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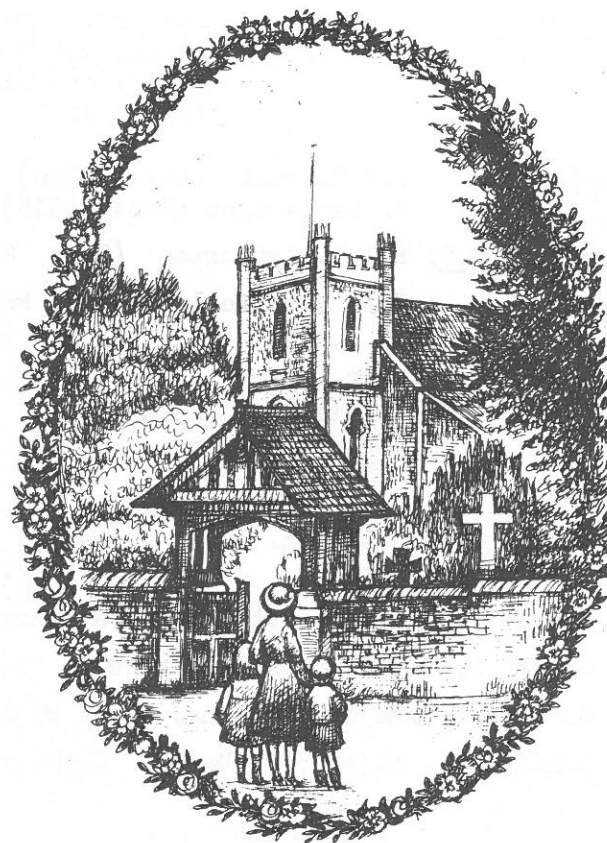
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Mary and Andy Wheeler

REMENHAM NEWS LETTER



Church of St. Nicholas

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, REMENHAM

Rector (St. Mary's, Henley The Rev. Alan Pyburn,
(St. Nicholas, Remenham 15 Blandy Road,
Henley-on-Thames.
(Tel: 77340)

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: Nettlebed
641474)

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

Sidesmen

1st Sunday8.00 a.m. H.W. Dibley
Mattins J.A.H. West, R.W. Ewart
2nd SundayR.I.D. Arthurton, A. Burrough
3rd SundaySir Colville Deverell, H. Cartwright
4th SundayMajor D. Young, M.T. Boulton
5th SundayMajor S.C. Mason, G. Every

SERVICES

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

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0 SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES 0

' December 2nd. Patronal Festival of St. Nicholas '
0 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion 0
' 11.00 a.m. Children's Gift Service '
0 December 23rd. 11.00 a.m. Service of Nine Lessons 0
' and Carols '
0 December 24th. 11.30 p.m. Midnight Holy Communion '
' December 25th. 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion 0
' 11.00 a.m. Family Mattins '
0 December 30th. 11.00 a.m. Family Carols 0

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Church Cleaning: December Mrs Cartwright, Mrs Every,
Mrs Young
January Mrs Kemp, Mrs Walker,
Mrs Beith, Mrs Sparkes

Altar Flowers: December Miss Ansell, Miss Bailey
January Mrs Cridlan

THE PARISH REGISTER

Holy Baptism

September 23rd. Edward Charles PARKIN
Charlotte Elizabeth Anne
PARKIN

Marriage

September 30th Huw WILLIAMS and Judith MARTIN

A LETTER FROM THE REVEREND ALAN PYBURN

Dear Friends,

I think there is only one popular song which I remember from my childhood - and I always begin to whistle it and hum it at the beginning of December - "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas as every Christmas card I write". It is above all a time for sending and receiving greetings and we all love doing so. In the early weeks of the month we have to sit down and work through our lists and sort out the addresses as we send our cards. Who have we not sent to? Who have we forgotten? Who are we trying to cut out this year? What has happened to this friend and that? Where does this Christmas find them - and what sort of greeting from us would be most helpful? We need to think, and we need to pray "as every Christmas card we write".

Then the time comes for receiving greetings from our friends. And what fun this is. Especially if we look at the cards carefully. Ask first of all whom they are from - old friends, new friends, neighbours, colleagues, casual acquaintances, complete surprises. How wonderful the network of friendship is. Then ask what sort of picture they have on the front - villages in the snow, village churches, wildlife, hunting scenes, whisky bottles, religious paintings - how much the style of the cards we receive tell us about our friends and what they think of us. Then look at the back of each card and see where it comes from - is it a private card, a church card, a job lot card, or a charity card? You can learn such a lot about your friends by seeing what kind of Christmas cards they prefer to buy.

Then Christmas itself comes. And now we are to receive greetings from God himself in the message of the Christmas gospel. Peace on earth and good will towards men. It is a very poor Christmas indeed if we do not hear this divine greeting once more. And as we come to worship we bring our own greetings - our thanks and our praise to God for the wonder of this season. "Hail, Lord, we greet thee born this happy morning."

With all our best greetings for this Christmas time.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Pyburn

A LETTER FROM THE REVEREND GLYN JAMES

Dear Friends,

Guy Fawkes' Day was celebrated this year by fireworks of two different kinds. There were those which lit up the night sky and rent the air with whistles and bangs. But earlier in the day, another brand of crackerjack was exploding and causing quite a stir in the General Synod of the Church of England. As they arrived, the 550 members were handed copies of a petition signed by 600 people distinguished in public and academic life, who are concerned about the threatened extinction of the Book of Common Prayer and the Authorised Version of the Bible. "This great act of forgetting now under way is a tragic loss", they say, and their plea is that "the new alternative services and translations should not be promoted as replacements, but rather that the 'historic liturgy of England' should have a central place of honour - not exclusively used, but providing the touchstone."

As the only parish church for many miles around which still uses the 1662 Prayer Book exclusively in our public worship (the Authorised Version less so), we at Remenham will undoubtedly welcome the petition. Our traditional way of worship, now so unusual and distinctive attracts people from a wide area, and the fact that we are allowed to continue in the old familiar way is something for which we should be grateful. Our Church leaders have been saved from making the mistake of their Roman Catholic counterparts who banned the Latin Mass without compromise. In their wisdom, they have left the decision about ways of worship to the local incumbents and the P.C.C., and we in Remenham have been fortunate in having the incumbents willing to accommodate our unwillingness to change.

Christmas will soon be upon us, and I should like to invite all our readers, whether regular churchgoers or not, to come and join in the celebration

of this most joyful festival by attending one or more of our services which you will see advertised elsewhere in this issue and in the 'Henley Standard'. My wife and I wish you all a very happy time with your families and friends. May God fill you with all joy and peace in believing the good news that Christ our Lord was born and lives to make all things new.

Yours sincerely,
Glyn James.

EDITORIAL

A very Happy Christmas to everyone!
To all readers of this Newsletter in the village of Remenham; to those who have left the district - some of them the country - many of whom keep in touch to show that we are not forgotten (and neither are they); to the newcomers to our area; a warm welcome, and a hope for many happy years among us.

To the many friends of St. Nicholas who regularly and loyally support our congregation; to the children who come on the first Sunday wondering what is in store for them; to the flower decorators and cleaners, who see to it that our church is always welcoming, spick and span (in spite of thieves) - alas. To Mr Sparkes and his choir. And especially to the Revs. Pyburn, James and Grosse, who have made it possible for us to carry on our own form of worship.

And now a final very important good wish to our advertisers, subscribers, and all those who have helped us financially through the last year to publish this Newsletter in the teeth of rising costs; to those who have come to our rescue when its production has been in jeopardy; to those kind volunteers (?) who deliver it; and last, but most important, to all our contributors who turn up trumps in the face of continual nagging, wheedling, and finally resignation - without them there would be no Newsletter.

Please take special note of the Christmas competition; the more entries you send in the better - no limit - and do encourage the young, too; there is a rather special prize for the Birthday card.

REMENHAM PAROCHIAL PARISH COUNCIL

A well attended meeting of the P.C.C. was held on 24th October with the Rev. Alan Pyburn in the chair.

A Declaration from the Bishop of Oxford was read confirming that no appointment will be made to the benefice of Remenham during the period of five years from 3rd May, 1979. This means that the present arrangements as regards the Clergy in the Parish will continue.

The problems of Church security were discussed in the light of the recent series of thefts. With great reluctance it was decided that the Church must be kept locked for the present except for the usual Services, and perhaps when it is decorated for festivals if volunteers are available to invigilate. Everyone hoped that in time it may be possible to re-open the Church in the daytime. So far the police have not traced any of our lost ornaments. Replicas of the missing brass altar candlesticks have been ordered and wooden ones are being made by the boys of Park Place School.

After reports on the roof ventilators, the repairs to the Lychgate, and a suggestion to try out the removal of the altar side-curtains, the Reverend Glyn James spoke about the controversial question of the re-marriage of divorced persons in Church as this was to be considered at the meeting of the Deanery Synod the following day. An interesting discussion followed which it was hoped would help to indicate the views of P.C.C. members.

Himley Cartwright, Churchwarden.

REMENHAM PLACE We hear that over £400 was raised at the recent Bring-and-Buy sale at Remenham Place. Details will follow in the next issue of the magazine.

REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

At its meeting on 8 October the Council discussed reports that vehicles had been using the footpath running down from the A423 to the river past the Leander Club. The council decided that a bollard should be placed in the path to stop a recurrence and adjoining landowners were being contacted.

The continued obstruction of footpath 4 (from the towpath to the river) was also discussed and it was agreed to ask Berkshire County Council to take enforcement action as a matter of urgency.

The use of the Binns, Wargrave Road for the Regatta fair and other events was raised. Some complaints of rowdy behaviour had been received and it was decided to ask the owner, Mr Drew, to outline his plans for the area in the coming year.

The next meeting of the Council is on 3rd December.

Paul Clayden (Clerk)

REMENHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Remenham Residents' Association took place on 26th October 1979 which was well attended.

Many matters were discussed, including the improvement of Regatta traffic, and the use of land for purposes other than agriculture on both sides of the river. The subject of the intolerable litter in the Parish was again raised, as was the speeding of vehicles on the Wargrave Road.

The Chairman proposed that the sum of £5 should be donated for the Parish Newsletter which was agreed.

He also, on behalf of the Association, sent good wishes to Lord and Lady Thomas and hoped they would enjoy their new home.

Sheila Bucknall (Hon.Sec.)

REMENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Lovely and historic Leeds Castle was the venue of the W.I. meeting on 25th September. With the sun breaking through the clouds as the coach wound its way through South London towards the Kent countryside, the day turned sunny and warmer, making a stroll through the castle grounds an added pleasure.

At the Institute's October meeting Mrs Good recalled this happy day in a brief and enjoyable talk prior to the afternoon's main feature - a demonstration and lesson on millinery. This covered all aspects of hat-making, and in easy stages showed that producing chic headgear from scratch is not too difficult after all. Top marks and high praise went to the President, Miss K. Hayes, winner of the competition for a hat made from newspaper. Her beautifully made and attractive entry was smart enough to grace the enclosure at Henley Regatta.

A decision was reached that the money collected for the 'Year of the Child' should be donated to Great Ormond Street Hospital. Miss Mainwaring carried off the raffle prize and Mrs Boulton's bloom was voted 'flower-of-the-month'.

The November meeting was well attended, and with Christmas already looming large on the horizon, matters relating to this event featured prominently on the afternoon's programme. Plans were finalised for the annual party on 10th December at 7.30 p.m. Mrs Sheila Bucknall gave a practical and satisfying talk on 'How to Cut Corners'. The many useful tips included several guaranteed to assist the busy housewife preparing for a family gathering on or around Christmas Day.

The raffle prize went to Mrs Harrison. Mrs Simpson's charming garden cyclamen was proclaimed 'flower-of-the-month' and a Bring-and-Buy Stall was swept clean.

Eugenie Sutherland.

LIFE IN REMENHAM SEPTEMBER 1939

Before the outbreak of war, the Post Office on Remenham Hill received many instructions regarding the paying out for the Reserve Forces being called up. Consequently the Office was open for much longer hours than usual to meet all the extra payments. With heavy hearts we said farewell to the young men of the Village we knew on that list.

It was quite a problem keeping up with the demand for cash, especially with the arrival of the evacuee school children, as the foster parents received an allowance for each child, also the helpers who came with them were paid.

The whole Country arranged a Savings Week. A Thermometer was painted on cardboard the size of the Office door. It was exciting to watch the sums each day going up and up. We reached the marvellous sum of over £1,000, all in small savings. We were counting Savings Books instead of sheep at night - everyone tried so hard to save even a small amount.

Our phone was a hot line - messages coming from Wokingham saying another bus load was on its way. The receiving tent was erected on the green at Hurley Lodge. Many runs were made from Office to tent during the day; all went well until a message came through - "a load of Mothers and Babies on the way". Everything had been planned well in advance for housing the children, but families meant only the big houses could take them. Everyone co-operated and soon all were settled except mishaps had happened to the babies' feeding bottles on the journey. A mad dash around the houses and the feeding bottles were found so no hungry babies!

The Wardens' Post was also at the Post Office and we received all the alerts signals. We were always thankful when the all-clear came through. The American Camp opposite was a great worry to A.R.P. officers as they were always having to rush around shouting at the guards to put the lights out. They

had no idea about Black Out. Anyway, it kept the men of the A.R.P. on their toes.

I suppose we can say the Office was the centre for enquiries and complaints from evacuees and hostesses, but mostly things could be put right and many friendships were made. Another thing I should mention were the wonderful gifts from America of orange juice and baby clothes. Lovely layettes for new born babies were given out from the Office by Nurse Sage, our District Nurse.

Harry Sparkes.

(The Sparkes have just returned from a most exciting holiday in California where they have been staying with friends who were evacuated to Remenham during the war).

THE SUE RYDER FOUNDATION

This is an International Foundation which is devoted to the relief of suffering on the widest scale. It seeks to render personal service to those in need and to give affection to those who are unloved, regardless of age, race or creed.

The Sue Ryder Home recently opened at Nettlebed will be a Home for the continuing care of cancer patients, in response to a very urgent local need for facilities which are not available within the National Health Service.

They are holding a Christmas Gift Fair at Joyce Grove, Nettlebed, on Saturday 8th December, 1.30 - 5.30 p.m. There will be gifts to buy for all the family. This is a very worthy cause - do try and support it if you can.

CHRISTMAS IN INDIA - BY A CHILD OF THE 'RAJ'

I spent my first ten years in India, where my Father was a Judge in the Indian Civil Service.

Christmas with us was usually spent at a shooting camp in the jungle, our host being a Forest Officer with children the same age as my sister and me.

We travelled there on elephants, and an early recollection is of being on the first elephant to cross a rather swollen river with my sister and our nurse; the elephant soon getting out of its depth, trying to swim, (they do this with only their trunks above water!), and the Mahout skillfully turning the animal to regain the shore where our anxious parents were waiting to cross on the next elephant.

The camp was elaborate, with a dining and drawing room tent; everything was there: napery, cutlery, glass and china, and the whole party dressed for dinner each night.

Of course in those days there were many Indian servants, and people to look after everyone, including our pets, and even goats which came with us to supply milk for the children.

The weather at Christmas was perfect: sunny all day, but cold enough for a camp fire at night.

We children loved it all, Christmas tree, stockings, and dinner with a peafowl instead of a turkey. Wonderful days were spent on the elephants padding through the jungle, and the thrill and excitement of a beat for tiger was something special. Of course, there was shooting for the pot as we only carried our basic stores.

Although we were unable to have a Church Service, our Mother's small piano came too, was tuned by her on arrival and was ready to accompany hymns and carols, so that it was not a completely pagan Christmas.

Margaret Ridsdale.

THIS MONTH'S RECIPES

With Christmas and Hogmanay in mind, here are two Scottish Recipes, quick and easy to make.

AUNT MARY'S TABLET

1 lb granulated sugar	Small tin Nestles Con-
$\frac{1}{4}$ pint water	densed milk
2 oz butter	1 teaspoon vanilla essence

Method:

Dissolve sugar in water in a pan; add butter and condensed milk, and dissolve in syrup. Boil, stirring gently, for approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ hour. Add vanilla, and beat until mixture grains. Pour into greased tin, $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x $11\frac{1}{2}$ ". When set, cut into squares. Yield 1lb 6oz.

This traditional Scottish recipe makes the most mouth-watering sweets; if you have any left over after tasting, they make perfect presents in small bags or boxes.

Christine Barrett

You've heard of Whisky Sour; this is Whisky Sweet and absolutely delicious.

WHISKY SWEET

1 packet sponge fingers	4 ozs plain chocolate
4 oz butter	2 tbls whisky
4 oz castor sugar	Small carton double cream
3 eggs	

Method:

Grease a loose-bottomed baking tin with butter, and line the bottom with greaseproof paper. Line the sides of the tin with sponge fingers cut in half. Cream together butter and sugar; separate eggs, whisk the yolks until creamy, and beat them into

the mixture. Break chocolate into small pieces and melt with a dessertspoon of water in a bowl over a pan of simmering water; when melted, add to butter mixture and stir well in with the whisky. Whisk egg whites until very stiff and dry, and lightly fold into the chocolate mixture. Pour quickly into lined tin, and chill in fridge for several hours.

About two hours before serving, whip up cream and spread over top of cake; decorate with grated chocolate and return to fridge to set firm.

To serve, push bottom of tin up, leaving cake standing on the base.

Irene Gibbs.

EAST BERKSHIRE MOBILE LIBRARY

Aston: The Flower Pot 1.30 - 1.55

Remenham: Little Angel 2.05 - 2.25

Remenham Hill: Five Horseshoes 2.30 - 2.45

Remenham Hill: Post Box 2.50 - 3.05

Forthcoming dates: December 10th, 24th, January 7th,
21st.

RUBBISH SKIP

The next appearance of the rubbish skip will be on January 10th on the verge opposite Thamesfield, Wargrave Road. The skip will stay there from 10 a.m. on the Thursday morning until Friday morning.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mr and Mrs Ridsdale, on their Ruby Wedding

To Janet and Howard Brown, on 25th November, a son

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

This year's competition is for 'My Best Holiday Snapshot of 1979'. Do send in as many as you can.

For children of 12 years and under, there is a prize for the best Birthday Card.

All entries must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope (to ensure return), to arrive by December 28th at the VERY LATEST, to:

The Editor, The Cottage, Aston,
Henley-on-Thames.

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