

The lord bishop of Oxford has sent a citation to every beneficed or licensed bishop, priest and deacon in the diocese bidding them to attend his synod at St. Mary's, Oxford at 10.45 on Tuesday 10 June. After the offering of a Eucharist they will be asked simply to record in writing their vote on "Will you take part in the Service of Reconciliation to inaugurate Stage 1 of the Anglican-Methodist Scheme of Unity? Answer "Yes" or "No".

This month and next are a crisis or turning-point in Anglican history and I do ask you to pray publicly and privately that God's will, whatever it is, will be done in this matter. We shall know the final decision by July 8 on which day at 7 in the evening both Methodists and Anglicans take the vote which will settle whether the scheme is to go forward in its present form or not. It may be that God will allow something to happen now which is not in accordance with his final will for his church and with his truth, in order that that final will and truth may prevail again in the more distant future; I just don't know. But perhaps in the past this explains an occurrence like the Reformation.

CHRISTIAN NORMS

It's very easy to see Easter and Whitsun as annual events in the Christian calendar. And so they are - indeed they're the greatest events of the year. But they are above all else the normative truths that govern the christian's life. The basis of the Christian life is always the joy and hope of the Resurrection and the presence of the Spirit who guides us (if we let him) and is responsible for whatever good we do. This is why we English are almost the only ones in western Christendom to call the longest season of the church's year "Sundays after Trinity". The majority of Christians call them "Sundays after Pentecost" to bring home this truth, and this is why when several denominations joined together to form the church of South India in 1947 they adopted the same designation, "Sundays after Pentecost". But as the English are among the most tenaciously conservative people in the world I shouldn't like to foretell any early change in the Anglican terminology for these "green Sundays".

J.S.N.

TIMOTHY BLUNT

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs J.J.Blunt of Copper Cottage on the birth of their second child, Timothy, on Saturday 26 April. They already have a daughter, Kate, who is two-and-a-half.

	CHURCH FETE		
I	SATURDAY 14 JUNE	at 2.30	AT LITTLE BOWERS

SICKNESS & INJURIES AT WINCHMORE HILL

Last month saw several casualties at Winchmore Hill. Mr Sidney Moyses, the landlord of The Plough, and Mr Leonard Stratfull, a prominent Methodist of Three Ways, the Common, have both suffered heart attacks which were fortunately not too severe. Mr Harold Hill of 2 The Old Cottages has lost the tip of his 4th finger in a mower, and Mr Alexander Di-Duca of No. 3 opposite the Stores had a heavy weight drop on his foot while he was at work in the factory at Penn Street. We offer them our sympathy and trust they're well on the way to recovery by now. We're glad to hear that Mr Edwin Bilbey of Pennin, Fagnall Lane, is out of hospital and back at home.

NEW LANDLORD

The Queen's Head, Whielden Lane, has a new landlord, Mr Peter Taylor from Burnham. He moved in on Thursday 8 May and we hope he will be very happy in his new profession and that he and his wife and son, Vaughan of 5½ years, will stay with us a long time.

Very many people in our two villages were extremely sad to see the old landlord, Mr Leonard Rose, give up. His gentleness and quiet friendliness and the fact the the Queen's Head was almost a family business have made it an institution in these parts. His father-in-law, Mr 'Sonny' Howlett, used to run the pub and could still be seen until this year behind the bar, and their bitter was famed for miles. No doubt Mr Taylor will keep up the tradition.

THE PROPOSED SCHEME FOR ANGLICAN-METHODIST UNITY

The Bishop of Peterborough, speaking in Convocation on 6 May, said, 'The Service of Reconciliation has written into the heart of the whole scheme a kind of confidence trick which would not be tolerated in any secular context. A businessman who read the Report (putting forward the Scheme) gave his opinion in these words "I do not know much about theology but I know a phoney prospectus when I see one"! The service was so ambivalent, the bishop claimed, that it called in question the integrity of the churches which engaged in it. We need, he said, the wisdom and courage to start again.

ENGAGEMENT

We are happy to report that Miss Jacqueline White of Lourdes, Barrack Hill, became engaged on Saturday 17 May to Mr Larry Davies of Coldharbour Farm. We congratulate Mr Davies on his good fortune and wish them both every happiness and God's blessing. They have known each other for four years and hope to be married within a year or so.

Mr and Mrs D. Fisher would like to inform all their friends in Colleshill that from May 2nd 1969 their address is:

20 Wildwood Drive, Camel, Indiana 46032

FROM COLESHILL TO COLESHILL

A May morning scene in the country: drizzling rain, a priest, his wife, a churchwarden's wife in The Squirrel, four youngsters in a bubble car, eight more in the bus shelter, and a baby in a carry-cot. This is not a riddle but a description of the Christian-Aid walkers having their lunch at Perm Street on Saturday 10 May. The adults were in The Squirrel because the bus shelter wouldn't hold them.

We had set off from Coleshill church in pouring rain which had frightened off all the boys - apart from the infant in the carry-cot - and after 2 hours' walking in green but dripping lanes arrived at Perm Street. From there it was on to Woodrow, down Cherry Lane, through Old Amersham and up a steep track to Quarrendon Farm. It was at this point that the wheels of the carry-cot became clogged with mud but the infant, who had never had fewer than 4 attendants throughout his journey, was carried in bumps and jerks, like an oriental idol, safely to the top of the hill. At 5/- a mile he was too valuable a burden to consign to the car. Heels became dislodged in the mud and had to be tied on with string and plastic bags, but at last, still in the rain and with eleven miles behind us, we arrived back at Coleshill. It was not very spectacular, but the result was - £80 raised for the world's starving. We thank all the sponsors and congratulate the walkers: Mrs Nicholls, Mrs Nightingale and Giles, Paulina Antosiewicz, Ann and Pauline Brackley, Jeannette Darvill, Mary Huggins, Sarah and Margaret Pusey, Anne, Jane and June Stephanovic, and Jennifer Ware.

NEW FOR WHITSUN

The church clock was duly installed for the Feast of Pentecost with renewed dials and mechanism and now electrically run and resplendently crowned with the newly gilt weather-cock. Mr and Mrs Giles Howard have kindly given the money for the electrification, but how the general restoration of the clock is to be paid for remains a mystery!

TWO DECISIONS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Our civil Parish Council have decided to support the Parish Council of Wing in their fight to stop London's third airport from being put at Cublington.

They've also entered Coleshill for the best-kept village competition. which will be judged in the first and last weeks in July.

RAISED FOR THE USPG.

The sum of £18.3s. was raised from the missionary boxes during Lent this year for the work of the church overseas through the USPG. This was a good effort especially in view of the fact that so many of the boxes were taken by children.

CHURCH FETE - STALL-HOLDERS ETC.

NEEDLEWORK: Miss Williams, Mrs Powell-Rice, Mrs Aldridge & helpers
HOUSEHOLD: The Misses Boston & Mrs Grindley. TOYS: Mrs Nicholls
GREENFINGERS: Miss Malyan & Mr & Mrs Clifton. CAKES: Mrs Grayer, Mrs
MADAME ZENOBIA: Mrs Harvey Collier & Mrs Harrisson
TOMBOLA: Mr & Mrs Gow, Mrs Courage, Miss Asher, Mrs Ovington, Mr Eyres
KNEELER DISPLAY: Mrs Long Brown & Mrs Woolacott. SKITTLES: Mr Ruperti
COCONUT SHIES: Mr N.N. Nicholls. SMASHING CROCKERY: Mr Smith
RAFFLE: Mrs Waite & Mrs Morrison ICE CREAM: Mrs Ruperti
PONY RIDES: Mrs Curling & Sarah Pusey
CHILDREN'S GAMES: Mr R. Pusey & Mr S. Ware
PICTURE GOLF: the Church Youth Club. ELECTRIC WIRE GAME: Charles Pusey
PUBLIC ADDRESS: Mr Woolacott TIE GAME: Mr Gibbon How

Could those who have promised gifts for the tombola let Mrs Gow, Mrs Ovington or Mrs Courage have them as soon as possible, preferably by 1 June.

CHRISTMAS AT MAGILA

New has come at last of how the Christmas gift for the motherless babies at Magila Hospital was used. Sister Edith Frances writes: 'With some of the money I took the 5 biggest children to Tanga for the day, we had a picnic on the beach and the children paddled and built sandcastles. Then we went into the town and bought each of them a pair of shoes. The highlight of the shoe buying was the big mirror! How they loved it! They looked at themselves and laughed at each other and they had everyone in the shop laughing! I thought I would never get them out'. (These children of course would never have seen the sea or a long mirror before.) Sister says they then went on into the town and bought things for the 29 orphan babies at the hospital to make Christmas gay for them. They chose toys, balloons, mouth-organs, whistles and drums! The rest of the Christmas gift went on the purchase of red and blue rexine for mattress covers to make the nurseries brighter and cleaner. Sister also sends grateful thanks for the "many lovely blankets you have sent". They are used mainly in the premature babies nursery as they are so light and warm.

The £20 cheque sent from All Saints Church for the Coleshill cot is also acknowledged with much gratitude. The present occupant, baby Grace, is growing nicely and can stand and at any moment will be able to walk. Peter came back for the party and is now a sturdy little boy of nearly 5 - what a change from the 8 months-old baby weighing only 7½ lbs. on admission! So the work goes on. Thank you for your share in it. Green-Shield Stamps. 12,800 have been sent to date, to help to buy a typewriter for the diocese of S.W. Tanganyika. Please let me have more!

M.W.

VILLAGE HALL - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall was held on 22 April and Mrs Browne, the hon. secretary, gave a report on the work of the Committee during the previous year. The Committee was pleased to welcome two co-opted members, Mrs Courage and Mrs Harrisson; they had also lost a faithful member by the death of Mr Jim Ware. The activities had consisted of a bridge drive, a Christmas whist drive at which the big raffle was drawn, a cricket match, a musical evening arranged by Mr Woolacott and the faithful jumble sale. The hall had been enriched by new curtains and we were greatly indebted to the W.I. for making them. For the hall itself, there had been new gutterings to the kitchen roof, re-rendering of the south wall, completely new frames and windows to the men's lavatory, small dressing-room redecorated, large doors to hall repainted, also outside window frames.

A minor setback was the refusal of the magistrates to grant a renewal of the music and dancing licence. This was due to a postal delay and a second application was made and granted. Mrs Browne thanked the people who had contributed to the maintenance of the hall by giving donations, prizes, time and service.

In his report, Mr Browne, the hon. treasurer, said that normal outgoings had gone up to £146 and the hire of the hall had brought in £117. The Committee were to be asked to consider whether an increased charge would be justifiable. Some £163 had been spent in repairs and £160 had been raised by the activities described in the hon. secretary's report. There was a balance of £139, which would be needed to cover normal repairs and renovations, and in addition the Committee had to consider recommendations about the condition of the floor, which might be very expensive. Mrs Browne reported that the following nominees had been made by various local bodies to represent them: Mr G. Rann, Mrs Ovington, Mrs Harris, the Revd. J. Nightingale, Mrs Grindley. The following retiring members were re-elected: Mr & Mrs Browne, Mrs Clifton, Mrs Courage, Mrs Harvey, Mrs Harrisson, Mr Ovington, Mr & Mrs Woolacott.

The Chairman, Mr Ovington, said that it was grand to be associated with a hard-working committee for it often entailed blood, sweat and tears before and after a party. This is all that the committee members could do to show their appreciation of what Mr & Mrs Browne had done for the hall.

At a subsequent meeting of the Committee the following officers were appointed for the ensuing year: Chairman: Mrs Ovington; Hon. Sec.: Mrs Browne; Hon. Treasurer: Mr Browne; Hon. Auditor: Mr R. Stubbings.

It was arranged to hold the Jumble Sale on Friday, September 26 and in view of Mr Browne's remarks about the condition of the floor, to hold a Gala evening on Friday, October 17 about which particulars will be issued later. It was also arranged to hold the next committee meeting on June 2.

LUNCH & THE QUIZ

There were moments of silence at the Waller's Oak Christian-Aid lunch on 16 May, not from any lack of topics to discuss, but because brains were being racked to answer the general-knowledge quiz. The prize was a loaf of home-made bread and the title of Brain of Coleshill. Surprisingly, the competitors found the going hard. One lady paid to tear up her paper and another paid not to enter at all! Finding the first line of "And his cradle was a stall" proved difficult and not many arrived at "Once in Royal David's city". In this age of motoring few could locate Scot's corner in its proper place in Yorkshire. Many prominent Anglicans did not know their rural dean's name was Canon South, or that there are 150 psalms in the prayer book. Only one person knew that the church clock was first installed in 1912, and no-one knew that there are 12 arches in Amersham's Old Town Hall. Most thought that there was no prime minister of France. What happened to M. Couve de Murville?

Still, people seemed to enjoy it and Mrs Giles Howard won the title of Brain of Coleshill, 1969. Many willing workers, chief among them the Misses Boston, provided the lunch of soup and bread and cheese, and the effort raised £30.5.3d. for Christian-Aid. This means that with the money from the Walk Coleshill will send over £110 in its first organised observance of Christian Aid week to help the starving and poor overseas.

FORCOMING EVENTS

- June
- 1 (Sun) TRINITY SUNDAY
 - 5 (Thurs) CORPUS CHRISTI - H.C. at 8p.m.
Travelling Library at Coleshill and Winchmore Hill
 - 7 (Sat) Open Day at Rushmead - 2.30p.m.
 - 10 (Tues) Baptist Sisterhood at 2.45 - speaker: Mrs Newberry Fox
 - 11 (Wed) St. Barnabas the Apostle - HC at 7.30p.m.
 - 12 (Thurs) W.I. at 2.30: Mrs Lake on General Skin Care
 - 14 (Sat) CHURCH FETE 2.30 at Little Bowers, Magpie Lane
 - 19 (Thurs) Mothers' Union Garden Party & Bring & Buy at Orchard House,
Winchmore Hill.
 - 19 (Thurs) Travelling Library at Coleshill & Winchmore Hill
 - 24 (Tues) NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST - HC at 10 a.m.
 - 29 (Sun) SS. PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES
 - 30 (Mon) Parish Council Meeting at 8.15p.m.

