Wednesday, July 18th. They will be distributed at the Parish Hall from 7.15 to 8.30 p.m. and must be collected and paid for then, but as the number of seats for Parents will be limited they may be reserved beforehand on application to Mr. E. V. Beckett, 35, Wellington Road.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN?— The Secretary of the above Society wishes to thank all those in the Parish who have so kindly subscribed gifts in the N.S.P.C.C. envelopes—a cheque for £12 0s. 0d. has been acknowledged—receipt to be seen in Church porch. Many thanks to the collectors who undertook this task. It was well worth while. M.J.B.

THE HASSOCKS in church need repair. If you can help, please get in touch with Mrs. Hillyer, 109, Gloucester Road. Small pieces of carpet to use for this purpose would be very helpful.

THE CHOIR welcomed four new boys as members on Sunday, April 15th, when, after the First Lesson at Evensong the Vicar formally admitted as choristers of St. James's, Geoffrey Swatland, James Price, Roger Moore and John Reid, and presented them with their Psalters. Since then James Price has left with his family for Australia, with promises to keep the boys supplied with foreign stamps! We wish them well in their new home. David Thompson, who has been a regular member of the Choir since he was seven years of age, has now left us to serve in the R.A.F. for three years. We shall miss his keenness, courtesy and helpfulness.

Two new boys have been welcomed as probationers, Masters Taylor and Nichols.

On the afternoon of May 27th, the Vicar and Choir led a service at Laurel Dene, which was very much appreciated.

Telephone—MOLESEY 2110

A. C. YATES Groceries, Provisions, Tobacco, Cigarettes, Green Fruit & Hardware
Late H. S. Gilham Fulwell Stores, 56, WELLINGTON ROAD HAMPTON HILL

We are very grateful to the ladies who kindly defrayed the cost of new neckbands for the surplices, and to those who are sewing them on. These repairs are saving the Church the great expense of having to buy new surplices.

ORGAN RECONSTRUCTION FUND:— Amongst recent gifts have been the following, which we acknowledge with thanks: Mrs. Thompson £2 0s. 0d.; Mr. Sutherland £1 0s. 0d.; Mr. and Mrs. Ward £2 0s. 0d.; Mr. and Mrs. Bridson £5 0s. 0d.; Mrs. and Miss Cooper £1 0s. 0d. Also from the Organ Pipe Collecting Box £1 11s. 6d.

The work on the organ continues, but it now seems that we shall be without it for some weeks longer than was first thought. But having to sing to the accompaniment of the piano has put us all on our mettle, and some people say that as a result the quality of congregational singing has greatly improved.

SOME DATES TO NOTE.

- July 4th.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union Service.
- July 7th.—3.0 p.m. Garden Fete at Laurel Dene.
- July 10th.—8.0 p.m. C.E.M.S.
- July 11th.—8.0 p.m. Meeting Churchyard, in Vestry.
- July 15th.—3.15 p.m. Open-Air Festival Service at Hampton Court.
- July 17th.—8.0 p.m. P.C.C. Meeting.
- July 18th.—Sale of tickets for S. S. Outing.

- July 25th.—Patronal Festival (continued on 29th).
- July 27th.—Magazines Ready. 7.0 p.m. Distributors' Meeting.
- August 3rd.—S. S. Excursion.

BAPTISMS.

- June 10th.—Carol Ann Eyers, 10, Westbank Road.
- June 10th.—Christine Elizabeth Stuart, 64, Windmill Road.
- June 10th.—Alison Rosemary Betton, 27, Park Road.
- June 10th.—Lindsay Yvonne Makin, 81, Longford Close.
- June 15th.—Janet Ruth Robbins, The Lady Eleanor Hollies School.

MARRIAGE.

- June 2nd.—Maurice John Delve to Jean Lilian Rayson.

BURIALS.

- May 31st.—Reginald Davy Toze, 73, Burton's Road, aged 66 years.
- June 21st.—Charles William Royce, 94, Uxbridge Road, aged 80 years.
- June 22nd.—Edith Mary Ann Cook, 10, Edward Road, aged 81 years.
- June 22nd.—William Henry Trotter, 67, High Street, aged 81 years.