

EASTER

Seldom can the Church have looked more beautiful than it did with its Easter flowers and the most tasteful altar carpets generously presented by an anonymous donor just before Christmas.

It was sad that Mr. Holder had not recovered sufficiently to be with us at the time, but he was able to leave his convalescent home on April 20th. From there, he wrote a wonderful letter about the significance of Eastertide and it is a matter of sincere regret that space permits Only the publication of the following extract:-

My Dear Friends,

The evidence of the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead is incontrovertible and yet as we pass the yearly commemoration of this at Easter we are tempted to ask "Why was it necessary for Christ to suffer at all, to die, to rise again?" The answer is threefold:-

- (1) The Resurrection was proof of the genuineness and divinity of Jesus Christ. It was the hallmark of God that Jesus was His Son.
- (2) It was necessary to comfort men about the mystery and the tragedy of death. The Resurrection assures us of the certainty of life in the unseen universe.
- (3) It was necessary for Jesus to die and rise again in order that the disciples might bear witness to all men:-"Ye are My witnesses". He is relying on us to bear witness to these things. He has no hands, no eyes nor feet but ours. Only as we permit His spirit to guide us are we being the body of Christ carrying on His purpose of mercy and love in the world today.

W.L.H.

WHITSUN

The Church will be decorated for Whitsun on Saturday, May 28th at 10.00a.m. and helpers will be welcome. Flowers should be brought to the Church as soon as possible after 9.30a.m..

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

May 1st	Mrs. Long Brown	May 8th.	Mrs. Weedon.
May 15th	Mrs. Trench	May 22nd.	Mrs. Stubbings.
May 29th	All helpers.		

A CHURCH IN COLESHILL

There has long been a tradition in Coleshill of the existence of a very ancient chapel but it is difficult to disentangle the facts. It is known that in the reign of Edward I, the manor of Stocks Place was held by the de Bohun family and it is very probable that, according to custom, the chapel was attached to the manor house. Confirmation of this is given by the fact that much later, foundations of such a building were found when a field was ploughed at Chapel Farm which adjoined the manor. There are other accounts of remains, possibly ecclesiastical, being found during digging in Brainford Wood (now Brentford). They included curious paving work known as diced work and a weathercock. It may be that this was an oratory attached to a great house but of such a house there is no record.

We pass from the range of legend to that of history in the year 1649. At that time there were forty families, consisting of 200 persons, living in this hamlet of Coleshill. They earnestly desired a church in the place and the authorities agreed that it was fit for such a church to be erected and endowed with the tithes which then amounted to £70 per annum. Unfortunately no further records of this church have been found nor of the place where it was situated, and it was not until 1861 that the present church of All Saints was built and dedicated on November 7th, 1861. The church was built of characteristic brick and flint from a design by G. E. Street. It has been well cared for during its life of over 100 years and has been beautified by many generous gifts.

The centenary of the church was celebrated a few years ago - a little too early owing to a mistaken date. Bishop Hay, then Bishop of Buckingham, preached at the festival service and at a party afterwards the village choral society gave a performance of 'Trial by Jury' by Gilbert and Sullivan. The first gift day was held at this time and over £100 was given as a hundredth birthday present to the church. Part of this money was used to buy figures for the Crib, which still delights young and old every Christmas.

The Confirmation Service held at the Church on March 24th was reported in the last number of this Newsletter. Therein it was stated that no Confirmation had been held at All Saints' for a hundred years but it has since transpired that a Confirmation Service was, in fact, held there in 1923 - over 40 years ago.

M. W.

AMERSHAM AND DISTRICT MORAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION

All over the country, local associations of the Council for Moral Welfare are seeking to build and re-build Christian home life. This branch of the Church's work offers friendship and help to anyone in need of them irrespective of creed or colour. This means dealing with problems of unhappy marriages and broken homes, problems concerning young people and their welfare and problems of unmarried parents and illegitimate babies.

The unmarried mothers and their babies supply the greatest part of the work and demand compassion, skill and patience. These unfortunate girls faced with heartbreaking decisions about the future of their babies and the re-establishment of their own lives are often surrounded by antagonism and loneliness. The Church, through its trained Social Worker and its Mother and Baby Homes offer these girls friendship, advice and practical help without recrimination. The Adoption Society arranges for the adoption of babies whom the mothers cannot keep and at the same time brings joy to many childless couples.

Here, this valuable work is done by our local trained Social Worker, Miss U. Miles, supported by a committee of Clergy and lay members working in close cooperation with the statutory authorities. BUT this is a voluntary organisation and YOUR HELP IS REEDED.

A grant is received from the local authority but a large proportion of the income is derived from voluntary annual subscriptions, large and small. Gifts are also needed - clothing and nursery equipment and, for little babies awaiting adoption, kind foster homes. For those unable to help in a practical way, here is the opportunity to show compassion and neighbourliness to all those in our midst who are in need of help.

Mrs. M. Weedon is Hon. Secretary of this association and Mrs. M. Nicholls is lay representative for Coleshill.

COLESHILL CRICKET CLUB

Members of the Coleshill Cricket Club have been busy during the winter adding a dressing room to their pavilion. For the forthcoming season they have elected or re-elected the following: J. Adams, President; E. Coombes, Chairman; A. Carter, Vice-Chairman; L. Hansford, Hon. Secretary; J. Watson, Captain and Match Secretary; W. Francis, Vice-Captain; J. Rolfe, Fixture Secretary; D. Baldwin, Treasurer. Their season opened on April 17th with a match against C.B.S.C..

A cordial welcome is extended to Richard Young, the infant son of Christopher and Mary Young, who arrived on April 7th.

The Order of St. John and British Red Cross Society Bucks Joint Committee acknowledge with grateful thanks the sum of £4.5s.6d. collected at Coleshill on the County Flag Day on April 2nd.

The Coleshill Village Hall Committee hope there will be a representative attendance at their A.G.M. on May 3rd at 8.15p.m. when items of general interest will be discussed.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- May 3. Annual General Meeting, Village Hall 8.15p.m.
Sisterhood Meeting, Baptist Chapel - Mrs. M. Spooner
- 5 Dr. Challoner's Grammar School - Founder's Day
- 10 Mobile Library Van - Coleshill
- 12 Women's Institute. Mrs. Pelton, V.C.O.- discussion on resolutions for A.G.M. of N.F.W.I. at the Albert Hall. Trading stall.
- 17 Sisterhood Meeting, Baptist Chapel - Revd. E. Chambers
- 19 Ascension Day - School Service 9.15a.m.
- 20 Missionary Meeting at Wallers Oak 8p.m. Sister Edith Frances C.S.P. will speak about the hospital we support at Magila (this meeting was postponed from April)
- 24 Mobile Library Van - Coleshill
- 29 Whitsunday
- 31 Sisterhood - Open meeting with Bring & Buy stall for the British and Foreign Bible Society

EDITORIAL

According to present arrangements, copies of this Newsletter are distributed gratuitously to all persons whose names are inscribed in the Church Register. The object of the Letter is to encourage and extend interest in the Church and the village and, with this end in view, readers are asked to submit to the Editor the names of any of their friends who would like to receive copies regularly. The June number will be made up on May 20th but the Editor will appreciate contributions as long before that date as possible. They should be sent to Bowers Croft, Magpie Lane, Coleshill.

It is hoped to publish reports of the Annual General Meetings of the Parish Council and of the 'Residents' Association in the next number.

ALL SAINTS, COLESHILL

Services

W/h
1st Sunday ~~in the month~~: • 8.00a.m. Holy Communion + 12 Nov
11.00a.m. Matins
3.00p.m. Sunday School
6.00p.m. Evensong & Sermon

W 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays: 9.30a.m. Parish Communion
3.00p.m. Sunday School
6.00p.m. Evensong & Sermon
~~with (on 2nd Sunday) 12.00noon Holy Communion~~

ST. ANDREWS, WINCHMORE HILL

1st. Sunday in the month: 9.30a.m. Sunday School
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays: 10.45a.m. Sunday School

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)