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Page 2 .

THE RECTOR WRITES

The Reeves' Tale now begins its second year with Vol.2 No.1, although strictly it didn't start until February, 1976; but it seems more convenient to run it in conjunction with the Calendar.

Thanks to the generosity of those who have made donations, it has been possible, even in these inflationary times, to keep its cost down to the fairly reasonable sum of Op! But only just, and now we start again on the second year with a balance of nil, and debts of nil. But if it is to continue as a means of communication in the two villages, we will hope to be able to rely once again on donations, perhaps in this coming year from some who didn't get round to it in 1976. Donations can be given to any of the following: Foxley: Mr.& Mrs.Webster at the Post Office Bawdeswell: Mr.& Mrs.Ames at Barwick House;

Mt.Winterbone at the School House;

or The Rector. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION

The time has come round again to begin thinking about Confirmation Groups, and I very much hope that these will be starting again in February. I already have some names of people who would like to consider being Confirmed, and would be glad to hear of any others.

Confirmation is by no means confined to children, and in fact in recent years more and more adults who missed it for one reason or another are coming forward for preparation, and it is a very real joy to prepare such people. I would like to repeat again some of the things which I said

last year, by way of question and answer.

a). I was never Baptised, so can I be Confirmed ?

Yes, of course you can, for it is never too late to be baptised as an Adult, and this often happens just before the Confirmation, sometimes in the same Service. But this can of curce be done privately for those the power it: Page 3

b). If I am an adult, must I be prepared with the children ?

No indeed: Candidates will be prepared in natural groups, or in some cases alone, and in the case of adults this will normally take the form of discussions about the Christian faith and its meaning. Although it takes much more of my time, I much preper small groups, for we can get to know each other far hetter this way.

c). What is Confirmation anyway ?

Well, its really a two-way thing: on the one hand, as people old enough to speak for ourselves, we 'confirm' or ratify the promises made on our behalf when we were small children, and show that we wish to take our full part as members of the ^Church, and as full members we become eligible to receive Holy ^Communion, and, if we wish, to take our part in church government which more and more is in the hands of the lay people: on the other hand we believe that Confirmation is an act through which God works, giving us, through the laying-on of hands by the ^Bishop, the gift of grace to enable us to keep our promises.

d). But you welcome Methodists and others who are not Confirmed to Communion in the Church.

Yes indeed, I an glad to say: but they are full members of their own churches, and as such are welcome indeed: but for us, as members of our own 'hurch, 'onfirmation is the normal gateway for full membership.

d). What do I do now ?

I'd be very grateful if you would put your name on a piece of paper and let me have it as soon as possible. If I can have all names by the middle of ^February at the latest, we can begin to make our plans. Remember that coming to Confirmation Groups does <u>NOT</u> can that you must be Confirmed - in fact you need not make your decision until the end, if that is your wish. Or if you want to tak! it over with me in confidence, let me know.

Tin Townshend.

C. T.C.I. SLAVICES FOR JANUARY

Anglican	Church contrast in the second state of the second state of the
Jan.9th.	Bawdeswell 8.30 Holy Communion 11 a.m. Mattins
RÉLIERE TO	Foxley 9.45 a.m. Mattins
16th.	Bawdeswell 9.45 a.m. Family Service (Series 3)
uar dénnierel	Foxley 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion 11 a.m. Methodist
	Bawdeswell 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion 11 am. Mattins
	Foxley 9.45 a.m. Family Service (Series 3)
30th.	Bawdeswell 9.45 a.m. Family Service (Series 3)
	Foxley 11 a.m. Mattins (United)
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	Church - Common of About of Age and a la age
	Review tiltered, processes and sheldhowy til genory
	Foxley 6.30 p.m. Mrs.Middleton
	Bawdeswell 2.30 p.m. Rev.I.Claydon
	Foxley 11 a.m. Rev.I.Middleton (United)
	Foxley 6.30 p.m. E.J.S.Beckley
	Bawdeswell 2.30 p.m. D.Fisher
- 810 2010 Car	Foxley See Parish Church

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Bawdeswell Church Choir Outing

The visit of the Choir to the Pantomime, Dick Whittington and his Fabulous Cat, will take place on Friday, 4th.February in the evening. This is for all those children who were in the Choir up to the end of the year, and we all look forward to it very much.

In response to our appeal for donations last Month we have had a number of contributions, for which we are extremely grateful; but we could do with a few more, and if anyone cares to give, the Churchwardens, Mr.Winterbone, Mrs.John Ames (senr) of the Rector will be very glad to receive them.

Congratulations to the Choir, and also to the children of the Foxley Methodist Sunday School for their splendid singing at the two Carol & Crib Services, in Bawdeswell Church on 19th.December, and in Foxley on 26th. The success of these Services was largely due to their efforts.

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CHRISTMAS GIFTS

On the day after the Bawdeswell Crib & Carol Service, at which many people brought gifts for the Crib, for distribution to others less fortunate than we are, I paid a visit to Garfield House in Dereham, a children's home run by the Social Services Department of the County Council, taking these gifts with me. It was a happy occasion for me, expecially as I was able to. see at first hand something of the love and care which the Superintendant and the Matron lavish on the children in their care. When I got there a number of the children were running in and out of the bitchen where people were sitting round drinking mugs of tea. opening Christmas Cards and generally showing much of the freedom and informality which one would find in a normal family. I was told that there were more children in care over Christmas than ever before, and I am sure that they would have had a happy Christmas, for to be sure no effort would be spared by those who care for them. The other day I received this letter for all who gave, and I add my own thanks as well.

Superintendent & Matron 15, Norwich "d., Mr.&Mrs.P.Boldsworth

Garfield House, Dereham.

Dear Canon Townshend,

On behalf of the children in our care, please thank the members of your church for the gifts they so generously gave for Christmas.

Their thoughtfulness and caring for the needs of others is greatly appreciated, especially at this time or year. We hope you all had a very happy Christmas, and we take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy AL . esolar while he ward walle on and prosperous new year.

Thank you once again for your gifts which certainly helped to provide extra happiness for the children.

Yours sincerely, Jocelyn Holdsworth, Matron. 2.7

Page 6

BESSIE HIGGINS

Though the death of anyone we love at Christmas time is always doubly sad, yet perhaps we can be thankful that Bessie Higgins enternd into fuller life on 22nd.December, rather than having · to face the pain which certainly would have come had she held on for much longer.

For over 20 years Bessie had worked for Mr.& Mrs.Gutney, first at Keswick, and then at Bawdeswell Hall, and during those long years had become very much a part of the family, greatly loved and respected by all who came to knew her. She was a shy and unassuming person, but warm-hearted and uncomplaining during her illness, and she will be missed by many people.

Our deepest sympathy for her brother, Edward, and her sister, Bertha, and indeed for her many friends, but for her thankfulness that she is now at peace.

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FOLLAND COURT SERVICES

Monday 17th.January Hymns & Readings Monday 31st. January Holy Communion Both at 10 a.m.

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SPRING FAIR

There will be a SPRING FAIR for Bawdeswell Church on Saturday, 23rd April in the Village Hall, Bawdeswell. Please keep this date free.

A Meeting to organise it will be held on THIRSDAY 20th. January at Barwick House, opposite the Church. Anyone who cares to go along will be very welcome. It will start at 7.30 p.m. The second state and the second second and the second second in the last to a second sec

THE DEANERY SYNOD

will be held in St.Faith's Church, Lenwade, on Tuesday, 18th.January, 7.30 p.m.

The Speaker will be Bishop Kenneth Sansbury a former Bishop of Singapore, and one time Secretary General of the British Council of Cherrehes.

Fage 7

CHILLY BUT CHEERFUL -

A reasonable description of the assembled company at the first day of the Play Group, which, after so much hard work and careful preparation opened its doors in the Bawdeswell Village Hall on Monday, 10th.January, which must surely go down in Bawdeswell history as a red-letter day. Our warmest congratulations to all those who have taken so much trouble to make this possible, and our best wishes for a most succesful future.

Fifteen children of a variety of shapes and sizes came along on the first day, together with a number of Moms. each of whom looked slightly colder than the last - for the day indeed was cold, and the heating seemed to make little enough difference: but all seemed well, and undoubtedly was cheerful, and, considering that it was the first day, when one would expect some shyness or tears. the children themselves were very happy to be together. The organisers had clearly taken a great deal of trouble to provide a great variety for the children - plenty for building, drawing, cutting out, modelling - a delightful Wendy House, and the odd trike or so to ride, but with the relatively limited funds there is need for more in the way of such things, and anyone who has anything spare, such as old tricycles, dolls' prams, dolls, building blocks and in fact almost anything like that, and who cares to give it, will be helping a great deal. Please get in touch either with Sandra Steward at Church View, the Organiser, or with Sarah Fitzjohn at Church Farm.

There are at present 21 children enrolled, so there are a few spare places, and if you would like your child to go, please get in touch with either of the above. The Group meets on Mondays, Tuesdays, Vednesdays and Thursdays 9-12 noon, during School Terms.

Incidentally the Draw and the Carol singing before Christmas raised some £45 between them, and the organisers would like to thank all who helped. lage 8

FOXLEY VILLAGE HALL

The various events to raise money for the improvements to the village Hall have continued, thanks to the hard work of the devoted band of helpers.

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Since we wrote last the following results have been achieved: Dance: 19th.November, £37.55 Dance: 10th.December, £30.89

Sherry, Mincepie & Carol Evening 24.75 Christmas raw: £30.30.

Forthcoming Events:

CHEESE & WINE EVENING Saturday, 22nd. January. (Tickets at the Post Office) COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE Friday 28th.January.

And how about a Sponsored Walk ?? Feeling energetic ???

Anyone interested, please contact either: Anyone interested, please contact erther. D.Webster P.Elsden B.Sevell.

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THE SCHOOL

The Carol Service on 20th.December was a delightful occasion, and the children sang beautifully: there was a good turn-out of parents to give their support.

The Party on the following day was also splendid, and, after vogorous games in the early afternoon, the children out away an enormous tea. The Headmaster would like to thank all who had worked so hard to provide this, and the children for

On Wednesday, 15th. the top class went to sing Carols at Folland Court , and spent a very happy afternoon with the members of the community. Their visit was greatly appreciated.