

P A R I S H   N O T E S  
LODERS DOTTERY and ASKERSWELL

January, 1966

THE CHRISTMAS which is now receding into limbo will be remembered by some of us as one of surprises. It was a surprise to find Loders choir ready to go carol singing on two nights heavy with rain. We had visions of them all in bed with pneumonia for Christmas and tried to be off-putting, but they insisted, had a jolly time, collected £12. 4s. for the Children's Society and were all in church on Christmas morning, none the worse for their damp. Perhaps their survival owed something to the kind furling received from Mrs. Rust, Mrs. Lenthall, Mrs. Bartlett and Loders Court. The expedition made its usual ending at the vicarage, where Mr. Lucas took a tape recording of the final sorenade, before the carollers went inside to the big log fire and the final fortification.

Another surprise was to have the church full for the midnight service on Christmas Eve in the face of such weather. The rain beat down in the cold fury of a kind of arctic monsoon, yet the pews filled up and the proportion of young people was notable. How comforting the elements without made the church seem within. It was like a calm fortress, securing the Christmas tree, the crib and the carols from forces that would destroy them. The new strip lighting showed up the barrel ceiling of the church and made the stonework honey-coloured and warm.

Christmas morning was in surprising contrast to the eve. It was calm and sunny. The faithful could still have been sleeping after the disturbances of the rumbustious night, but no, they were out in strength. Dottery at nine o'clock was greatly pleasing; the regulars were reinforced by the welcome faces of old boys and girls home for Christmas who had made the effort to be up. Askerswell at ten was also pleasing; a large congregation and a merry pealing of the bells. Loders at eleven was full for the family service. The focus was the Christmas tree under the chancel arch. Mrs. Olive Legg had hung it with packets of sweets, given by the Mothers' Union. Instead of a sermon, the Sunday School children did something more entertaining; they sang carols at the tree and received the sweets on it at the hand of Mrs. Penfold, the Enroling Member of the M.U. Children with good attendance marks received small prizes. Mark Green got a bit of pottery from the excavations at Abraham's city, Ur of the Chaldees, because he asks intelligent questions.

The English find spiritual exercises terribly exhausting and this year the day after Christmas was a Sunday. Empty churches that day would not have been surprising, but services were well attended. Now it was the turn of Askerswell to have the welcome faces of old boys and girls in the congregation.

Christmas ended at Loders with the carol service of the seven lessons. Here the surprise was to have a congregation, smaller than is usual for this service. True, the night was not good for going out, but the real reason seems to have been a coincidental clash with certain family reunions. Those present were well rewarded. The choir gave a good lead and the soloists were on form. So were the readers of the lessons - four ladies and three gentlemen. The latter included Sir Dudley Ward, now enjoying a rest from such offices as Governor of Gibraltar and Commander in Chief of the Near East.

Statistics are no measure of spiritual strength, but those interested in them might like to know that our combined Christmas communicants were over 200 and church collections topped £50.

READERS OF THE BRIDPORT NEWS will have noted that the late Miss Maud Hayward left Dottery Church £100, hoping that some of it would pay for the new electrical heating and for plants for the church path. And so one who was a regular worshipper at Dottery in her life time, thinking nothing of the hilly walk from her cottage at Wooth, sends a kindly remembrance to her former fellow worshippers from the life beyond. This is the kind of thing many folks did in old times. It has much to commend it. Another kindly gesture for which Dottery is grateful comes from Miss Gibbs. She has provided a badly needed new set of numbers for the hymn board.

The treasurer of Askerswell Church acknowledges with gratitude a donation of £5 from Miss Mabel Turner towards church expenses. Mrs. Turner is one of several housebound worshippers who like to do their share towards keeping the church operative.

Askerswell will also be grateful to Mr. Harry Crabb, of Loders, for giving some of his Christmas holiday to servicing Askerswell bells. This is not a pleasant job in a windy tower on a wet winter's day, but left undone, it would generate a sizeable expense another day.



WEATHER COMMENTARY "It's all very well these men going up and meeting in space, but they don't do our weather any good." (Mrs. Lenthall, welcoming the carollers to sausages and coffee at Upton Peep on a very wet night.)

THE TERM ended at Loders School on a decidedly festive note. As Mr. Price is a Head who sees to it that merrymaking does not bite too deeply into work time, the Christmas tree did not put in an appearance until the day before breaking up. Some children wondered whether it would appear at all and this was a sensible conjecture. Years of providing Christmas trees for school and church has quite denuded Loders Court, and latterly Mr. Sidney Fry, of Askerswell, has filled the gap. But this annual drain of big trees is beginning to strain his resources, too, and his son-in-law, Mr. Tom Foot, had to fall something very substantial at Nallers to secure a top. Mr. Fry's rejoinder to the hearty thanks tendered him was characteristic - as long as there was a tree at Nallers the kiddies should not go short. This tree presided over a great tea party. Indulgent parents had provided about three times as much food as was needed. To lighten the gorging with a little sense of the aesthetic, the headmaster offered prizes for the best table decoration. It fell to Mrs. Frank Gill to judge and she placed Susan Price first, and Cynthia Newberry and Robert Bryan, equal second. After games, parents joined the party. Brigadier Hammond, chairman of the school managers, presented a cheque for £6. to Mrs. Bevin, the assistant mistress who was leaving, that she might get a memento of her own choosing. The children left for home with presents from the tree. Everybody seemed to get exactly what he had been wanting, so it looks as if letters had gone up the chimney.

THE FACT that the mission sale had been shortly preceded by two other sales did not reduce the pleasure derived from it, nor the profit, which was more than usual, at £34. The appeal was obviously in the nativity play that went with the sale. This year the play was mimed, with the speeches - from the Bible - played on a tape recorder. The combination was effective and the whole performance a better exposition of Christmas than any sermon, with no words to learn, the little performers could concentrate on their poses. Mrs. Willmott thanked then, and Mr. and Mrs. Price and Mrs. Bevin, on the company's behalf, not forgetting the givers of things to sell.

WE HAVE OBSERVED a tendency for houses occupied by nice people to be taken by other nice people when they change hands, so that the nice associations of the house continue. Raikes, Loders, will be no exception. Its new owner, Miss Edwards, still in the throes of settling in, has already made many friends and found her niche in church. Until her retirement she was attached to the natural history section of the British Museum in London.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. and Mrs. Miles, of Oak Cottage, Loders, to Mr. and Mrs. Hile (nee Pam Fry) of Bradpole and to Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Pitcher of Boarsbarrow on the birth of a daughter.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of Loders ringers, Mr. Harry Crabb was re-elected captain, Mr. Reg. Dennett vice-captain, Mr. Bill Maddison secretary and Mr. Tom Dennett tower warden. Sheila Newbury, Valerie Brown, Ronald Tilley, Nicholas Willmott and Michael Willmott were accorded the status of full ringers and complimented on their progress and dependability. Mr. David Gill was thanked for helping at Askerswell and for giving lifts to the other helpers. Mr. Dennett and Mr. Gill undertook to do the collecting for the ringers' fund in February. The captain was wished a safe and speedy return from his impending operation for hernia.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Harp and their two small children have come to live in Loders. He is the assistant shoemaker at Downy.

THE EVENT OF THE WINTER will be the Mothers' Union buffet supper at Loders Hut on Friday, January 14th, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets at 3/6 each may be had from members of the M.U. Proceeds are for the Hut improvement fund. It should offer a wonderfully cheap supper and a gay time besides. Mr. Glen Poole's brother is to be M.C.

#### SERVICES IN JANUARY

<u>Loders:</u>	9th Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2
	16th Holy Communion 8 & 12	Matins 11	Children 2
	23rd Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2
	30th Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2
<u>Askerswell</u>	9th Evensong 6.30. Other Sundays Matins at 10 a.m.		
<u>Dottery</u>	All services at 3 p.m.		



## PARISH NOTES

LODERS, DOTTERY and ASKERSWELL

February, 1966

UNSUSPECTED TALENT. A vicar faced with the task of organising a social would not normally think of entrusting the job to his Mothers' Union, whose public image as staid supporters of the sanctity of marriage does not readily link up with frolics. But since January 14th one vicar, at any rate, would not hesitate; for the social put on by Loders Mothers' Union in aid of the Hut improvement fund was one of the best anybody could remember. And that is the opinion, not of this journal only, but of the 120 folks who braved the winter's cold to get their 3/6 worth and vowed that what they had was worth 10/-. On entering the Hut their eye was caught immediately by the magnificent spread of the buffet supper, whose centre-piece was a jorum of fresh-fruit salad and farmhouse cream. How that banquet, plus sherry, ale and cider, could be served up for 3/6 and yet make a profit of £40 for the Hut, only the M.U. knows. As a religious publication we must not wax too lyrical about the flesh pots, so we pass on to the entertainment. A group of young instrumentalists who call themselves "The Vicarage Five" led off with light music. Our organist played for games and dancing, proving that he could cope as well with the secular as the sacred; and those saints, the Askerswell Young Farmers, put on their rustic - and most enjoyable - play for the n'th time in a good cause. The Enrolling Member has since let us peep at the balance sheet. Receipts were £63 18 11d (Donations £23 8 6d. Tombola £9 19 -, Competitions £3 3 -, Drinks £4 13 3d, Sales of tickets £20 19 9d, Sale of surplus food £1 14 -). Expenses were £23 18 11d. Women's Institute, Mothers' Union, Young Farmers and Church Council have now done their bit towards the Hut Improvement Fund. It only remains for the Parish Council to bring the Fund to a triumphal conclusion.

"AFTER THE BALL WAS OVER" When Miss Hornsby and Miss Wallace got home to Dottery from the M.U. social they found themselves minus their door key. Not being athletic types, it was no use eyeing their bedroom windows. The willingness of a neighbour to fetch a ladder was not all that useful either; for the windows were not made for anybody to get through. The problem was happily solved by another neighbour, Mrs. Scadden, who went through a bunch of old keys and found one that would fit. A similar misfortune befell another member of the Dottery congregation, Miss Male. She arrived home to find her sister awaiting her outside. The sister had been taking a constitutional, and had accidentally locked herself out. She had been waiting in the cold for half an hour, thinking Miss Male had the key. But Miss Male hadn't. It was locked inside. These ladies did not think of bedroom windows and ladders. Luckily their house has a basement and one of the ladies fitted the basement window!

MR. ROBIN WILLS of Loders Post Office, being a motor cycle enthusiast, must have derived special pleasure from the coincidence of his wedding with a motor cycle trial. The wedding was at Bradpole, where the bride, Miss Helen Mary Vine, is superintendent of the Sunday School. The reception was at Loders Hut, which as locals know, is only a few yards from Knowle Lane, where the motor cycles run the gauntlet. The confluence of wedding cars and competing cars and cycles near the Hut might have led to an unholy tangle of traffic, but the police did a good job and there was no trouble. Cold though the day was, the Hut was beautifully warm and the large company of guests celebrated well into the night.

AN OMISSION. In our account of the Christmas carol singing we should have said that a band of former pupils of Askerswell School toured the village with lanterns and collected £4 for the work among lepers. We did not know this until somebody mentioned it long after.

ASKERSWELL is conscious of the gap left by Mr. and Mrs. Millington on their departure to Bristol. In their six years in the village they took their due part in village life and were generous supporters of good causes. Our best wishes will go with them. We predict that their successors will also prove an asset to the parish.

THE SYMPATHY of Askerswell is with Mrs. Herbert and her family in the loss of Commander Herbert, who died in hospital on his 69th birthday, after a long illness born with the courage and cheerfulness befitting an old sea-dog. In the Great War, Commander Herbert found himself in some of the most notable encounters, such as Jutland and Zeebrugge. He was also in the famous Dover Patrol. In the last war he had a lot to do with



minesweeping and rose from the ranks to Commander. He came to Askerswell after his family were bombed out of London and was a member of the Church Council before illness curtailed his activities. He was buried in Askerswell after a sung service.

DOTTERY PEOPLE were greatly shocked by the sudden death of Mr. Rogers, of Blue Ball Cottage and feel deeply for his widow and family. He left his mark on Dottery by improving almost beyond recognition the unlovely block of dwellings adjoining the church. He was also the soul of kindness to his neighbours, giving them lifts into Bridport and offering to do anything he saw that needed doing. Said one neighbour, "He couldn't have found more lame ducks to live next door to if he had tried, and what we shall do without him, I cannot think".

THE INFANT SON of Mr. and Mrs. George Crabb of Middle Pymore, was baptised Timothy George at Dottery on January 16th, a goodly concourse of relatives joining the normal congregation. There was also a large congregation at Loders children's service for the christening of Rupert James, the son of Mr. and Mrs. P.J. Stebbing, of New Road, on January 9th.

OUT AND IN. Mr. Harry Crabb is back again in his cottage at Uploders after a successful operation. But it will be some time before he is back at his ringing, that is, if his lady has him under proper control. Mrs. Frank Osborne, of the Loders Arms, has gone into Bridport Hospital for investigation after a bout of illness.

NOW THAT Miss Denise Miller is kindly playing Loders organ for the bible class, Miss Juliet Willmott is able to take the junior Sunday School at the vicarage. We shall miss Juliet when she leaves home in the autumn. She rings at Askerswell and sings in Loders choir on Sunday mornings; and takes the Loders children's class and plays for Dottery evensong in the afternoon. A minimum of four Sunday engagements, always done cheerfully. We wish somebody would come forward to take a children's class in Askerswell Church on Sunday afternoons. Some Askerswell parents bring their children with them to service, as do some Dottery parents, which cannot be bettered, but at Askerswell some children are growing up with no contact soever with the church, which ought to cause the parish furiously to think, especially the god-parents of these children, who made certain solemn promises at their baptism. Askerswell can also do with more ringers who will ring when they have learnt. Out of the seven young people who can now ring, only three turn up to ring for service. An hour a week is not much to return to God, who gives us all our time.

LENT begins on Ash Wednesday, February 24th. The services for that day will be found in the timetable below. Lent commemorates the time of prayer and planning spent by our Lord in the wilderness before he began his ministry. The Church has always kept it as a season of prayer, self-sacrifice and renewed study of God's will, as given in the Bible. In our parishes we never seem to rise to the Lent observances that other parishes impose upon themselves. It may be that our people have no problems in religion that they would like resolved. If so, blessed are they. It does not further the cause of religion to create difficulties and doubts where none existed. The clamant need of religion is to be lived out rather than talked about. Nevertheless, if there is anything parishioners would like to study or discuss in Lent, the vicar would be very willing to have weekly sessions at the vicarage. He would be grateful if anybody so inclined would raise the matter with likeminded people and with him. If there is no demand for this kind of thing, there remain the Lent boxes for the spreading of the Gospel, the regular Sunday services for those who have given up the worship of God and a more conscientious use of the services for those who attend.

#### SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

<u>Loders</u>	6th	Holy Communion 8 and 12.	Matins 11.	Children 2.
	13th	Holy Communion 8.	Matins 11.	Children 2.
	20th	Holy Communion 8 and 12.	Matins 11.	Children 2.
	Ash Wednesday	Children 9.15.	Holy Communion and Communion 10.	
	27th	Holy Communion 8.	Matins 11.	Children 2.
<u>Askerswell</u>	6th	Evensong 6.30.	13th Matins 10.	20th Holy Communion 10.
	Ash Wednesday	Communion 11.		
	27th	Matins 10.		
<u>Dottery</u>	6th	Holy Communion 9.30.	13th Evensong 3.	20th Evensong 3.



## P A R I S H   N O T E S

LODERS, DOTTERY and ASKERSWELL

March, 1966

We may breathe freely now that the electrical wiring of Loders church has been renewed. The old wiring had been declared highly dangerous. The electricians said they were thankful that they rarely get a trickier job. They had to crawl about in the dark between the roof and the ceiling of the nave, knowing that the old ceiling is delicate and a foot misplaced might bring it down. The lighting has been greatly improved and everybody seems to like it. Concealed strip lights illuminate the barrel ceiling of the nave, and a soft glow, adequate to read by, is reflected on to the pews. In the chancel four unobtrusive flood lights pin-point the altar and the Ladye Chapel is served by four more concealed floodlights. The replastering of the wall behind the altar and the removal of the old light fittings made redecoration of the whole church imperative. This has just been completed. The ceilings are white, the walls off-white and the open stonework, which is a feature of the church shews up pleasingly. When the builders took down the blue coronation brocade under the east window of the Ladye Chapel, they found it so rotted by damp that it could not be put back, and they had to replaster the lower half of the wall. It was not pleasing to have to part with another reminder of the late Sir Edward Le Breton, who brought the brocade from Westminster Abbey, but it must be admitted that the ancient stone rood, in the centre of the wall, comes into its own. The mass of unsightly meters and time switches on the west wall, near the organ, has been encased in a decent box. This was by accident. The architect ordered the box for the electrical apparatus in the tower, to protect it from the elements. But the mistake was an inspired one, and another box has been made for the tower. Now, after four weeks of worship under difficulties, the men and their scaffolding are gone, and the Mothers' Union and their scrubbing brushes have been let off the leash. A little incense did something to assuage the smell of distemper. There only remains the settling of bills, which will take nearly a thousand pounds! Of this, Mrs. Frank Gill will have contributed a hundred pounds by the sale of her sketches of the church. The parish has cause to be grateful to her.

No resting on laurels! With the inside of the church in good shape, our thoughts turn perforce to the outside, to the Ladye Chapel roof. This has to be relaid with lead and the estimated cost is £1,500, towards which we have very little in hand. With building costs rising steeply every year, the architect recommends doing the job at once, on a Bank loan. This does not appeal overmuch to the Church Council, who felt, one and all, that the repairs of God's house ought not to be on the "never, never". If the fete continues to produce £300 per annum and the bank rate continues high, the additional cost of doing the work this way might be as much as £600 in Bank charges. Rather than face this, the council would risk rising prices and plod on with raising the money first. As the roof had shewn no sign of leaking the architect was ready to concur and he disfavoured temporary repairs. But alas, the recent deluge of rain has just brought the first ugly patch of damp on the newly whited ceiling.

Dottery is in the news again this month. Two births are exciting in a small community of mostly "senior citizens" (the new name for old age pensioners). Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, of Ash, have a daughter, the first in a pride of sons, and therefore specially welcome. Mr. and Mrs. Commons, of Gardener's Arms, also have a daughter and she, being their first child, was welcome whichever it might have been. So Mr. and Mrs. Turner, of Middle Pymore, are promoted to grandparents. Dottery also had a funeral, that of Mr. George Gale, who, at the age of 82, died in the home of his niece, at Poole, where he had been living since his wife's death a year ago. Thus the little iron church (as Dr. Eidersheim called it) has lost two of its most regular worshippers. Long ago Mr. Gale used to be organist, and often walked over to play at Loders when needed.

There is little Askerswell news to reports. Families have been too busy grappling with 'flu to be up to anything else. Our Church caretaker, Mrs. Spiller, was laid low, and our guardian angel, Mrs. Swaffield, volunteered the cleaning. In the churchyard a start has been made on clearing up operations to make the grass easier to cut. But the wet weather has not helped things and the flinty nature of the old mounds makes for slow progress.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY will be visiting this diocese in mid-March and will preach at a service in Salisbury Cathedral on the afternoon of March 16th. There are still nine tickets available for representatives of our three churches. They may be had on application at the vicarage. As we go to print, the Bishop of Salisbury is on a three-day visit to this deanery and will spend three hours in Loders. But more of that next time.



A family re-union. Mrs. Sarah Read, of Uploders, finds that illness sometimes has consolations. Her's brought home from Australia her son Fred and his wife. After a stay of several weeks, they have just returned, leaving her much better than they found her. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gill had the happy thought of inviting Mrs. Read and her son and daughter-in-law to tea at The Old Cottage. It used to be Mrs. Read's home and Fred was born there. Fred and his wife were enamoured of the transformation of innards that the cottage has undergone, but Mrs. Read senior was not quite so sure. Her temperament seems attuned to "Abide with me," which brackets change with decay.

Christmas in Tasmania. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rudd, of Corfe, are spending six months with their daughter, Shirley, in Tasmania. How different their Christmas was from ours! Mrs. Rudd writes: "we went to midnight Communion in a very bright church, all decorated with roses, sweet peas, lilac and honeysuckle, so different from dear old Loders, lighted only by the Christmas candles. We romped through the service at a spanking pace ..... You would have enjoyed a 'carols by candle light' service we went to in a public park in Hobart. There were four thousand or more there. We all sat on the grass, holding little lighted candles to see by. It was really lovely ..... We have had only one wet day since we came .... The gardens here are full of fruit trees. We have eaten apricots till we look like them and now we are starting on peaches. They could do with a W.I. market stall here. I am wondering how the hassocks are getting on. I did one on board ship coming out, but could not finish it as I hadn't enough wool. Please remember me to the M.U. when they meet."

\* Loders Churchyard. At long last there is something to report. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government replied, on the second time of asking, that their records showed that Loders churchyard never had been closed by Order-in-council, or any other order for that matter, and the Ministry had not ordered a new cemetery at Loders, for public health reasons or any other reasons. (So it looks as if the call for a new cemetery came from the parish council - there was none from the church council.) To get the position of the churchyard clarified, the Vicar was advised to make formal application to the Ministry for closure. This he did. The Ministry replied that the criterion was purely medical; a churchyard would be closed by Order-in-council if burials in it were detrimental to public health. The Ministry would ask the Medical Officer of Health of Bridport R.D.C. to investigate and the Ministry's decision would depend on his report. Dr. Meadows came out to Loders, inspected the churchyard and saw the Vicar. He said there was no medical reason why the churchyard should not be buried in, and he saw no need for the new cemetery. Later the Vicar learnt from the Clerk of the R.D.C. that the R.D.C. could not recommend the Ministry to close the churchyard by Order-in-council. But the Ministry have still to let the Vicar know what they decide. The obvious action to be taken is for the Vicar and the Parish Council, who are the burial board of the cemetery, to talk the matter over and come to terms. Under the 1954 Act the Parish Council may contribute to the maintenance of the churchyard from the rates (and a 3d rate would suffice). Failing that, the Bishop's legal officer has authorised a maintenance charge of £1 per annum (which is the standard rate), on all graves in the churchyard. One thing is certain, the church congregation, who contributed over £700 last year to the running expenses of the church, cannot be expected to raise an extra £70 p.a. for the parish churchyard, which is the responsibility of the whole parish.

#### SERVICES IN MARCH

<u>Loders</u>	6th Holy Communion 8 & 12,	Matins 11,	Children 2.
	13th Holy Communion 8	Matins 11,	Children 2.
	20th Holy Communion 8 & 12,	Matins 11,	Children 2.
	27th Holy Communion 8	Matins 11,	Children 2.

<u>Askerswell</u>	6th Evensong	6.30.
	13th Matins	10.00.
	20th Holy Communion	10.00.
	27th Matins	10.00.

<u>Dottery</u>	6th Holy Communion	9.30	All others at 3.
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## PARISH NOTES

### LODERS, DOTTERY and ASKERSWELL

April, 1966

AS EASTER DRAWS NEAR, church decorators usually find themselves asking whether there will be enough flowers out for church. This year daffodils and primroses have been brought on quickly by the mild weather and the question being asked is whether there will be any left for Easter. The fixing of the date of Easter might make life easier for educational establishments and seaside landladies, but, the English climate being what it is, would not guarantee a sunny Easter and abundance of flowers. It looks likely that Easter may be fixed before long. Even the Roman Catholic Church is now agreeable to this. But we "squares" are not enthusiastic. Easter as at present regulated is the only festival whose timing coincides with the event it commemorates. Christmas is only Our Lord's official birthday. The actual date, in common with the birthdays of other great men of antiquity, is unknown. But for upwards of three thousand years Easter has been determined by the moon. We know that the paschal moon looked down on the agony among the olive trees in Gethsemane. The paschal moon shone on the sepulchre that first Easter morning when the crucified Christ became gloriously alive. A pity that the age old link between Easter and the moon should be broken. Must everything always be subordinated to commercial and secular interests?

EASTER is the time when all communicants are required to make their communion. An advantage of multiple parishes is that the parishioners, most of whom are as mobile as the parson, have a wide choice of services. On Easter morning there are 7 and 8 at Loders, 9 at Dottery, 10 at Askerswell and 12 at Loders. In addition there will be 11 o'clock matins at Loders, 2 p.m. children's service at Loders, and evensong at 3 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. respectively at Dottery and Askerswell. But before Easter comes the most solemn day in the year, Good Friday, when the services will be--Loders 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., Askerswell 10 a.m. and Dottery 7.30 p.m.

JUST AS A BODY is built upon a skeleton, so is a church on a framework of officials, and like any other household a church must have housekeeping accounts. Officials are appointed and accounts dealt with at the Easter vestries. These meetings should be attended by all who are on the church rolls, and may be attended by any parishioner of eighteen years and upwards. Askerswell Easter vestry will be in the school on Easter Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. Loders and Dottery will be at the vicarage at 7.30 p.m., on Easter Wednesday.

THE TREASURER of Askerswell Church acknowledges with many thanks an envelope marked "For the upkeep of Askerswell Church" and containing a pound note. It was left at the vicarage.

ASKERSWELL is sorry to lose Mr. and Mrs. Walsh and family, who stayed at Church Farm in the winter, and are now returned to their home in Gloucestershire. Mr. Walsh is a fairly rare bird, a combination of atomic scientist and lay reader. He preached at evensong during the winter, and gave us much food for thought. At communion he and his wife used to bring their two little boys with them to the altar rail. This is the custom in some churches. If from early age it gets infants used to the communion service, and impresses on them that religion is essentially a family affair, then the custom is surely a good one, and to be copied.

LODERS IS ALSO SORROWING at the loss of Mr. and Mrs. Penfold, who have left the kind of hole that is not easily filled. She was Enrolling Member of our Mothers' Union, keen for the cause, and popular with her flock. Mr. Penfold was ever at hand when transport was needed, which was often. After the Lady Day service the members adjourned to the vicarage, where they presented Mrs. Penfold with a bedside lamp and household linen. They were glad to hear that the departure did not mean they would never see the Penfolds in Loders Church again. The move is only to Yeovil, where Mr. and Mrs. Penfold both have aged parents to look after.

NEWCOMERS TO DOTTERY. New Close Cottage is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kerry, who come from South Perrott, where they kept the village inn. Mr. Kerry was with the Admiralty at Bath before that, and emanates from Yorkshire.

MOTHERING SUNDAY at Loders was blessed with perfect weather. A large congregation of mothers joined the Sunday School children in a service conducted by Mrs. Willmott and received presents brought by the children. As there was an abundance of flowers this year, the children were able to go through the village after service leaving bunches with the sick and "senior citizens."



A PLAGUE OF MICE is afflicting Askerswell Church. They have eaten large quantities of mouse exterminator kindly supplied by Mrs. George Bryan. She goes on and on putting it down, but there never lacks a mouse to dispose of it. At first they were very partial to the organ. Now they have taken a fancy to the sawdust of the sound-proofing in the belfry. We would rather them in the belfry than in the organ; for what might happen if Mr. Harold Spiller saw one while he was playing is too awful to contemplate. The organ people at Taunton say Askerswell is by no means unique. They are receiving complaints of mice in organs from many churches. A church cat is indicated.

CONGRATULATIONS to our police officer and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Parham on the birth of a daughter, their third. Daughters are the fashion in Loders this year. We owe an apology to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Crabb for not noting their new daughter in January. We did not hear at the time, although the clothes line was shouting it down the street.

THE INFANT SON of Mr. and Mrs. Ian Ferrey, of Shipton Gorge, was baptised Charles Ian Clive in Loders Church on March 27th, in the presence of a goodly company of well-wishers. It was nice to have Mr. Ferrey back from his grave illness, looking fit again. The water used at the service was from the River Jordan.

GROUP CAPTAIN DEREK NEWALL is back at South Eggardon safe and sound (we are glad to say) after an emergency operation for appendix at Weymouth. Mrs. Frank Osborne, of the Loders Arms, seems now to be making progress in her long illness.

MRS. D'ALCORN'S COTTAGE in Yondover has new occupants. They are Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and their baby daughter, from Chideock, ultimately from Birmingham. Mr. Thompson is a painter and signwriter, a useful man to have in the village.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY spent four hours of his Deanery visitation in Loders. He visited the school, with his pastoral staff of ramshorn and hazelwood, where he chatted to the children, and had lunch afterwards at the vicarage. On a public platform the Bishop is rather formidable, but in the privacy of the home his engaging qualities of father-in-God come to the surface, and Loders, in company with the other parsonages, was very drawn to him. He was most effective at an any-questions session in Church House, Bridport. But where is Bridport's hospitality? Somebody had put a collection plate beside the poor Bishop as he stood in the doorway shaking hands with people as they left, the idea being, presumably to recover the expenditure on the cups of coffee. He deserved better than to be made a beggar of.

THE QUESTION AND THE ANSWER. In connection with the payment for the upkeep of the churchyard and the cemetery in Loders, some people are asking where all the fete money goes. Could not the churchyard be paid for by the fete? The answer is no, because the fete does not produce enough to fulfil its avowed object of keeping Loders and Dottery churches in repair. Here are the figures:- Total fete profits since 1948 (when fetes were resumed after the war) £3,307, sale of old lead £1,434, Donations £550, Total £5,291. Expenditure:- Loders school cloakrooms and roof £204; Dottery repairs £255; electrical heating £382; church roofs £1,354; tower screen £155; church redecoration £179; architect's fees £237; reglazing windows £197; extra tubular heaters £45; overhaul of organ £343; church path £40; rotoscythes £85; church repairs £1,090; rewiring church £480; decoration £430; Hut £100; Total £5,576. It will be seen that the fete plus donations has fallen short of expenditure by £285, which was met from church collections. In the coming five years the fete has to find £1,500 for the Ladye Chapel roof. Obviously there is no fete money to spare for the churchyard.

#### SERVICES IN APRIL

Loders	3rd, Holy Communion 8 and 12.	Matins 11.	Children 2.
	Good Friday and Easter see preceding paragraph.		
	17th Holy Communion 8	Matins 11.	Children 2.
	24th Holy Communion 8.	Matins 11.	Children 2.
Askerswell	3rd	Matins 10	
	17th	Matins 10.	
	24th	Matins 10.	
Dottery	3rd	Evensong 3	



## PARISH NOTES

LODERS, DOTTERY and ASKERSWELL

MAY, 1966

EASTER was notable for the wonderful profusion of flowers in our churches. The decorations achieved a nice balance between east and west, the front end of the church counterpoising the glory of the altar. Askerswell had its familiar "Christ is risen" picked out in primroses on a carpet of moss; Loders had a striking Easter garden in the porch, done by the children, and another in the chancel made by the tiny tots; Dottery had becoming baskets of flowers at the altar. Congregations were good. Both Dottery and Askerswell were filled, as well for the second service as for the first. Indeed, the total attendance at Dottery, thanks to a christening, was more than the entire population of the hamlet. Communicants were slightly less than last year, but even so they exceeded 160. The anthem at Loders was an old favourite, "Blessed be the God and Father," drew appreciative remarks from some of the visitors. The worshippers in the chancel were grateful for the fine, handworked hassocks which had been finished in time for Easter. The good ladies who made them would be the first to acknowledge their debt to Mrs. Olive Legg, who did the sewing together, and contrived to supply materials without reducing the funds. While on the subject of Easter, the Vicar would like to thank the contributors to the collections, which form part of the stipend. The total was £127 4s. 11d (Dottery £26 6s. 3d, Askerswell £22 6s. 2d, Loders £98 12s. 6d).

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. Antony Lumby, of Askerswell, on his marriage with Miss Brigid Owen, of Netherbury; and to Mr. Robin Forbes on his with Miss Jane Lowe, of Beaminster.

Also to Mr. and Mrs. Trickett, of Askerswell (nee Eileen Collier) on the birth of a son, who has transported Mrs. Collier to the seventh heaven.

IN THE OLD DAYS Easter was the chief season for christenings. With us it is bidding to become so again. We had five. On Palm Sunday at Askerswell Mr. and Mrs. Pryer of Legg's Mead brought their latest son to be baptised Wayne; on Easter Day at Loders the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Grundy of Sale, Cheshire, was baptised Jennifer Elizabeth; and at Dottery the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Commons was baptised Susan Loraine. On Low Sunday at Loders, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.J. Miles was baptised Wendy Elizabeth, and on the following Sunday, also at Loders, the daughter of Police Officer and Mrs. R. Parham was baptised Gillian Ruth.

ASKERSWELL seems quite content with its church officers. The Easter Vestry produced no change. Captain Aylmer was again nominated Rector's Warden and Mr. Spiller was re-elected People's Warden for the thirty-first time. Mrs. George Bryan was re-elected treasurer and secretary, and the sidesmen and other church councillors were re-elected en bloc. The balance sheet showed receipts at £678 16s 9d, expenses at £548 5s. 1d., and a credit balance of £130 11s. 8d. Attention was drawn to the shabby state of the interior of the church and a move was made towards re-decorating it. The Rector announced that he would be leaving as soon as it could be arranged, and this elicited many expressions of regret.

GOINGS AND COMINGS. Mr. and Mrs. Knight have left Alexander Farm, for health reasons, and are now happily settled in Bridport. Loders did not part easily with such an amiable and public spirited family, but was consoled by Mrs. Knight's assurance that they hoped not to sever their connections with Loders entirely. At Askerswell Mr. and Mrs. Garrard have moved into the house vacated by Mrs. Millington. They come from the Woodbridge district of Suffolk with the highest testimonials of their Rector. Mr. Garrard has been churchwarden and treasurer. Mrs. Garrard has been a representative on the Diocesan Conference and Enroling Member of the M.U. At Loders the new occupant of Mrs. Penfold's house is Miss Gove, from Bockham, Leatherhead. She was at Bockham for 41 years so leaving must have been a wrench. Mrs. Giles' cottage in Loders is now the home of two young ladies who were formerly at Lee Abbey in Devon, Miss Meredith Carter and Miss Stella Brown.

Mrs. GARRARD has been appointed Enroling Member of Loders M.U. She and other new members will be admitted at Holy Communion on Ascension Day at 10 a.m.

LODERS CHURCH ACCOUNTS presented at the Easter Vestry, showed receipts of £1,054 5s. 11d and expenses £1,272 11s. 11d., with a debit balance of £218 6s. - Dottery receipts were £90. 12s. 6d., expenses £53. 16s. 8d., with a credit balance of £36 15s. 10d. Mr. Cecil Marsh was nominated Vicar's Warden of Dottery, and Mr. John Marsh was re-elected People's Warden. Mr. M. McDowall was nominated Vicar's Warden of Loders in place of Mr. W. Harrison, who had resigned and Mr. H. Sanders was re-elected People's Warden. Miss Mariel Randall was elected treasurer in place of the Vicar, who had



resigned. All other officers were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. Harrison and Mr. Price as sidesmen. A fete committee was elected, consisting of the Hon. Mrs. Hood, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Sanders, Mrs. C. Marsh and Miss Mariel Randall. A letter was read from the Chairman of the Parish Council suggesting a house-to-house collection for the Hut and the churchyard in May. As there are already three collections arranged for May, the Vestry advised deferment until autumn.

\* A RAW DEAL FOR LODERS CHURCHYARD. The Vicar writes:- Loders has two burial grounds, the cemetery controlled by the Parish Council and the churchyard controlled by the Vicar and Church Council. The churchyard is more public than the cemetery. It contains no private graves, it is at the disposal of the parish today as it has been for centuries and every parishioner has a legal right to be buried in it, with the burial service of his own religious denomination, or without a service at all if he be an atheist. Owing to the Parish Council's short-sighted policy of giving away deeds of ownership with their graves, the buried-in part of the cemetery has passed out of the possession and use of the parish for ever, and yet has to be maintained by the parish. Both cemetery and churchyard are now trimmed by the same men, a public-spirited pair from Walditch who make the modest charge of 6/- each per hour. The Clerk to the Parish Council pays for the cemetery, not with cash raised voluntarily, but from a rate levied by the Parish Council. Justice would seem to require that the churchyard be paid for likewise, but by some curious quirk the Parish Council think the support of the churchyard should be voluntary. Parliament has already seen this kind of position to be unjust. By the Act of 1954 it has given parish councils power to contribute to the upkeep of churchyards from the rates. I proposed at a duly convened parish meeting of Loders that this be done, and it was carried by four votes. This displeased the Parish Council. By good staff work they got a second parish meeting to reverse the former decision by (apparently) seven votes. The dust and fury of the second parish meeting surprised me, because the cost of £50 p.a. from the rates to the churchyard is so trifling when spread over the whole parish. Only eleven ratepayers would have to pay over 10/- and of these only two over £1. The cost to some of the Parish Council of relieving my wife and me of the churchyard trimming would have been tiny, e.g. Mr. Charlie Gale 2/8, Mr. Albert Gale ditto, Mr. George Hyde 4/2, Mr. Albert Wells 8/4 and Mr. Wilfred Crabb 11/-. Admittedly Mr. Charlie Gale is trying to save an imposition on the pensioners of Loders, some of whom he thinks are living in semi-starvation. But I have written assurance from the local manager of public assistance that an increase in rates would automatically raise the allowance, leaving the pensioner no worse off. If Mr. Gale will give the names of the semi-starving pensioners to the manager, he will call on them at once. No matter what Parliament may think to the contrary, our Parish Council thinks churchyard maintenance should be voluntary, and cemetery compulsory. I feel, and strongly, that both should be treated alike, both voluntary, or both compulsory. What is the use of the Parish Council insisting that the churchyard be voluntary when I have already appealed twice in these Notes for volunteers, in vain? At the parish meeting I appealed again to the able-bodied men present whose dead are in the churchyard, and not one responded. Perhaps the lady was voicing their opinion who told the meeting it is the Vicar's job to trim the churchyard? In which case they want a Mr. Cuthbert to succeed me, for here there are three churchyards. They may want a Mr. Cuthbert, but their real need is obviously for a Billy Graham. The spiritual state of the parish is no credit to me!

#### SERVICES IN MAY

<u>Loders</u>	1st	Holy Communion 8 and 12	Matins 11	Children 2	
	8th	Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2	
	15th	Holy Communion 8 and 12.	Matins 11	Children 2	Evensong 7
		Ascension Day, Children 9.	Holy Communion 10.		
	22nd	Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2	
		Whit Sunday Holy Communion 8 and 12.	Matins 11.	Children 2.	
<u>Askerswell</u>	1st	Evensong 6.30.	8th Matins 10.	15th Matins 10.	
		Ascension Day Holy Communion 11.		22nd Matins 10	
		Whit Sunday Holy Communion 10.			
<u>Dottery</u>	1st	Holy Communion 9.30.	8th Evensong 3.	15th Evensong 3	
	22nd	Evensong 3.00.	Whit Sunday Evensong 3.		

PLEASE NOTE The first summer evensong at Loders will be on May 15th at 7 p.m.



## PARISH NOTES

### LODERS, DOTTERY and ASKERSWELL

JUNE, 1966

MAY FAIR It must be many years since Loders School welcomed the month of May with traditional rites, as they did this year. The day was dry, and somewhat marred by an east wind, but the playground walls kept most of it out and there were the blossoming apple trees and a background of Boarsbarrow to compensate it. Linda Crabb had been elected Queen of the May. After Mrs. Willmott had declared the fair open, the Vicar crowned the Queen and did obeisance. The school then entertained the Queen and the assembly of parents and school managers, with a display of country dancing, after which the company moved indoors to the stalls and there spent £33 for the benefit of the school fund, which must be quite the most the school would have taken at a sale. A fancy dress parade into which much ingenuity had been put was judged by Miss Edwards and Miss Shimeld. Proceedings ended with the usual cup of tea and Mr. Price and Mrs. Niven feeling justly gratified.

BABY NEWS. The month of May saw the birth of a daughter, their third, to Mr. and Mrs. Price, and four more christenings. At Askerswell the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Hile (nee Pam Fry) was baptised Helen Pamela on May 1st. On May 8th the first daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnston was baptised Sylvia at Dottery. On Whit Sunday there were two baptisms at Loders - Penny, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Pitcher, and Andrew, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Godden (nee Edna Harris)

HIGH TIME! Askerswell P.C.C. have commissioned Baileys of Beaminster to redecorate the interior of the church, at a cost of £330. They hadn't enough money in hand, but Mrs. Newall kindly offered to lend interest-free what was needed so that the work can be done before the new payroll tax jacks up building prices. The church at present is very shabby, but priority had to be given to more urgent work. A sale has been fixed for the late Autumn to raise money. It is to be in the school - which the Diocese have just informed the Rector they are about to sell! We shall see. If they do, the Law will have connived at injustice, though probably not for the first time.

LODERS FETE. The Hon. Mrs. Hood has invited her fellow members of the committee to a meeting at Loders Court on June 18th at 6 p.m. Will they kindly note this? The secretary wishes it known that offers of help will be very welcome. Some of the old fete workers are indisposed and the Willmotts may not be available.

THE C. of E. Children's Society, is grateful to the fifteen boxholders of Loders for the contents of their boxes, which amounted to £8 16 10d. The Lent boxes, for the work of the Church overseas, produced £9 17 9d.

LODERS SCHOOL MANAGERS met recently. Brigadier Hammond was re-elected chairman and Mrs. Gladys Newberry was elected correspondent in place of the Vicar. Mrs. George Bryan was welcomed to her first meeting as representative of Askerswell. The Headmaster, Mr. Price, reported that there were 53 children in the school and that the school fund account, kindly audited by Mr. Cooper, had a credit balance of £16. 19. 1d. The managers saw what a good job had been made of the renovation of the school kitchen. An application from some of the youth of the village to use the school playground for games after school was regretfully declined, because of possible damage to the premises and lack of insurance cover for this kind of activity. The chairman undertook to go into the matter of playing facilities with the parish council.

DOTTERY will greatly miss the Misses Hornsby and Wallace, who have left for a flat in Southbourne. They are not members of the C. of E. but they liked the Dottery service and always had a good reason for the rare occasions when they were absent. Their neighbours found them not only helpful but very hospitable, and some will lament the passing of the after-church tea parties. They will soon find their niche in Southbourne. A promising newcomer to another cottage has arrived in the person of Mrs. Bagwell, a farmer's widow, from Salwayash. She fills some of the space left in church by Miss Hornsby and Miss Wallace; has lots of friends in the district and feels she will be very happy in Dottery



MAY was a sad month for three of our families. First came the death in tragic circumstances of Mrs. Ellen Lock, widow of a former churchwarden of Dottery, and although latterly a resident of North Allington, still a fairly regular worshipper at Dottery. The manner of her leaving this world seemed quite out of keeping with the devotion with which she nursed her husband night and day through his long and arduous last illness. The death of Mrs. Frank Osborne, of Loders Arms, touched a large number of people, as was shown by the well-filled church at her funeral. She had an amazing capacity for work. She helped in the running of the inn, won golden opinions from the summer visitors she ministered to, made nets, helped with the animals, and yet when a neighbour was in need would come to the rescue as if she had all the time in the world. She had a warm spot for Loders Church and was a member of the choir in her younger days. The death of Mr. Willoughby Bartlett must have been a great shock to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bartlett, with whom he was staying on holiday from New Zealand. A day or so before he died he was at church and was invited to look at the garden of Loders Court, where he began work as a boy. His achievements in New Zealand have been too well publicised to need repetition here. The remarkable thing about his funeral was that nephews and nieces to the number of thirty attended and also a cousin, a lady of ninety-three. He was cremated at Weymouth. The ashes are on their way back to New Zealand for burial in the grave of his wife, who predeceased him by several years.

A FACELIFT FOR DOTTERY CHURCH. For its age and its nature the iron church (as Dr. Edersheim called it) is structurally quite sound, but the chancel furnishings looked every year of their age, and were not very worthy of a house of God. Fortunately, the congregation includes a Dorset weaver in the person of Miss Gibbs, and she persuaded the most expert weaver in the Guild, Mrs. Pither, to make cloth for a reredos and for an altar frontal. Miss Gibbs and Miss Male made it up, and Mrs. Scadden gave the material for Communion kneelers. The work was done in time for Whitsun and won the admiration of all. The reredos curtains are a mixture of blue and gold and the altar frontal is a rare and eye-taking blue. The cloth is a gift from Loders church. It is hoped that Dottery will be sufficiently in funds to provide floor covering to match, which is badly needed.

ON ASCENSION DAY at service in Loders Church Mrs. Garrard, of Askerswell, was installed as Enrolling Member of our branch of the Mothers' Union; Mrs. Bartlett was made a member and Miss Gibbs an associate member. Mrs. Penfold, the former Enrolling Member, was able to come over from Yeovil for the service and join the company in coffee at the vicarage afterwards.

THE PROVERBIAL LODERS WEATHER favoured the wedding of the Vicar's and Mrs. Willmott's fourth daughter, Rosamund, and Dr. Kenneth Gray, in Loders Church on June 4th. Rosamund has just qualified as S.R.N. at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. Dr. Gray (second son of Mrs. Gray and the late Mr. C.R. Gray of Haywards Heath) is on the staff of Southmead Hospital, Bristol. Nurses and doctors were thick on the ground for the wedding. The lady decorators had made a wonderful job of the church with lupins and paeonies, and two bowls of magnificent roses graced the altar. The bells rang before and after service. Mr. Tiltman played for the service. Mr. Richard Lloyd, assistant organist of Salisbury Cathedral, managed to beat the traffic - which was more than the doctor ushers did - and arrive in time to play a few voluntaries. Miss Juliet Willmott and little Miss Sarah Elliott were bridesmaids. Michael Willmott gave his sister away with brotherly relish. Nicholas Willmott, fresh from the Army college at Chepstow, made an efficient usher. After the service the company adjourned to the vicarage lawn for refreshments. There, an old friend, Col. Scott, suitably proposed the bride and groom and the best man, Dr. Holt-Wilson, the bridesmaids. The bridegroom's response was remarkably coherent. With the bridal party's dresses the cynosure of all eyes, did anybody note the bride's mother's? It was a bit of genuine Damascus brocade from a loom in the Street called Straight.

#### SERVICES IN JUNE

<u>Loders</u>	5th	Holy Communion	8	Matins	11	Children	2.
	12th	Holy Communion	8	Matins	11	Children	2.
	19th	Holy Communion	8 and 12	Matins	11	Children	2.
	26th	Holy Communion	8	Matins	11	Children	2.
<u>Askerswell</u>	5th	and 12th	Matins	10.			
	19th	Holy Communion	10.				
	26th	Matins	10.				