

JULY, 1967

SATURDAY, JULY 15th, is notable for being St. Swithun's Day and the day of Askerswell Fete. Mr. and Mrs. Garrard have kindly put their garden at the committee's disposal. It is a pleasant spot and central. All that remains is for the Saint to be amiable, then there would be a fair chance of the fete achieving its object of paying off the debt on the church redecoration.

DEATH WATCH BEATLE IN LODERS CHURCH. It was too much to hope that when the Ladye Chapel roof was stripped, the timbers beneath would be found intact and capable of carrying the new lead roof. Thirteen joists had almost been eaten away by the death watch beetle and it was at first feared that one of the beams spanning the ceiling had suffered a like fate. Fortunately only one end was badly affected and this has been repaired by a metal shoe. All the woodwork has now been treated by Rontokil. At present the Ladye Chapel is sealed off by a polythene screen and is full of scaffolding. In the nave of the church one may get an uncommon view of the sky through the Ladye Chapel roof. The builders had got it well covered by tarpaulins before the recent storms, so no water came in. The repair of the defective woodwork will add appreciably to the original cost, but some of our old people will count it a good omen for finding the money that the bees had left honeycomb between the roof and the ceiling.

ONE DONATION from Mrs. E.M. Norman and another from a kind "Anonymous", has brought the appeal fund to £500. Mrs. Norman's donation was from her 86 year old father as well. He lives with her. He was once a Loders ringer. He "rang-in" the year 1900. Those were the days before the bells had been re-hung, when it took two men to pull up the tenor. He recollects that the tenor then bore the inscription, "Ring me well and ring me right: Thirty hundred weight is my weight". The tenor seems to have slimmed down to nineteen hundredweight and to have grown in piety; for the present inscription is, "Ay may I sound glory to God on his, Thanks to my friends, in sweetest harmonic".

LODERS RINGERS hope to have an outing on Saturday, August 12th, incorporating a visit to Butlin's holiday camp in Minehead, which should appeal to the young and also be an insurance against bad weather. The secretary, Mr. Maddison, of the Farmers Arms, would be pleased to take bookings.

A SHORT CUT! A party of ringers from Kentisbeare, Devon, who were on a coach outing, and were due to call at Loders tower, were directed off the Dorchester-Bridport road via Lea Lane as a short cut! The coach was a forty-seater. When it neared Whitehouse Farm, having gingerly negotiated the narrow tunnel of overhanging bushes and the blind corners, it found itself at the narrow humped bridge over the stream. To advance was impossible, so it backed all the way up the tortuous lane it had come down and without an accident. The ringers' nerves were as good as the driver's; for when they eventually got to Loders by a wider road they performed superbly on the bells.

THE ARCHITECT'S REPORT on Dottery Church advises more work than was anticipated. This is mostly external and involves measures against rust, alignment of the guttering and painting. The proceeds of the Dottery stall at the fete will have all their work cut out to meet the cost.

THE WEDDING of Margaret, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Smith, of the Loders Arms, to Mr. Brian Ashby, of Weymouth, took place in the Roman Catholic church in Bridport. The bride's sisters were bridesmaids. A reception for nearly seventy guests was held at the Loders Arms in the "snuggery" which, marvellous to say, was a cowshed not many months ago. The honeymoon was in Jersey and they are making their home in Weymouth, where Margaret had worked as a draughtswoman in electronics.

MR. MICHAEL GOLDIE, formerly of Shipton Lane, brought his infant son to be christened Neil Michael in Loders Church on June 18th. He and his wife and daughter now live at Flackwell Heath, Bucks.

MRS. WILLIAM SYMES, formerly of Yonderover, writes that she has moved not to Vinney Cross, as we said, but to Larkfield, Burton Bradstock. She hopes to return one day to Uploders. We regret that we were misinformed.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY goes out to Mr. John Mead, whose wife, Doreen, died in Salisbury Infirmary, and whose ashes were buried in Loders churchyard close to the graves of other Loders ringers. Here sorrow is tempered with admiration, for the selfless way in which she battled for years with major diseases, reared a family, and led a full and happy life. For some years she rang at Loders, and her husband was captain. By fitting coincidence a band of visiting ringers rang "touches" on the evening of her funeral and made them a salute to a valiant soul.

THE VISIT of Miss Joan Buck, the operatic and television soprano, drew a large and appreciative congregation to Askerswell church, where she sang excerpts from Handel's Messiah. The only complaint we heard was that the congregation would gladly have listened to her longer. Mr. Bill Tiltman, the organist, accompanied her with his usual skill, and without a previous rehearsal. We are lucky to have him.

IN HOSPITAL Mr. George Randall has made a fine recovery from his recent operation in Dorchester Hospital and feels ready for home. He is joined there by Mr. Wilfred Fryer, who awaits an operation as we go to print. Mr. Eddy Greening has gone to Odstock Hospital for some plastic surgery. Best wishes to them all.

THE JUNIOR CHOIR OF Loders Church enjoyed an expedition to the service of folk song in Salisbury Cathedral. Before the service they were kindly shown over the thirteenth century bishop's palace, now the cathedral school - by the headmaster. It was the first time that some of the juniors had been to Salisbury. They are grateful to Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Deacon for lending their cars and to Miss Stella Brown for assisting the Vicar and Mrs. Willmott with the driving.

* LODERS PARISH COUNCIL annual meeting has been reported in the local press, so we will confine our account to churchyard maintenance, which the Council deferred consideration of for a second time. We are writing somewhat in the dark, for matters seemed to hinge on a letter the Council had received from the Dorset Parish Council's Association and to prevent the public knowing what was in the letter the Clerk had duplicated copies which the Councillors read in silence. We assume the Council are trying to discover whether any other Dorset parish council contributes to parish churchyard maintenance by rate. We doubt if any does: all the councils we know of that do are urban councils and not parish councils. But what is the relevance of other parish councils' doings when the 1957 Act gives every parish council the right to contribute from the rate to its parish churchyard, and our Council has been requested by probably the biggest parish assembly in its history and by 201 out of 280 effective electors, to operate the Act? It makes unnecessary work and slows the machinery of local government almost to a halt if our Council have to see what everybody else is doing before they can act themselves. The matter of the Clerk's salary is another instance of this procrastination. The salary is £20 a year, and has not been raised for many years. The Council think it should be raised and instructed him to enquire what other parish councils in the district are paying their clerks. Here are the answers:- Bradpole has been raised from £8 to £10, Powerstock from £8 to £10; Burton from £15 to £25; Bothenhampton from £14 to £20; Symondsburry from £14 to £20; and Shipton from £5 to £7. We were assured that every one of these councils raised their clerk's salary without asking any other council beforehand.

SERVICES IN JULY

LODERS
2nd Holy Communion 8 and 12, Matins 11, Children 2.
9th Holy Communion 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
16th Holy Communion 8 and 12, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 7.
23rd (Dedication) Holy Communion 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
30th Holy Communion 8, Matins 11, Children 2.

ASKERSWELL
2nd Evensong 6.30
9th Matins 10.
16th Family Service 10.
23rd Holy Communion 10.
30th Matins 10.

DOTTERY
2nd Holy Communion 9.30.

PARISH NOTES
LODERS, DOTTERY AND ASKERSWELL

AUGUST, 1967

ASKERSWELL PEOPLE are not devoted to fetes. They only hold one when the need for money drives them to it. But they are very good at running fetes and always produce a happy occasion for the participants and a profit large for the size of the parish. The fete at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Garrard in July was no exception. Everybody had an enjoyable time and the profit of £151. 17s. 9d was more than enough to cover the debt on the church redecoration. As the late Mrs. Pooks would have said, "the parish rallied well". The loyal backwoodsmen of Nallers and Eggardon were reinforced by friends from Lodors, Toller and further afield. A large band of young handbell ringers from Rampisham were refreshing evidence that the Church is not for the aged only. And who dare say that the day of jumble stalls is over when the one here made £22? One awful thought - what would have happened now that there is no old school to hold a fete in had the weather been wet? Obviously for outdoor functions we must stick to Mrs. Garrard, whose prayers for fine weather were answered in the affirmative on four consecutive family occasions.

TAKINGS were as follows:- Gate: £5 12 9d, Jumble £22 8 1d, Fancy Goods £24, Cakes £11 10s., Produce £12 2 1d, Toys £7, Tombola £14 9s, Skittles £6.16s, Letter posting £2 10s, Frog fishing £2 9 7d, Pennies-in-bath £1 2 9d, Ping pong balls 4/-, Roulette £3 16, Hidden treasure £1 12, Putting 10/-, Hoopla £1 14s, Fortune teller £2 6 6d, Teas £6 13 9d, Ices £5, Dinner competition £5 1 6d, Blanket £5, Dressed doll £3 6 6d, Sherry £4.18.6d, Donations £5 7 9. Gross takings £155 10 9d: Expenses £3 13, Profit £151 17 9d.

MR. FRED SAMWAYS, former sexton of Askerswell, celebrated his ninetieth birthday in July. He keeps tolerably well, but did not feel quite equal to the excitement of the fete. He insists that the churchyard ought now to be made as smart as the church.

DONATIONS FOR LODERS CHURCH ROOF continue to trickle in, and are hereby gratefully acknowledged. Last month brought offerings from Mr. Arthur Budden (formerly of Lodors, now of Montauto), the Newberry Family, Mrs. Forbes and "Self Denial". A specially kind gesture was made by Lord Northbrook (brother-in-law of the Hon. Alexander Hood), who is heavily engaged in repairs to his own parish church in Kent, and yet so enjoyed a recent service in Lodors that he sent a donation. Unfortunately the cost of the work rises faster than the offerings. The death watch beetle has ensured that it will be not much under £2,000. We apologise to the other Beatles for having accused them, and thank our learned friend, Miss McKenzio Edwards, for helping us to distinguish between the species.

LODERS FETE will be at Lodors Court on Saturday, August 26th at 2 p.m. In years past, with few exceptions, the fete has been the means of paying for repairs to the church fabric. This year its task is a formidable one - to take the parish far along the road to paying for the re-roofing of the Ladye Chapel (for which the first bills of over £600 have just come in). It is the policy of some parishes when they need a lot of money to organise a succession of money raising events. But we think that a continual bombardment tends to brown people off. We hope that all the effort and all the sense of duty of Lodors people will concentrate on the fete, so that, given a fine day, no similar effort may be needed till next year. Lodors Court and friends outside the parish have given a splendid lead. Now let the fete show that the parish knows how to follow suit. This year the Vicar will resume his old job of collecting for all the stalls and sideshows in the week leading up to Fete Saturday. He hopes to begin in Uploders on Monday, August 21st and to finish Lodors by Friday, the 25th. It would be a help of households could have their things ready, and if all the homemade wine he is offered could be in bottled form for the tombola. Here are hints to our many new parishioners as to what "goes" best: bottles of fluid of all kinds; cakes; groceries; dairy and garden produce; flowers; unwanted wedding, birthday and Christmas presents for the "new" stall; toys and sweets for the children; china and glass; prizes for the side-shows; and things for tea; Jumble needs scrutiny - good stuff still finds a ready market, but rubbish is a big nuisance. And there is a lot to be said for the simple cash donation, which is cash in hand, come rain, come shine.

MRS. WILFRED CRABB, of Yondover, is making a gift of altar linen to Lodors Church in memory of her mother, the late Mrs. Sarah Hyde, who kept the church clean and saw to the linen for all the years Mr. Hyde was vergar. Mrs. Crabb's kindly and practical thought is much appreciated.

THE LATE MR. EDWARD NORTHOVER, of the Hermitage, Dottery, was buried at Dottery on

July 12th. He leaves a widow, a son who works in Bridport and a daughter who teaches in Suffolk. He was a retired dentist who fell in love with Dorset during his professional life and fulfilled an ambition by ending his days in it. He found the Hermitage so named before he bought it and remarked how in accord it was with his wish to be far from the madding crowd.

WE ARE AFRAID that the summer evensong for Loders this month will have to be cancelled in order that the Vicar may answer a call for help from Bradpole. The Vicar there has been unwell and is away for the month of August. He found it difficult to get his services taken at short notice. It is a pity that Loders should lose a summer evensong which is much appreciated by a faithful band of connoisseurs, but it is only right that Bradpole should be helped out with evensongs when its other August services will be so few. The Loders evening congregation would be welcome at Bradpole.

NEW PARISHIONERS in Loders go on increasing. This month there are four families to welcome. Mr. and Mrs. John Miles and their two children are now settled into Sunnyside, their first permanent home for some time. He is art master at Beaminster School. In one of the new bungalows at Well Plot are Mr. and Mrs. William Scott who come from an over-large council house in Bridport. Mr. Scott works in gas at Weymouth. Our ringers may note that he is a brother of that fine ringer and gentleman, Mr. Arthur Scott, who used to help in Loders tower before he went to live in Maiden Newton. Mrs. Scott is a sister of Mrs. John Hyde, in New Street Lane. Also at Well Plott, in the flat formerly occupied by Mr. Hiscock, are Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Brown and their two small boys. Mr. Brown works for Brown's Transport (but is not THE Brown of the Transport). He hopes his present abode is only a transit camp en route to a bigger council house being built opposite. We also make bold to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Cheshire to Court Cottages

A REMINDER that Loders ringers' outing to Minehead is on Saturday, August 12th and that Mr. Maddison, of the Farmers' Arms, still has vacant seats.

WE, AND LODERS SCHOOL, are glad to have the headmaster, Mr. Price, home again, after his long language course in France. His arrival home was delayed by car trouble in France. And when he got home he had to go all the way back to collect the car! He endured it with a cheerfulness and equanimity that some vicars we know could not have emulated. Mr. and Mrs. Price's children have now increased three and they have grown out of their flat at Well Plot. They were looking for a bigger house and were having to look outside the parish. We are in debt to Mrs. Olive Logg for saving them to the parish by offering them her house, which is much to their liking and will come into its own again because it was once the old school house and was later the home of another well-beloved headmaster, Mr. Fooks. Mrs. Logg, we rejoice to say, is also saved to the parish. Loders Church without her is inconceivable. She has gone to a bungalow in Well Plot. Our R.D.C. Councillor, Mr. Charlie Gale, has done good work in seeing local needs catered for in the new council houses.

THE PROCEEDS of the Dottery stall at Loders Fete will go, as they always do, to the repair of Dottery Church. Mrs. Cecil Marsh will be collecting for the stall. Although the architect's quinquennial report mercifully specifies nothing big to be done to the fabric, it lists many small repairs which will cost quite a bit in the aggregate. Let us hope our good luck in the weather will hold for August 26th. We noted that our usual day (August 5th this year) was true to form - a fine day quickly followed by rain.

UPLODERS CHAPEL Mr. Riach asks us to announce that the harvest festival will be on September 10th at 6.30 p.m., with himself as preacher.

SEPTEMBER, 1967

LODERS FETE The weather has always been kind, but this year its kindness was never in doubt. As Tom Dennett's tractor went collecting tables and chairs the day previous and as the men put up the tea booth in the evening, the weather was perfect; Loders Court was at its choicest and the church, standing alongside, with the builder's tarpaulins still over it, seemed hopeful of large financial assistance. The day itself was hot and sunny from the start and continued so. Beaminster Band struck up lively tunes from the central lawn and was grateful to the hilarious Pram Derby for taking over the entertainment in the tea break. Loders has no caravan camps to swell the attendance. Most of the five hundred who came were "regulars" from a large area and included returned natives like Mr. Elston Paul and family. Perhaps the most splendid sight on the field was the Navy, the Army and the Law working furiously to satisfy the queue at the bottle tombola. And the most dangerous place was not the skittles, but the cake and dairy produce stall, where Mrs. Fryer and Mrs. Randall were being dive-bombed by scores of wasps, and Mrs. Bartlett was bravely warding them off Mrs. Hunt's large and splendid chocolate cake. Flit sprays did something to subdue them, but Mr. Fryer's idea proved most effective. He put some of Mrs. Thomas's dandelion wine about in tumblers and the wasps found this more to their liking than the cakes and more lethal. Several people were stung, but Mrs. Frank Gill turned her ice-cream stall into a field ambulance, treating the wounded, and, with an eye to business, increasing the sale of ice cream.

A fete does not achieve its financial object without good giving by the parish beforehand and the Vicar would like to thank the multitude of givers, who were also cheerful givers. This year a feature of the fete was not so much the abundance and quality of the things given for the stalls, as the number of gifts in cash, ranging from a shilling or two to many pounds. The cash alone amounted to £168. 4s. - Some of the giving was heroic: one old age pensioner sent £8. she had earned and another gave £20 she had saved by going without. Letters of good wishes arriving at the Vicarage always contained postal orders or notes. All this kindness was capped by a surprise donation of £500 from a member of the congregation who has attended Loders Church for many years, and come to love it. Having thereby been saved so much work and giving, the parish will doubtless be duly thankful. The donations and the £335. 14s. 9d. taken on the field make the splendid total of £1,003. 18s. 9d. With the £500 odd already given, it means that three quarters of the £2,000 needed for the roof is now in hand.

When we compare our results with other church fetes, let us be sobered by remembering that most parishes faced with church repairs have used various methods of raising money and their fete is only part of their effort. With us the fete was our sole concentrated effort - 'a lot once' as opposed to 'little and often'.

THE DOTTERY STALL for the repair of Dottery Church made the record sum of £35. 10s. Mrs. Smith's box of fruit and Mrs. John Marsh's box of groceries, both up for competition, were so generously heavy that they must have brought up the muscles of those who hawked them round. All the Dottery competitions happened to be won by Dottery ladies. They apologise for this, and point out that it was not a Dottery person who did the drawing.

AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRINT it is not possible to give the fete balance sheet because the cost of some of the sideshow prizes will not be known till the shops re-open. But here are the receipts:

Donations	£668. 4s.-	Gate	£16. 2s. 3d.	Cakes and Dairy Produce	£28. 2s. 1d.
Jumble	£ 14. 4s.-	Flowers	£ 8. 3s. 10d.	China	£13. 17s. 11d.
Groceries	£ 13. 17s. 1d.	Children	£ 6. 15s. -	Dinner Service	£ 8. 6s. 6d.
Dottery	£ 35. 10s. -	Tombola	£38. 1s. 6d.	Weight of Cake	£ 4. 11s. -
Teas	£ 24. 4s. 2d.	Icees	£ 7. 7s. 2d.	Travelling Clock	£ 9. 12s. -
Gifts	£ 31. 16s. 6d.	Ping Pong	£ 3. 12s. 1d.	Sherry Poodle	£ 4. 15s. -
Thimbles	£ 1. 6s. 6d.	Bran Tub	£19. 2s. -	Bible Pages	£ 1. 16s. -
Skittles	£ 6. 17s. -	Roulette	£16. 7s. 3d.	Viewing House	£ 6. 11s. 6d.
Fishing	£ 6. 2s. -	Ponyrides	£ 2. 5s. 8d.	Hidden Treasure	£ 1. 8s. 6d.
				Chain of Pennies	£ 1. 17s. -

LODERS RINGERS were unlucky in the weather on the day of their outing, but that did not lose them overmuch enjoyment. The morning was fine for the coach ride to Minehead via Tiverton. When the afternoon turned wet there were things to be done under shelter and the day ended pleasantly at their favourite haunt in the Somerset village of Catcott, where the ringers were soundly beaten by the rest at skittles.

THE PATHS in Askerswell churchyard were a sorry mess of weeds until lately, when Captain Lumby got to work on them with hoe and sodium chlorate. Their present appearance must give him great satisfaction. The collections have been saved several pounds, and the Rector sleeps better.

MISS DENISE MILLER has been appointed organist of Askerswell in succession to the late Mr. Harold Spiller. She has kindly agreed to continue playing at Dottery till someone else can be found. (In the present dearth of organists one will probably take much finding). Askerswell cannot adequately express their gratitude to Mr. Tiltman, who so willingly took over at Mr. Spiller's death, and continued till a new organist arrived. For seven months his Sunday mornings were too rushed for his comfort. He had to be up early, walk for his car to Mangerton, come to Loders to prepare his music, go on to Askerswell, leave Askerswell service at 10.45 and be playing in Loders at 11. Vicars serving a plurality of parishes would feel like a fish out of water if this were not their Sunday norm, but then, Sunday is their workday.

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES There will be a corporate communion in Askerswell Church on Thursday, September 7th at 10 a.m., when it is hoped that two new members will be admitted. Has anyone lost (a) a bass crocheted shopping bag, (b) a plaid shopping bag, (c) a small pink plastic box, (d) a green china cake plate? These are all at Orchards, Askerswell, awaiting claim. The September meeting of the M.U. will be in Loders Hut on Thursday, September 21st at 3 p.m.

IN AND OUT OF HOSPITAL Mrs. Harry Sanders, of Loders, had the misfortune to fall on a slippery path while hanging out her washing and break a hip. She is in Portland Hospital and in good heart. The operation for inserting a pin was quite successful. She has a high opinion of the hospital food but still prefers Mrs. Wilkins' teas at the fete. Mr. Baker, of Uploders, is in Dorchester Hospital. Mrs. Baker is staying with her daughter at Shipton. She was one of those who sent good wishes for the fete. Mrs. Harry Newberry is home from hospital and convalescence in Weymouth and so is Mrs. Brown who was quickly back in her place in Loders choir.

MRS. BRADSHAW held a party in her garden and made a useful £17.10s. for the funds of the Uploders Chapel. Had the party been more widely publicised more people would have been present. Loders seemed unaware that it was on, and several say they were sorry to have missed it. Herewith a reminder that the Chapel harvest is on Sunday, September 10th at 6.30 p.m.

WOULD ASKERSWELL kindly take note that there will have to be alterations in the services in September because the Rector will be away on the last two Sundays and his substitute will be the Rev. L.V. Peacock. On September 3rd evensong as usual at 6.30 p.m. On September 10th family service at 10 a.m. On September 17th evensong at 6.30 p.m. On September 24th matins at 10 a.m.

DOTTERY HARVEST FESTIVAL will begin on Thursday, September 28th at 7.30 p.m. and continue on the following Sunday at 3 p.m. Askerswell harvest will be on Sunday, October 1st at 10 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. and Loders harvest will be on October 8th.

OUR GOOD WISHES will go with Mr. and Mrs. William Harrison, of Uploders, when they shortly leave us for a new abode. In their six years here they have taken an active part in the life of the village and especially of the church and have been generous in its support. It was typical of their sense of responsibility that in spite of the move, and of Mr. Harrison being unwell, they both worked hard at the fete.

MRS. CLARKE has returned from Allington to her cottage in Uploders, and with the help of good neighbours is making a "do" of things. She has long been a village institution, and it is good to have her back.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. and Mrs. Cornish of Well Plot, on the birth of a daughter.

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

<u>LODERS</u>	3rd	Holy Communion 8 and 12	Matins 11	Children 2.
	10th, 17th, & 24th	" 8	Matins 11	Children 2.
<u>ASKERSWELL</u>	3rd & 17th	- Evensong at 6.30		
	10th	Family Service 10.	24th Matins 10.	
<u>DOTTERY</u>	3rd	Holy Communion 9.30.	Other Sundays at 3.	

OCTOBER, 1967

HARVEST FESTIVALS It is unusual for our celebrations of harvest to be nearly finished at the time the October Notes are being written. But that is the situation this year. Only the Loders harvest remains and that will be on Sunday, October 8th, with the chief services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. The cycle of harvest services got off to a good start in the Uploders Chapel in mid-September. A wet evening seemed not to have robbed Mr. Riach, the superintendent minister, of much congregation. A large assembly included the usual strong contingent from Loders Church. At Dottery it was evident that the lavish decoration had been done in the rain; for in the lamp light the moisture on the dahlias and the cabbages glistened like diamonds. Although the service was late in the evening, the large congregation included the youngest members of some families, whose activities supplied any entertainment that the sermon lacked. It was raining heavily for the harvest service at Loders School, but all the parents were present and in its festal array the school seemed all the brighter for the dullness outside. The children themselves conducted the service, and very creditably, too. Later they distributed the harvest gifts to the senior citizens of Loders and Askerswell. Both of the Askerswell services encountered unfavourable weather, but drew large congregations, which, like Dottery included whole families, and the welcome faces of former parishioners. The Sunday School children had helped with the decorations. In one window could be seen a clutch of mushrooms - not a common harvest decoration, but a sample of the abundant crop the recent warmth and wet have produced.

ASKERSWELL VILLAGE HALL The reluctance of people with television to turn out at night has changed the pattern of social life in most villages, denuded village halls of most of their activities and made hall maintenance something of a headache. But because a village still needs a public meeting place, the hall has declined from the social centre to a place the village cannot do with or without. Its status is now below that of a public convenience; for there is no element of inconvenience in the latter. Having all this in mind, Askerswell is dealing warily with the problem of providing a hall in place of the old school. A committee under Captain Lumby has been going into the matter. When it reported recently to a parish meeting presided over by Captain Aylmer in the church, the meeting realised with gratitude that the committee had done a lot of painstaking investigation. The feeling of the meeting was that although at present there is not enough use for a hall to justify it on that ground alone, and there will be its running expenses to be borne, yet every other village has a meeting place and Askerswell has none; there would be some use for one and that use might increase when the hall existed. As a special concession Mr. Savage, the local builder, had put in an estimate well below all the others; and provided a government grant is forthcoming, there should be enough money in hand to pay for a hall of reconstituted stone costing around £2,000. The meeting thanked Captain Lumby's committee for its good offices and asked it to see about the government grant and planning permission.

THE OLD CAR that Major Evans was willing to give to anybody who would make a donation to Askerswell Church brought £10 for which the P.C.C. is most grateful.

THIS MONTH Askerswell Sunday School will meet in the afternoon of the second Sunday, October 8th, to prepare for the family service on the 15th.

MISS CHRISTINE BUNNELL (as was!) chose a perfect September day for her wedding in Loders Church with Mr. Peter Gale of Bradpole. She had mellow sunshine, a church beaming with flowers, the organ, the bells, a large congregation, and a feast at the Hut nicely served by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wells. But possibly the part of it that most pleased the entire company was to have her grandfather, the parish clerk, Mr. David Thomas, at the church and at the hut, in his invalid chair. He has not been able to do much since but is well satisfied to have achieved this ambition. For the record, there is a good photograph of him returning from the wedding in his wheel chair, being pushed by the vicar, escorted by Rover the Vicarage Labrador and Mrs. Thomas in her wedding plumage.

THE INFANT DAUGHTER of Mr. and Mrs. R.G. Cornish, of Well Plot, was christened Frances Jane in Loders Church on September 10th. A large assembly of relatives and friends augmented the usual congregation of children. While on this subject may we congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Baggott, of Uploders; our police officer and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Scarrott and Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Forbes, all on the birth of daughters?

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES Our correspondent writes:- "we met in Loders Hut on 21st September and the Enrolling Member gave a realistic account of the past year's doings. The quarterly weekday corporate communions in the three parishes in rotation have been well attended and given us solidarity. But on the debit side there have been no new members, and without growth life ebbs away. This month we want all our friends, especially young mothers, to join us in a new venture. A controversial story about the indoctrination of Communion will be read and afterwards discussed by all and questions on it answered by the vicar. This should be of interest to all Christians, so please join us in this open meeting. Note the date, Thursday, 19th October, in the Hut, at the new time of 2.30 p.m. Children more than welcome!"

DONATIONS for Loders church roof have been received from Mr. and Mrs. John Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. William Budden and two anonymous sources. The fund now stands at £1,483. 11s. 6d. The work is completed and the bill is expected to be not far short of £2,000.

We are pleased to have Mrs. Sanders back in Loders, making a good, but necessarily slow, recovery from her operation at Portland. Mr. Baker is also home in Uploders from Dorchester hospital, and Johnathan Pym, of Askerswell, is back at school from Portland with his broken leg set in plaster.

THE ACCIDENT in which Mr. Ken Herbert was killed as he was adjusting the brakes of his lorry was a shock not to Askerswell alone, but to a big district in which his likeable character, and his travels, had won him many friends. His funeral, conducted by the Rural Dean in the absence of the Rector, was notable for the preponderance of men. Much sympathy was felt for his widowed mother and for his sister Joan (in Allington hospital) who seem to have had more than the normal lot of life's misfortunes. However, the Herberts are a united family and many shoulders lighten the load.

"MANY A SLIP ..." The vicar went off for a short holiday thinking that his Sunday services were safely in the hands of two retired clergymen. But one of them, Mr. Peacock, was unable to do his full stint. He developed a temperature and lost his voice. A frantic 'phoning of all the retired clergy in the neighbourhood failed to produce anybody. They were all booked up. So the vicar's warden, Mr. Medowall, valiantly stepped into the breach at Loders and Dottery and by all accounts acquitted himself remarkably well. He enlisted Mr. Harrison to read the lesson at Loders, Mr. Harrison's intending departure from the village having happily been delayed. At Askerswell the rector's warden was away but the people's warden is also a sea captain and he, Captain Lumby, a practised hand, took service there.

MRS. ARTHUR BUDDEN died at Montacute after a long and harrowing illness and was cremated at Weymouth. Her family attended Loders Church the following Sunday, where a prayer was said for her, and the sympathy of the congregation expressed. She and her husband left the old post office of Loders some twenty years ago but the family keep up a connection with Loders Church which has lasted three centuries. Our organist's wife, Mrs. Tiltman (nee Knight) comes of another Loders' family nearly as old as the Buddens.

MR. DAVID SKEATS, of Uploders, was married to Miss Joan Fitzgerald in St. Stephens, Islington, on September 16th. His brother, Andrew, who was best man, has just embarked on a course at the Imperial College of Science and Technology in London.

NEWCOMERS. We would like to welcome two new families to Loders. Lt.Col. and Mrs. Rowan Stack have moved into Brook Barton. They are from County Donogal and have two sons, one a doctor in London and the other a subaltern in the Royal Engineers. At the Old Mill we now have Mr. and Mrs. R.G. Thomas and their sons Bryan and Andrew, who are from Symondsburry. For the first time since the death of Mr. Harry Legg we have a master thatcher in the parish.

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

LODERS 8th, Harvest Holy Communion 8, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 7.
15th Holy Communion 8 and 12. Matins 11, Children 2.
22nd and 29th Holy Communion 8. Matins 11. Children 2.

ASKERSWELL 8th Matins 10. 15th Family Service 10.
22nd Matins 10. 29th Holy Communion 10.

DOTTERTY ALL AT 3 p.m.

NOVEMBER, 1967

NOVEMBER has a good claim to be the most solemn month of the year. It is the month of the falling leaves. It begins with the commemoration of All Saints, continues with All Souls, and goes on to Remembrance Sunday, which this year is November 12th. "Here, Stranger, pause. With gratitude and pride, remember these who fought for you and died." Our remembrance services will be: Askerswell 10 a.m.; Loders 11 a.m., and Dottery 3 p.m. Collections will be for Earl Haig's Fund.

Harvest services came to a grand finale in Loders Church on the evening of the second Sunday in October. So full was the church that some of the congregation had to be put in the chancel. The first lesson was read by one of the many Winston Churchills - a nephew of Mr. Herbert Bartlett who is now chairman of the Dorset Federation of Young Farmers. A lively anthem by the choir was in keeping with the boisterous singing of the hymns. At matins there had been another large congregation and a morning sun to show off the glory of the decorations.

LODERS CHURCH ROOF. Donations have been gratefully received from Mr. and Mrs. William Harrison, Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Rowan Stack and Mr. E. Boon. The amount received to date is now approaching £1,600, but on account of the extra work on the timbers and the ceiling the builders are claiming £2,170 instead of the original £1,550. With the architect's fees this would bring the total to around £2,400. We are fighting this but not with hope of much success, because we know how long the men were on the job. It is a sad fact that an honest day's work for fair pay is no longer the general rule.

NEW PARISHIONERS. We welcome Miss Monica Ritson to Loders. She has taken Mr. Edes' house. At present she teaches in the Technical College at Weymouth. She is a keen flute player, and if first appearances are anything to go by, looks as if she might become quite an asset to the parish. We were delighted to hear from Mrs. Grace Hyde that she is coming back from Waytown to Well Plot. "It will be very nice (she writes) to be back with old friends again and look forward to being near enough to get to church." Mrs. Hyde left Matravers several years ago, with the Streetfields.

CHRISTENINGS. There were two in Loders Church in October. On the 15th Mr. and Mrs. Winters, of Yondover and a large concourse of relations and friends, joined the Sunday School service for the baptising of the Winters' firstborn, who was named Maria Anne. On the following Sunday the ancient font figured in a similar scene. This time the babe was Jane Amanda, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Mudford, of Allington. Mrs. Mudford was formerly Jean Harris of Belshay, Dottery. It was like old times to have her sisters present as well. Although they are now spread abroad, their attachment to the parish church of their childhood waxes rather than wanes.

UPLODERS HAS LOST another of the "old brigade" by the death, in Bridport Hospital, of Mr. Harry Baker. He was buried at the cemetery after a sung service in Loders Church, attended by many neighbours and friends. Before ill-health made him give up his calling, he had been village carpenter and handyman. Nothing could make him give up his bicycle or his gardening, both of which he continued till near the end. He was proud of having started part-time work at the tender age of seven, when he used to go daily from Bridport to Eype - before school - to milk a cow. That kind of thing today would raise a national outcry, but he gloried in it.

THE SISTER of Mrs. Dennett, Miss Stevens, also died in Bridport Hospital and was buried in her native Powerstock. She had come to help at Croods on Mr. Reg. Dennett's untimely death.

MR. FRANK CRABB of Uploders, has been transferred from Bridport Hospital to Dorchester because of the present lack of X-ray facilities in Bridport. Mr. Eddie Greening, of Loders, is back in Odstock Hospital.

A STITCH IN TIME Now that the winter evenings are closing in, Mrs. Willmott would like to remind the knitting and sewing community of the needs of the mission sale in December.

WITH ONE ACCORD IN ONE PLACE. On a fine October day which happened after a dreary succession of wet ones, the Vicar went visiting in Dottery. All the inhabitants of the first five houses he called at were out. The sixth had a visitor, so he didn't knock. At the seventh he made up for lost time; for there he caught Mrs. Rennish, Mrs. Bagwell and Mrs. Parker all together. He was not of the party for long. Mrs. Bagwell was trying to find somebody to sweep her chimney!

LISTENING IN Nurse Fooks took tape recordings of Askerswell and Loders harvest festival. They are quite good. She plays them to the sick and housebound who appreciate her kindness.

NO "LET UP". By Act of Parliament all churches and chapels-of-ease have to be inspected by an approved architect every five years. The schedules of repairs to our three churches have been presented. Askerswell escapes lightly, possible because the architect is not very agile. At Dottery there are lots of odds and ends to be done which are likely to cost less than £100. Poor Loders catches it in the neck. With several hundreds still to find before the new Ladye Chapel roof is paid for. Loders is faced with a schedule of repairs that will cost thousands. The stonework has to be de-mossed and re-pointed, the battlements re-set, the windows re-lead, the tower re-roofed and the bell frame re-painted. Far and away the biggest item is the re-roofing of the chancel. The report says "The iron nails which hold the slates to the timbers are in an advanced state of rust. The timbers consist of the mediaeval rafter braced roof which is in very poor order. It appears to have been repaired late in the 19th century. Heavy planking in the form of a scissor brace was inserted to lift the roof to a true level, but this also is much affected by beetle activity. When the roof has to be stripped and re-covered it would be wise to budget for the complete renewal of the timbers, as this is likely to be more economical than further repair." Parliament says what work is to be done, but does not pay a penny of its cost. Unlike village halls and private dwellings and historic stately homes, churches get no government grants. But the 1957 Act does enable local authorities to contribute to churchyard maintenance from the rates.

LODERS CHURCHYARD. In view of the heavy financial burden pressing on the congregation of Loders Church, they and the large majority of Loders people must have been sorry to read in the Bridport News that the parish council will not go halves with the church council in contributing from the rate towards the annual cost of the churchyard, which is now £100. It comes hard on a handful of people to have to provide burial facilities for the whole parish and to be refused a sum which would only cost the parish a penny farthing per house per week. How can goodwill and commonsense be expected to operate between nations if it cannot begin in Loders? The church balance sheet for this year will be very nearly "in the red". If the council will not go halves, the churchyard will be grazed, but the parish will be given the choice in the spring, when the present council's term of office expires. The two reasons the council give for refusing to help the churchyard are "phony". It is true, as they say, that no other churchyard in the borough or rural district of Bridport receives help from the rates, but then, no other church in the district has to provide burial facilities **A N D** pay a rate towards a council cemetery. Bradpole church, for instance, gets all the Bradpole burial revenue, finds about £50 p.a. over and above this for churchyard maintenance, and pays no cemetery rate, because Bradpole has no cemetery. By contrast, Loders church gets only part of the burial revenue, (£11 so far this year), has to find £90 over and above this for churchyard maintenance, **A N D** pay a rate to the council's cemetery. No other church in the district suffers this injustice. The council's second reason is that Loders already pays a penny rate more than any other parish in the district. But well they know that what a house actually pays depends on its rateable value as much as the rate. Because Loders consists largely of agricultural and old property ~~its~~ rateable value is low. Probably it could be contributing £50 to its churchyard and still be paying less rate than any other parish in the district. Another question to be answered in the spring is whether it is wise for the parish to be selling its cemetery piecemeal with an increase in population in prospect. Finding how expensive new ground is, Charmouth have stopped selling their cemetery, and wish they had stopped earlier. It is high time Loders followed suit. Already a half of the consecrated part of the cemetery has been sold and ceased to be of any use to the parish for ever. And this private ground is maintained by rate!

SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

LODERS	5th Holy Communion	8 and 12	Matins	11	Children	2
	12th Holy Communion	8	Remembrance	11	Children	2
	19th Holy Communion	8 and 12	Matins	11	Children	2
	26th Holy Communion	8	Matins	11	Children	2

ASKERSWELL	5th Evensong	6.30
	12th Remembrance	10.
	19th Family Service	10.
	26th Holy Communion	10.

DOTTERY	5th Holy Communion	9.30
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All others at 3 p.m.

DECEMBER, 1967

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS The cold and frequently fog-bound days of December are to many people pleasanter than the physically more attractive days of spring because they lead up to Christmas. Life is always happier when there is something to look forward to and work for, as was proved even in the dark days of the war. And turkey and plum pudding taste better in the dead of English winter than they do in the tropics. In the joy of feasting and family re-union let us not miss the target of the operation, to celebrate the shining forth of God's light in the darkness of men's souls. Our Christmas programme will follow the usual lines. First, a fusillade of carols. Loders choir will sing in Uploders on Monday the 18th and Loders on Wednesday the 20th. Christmas being pre-eminently the children's festival, they will be collecting for the less fortunate ones now cared for by the Children's Society. It is whispered that a group of carollers will be serenading Askerswell in some other good cause. On Tuesday, the 19th the children of Loders School, plus their parents and the Mothers' Union, will hold their carol service in Loders Church, with children and mothers reading the lessons. Then comes the midnight service at Loders on Christmas Eve. Several of those who love this service (for most of which the church is illuminated only by the lights on the tree and the altar candles) have suggested that a quarter to twelve would be a better time to begin. This it shall be, so would everybody kindly take note? Finally, there is the ever-popular family service at eleven on Christmas morning, when the children sing carols from the chancel step in place of a sermon, and strip the tree of the sweets put on it by their mothers and friends. Possibly this rite is peculiar to Loders, but we make no apology. The homelier God's house becomes the more does He like it. If the foregoing recital of events suggests that only Loders will be keeping Christmas, we hasten to add that faithful Dottery and Askerswell will have the Christmas Day service at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. respectively which seems to satisfy their needs.

THE MISSION SALE will be in Loders School on Friday, December 15th at the usual time 5.30 p.m. The Sale will be preceded by a religious entertainment which children and staff are now hard at work on. To encourage them, may we assure them that not even the television gives greater pleasure?

THE FIRST-BORN of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Forbes was christened Emma Sarah midst a large gathering of relatives and friends in Loders Church on November 5th. There were no fireworks from Emma.

THREE WEDDINGS of interest to our readers have lately been solemnised. Mr. Raymond Ernest Wright, who was lodging with Mrs. Spiller at Askerswell, married Miss Susan Burt in Cattistock Church, and is making his new home at Chilcomb. Mr. Terence Symes, formerly of Yondover, married Miss Irene Smith, of Allington, in St. Mary's, Bridport, and is now living at Chideock. And Mr. Geoffrey William Pattemore, of Crewkerne, married Miss Helen Ward, of Uploders, in St. Bartholomew's, Crewkerne. Best wishes to them all!

REMEMBRANCE DAY The big parade service in Bridport inevitably robs us of some of our congregation, but all our three services were well attended. We sent £28. 3s. to Earl Haig's Fund, which is still working to mitigate some of the evil consequences of the two wars, and we were pleased to be congratulated by the local organiser of the Fund on having sent more even than the Bridport parade. Competition in good works is an excellent thing. We suspect that our three churches have headed the local Poppy Day church league for some years now. Long may we keep it up. At the Loders service the choir gave a feeling rendering of an anthem most appropriate to the occasion, Stainer's "What are these?" The seniors entrusted the treble solo to one of their budding juniors, Miss Thelma Record, and she did it justice. Mr. Tiltman showed the quality of our organ (formerly of Exeter Cathedral) in the Dead March, from "Saul".

THE MOTHERS' UNION and the Women's Institute have begun their new year with a change in some of their officials. Mrs. G. Randall and Mrs. H. Newberry are now treasurer and secretary of the M.U. respectively. In the W.I. Mrs. Wilkins is president, Miss Smelt vice president, Mrs. A. Wells treasurer and Mrs. Stebbings, secretary.

NEW PARISHIONERS A welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Robin Shackell and their infant son, Mark who have come from Symondsburry to the Hiscock's former flat in Well Plot. With the last-to-be-completed council house taken by Mr. Frank Good, the housing estate at Well Plot now has its full complement of residents.

-- one of whom suggests that the name be changed to "Well Pleased".

THANKSGIVING was the chief activity at the latest meeting of Askerswell Church Council, and all of it was well deserved. Captain Lumby was thanked for going over the churchyard, safely, with the hovermower which had sliced the foot of its owner, Major Hearn; he was also thanked for saving the exchequer the heavy labour costs of certain other jobs figuring in the architect's schedule. Mr. Tiltman was thanked for manning the organ during the interregnum. Mrs. Spiller was thanked for cloaking the church without an increase of wages over (which were then doubled without her asking). Mr. David Hirst, Q.C., and Mr. Wylde, of Nantes and Wylde, were thanked for their protracted battle with the Diocesan Executive and Trust Committee for a share of the proceeds of the sale of the school. They had charged nothing for their very considerable services, and Mr. Wylde, incidentally, is a Roman Catholic. Those who had helped the finances taxwise by their contributions under covenant, and the new recruits to their ranks, were also thanked. Finally, Mr. and Mrs. George Bryan were thanked for letting the P.C.C. meet at Church Farm, instead of the church, which is without weekday heating.

THAT STAUNCH OLD FRIEND of Loders Church, Colonel Donald Scott, is, we are happy to say, making a good recovery from a major operation in the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank. By this time he may be at the Officers' Convalescent Home in Osborne. Miss Juliet Willmott, who is training as a nurse at Bart's, has been able to call on him and comfort him on behalf of the parish. Mr. Frank Crabb is now home from Bridport Hospital, having got the better of one of his periodic attacks. Mr. Frank Osborne is also home from a successful operation. Mr. Eddio Groening seems to find Odstock Hospital a place hard to tear himself away from. His cheerfulness and fortitude in the face of adversity are a legend there, and one suspects they would be proud to have him in a glass case in the hall. The ninety-year-old Miss Tuck, former caretaker of Askerswell School, is back in the village after her sojourn with relatives in Southampton. She is fortunate to be staying a while with Nurse Fooks. She is well for her age, but cannot make out why the doctor doesn't give her anything to "frisk me up a bit".

LODERS HUT. Brigadier Hammond presided over the annual meeting of the village hall, supported by the secretary, Mr. Harold Brown. Eleven parishioners were present. The accounts showed £337. 18s. 7d. in the improvement fund, an advance of £9. 18s. 7d. on the previous year; and a deficit of £24. 19s. 4d. on income and expenditure. Since the demise of the Young Farmers and the Discussion Club, lettings have dropped considerably. A deficit on the year's working seems to be in the order of things, and cash in hand to meet one is now down to £32. Increased use of the Hut is thus called for, but this is not likely to materialise until the improvements are done. And these are still bogged down by negotiations with the Charity Commission, now in their seventh year. At present the point at issue with the Commission is whether the proceeds of the sale of the Uploders Room can be spent on improving the Hut. If the Hut committee are only allowed the annual interest on the proceeds, the the improvements will have to be confined to the kitchen and the cloakrooms. It was hoped that the Uploders Room could soon be dealt with, if only because it is such an eyesore. The proposal of last year's annual meeting to put a new sign, "Loders Village Hall", on the Hut was replaced by one to take down the existing sign, which is misleading, and leave it down until the Hut looks worthier of the parish. A complaint that the Hut is not always properly prepared for meetings was countered with a reminder that not much can be expected when the caretaker is only paid £5 year plus commission. Finances did not run to more, so bodies using the Hut should expect to do much of the preparation themselves.

SERVICES IN DECEMBER

LODERS	3rd Holy Communion 8 and 12,	Matins 11,	Children 2
	10th Holy Communion	Matins 11,	Children 2
	17th Holy Communion 8 and 12,	Matins 11,	Children 2
	24th Holy Communion 8	Matins 11,	Children 2 "Midnight" 11.45 p.m.
	CHRISTMAS DAY	Holy Communion 8.	Family Service 11.
	31st Holy Communion 8	Matins 11,	Children 2

ASKERSWELL	3rd	Evensong 6.30
	10th	Matins 10.
	17th	Family Service 10.
	24th	Matins 10
	CHRISTMAS DAY	Holy Communion 10.
	31st	Matins 10.

NOTTERTY 3rd