

ALL SAINTS COLESHILL VILLAGE NEWSLETTER No.10

December 1966

or Beaumont, Hervines Rd, Amershaml135  
The Parish Office, Amershaml712

My Dear Friends,

On behalf of Mr. Holder and myself I would like to wish you a very happy Christmas. I hope you will all make absolutely sure of being at Church on Christmas Day, particularly at one of the Holy Communion Services, to give thanks for God's wonderful gift to us. You will find a list of the services at the Parish Church and All Saints' underneath this letter.

I want you all to continue to remember Mr. Holder daily in your prayers. He has now been moved from Amersham Hospital to Mount Vernon Hospital so that the bladder Specialist may carry out a major operation. By the time you receive this letter, the operation will be over and our sincere hopes are that Mr. Holder will then be on the way to complete recovery.

Yours sincerely,

Allan Campbell, Rector.

ST. MARY'S, the Parish Church

ALL SAINTS COLESHILL

Dec 4 3.00p.m. Sunday School  
6.00p.m. Evensong  
11 9.30a.m. Parish Communion  
3.00p.m. Sunday School  
18 3.00p.m. Carol Service  
25 CHRISTMAS DAY  
8.00a.m. Holy Communion  
11.60a.m. Matins  
12noon Holy Communion

Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE  
11.30p.m. Sung Eucharist  
25 CHRISTMAS DAY  
8.00a.m. Holy Communion  
10.00a.m. Children's Church  
11.00a.m. Matins and Carols

It is hoped to arrange a fuller range of services for January and in any case parishioners are asked to keep a close watch on the Church Notice Board. The Church will be decorated for Christmas on Friday, December 23rd at 2.30p.m., when the help of as many people as possible will be appreciated. It will also be appreciated if gifts of flowers and evergreens can be taken to the Church on the Friday morning.

The entire village is saddened by the cruel crime which robbed us of Dr. Helen Davidson, beloved by all her patients at Coleshill and elsewhere. Deep sympathy is extended to those whom she has left behind.

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In the absence of Mr. Holdier, the beautiful service on the evening of November 1st, All Saints Day - our Patronal Festival - was conducted by the Rector, the Revd. Allan Campbell. Afterwards, the congregation assembled for light refreshments in the Village Hall, where Mr. Creber showed the splendid coloured slides taken by Mr. Giles Howard at the Church Fete in July.

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In Coleshill there was spontaneous reaction, particularly on the part of young people, to the appalling disaster at Aberfan, when over 100 people, mostly young children, lost their lives when a dump of coal mining refuse slid down a mountain and engulfed a school and other buildings.

The Baptist Church Sunday School donated their Sunday morning collection on October 30th of 6 guineas, and pupils and their parents of Coleshill School contributed £46. 5. 9d.

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After five years as proprietor of the Coleshill Village Stores, Mr. Pollard is returning to Sheffield to enter his family's business there. Whilst here, Mr. Pollard has helped enormously with village activities, and the Youth Club is deeply indebted to him for his help. He and Mrs. Pollard take with them our very best wishes and a farewell gift from the village, and leave behind a memory of kindly and conscientious service.

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We are pleased to learn that Mrs. Raymond Pusey is now helping with All Saints' Sunday School.

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Mr. Riley, the staff and scholars of the Baptist Church Sunday School wish to thank all those who contributed so generously to the "Bring and Buy" Sale on Saturday November 12th. The proceeds, £12.0.0d., will be used towards a slide projector for the Sunday School.

## COLESHILL CHURCH

**Coleshill** (All Saints) is a thoughtful little mid-Victorian Church whose exterior fits in with the local materials of the district, brick and flint. It is built on Tractarian principles - that is to say, the plan emphasises the two chief sacraments, Baptism and Holy Communion. The fact is prominent as you enter. The nave and handsome chancel arch lead your eyes naturally to the altar. The nave is deliberately lighter than the chancel and the chancel is dark and rich. I like the way the roof over the chancel also is a deliberate contrast with that over the nave and the way the chancel windows are smaller than the nave and higher up the walls. The building is designed from the altar backwards.

The change in light and decoration from chancel to nave is designed to do away with the necessity for a screen. Screens were popular in the previous phase of the Tractarian Gothic Revival, i.e. with the late 1840's and of course in medieval England. George Edmund Street (1824 - 1881) the architect or, the Law Courts in London, was a great supporter of the "open plan" screenless church and he designed Coleshill Church. As in all his country churches he made great use of local materials and took trouble over joinery and iron-work. He taught himself these other crafts when he started practice in Wantage, Berkshire.

Street was the inspiration of the arts and crafts movement and William Morris was one of his many distinguished pupils.

John Betjeman.

### W H Y ?

Why do we have candles on the Altar?

The lighted candles on the Altar signify that Christ is the Light of the World. They are also a sign of worship. For this reason they are lighted at Evensong and in some churches they are extinguished before the sermon. This is because the act of worship is finished and the congregation are now going to listen to instruction.

Why are the colours of the hangings in Church changed from time to time?

The colours are changed to suit the seasons of the Church's year. The top of the Altar is always covered with a long white cloth called the "fair linen" as a reminder of the table laid for the Last Supper, which Our Lord shared with His disciples. The Altar is adorned with

a frontal and it is this which **varies** from time to time. At the great festivals like **Christmas and Easter**, the frontal is white and gold - the colours of joy and majesty. The red frontal is used at **Whitsun** as a reminder of the **tongues** of fire which lighted on the **Apostles'** heads on the Day of Pentecost. It may also be used for festivals of **Martyrs**. During Advent and Lent, on the other hand, the colour is changed to purple as the **penetential** seasons in preparation for the great **Feasts**. **Finally**, for the rest of the year the colour of the frontal is usually green. Some say this is so because green is the prevailing colour in nature and signifies the quiet time of growth through the long season of Trinity. **Book markers** and any other hangings in the Church are always **the same** colour as the frontal.

M.W.

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the Annual General Meeting of the Coleshill Women's Institute on **November 10th**, the retiring **President**, Mrs, **Ovington**, refuted the popular misconception that **members** were little more than glorified exploiters of home-made **jam**, and referred as an **example** to the fact that the **N.F.W.I.** had set out to collect **£24,000** for the **Freedom from Hunger Campaign**, whereas in **actual** fact the Federation had raised **£183,000** and contributions were still coming in. The money was being **spent** upon such projects as a farm Institute in Uganda, a University farm in Trinidad, a Nutritional centre in Fiji and the provision of two bulls and a rotovator **for** **Tristan da Cunha**.

The speaker said that her blood had boiled when she read that Lenin had had the temerity to **refer** to the "**idiocy of village life**". The W.I. were set to preserve and foster the ideals and traditions of **village life**, and to encourage individuality to save England from monotonous **uniformity**.

She was indebted to Miss **Williams** for digging up the information that **a W.I.** had been formed in Coleshill in 1919 (the present one having been founded in 1949). The first officers were: **President**, Miss **Dendy**; **Vice-Presidents**, Mrs. **Helps** and **Miss Taylor**; **Secretary** and **Treasurer**, Miss **Stevens**. There were 80 members. They **met** monthly and when speakers failed to **turn up** as happened quite often, members provided their own **entertainment**. Later Miss **Taylor** was elected **President** and Miss **Jane Fawcett** **Vice-President**. Some time after

that, the Institute appears to have closed down, largely due to transport difficulties.

With deep sincerity, Mrs. Ovington then thanked all the people, the Officers, Committee and members who had helped her so much. The W.I. was a powerful force for good and members must never let up in their ideals. She commended, however, the importance of not being too earnest.

The following were then elected:

President, Mrs. John Harrisson; Vice-Presidents, Miss S. Boston and Mrs. Ovington; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Collier; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Browne; New Committee member, Mrs. Antosiewicz.

In conclusion, members endorsed all that Mrs. Redding said in a moving little speech thanking and appreciating all the services rendered so efficiently and lightheartedly by Mrs. Ovington, to whom they presented a most tasteful bowl of flowers.

#### COLESHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

An Extraordinary General Meeting of this Society was held on November 4th with Mr, J. Cossey in the Chair, when the Hon. Treasurer Mrs. Cousins reported that after allowing for the expenses in connection with the Show in September there was a satisfactory balance in hand. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. A. Jerram said that the Show had been a record both as regards the number and standard of entries and he was intensely sorry that he had to obey his doctor and relinquish the secretaryship.

At the time of writing this report, there have been no nominations to fill the post so ably carried out by Mr. Jerram since the foundation of the Society. The Committee pledged itself to do everything in its power to keep the Society in being but could not fail to appreciate that this would only be possible if more people were prepared to take a more active interest in it.

#### AMERSHAM MOBILE LIBRARY

From November 14th, the Lubrary Van will call at Coleshill on alternate Thursdays instead of Tuesdays according to the timetable at the top of the next page -

- 9.45 - 10.05a.m. Rushyhead )  
 10.10 - 10.40a.m. Coleshill ouse )  
 10.45 - 11.10a.m. Hill f adow ) Timetable of Mobile Library  
 11.15 - 11.45a.m. Parish Roon ) Van on alternate THURSDAYS  
 11.50 - 12.15p.m. Old Parsonage )

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 26 (Sat.) W.I. Christmas Bazaar  
 Dec. 3 (Sat.) Christmas Concert at Dr. Challoner's Grammar School at  
 7.30p.m. by Amersham & Chesham Bois Choral Society  
 Dec. 6 (Tue.) Sisterhood. Speaker, Mrs. M. Wood  
 8 (Thu.) Mobile library Van, Coleshill  
 8 " W.I. Drama Group Production  
 14 (Wed.) Coleshill School Carols. 7p.m. in the Church  
 15 (Thu.) Mothers' Union. Parish Roon, Coleshill  
 19 (Mon.) Dr. Challoner's Grammar School - Carol Concert  
 20 (Tue.) Sisterhood Open meeting. Carols.  
 21 (Wed.) Baptist Church Sunday School Play. "The Message of  
 Christmas" at 7.15p.m. A warm welcome is extended to all.  
 21 (Wed.) Carol Concert (Soloist: Roger Stalman) St. Mary's Church  
 by Amersham & Chesham Bois Choral Society at 7.30p.m.  
 22 (Thu) Mobile Library Van - Coleshill  
 25 (Sun) CHRISTMAS DAY

### EDITORIAL

For some years owing to the generosity of an anonymous donor, a Christmas card has been sent to all householders in Coleshill with tines of the various services. This year, as an alternative, a copy of this Newsletter is being sent to every house in the village.

The object of the Newsletter is to encourage interest in the village and in the Church. It is issued gratuitously each month to people whose names are on the Church register and others who have asked for it. The Committee will be happy to send copies to others who would like to be on the distribution list if they will send their names to either of the Churchwardens.

The Editor craves copy, which should reach him as long as possible before the 20th of each month. He warns readers that the January number may be issued somewhat late and may be thinner than usual.

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE:** Revd. W.L.Holder, The Parsonage, Coleshill.  
(Tel. Amersham 722)

**PRO-CHURCHWARDEN:** C. Saunders, Chapel Cottage, Coleshill.

**PRO-CHURCHWARDEN & HON. SECRETARY:** N.N.Nicholls, Orchard House,  
Coleshill. (Tel. Amersham 1834)

**HON. TREASURER:** G. Creber, Applecroft, Meadowcot Lane,  
Coleshill. (Tel. Amersham 3350)

This letter is issued as a supplement as it arrived  
after the Newsletter had been printed.

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Ward 15  
Mount Vernon Hospital,  
Northwood, Middx.

My Dear People,

During the months I have been unable to serve as your Priest I have become increasingly aware of the deep attachment I have formed for you and our Church. I am proud to be your Priest at All Saints, Coleshill, and God willing, I hope to have mutually happy years working with you again. But whatever lies ahead I want you to know that I am grateful for your friendship and can read only good as I look back over the four years since I was appointed to serve you all. God has been very good to me, and I have not one cause for complaint.

I was moved to this hospital about ten days ago from Amersham, and Mr. Griffiths, a well known surgeon, will be performing another major operation which I trust will really restore me to health and strength. I ask you all to support me in your prayers and know that every endeavour will be made to arrange a full range of services in my absence.

I am grateful for the way in which the Rector has shouldered the work at Coleshill and the hospital, and to all who are meeting the needs of our Sunday school.

The operation, which necessitates a conditioning of my system beforehand if it is to be successful, ought to be done on Friday, 21st November, when the well known summons as a Church "Stir Up We beseech Thee, O Lord, the wills of Thy faithful people" will be heard as we enter the season of Advent - and then Christmas, which always fills my heart with thanksgiving to God for His condescension in coming to us in great humility.

Pray that God's will for my health and future as His servant may be done. God bless you all.

Very affectionately yours,

William L. Holder.

Visiting hours: Wednesdays, Saturdays & Sundays: 2.30 - 3.30p.m.  
Other days: 7.30 - 8.30p.m.