

THE REEVES TALE



the rectory.

November 1979

Volume 4, No. 10.

THE RECTOR WRITES

As I think a good many people know already, I shall be retiring at the end of January next, having now passed my 65th birthday, and therefore having reached the proper age. Thanks to the kindness of the Dean and Chapter, we are leasing a house in the Close, in Norwich - No.46 to be exact, and so we will be going, I suppose, in the last week or so in January.

I have deliberately put in my notice of resignation to the Diocese in good time, for I still have three months to go, so that there will be plenty of time to appoint my successor, and I very much hope that this will mean that there will be only a very short time between my going and his arrival.

But the appointment of Clergy nowadays is a much more complicated business than in former times, partly because of the fewer clergy around, and partly because of the need to share such men as there are on a fairer basis, so that small parishes aren't given a disproportionately large number, at the expense of the larger ones, as often was the case in the past. With the number of men available throughout the country compared with the population, it works out at about one man for every 5,000 people; in rural Norfolk, with its special problems of communication and distances, the average is about one for every 2,000, and eventually there will be fewer clergy still: and this is inevitably having an effect on appointments, so that it is extremely unlikely that a Parish will have a full-time man if it has a population of much less than 1,000. This gradual change has been taking place over quite a long period: for example, when I came to this Deanery 11 years ago, there were 14 Incumbents; now there are 9, and before long I expect this number to be reduced to seven; whereas 20 years ago there were about 20, for a smaller population.

/next page...

In these circumstances, when a vacancy occurs, one of two things can happen, if the Parishes are around the 1,600 mark as we are, or less: either they will be joined up with other Parishes around them to make a larger unit, as happened, for example, when some years ago the Incumbent of Guist and Twyford left at about the same time as the Incumbent of Bintree and Themelthorpe, and the four Parishes came together under one man; or the man appointed will be given another part-time job, which will take a proportion of his time. As an example of this, I myself for the last nine years, partly in Lyng, partly here, have had two jobs, one as Rector of the Parishes, and one as the Secretary of the Diocesan Synod, responsible for organising and running the 'Church government' of the Diocese: and as another example, the Rector of Alderford, Attlebridge and Swannington, Arthur Hawes, is also Chaplain to the Hellesdon Hospital.

And it is on this 'two-job' basis that the Diocese is hoping to fill these Parishes in the near future, and in fact are already advertising for the right kind of person: and the other job would be that of Anglican representative on the new proposed 'Radio Norwich', which is planned to come into operation some time in 1980. Just what this work entails I do not know as yet, but it would certainly only be part-time, and should give the man appointed ^{time} to care for the Parishes, probably far better than I have done.

The two Parochial Church Councils have discussed this, and have approved of the idea, and I myself feel that it is a very exciting possibility, as it is certain that the appointment will be made with great care, and whoever is chosen will be a very 'alive' sort of person: I very much hope, also, that he will be willing and able to carry on 'The Reeve's Tale', which, in spite of its faults, at least does serve to keep people informed about local matters.

I have written about this at some length, so that everyone will know what is happening, and I pray that it will work out very well for these two villages, which have given my wife and me so much kindness and support.

Tim Townshend.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

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

- Nov. 4th. Bawdeswell: 9.45 a.m. Family Service
Foxley: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion; 11 a.m. Mattins
11th. Bawdeswell: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion. (No Mattins)
Foxley: 11.00 a.m. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE (see note)
18th. Bawdeswell: 9.45 a.m. Family Service
Foxley: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion 11 a.m. see Methodist
25th. Bawdeswell: 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion: 11 a.m. Mattins
Foxley: 9.45 a.m. Holy Communion with Hymns
(see note below)

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

- Nov. 4th. Bawdeswell: 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Middleton
Foxley: 2.30 p.m. Family Service
11th. Foxley: 6.30 p.m. Mr. G. Brown
18th. Bawdeswell: 2.30 p.m. Mr. G. B. Middleton
Foxley: 11 a.m. Rev. Ivor Claydon. Holy Communion.
25th. Foxley: 6.30 p.m. Mr. E. F. Durrant

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

Mass each Sunday: RAF Swanton Morley 9 a.m. Dereham Catholic
Church, 10.30 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.

Notes: The Remembrance Sunday Service will be a UNITED SERVICE for the two Parishes, and for the first time for many years will be held in Foxley Parish Church at 11 a.m. The wreath in Bawdeswell will be laid at the 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion Service.

On 25th. November I will be away at a Residential Conference for Rural Deans: the 8.30 in Bawdeswell will be taken by the Revd. Michael Pickering, and the 11 a.m. Mattins by Mr. Gurney, and the 9.45 at Foxley by The Revd. Edmund Easten.

ALL SAINTS' DAY. Nov. 1st. Holy Communion. Bawdeswell 10 a.m.

FOLLAND COURT 19th. & 26th. November 10 a.m.

WILLIAM BRAND aged 66 years.

We record with regret the death of William Brand of Rose Cottage, Reepham Road, who died at the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital on 2nd. October, after a month's illness.

Formerly a Ford worker from Romford in Essex, Mr. Brand came to live in Bawdeswell about 14 years ago, and for some time has had indifferent health.

We express our sympathy to his widow and his family in their loss: may he rest in peace.

LILIAN AUDREY JARVIS aged 79 years.

The large number of people who attended the funeral service for Lilian Jarvis was a tribute to the affection in which she was held by the whole community, and the extent to which she will be missed.

She died peacefully on 10th. October, after only a couple of days' illness, and her passing was a merciful release, since, had she lived, she would have been a helpless invalid, and she was a person who was never still.

She was always cheerful, and in spite of her deafness was a very lively person, always ready to give a helping hand where possible, and really caring for people.

She came to Bawdeswell many years ago from Castleacre, and had a large and devoted family.

Our deep sympathy goes out to them, and especially to Dolly who looked after her for so long.

OUR WARMEST THANKS to Robin Taylor and those who helped him, in particular George Kemp, for the massive inroads which they have made on the cemetery, in tidying it up, and making it very much less of an eyesore.

We had asked Robin to organise this operation, but in fact he did a great deal of the work himself, and now we are really looking quite respectable!

The Bawdeswell & Foxley Women's Institute

We all enjoyed the talk given by Mrs. Cooke on the making of Christmas decorations, and one imagines that there will be quite a number of D.I.Y. efforts in members' homes this Christmas.

We are not so happy, though, about the Group Meetings, although it is very pleasant to meet with members from other Institutes: but we feel that so far we have not had the pleasure of listening to a speaker who would have normally have beyond the reach of a single Institute, and this of course is one of the reasons for forming a Group.

So far, only eight names have been received for the 1979-1980 Committee, and so unless the Secretary receives further nominations before the Annual General Meeting, no votes will be needed, although of course it will be necessary to vote for a President.

We look forward to Mrs. Mingay's talk on icing cakes, and perhaps this will be another step towards a D.I.Y. Christmas.

Please remember that our Christmas Party is to be held in Bawdeswell Village Hall this year.

The Committee Meeting will be held at Church Farm House, Bawdeawell, on Thursday, 8th. November, 7.30 p.m.

The Monthly Meeting will be held in Bawdeswell Village Hall on Monday, 12th. November, 7.45 p.m.

THE PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup continues to make progress, and at the moment are busy planning a series of events.

On Tuesday, 30th. October, it is planned to take the children to Swanton Morley Airfield to have a look at the 'planes.

On Tuesday, 13th. November, there will be the usual Coffee Morning during the Playschool Meeting, but this time there will be a special Cake Sale, to which everyone is very welcome: if anyone feels energetic, and would care to make

a cake, please do so, and bring it along to sell, and it will be a great help.

On the next day, Wednesday, 14th. November, the children are being taken to visit the Castle Museum, and there will be a Coach for this, leaving the Village Hall at 9.20 a.m., and leaving Norwich again at 12.30 p.m. for the return journey.

There are some spare seats on the Coach, and if anyone is interested in a cheap morning in Norwich, and would care to take advantage of this, they can have the seats for a cost of 50p. return.

If interested, please contact Sandra Steward at Rose Cottage, Main Street, Bawdeswell . A limited number of seats are available, so first comers will be the lucky ones.

Advance^N Notice

That on Thursday, 13th. December, at the Coffee Morning, the children will be performing a Nativity Play; and that on Monday, 17th. December, a Carol Singing Group from the Group will be going round the village in the evening.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

A further Advance Notice that a Christmas Fair for Bawdeswell Church will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 8th. December, at which there will be the usual Stalls, Sideshows and so forth. This will commence at 2.30 p.m., and there will be further notice of it in the next issue of The Reeve's Tale.

GRATEFUL THANKS

to the anonymous donors who have given most beautiful kneelers for the Communion Rails in Bawdeswell Church: this is a most welcome present, as the old ones were badly worn, and hard on the knees.

KEEP FIT

We have heard that someone from somewhere is shortly hoping to start KEEP FIT Classes in Bawdeswell; and that she was hoping to put a notice to this effect in The Reeve's Tale. Unfortunately, as we go to press, no such notice has been received, and because we do not know where she comes from, we are unable to find out. But we also understand that she is or was intending to put notices around in the two villages, and that she hopes to start very shortly. So with our apologies to her, whoever she is, we would advise any ladies who are interested in a bit of Keep Fitting to watch out, presumably in shops and notice boards for notices of the intended meetings.

GENERAL SYNOD

I will be in London from Monday, 5th. November to Friday, 9th., at the General Synod, of which I am a member. In case of any emergencies, the Reverend Jeffrey Smith, Rector of Guist, will be available to help, or contact any of the Churchwardens.

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST

we were delighted to hear that the Queen had approved the appointment of Mr. Richard Gurney of Bawdeswell Hall as Vice Lord Lieutenant of the County of Norfolk in the place of Sir Ian Freeland. This is a well deserved honour, and we offer our congratulation