

PARISH NOTES (SEPTEMBER, 1958)
LODERS, DOTTERY AND ASKERSWELL.

Cause to be thankful. September is upon us, with a hope of better weather. The old people say there were never such wet summers as this, in their young days, and blame the nuclear explosions, forgetting that as far back as the sixteenth century Shakespeare wrote "The rain, it raineth every day". As we look at the corn still waiting to be taken in, we realise how lucky we were in getting a tolerably good day for Loders fete, although it had its bad moments. By eleven in the morning, a sky which had begun by being blue and cloudless, was heavier than lead, and emptying down rain, but by the afternoon the sun was out again, and, apart from one brief shower, stayed out, bathing the proceedings in warmth and brightness. More people were there than ever before, and many were visitors from far afield, who come each year. The financial result exceeded expectations. As there was no big work on hand this year, we did not run a week of skittles, nor an evening social, and yet the gross receipts came to £204.11.8d, all taken in the four hours of the fete. As expenses were £24.11.8d, the profit was £180, and the choir have already had out of it a badly needed set of new tune books. The outer path to the church has also received a new dressing of gravel, which should make things drier underfoot for Sunday worshippers.

The balance sheet of the fete is as follows : Receipts, Gate 15.5/-, Cakes 8.10.9d, Flowers 6.9.6d, Children 6.4.10d, Tombola 16.2.7d, New Articles 14.8.8d, Jumble 5.13/-, China 5.11/-, Produce 7.14.6d, Dottery stall 19.19.10d, Sideshows:- Electric train 3.5/-, Pegs on Line 1.16.9d, Ping Pong 3.1/-, Fishing 4.14/-, Steady Hand 1.2.4d, Skittles 7.2.6d, Hidden treasure 2.4/-, Roulette 14.14.6d, Fortunes, 3.4/-, Pony Rides 1.14.3d, Exhibition 2/6d, Teas 29.1.8d. Competitions, Chicken dinner 3.9/-, Chocolates 3.10/-, Pyrex casserole 2.10.6d. Ices 10.1/-, Donations £6.19/-. Total £204.11.8d. Expenses, Posters 1.3.6d, advertising 1.6.3d, coach 2.10/-, amplifier 2.0.0., prizes 8.9.5d, teas 9.2.6d. Total £24.11.8d. Profit £180, of which £20 was allocated to Dottery for church expenses.

Fete jottings. Overheard at the jumble stall; Saleswoman to gentleman, "Can I interest you in this pair of boots? Excellent quality, exactly your size, only worn once or twice - sixpence the pair for a quick sale". Gentleman, "You're telling me. They were mine". In the week before the fete, housewife to lady collector, "No, I'm not giving to the fete this year. The Vicar never does anything".

The profit on Askerswell fete has been brought up to £223.4.3d by a donation of £2.2/- from Mr. and Mrs. G.F. Waley. Robert and Simon Battershell, grandsons of a former captain of Askerswell ringers, have sent to the bell fund a collection of threepenny-pieces amounting to £1.6/-.

Mr. John Spiller, of Askerswell, was married to Miss Shirley Hutchings at the latter's parish church, Burton Bradstock, by Canon Dittmer. The bridegroom's father was at the organ, and his cousin, Mr. Ronnie Fry, was best man. The newly-weds are making their home at North Barn, where John is now employed, so we are still likely to see them at Askerswell Church on occasion. It was pleasant to read that Burton church was decorated for the wedding by a former parishioner of Askerswell now resident in Burton, Mrs. John Barker.

A Dottery Funeral. Mrs. Lily Sarah Worrell, of Pymore Terrace, died within a short while of being admitted to Port Bredy Hospital, and was buried at Dottery. She and her family were newcomers to Pymore, from Yorkshire.

Deserted Village. Loders was a very dead place on the day of the Sunday School outing. All the young life, and some not so young, was away at Exmouth. The two coaches carried a party of eighty, and although the weather did not look promising, the rain which had to fall fell at the most convenient time, when the trippers were aboard coach. Even then it did not obscure the pleasant views on a road which was new to most of the party, and was a change after the well-worn route to Weymouth. Some of the children were so well set up with pocket money that one wondered how they would manage to spend it. Thanks to an enterprising funfair, this presented no serious problem; indeed, some of the erstwhile opulent were negotiating loans with their parents before lunch time. For the first time in many years the party was without the company of perhaps its staunchest supporter, Mrs. Tiltman senior. Rheumatism had forced her to cry off, but she managed to get to the Vicarage before eight that morning to say she would not be coming. The world would be a nicer place if all took their pledged word as seriously. The collection for the outing produced £14.17/-, and once again the Sunday School would like to thank the parishioners for their unfailing generosity.

Mrs. Christine Newbury, of Yondover, and her husband, are rejoicing in the birth of a son. On her side of the family he is the first grandson after five grand-daughters. The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Derek Barnes was baptised Rachel Elizabeth at Loders Church on August 10th, before a full muster of the family.

Distinguished Visitors. The late Dr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, O.M., England's greatest contemporary musician, whose ashes are to be honoured by burial in

Westminster Abbey, spent a night in Lodgers two weeks before his death. He, his wife, and his niece, were on a motor tour in these parts, and they called at The Three Horse Shoes, Powerstock (with which they were not unfamiliar) for a bed. From the Three Horse Shoes, which was in the throes of alterations, they were recommended by various stages to The Farmers Arms, Lodgers. While the hostess, Mrs. Maddison, was getting supper, the ladies went for a five-minute look at the village, and the great composer settled himself with a pot of beer to a book in the parlour. The book must have been dull, or his ladies true to form - possibly both - for he swore that their five minutes had been forty, and they had kept supper waiting. Mr. and Mrs. Maddison were as yet unaware of the identity of their visitors, not being addicted to music of the Vaughan-Williams sort, but their daughter Pat had her suspicions, strengthened by seeing the name in a panama hat in the porch. When these suspicions were confirmed next morning, Mr. Maddison saw that the party signed his visitors' book. Mrs. Vaughan-Williams wrote, "Thank you for welcoming us so warmly so late". They were going over Eggardon to see the Cerne Giant, and left the Farmers Arms very appreciative of its hospitality. All great Englishmen seem to be fond of the country's most typical institution, the village inn. Round about the time when Lodgers was entertaining Dr. Vaughan Williams, the Road House at Askerswell was entertaining the radio and television celebrity, Richard Dimbleby, who stopped there for tea. The difference in the value set by the great British public on good music and the amiable chatter of the television star was apparent in the different modes of transport. Vaughan Williams was travelling in a van which he called his Dormobile; Dimbleby was sporting a magnificent Rolls.

We have lost a valued family in Uploders by the removal of Mr. and Mrs. John Pavey and their two children. They have gone to live in Poole, where Mr. Pavey's work is, and we shall miss them - the children from Sunday School, and Mrs. Pavey's willing hand from jobs like helping in the delivery of these Notes. We look to the devotion of Mrs. Osborne to her grandchildren to entice them back very often.

Dottery Church welcomed back the Harris family for the christening of their first grandchild, the son of Dorothy Grace (now Mrs. Alfred Bearpark, of Wootton Fitzpaine). He was baptised Stephen James, on August 31st.

A legacy for Askerswell. The parishioners of this small village will be deeply touched by further proof of the big place they hold in the affections of The Ladies (Askerwell's name for the former inhabitants of Askers House). One of The Ladies, Miss Croxson, has sent the Rector a cheque for £100 on behalf of another of The Ladies, the late Miss Myra Webb, to be used for beautifying the church. Miss Croxson says in her letter; "Miss Webb left her heart in Askerswell, and I would like some bit of her to be there. As the church is the only common property of the village, I would like the money to be spent on something to beautify it; for it was the victim of its times. I would rather that the money were not absorbed in any fund, but used for some specific purpose." The specific purpose that Miss Croxson has in mind is a new lectern. It is a piece of furniture which Askerswell must be unique amongst churches in lacking. A promise of one made from another source some years ago did not materialise. Askerswell is already indebted to another of The Ladies, Miss Wilkinson, for an oak reredos to the altar.

The annual course of lectures in Askerswell School will begin on Monday, Sept. 22nd, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. G.B. Smith will be the lecturer, on the subject of English drama, with particular reference to Shakespeare. It can be taken from us that the lectures are an agreeable institution which those who attend would not be without, and newcomers may be sure of a welcome.

The actual date of the consecration of our mother church, Salisbury Cathedral, was Sept. 30th, 1258, and the final service of the seventh centenary celebrations will be on that day at 8 p.m. We are booking a coach to leave for Salisbury in the afternoon, and we hope, after a picnic supper, to see the cathedral floodlit. Will those who wish to book seats tell the Vicar by Sept. 21st?

The body of the late Mrs. Mary Jane Hansford, who died in Herrison at the age of seventy-seven, was brought to Lodgers for burial in the grave of her husband. She and her family had lived in the cottage now occupied by Mr. Thomas, and previous to that at Welplot. They were well liked here. She was one of those rare birds, a good laundress, and she did the church linen. Her son George was a gardener at the Court for seventeen years. Her husband, Walter, an enthusiastic Territorial and Home Guard, had the distinction of being slightly cut by a flying stone from a stick of small bombs dropped on Waddon. His death shortly after this was widely attributed to the bombing, but the pensions people "weren't having any".

Services in September

<u>Lodgers:</u>	7th.	H.C. 8 & 11.50: Matins 11: Children 2.
	14th.	H.C. 8: Matins 11: Children 2.
	21st.	H.C. 8 & 11.50: Matins 11: Children 2.
	28th.	H.C. 8: Matins 11: Children 2: Evensong 6.30.
<u>Askerswell:</u>	7th.	Evensong 6.30.
	21st.	Evensong 6.30.
	14th.	Matins 10.

PARISH NOTES, (OCTOBER 1958)
LODERS, DOTTERY & ASKERSWELL

Harvest Festival. When there are three churches to consider, and the chapel do not want our dates to clash with theirs, fixing harvest festival is a hair-tearing business. When we propose a date, we find either that the decorators would be taking an autumn holiday at that time, and would not miss harvest for anything, therefore the date must be altered, or the proposed date collides with a ploughing match, or upsets a wedding planned months before. We have therefore made the following arrangements in the hope of ministering to the good of the greatest number:- Dottery, Friday, Oct. 3rd at 7.30 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 5th, at 9 a.m.; Askerswell, Sunday, Oct. 5th, at 10 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.; Loders, Sunday, Oct. 12th, at 8 and 11 a.m., 2 and 6.30 p.m. At Askerswell the harvest produce may be bought on the afternoon of Monday, Oct. 6th, and the proceeds will go as usual to church funds. At Dottery Mrs. Marsh will doubtless pursue her own time-honoured method of disposing of the harvest gifts in aid of church funds.

Uploders Chapel has sung the harvest home to the great satisfaction of the people from round about who almost filled the cosy little building for the service. Mr. Bill Tiltman, our organist, was prevailed upon to take over the harmonium, and members of our choir, diffused through the congregation, put gusto into the singing. They enjoyed the service, and especially the sermon, which was given by a layman from Bradpole. As regards sermons, they are now convinced that the amateur can teach "the pro's" a wrinkle or two. On the following evening Mr. C. Gale, assisted by Mr. Pope, the chapel steward, auctioned the gifts, and their combined persuasiveness produced £15 for the harvest fund, which is the mainstay of the chapel finances. Loders School will be having a jumble sale in aid of the school fund on Saturday, Oct. 18th, at 2.30 p.m. It will include a cake stall, and light refreshments. Contributions of any kind will be welcomed by Mrs. Hinde.

Mr. and Mrs. John Marsh, of Higher Pymore, are the proud parents of a second daughter, born in Bridport Hospital. This young lady arrived on time, and spared the parish the agony of suspense occasioned by the long-delayed arrival of her elder sister. Nine Bottles is good at ringing the changes. Mr. and Mrs. Haines and family have departed, and Commander Coke and family have gone to Lincolnshire. The Commander and his family will leave a gap at Askerswell Church and School. We wish them well in their new venture. Residence at one of the Nine Bottles cottages has now been established by the large family of Mr. and Mrs. Welsh, of Yeovil. They have six children, and three grandparents of the six children living with them. Askerswell school is glad to have recruited two of the younger children to its ranks, and has its eye on a third.

A stroke of luck has befallen Loders Parish Council. In its capacity as Burial Board, it is responsible for Loders cemetery; and the care of a cemetery is a headache in these days of full employment and general prosperity, when there is a dearth of village ancients glad to earn a shilling "on the side". Faced with the resignation in December of its present sexton, the Board must have been dubious about getting another, and at the old price of £10 per annum, but it has succeeded. A Bridport undertaker, Mr. A.G. Down, has offered to keep the cemetery in order for one year, as an experiment, at £10 per annum, provided he has the right to dig all the graves, and charge an extra 10/- for single graves, and £1 for double. This strikes us as a very fair offer, almost too good to be true, and of course the Board closed with it quickly. Only those with personal experience know how much back-aching work there is in a burial ground if it is to be kept really well, and in Loders cemetery those prolific makers of work, mounds and curbs, increase year by year.

In the absence of the Rector of Symondsbury, who had a pressing personal engagement on the day, the Vicar of Loders took the wedding of Mr. Maurice Crabb, of Yondover, and Miss Pamela Rosemary Wills, of West Road, at Symondsbury Church. The bride chose one of the few fine Saturdays this summer, so the ceremony was not robbed of the picturesque details of a country wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Crabb are making their home, for the time being, in the cottage in Loders vacated by Sergt. Edrich.

At the service in Loders Church which opened the new session of the local Mothers' Union, Mrs. Catherine Moore, of Uploders, was admitted to the M.U. in the presence of a large congregation of members. The Vicar presided over the triennial business meeting which followed. The treasurer, Mrs. T. Rudd, presented a very satisfactory financial report, and the Vicar thanked her and the other retiring officers, notably the Enrolling Member, Mrs. Lenthall, for their services. He then nominated Mrs. Lenthall to serve as Enrolling Member for a further three years. Mrs. Rudd was re-elected treasurer, and the committee Mrs. C. Marsh(Dottery), Mrs. H. Legg (Loders), Mrs. R. Dennett(Uploders) and Miss Newbery(Askerswell).

Askerswell Church Council held its recent meeting in Askerswell House at the kind invitation of Captain and Mrs. Aylmer, who put the Council deeper in their debt by dispensing light refreshments before it dispersed. The Council heard with

satisfaction that Miss Edwards' Working Party, which contributed more than half the profits of the recent church fete, were to continue in operation until the money needed for the bells was raised, and that the Working Party were proposing to hold a sale on Saturday, Nov. 15th. When it was announced that the bell fund had now reached £700, some members were for cashing-in on the newfound benevolence of bank managers and borrowing enough money to get the bells done right away, because the cry "How long, O Lord, how long?" was being heard in the parish. But the old-fashioned types held that hire purchase was getting out of hand, and stuck to the principle of not seeking to enjoy a thing before you have earned it. Another query was whether the Almighty, who, after all, does come into the matter, would care to hear bells ringing to his glory "on tick". But countrymen being canny where money is concerned, the argument that weighed heaviest with them was, why pay the bank considerable interest, and part with your capital, when the interest on the capital is bringing you in £35 p.a.? Further, if the parish has done without the bells for thirty years, it can go on doing without for two or three years more. So it was decided not to commission the work until the money is in hand. Having voted that a letter of very warm thanks be sent to Miss Croxson for her gift of £100 towards beautifying the church, the Council settled itself to the problem of how best to use the money, and found it no easy one. The prayer-cum-reading desk is akin to the pulpit in design, and unless it were done judiciously, the substituting of a proper lectern for the old reading desk, alongside the same old pulpit, might only accentuate the ugliness of the latter, and make the new lectern look like "a pearl in a pig's ear". To the blithe suggestion that the obvious course was to have a new pulpit to match the lectern, came the rather breathtaking reply that catalogues had been studied, and a worthy pulpit might cost anything up to £850. After prolonged discussion, it was decided to await the result of certain enquiries in London, and to seek expert opinion.

Mr. and Mrs. Derek Barnes and family have left Loders, where he was helping his father in the business of the mill, and taken control of a bigger mill, the Grove Mill, that his father Mr. Hamilton Barnes has recently acquired at Burton Bradstock. Mr. and Mrs. Derek Barnes were good neighbours, always cheerful and ready to lend a hand, and we shall miss them. Mr. and Mrs. Harris have moved from the lower end of Court Cottages into the house vacated by Mr. Barnes, and Mrs. Woods (nee Carrie Elliot) has taken Mr. Harris' house.

Those who know something of what Miss Edwards has done, down through the years, for the young folk of Askerswell, heard with a real pang that her Brownie pack has ceased to be. We had all come to regard her Brownies and her Guides, their weekly meetings and their glorious Christmas parties in her cottage, as a permanent part of the Askerswell scene, and now they are no more. The supply of Brownies and Guides has simply dried up. Miss McCombie is glad of the hand Miss Edwards now gives with the Cubs, but we feel the loss of the Brownies. We hope that as Miss Edwards sits alone before her fire in the coming winter evenings, she will see in it face after face of the large bevy of young people she has helped to grow up, which should be most rewarding.

A coachload of trippers from Preston, beyond Weymouth, "de-bussed" at Loders Church the other day, and went in to admire it. An old gentleman who seemed well versed in his subject expounded the history of it. Our long stream of summer visitors has begun to tail off, and will soon peter out. It is surprising how many of them come back year after year, and not only enjoy the church, but enjoy the services. There is one way in which we can add to their enjoyment - by planting ourselves in another pew if we arrive and find them sitting in our accustomed place. This is not specifically Christianity, but simply good manners. We should not dream of doing otherwise if we found visitors sitting in our favourite chair at home, and were they not sitting in it, we should probably offer it. The writ of good manners ought surely to run in God's house as well as our own, and if we have the worship of God at heart we shall be only too pleased to find a stranger in our seat. To ask him to move is bound to leave with him the impression that he was not altogether welcome.

Services in October

<u>Loders</u>	5th. H.C. 8 & 11.50: Matins 11: Children 2.	
	12th. (Harvest) H.C. 8: Matins 11: Children 2: Evensong 6.30.	
	19th. H.C. 8 & 11.50: Matins 11: Children 2.	
	26th. H.C. 8: Matins 11: Children 2.	
<u>Askerswell</u>	5th (Harvest) H.C. 10: Evensong 6.30.	
	12th. Matins 10.	19th. Evensong 6.30.
	26th. Matins 10.	
<u>Dottery</u>	3rd (Harvest) Evensong 7.30.	5th. (Harvest) H.C. 9.
	12th. Evensong 3.	19th. Evensong 3.
	26th. Evensong 6.30.	