

Askerswell people thoroughly deserve the praise bestowed upon them by the Bridport News in connection with the fete to be held at the School on Saturday, September 5th. They are a very small community; unlike some parishes in the neighbourhood they have no visitors to exploit in their money-raising efforts; and yet when they are confronted with seemingly impossible demands for school and church they always rise to them. Since the war they have re-floored the school, put in a kitchen and water sanitation, and carried out structural improvements culminating these holidays in the provision of a cloak room with wash basins. In the church their most recent achievement is to have spent some £300 on re-roofing the tower, and to have raised £800 towards the £1,000 needed to rehang the bells. They hope that Saturday's fete will see them home. Only a few nights ago the representative of a firm of bellfounders was up among the bells with a torch preparing an estimate. Another firm has tendered already, and there are high hopes that Saturday's fete will enable the work to begin within a few weeks.

Loders fete, at the beginning of the August holiday, attracted the biggest crowd ever, and produced its best financial result. Takings were £231.5.8d, expenses £30.4.8d, and the profit £201.1.0d. This profit has only been exceeded once, and that was in 1956, when it was £202.17.9d; but the two are not really comparable, because the 1956 profit included two weeks of skittles and a social, whereas the entire 1959 profit was made on the field in four hours. The thought of £200 in the bank is very comforting until it connects up with builders - the gentlemen in whose presence money just evaporates. It will take another good fete next year to pay for all that needs doing to the stonework of Loders Church.

Because of the printing dispute, those whose hard work and generous giving did so much to make the fete a success did not receive their meed of honourable mention in the press. May we make what amends we can now, and give assurance that these things did not go unnoticed? A shadow was cast on the fete when one of the helpers with the teas, Mrs. Hansford of Cherry Cottage, Uploders, was taken ill, and had to go to Dorchester Hospital. She is still there but, we are happy to say, is beginning to make progress. Another shadow over the fete was the absence of the parish clerk, Mr. David Thomas, from his customary post at the receipt of custom. He has recovered from his illness, to the joy of everybody, and the hymns on the bells before service, and his leading of the responses in service, shew that he is back in harness. His absence confirmed what we had always suspected, that Loders Church would not be itself without him.

Dottery's effort at the fete brought the record sum of £26.12.6d, which more than met its Quota for 1959. Mrs. Smith's magnificent box of fruit raised £8, Mrs. Barnes' mystery parcel £5.2.6d, and Mrs. C. Marsh's stall £13.10.6d.

The balance sheet of the fete is as follows :- Receipts, Gate £17.12/-; Cakes & eggs £7.9.6; Flowers £5.14/-; Jumble £11.15.3; Books £2.0.3; Children £6.3/-; New articles £18; Tombola £16.4.7; China £8; Produce £8.2/-; Ices £10; Teas £27.3/-; Dottery £26.12.6; Pony rides 18/7; Roulette £17.10/-; Fishing £5.4.6; Roll-a-penny £2.13.3; Hidden treasure £2; Electric train £3.12/-; Raffles - Beans in bottle £2.1.9, Tea-set £2.7.6, Dundee cake £6.6.6, Port £2.4/-, Chocolates £2.12.6; Ping Pong £3.12.6d; Fortunes £3; Lawn skittles £8; Baby show £1.3/-; Decorated hats and pot plants 8/-; donations £2.15/- Total receipts £231.5.8d. Expenses, Bridport News £1.6.3d; Posters £1.2.6d; Teas £7.18.6d; Roulette and fishing prizes £9.17.5d; Beaminster band £10; Total expenses £30.4.8d. Balance £201.1.0d.

The fete last month was the thirteenth Loders fete in the present Vicar's incumbency.

The profit on the thirteen fetes adds up to £1,946.12.6d.

The widow of the late Mr. C. Marsh died at West Bay Road, at the ripe age of 88, and was buried in the grave at Askerswell of her husband who predeceased her in 1951. The service was choral, and was the occasion of a gathering of the Marsh clan, impressive in its size, and intriguing in its ramifications. It was what the locals call an "eye-opener" that so many people under other names could boast a connection with the Marshes.

Harvest Festival. We are being asked for the dates. People are straining at the leash to give thanks, and well they might be after this wonderful summer. Dottery will begin with its customary week-night evensong on Thursday, Sept. 24th, at 7.30, and continue the Sunday following with evensong at 3. Askerswell will be on Sunday, Sept. 27th, with Holy Communion at 10 a.m. and evensong at 6.30 p.m. (Loders Choir have kindly agreed to sing an anthem at evensong). Loders will bring the round of harvest services to a finale on Sunday, Oct. 11th. The harvest at Uploders Chapel is to be on Sunday, Sept. 20th, at 6.30 p.m., and we gather that it will be conducted by the Rev. Stanley Willson, who will be making his last appearance as minister of the Bridport circuit.

Long Service. Mr. Albert Read, of Loders, has just retired after forty-three years' service with Dorset County Council. His health is not too good, and he looks forward to a bit of well earned relaxation. Mr. David Crabb, also of Loders, has completed forty years at Loders Court. He is in his prime, and considers he has just embarked on the second forty years. His employer, Sir Edward Le Breton, has presented him with a handsome silver salver, inscribed "To Mr. and Mrs. David Crabb, from Colonel Sir Edward and Lady Le Breton and Mrs. Denis Laskey, in memory of a friendship of forty years". Mr. Crabb is very proud of this. It is a rewarding proposition for anybody who feels the heat to ask to see it.

Christenings. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jones (nee Audrey Tucker, of Uploders) brought their baby daughter from Pontmydd, South Wales, to be baptised Victoria Louise, in Loders Church, on Aug. 2nd. Michael Bagg, fresh from his triumph in the baby show at Loders Fete, was baptised at Dottery Church on Aug. 9th.

Mr. Bernard Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Harris, of New Road Farm, Uploders, was married to Miss Edna Margaret Bowditch at Marshwood Church on Aug. 8th. They are making their home in the old farm house in New Road.

The Mothers' Union have presented Loders Church with a new altar carpet and a new carpet for the communion rails. They are in blue, and make a welcome replacement for the old carpets, which were worn threadbare in parts, and appeared to have nourished several generations of moths.

Thanks to the glorious weather, and to the captivating route across the heather chosen by an obliging coach-driver, Loders Sunday School were able to vote this year's outing to Swanage the best they had ever had. A party of children, their parents and friends, numbering seventy-four in all, crowded into two coaches, and on reaching the sea, got into it and scarcely left it until the time came to go home. Their old flag, a bit of white sheeting, with "Loders Sunday School" daubed on it in creosote, again proved its worth as a rallying point on the crowded beach, and ensured that nobody was lost or missed the bus. Indeed, the only anxiety the organiser suffered this time was at Corfe, when some of the weightier ladies in the party, renowned for tired hearts and indifferent boilers, determined to see the view from the castle, although it meant climbing the upper reaches of the ramparts on all fours. This year the trippers paid their own fares. A meeting of parents had decided that in view of the abnormal number of demands that had been made on the parish, all at the same time, in connection with Loders Church, it would be the right gesture to forego the usual Sunday School collection. This has not dissuaded several kind people from giving Mrs. Willmott donations towards the Christmas prizes, which are always paid for out of the collection. The children of Askerswell were also treated to a coach outing to Swanage by the Community Club. They were fortunate in having sunshine while we were getting a drop of this year's meagre supply of rain.

Miss Friend, of Uploders, has presented to Loders Church a Spanish crucifix which belonged to the late Miss Scott. The ringing chamber was considered an appropriate place for it, (a) because Miss Scott was fond of bells; (b) because it is good to have a reminder in a belfry that bells are rung solely for the glory of God.

There will be no service at Dottery Church on Sunday, Sept. 13th.

Mr. Jack Verrinder, of The Crown, Uploders, is one of the team chosen to represent Dorset in the County bowls match with Hampshire.

Thirty-two candidates are attending classes for the confirmation to be held in Loders Church in October.

"The unchanging countryside" is a myth as far as our part of it is concerned. It can scarcely be an exaggeration to say that during the present Vicar's incumbency more than half of the houses in his parishes have changed occupants. Some changes are quite recent, and more are in prospect. Mr. and Mrs. Vincent and family have gone from Court Cottages to live near Wells. Mrs. Giles has come to live in the late Mr. Sidney Marsh's cottage, having made it attractive after a thorough transformation. Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, lately cafe proprietors in Christchurch, and their daughter Clare, have taken Mrs. Young's cottage in Uploders, and fallen in love with our countryside. Mr. Jack Ellis, son of a former carrier, and his wife, have wrought a miracle on the late Mr. Billy Bagg's house, and made it a hive of industry. Mrs. Gergen, a regular member of Loders congregation, has, with her husband, left her cottage in Uploders for one at West Bay. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rogers are succeeded at Askerswell by Mr. and Mrs. Derek Heard, who were married at Yeovil in July. Mr. Heard was in the R.A.F. He expects to be joined on their retirement by his parents, who are with the Kuwait Oil Company. Mr. and Mrs. Chard have forsaken their cottage near Loders school for a Council flat in Bradpole. They come up to clean the school by motor-cycle, and Mr. Chard continues to lend a welcome hand to the ringing.

(to be continued)

Services in September

<u>Loders:</u>	6th.	H.C. 8 & 11.50: Matins 11: Children 2.	
	13th.	H.C. 8: Matins 11: Children 2.	
	20th.	H.C. 8 & 11.50: Matins 11: Children 2.	
	27th.	H.C. 8: Matins 11: Children 2.	
<u>Askerswell:</u>	6th.	Evensong 6.30.	13th. Matins 10.
	20th.	Evensong 6.30.	
	27th.	Harvest, H.C. 10: Evensong 6.30.	
<u>Dottery:</u>	6th.	H.C. 9.30.	13th. None.
	20th.	Evensong 3.	
	24th.	Harvest 7.30.	27th. Harvest 3.

PARISH NOTES (OCTOBER, 1959)
Loders, Dottery and Askerswell

Askerswell Fete did all that had been expected. It made a handsome profit of £185, and thus lifted the bell fund to a position from which the order could be given for the restoration of the bells. It also provided an afternoon's enjoyment for the parishioners, and for friends from outside, in the brilliant sunshine which has been this summer's norm. Everybody gave of their substance and their services without grudging, but the fete committee would like to place on record their appreciation of Group-Captain Newall's energetic and genial leadership; and of the debt they owe to Miss Edwards' working party, which, year after year, is responsible for the lion's share of the proceeds. The committee are not unmindful of the help and encouragement they derive from an ever widening circle of old friends, who either sent donations or came in person. A little girl from West Bay did something rare and pleasing. She came like a troubadour, with her recorder, and moved among the tea tables offering to pipe tunes at twopence a time. To old inhabitants who knew Mrs. Dawe, it was a tonic to see her ample figure dispensing teas and cheerfulness. She is the widow of a former churchwarden, and had come from over the hills to help.

Mr. Dick Waley, who is away with his son, recovering from his bereavement, has sent the fete balance sheet, and we take the liberty - as we always do with fete balance sheets - of reproducing it before presentation to the Church Council. Here it is:-
Receipts: Working Party £77.10.8d; Handkerchief girl £1.12.3d; Lavender girl 11/7d; Bran tub £2.6/-; Bargains £19.10/-; Produce £10.18.1d; Skittles £25; Lawn Skittles £3.7/-; Bottle tombola £13.16.7d; Roll-a-penny £1.9.7d; Penny-in-the-bath 17/10d; Hidden treasure £1.2.10d; Darts £2.5.7d; Naming doll 10/-; Cherries-in-cake £1.5.9d; Christmas cards and lavender £3.10/-; Recorder 7/11d; Roulette £6.13/-; Balloon race £2.13.6d; Raffle £3.7.6d; Ices £4.1.9d; Teas £7.12.1d; Donations £20.15/-; Total Receipts £211.4.6d. Expenses: Working party £8.7.2d; Bran tub 15/-; Skittles £5.7.6d; Roulette £2.9.2d; Raffle 3/-; Teas £3.11/-; Insurance 12/6d; Posters 17/6d; Advertising £1.17.6d; Puppets £2.2/-; Various 1/-; Total Expenses £26.3.4d. Balance, £185.1.2d.

In the name of Loders congregation, the Vicar has thanked Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Miller, late of Uploders, for their many services to Loders Church, and wished them joy of their new home at Chardstock. They came to Loders only two years ago, and fitted themselves so quietly and efficiently into the scheme of things that it seemed they had always been one of us, which made the parting more of the wrench that separates old friends. Mrs. Miller has been a pillar of the Mothers' Union and the Women's Institute. She was always a generous supporter of good causes, and worked hard for the fete. Above all, she kept us in order. Mr. Miller was a sidesman, a church councillor, and a member of the Discussion Club. Sunday worshippers and Mothers' Union will sorely miss the lifts he gave to church. But nobody will miss him more than the Vicar, for the hours of hard work he used to put into the churchyard. It is only human to feel sorry for ourselves at their departure, but the Christian attitude would be to rejoice in Chardstock's gain.

Baby news. The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Crabb, of Loders, was christened Pauline Jill in Loders Church on Sept. 6th. Mrs. Horace Read, of Loders, has presented her proud husband with a bouncing boy, born in Bridport Hospital, where she had as a neighbour Mrs. W.G. Hunt (nee Diana Forbes, of Lower Sturthill) who has conferred a like boon on her husband. We have not seen Mrs. Read senior since she became a grandmother, but Mr. and Mrs. Ian Forbes looked as if they had imbibed of the elixir of life.

The Lord Bishop of Sherborne will take the Confirmation service at Loders Church on Sunday, Oct. 18th, at 3 p.m. As the number of candidates is large, and confirmations in these parishes are comparatively few and far between, we advise the godparents, parents and friends of the candidates to come early. The Bishop would like to meet them, and the candidates, on the vicarage lawn after service. Here it may be explained, for the benefit of those who do not know, that in this service the candidates, standing before the Bishop as Jesus Christ's representative, confirm with their own lips what their godparents did in enlisting them as Christ's soldiers, and receive his blessing.

The late wonderful summer was, no doubt, the reason why harvest festival was celebrated this year with such gusto. Dottery church was well filled for its week night service, and took on the nature of a family re-union, for former parishioners were back in strength. It was a delight to have them again, and to hear how things were with them in the general gossip at the church door afterwards. The Sunday service was all the more pleasant for having Mrs. Wensley (the former verger) back after her long absence in hospital. Askerswell harvest was likewise notable for a gathering of the clans which filled the church. Some of the regulars looked odd in obscure seats not often tenanted, but they were only too glad to see the backwoodsmen in the more honourable pews. Loders Choir gave a fillip to the singing by coming over and doing an anthem, with Mr. Tilley as soloist. In fact, Loders Choir have been specially solicitous for the weaker brethren this harvest. They reinforced the singing at the Uploders Chapel harvest, and Mr. Bill Tiltman manned the harmonium. Mrs. Pearl Symes tells us that

the sale of produce made the useful sum of £10 for chapel funds. It almost goes without saying that the three places of worship were all most tastefully decorated, and a credit to the ladies who did it.

News has reached Askerswell that Miss Robinson, who retired from teaching at Askerswell School on reaching pensionable age in 1954, has married a Canadian, and is at present on a world tour before settling in Canada.

It would be no exaggeration to say that there was nobody in Askerswell who did not feel deeply for Mr. Dick Waley in the loss of his wife. She died, in a Weymouth nursing home, after two major operations. She and her husband were a devoted pair, and no sooner came to live in Askerswell than they made a niche for themselves, which will be secure for as long as Mr. Waley sees fit to stay. The fete committee is full of admiration for the calm efficient way in which he continued as treasurer while at the same time keeping watch at his wife's bedside in Weymouth. The funeral was at Askerswell Church, and the congregation was fully representative of the parish.

Mr. Waley asks us to circulate the following message:- "I find it hard to express how deeply I appreciate the unfailing sympathy and kindness shewn to me by all our friends at Askerswell. My wife and I have lived but a short time at Orchards, of which she was so proud, yet we have been taken to heart as if we were old inhabitants. I believe that I can best try to show my gratitude by continuing to contribute in such measure as I am able to church and village life. This is what my wife would have wished, and my two children share this view. The wonderful flowers from so many friends (to each of whom I will write soon) are a tribute to the affection for my wife, who was so happy here". In memory of his wife, Mr. Waley has sent a cheque for ten guineas, to be used for church purposes at the Rector's discretion.

At long last Uploders Place, which is now divided into two residences, is inhabited again, and by people who we are sure will soon be made to feel at home here. They are Major-General and Mrs. Rome, who have come from Berkshire, where Mrs. Rome was a friend of Lady Le Breton's family. Up to his retirement, General Rome had been for three years British Commandant of Berlin. Previous to that he had commanded the Sixteenth Airborne Division. He has that part of Uploders Place overlooking the long lawn, towards Askerswell. We gather that the lady who bought the other part had the misfortune to die before she could take up residence.

Question: Lodgers harvest festival is on the second Sunday in October - why should it be so late? Answer: Because of our sweet nature. Other places of worship book the date of harvest early, and beg us to avoid theirs. Experience has shewn that we do not suffer by bringing up the rear. And as the official suggestion for harvest is the first Sunday in October, we are only a week behind.

The funeral of the late Mr. George Gillard in St. Mary's, Bridport, was well attended by Lodgers people, and the Vicar was privileged to take part of the service. For years Mr. Gillard, as butler of Lodgers Court, then as churchwarden and chorister, had been a Lodgers institution, and everybody felt that his passing, at a ripe age, had severed another of the few remaining links with the old order. Much sympathy was felt for Mrs. Gillard, who had been the stay and comfort of his years of blindness. The departure of a character as colourful as Mr. Gillard has produced a crop of reminiscences. To those of us who only knew him as the perfect Jeeves, never off his dignity, and with a knack of making the humblest guest at the Court feel like a peer of the realm, it was news to be told that he once sported a motor bike to do his lord's bidding the more expeditiously, but abandoned this form of locomotion after one tumble outside Lodgers School, and another at Chideock. When he made history in Lodgers Church by stumbling in the churchwardens' march to the altar and scattering the alms all over the floor, the Chancel noted with surprise that he could do with an almsdish what he had never done with the hottest dish of soup.

A bit thick! Dorset County Council have increased the charge for light and heat to non-charitable bodies using school premises to £2 per time. At their last meeting the managers of Askerswell School considered this unreasonable and unsympathetic, and asked the V.S.A. to take it up with the L.E.A. Nobody, if they tried their hardest, could burn two pounds worth of coke and electricity in three hours in Askerswell School. And a surcharge of two pounds, coming on top of the hire of the school premises, would be the end of the village whist drive, which, as things are already, does not easily pay its way. If this sort of thing were not a threat to village social life, it would be amusing to note how the bureaucrats spend a million without turning a hair, and shudder over a pound.

Services in October

<u>Loders:</u>	4th.	H.C. 8 & 11.50:	Matins 11:	Children 2.
	11th(Harvest)	H.C. 8:	Matins 11:	Children 2: Evensong 6.30.
	18th.	H.C. 8 & 11.50:	Matins 11:	Confirmation 3.
	25th.	H.C. 8:	Matins 11:	Children 2.
<u>Askerswell:</u>	4th.	Evensong 6.30.	11th.	Matins 10.
	18th.	Evensong 6.30.	25th.	H.C. 10.
	25th.	H.C. 10.		
<u>Dottery:</u>	4th.	H.C. 9.30.	11th.	Evensong 3.
	18th.	Confirmation at Lodgers.		