

THE REEVE'S TALE



Houses in Forley west.

The Magazine of Bowdeswell
& Forley.

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THE RECTOR WRITES

Many years ago, in the Lancashire town of Preston, there was trouble in the local Council, because, try they neYer so hard, they could not get a new Ratcatcher, the old one having retired. They advertised week after week in the local press, they asked help from the Labour exchange, but all to no avail.

Then a Councillor, with some knowledge of human nature, suggested that they advertise for a 'Rodent Extermination Executive', and the Town Hall post bag was filled with applications.

What's in a name ? Well, it seems that there's a lot. Have you noticed that you don't get your pots and pans from an Ironmonger - what a lovely name! - but from a Hardware merchant; that a Plumber is a Domestic Plumbing Specialist?

Well, fair enough, and possibly this trend will continue, so that, having had all our rats caught by a Rodent Extermination Executive, our ironmongery bought from a Hardware Merchant, and our leaking pipes fixed by a Domestic Plumbing Specialist, we will just pack up, and resign our remains into the hands of a Funeral Director, rather than an Undertaker !

But what a fuss about nothing, for surely what matters is not what we are called, but what we are, and I am sure that we will be judged in our communities more by the extent to which we are good neighbours than by any fancy names we may want to be called.

Certainly we Christians ought to realise this, because we try to follow a man who was not ashamed to be called what he was - a village carpenter, and who cared nothing about status. In fact he was sorry for those who insisted on being given the best seats, for he knew what a very unhappy bunch they were.

He had 'status' - no man more, but he was content to be called the friend of outcasts and sinners.

T.T.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MAY

Methodist

- May 1st. Foxley: 6.30 p.m. Mrs. Butcher.
- May 8th. Bawdeswell 2.30 p.m. Miss Weeks
Foxley: 11 a.m. Mr. Milthorp
- May 15th. Foxley: 6.30 p.m. Rev. W. I. Claydon (Communion)
- May 22nd. Bawdeswell: 2.30 p.m. Mr. Bassenthwaite
Foxley: See Parish Church
- May 29th. Foxley: 6.30 p.m. Miss Ward.

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Anglican

- May 1st. Bawdeswell. 8.30 Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Mattins
Foxley: 9.45 a.m. Family Service
- 8th. Bawdeswell: 9.45 a.m. Family Service
Foxley: No 8.30 a.m. 11 a.m. See Methodist
- 15th. Bawdeswell: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion 11 am. Mattins
Foxley: 9.45 a.m. Family Service
- 22nd. Bawdeswell: 9.45 a.m. Family Service
Foxley: 11 a.m. Mattins
- 29th. WHITSUN DAY
Bawdeswell: 8.30 a.m. Communion: 11 a.m. Mattins
Foxley: 9.45 a.m. Family Service.

ASCENSION DAY 19th. May. Holy Communion: Bawdeswell 10 a.m.

FOLLAND CHURCH

- Monday 9th. May: Holy Communion 10 a.m.
- Monday 23rd. May: Hymns & Readings 10 a.m.

FOXLEY CHURCH REDECORATION

Since before Easter Foxley Church has been undergoing extensive redecoration and repairs, some of the latter caused by the discovery of dry rot in the Chancel (not caused, we hope, by the Rector's Sermons); and during this time we have been the guests of the Methodist Church, who most generously offered the use of their building. We are most grateful to them for this.

WHERE THERE'S LIFE, LET THERE BE HOPE !

Monday 16th. May to Saturday, 21st. May is Christian Aid Week, when Churches of all denominations will be campaigning for a deeper understanding of world poverty and greater participation in development.

We in these two villages will be having a House-to-House Collection through the medium of envelopes, which will be dropped in to people's houses, and will be collected later on, with any contribution you care to make, large or small. It is important that you only give your envelope to an Adult Collector, who will carry an official permit.

It is especially important that we should give as generously as we can this year, because the Government will be spending less for the next two years on overseas aid, because of the economic state of the country, so, unless more is done by voluntary organisations like Christian Aid, the world's poor, who lost out during our own development, will now have to bear the brunt of our economic recession.

So the challenge of Christian Aid Week is greater this year than ever before, for though we may all find it harder to make ends meet comfortably than we did a few years ago, yet in contrast to the five hundred million people throughout the world who suffer from malnutrition, we are well off indeed.

But what sort of things does Christian Aid do ? well, here are a few examples.

Take, for example, the case of the 1000 poor Guatemalans, made homeless last year by a devastating earthquake: they were settled on new land in temporary homes, and Christian Aid supplied them with money to make the homes permanent, and so to rebuild not just their homes, but their lives.

Or think of the people of Mali in West Africa, where the main problem is water. The women of the Dogon tribe have to walk for some three hours a day to fetch water from distant wells and rock pools. But a project supported

by Christian Aid will ease this burden in 50 isolated villages. Deep wells are being sunk and small dams built with the aid of the local mission, government technical experts, and funds from Christian Aid, and this will enable the people not just to have water for drinking, but also for irrigating their fields.

In the cities too much is being done: Christian Aid in Calcutta, for example, is helping to finance massive social improvement schemes in the slums, to help men, women and children to have hope in a seemingly hopeless situation.

All these, and many other schemes, seem a mere drop in the bucket compared to the size of the worldwide problem; but at least it is doing something to bring hope to the poor, and to enable them to help themselves.

So please give as generously as you can, and make our contribution from these two lovely villages, a really worthy one.

T.T.

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FOXLEY VILLAGE HALL

A further hundred pounds odd from the last two dances, held in the Village Hall, and congratulations to those who took so much trouble to organise them.

The Dance on 9th. April made £50.93, and that on 22nd., £48.66.

The Next Events

Saturday, 7th. May: DANCE;

Panama Red & Rusty K Douch (Rusty ex Wild Bunch)

Friday, May 20th., DANCE;

Kim Jackson & Country Echos.

And on Tuesday, 10th. May: Best Pair Darts Contest.

All names in by 7.30 for play at 8.p.m. Tickets from D. Webster or P. Elsdon.

JUBILEE

COMBINED EVENTS FOR THE TWO VILLAGES

SUNDAY, JUNE 5th. 11.00 a.m.

UNITED SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

for both Villages & all Churches

in the SCHOOL PLAYGROUND (School if wet)

Transport will be arranged on request to the Rector

JUBILEE DAY Tuesday, JUNE 7th.

2.00 p.m. GRAND FANCY DRESS FOOTBALL MATCH

BAWDESWELL versus FOXLEY

3.00 p.m. ATHELETIC SPORTS

4.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m. LADIES NETBALL MATCH

BAWDESWELL versus FOXLEY

All the above in the School Grounds.

If really wet, potted Sports will take place in the Bawdeswell Village Hall.

NOTE: Programmes for the above will be brought round shortly to your house, and those who bring them will be very grateful for a donation, large or small, towards the cost of the various PRIZES.

For Evening Events, see next page.....

JUBILEE (continued)

In the Evening the two Villages will go their separate ways.

For the Foxley Evening, see special pull-out in the Reeve's Tale, (for Foxley only)

Bawdeswell

7.00 p.m. to Midnight

SOCIAL EVENING AND BOTTLE PARTY

(Bring your own Bottle o' bottles)

From 7.00 - about 8.30 p.m. the emphasis will be on the children and older people: Party Games, Sing Song etc., and of course food & drink.

From 8.30 p.m. or so onwards, the rest: Dancing, Singing, Food, Drink and so forth.

ALL WELCOME

* Transport arranged - please contact George Kemp, Corner Cottage.

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FOOD: Gifts of sandwiches, Savouries, Sausage rolls, cakes etc. very welcome: also anyone willing to make such things with ingredients provided, please contact Mrs. Nobbs, 8, Folland Court, or Sandra Steward, Rose Cottage.

The Village Hall will be open from 9.30-12 noon on Jubilee Day to receive gifts of food for the evening.

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DRAW will take place at 9.00 p.m.

Food (see above) can also be delivered to: Mrs. John Ames; Mrs. Steward: Mrs. George Kemp or Mr. Brian Winterbone.

IF any money is left over after the Day, it will be put into a Parish Council Village Amenities Fund.

SPRING FAIR

Our warmest thanks to all who worked so hard, and to all who came along to give their support to the Spring Fair, held for Church Funds in Bawdeswell Village Hall on 23rd April. Somewhere around £113 was raised, which was a very good effort, and welcome indeed.

THE EASTER SERVICE

in Bawdeswell Church was quite an event: the children looked very smart in their new Choir Robes, the new Processional Cross was very much admired, the Altar Cloth, a most welcome gift, was used for the first time, but above all, the Church was packed to the doors - as one member of the congregation remarked, she was warm for the first time in years, because she was so squashed! The Choir did splendidly, four Members in particular singing the verses to 'The Lord of the Dance,' to a guitar accompaniment. It was indeed a joyful Easter Day!

FOOTBALL

Referring to the forthcoming Match between the two Villages, we are told that away back in 1300 or so, there was a somewhat similar Match between Bawdeswell and Toxley, playing a game, or so we are told, called 'Camping' said to be a forerunner of football, in which 9 people were KILLED! So watch out on Jubilee Day. Perhaps our local St. John's Ambulance people ought to stand by.

THE DEANERY CONFIRMATION will take place on Ascension Day, 19th. May, in Weston Longville Parish Church, 7.30 p.m.

We will be presenting five Candidates, and anyone who cares to go along and support them will be welcome.

Please pray for them as they set out on their lives as full Members of the Church.

This issue of Reeve's Tale is a little late, as we were waiting for final details of the Jubilee Programme.