

July, 1910

Loders Fete will take place at Lodors Court by kind invitation of the Honourable Alexander and Mrs. Hood on the afternoon of Saturday, August 5th. For the sake of new parishioners it had better be said again how things are done here. The congregation pay the running expenses of Lodors church, and last year these were £2,355. The fete is the means by which the whole community keeps the church in good repair. It belongs to the whole community, and is a treasure without price. Since last fete repairs have cost around £1500, and more are in prospect. We are spared the sudden appeals for astronomic amounts that face some churches because we make annual provision for wear and tear through the fete. Our method of collecting things to sell at the fete - cakes, groceries, produce, bottles, clothes, unwanted presents, toys, etc. - might, on the face of it, look terribly old fashioned. In go-ahead Bradpole, for instance, a bevy of lovely ladies from St. James college alight on the multitudinous houses and extract their nectar for the stalls. Here our much smaller population only get the Vicar trudging from house to house from the Monday to the Friday before the fete. He gathers for, and distributes to, all the stalls. From the parishioners' standpoint there are two merits in this method, (a) they are not brought to their front door several times by a variety of collectors; and (b) by giving through a vicar, those who are sparing in their habit of Divine worship are able to top up their heavenly banking account with a minimum of effort. Mr. Frank Gillard, last of the noble line of butlers at Lodors Court, used to call the vicar a rook. But when the latter is fete collecting he thinks magpie would be the better word. The magpie is not all black, and gathers an intriguing variety of bits and pieces into his nest.

Number Nine, Purbeck Close, Uploders, now houses successors to the Tredwyns. They are Mr. Raymond Power, and his wife Joan, who run the sub post office in Monmouth Road, Dorchester. Mr. Power was an R.A.F. pilot in the war. He continued as a civilian pilot afterwards, but a spinal injury forced him to give this up. They have a son, married, and living at Caerphilly.

The infant daughter of Mr & Mrs. Colin Marley, formerly of Upton Peep, was christened Louise Ann in Lodors church on June 18th. She is a grand-daughter of Mrs. Dear of Upton. A numerous congregation of relations and friends took part in the service and Rachel Price read the lesson.

The coffee morning with bring and buy and jumble stalls held recently in the Bridport United Church hall added £45 to the roof repair fund of Lodors village hall.

On Saturday, July 1st, at 7.15 p.m., at the Well Plot playing field, Lodors, the party that staged the hilarious hockey match on Boxing Day will do a tug-o-war across the river. Lieutenant Christopher Hill R.N., will be down from Northolt to captain the gentlemen, and Michelle Laskey, the Boodikka of Lodors, will captain the Ladies, who are fortunate to have as their anchor Kuddills (the husband of Kozey). The staying power of the said Kuddills is at its finest in a feminine context. The Mayor of Bridport will be on a stool in mid stream umpiring - if he remembers his promise.

For the first time in its century and a half of existence a wedding will take place in the Uploders Chapel. A licence to solemnise marriages there has been obtained from the Registrar General, and next month Mr. Tom Wall, and Mrs. Barbara Boyle, both of Bradpole, will be married by the area superintendent of the Methodist church, in the absence in Germany of the minister, the Rev. Norman Skinner. The licence cost £20. Our fiend Mr. Joe Morris, the devoted custodian of the chapel, is trusting he has not been reckless with chapel funds. He may have made an excellent investment. Jesus Christ's "Till death us do part" is not the fashion today.

The Vicar writes : "Loders, Dottery and Askerswell are abuzz with speculation about the proposed union of these parishes with Powerstock, and I am often asked what is to happen. I do not know, and because I don't, neither does anybody else. Only time will tell. Canon Rowley's retirement from Powerstock in October poses me an awkward problem. The pastoral re-organisation committee say that if I do not take Powerstock from him it will be merged (against Powerstock's wish it seems) with the new Bridport team ministry, and Lodors, Dottery and Askerswell will suffer a like fate when I resign them. If I add Powerstock to my present charges, then all together they will form a new rural unit, presumably with their three church councils retaining the self government they enjoy at present. But I do not see how my present commitments, and the amount of manual work required at Lodors vicarage, would allow of my doing justice to Powerstock, which is five hamlets dotted over a big area, with two churches. The pastoral committee are pondering whether I could operate the new unit from Bell, which needs much less manual work. They would not be above reducing Lodors vicarage to a manageable size while I was at Bell, provided I made way for a younger man at the end of the operation. Powerstock has submitted a different plan, accepting the new rural unit and the sale of their vicarage, but postponing the former until I resign in my own good time, with a temporary priest-in-charge looking after Powerstock in the meanwhile. This plan would relieve my headaches, but delay the establishing of the new rural unit. There are other possibilities, and other facts to be considered. I am no chicken, and am finding in some parts of my work which might respond at once to a "new broom". My wife also has to be considered. She cannot for ever tend church borders and run a vicarage the size of a manor house. I hope prayers will be put up for me to

*ending*



reach a right decision, in the best interest of all the parishes. I have been forty-six years in the service of the Church if my long monastic training at Kelham be added to my forty years in the ordained ministry; and thirty one years in Loders. Next to Archdeacon Seager, I am holding my parish longer than any other parson in the diocese of Salisbury. He has been Vicar of Gillingham for thirty-two years. My family and I love Loders like limpets. Neither the attractions nor the scope of other posts offered me have been able to separate us. Probably I am very selfish. The hierarchy for one think that my kind of record is no credit to anybody. But under my regime Loders vicarage has produced seven children whose value to the community is not in doubt - four nurses, two teachers and a soldier. I am relying on them to get me by St. Peter at the Last Trump.

"High Acres" is the name of the new housing estate above Loders school. Our vigilant look-out at the crow's nest end of the estate told us that five new families had moved in. The vicar called to welcome them. Nobody was at home because most of the wives are out at work as well as the husbands. He plucked up courage to call towards seven on a Friday evening. Courage seemed to be called for, because he thought he would not be a welcome diversion from "the box". Further, being used to the seclusion of the vicarage, entering the estate was to him like blundering on to a stage before a crowded auditorium, or going down the gullet of that beast "full of eyes within" in the Book of Revelation. The estate must have been amused at his efforts to get into the homes of the newcomers. Each house seemed full of doors. The family within would see him arrive, point excitedly to one door, and open another where he was not. Every house exuded a good smell, for every family was either dining or cooking something. If they disliked the intrusion, they imparted an air of spontaneous welcome, and the Vicar was glad he had ventured forth. One family began to make room for him at their table. After all this, our readers must be bursting to know who these delightful new parishioners are. So here goes :- Number Twenty-eight, Peter and Mary Buckland with their children Nicholas and Elizabeth. They are from near Croydon. Peter works in the Land Registry at Weymouth. Number twenty-six, Julian and Carolyn Stone, with his children Dionne and Kelly. They are from Bradpole, but Julian is no stranger to Loders, having built and lived in Mr. Spafford's house near the school. Number twenty-four, Paul and Sandra Beale, with their children Stacey and Ashley. Paul runs a garage at Winterbourne Abbas. They are United and Reformed, Mr. Joe Morris will be pleased to know. Number twenty-two, Richard and Sally Batten, who booked a christening for their first child, expected in a few weeks. Richard is the custodian of the highly fortified jeweller's shop next to the health shop in West Street, Bridport. Number Sixteen, Paul and Georgina Sutton, only fourteen months married. He is a screen printer in Bridport. They come from Dorchester. That closes the book for the time being. High Acres estate is still under construction.

The evening chosen by Mrs. Shirley Foot for the Askerswell treasure hunt was the first dull and wet one after a long sunny sequence. The hunters thoroughly enjoyed themselves despite this. Mr and Mrs. Holloway won the first prize, and Mr and Mrs. Hennings the second. A good supper at The Poachers, Piddletrenthide, ended the hunt. The journey home was less eventful than might have been expected.

The children at Loders school had Philip Cooper of Uploders held up to them as an example of what the school could produce (with perhaps a little help from Colfox). He has achieved a good second class degree in physics at Exeter University and may go on to research work.

Mrs. Cecil Marsh will organise the Dottery stall at Loders fete. The proceeds are for Dottery church.

St. Mary Magdalene's day is Saturday July 22nd, and there will be Holy Communion at Loders at 8 a.m. The following Sunday will be observed as dedication festival.

The Loders youth club ran their first bazaar with admirable efficiency. The stalls in the village hall were laden with goods of all sorts that they had collected. Unfortunately customers were not as abundant, Ascot, Wimbledon and other Saturday afternoon sport being in competition, but over £60 was made for the hall fund.

#### Services in July

Loders.	2nd	HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2.
	9th	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
	16th	HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2.
	23rd	Dedication, HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
	30th	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
Askerswell	2nd	Children 10, Evensong 6.30
	9th	Matins 10,
	16th	Family Service 10.
	23rd	HC 10, 30th Matins 10.
Dottery	2nd	HC 9.30.
		All others at 3.



The long stone path through the churchyard to the south door of Loders church has been restored to its pristine beauty by Messrs. Leaf of Powerstock. It meant a long back-aching job for our Mr. Fred Record, of Well Plot. The drought of 1976 had shrunk the foundations, making the path unsightly and uneasy to the feet. Mr. Record's ears will burn for a long time as the faithful walking down it to divine service sing his praises. The annual fete at Loders Court, this year on the afternoon of Saturday August 5th, meets the cost of this kind of thing, and is a pleasant social event that brings the same people, often from afar, to Loders year after year. Youngsters will be pleased to know that the electronically controlled helicopter and model aircraft will be doing a sort of Flight of the Bumble Bee to the tune of Pete Dew's Discotheque. Some kind people have already left good things at the vicarage for sale on the stalls. The vicar will begin his gathering for the stalls at the Matravers end of the village on Monday, July 31st. People between there and Gentleman Jack Dare at Hole Farm know roughly from long experience when he will be reaching them.

Mrs. Bertha Johnson, of Uploders, crossed the Rubicon on July 9th, when she and a large family gathering at Knowle Farm celebrated the ninetieth anniversary of her birthday. She is the mother of Mrs. Dick Wood, and a monument to the diligence of Mr. Maurice Lawson, her Grannysitter-In-Ordinary, who is relieved by Captain Harry Crabb whenever Granny's pulse calls for a little medicinal brandy. Mrs. Frances Barnes kept her ninetieth birthday down in the secluded dale of Bilshay at Dottery some time last November. We have only lately heard about it. More of our senior citizens are nearing ninety, and they are less shy than Mrs. Barnes.

Mrs. Margaret Bingham, president of Askerswell Women's Institute, got badly bitten by the idea of bringing Chelsea into the village hall. She soon infected fellow members, and the outcome was a really creditable flower show between four and seven on a Wednesday afternoon. Every inch of space was brought into service. The thirty-three members produced one hundred and eighty entries. There were floral and vegetable displays round the walls, a massive array of cakes and bread in the centre, and tables in between which if you sat at you were plied with cream tea in the best tradition of W.I. courtesy and service. At a table near ours Colonel Grigg was looking altogether at peace with the world. This, we discovered, was not due entirely to the tea. His portrait in full canonicals had been painted by our Mrs. Brook. Like all her subjects, as seen through her eyes he was more than a little pleased with himself. Unlike these Sutherland types, she brings out the best in people.

To understand the Vicar's piece in the paragraph to follow this one, readers will need a rough and ready picture of the present system of manning the parishes of England with clergy: (a) Some areas are served by a team of clergy under a captain called a team rector. The team are called team vicars. But here "rector" and "vicar" are only courtesy titles. Legally they are priests-in-charge, licensed for a specific period, with no freehold. They may officiate in any church in the team area, at the captain's discretion. The church councils of the team area are reduced to "district councils". Their important functions are transferred to a new church council for the team area. (b) Some areas are under what is called a group ministry, but that need not be explained here. (c) The rest of England is under the old parochial system, where a rector or vicar serves his flock, with a freehold and a self governing church council. Because of the desperate shortage of clergy several flocks are put under one pastor, but the pastoral relationship as opposed to the team is preserved, though in a diluted form. The team system is supposed to be spiritually superior to the pastoral, which is supposedly riddled with parochialism. The team system is said to be more economical of clergy. But this remains to be seen. When the new priest-in-charge gets to Bradpole the Bridport team ministry will be five clergy serving six churches in a small compact area. The Loders - Askerswell - Powerstock pastoral ministry would be one clergyman serving five churches in a large area where the population is spread out.

And now the Vicar writes : "The sequel to my remarks in the July number is that the pastoral committee rejected the Powerstock proposal of a priest-in-charge living there, after Canon Rowley, until I resign Loders. The committee also said they were unable to assure me that my successor in the new pastoral unit would be a freeholder, whether I resigned with Canon Rowley in favour of a younger man, or worked the new unit from Bell until Loders vicarage was made manageable for him. I was puzzled by the committee's obvious reluctance to base the new rural unit on a freehold, which is the only way of establishing it, and the only safeguard against it being taken into the Bridport team ministry. Powerstock church council kindly allowed me to talk to them on the new situation. I asked whether they were willing to accept me as their vicar; left the meeting, and rang Canon Rowley next day for their answer. The reply was not an answer. 'While grateful to Mr. Willmott for his unselfish offer to add Powerstock to his existing duties in spite of the difficulties this would create for him, the PCC considers it unfair to expect this of him, and agrees that he be informed accordingly? They are nice people. I appreciated their concern for my welfare, and the implicit suggestion that what is unfair for me is unfair for them also. But they had not turned me down, and the establishment of the rural unit needed to be got on with, so I wrote thus to the Archdeacon on July 20th: 'Thank you for your letter of June 28th,



received July 7th! My answer to your Item Five is Yes, I am willing to take Powerstock if Canon Rowley retires in October, but only as Vicar of Powerstock, and not as Priest-in-charge. Canon Rowley has come up with the answer to the vexed question of what I actually said at the public meeting on Feb. 14th. He took a shorthand note for the minutes, and I now have a copy. I said 'Seven years ago Loders was not willing to be joined to Powerstock. I felt I could not take on more and do it properly. The situation has changed a bit now. If it were the only way of keeping Powerstock in the rural orbit perhaps something could be arranged. I would do a great deal to keep Powerstock in the country? Item Five in the Archdeacon's letter to me was 'And so the last note is really a question that I have to put to you now - if Bill does retire in October, are you still willing to be priest-in-charge of this new unit, as you undertook at the public meeting?'

A new grave appeared in Loders churchyard without anybody local dying. It was clearly that of somebody greatly beloved because it was beneath a wealth of wreaths seldom seen these days. The village post office can usually enlighten the curious on such mysteries but on this occasion was unable to help itself, let alone others. For once the Vicar felt of some consequence; the ultimate in morticians, a young Bournemouth undertaker with the accent and aplomb of the public school, had supplied him with the information the neighbours so grievously lacked. The deceased was Mrs. Ivy Howard, aged 67, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. George Read, of 19 Loders. In her youth she had attended Loders school, sung in the choir, and taken a Sunday school class. Her husband was an Innkeeper. They first met when they were both fifteen and it was love at first sight. Her funeral was on the eve of the forty-seventh anniversary of their marriage. There was a big congregation for the service, which included her husband from Ferndown where she had died, her son, her sister from Beaminster, several Loders relatives, and a number of staunch friends she and her husband had made in the innkeeping business.

Mr. Reginald Saville and his wife Eve were moving into the bungalow lately occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Strachan at Purbeck Close when the Vicar called to welcome them. He was careful not to stay too long but was there long enough to sense that here were two potential assets to the parish, a feeling confirmed by their neighbour Jock Elstone, who has a sure nose for good things. Mr. Saville is a bank manager at Beckenham, Kent, retiring at the end of August. They have a son with Shell at Houston, Texas, and a daughter teaching in Spain.

At a meeting of the managers of Loders school the headmaster, Mr. Price, reported that the number of children for next term is sixty-six, and looked likely to rise to seventy-two next March. There has been a hitch in the negotiations for a site for the new school in Loders, and the County have notified the managers that building operations, which were to have begun next year, will now begin 1980-81. The Managers were invited by the local Education Authority to attend a meeting with the Powerstock managers and the Diocesan Director of Education at County Hall. This had not occurred before we went to press. It was to discuss the site and status of the new school, which is for Powerstock as well as Loders and Askerswell.

The tug-o-war at Well Plot, whose exciting potentialities we were told to puff up in our last issue, subsided into something orderly and respectful at the last minute. The water in the Asker had been found wetter than expected, so the battle of the rope was parallel to the river instead of across it. This seemed to be a relief even to the ladies who were wearing lifebelts beneath their oil-skins. The rope, provided by Mr. Bill Budden, of Bridport Gundry, must have been the finest ever seen in Loders. It stretched from one end of the playing field to the other, and could have been attached to a horse in the neighbouring field, had the Gentlemen been able to persuade him. The Mayor of Bridport, in his chain of office, declared the Ladies winners two-one. They had outnumbered the Gentlemen in that proportion in the final pull. The M.P. for West Dorset had also assisted by standing on the end of their rope. He had strayed from some political soiree in the nearby village hall.

Were these Notes illustrated they could have carried a delightful photograph taken recently by Mr. Bill Budden in Ghana. It was of a native Inn, whose sign said "Believers Inn," and bade you "Call in for your local gin" and "Believe in God". Some of the pious customers were posing proudly outside, happy and uninhibited.

#### Services in August

##### Loders :

6th. HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2.  
13th. HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.  
20th. HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2.  
27th. HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.

##### Askerswell :

6th. Children 10, Evensong 6.30  
13th. Matins 10.  
20th. Family Service 10  
27th. HC 10.

Dottery. 6th HC 9.30. All others at 3.



PARISH NOTES : LODERS, DOTTERY & ASKERSWELL  
SEPTEMBER, 1978

Loders Fete was on the last day of what the weather man said was the wettest week of the wettest summer for ten years. But its good fortune survived. There was only one shower, a short and heavy one that came at an awkward time, 2.30 p.m., as if to give us a taste of what we were being spared. The electronically controlled aeroplane was able to perform, to everybody's delight, but the breeze might have driven the helicopter into the trees, so it was grounded. The sun shone for the dog handling display, the Punch and Judy and the children's sports. A little old lady in period dress did a brisk trade in lavender sachets. Some of her customers seemed wary of her, as if she were the ghost of a former fete helper now reposing in the churchyard just over the wall. The temperature was lower than usual (this always goes with a supernatural visitation) but what was bad for the ice-cream was good for the refreshment tent, whose wares were greatly relished. Judging by "the gate", attendance was well over a hundred lower than last year. This reduced the tea and raffle and sideshow takings, and, rather oddly, increased the stall takings. Cash donations were up by £145. Expenses were up by a mere £9, so overall this fete beat last year's record by £120. Receipts were £1,670, expenses £49.62, and profit £1,620.38. This is a glowing tribute to the generosity of our supporters, the good offices of the fete helpers, and the pulling power of Loders Court. No tribute to the weather because it is compelled to behave on this day.

Our satisfaction with this year's fete is sobered by comparison with twenty-five years ago. Then the fete made only £140, but the redecoration of the interior of the church, done in the same year, cost only £180, and that also covered a firm coming all the way from Exeter to erect the scaffolding. Redecoration is due to be done again, and it could cost considerably more than the proceeds of this year's fete. The barrel ceiling of the nave is eighteenth century horse-hair plaster. It is getting fragile in its old age, and may need costly specialist attention. Bits have fallen near the organ. If the glorious thunder of Handel's Dead March in Saul is muted this Remembrance Sunday we shall know that our organist has taken heed. The Matins' congregation the day after the fete were not given the final figure for the fete because finality had not been reached at what the media call that "moment in time". After service a kind member of the congregation sent a cheque for £50 to meet the fete expenses, and next day a letter came with £20 from a very faithful former parishioner.

Here are the complete figures:- Stalls, Cakes £64.30; Gifts £56.33; Jumble £24.27; Household £133; Groceries £38.82; Flowers £30.20; Delicatessen £56.70; Toys & books £56.11; Dottery £55.11; Lavender £6.90; Sideshow: House tours £38; Bottle Tombola 192.10; Jigsaw 11.40; Skittles 19.05. Roulette 10.73; Roll-a-coin 2.03; Kill-a-Rat 7.31; Money-in-bath 5.26; Ball-in-can 2.04; Bell 2.20; Children's Tombola 27.28; Palmist 4.75; Smurfs 11.50. Refreshments: Tea & soft drinks £77.64; Icos 39.40. Raffles: Whisky £12; Dundee Cake 31.85; Steam iron 41.30; Gate £65.40. Donations £547.02. Total receipts: £1,670. Expenses: Advertising £10.45; Car stickers 3.56; Posters 5.61; Punch and Judy £8; Pete Dew's Discotheque £10; Tent Hire £10; Table and chair hire £2; Total Expenses £49.62. Profit £1,620.38. Dottery church gets £55.11 of this.

Askerswell church are hoping to do as well for their funds as the Women's Institute did by a jumble sale and coffee morning in the Bridport United Church Hall on Saturday, 9th September, at 10 a.m.

One of the old stalwarts of Askerswell church, Miss E.H. Wilkinson, has died at Hove, where she lived for many years, and we are grateful to her sister, Mrs. G. Richardson, for letting us know. She was 88 last April, and the only survivor of the four retired teachers who used to live in The Square, Askerswell. These four were known to the locals as "The Ladies". Miss Wilkinson was an L.R.A.M. and had a good voice. For some years she ran the church choir, and got on famously with the late organist, "Nip" Spiller, which is surprising, seeing that she was an academic, and he a son of the soil. Although the present inhabitants of the village were mostly new to her, she retained her interest in its activities. She was an assiduous reader of these Notes. The Rector will miss her Christmas letter, which usually revealed a new facet of her attractive and truly Christian nature.

The Uploders Chapel are first, as usual, with their harvest celebration, and extend a warm general welcome to the service on Sunday, 17th September, at 6.30 p.m. Dottery harvest will be on Thursday, 28th September, at 7.30 p.m. Askerswell harvest is on the first Sunday in October, and Loders on the second Sunday.

Old boys make good. Loders ringers were not pleased with the Police Force for depriving them of a most useful member, Alfred Crabb. But Alfred has made his mark. His grandmother, Mrs. Harry Crabb, picked up the phone the other night to hear his voice, vibrant with a sense of achievement, announce that he had made his first arrest, one of these shoplifting jobs. Out naster thatcher, Mr. Ron Thomas, has proudly shown us a book by his son, Andrew, who, like Alfred, was a pupil of Colfox. He is working for the United Nations, in Greece, and this book tells everything that the most exhausting questioner could wish to know about the historic and beautiful



island of Spetsai. It is published by the Lycabettus Press, of Athens, and is primarily a guide book, but its manner is that of a Ph.D. thesis. Andrew is nothing if not a servant.

Purbeck Close, Uploders has new residents again, Mr. Reginald Jordan and his wife Majorie. They live in the house vacated by Mrs. Quayle. Mr. Jordan was secretary of the general committee of Lloyds Register of Shipping, and had the misfortune to suffer a stroke - from which he is now recovering - when he moved into Purbeck from Bothenhampton. They have a daughter, and a son who is head of the Old Malthouse prep school at Langton Matravers. High Acres also has new residents in Mrs. Nick Forbes, lately of Beaminster, and their daughter Emma. They are in the house vacated by the Farnhams.

Our local inns continue to do good work for charitable causes. The annual flowers and produce show at Spyway raised £130 for the Cheshire Home at Lyme Regis. The Crown, by its coffee morning and sale of books in the bar has raised nearly £100 to date for Loders village hall, whose forlorn appearance belies its cosy interior. The proposal that the Vicar should add Powerstock to his responsibilities is beginning to look like a dead duck. For his own sake he is not sorry, because he has enough to do without Powerstock, but he regrets for the sake of that parish and of Loders and Askerswell that the pastoral committee has shown a lack of seriousness in its declared intention to "establish" them as a rural unit independent of the Bridport team ministry. To him the key word all along has been "establish". A team ministry is established on a basis of priests-in-charge; a plurality on a basis of vicars and rectors. To ensure that the proposed Powerstock-Loders-Askerswell combination should be on a vicar-rector basis, the Vicar has been ready to take Powerstock as its vicar, retiring within two years as this would require of him; or even retiring shortly after the departure of Canon Rowley in October to let a young man take the plurality on a vicar-rector basis. But the pastoral committee is adamant - the new unit is only to be on a priest-in-charge basis, which means that the committee has no present intention of establishing it as a plurality. The very week that the committee informed the Vicar that vicars and rectors were not appointed these days, the Western Gazette told how a former cowman, only ordained in 1975, had been appointed rector of the four country parishes based on Winterbourne Whitechurch, near Blandford. It also carried a picture of those assisting at his institution and induction to the freehold, and they were the "top brass" of the diocese - the Bishop of Salisbury; the Bishop of Sherborne, the Archdeacon of Dorset, and the Rural Dean of Milton and Blandford. To have begun life as a herdsman, or better still a shepherd, is an excellent qualification for a country parson, but it will be hard on parsons who have come by the usual route if the freehold is to be limited to those who have had the former advantage. So, the Vicar of Loders and Rector of Askerswell will soldier on for as long as circumstances permit. Of these, the most important will be whether he is still getting a good congregation. The churchyard is proof enough that nobody in this world is indispensable.

Two of the many faithful members of Loders congregation are Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Parham of Weymouth. He in active life was a train driver on the old Great Western, and sometimes operated the now defunct train that plied between Bridport and Maiden Newton. He became interested in Loders church when his son was our village constable, and became a regular worshipper after their daughter got married here. He is now governor of the Weymouth branch of that august friendly society, The Moose, and is bringing them to Loders evensong on Sunday, September 24th at 6.30 p.m. Our own George Hyde and Derek Skoats have been governors of their local branch, and they hope to bring some of their members. The service is not for Moose only; the more the merrier.

Foxes have been busy in Loders. One managed to get into Mr. Henry Tucker's supposedly impregnable hen run and kill eleven good layers. Henry had the wry satisfaction of finding that the fox, unable to get the hens as well as himself back through the defences, had left them all. He has scruples about eating hens killed irregularly. Not so Mr. Anthony Sanctuary and some of the neighbours. They were happy to have free meat for several days. In lower Loders Mr. Raymond Crabb has been losing hens to foxes in broad daylight - no less than fifteen on one occasion. As he is a tender hearted man, and the vixens had cubs at the time, he changed the family motto from "Live and let live" to "Live and let die".

#### SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

Loders	3rd	HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2
	10th	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2
	17th	HC & 11, Matins 11, Children 2,
	24th	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.30
Askerswell	3rd	Children 10, Evensong 6.30
	10th	Matins 10
	17th	Family Service 10
	24th	HC 10

Dottory 3rd HHC 9.30, Others at 3, except Harvest, Sep. 28th at 7.30.



PARISH NOTES : LODERS, DOTTERY & ASKERSWELL  
OCTOBER, 1978

The abundance of this year's harvest was reflected in the pleasing array of flowers, fruit, vegetables and corn at the Uploders chapel harvest festival. A lump of coal, a dish of salt and a glass of water in the place of honour on the rostrum were a reminder that man does not live by bread alone. The large congregation included parties from the Bridport United Reformed Church, the West Bay Methodist Church, and Loders Parish Church. These were warmly welcomed by the Minister, the Reverend Norman Skinner, and the chapel steward, Mr. Joe Morris. A presentation of a framed text from Ecclesiastes was made to Miss Daisy Boxall, the veteran and highly esteemed organist, at the end of the service. In his sermon Mr. Skinner was entertaining as ever, and prolific in food for thought. There was a homely incident just before the service began. The old man who used to deliver our Sunday papers came in, made straight for the Communion table, and added his harvest gift to those already on it. His gift was five pretty little cartons, which he put where they could clearly be seen. He whispered to the vicar (sitting nearby) that they were Devonshire violet cashews, good for sweetening the breath, which had gone out of production and had now come back, which was cause for rejoicing. Fittingly he had put one of the packets on top of a tin of sardines. If memory serves us aright, it was peppermint that used to be favoured by Anglicans for sweetening the breath. But it proclaimed rather than concealed what they had been up to.

By the time these Notes appear, Loders school and Dottery and Askerswell churches will have had their harvest, and we shall be able to tell of them in our next issue; Loders church will end the local celebrations on the second Sunday in October, with services at the usual times, plus evensong at 6.30 p.m.

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Lowle are again holding a coffee morning at Rustic Glen, Uploders, in aid of the Dorset Nature Trust. It will be on Wednesday, October 11th, from 10.30 to 12 noon. Trust goods will be on sale. Many folk find these eminently suitable for Christmas presents.

Reels on Wheels is what meals on wheels has now branched into. There will be a showing of the popular film "It shouldn't happen to a vet" (with supporting programme) in Askerswell village hall, on Friday, October 20th at 7.30 p.m. All will be welcome - tickets 50p for adults and 25p for children under 14.

The Jumble Sale that Askerswell Church recently staged in the Bridport United Church Hall proved for the second time (the Women's Institute having proved it for the first) that Askerswell's cast-offs are a prize to be pushed, shoved, wrestled and paid for by the burgesses of Bridport. It made a profit of £167.97. A man issuing laden from the hall, and seemingly a judge of jumble sales, was saying to a woman similarly laden "That's the best organised jumble sale I've ever been to". Askerswell is lucky to have several retired managerial types in its congregation.

Illness caused the veteran churchwarden of Dottery, Mr. Cecil Marsh, to miss the Melplash Show for the first time in fifty years, but he made a marvellous recovery, and got to the ploughing match as usual. There is nothing like making your will to give you a new lease of life.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Mudford (nee Cynthia Newberry) on the birth of their first child, a daughter, Claire, at Portway Hospital, on Sunday, September 24th. A sign, perhaps, that her leave of absence from Loders ringers is nearly over?

A large congregation of the medical fraternity joined the children of Loders Sunday School for the christening of the first-born of Dr. Stuart and Dr. Margaret McHardy-Young on Sunday, September 10th. It was a girl, Catherine Elizabeth, and she went through the ceremony with an unflappability which must have endeared her to her parents still more. Dr. Stuart McHardy-Young is consultant physician at the Central Middlesex Hospital. He and his wife have a cottage in Uploders and are members of the Loders congregation.

Mrs. Hazel Crabb of Loders, has given us ample notice of a jumble sale that our Guides are holding in the Bradpole Forster Hall on Saturday, November 4th at 2.30p.m. It is to buy another much needed tent, or rather to pay for it. With prices rocketting, the Commanding Officer wisely bought the tent while she had cash to spare, but would like it back for Christmas.

The first babe to be born to an address at the new High Acres estate in Loders is Gemma Louise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Charles Batten, of Number 22. The happy event was on August 16th. One of her great grandparents, a Mr. Lewis, turns out to have been a butler at Loders Court.

A small committee was set up by the annual meeting of Askerswell Parish Assembly to report on the advisability of levying a precept on the rate to pay for various parish expenses. The chairman of the committee, Mr. Jack Stevens, gave a lucid report of its findings to a well attended meeting of the Assembly in September. The committee unanimously recommended a precept as being the fairest and easiest way to discharge duties that were obligatory on all adult parishioners. The Assembly agreed unanimously to levy experimentally a penny rate, which would put £150 in the parish exchequer. One member felt that a canvass of Askerswell ratepayers ought to be taken to see whether the majority were in favour, but Colonel Wordsworth of County Hall,



who was present, said this was altogether out of order. The decision was the Parish Assembly's, whose proposal had been given the required public notice. Objectors should have attended this meeting. It was not for the meeting to canvass the parish to discover ratepayers' views.

The wedding of John Francis Coggins and Rachel Elizabeth Barnes at Loders Church on August 26th revived for a short while the Barnes family connection with the parish, which began and ended with their operating Loders mill. Rachel's father Derek had died an untimely death at 30. His last public appearance in Loders church had been to present a loaf baked from flour he had ground from the new season's wheat. This was at a Lammas service, which was broadcast. Rachel's mother, Teresa, gave her away. She was attended by a clutch of lovely cherubs, whom she herself had dressed. Another picturesque wedding at Loders, complete with bells and organ, on a perfect autumn day (September 23rd) was that of Edward Robert Pratt, of Dorchester, and Deborah Ann Gill, of Purbeck Close, Uploders. With her one attendant, the bride proved that small can be beautiful indeed. At the reception the bride's father was as forthcoming with a good speech as he had been restrained in giving her away. He teased these Parish Notes with having described Purbeck Close as a boys' preserve when Deborah was there aged sixteen. But in self defence it could be said that a girl of marriageable age and unmarried is officially a spinster, not a girl.

Loders church was full for the funeral of Mrs. Miriam Moores, of Lilac Farm. She had died of a cerebral haemorrhage, after no other symptom than a bad headache. She was only fifty-one, leaving a boy, Roland, of twelve, and husband Graham, who at present is in Dorchester hospital recovering from a heart attack. Miriam had been connected with Loders for over thirty years through the Young Farmers, and was on our church roll. She and her family ran a stall at the fete, and took an active part in Loders school. The funeral of Mrs. Florence Sanders, who had died at Sidney Gale, aged 84, also drew a large congregation. She was buried in the grave of her husband Harry, who pre-deceased her by nine years. He had been churchwarden, and she was constant in devotion to the church till the end of her life.

Mr. Ronald Parham brought the Weymouth branch of the Loyal Order of Moose to Sunday evensong at Loders. Joined by some members of the Bridport branch, they filled the body of the church. Our ringers rang them in and rang them out. Governor Parham read the second lesson, and the Vice-Governor the first. The hymns were of Mrs. Rose Parham's choosing and were to everybody's taste. Our choir were in short supply, but this was not a calamity. A good balance of male and female voices skilfully shepherded by organist Bill Tiltman were soon singing psalms, canticles and responses as to the manner born. A memorable service.

A little town girl who explored Loders church and then looked over the churchyard wall at the Court garden beneath, exclaimed to her companion "Oh, what a beautiful allotment". The Honourable Alexander Hood on his allotment is quite a thought.

The departure from Wych Hill of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Wilkins, formerly of Cloverleaf Farm, has left a gap in Loders that nobody else could fill, and great good wishes will go with them to Corston, Chippenham, where they will be nearer their children. In their eighteen years here, Ethel was three times president of the W.I., and treasurer. She and her husband were famous for the "eats" they provided at village socials. We wish we had space enough to say more of what deserves to be said about them. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Clarke have left Purbeck Close for Cheshire. Paul is to resume study at Liverpool University. Susan will be missed as a reserve ringer in Askerswell. What Askerswell Post Office will do without their two little boys hurts us to imagine.

We welcome all the new arrivals in Loders, but must keep the account of them till next month. Of the Loders village hall meeting we can only say that there is a credit balance of £29.52 in the general account and of £1446.15 in the improvement fund.

#### SERVICES IN OCTOBER

Loders:	8th	Harvest, HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.30
	15th	HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2
	22nd	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2
	29th	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
Askerswell	8th	Matins 10
	15th	Family Service 10
	22nd	Matins 10
	29th	HC 10
Dottery		All Services at 3



NOVEMBER, 1978

At the time of writing, it is nearly November, but the autumn weather has been highly congenial for weeks on end, and we seem to be still in the afterglow of a memorable harvest festival. Several of the parents were new to the children's harvest in Loders school, and were loud in praise of it. The west end of the big room was like a greengrocer's window in London's west end. In front of this, the children who are now a young lot, led the singing and the prayers and read the lessons. Judged purely as a performance, the best item was their antiphonal chanting of the great nature psalm, which is not easily done well. They were splendid, doing it in the Authorised Version, which is less poetic, and therefore harder to recite, than Coverdale's version in the Prayer Book.

Dottery harvest was an exhilarating surprise in view of the depopulation that the hamlet has suffered in recent years. The iron church was comfortably full, holding a number in excess of the whole of the present population. When one looked into them, to see who they all were, they turned out to be the dear familiar faces of former Dottery children, now grown men and women, some with their own children. To crown all, as the first hymn was about to begin, in came the patriarch, Mr. Cecil Marsh, on his wife's arm, looking as if he had never been ill. He had eyes for nothing but the altar, which was the focus of the exuberant decorations. His son John took the collection in the last hymn. It was a bumper, and he queried his getting home safely without calling in Securicor.

The Askerswell decorations were done to an overall design, with manifest art, and were rewarding in quiet contemplation rather than in first impression. At the font the trimming of Old Man's Beard was remarkable this year. It had been fetched all the way from a spot between Dorchester and Blandford because the local specimens were not up to standard. Congregations both morning and evening were very good, and the singing spirited. When the vendors of the harvest produce came into church next day, they found that the heavy oak hymn board over the pulpit was on the stone floor of the nave, broken. Not vandals this time, but a rusted screw. Had the fall occurred in the sermon, the Rector's ideas might have been shaken up.

On the day after harvest, Loders church had parties in early taking photographs in fear that the decorations were to be dismantled immediately. They were relieved to find that in Loders this is done slowly, beginning with the corn, fruit and vegetables, so that some of the harvest glory lingers on the succeeding Sunday. But done slowly, it seemed still a crime to destroy anything so beautiful. Congregations both morning and evening were very good, and the choir's anthem about the valleys laughing and singing was well received. After evensong somebody said how nice it was to be rung out of church as well as in. Several faces lost in the past year by death and removal were sorely missed, but there were new ones to compensate.

The Bridport News front page was lately graced by a good photograph of Mr. Clifford Harris, of Uploders, holding two silver cups won by the chrysanthemums at his elbow. It may be true that a good farmer makes a bad gardener, but not when the farmer retires. Some of his blooms adorn Loders church for most of the year, and here we would like to acknowledge our debt to the ladies who keep our three churches looking homely and loved, with flowers, throughout the year. At Dottery these ladies clean the church when they do the flowers. No verger up there.

ASKERSWELL village hall can never seat the number of people who would like to be at the harvest supper, which is not surprising, seeing the menu they get for one pound and ten pence, plus sherry and beer or cider. It means a lot of work for the hall committee, but they do it with efficiency and cheerfully. The entertainment this time was a demonstration of fascinating instruments of music by Mr. Archie Bryden, of South Petherton, who is president of the English Folk Dancing and Song Society. There was a grain of truth in the rumour that Loders also had a harvest supper.

It was proposed, at short notice, to have one at the village hall after church, but there were not enough takers to make it feasible. To save any deaths from disappointment, the host and hostess of The Crown laid on a substitute at their abode, and so successful was it that the resolve to have a full scale repetition next harvest is firmly rooted.

Gemma Louise was the names by which the first born of Mr. & Mrs. Richard Charles Batten, of High Acres, was christened at Loders church on Sunday October 22nd. A full muster of relations and friends attended. Gemma Louise made not the slightest attempt to match her vocal chords against the parson's.

Now for a "commercial". If you know any adult who has difficulty in reading, writing, spelling, or numeracy, would you please contact Mrs. June Jordan, 176 North Allington Telephone Bridport 23402. Literacy is more than ever necessary today and may be acquired by those who lack under the Dorset adult literacy scheme.

Remembrance Sunday is November 12th. Its object is to honour the dead of the two world wars, and to help those who are still suffering, through Earl Haig's Fund. The names of our local dead will be read out at ten o'clock service at Askerswell, eleven o'clock at Loders, and three o'clock at Dottery.

A telegram puzzled Mr. & Mrs. Ron Thomas, of Loders, but only for a few seconds. It arrived at ten in the morning and said that a daughter had been born to their son



Andrew, and daughter-in-law Rosemary, at one in the afternoon of the same day. But the birth was at Port Vila, New Hebrides, South Pacific, whose difference of eleven hours in time accounted for the seeming discrepancy. Parents and grandparents are thrilled to have a sister (Sophie Margaret) for Alexander. Congratulations again, this time to Mr. Christopher Clements, and his wife Anne (of 2, High Acres) on a daughter, Sophie, born on October 5th. They have another daughter sixteen months old. The family is new to High Acres. Mr. Clements is deputy head of Bridport St. Mary School. They come from Cambridge, where Mrs. Clements was also teaching.

New arrivals in Loders are numerous, and more than we have been able to catch at home outside television time (Our tact will not be lost on them, we hope). Here are those we have met:- At the Old Forge, Mrs. Violet Podmore from Hatch End, near Pinner, who had lived there for sixty years, and whose late husband had been in printing. She will have her own flat. The rest of the Old Forge is divided between her daughter Christine and son-in-law Peter Collings, lately returned from South Africa where he was in insurance; and her other daughter Patricia and son-in-law Michael Cox, of Loom Lane, Radlett, who may soon be retiring from their paint business. Mrs. Podmore exults in being a great granny. At Purbeck Close, Number Five, Richard and Hilary Nadin, with their children James, aged five, happily settled in Loders school, and daughter Elizabeth aged three. They are from Gloucestershire and Mrs. Nadin is in the Land Registry at Weymouth. At Home Farm Close Number Seven, William Way and his wife Peggy, from Middlesborough, where they had been for twenty years. He was lecturer in nuclear chemistry at Teeside Polytechnic - and safety officer. At the former police house in Yondover a young dentist, Tom Fox, and his bride from Birmingham. Refreshing to meet someone who does not exercise merely to keep fit: he cycles to work in Bridport. At High Acres Number Ten, Bernard Kinchin, his wife Mary, and three children living at home, Alister aged twenty, Joanna aged fifteen, and Lucy nearly five. They are from Bridport, where Mr. Kinchin is active at St. Mary's and Joanna a ringer. He is an electrician. At Number Twenty Malcolm and Elaine Stripp, newly married, from Bridport, Elaine well known in local schools as an exponent of road safety. At Number Twenty Mario and Patricia Spacagna, from Weymouth, with her two children Amy and Clare Maddison, aged nine and seven, who are attending Loders school. The coffee morning and sale of Dorset Nature Society goods at Rustic Glen, Uploders, realised nearly £173. The Society are grateful to Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Lowle for running it once again. It was a glorious morning, and the Glen looked its best as the visitors explored it.

The Loders Brownie Pack were also well supported in a coffee evening and sale at Loders school to replenish their funds. They made £82.

"Reels on wheels" an experiment in rural cinema at Askerswell village hall, started well, with the hall comfortably full, for a showing of "It shouldn't happen to a vet". Patrons to arrive early noted that males were shown to their seats by an usherette, and females by an usher, but this nice touch was lost when the trickle of arrivals became a flood. The next monthly film will be "Whisky galore".

Askerswell ringers are glad to have gained an excellent recruit in Frank Hennings, and are hoping that the early promise of his wife Jenny will also bear fruit.

Loders church lost a faithful member by the death in Bridport hospital of Mrs. Mildred Moreby, at the age of seventy-seven. She had served on the church council and the deanery synod, where she was outspoken - once to the point of being threatened with ejection by the rural dean. She was a worker for the W.V.S. and had been president of the local W.I. A chiropodist by profession, she had literally kept some of the pillars of the community on their feet. The funeral service at Weymouth crematorium was taken by the vicar.

His old friends in Loders were sad indeed to hear of the death at Ensworth of Geoffrey Beavan, and felt deeply for his widow, Nosta. He had been a model churchwarden at Loders, and a bit of the best of old England. Oddly, he had been an authority on fungi. He ate without ill effect "mushrooms" that the locals swore were deadly.

#### SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Loders:	5th	HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2
	12th	Remembrance Sunday, HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2
	19th	HC 8 and 12, Matins 11, Children 2
	26th	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2
Askerswell	5th	Children 10, Evensong 6.30
	12th	Remembrance Sunday 10
	19th	Family Service 10
	26th	HC 10
Dottery	5th	HC 9.30. All others at 3.



December is socially the busiest month of the year for Loders, if not for Askerswell. On the first there is a social in Loders village hall at 7.30 p.m. in aid of hall funds. On the tenth the carol service at the chapel at 6.30 p.m. On the fifteenth at 5.45 p.m. the school Christmas concert followed immediately by the Mission Sale. On the nineteenth the school carol service in Loders church at 3 p.m. On the twentieth the school party at 4 p.m. Also on the twentieth, the carol party singing in Uploders and collecting for the Children's Society, beginning at 6.30 p.m. On the twenty-second the carol party singing in Loders for the same object, beginning at 7 p.m. On Christmas Eve the usual Sunday services plus "The Midnight" at church beginning at 11.45 p.m. On Christmas Day the family service with carols and Christmas tree at 11 a.m. On Boxing Day the comic hockey match at the Well Plot playing field at 11 a.m., followed by hot punch at The Crown. It had just occurred to the Vicar that he must give accurate notice of all these coming events in the Parish Notes when he saw tucked beneath the handbill at the vicarage door a folded paper, which began "Dear Resident, Do you ever wish that there was more going on in the village? Would you like to join a gardening club, or a country dance club, or an afternoon club? Or how about a drama or pantomime group, or a cricket club? Would you like to have regular bingo sessions or jumble sales or whist driven or dances?" The letter was from the energetic and public spirited wife of the landlord of The Crown. It was some relief to the vicar to find that the letter was not personal to him. A copy was to be delivered to every house in the village, inviting residents to a meeting in the village hall on November 24th. "I have been asked by the Loders village hall committee to form a separate and independent social and entertainments committee", wrote Mrs. Upton, "and in order to do the job properly I need to know what your wishes are".

The church collections for Earl Haig's Fund at our Remembrance Sunday services were a record £86.50 (Loders £60, Askerswell £21.50 and Dottery £5). As usual the highlight of the Loders service was Bill Tiltman's rendering on the organ of Handel's Dead March from "Saul". Half muffled peals were rung before and after the service. Captain Harry Crabb, seen on the road before and after Remembrance tide with a suspicious looking sack over his shoulder, had not been rabbiting. He had been muffling or demuffling the bells. What it owes to him for servicing the bells the parish will never know, much less pay.

Bonfire night at Askerswell village hall is said to have been slightly less well attended than usual. This could have been due to the unusually warm and dry weather, which made the heat of a roaring bonfire that much less delectable. Again, it was a Saturday night, when the siren sounds of "the box" are at their most alluring. But a good time was had by all. Those marvellous ladies of the hall committee were at it again, dispensing soup and hot dogs at giveaway prices.

Dottery has lost one of the "old faithfuls" from its congregation by the death at Sidney Gale of Mrs. Alice Maud Russell. She was eighty-one. The vicar conducted the funeral service at Weymouth crematorium. To attend Dottery service, as she regularly did in her younger days, she had a considerable walk from her cottage in Salwayash. Her invalid husband survives her, and is in Port Brody. The elders of the local farming community remember him as an agricultural engineer, and operator of the steam thrashing machine.

Judging by the attendance, christenings at Loders church continue to be highly popular. November the fifth saw a re-union of the Ascott family, formerly of Uploders, and the Duponts of Langdon, Beaminster. The Dupont son and heir was named Barry Bernard. After their earlier disappointment he was a special joy to his parents Alice and Robert. Remembrance Sunday, November the twelfth, brought the Newberrys of Loders and the Mudfords of Skilling to church in full muster. The firstborn of Cynthia and Michael Mudford was named Claire Anna, and Cynthia's brother and two sisters were the godparents.

The "reels on wheels" drew another good attendance to Askerswell village hall for the film "Whisky galore". On Friday, December 8th at 7.30 p.m. there will be a slide show and talk by Colin Varndell on the wild birds of West Dorset. Admission will be free, but patrons will be invited to give to the campaign for saving the barn owl.

Askerswell church council made history by meeting for the first time in Loders vicarage. They met in their village hall, but this is so well booked now that it was not free on the required night.

Our Guides made a profit of £108 on their jumble sale in the Forster hall. Mrs. Raymond Crabb wishes to thank all who gave and helped.

Mrs. Taylor's coffee morning at Pine Cottage, Uploders, made £36.43 for Women's Institute funds.

There is a sort of superstition in Loders that whenever the vicar goes away a parishioner dies. Which could be one of the reasons why he takes a holiday infrequently. Often in the past he has been called back to a funeral. His only night out of the parish this year had been 23rd-24th November, when he was in Shropshire watching his son Michael's production of Don Quixote at Wren school. But at eight o'clock on the morning of the 24th Mr. Wilfred Crabb, of Yonder, died unexpectedly in Bridport



hospital after a brief illness. Much sympathy will be felt for his widow, to whose own indisposition he had been such a devoted ministrant. Farming was his forte, and local government his hobby. For nearly fifty years he was on Loders parish council, and with the clerk, Mr. Harold Brown, his mentor, ruled it for fifteen years as chairman. They were largely responsible for selling the Uploders Room, converting the ex-Servicemen's Hut into the present village hall and spending a large sum on its improvement. He was external caretaker of the hall at no charge. He was a native of Bradpole. The funeral was in Bradpole church and the burial in Loders churchyard near his parents' grave. At his request both services were conducted by his friend the Rev. Harold Smith, curate of Bridport.

Poppy Day. The house-to-house collection by Mrs. Morris and Mrs. Mears in Uploders raised £14.67, and the Loders Post Office collection by Mrs. Spafford £26.50. Group Captain Deric Newall has been much consoled with over the vicious fire at South Eggardon Farm which destroyed two thousand bales of hay, and but for the efforts of three fire brigades might have enveloped the whole farming complex. There had been no sign of anything wrong when he and his wife passed the buildings on their way home half an hour before the fire broke out.

Our new Women's Institute presidents are Mrs. Clifford of Askerswell and Mrs. Parkinson of Loders.

A small choir drawn from Askerswell W.I. hope to contribute an item to the carol service in their church at 6.30 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

In a letter to the vicar, the steward of the Uploders Chapel says "I shall be grateful if you will make a note of our carol service on Sunday, December 10th at 6.30 pm. As usual we extend a warm welcome to you and Mrs. Willmott and the members of your congregation to join us on this occasion".

The midnight service with carols at Loders church on Christmas Eve begins at 11.45 p.m. and not when some people are thinking it does.

Mr. Maurice Lawson bids "the citizens of Loders and Uploders" make a note of eleven o'clock on Boxing Day morning, when there will be a second edition of last year's hilarious hockey match - at the Well Plot playing field - followed by hot punch at The Crown.

Mrs. Willmott would like to remind all the kind people who give her things for the Loders mission sale that the day is drawing nigh once more - Friday, December 15th. Anything saleable from anybody will be welcome at the vicarage between now and then. The building of a new primary school for Loders, Powerstock and Askerswell at Loders was postponed from 79-80 to 80-81. It has been postponed yet again to 81-82 because of difficulties connected with the site. The Loders school managers are urging the County to give their present building a badly needed interior re-decoration.

Lieut.-Col. Umbers and family have left Askerswell for Brecon, his new posting. Mr. and Mrs. Brook, his wife's parents, will miss them even more than Askerswell. Mr. and Mrs. Mick Morgan and family have left Loders for Puddletown. Mick was under gardener at Loders Court. He is now in charge of the garden of Athelhampton House.

Mrs. Shelley Upton's meeting referred to in our opening paragraph drew a large attendance by Loders standards - twenty five, with many apologies and offers of help. Her strong feeling that the village should be rescued from being a place where people come to die was shared by the meeting, and a committee chosen, to meet at The Crown on December 5th. Incidentally, Mrs. Upton had herself scrubbed the hall for the occasion.

#### SERVICES IN DECEMBER

##### LODERS

3rd HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2.  
10th HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2  
17th HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2  
24th HC 8, Matins 11, "Midnight" 11.45  
Christmas Day - HC 8, Family Service 11,  
31st HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.

##### ASKERSWELL

3rd Children 10, Evensong 6.30.  
10th Matins 10  
17th Family 10  
24th Carol service 6.30  
Christmas Day HC 10  
31st Matins 10

##### DOTTERY

3rd HC 9.30. All others at 3, except Christmas Day 9.