



THE
REEVES
TALE

St. Thomas' Church,
Foxley.

Vol. 4, No. 7.

July 1979

THE RECTOR WRITES

Those who saw the displays of flowers at the Flower Festival may have wondered how they came to be chosen - that's to say, how the many 'Thomasses' were picked out from the enormous number of people in every age who bore that name.

In fact, I think that the idea was to try to cover a wide range of human endeavour, between them giving a wide spectrum, ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous - from St. Thomas himself, to whom our Church is dedicated, to 'Tom' of Tom and Jerry fame, and everything in between: so we had, first of all, the great Christians, The Saint, then Thomas a Becket, Thomas Cranmer the translator, and Thomas More, all of whom died for what they believed in: then the great Thomas Aquinas, the supreme theologian and Thomas a Kempis, whose 'Imitation of Christ' has been translated into more languages than any other book in the world except the Bible.

Then we tried to represent the Arts, with Thomas Gainsborough, the Artist, Dylan Thomas the poet, and Thomas Beecham the musician: then the educationalists like Thomas Arnold who did much to revolutionise education in England and Thomas Hughes, author and founder of the first Working Men's College; then the agricultural reformers, like Coke of Norfolk; the great reformers in the philanthropic field, like Barnardo, and Florence Nightingale, who founded the first-ever Nursing School at St. Thomas' Hospital, and Thomas Chalmers, a Presbyterian Divine, who did so much for the poor in Edinburgh.

We also included Thomas Lawrence - 'Lawrence of Arabia' - who came in on many grounds, writer, mystic, soldier, idealist; Thomas Chippendale the great furniture-maker, also indeed an artist; Thomas Telford the great bridge-builder, Thomas Cook of 'Cook's Tours' fame who started as a Baptist Minister; Thomas de la Beche, the real founder of the modern map; sportsmen like Thomas Graveney and Thomas Okker, and several other Thomasses alive and kicking to-day, like Thomas Rochford the indoor plant expert and Thomas (G.S.) of the National Trust. And by no means least, Tom Thumb, the real dwarf and the mythical midge, and of course Tom & Jerry - these last two to delight the children, as they did! In fact one person remarked that it was the only Flower Festival she had ever seen in which the children were remembered!

Of course we left out so many, and several people asked why their particular favourite Tom was omitted. The answer - you can't win 'em all!

SERVICES FOR JULY

Roman Catholic: Fr. Peter Marsh: Catholic House, 35, London Road, Dereham. Tel. (9) 4066.

Mass each Sunday: RAF Swanton Morley 9.00 a.m.
Dereham Catholic Church: 10.30 & 6.30.

Methodist: Rev. Ivor Claydon, 31, Trinity Cl. Dereham. (9) 5528

1st. Bawdeswell 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Fisher

Foxley: CHURCH ANNIVERSARY 11 a.m. Rev. - Fielder.

8th. Foxley: 6.30 p.m.

15th. Bawdeswell: 2.30 p.m.

Foxley: 2.30 p.m. Family Service.

22nd. Foxley: 6.30 p.m.

29th. Bawdeswell; 2.30 p.m.

Foxley: 11 a.m.

Anglican : Canon Tim Townshend: Foxley Rectory. Tel. 397.

1st. Bawdeswell 9.45 a.m. Family Service

Foxley: 8.30 Holy Communion (11. see Methodists)

8th. Bawdeswell: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion: 11 a.m. Mattins

Foxley: 9.45 a.m. Family Service

15th. Bawdeswell: 9.45 a.m. Family Service

Foxley: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion: 11 a.m. Mattins

22nd. Bawdeswell: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion: 11 a.m. Mattins

Foxley: 9.45 a.m. Family Service

29th. Bawdeswell: 9.45 a.m. Family Service

Foxley: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion. (11. see Methodists)

Foland Court

9th. Bible Study: 10 a.m.

23rd. Holy Communion 10 a.m.

WANTED FOR BAWDESWELL: AN ORGANIST

We say good-bye with great sorrow, but with our warmest thanks for all his help to John Guillaume, who is leaving at the end of July to return to Bath: we shall miss his expertise very much. The Rector would be very glad to hear of any Organist who might take his place: One Service each Sunday, salary by arrangement ; travelling costs paid.

SIR IAN FREELAND

As we go to press, we have to report that Sir Ian, who is in Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge, following a massive operation for a brain tumour, is very critically ill. We know that everyone would wish to join with us in expressing our deepest sympathy for Lady Freeland and for their family at this terribly worrying time: fortunately their younger son lives in Cambridge, within a few minutes of the Hospital, so she is able to be close at hand, and yet with some of the family.

JACK MORTERS

is in the West Norwich Hospital, having been transferred there from Aylsham, and at present is waiting to discover whether or not he is to have a major operation. We very much hope that if it is to take place, it will be succesful, and that before too long he will be able to be home again.

ALEC WELLS

has suffered a broken arm - in several places - having been knocked off his bike by a car: he says that it is making reasonable progress, and we hope that it will be healed very soon.

PATRICIA STEWARD

who is still very far from well, took over much of the work of the Flower Festival, and did far more than her share of stewarding each day in the Church. We take off our hats to her for her determination and courage.

THE BAWDESWELL & FOXLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

is going to take pity on a very busy Rector (their comment, not mine !) and keep our notes very brief. The first date to remember in July is Thursday, 5th., when our Institute is providing food for Mrs. Batty Shaw's Garden Party to be held on this date; and arrangements to collect the food can be made through Mrs. Curtis, Bawdeswell Post Office. The next Monthly Meeting is the Outing to Norwich; this is all arranged, but in case of doubt, Mrs. Curtis to the rescue !

FOXLEY FLOWER FESTIVAL

"If you have seen one, you have seen them all, and I expected this to be like any other Flower Festival. But it was so different and so fascinating that I went home and brought my husband and a number of friends" - so said a lady to me during the Festival, and indeed her feelings were echoed by many people who came, and then came again, drawn by the sheer beauty of the flower arrangements, and by the immense skill and care which had gone into it all.

It was hard luck that the heavens opened on Sunday afternoon, for there's little doubt that there would have been many more; but in fact the numbers who visited were considerable, and we had a very large congregation for the final Service of Thanksgiving on Sunday evening.

It is too early to say how much money was taken, though it looks as if it will be over £250, which was excellent - but in fact the money was the least of our considerations ; what was more important was that it gave a great deal of pleasure to all who saw it.

Our warmest thanks are due to the great number of people who halped in so many ways ; obviously to those from the villages and around who used their skill in the arrangements, but also to the many others who helped though in less spectacular ways- the people who made and served the refreshments, those who acted as Guides, showing people round the Church, and explaining the various exhibits, those who saw to it that the Church was spotlessly clean for the event, those who organised the Raffle and the Dance, and gave prizes, and many others in the background.

But especially we all would like to thank Mrs.Margaret Joice, who really did carry the main burden, and who did so with such cheerfulness and warmth: we are immensely grateful to her, and to those who helped her.

We entered into this with some doubts and trepidation - but in the event it was a resounding success.

THE SPECTACULAR

at the School on Saturday, June 16th. was a great success, not least because of the glorious weather which followed the constant cold and rain on the Friday before. There was a great crowd of people patronising all the stalls and side-shows, and everyone seemed very happy. The Tog-of-War, with four teams entering, provided much amusement, though Bawdeswell came off rather badly: in the first round Bawdeswell 'A' Team was beaten by the Foxley Farmers, and Bawdeswell 'B' by the Silver Jubilee; and in the match between the two winners, the Silver Jubilee Team soundly beat the Foxley Farmers.

On the financial side it was successful, with the profit being around £340 or a little more, which was an excellent result. Congratulations to all who organised it and worked so hard to make it a success.

ONCE AGAIN

nine lucky children went down to Plaxtol School in Kent, and followed the programme much the same as last year: it was very successful, and all who went thoroughly enjoyed themselves. There is to be a return visit of Plaxtol children from July 9th. to 13th. and they, like ours, will be staying in various homes in our villages: a full and interesting programme has been planned for them, and we are sure that they will receive hospitality equal to that which they enjoyed in Kent.

SPORTSDAY , Treasure Hunt & Barbecue & Disco.

This will take place on Wednesday, 11th. July, so that the Plaxtol children can join in.

The Sports will start at 2 p.m.

The Car Treasure Hunt will leave the School at 7 p.m., and the more that come the merrier: there will be a charge of 10p. per person.

This will be followed by the Barbecue and Disco on the return from the Hunt. All are very welcome.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Bawdeswell

The Chairman and Councillors wish to thank the Parishioners who turned out to vote for the Parish Elections: it was a pity that the turn out was so low, no doubt due to too many elections in too short a period. The elected Council wish to thank Mr. Peter Downs for his service on the Council, and sincerely hope that he will continue to take an active interest in the activities within the village.

General points:

Dog owners are requested to take greater care exercising their pets, so that footpaths are not fouled.

The improvement to the frontage of Elsdon's Garage have been noticed and appreciated - well done, Mike !

The Elected Chairman of your Council is Mr. John Ames, and the Vice Chairman is Mrs. Dorothy Holmes.

C.W. Sparkes: Parish Clerk.

Foxley

The elected Councillors are as follows:

W. de Haviland: D. Webster: Mrs. C. Mears: P. Davis and P. Elsdon.

The Parish Council Meeting and AGM took place on 5th. June.

The Village Dance & Social Evening was very successful, and the Parish Council would like to thank all who helped and contributed to make it so.

£138.48 was taken, and after deducting expenses of £19.87, the balance - £118.91 - was paid into the Hall Fund.

THE CAWSTON UNLTD CHOIR

paid a welcome visit to Foxley Village Hall on Saturday, 16th. June, and delighted the audience with the very high quality of their singing, and the great variety of individual talent which they showed.

They were performing in aid of the Methodist Church funds, and we understand that some £15 was raised through their efforts.

SUNDAY 8th JULY

3.30-5.30

STRAWBERRY TEAS

IN THE MARQUEE

AT

BAWDESWELL HALL

COME AND BRING THE FAMILY

Proceeds for Bawdeswell Church.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TRANSPORT,

PLEASE CONTACT MRS AMES BARNICK HOUSE,

BAWDESWELL. TEL 455.