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NEWS LETTER



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THE NEWSLETTER OF ST.MARY, NORTON, ST.PETER
AND ST.PAUL, LYNSTED AND ST.CATHARINE,
KINGSDOWN

January 1980.

The Vicarage
Lynsted.

Teynham 521371

Christmas this year for us has been a mixture of personal sorrow and joy. I have been very much heartened by the expressions of affection that I have received from people in the villages who are now my 'family'. I celebrated the tenth anniversary of my ordination just before Christmas and I was touched that so many people braved a terrible evening to join with me in church in giving thanks for the past ten years. In addition I received messages including what I can only describe as an illuminated card celebrating the event and illustrated with scenes from my daily life. (mostly comic I hasten to add !) In due course I hope to frame it and hang it in my study. Perhaps the most joyful thing of all happened on the Saturday before Christmas. During the preparations and decorating the younger members of the Lynsted congregation suddenly stripped off their outer garments and exposed to the world T-shirts on which was inscribed 'Hill's Angels'. There cannot be many parsons who have had such a tribute. I can only feel how blessed I am to have such young people.

God bless you all in 1980

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This Newsletter may be a little late in reaching you but I am sure that you will understand that with Christmas occurring at 'going-to-press' time things get a little out of step.

Even though it is a little late - A Happy New Year to all our Readers !

It is also smaller perhaps than usual. Last month's issue was an extra large one and if we go on at that rate we will have the Treasurer after us for exceeding the budget !

NORTON VILLAGE HALL

SOCIAL -SATURDAY 5th JANUARY.

Admission 75p for Adults; 40p under 11

this includes refreshments, but bring your own drinks.

Tickets available from Mrs Wood, Mrs. Dutton and Mrs Dale.

Next meeting: Monday 14th Jan. 1980

Work is still going on in the hall and our latest effort has been to do the floor as it needed attention. Our thanks to Bunny Dale, Pete Adams, Jim Wood, Alan Dutton, Michael Dale and Martin Holmes. It is encouraging to see the lads coming to lend a hand and others will always be welcome. Even the ladies have helped with the sealing - Mrs Lacamp, Mrs Wood and Mrs Dale. It seemed at first to be a large job but with all hands at work it took only three days.

THE CHOIR

The newly formed choir made its debut at the Lynsted carol service. We can boast of some two dozen voices and they seem to have been much appreciated. Mcdeesty prevents me from being music critic as well as conductor so I cannot comment (in public) on their standard of performance. All I can say is that we enjoyed it and, judging by the comments we have received, so did the congregations.

I can only be grateful to them all for all the hard work they put in. They accepted my driving and occasional nasty remarks with great patience. So much do they seem to have enjoyed the experience that a large proportion of them have agreed to stay together to take part in a festival service later in the year at Norton (of which more anon) as well as giving the odd concert (odd meaning occasional and not as regards performance !)

I would also like to pay tribute to Elspeth Brown for being 'at the organ'. She put in a lot of hard work behind the scenes before hand as a couple of days before the first service she developed tonsillitis. She refused to opt out and carried on in considerable discomfort. My thanks, too, to her 'turner-over' (a thankless task) who shared her ordeal on the organ bench - not the most comfortable of seats !

LYNSTED CHURCH 100 CLUB

Series 4

The ninth draw took place at the George on Wednesday, 5th December and the winning members were:-

- £20 No.18 Ernie Revell, Lewson Street.
- £10 No.78 Penny Washington, Kingsdown.
- £10 No.156 Len Day, Colyers Farm.
- £10 No.195 Brian Sims, Doddington.

The final draw will take place at "The Swan" on Wednesday, 9th January. This is the night the major prizes are to be won & as for the final draws of the 3 other series we hope as many members will turn up as possible. Light refreshments will be laid on & we hope for an enjoyable evening. We start gathering at the Swan at about 8.30 pm although the draw will not be made until after 9 o'clock. Peter & Jennifer would like to thank all members for their support.

Series 5

It is intended to start the new series right away. If you have not yet joined, and would like to, you should contact Peter or Jennifer Bones on Teynham 521292. The cost is £1 per month for 10 months and payments can either be made monthly (before each draw) or the whole £10 can be paid at the outset of the series if you prefer. During the fourth series for which there were 160 members there have been prizes of £20, £10, £10 & £10 each month for the first nine months with prizes of £200, £60, £40, £25, £20 £10 planned for the final draw in January. The prizes for the new series are expected to be similar with slight adjustments if we have more or fewer members.

The dates, times & venues of each draw are given in the NEWS LETTER and the draw is open for any member to attend. The results of each draw are also published in the NEWS LETTER and each member is issued with a list of winners to date at intervals during the series.

The proceeds from the 100 Club go to the restoration funds of Lynsted & Kingsdown Churches.

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ONE MOTHER'S EXPERIENCE

We are printing this story for the information of others who may experience similar situations. We give it in the words of the mother concerned.

At 12.45 the telephone rang at the cottage. The Admissions Officer was on the line.

'There has been a cancellation of a bed in the Children's ward. Could you get here after lunch'. My five-year old had

known for some weeks of an impending stay in 'the hospital' but we were promised due notice so that we could make the necessary arrangements. I had deliberately not discussed what was entailed as I felt the notice beforehand would give me

time to discuss it quietly with him. Over lunch I faced a barrage of questions from the five-year old as well as from his

brother aged 3. I was stunned by the suddenness of the situation but my elder son seemed to be looking forward to it

but not so the younger for as I began packing he became very disturbed and remained so for the next 48 hours.

We duly arrived at the ward and Sister explained what the procedure was. We were told that we could stay for the afternoon

if we wished but after half-an-hour it was apparent that the three-year old had had enough. I enquired about visiting the

following day (the day of the operation) but was told that this would not be possible. I could telephone if I wished. When I

pointed out that this was archaic in this day and age I was told that as it was a

very small ward if every child had a parent it could make for disturbance in a somewhat crowded situation. I was devastated and flattened by this but felt that I

was in no position to protest. It seemed

(continued)

all wrong to me that my son could not see his mother in the period following a traumatic experience that is, an operation.

We came home feeling nothing but desolation and despair. This feeling remained until we was discharged from hospital and back home again. In my total ignorance I did not know of the existence of the National Association for the Welfare of Children in Hospital. Nor did I realise that I have every legal right to be with my child in hospital. I write this because I would like to prevent other mothers going through my experience. I have heard from a mother in Maidstone who feels as I do and have recently met others who know of similar happenings at other hospitals in the area. I would like this situation to be changed. Please contact me and I will gladly forward any correspondence to the Association as well as to the Community Health Council. May I add that my son can now hear a sweet paper rustled at 50 yards but his brother and I are still recovering.

Marion Ray.

BAPTISMS.

At Lynsted Church:-

Adrian, Robert and Andrew Marsh.

Craig Godden was baptised in Lynsted Church on 30th September. We were stunned to hear of his sudden death a few months after. Our hearts went out to Colin and Frances in their terrible experience and we can only offer them our love and deep sympathy in their tragedy. Those of us who have lost children will have some idea of their feelings. May God bless and comfort them.

Animals, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to
14 Bramshaw Road, Canterbury. (Tel: Canterbury 62585)
for welfare, strays & accidents.

Borough Council Representatives

Kingsdown (in the West Downs Ward) - Mr Terence Holden, The Old Vicarage, Newnham. (Tel: Eastling 318).

Lynsted & Norton (in the Teynham & Lynsted Ward) - Mr Alan North, Crown House, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 521668). and Mr Ronald Boorman, 10 Donald Moor Avenue, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 522326).

Buses, Local Offices

Court Street, Faversham. (Tel: Faversham 2548).

East Street, Sittingbourne. (Tel: Sittingbourne 23317).

Children, National Society for the prevention of Cruelty to

69c Old Tovil Road, Maidstone. (Tel: Maidstone 52997).

41 Guildford Road, Canterbury. (Tel: Canterbury 63628).

16 Alison Avenue, Gillingham. (Tel: Medway 50548).

Citizens' Advice Bureaux

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Tues, 10 am - 4 pm.

Wed, 10 am - 12.30 pm.

Gatefield Lane (back of Municipal Offices), Faversham. (Tel: 6996)

Open: Mon, 10 am - 4 pm

Tues, Thurs, Fri, 10 am - 12 noon.

County Council Representative (East Swale)

Mrs P. Mesham, Scarbutts Manor, Boughton. (Tel: Boughton 401).

Employment, Department of

3 Queen's Parade, East Street, Faversham. (Tel: Faversham 4891).

Roman House, Roman Square, Sittingbourne. (Tel: Sittingbourne 24466).

Fire Stations

Faversham. (Tel: Faversham 2348).

Sittingbourne. (Tel: Sittingbourne 23487).

Teynham Fire Officer - Mr J. Fryer, 12 Donald Moor Avenue, Teynham.

(Tel: Teynham 521434)

Emergencies 999.

Health & Social Security, Department of

41 Stone Street, Faversham. (Tel: Faversham 3388).

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Hospitals

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Member of Parliament

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Ombudsman (or Local Commissioner) for Borough of Swale

The Baroness Serota, The Commission of Local Administration in England, 21 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9BU. (Tel: 01-930 3333).

Police

Central Avenue, Sittingbourne. (Tel: Sittingbourne 72121)

Church Road, Faversham. (Tel: Faversham 6639)

Emergencies 999.

Post Offices

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Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 521252)

Railway Stations

Teynham cannot now be contacted by tele
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Faversham. (Tel: Faversham 2252).
Passenger train service information. (Tel: Canterbury 65151).

Registrar of Births, Deaths & Marriages

Divisional County Offices, Avenue of Remembrance, Sittingbourne.
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44 East Street, Faversham. (Tel: Faversham 2315)

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Information — Rev. V. Wright, 42 Ross Street, Rochester. (Tel: Medway 42222)
Emergencies — Tel: Medway 44846.

Schools

Lynsted County Primary (Tel: Teynham 521362): Headmaster — Mr R. Harwood.
2 Oak Cottage, Lynsted. (Tel: Teynham 521035).
Norton Church of England (Tel: Teynham 521244): Headmistress — Mrs Parkes,
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- * British Legion, Teynham & Lynsted — Mr Richard Salter, 10 Hutchinson Close, Murston, Sittingbourne. (Tel: Sittingbourne 78372).
Ladies' Section — Mrs L. Rowles, 30 Station Road, Teynham.
- * Contacts, Help Handicapped Children (Local Liason Officer) — Mrs M. L. L. Barbary Farm House, Norton. (Tel: Teynham 521470).
- * Cricket Club, Norton — Mr Nigel Bray, Greenacres Farm, Norton. (Tel: Teynham 521328).
- * Cricket Club, Teynham & Lynsted — Miss Loraine Baker, 6 Newgardens Road, (Tel: Teynham 522406)

- * Darby & Joan Club, Teynham & Lynsted — Mrs B. Cockcroft, 34 Cellar Hill, Lynsted. (Tel: Teynham 522078).
- * Faversham Society — Mrs B. Barham, Fleur de Lis, Preston Street, Faversham. (Tel: Faversham) (Tel: Faversham 4542).
- * Football Club, Norton — Mr Roy Ongley, 16 Station Road, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 522432).
- * Football Club, Teynham & Lynsted — Mr M. S. Gubbins, 121 Honeyball Walk, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 522473).
- * Football Club, Teynham Strikers (Ladies) — Miss Marlene Matson, 36 London Road.
Group, Swale — Mrs Joyce Fuller, 47 Berkeley Court, Sittingbourne. (Tel: Sittingbourne)
- * Foresters, Ancient Order of, Greenstreet Branch (Chief Ranger) — Mr G. E. Cork, 34 Batteries Close, Lynsted. (Tel: Teynham 522065).
- * Horticultural Society, Teynham & Lynsted — Mrs P. Coppins, 12 Frognaal Gardens, Teynham.
- * Men of Kent & Kentish Men, Association of (Sittingbourne Branch) — Mrs Kay Apps, 24 Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne. (Tel: Sittingbourne 72945).
- * Mothers' Union, Lynsted, Kingsdown & Norton — Mrs B. Hodges, 208 London Road, Teynham.
- * Nursery School, Barbary — Mrs M. L. Lacamp, Barbary Farm House, Norton. (Tel: Teynham 521470).
- * Parish Council, Milstead & Kingsdown (Clerk) — Miss M. Clinch, Old Cottage, Hollybushes, Milstead.
- * Parish Council, Lynsted (Clerk) — Mr A. J. W. Vaughan, Bumpitt, Lynsted. (Tel: Teynham 521610).
- * Parish Council, Norton & Buckland (Clerk) — Mrs Susan Warren, Beacon House, Beacon Hill, Faversham. (Tel: Faversham 3631)
- * Parochial Church Council, Lynsted-with-Kingsdown — Mrs Jean Waters, Orchard Cottage, Lynsted. (Tel: Teynham 521306).
(Treasurer) — Mr G. Boswell-Cumming, 1 Oak Cottage, Lynsted. (Tel: Teynham 521738)
(Churchwardens) - Mr David Bage, Forge Cottage, Lynsted. (Tel: Teynham 521273)
Mr George Washington, Malt House, Kingsdown. (Tel: Doddington 271)
- * Parochial Church Council, Norton — Miss Margaret Moor, Wispen, Lewson Street, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 521419)
(Treasurer) Mr Geoffrey Spence, World's End, Lewson Street. (Tel: Teynham 521560)
(Churchwardens) - Mr Jim Gambell, Wrens Hill, Norton. (Tel: Teynham 521268)
Mr Norman Laslett, J.P., Cedar House, Norton. (Tel: Teynham 521379)
- * Philatelic Society Swale — Mr R. F. Whitehead, 15 Oak Road, Murston, Sittingbourne.
- * Pigeon Club, Swale Invitation — Mrs R. Read, Orchard Cottage, Sandown. (Tel: Teynham 521302).
- * Play Group, Lion Hall — Mrs Mary Matthews, Murzuk, Lewson Street, (Tel: Teynham 521606).
- * Play School, Labour Hall — Mrs Joan Phelps, 49 Bradfield Avenue, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 521716).
- * Playing Fields Management Committee, Teynham & Lynsted — Mrs L. M. McIlroy, 511 Honeyball Walk, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 521916).
- * Salvation Army — Major & Mrs Gurr, 33 Gaze Hill Avenue, Sittingbourne.
- * Social Committee, Teynham & Lynsted — Mr N. Parris, 16 Honeyball Walk, Teynham.
- * Sports Club, Norton - Mr David Laslett, Guinness Hop Farm, Norton. (Tel: Teynham 521379)
- * Women's Institute, Greenstreet — Mrs Mary Mathews, Murzuk, Lewson Street. (Tel: Teynham 521606).
- * Women's Institute, Lynsted & Teynham — Mrs K. Brown, 11 Rivers Road, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 521389).
- * Village Hall Committee, Norton — Mrs Barbara Dale, 4 The Trefoil, Norton. (Tel: Teynham 521478).
- * Youth Club, Greenstreet Methodist — Mr Bray, 50 Station Road, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 521308).

WHAT'S ON

JANUARY

- Tue 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
- Tue 1 Lynsted, Kingsdown & Norton Mothers' Union meeting: Vicarage 7.30 pm.
- Wed 2 Lynsted & Teynham Women's Institute meeting: Labour Hall 2.30 pm.
- Tue 8 British Legion Ladies' Section meeting: Lion Hall 7.30 pm.
- Tue 8 Lynsted Parish Council meeting: Vicarage 7.45 pm.
- Wed 9 Lynsted Church 100 Club draw: The Swan 9 pm. This is the last draw of Series 4. There will be light refreshments available & we would like as many members as possible to turn up.
- Tue 15 Association of Men of Kent & Kentish Men (Lynsted Branch) AGM: Doddington Village Hall 8 pm. Non-members most welcome.
- Mon 21 British Legion meeting: Lion Hall 8 pm.
- Wed 30 Swale Footpaths Group AGM: Cherry Suite, Sittingbourne Town Hall 7.30 pm. The AGM will be followed by an illustrated talk by Brian Hawkes - "Perambulations around Kent at 8pm. Admission 25p.

FEBRUARY

- Tue 5 Lynsted, Kingsdown & Norton Mothers' Union meeting: Vicarage 7.30 pm Speaker: The Vicar - "Prayer".
- Wed 6 Lynsted & Teynham Women's Institute meeting: Labour Hall 2.30 pm.
- Wed 6 Lynsted Church 100 Club draw: This will be the first draw of the new series. Venue will be announced.

WHAT'S ON - continued

FEBRUARY - continued

- Tue 12 British Legion Ladies' Section meeting: Lion Hall 7.30 pm.
- Wed 13 Lynsted Fete meeting: The Vicarage 8 pm. Everybody welcome.
- Mon 18 British Legion meeting: Lion Hall 8 pm.
- Thu 21 Greenstreet Women's Institute meeting: Labour Hall 8 pm.
- Wed 27 Lynsted School Managers' meeting: Lynsted School 6.30 pm

MARCH

- Tue 4 Lynsted, Kingsdown & Norton Mothers' Union meeting: Vicarage 7.30 pm. (Details to be announced)
- Wed 5 Lynsted & Teynham Women's Institute meeting: Labour Hall 2.30 pm.
- Wed 5 Lynsted Church 100 Club draw; This will be the second draw of Series 5 - Venue to be announced.
- Tue 11 British Legion Ladies' Section meeting: Lion Hall 7.30 pm.
- Tue 11 Lynsted Parish Meeting: Vicarage 7.45 pm. This will be the Annual meeting open to all residents of Lynsted on the electoral register. It will be followed by a meeting of the Parish Council.
- Mon 17 British Legion meeting: Lion Hall 8 pm.
- Thu 20 Greenstreet Women's Institute meeting: Labour Hall 8 pm.

SHOPPERS' GUIDE

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FOOTWEAR

Rousell, Alex, 70 Preston Street, Faversham. Tel: Faversham 2523

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Ferrell & Baker Ltd., London Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521286/7.

Revell, E. C., Bapchild Motors, Sittingbourne. Tel: Sittingbourne 23083.

GARDEN CENTRE

Norton Ash Nursery & Garden Centre, Norton Crossroads, Norton. Tel: Teynham 521549.

SHOPPERS' GUIDE - continued

GENERAL STORES

Oliver, Annette, Post Office, Lynsted. Tel: 521258

GIFTS

Ashford Lighting Centre, 32 High Street, Ashford. Tel: Ashford 22346

Sittingbourne Lighting Centre, 12 The Forum, Sittingbourne. Tel: Sittingbourne 21033

GROCERS, MOBILE

Ashbee & Gambell, Wrens Hill, Norton. Tel: Teynham 521268.

GROCERY & CAKES

Wicks, 89 London Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521349.

HAIRDRESSERS, LADIES

James, Colyn, 46 Court Street, Faversham & 21 Burgate, Canterbury. Tel: Faversham 2483 & Canterbury 64394.

Janice, 150 London Road, Teynham. (Tel: Teynham 521112)

Railway Cuttings, Lower Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521325.

HARDWARE & GARDENING

C. B. Hardware, 32 London Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521372

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The Swan, 78 London Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521218

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R.K. Lighting, 65 High Street, Sittingbourne. Tel: Sittingbourne 25633

Sittingbourne Lighting Centre, 12 The Forum, Sittingbourne. Tel: Sittingbourne 21033

MEN'S & LADIES' WEAR

Rousell, Alex, 70 Preston Street, Faversham. Tel: Faversham 2523

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Birch, Peter, Ltd., 25, 27 & 29 Station Street, Sittingbourne. Tel: Sittingbourne 24107 & Sittingbourne 72842

Cellar, The, 137 London Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521672

Kays, 28 London Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521322

NURSERIES

Norton Ash Nursery & Garden Centre, Norton Crossroads, Norton. Tel: Teynham 521549

OFF LICENCE

Cellar, The, 137 London Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521672

PIANO TUNERS

Lelliot, Roy W., 49 Adelaide Drive, Sittingbourne. Tel: Sittingbourne 70973

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Reeves & Stratford, Forbes Garage, Faversham. Tel: Faversham 2137 or 3874

Sales, A & Sons, 63 - 65, London Road, Teynham. Tel: Teynham 521209

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Joy's, 121 London Road, Teynham. Tel: --

The next revision of the information sheets will be for the April issue of the News Letter.

Secretaries please notify us of any changes in the information shown for your organisation and if you would like your meetings, fixtures or any special events included in the "What's On" section please let us have the necessary details.

Businesses who would like to be included in the "Shoppers' Guide" or would like an advertisement in these information pages should contact Peggy Bage, Forge Cottage, Lynsted. (Tel: Teynham 521273).

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VARIOUS CELEBRATIONS

The SCHOOLS at Lynsted and Norton held their usual parties and from all accounts they were their usual joyful, if noisy, occasions! We hope that the children expressed their thanks to the parents and staff who organised things so that they had a happy time.

Both schools held their usual services at which we sang carols and listened to the Christmas story. It was good to see a number of parents joining in.

The NORTON SUNDAY SCHOOL held a party after Christmas and Mr. and Mrs Spence opened their house to them. Everyone is grateful to them for acting as hosts and providing a good time for the children. We owe a very great debt to Evelyne Bray who runs the school week by week. If you haven't had the experience of running a Sunday school I can assure you that it is not the easiest of things to do. We know that in her hands all is well.

Around the villages there have been many parties and Pat and I have been hard put to it to find time to visit all to which we were invited. We had to work on 'first come first served' basis. Our thanks to our hosts of the ones we could get to and our apologies to those we failed to visit. Even parsons cannot be in two places at once!

Our thanks, too, for all the Christmas cards which now decorate the Vicarage. If we tried to return them all we would be in trouble. So like other clergy, we receive but do not send - it would be impossible!

CAROL SERVICES

This year saw some innovations which I hope added to the joy of celebrating Christmas.

KINGSDOWN held their service first and, as usual, it was organised by Bill Washington and Andrew Hall. Music was provided by a duo of young ladies and a small group of singers. Both were much appreciated. After the service we were invited into Church Oast for a party and our thanks are due to Rosemary and Leslie Wallis for their hospitality. As usual the night was marked by bad weather (a good Kingsdown tradition) but at least this year no one got stuck in the mud!

LYNSTED held their service on the Sunday before Christmas. This year it was attended by the newly formed branch of the Association of the Men of Kent and Kentish Men. Representatives of the Association, the Parish Council, the P.C.C. and members of the congregation read the lessons. The newly formed choir provided some of the carols and added support to the congregation. Servers escorting the readers added an extra touch to the dignity of the service. About 150 people fitted themselves into the church for the occasion.

NORTON closed the services with the evening of the Sunday after Christmas. Again the choir took part and readers were drawn from the congregation. We estimate about 105 people were crammed in to a church which holds 90!

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SUNDAY SERVICES

BAPTIST

FAVERSHAM

Morning Service 11 a.m. Evening Service 7 p.m. (Summer), 6.30 p.m. (Winter)

CHURCH OF ENGLAND (Vicarage : Teynham 521371)

ST. PETER & ST. PAUL, LYNSTED

ST. CATHERINE, KINGSDOWN

ST. MARY, NORTON

See Diary for the month on the last page of the News Letter

METHODIST

GREENSTREET 6.30 p.m.

FAVERSHAM 10.30 a.m., 6.30 p.m.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, 63 West Street, Sittingbourne. (Tel.: Sitt. 72619)
Mass at 8 a.m., 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. (Labour Hall, Teynham) Mass at 9.30 a.m.

CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, Tanner Street, Faversham. (Tel.: Faversham 2449)
Mass at 8 a.m., 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

SALVATION ARMY, SITTINGBOURNE & TEYNHAM

Holiness 11 a.m. Praise 3 p.m. Salvation 6.45 p.m.

Junior Sunday School (Y.P. Hall) 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Teynham Labour Hall) 3 p.m.

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LYNSTED FETE 1980

On Wednesday, 12th December a few stalwarts braved the inclement weather and met at Forge Cottage to get the arrangements for the 1980 Fete under way.

1. The proposal at the "inquest" meeting that both the programmes & the entrance to the Fete should be free, was confirmed.
2. It was agreed, if possible, that the programme of entertainment for 1979 had gone down well and that it should remain basically the same for 1980.
3. It was also agreed that an early appeal should be made for prizes especially for the Bottle & Tombola stalls. Books, especially paperbacks were needed for the Bookstall. It would be a great help if, during the year, somebody could make the collection of tombola prizes his or her main activity for the Fete. Any Volunteers? May we also remind people not to throw away those Christmas presents they do not really want. Most of them make good tombola prizes!
4. The idea of a fete "theme" introduced in 1979 was thought to be one well worth continuing. A number of ideas were put forward but no decision has yet been made. Further ideas for a simple theme that did not mean too much expense for those involved in the Fete to adopt, would be most welcome.
5. It was agreed to look into the possibility of having a Lynsted "souvenir" stall provided we could find appropriate sources of things that would give us a reasonable profit margin. Ash trays and mugs with "Lynsted" printed on them had been popular selling items at Fetes & other functions in the past.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting to discuss the Fete early in February. This has now been fixed for Wednesday, 13th February provisionally at the Vicarage (but check by ringing Teynham 521371 or 521273 before setting out)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

It was our impression that more people than usual joined in the worship over Christmas this year. Certainly the churches were full and a happy sight it was to see so many people. Owing to a breakdown in the heating arrangements at Norton the congregation had a rather cold church to endure but we managed to get things put right for the carol service.

A large number of the various collections over the festival were devoted to deprived children. The two carol services went to Christian Aid earmarked for work with children and the Midnight service at Lynsted collection was divided between Dr. Barnardos and the Church of England Children's Society. The proceeds of the carol party at Kingsdown went to the home at Dodington.

The tradition of decorating our churches was kept up. A lot of people worked hard to make them full of light and colour - we even had floodlighting at Lynsted! It would not be right to name individuals even if we knew them all so we must be content to say a very sincere thank-you to all who spent their time and effort making sure that the churches provided a fitting background to the great festival of Christmas.

IT COULD ONLY HAPPEN TO ME

This month's episode is from Nicholas Hill. He and his wife have recently moved to a house on the edge of a new estate. As usual there are piles of builder's litter around and one large deposit is opposite his house. One evening his wife had parked her official Mini in what he felt to be a silly place and forced him to drive out under some difficulty. It was dark when he left for the hospital and he slowly reversed out of his drive and into the road. Just as he began to straighten out there was a dull thud from the back end followed by a tremendous clatter and the tinkling of broken glass. Fearing the worst he leapt out - straight into six inches of liquid clay. Extracting himself from the swamp he squelched round to the back to see what had happened. All was revealed. The first thud was him hitting the pile of rubble; the second crash was a bath that someone had left perched on top sliding down and clouting the rear of the car demolishing the rear light in the process. After he had expressed himself in a few well-chosen words he was left with the thought that there can be few people who have written-off their rear light by reversing into a bath.

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CHURCH SERVICES FOR
JANUARY

2. CIRCUMCISION, Holy Communion
Lynsted 8.30 a.m.
6. EPIPHANY
Holy Communion.Kingsdown 9 a.m.
Sung Eucharist.Lynsted. 10 a.m.
Mattins.Norton. 11.30 a.m.
13. EPIPHANY 1.
Holy Communion.Lynsted 8 a.m.
Holy Communion.Norton 9 a.m.
Sung Eucharist.Lynsted 10 a.m.
Evensong.Kingsdown 3 p.m.
20. EPIPHANY 2.
Sung Eucharist.Lynsted 10 a.m.
Holy Communion.Norton 11.30 a.m.
Holy Communion.Kingsdown.3 p.m.
25. CONVERSION OF ST.PAUL.
Holy Communion.Lynsted 8.30 a.m.
- 27 EPIPHANY 3.
Holy Communion.Norton 9 a.m.
Sung Eucharist.Lynsted 10 a.m.
Evensong.Kingsdown. 3 p.m.
Evensong. Norton. 6.30 p.m.
- Other dates and happenings are on the
'Whats on' pages.
- FEBRUARY.
2. PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE.
Holy Communion.Lynsted 8.30 a.m.
3. SEPTUAGESIMA.
Holy Communion.Kingsdown 9 a.m.
Sung Eucharist.Lynsted 10 a.m.
Mattins. Norton 11.30 a.m.

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