

REMENHAM NEWS LETTER



Church of St. Nicholas

No. 5

June - July

1978

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, REMENHAM

Rector { St. Mary's Henley The Rev. F.M.A. Payne
 { St. Nicholas, Remenham St. Mary's Rectory,
 Henley-on-Thames.
 (Tel: 5361)

Honorary Curate The Rev. Glyn James,
 1 Harcourt Close,
 Henley-on-Thames.
 (Tel: 4245)

Churchwardens J.A.H. West (Tel: 4750)
 H. Cartwright (Tel: 4846)

Secretary to P.C.C. R.I.D. Arthurton (Tel: 83-2823)

Treasurer Col. H.S. Tollit (Tel: 3020)

Organist R. Sparkes, 37 Havelock Terrace,
 Henley-on-Thames.

Sidesmen

<u>1st Sunday</u>	8.00 H.W. Dibley <u>Mattins</u> J.A.H. West; R.W. Ewart
<u>2nd Sunday</u>	R.I.D. Arthurton; R. Hardy
<u>3rd Sunday</u>	Sir Colville Deverell; H. Cartwright
<u>4th Sunday</u>	Major D. Young; M.T. Boulton
<u>5th Sunday</u>	Major S.C. Mason; G. Every

SERVICES

8 a.m.	Holy Communion	1st Sunday in each month
11 a.m.	Mattins	Every Sunday
	Family Mattins	1st Sunday in each month
12 noon	Holy Communion	3rd Sunday in each month following Mattins

Church Cleaning June: Lady Deverell, Mrs Hardy,
 Mrs Goodenough.

July: Mrs Tollit, Mrs Sheppard,
 Mrs Ridsdale.

August: Mrs Cartwright, Mrs Every,
 Mrs Young.

Altar Flowers June: Mrs Beith, Mrs Daniels.

July: Mrs Vardon, Mrs Selwyn.

August: Mrs Goodenough, Mrs Ridsdale.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 2nd:	Culham Farms Dance
June 10th:	Recital in aid of Save the Children Fund, St. Mary's Church 7.30 p.m.
June 29th - July 2nd	Henley Royal Regatta
July 7th:	Church Pete in Regatta tent 6 p.m.
September 9th:	Produce Show, Flower Festival, and Barn Dance.

THE PARISH REGISTER

Holy Baptism

April 16th: Suzanne Marie Cawthra

EAST BERKSHIRE MOBILE LIBRARY

Aston: 'Flower Pot'	1.30 - 1.55 p.m.
Remenham: 'Little Angel'	2.05 - 2.45 p.m.
Remenham Hill 'Five Horseshoes'	2.30 - 2.45 p.m.
Remenham Hill Post Box	2.50 - 3.05 p.m.

Forthcoming dates: June 12th, 26th, July 10th, 24th,
 August 7th.

EDITORIAL

This time last year we all broke out in a rash of 'red, white and blues' as we prepared for the Jubilee; red white and blue hats, boats, bicycles, Brian's splendid iced cake, flags, bunting the lot. Someone was heard to say: "Why don't they do it more often?". Well there have been quite a few events during the last year, and now there are two more to draw your attention to.

On July 7th there will be the Annual Summer Sale in a Regatta tent in aid of the Church. This starts at 6 p.m.; this year there will be a special children's corner with a competition. More about this in the newsletter; offers of help, please, to either Mrs West or Mrs Daniels.

It has also been agreed to hold a Produce Show and Flower Festival on September 9th. There will be classes for fruit, vegetables, handicrafts, cookery and a children's section. This will be followed by a barn dance, in the evening. Schedules are available from Mrs Every.

It's no secret that Henley Regatta is on its way, and after 139 years it appears to be here to stay. Like Christmas it brings good cheer, but inevitably a lot of irritation to the village of Remenham where the entire Regatta takes place. However, once you have learned to live with it, Henley Regatta can become a source of pride, playing host to hundreds of oarsmen and their families, many of whom may never have stepped foot outside their own countries before. Most of us are 'hostesses', putting up crews, supporters, or the same old friends year after year. We get hopping mad when the lanes get snarled up, we have run out of eggs, the breakfast isn't washed up, 'our Crew' are rowing in the first race and we aren't there to cheer them on. But to those of you who have yet to discover the joys of Henley Week - take heart, it grows on you!

Richard Burnell has written for us an introduction to the background of Henley Regatta; an Olympic Gold Medallist, Steward of the Regatta, and well known rowing correspondent, he knows what he's talking about, but much more to us is the fact that he's 'local boy made good'. He grew up at Wedmore, and his father was, of course, Colonel 'Don' Burnell who was such a local character, and

Chairman of both Parish and District Councils for many, many years. Richard said when asked to write this article: "I am weeks behind with everything, but I cannot say 'No' to Remenham. We do appreciate this.

A LETTER FROM THE REVEREND MICHAEL PAYNE

My Dear Friends of Remenham,

The months certainly hurry by and it seems unbelievable that here we are with almost half the year gone.

Yet we still have the summer ahead of us and surely at Remenham, as at Henley itself, it is the loveliest time of all the year.

The major Christian Festivals; Christmas, Easter, Whitsun or Pentecost are all now over, clustered as they are in the first part of the year and have now been summed up in the Feast of Trinity itself.

Now, holding that Faith of which we have been reminded and having it renewed in ourselves by our remembrance and celebration of it, we have now in the second part of the year particularly to make it the basis of our attitude in life and put it into practice in our ordinary daily round and relationships. Faith and Duty, Worship and Life must always go together.

Remenham, particularly, seems to be 'swamped' by the Regatta which will soon be upon us. I Hope, nevertheless it will be a joyful time for all of you and please give the Sale in the week after the Regatta all your encouragement and support.

Arrangements for the Henley Team Ministry are beginning to be made. It is not likely that these will affect Remenham very much, although you might see a different face occasionally on Sunday mornings. What we are concerned to see is that you have as full a ministry and care in Church and out of it as we can possibly provide.

God bless you in all your ways,

Your friend and Rector,

Michael Payne.

A LETTER FROM THE REVEREND GLYN JAMES

Dear Friends,

One of the major drawbacks of our Church's calendar is that we devote only one Sunday in the year - Whitsunday - specifically to thinking about and worshipping God the Holy Spirit. Whitsunday (or the Feast of Pentecost) is followed, not by the season of Pentecost as in other Churches, but by Trinity Sunday and the season of Trinity. As a consequence, I think, we don't pay enough attention to this fundamental tenet of our Faith, that God is present and active within us as individual Christians, and within the Church, by the power of the Holy Spirit. In particular, we tend to neglect the "fellowship of the Holy Spirit", that which binds us together in a personal, caring community.

Although on the surface we may appear to be independent, self-reliant people who can manage our own affairs very well without having to lean on others for support, the reality is quite different, as we all know. We need each other, and should never hesitate to seek help or offer help as the opportunities arise. There is no greater privilege and no sweeter satisfaction than to be able to share our sorrows, anxieties and problems with someone we know and trust, especially if we are already bound together in the "grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit". I believe that at Remenham we belong to such a caring Christian community, and I hope we shall strive to deepen and strengthen our commitment and service in this area of personal friendship and practical sympathy. There is no lack of need or opportunity among us, as I know from my own experience as your priest which has been so spiritually rewarding.

"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main" (John Donne). "You are the body of Christ and individually members of it. If one member suffers, all suffer together" (St Paul: 1 Co. 12, 26-27). "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ" (St. Paul: Gal. 6,2).

Yours in "the fellowship",
Glyn James.

REMENHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Remenham's Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Parish Hall on 19th April under the Chairmanship of Colonel H.S. Tollit and was well attended.

In reviewing the events of the past year, Colonel Tollit recalled the numerous successful and happy occasion with which the village had celebrated Jubilee Year. Not the least of these was the visit by H.R.H. Princess Anne during the Henley Royal Regatta when the Chairman of the Remenham Parish Council was able to respond to her great interest in this parish.

As a memento of this happy year, the meeting proposed that a pair of wrought iron gates, designed by Mr Peter Sanderson, be placed at the entrance to the village hall.

Sadder occasions included the retirement after 37 years as Parish Clerk, of Mr Harry Sparkes. For 40 years Mr and Mrs Sparkes had run the Remenham Post Office. They will be missed by all when they retire to live in Wargrave. Mr John Cridlan, for many years a member of the Parish Council, had also retired and sold his famous herd of Aberdeen Angus, for so long a feature of the meadows along the river. The last residing incumbent of St. Nicholas, Remenham, Mr Tim Edwards, had also left and the Rectory sold.

Among all these retirement and departures there was good news for the Remenham residents about their village hall. The Parochial Church Council had decided to accept Mr Anthony West's recommendations, reached after much hard work, and investigation, to accept a transfer of the Hall from the Church Commissioners to be administered by the Parochial Church Council and to be used for ecclesiastical purposes (which did not preclude the letting of the Hall for non-ecclesiastical purposes, provided that letting fees were brought into the church accounts).

The recent storms and the severe outbreak of Dutch Elm Disease had done much damage to trees in the village - so much so that specialist help from Berkshire County Council was to be sought.

The meeting discussed at length and with feeling a number of threatened or rumoured encroachments on the rights of way within the parish boundaries. The Council and Resident's Association will be active in the matter during the forthcoming year.

P. Young.

REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

At their last meeting on May 8th, the Parish Council noted with some relief that the serious litter problem in Church Lane had much improved. The Land-owners have barred the two gaps where litter was being dumped and a number of public spirited members of the Parish had organised a cleaning-up operation. The Council was very appreciative of their efforts.

The whole state of Remenham Lane from the Angel to the Flower Pot gives rise for concern. Serious flooding is now taking place at a point between the Church and Aston, and near the Regatta area the edges are clogged with mud and dead leaves which have not been cleared for a long time. The Council is writing to the adjacent Land-owners and the District Council to ask for action to be taken to improve the situation.

Since planning permission was granted for a building at the Wargrave Road Factory, the situation has much improved as a number of stipulations for improvements are now being carried out, and it is hoped that in the not too distant future the area will look much better. Those who wrote to the District Council concerning this planning application may obtain a copy of the District Council's requirements from the Parish Clerk - P. Clayden, Tel: Henley 5598.

The Council considered the question of the introduction of double white lines on a section of the Wargrave Road near the junction of White Hill. It was reported that a number of vehicles try to overtake there and thus cause a dangerous situation. It was resolved to write to the Berkshire Council on the subject.

The Council noted that there were reports of work being started on improvements to premises before the plans had been inspected. The Clerk was instructed to write to the District Council to ask why this was permitted.

E. Selwyn.

RUBBISH The skip for outsize rubbish will be on the verge opposite Thamesfield, Wargrave Road, on July 13th. Get rid of your jumbo junk the easy way!

REMENHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Remenham Residents Association took place on Friday 25th April in the Parish Hall. Twenty-six members attended.

The Chairman, Mr Bucknall, took the meeting quickly through the Agenda in order to provide more time for members to speak.

He said that most progress had already been reported in the Remenham News Letter, but was glad to say that the squalid condition of the pits in Church Lane had been much improved. The membership now stands at 50, and is felt desirable to recruit new members.

The Chairman congratulated the Editorial Staff of the Remenham News Letter most heartily on their splendid efforts in producing such an informative and interesting magazine, and asked that they should be thanked by letter.

Several members complained about the water lying on Remenham Lane, and Mrs Grepne expressed concern about the flint wall near Wisteria Cottage; she was reassured by Mr Peter Sanderson.

Mr Peter Sanderson showed a drawing of proposed gates to be erected outside the Parish Hall on Church property to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. It was proposed by Mrs Bolton that permission to erect the gates belonging to the people of Remenham should be asked of the Parochial Church Council.

Colonel Sanderson again raised the question of the antique light missing from the Bridge. No progress can be reported.

It was felt that the Association's backing of the Parish Council is having results.

Sheila Bucknall.

CULHAM FARMS SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

On May Day we held a 'Hare and Hounds' race for the more energetic members of the Club and friends. Chris Long was the 'Hare' and took them on a very good run. Brian Collier and Pat McMahon were the winners. The only two children taking part were Paul Spillane and Caleb Southwell, although Paul was the first home, both boys received a prize.

The weather is not being very kind so we have not yet been able to arrange our sports evening - but we are having a dance at Remenham Village Hall on Friday 2nd June 8 p.m.-12 p.m. Tickets £1 including buffet. If you would like tickets please give me a ring on Henley 5671.

REMENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

April Meeting Flowers were the keynote of the meeting held on 10th April. Mrs Bright of Henley, gave a demonstration of unusual flower arrangements which combined her own handmade pottery with flowers and greenery. Mrs Simpson distributed her birthday posies, and won the flower-of-the-month competition. Mrs Watts was the winner of 'Spring Flowers in an egg cup'.

May Meeting On 8th May, Mrs Mayne - a Voluntary County Organiser - spoke of the National Women's Institutes to be held in the Albert Hall on 8th June. The resolutions to be dealt with this year include: 'Pollution, with its dangers to Marine Life', Taxation and Social Benefits', 'Publications unsuitable for children', and 'Daily milk deliveries'.

Mrs Bucknall will represent both Cockpole Green and Remenham Womens' Institutes at the Albert Hall.

The meeting ended in a lighter mood, with several members giving impromptu one-minute talks on a variety of subjects. Mrs W. Cullen won the flower-of-the-month competition.

Dates to Remember 12th June - Members' Meeting. No meeting will be held in July. Audrey Sanderson.

REMENHAM CHURCH SUMMER SALE

The Annual Summer Sale will take place in a Regatta Tent on Friday 7th July from 6.00 to 8.00 p.m. Entrance 5 p. There will be the usual stalls for Jumble, Cakes, Produce, Fancy Goods, Toys and Books. In addition there will be the Tombola and Raffles. Gifts for the stalls and prizes are urgently needed, and may be deposited with either Mrs West at Remenham Manor, Henley 4750, or Norman Daniells at 5 Cromwell Road, Henley 4781; arrangements for

collection can be made by ringing either of the above.

For the first time this year there will be a special children's stall, pony rides, and a competition for the under 12s. Children are invited to draw or paint their 'Favourite animal', 'a picnic', or 'boats', and bring their pictures with them to the sale. Entrance fee 5p. per picture. Judging 7 p.m. Lovely prizes.

Raffle tickets are available from Norman Daniells. Do come and enjoy yourselves, bring your friends and support our village church.

Sarah West.

N.B. Perishable gifts for the cake and produce stall to the tent after 2 p.m. on the day please.

REMENHAM PRODUCE SHOW & FLOWER FESTIVAL

As you will have noticed mentioned in the Editorial page of this newsletter, we are planning another Produce Show for this year on September 9th in the village hall. Schedules will be available from Mrs Giles Every, Holme Farm, Aston, Henley 4825. We do hope for lots of support and there should be something for everybody, including a wide children's section.

The Remenham Show goes back many years and was a popular event between the wars. At the onset of hostilities the silver cups were given to the Remenham Parish Council for safe-keeping until the end of the war. These will now be taken out of the Bank, cleaned up and awarded to the winners of their appropriate classes once more.

We shall finish with a Barn Dance in the evening, and there will also be a flower festival in the Church over the weekend.

Any profits from the Show and the dance will go to the Hall funds.

Whilst on the subject of the Hall, the new curtains should be ready within a month, so this will be an opportunity to come and inspect them!

HENLEY REGATTA - ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE

Never say so to people who live on the other side of the river, but the fact is that nobody (well, hardly any body) would have heard of Henley if it had not been for Henley Regatta. And do not believe them if they quote The Field correspondent, writing in 1889, "...the regatta would be perfect were it not for the horrid rowing men".

Henley Regatta was founded at a public meeting, on 26th March, 1839, by the townspeople of Henley, as a local 'attraction', to bring visitors and trade to the town. "An annual Regatta, under judicious and respectable management", they concluded, "would not only be productive of the most beneficial results to the town of Henley, but from its peculiar attractions would also be a source of amusement and gratification to the neighbourhood, and the public in general.

In the early days the Stewards represented the landed gentry, and were expected to do no work. The Committee represented the townspeople, and were expected to all the work. The only people whose interests were not represented at all were the rowing men, who were simply required to get on with their racing. The first rowing men to be elected Stewards were H.H. Playford and Dr Warre, in 1868, thirty years after the foundation of the regatta. They were brought in to help with technical advice, at a time when the Regatta was expanding rapidly, having become 'Royal' in 1851. Unlike the local Stewards they very much concerned themselves with the running of the Regatta, and quickly took over full control.

Has Henley Regatta fulfilled its early hopes? Most certainly it has. But of course it has expanded to such an extent that its requirements can no longer be met by purely local interests, so that much of the economic benefit now goes beyond the confines of the town, whilst at the same time the inevitable inconveniences caused, traffic on the roads and dislocation of local services, have become much greater. But whether one regards the Regatta as an asset or a nuisance, no one, watching the stately perambulations of the portly gentlemen in pink caps and carefully clashing scarlet blazers, can dispute that the 'peculiar attractions' are still present.

Henley is almost unique among great sporting events in that most (a high proportion, anyway - I am suffering a bout of 'overstatement' just now) of the spectators do not come to see the sport, at least not the competitive aquatic sport. The ladies come, (i) to see who else is there, and (ii) to see that everyone else who is there (who matters), sees that they are there, and not wearing the same dress as yesterday. Their menfolk, on the other hand, come, (i) to see how high the price of Pimm's has risen this year, (ii) to see how little Pimm's they get for that price, and (iii) to make sure their ladies get no foolish ideas about ordering Champagne instead of Pimm's.

And long may they continue these innocent pursuits. For it is the money which they spend which makes Henley financially viable, and so provides 'horrid rowing men' with a Regatta which, if not still the world's premier rowing regatta, is still good enough to attract the Americans, who converge on Henley in great numbers, to win the Henley trophies in the firm belief that they really are beating 'the best in the world', at the same time contributing generously to the annual Balance Sheet, so enabling the Committee to plant out the Enclosures with the correct colour scheme of geraniums to harmonize (at one and the same time) with a Leander pink and Lady Margaret scarlet. All this makes for a happy atmosphere, and sets off the procession of boats (sic) to perfection.

Joking apart, Henley is "all things to all people". To some it is the highlight of the social season, to some an annual reunion of old friends, to some a source of considerable profit, to some a focal point of rowing tradition, and to some the culmination of months of training, discipline, and endeavour. A few years ago I asked an East German coach why they felt it worthwhile sending their crews to Henley, and he replied, "Because it was the birthplace of our sport, and we believe that every oarsman should have the chance to race once at Henley".

Richard Burnell.

RECIPES FOR THE MONTH

With summer parties in mind, here are two very special recipes. Mrs Hardy gives us a chicken dish which is out of the ordinary; Mrs Cridlan's Pavlova is a cherished recipe from her native New Zealand.

CHICKEN SALAD WITH SOUR CREAM DRESSING

Recipe (for 6)

1 5lb chicken, cooked and shredded into bite size pieces
6 hard boiled eggs 2 green peppers
4 oz. blanched sliced almonds 1 small tin pimentos
1 lb. grapes, peeled and seeded French dressing

Sour cream dressing

6 tbsls. white wine vinegar 10 oz. soured cream
2 teasp. sugar $\frac{1}{2}$ teasp. salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teasp. white pepper $\frac{1}{4}$ teasp. dry mustard

Method Place shredded chicken in a large salad bowl, chop egg whites finely, and add to the chicken, reserving the yokes for garnish. Finely slice peppers and pimento, and add with grapes and almonds to the chicken. Toss all in a French dressing and refrigerate until ready to serve. Prepare sour cream dressing: slowly beat vinegar into sour cream, add seasoning, and dish up into a small bowl. Remove chicken salad from fridge, seive egg yokes over the top, and serve with cold rice cooked in the chicken stock, drained, and tossed in French dressing and chopped chives.

Pam Hardy.

PAVLOVA

When Anna Pavlova toured Australia and New Zealand shortly after the First World War, the ladies of Melbourne invented this delicacy in her honour. It has become a national dish and no summer supper party is complete without it.

Recipe (for 6)

4 egg whites 8 oz castor sugar
1 teasp. cornflour 1 teasp. vinegar

Method Whip egg whites stiffly. Add sugar a little at a time, whipping after each addition. Finally stir in

vinegar and cornflour and pile onto a flan tin or baking sheet covered with wet grease proof paper. Cook slowly at 250 for two and a half hours, by which time it should be crisp meringue on the top and marshmallow inside. Turn out meringue side down and fill with strawberries topped with whipped cream. It will keep unfilled in a sealed tin for days.

Clare Cridlan.

GARDENING HINTS BY GREEN FINGERS

It only seems a few days ago that I was thinking of how to protect tender plants from late frost and how to encourage growth in the cold wet weather! Now it is a question of what to do in the drought and the heat. Plenty of work with the hoe helps to bring the moisture to the surface, and of course, a good mulch of lawn mowings or peat prevents evaporation. Watering seedlings as they appear is not recommended as it hinders their putting down a good root system.

Visiting a friend's garden recently I was surprised to see inverted grapefruit skin among the salad vegetables - apparently they keep away the slugs.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Moving in: Matron is now happily settled in her new bungalow at Remenham Place.

Moving out: A very sad 'Farewell' to Mr and Mrs Sparks who have left Remenham after more than 40 years. However, they are not too far away at Elizabeth Court in Wargrave so let's hope we shall still see them now and again.

Helen Cullen, a member of the Remenham W.I., is the pianist at a recital in aid of the Save the Children Fund on June 10th at 7.30 p.m. in St. Mary's Church.

Mr Cartwright and Mr West have been appointed representatives for Remenham Parish on the Henley Church Team Area Council.

'Mac' Macdonald is seriously ill in the Royal Berks Hospital, having undergone major surgery on his leg. However, he is now showing some improvement and is in good spirits. The thoughts and concern of their many friends are with Mac and Joan during this anxious time, and we send them our sincere wishes for an early recovery.