

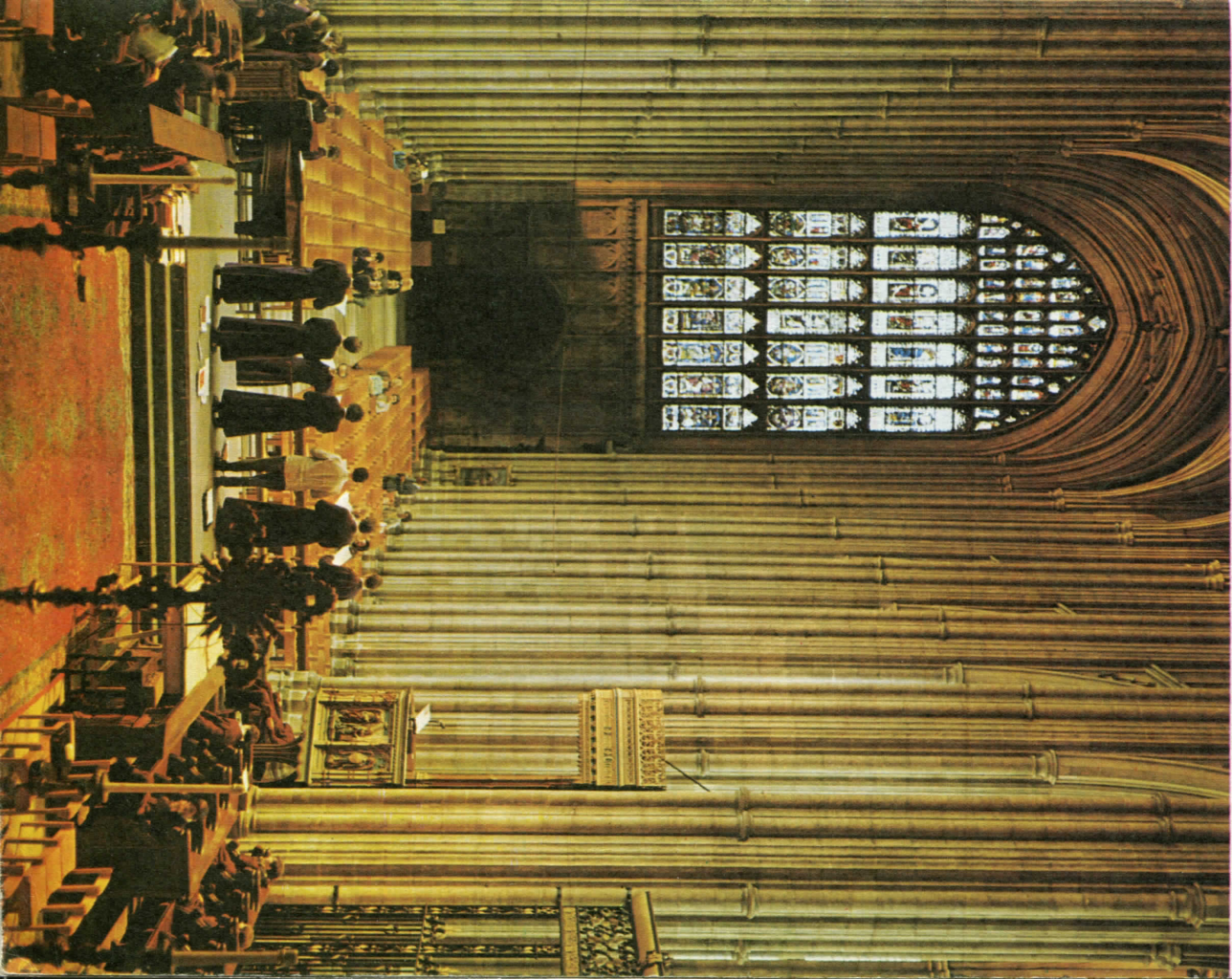
marston news

parish church of st. nicholas

No. 189

Price 5p

NOVEMBER



ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH — OLD MARSTON

Vicar : Rev. Paul N. Rimmer, M.A.

11 Elsfeld Road, Old Marston. Tel : 47034.

Reader : Mr. W. H. Saumarez Smith, O.B.E., M.A., Bishop's Wood End, Cuddesdon.

Parish Worker : Deaconess O. J. Lodge, 5 Elsfeld Road, Old Marston.

Tel. : Oxford 47956.

Vicar's Warden : Mr. V. C. Cardy, 110 Staunton Road, Headington, Oxford. Tel. : 61116.

People's Warden : Mr. A. W. Sidebottom, Melandra, Old Road, Shotover, Oxford. Tel. : Oxford 62654.

Secretary of the P.C.C. : Mrs. M. Harlow, Fir Tree House, Old Marston
Organist : Mrs. E. A. Garner, "Barn Gates," 31 Oxford Rd., Old Marston
Tel. : Oxford 41888.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion : 8 a.m.

Parish Communion : 10 a.m. Parish Communion (followed by Coffee).

Crèche in Scout Hut.

Evening Prayer and Sermon : 6.30 p.m.

Holy Baptism : Second and Fourth Sundays of the month at 3 p.m. unless otherwise announced. Notice must be given.

Holy Matrimony : Banns to be given in at the Vicarage.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion : Wednesdays at 7.15 a.m.

3rd Friday at 10.30 a.m. with Laying on of Hands for sick.
And at other times, as announced. (See Notice Board).

The Daily Services of Morning and Evening Prayer are usually said each day at 7.15 a.m. and 5.15 p.m. (except on Saturdays). Wednesday : Morning Prayer is at 9.15 a.m. but it is advisable to consult the notice board in the Church Porch.

CHURCH ORGANISATIONS AND MEETINGS :

Children's Instruction : Confirmation School and Crossbearers, 10 a.m. in Church Hall. 1st Sunday in month - Parish Communion.

K.G. and Juniors : Sundays, 11.15 a.m.

Nursery : Sundays, 11.15 a.m. in Mortimer Hall.

Mother's Union : As announced, 7.45 p.m. at the Vicarage.

Young Wives Group : Alternate Wednesdays, 7.45 p.m. in Church Hall

Bellingers : Practice Night — Friday nights, 7.45 p.m.

Brownies : Monday, 6 p.m. in Scout Headquarters.

Girl Guides : Monday, 7.30 p.m. in Scout Headquarters.

Cubs : Tuesday & Thursday, 6.15 p.m. in Scout Headquarters.

43rd St. Nicholas' Scout Troop : Friday, 7.15 p.m. in Scout Headquarters.

As the covers are printed in advance you are advised to consult the Notice Board in the Church Porch, in case of alteration of times.

PARISH CALENDAR : NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1. Thursday. Festival of All Saints.
Holy Communion 7.15 p.m.
- " 4. TRINITY XX. 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. The Parish Communion.
11.15 a.m. Children's Instruction.
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.
- " 6. Tuesday. 9.15 a.m. Housewives Holy Communion.
- " 7. Wednesday. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
- " 11. TRINITY XXI. Remembrance Sunday
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. The Parish Communion.
10.55 a.m. Special Service for Remembrance Day.
The British Legion will be attending.
11.15 a.m. Children's Instruction.
3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism (after previous arrangement).
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.
14. Wednesday. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.45 p.m. Marston Wives.
- " 15. Thursday. Meeting of the Oxford Council of Churches.
- " 16. Friday. 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- " 18. TRINITY XXII. 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. The Parish Communion.
11.15 a.m. Children's Instruction.
6.30 p.m. Evensong. Visit of Cynthia Brown, Commonwealth and Continental Church Society.
This will be a Youth Service and all young people are warmly invited.
A Film will be shown on Rescue work in Switzerland. The Y.F. will meet at the Vicarage after the service.
- " 20. Tuesday. 8.0 p.m. Meeting of all interested in flower arrangement in the Church. Rota for Altar flowers for forthcoming year will be planned.
- " 21. Wednesday. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
- " 25. SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. The Parish Communion.
11.15 a.m. Children's Instruction.
3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism (after previous arrangement).
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.
- " 27. Tuesday. 8.0 p.m. in the Church Hall. Meeting of Stewardship Continuation Committee and Parish visitors.
- " 28. Wednesday. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.45 p.m. Marston Wives. "Poetry for Pleasure." Vicar.
7.30 p.m. Institution of new priest-in-charge at St. Francis, Cowley.
The Rev. Ian Randall.
- " 29. Thursday. 7.30 p.m. Cowley Deanery Synod at Ifley.
Subject : "The need for Pastoral Re-organization."
- " 30. Friday. Festival of St. Andrew, Apostle.
7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.

ALTAR FLOWER ROTA

- Nov. 4. Mr. John Day.
Nov. 11. Mrs. M. Hilditch.
Nov. 18. Mrs. O'Keefe.
Nov. 25. Mrs. M. Monger.

VICAR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,
November — the month for Remembrance and also for the Royal Wedding.

With regard to the former, we shall be holding our traditional Remembrance Service on Sunday, November 11th at 10.55 a.m., after the 10 a.m. Parish Communion. We need more than ever to pray for the peace of the world, and to remember the wounded and maimed of all nations who at this present time are suffering as a result of war.

We shall rejoice with Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips on the occasion of their marriage on November 14th. I was reflecting on the fact that every marriage service I have conducted has something particularly individual about it. Recently I was invited to share in the service at a Roman Catholic Church in London. The simplicity of the wording of the new Roman rite impressed me:

"Lord, may they both praise you when they are happy and turn to you in their sorrow.

May they be glad that you help them in their work and know that you are with them in their need.

May they pray to you in the community of the Church and be your witnesses to the world.

May they reach old age in the company of their friends, and come at last to the kingdom of heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen."

The prayer sums up what Christian marriage is all about. That is why it is sad when a couple arrive to put up their banns, without ever bothering to attend church, and in some cases do not bother to hear their banns called. What a difference there is in those marriages where one or other or both of the partners are keen Christians and take their Christian obligations seriously!

Often I am approached to conduct a wedding for a couple, when neither live in the parish, nor have qualified to have their names put on the parochial roll. One partner merely resides in the parish for three weeks and then departs into the blue again. This is always an embarrassment, as it is neither fair to the parishes from where they came, nor to the parish of St. Nicholas, which they are only using for the purpose of being married. I have much greater sympathy with the couple who say: "We don't live in this parish, but we have been worshipping here regularly and we want to have our names put on the parochial roll." In this case the Church has come to mean not just a picturesque old building, but stands as a symbol for the meeting place of the congregation of Christ's flock who share together in the worshipping and sacramental life of the Church.

Yours sincerely,

Paul R. Fleming

THE SIGN & WINDOW NOVEMBER 1973



photo: Raymond Lee

Time Like an Ever Rolling Stream . . .

EVERY now and then, as time rolls by, it's a good idea to pause and see how we are getting on. As it is, one year succeeds another full of getting and spending; of failing and succeeding; of being glad and being sorry; of being tired and getting over it again and of course, everyone, whether young or old, is in fact getting older with each day that passes.

Some of the young seem old in spirit, and some of the old seem

young in heart. People vary in this respect as in others. Maybe everyone is as old as he feels.

But what does it matter how we feel about the passage of time on this superficial level? The real things that matter are what we have done with the time we've had, and what we intend to do with the time which, if God is willing, remains.

Everybody's individual life is a wonderful thing, made up of many

Question Page

All questions on the faith and practice of the Anglican Communion sent to The Editor, Question Page, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford, will be answered personally by him if accompanied by a stamped reply envelope. A Book Token, value 50p, will be sent to the writer of each question published.

Confirmation

Could you please tell me where in the Bible there is a commandment stating that confirmation as we know it is required before any person is allowed to partake of communion. I have searched the scriptures but find no such commandment.

Your question is important and interesting. Confirmation certainly has a biblical background and warrant. It goes back to the beginning of the Christian Church. It was the laying on of hands by the apostles upon the head of the baptised by which the gift of the Holy Spirit was bestowed. Originally it was administered at the same time as Baptism (Acts 19.6) or as a separate rite following Baptism (Acts 8.14-17) and its form was the laying on of hands and, possibly anointing with oil (2 Corinthians 1.21-22).

Early rites

It was in the Middle Ages that the separation of Baptism from Confirmation in the Western Church gradually took place. For example, at the Synod of Worcester in 1240, one year's interval only was allowed between Baptism and Confirmation. The teaching of the 1559 prayer book is particularly emphatic and interesting. Confirmation was declared to be for the strengthening of the baptised against all temptations to sin and it was to be administered by a bishop only, with laying on of hands, and immediately before that ceremony came an invocation of the Holy Ghost.

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In later years, and especially in the eighteenth century, the administration of Confirmation became something of a scandal because it took place so rarely and attracted such large and disorderly crowds. There was a Vicar of Halifax in 1761, for instance, who recalled one Confirmation when the number of candidates was about 9,000. But the original piety and importance of the rite was restored and it is now, as it always has been, a most important part of Christian initiation.

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Question Competition

Can you answer the following question in not more than 100 words: **How can the Church make better use of television?**

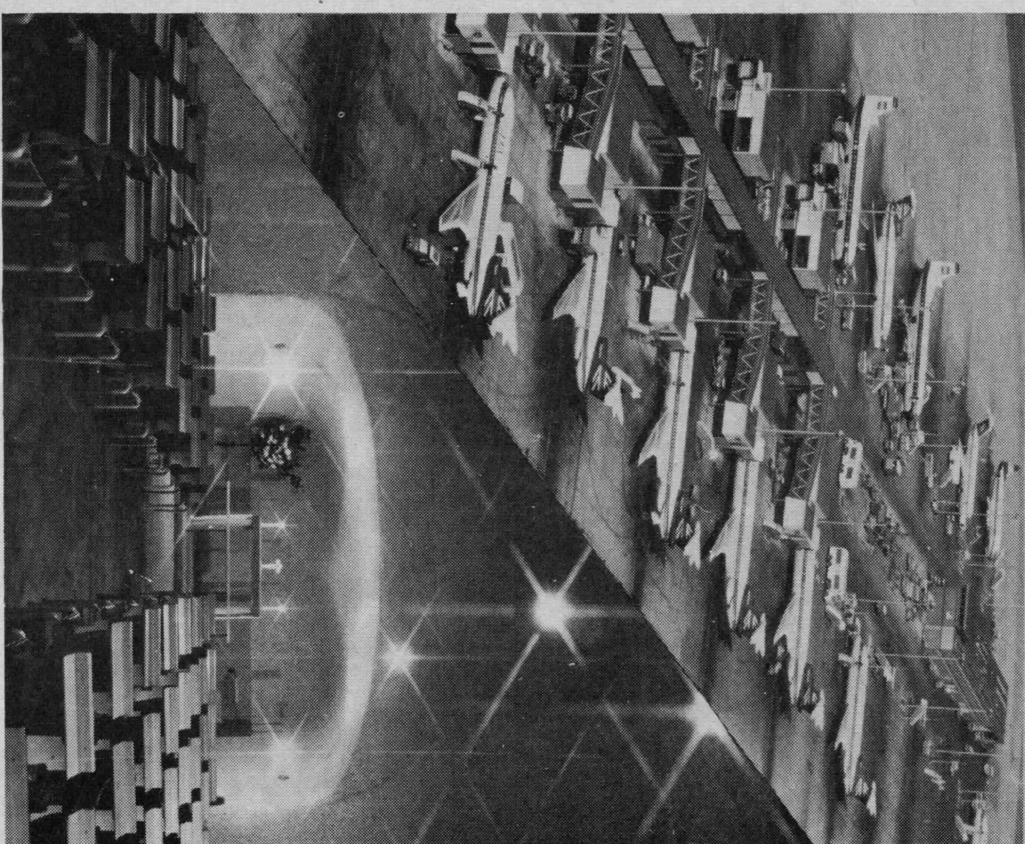
Write your own letter in reply and send it to Question Competition, The Sign & Window, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EG. A £3 Book Token will be awarded to the winning entry. Closing date 30th November.

The question **Is euthanasia, or mercy-killing, ever justified?** drew a large response and the letters for and against were evenly balanced. The winning entry was received from Mrs P. M. Muller, SRN, of Camborne, Cornwall:

'I think euthanasia is wrong, but keeping people alive when they are just like cabbages is also wrong, they should be allowed to die peacefully, in certain hope of Resurrection to a better life after death.'

As a nurse I have seen terminal cases helped along by pain-killing drugs, surely better than weeks of agony. Brain damaged or hopelessly deformed babies are not fed or given oxygen, they die in a week or two.

There are not the resources to keep thousands of people artificially alive. Allowing them to die *naturally* leaves room for others on this over-populated planet.'



top photo: BEA Photo Unit

Hidden Places of Prayer

St George's Chapel, Heathrow, is right in the centre of the airport. The chapel, situated underground, was built for all Christians to share and is available at any time as a place of rest, quiet and prayer. In the summer about a thousand people use the chapel every week. But the chapel is only the tip of the iceberg. The chaplains have created an organisation called 'Travellers' Help'. This serves all passengers going in and out of Heathrow, and copes with any problems they may have which cannot be dealt with elsewhere. And so the chapel at Heathrow is like any church elsewhere: it is a place of worship which serves a community.

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photo: Keystone Press Agency Ltd.

PROBLEMS OF OUR TIME

EDWARD PATEY

The Control of Death

DEELY woven into many ancient fairy stories and legends is the search for eternal youth. Faust sold his soul to the devil so that he might once again recapture his youth. The modern cosmetic industry tries to pick up the tale where the fairy stories leave off. But can old age and death be delayed much beyond the biblical limit? Can it be postponed altogether?

Of immediate concern is the development of techniques for minimising the effects of old age, and for hastening or delaying the actual moment of death. This brings us into the very difficult moral area of resuscitation and euthanasia.

There was a time when most people believed that the stopping of the heart beat was the surest sign of death. Today it is an established fact that people have been 'brought back to life' by medical or surgical means after the heart had stopped beating. Many would say that brain function is a better criterion than heart function when trying to find a definition for death. Much of this is highly technical. But the general public has gradually become aware that new techniques have put into the hands of the medical man powers to hasten or arrest dying.

Terminal illness

At what stage in a terminal illness do you give up the effort to prolong life, and allow the patient to die? What can be described as a hopeless case? If the number of machines giving intensive care is limited in a hospital, how do you draw up a priority list? Doctors may say that this is a medical prob-

lem which only they can decide. This may be partly true. The laymen cannot have access to all the facts. Yet ethical questions are raised which must be on the conscience of the whole community.

No snap answer

Certainly no snap answer can be given to such questions. It is only possible to indicate some of the factors.

A man suffers severe brain damage as the result of an accident. For six months he is in a deep coma. By being given essential nursing care, he can be kept alive for a very long time. Is there any stage at which this care should be withdrawn? If decisions have to be made, who makes them? The patient himself is unable to do so. The relatives may be in a such an emotional state that they are unable to make any objective assessment of the situation.

What about the doctor? Is he able to write off a case as 'hopeless', without fear of contradiction? Severe illnesses from which patients inevitably died a generation ago can now either be controlled or cured. Even doctors may have mixed motives when making decisions. One man might, quite unconsciously, be glad to be rid of a difficult or demanding patient. Another might want his patient to hang on to life in order to test new drugs.

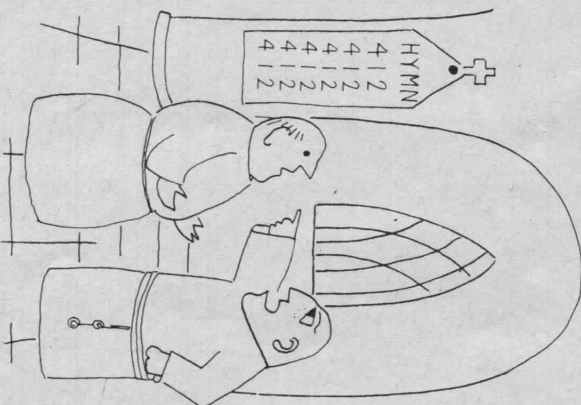
The sacredness of life

The community at large may have other concerns. There is a shortage of medical staff, equipment, and available hospital beds. How much skill, machinery, expense and space should be devoted to prolonging, for a short time, the life of one patient.

Underlying all this, is the deeply held conviction about the 'sacredness of life'. This comes not only from the natural instinct of self-preservation, but also from the insights of the Chris-

tian religion. Does the commandment 'Thou shalt not kill' include the switching-off of the respirator in a hopeless case? If we say 'yes' to this, we then have to go on to ask whether the command to love our neighbour as ourselves might not sometimes lead to a different answer. We cannot shirk the new powers of prolonging life or arresting death which God has given to us through the skills of medical science and technology. We are called, not to turn our backs on these new opportunities, but to discover how we may use them with the utmost sense of reverence and responsibility.

© Edward H. Patey. These extracts are taken from *Burning Questions*, by Edward Patey, published by A. R. Mowbray & Co Ltd, 28 Margaret Street, London W1N 7LB at 60p. Available from any bookseller.



But it's my favourite!

Cartoon by Brother Graham Jeffery, taken from *Barnabas*, published by Ure Smith, available at any bookshop, price 173p.

Supertary
A mother was explaining to her daughter the meaning of hotels with stars—three star, four star, etc. 'People can't have thought much of Jesus,' said the little girl, 'he only had one.'

Minimum Wage

A national minimum wage has been suggested by St. Albans industrial chaplain, Mike West. Mr. West also calls for a close look at wage differentials and an attempt at national job evaluation, bearing in mind that the work of each man is important.

Gripping

A reader tells me that an old lady, asked whether she liked the new vicar, replied 'Oh, he's all right, but he doesn't hold me like the other one did.'

Material for inclusion on this page should be sent to Michael Jacob, The Sign, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EG.

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One Column Bible Commentary

WILLIAM NEIL

IT is no accident that the Day of Prayer for the Missionary Work of the Church Overseas is held next to St. Andrew's Day at the end of this month. St. Andrew does not feature so largely in the gospels as his more famous brother St. Peter, but he does get more frequent mention than most of the other twelve apostles. And in two of the three incidents where he plays a leading role (John 1.40 ff.; 6.8; 12.22 ff.) his missionary spirit is in evidence.

Beside the Jordan

On the first occasion beside the river Jordan, when Jesus was still unrecognised except by John the Baptist, it was Andrew who grasped the truth that John had seen. But as we are told 'the first thing he did was to find his brother'. He said to him: 'We have found the Messiah', and forthwith brought Peter to Jesus. What mattered to him was that his discovery of Jesus must not be kept selfishly to himself, but must be passed on to others, beginning with his own family.

Later on came the moment, which Jesus treated as of profound significance for his work on earth, when some foreigners approached with the request that they would 'like to see Jesus'. It was Andrew who saw the significance of this and went to tell the Master. Once again it was a case of a man with a vision, a man who could see beyond his Jewish background to the wider possibilities of a community including Jews and Gentiles. In modern terms this was the vision of a World Church.

WHAT was Jesus really like? Good, yes. Obviously. But not just in a cardboard way. He was brave. He knew that the Jewish leaders hated him and wanted to kill him. He spent the last winter of his life in little country villages, out of their way, because he was determined not to be caught before the spring—when all the men in Palestine would be in the city of Jerusalem for the great feast of the Passover. Then, although his friends begged him not to go, he made a deliberately noticeable entrance into the city and began to talk to the crowds right under his enemies' noses.

He trusted God. He went on trusting, even when it hurt to do so. Matthew, Mark and Luke all describe that night in the olive orchard of Gethsemane when he struggled with his own fear and finally said to God, 'You know best. I'll do what you want, not what I want.'

He was determined that his friends should go on with the work he had begun. All four gospels tell us this—you can read about it in Matthew 28.16-20; Mark 16.15-20; Luke 24.44-53 and John 21.15-17.

Many other parts of the different gospels tell in the same way what Jesus was like as a person. Perhaps you could find some examples for yourselves? You'll probably find it more interesting than reading the gospels just to find out what he did, though of course that's how you have to start.

Competition

Can you write a hymn, to any well-known tune you choose, that will tell everyone what Jesus is like? Send it to Pamela, with your name, address and age (don't forget to say what the tune is, too), at The Sign, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EG. Prizes for the best.

Pamela



One thing which Jesus did that we can do too is to care not just about our friends (that's easy) but about people whom we don't like very much—the ones we think are bossy or silly or babyish. Let's ask God to help us to be nicer to people who aren't our friends, as well as to people who are.

Women's World...

Anne Arnott writes:

THROUGH all the storms of winter men will go out, as they have through the years, to rescue those at sea. Pause for a moment and think of their courage, needed no less today than in the past. Man's vast technological achievements can never tame the elements, yet slowly but surely he has had to learn how best to cope with natural disaster.

November has always been a month of violent storms. The 'Great Storm' of November 1703, one of the most violent ever known in this country, lasted a week and caused immense destruction and loss of life. The Bishop of Bath and Wells, and his wife, were killed in bed when a chimney stack fell on them. Londoners took refuge in their cellars and many thought the end of the world had come.

Daniel Defoe wrote: 'Horror and confusion seized upon us all; no pen can describe it, no tongue can express it.'

But some of the worst tragedies occurred among the ships in the Thames, and in the Fleet at sea. In this disaster it was the efforts of a simple 'humble man', the Mayor of Deal, which helped to alleviate suffering. Not only did he battle unremittingly to save the lives of injured sailors, but he fought to get financial help for the destitute widows and children of shipwrecked seamen.

But more practical help was needed. In 1824, the Institution for the Preservation of Life was formed, 'to establish life-boats and mortar-rockets at the dangerous parts of our coasts.' Gradually, the superb boats we now see used by the RNLI were evolved.

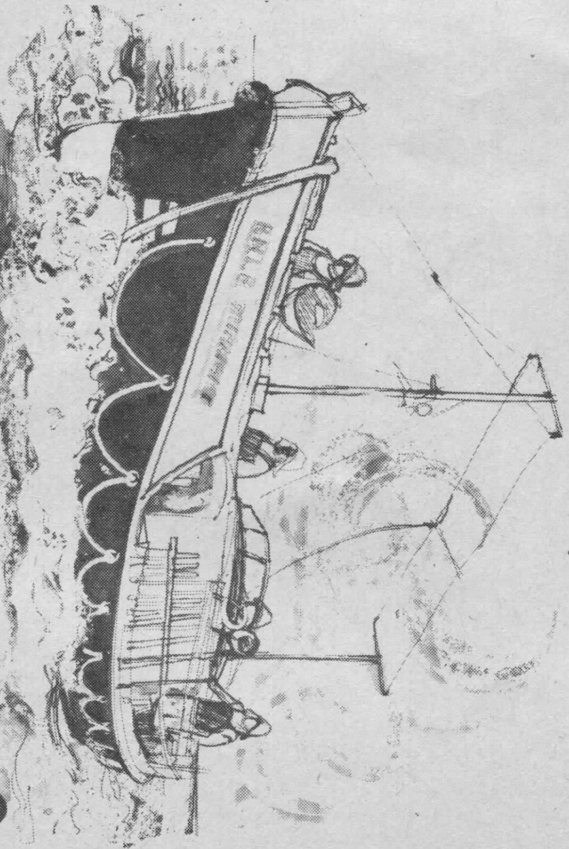


Illustration: Patricia Frost

IN THE HOME

Coffee Mornings November is a good month to invite friends into your home for coffee; it can be an invaluable means of welcoming newcomers to your district; or of showing friendship to your neighbours, but many people like to raise money for some pet charity in this way. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution is always glad of funds. Care for the injured and destitute, and help for our great life-saving institutions must go hand in hand. Both types of cause need our help just as much as in past decades. Here are two useful recipes:

Homemade biscuits

There is nothing quite like homemade biscuits but when one has a lot of other things to do biscuit-making can be time-consuming. This recipe makes a large quantity but the biscuits will keep satisfactorily in the refrigerator for a couple of weeks—or in a deep freeze for several months. Bake when your oven is hot after roasting. It only takes a moment to roll the ready prepared dough into biscuits. $3\frac{1}{2}$ cups plain flour, $1\frac{1}{2}$ tsp bicarbonate of soda, $1\frac{1}{2}$ tsp cream of tartar, 2 cups sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb butter or marg, 2 eggs. Sift bicarb, cream of tartar and flour to-

gether. Cream butter and sugar. Beat eggs separately and add to butter and sugar and mix well. Then add dry ingredients and mix thoroughly. Roll into balls, place on baking tray and flatten slightly. Bake at 400° or Gas Mark 7, until golden brown. Allow to cool before removing from tray and placing on wire rack.

Fruit loaf

1 cup brown sugar, 1 lb mixed dried fruit, 1 cup strong hot black tea, 1 egg, 2 cups self-raising flour, pinch of salt. Put sugar and cleaned fruit into bowl. (No need to dry the fruit.) Add the hot tea and leave to steep overnight. Next day stir in the beaten egg and sifted flour and salt. Bake at 300° or Gas Mark 5 for one hour, or until a warmed skewer comes clean out of the centre.

Competition Results

The winner of the May competition for the most useful vegetarian recipe was Mrs D. J. Harvey of Bengoe, Hertford. The winner of the June competition, describing a holiday adventure, was Miss Irene Biss of Bourne-mouth, who told of a fascinating time spent in Labrador and Newfoundland, working for The International Grenfell Association as a Volunteer.

The British Deaf Association



Valerie was born deaf.

relies on legacies and gifts for the continuance of its work for deaf people, particularly those who, like Valerie, were born deaf or were deafened in childhood. Its Council is predominantly deaf and so has knowledge and understanding of the special needs of people who suffer the isolation and loneliness of total deafness. Your help would mean so much.

The British Deaf Association,
38 Victoria Place, Carlisle.

Patron: The Marquess of Salisbury.

Post some joy this Christmas to the old and lonely

Help the Aged will multiply your gift twenty-fold—to give happiness for many years to come.

Most of us look forward to Christmas with family, friends. But for many old people it will be another desperately lonely day. Instead of warmth and good cheer, there will be the damp, chilly room, "huddling close to the gas cooker to keep warm", probably an outside toilet to make it seem even colder. All the festive lights will be in other people's windows.

Each one of us can help to change that tragic situation for one old man or woman. All over Britain Help the Aged is building flats, where they find friendship, adequate warmth, with a helpful warden on call, so that people in great need are re-housed and given a new lease of life.

More flats are needed urgently—and the funds to build them. £3 provides £60 of housing, thanks to loans available. £10 provides £200 of vital housing.

**£150 names a flat in memory of someone dear to you.
£250 names a double flat.**

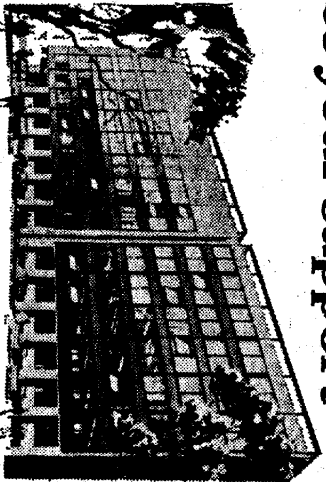
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The End of Our Exploring by Monica Furlong, Hodder & Stoughton £2.25

Few authors have developed in their writing the sense of 'journey' as has Monica Furlong. The spiritual journey of each individual, and the diversity of ways in which that journey is made, is the theme of her new book. Traditional forms of 'journey' as made in classical mythology, in literature, in Christianity, are compared with the sometimes painful, always groping methods of search in our own day: the pop-culture, the drug-scene, and the liberation in sexual thought and experience. Against them all she places the Jungian theme of individuation—then stands back with impeccable impartiality to allow the reader to draw his own conclusions.

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Edgware Way, Edgware, Middlesex.

First Christmas by Paul L. Maier, Mowbrays £1.95

In stripping away the frills and tinsel from the Christmas story, Paul Maier has done a service to many people. Logically and objectively he sets the scene, portrays the characters, unfolds the background, both political and historical, to the first Christmas. Joseph and Mary become real people in a setting which is also real, the author's factual prose avoiding the trap of sentimentality. For those who have not yet met the various theories before, the chapter on the Star of Bethlehem should prove both fascinating and enlightening, revealing once again that a 'miracle' need not be any less 'miraculous' for being based on observable physical laws.

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W. E. Shewell-Cooper's GARDENING NOTES

OFTEN the hobby of gardening starts in a simple desire to have a nice lawn and a few flowers; before long better and more beautiful plants are brought along. Then comes the time when a greenhouse is necessary.

A greenhouse is particularly useful at this time of the year, for although there is lots of pruning to do, if you are growing fruit, it's nice to be able to slip into a warm glasshouse when it is really cold. To heat such a house makes all the difference, and nowadays this can be done electrically or by an automatic gas heater. For economy the temperature should be round about 45° F.

Cyclamen

My wife is fond of cyclamen, which she grows from seed each year. There's a large strain known as *C. persicum* giganteum with a number of varieties like *Butterfly*, a salmon rose; *Tex*, with silver margined leaves; *Rosalie*, a sweet scented salmon rose; *Pink Pearl*, a pink; and *Salmon Scarlet*, a brilliant orange scarlet. The seeds cost about 15p a packet.

At this time of year cyclamen in pots

need careful watering. A good idea is to dip them in luke-warm water rather than to apply the moisture from above. In a greenhouse, with hot water heating, where the temperature can be kept at 55° F. without much extra expense, cyclamen can be stood in saucers filled with water. But don't do this at lower temperatures. Cyclamen need a lot of sunshine and the greenhouse glass should be kept clean. Keep the plants out of the shade for if they have too little light they grow long floppy leaf stalks.

My wife tells me the seeds she sows in February or March in no-soil compost always flower by October.

Azalea

Another lovely plant for the winter is the *Azalea indica*. Even in a big greenhouse three good plants give glorious colour during the winter even if the temperature can be kept at only 40° to 43° F. I can tell when the plants need watering by looking at the base of the stem. When it is really dark, no water is needed, but when the base becomes pale, it's necessary to give the plant a thorough soaking, preferably by immersing the pot in a bucket half-filled with tepid water.

Advertisement

Sight restored 108,280 successful operations Blindness prevented 51,615 operations; 1,576,430 treatments

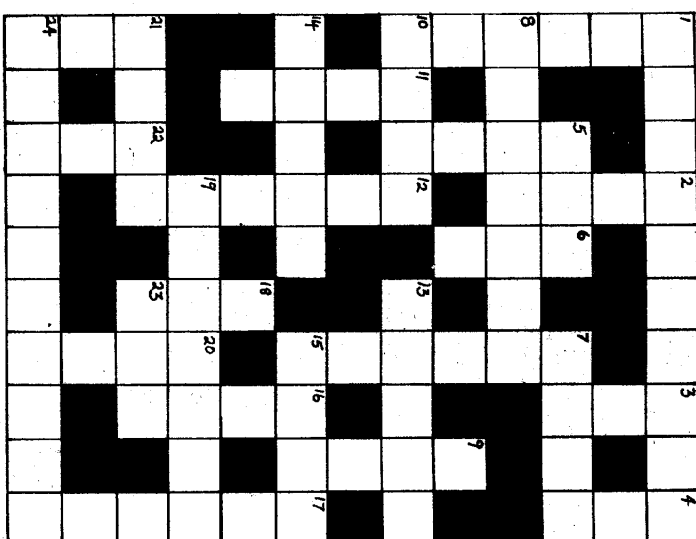
1969/1973 REPORT

Please help us to make this year even more effective than last.
Dept. S, Heath Road, Haywards Heath,
Sussex. Patron: H.M. The Queen.

The Royal
Commonwealth Society
for the Blind

PRIZE CROSS WORD NO. 7

Entry date for Prize Crossword Competition No. 7 is November 30th. The first correct, neat entry opened on that day will receive a Book Token for £1. Send to Crossword Competition No. 7, The Sign & Window, c/o A. R. Mowbray & Co Ltd, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0EG. Remember to add your name and address to the entry.



Across

1. An industrial Diocese (10)
5. Little devil in the parish of Christ Church, Timperley! (3)
7. 'Whither have ye made a—today' 1 Sam. 27.10 (4)
8. 'Come, Holy Ghost, our souls—' Hymn (7)
10. Sown in a parable Matt. 13.4 (4)
13. Psalm tune (5)
14. Used in administering a Sacrament (5)
15. Ecclesiastically linked with Wells (4)
19. Organisation to help the homeless! (7)
21. Averse to work (4)
23. 'The place is—strait for me' Isa. 49.20 (3)
24. Cathedral in Hampshire (10)

Down

1. May be said or sung in Church (6)
2. Employed by Scouts or Guides (4)
3. 'No man can serve—masters' Matt. 6.24 (3)
4. A sea (3)

5. Patmos, for instance Rev. 1.9 (4)
6. Into which Joseph was cast Gen. 37.24 (3)
7. Son of Rimmon 2 Sam. 4.5 (6)
9. '—being—together in love' Col. 2.2 (4)
11. Province Dan. 8.2 (4)
12. Smart! (6)
16. Singer of 13 across (4)
17. Film unfit for children (6)
18. Full of fishes John 21.11 (3)
20. Cast in choosing Matthias Acts 1.26 (4)
21. The Psalmist loved it! Ps. 119. 97 (3)
22. Wilderness Num. 13.21 (3)

Solution to Crossword No. 6 (Sept.)

- Across**
1. Holy Bible. 5. Clubs. 6. Onyx. 8. Ell. 9. Mount. 10. Seer. 13. Income. 16. Als. 18. Altar. 19. All. 20. Baca. 22. Achan. 23. Catechism.
- Down**
1. Hallow. 2. Lebanon. 3. Idols. 4. Lay. 7. Niece. 11. Red. 12. Ira. 13. Isaac. 14. Malachi. 15. Balaam. 17. Slave. 21. Asa.

If you want to change the world, you have to start somewhere.

Dig an irrigation ditch and water flows where no water flowed before.

And one small field in Africa can produce food.

The tools and the money to pay for them come from us.

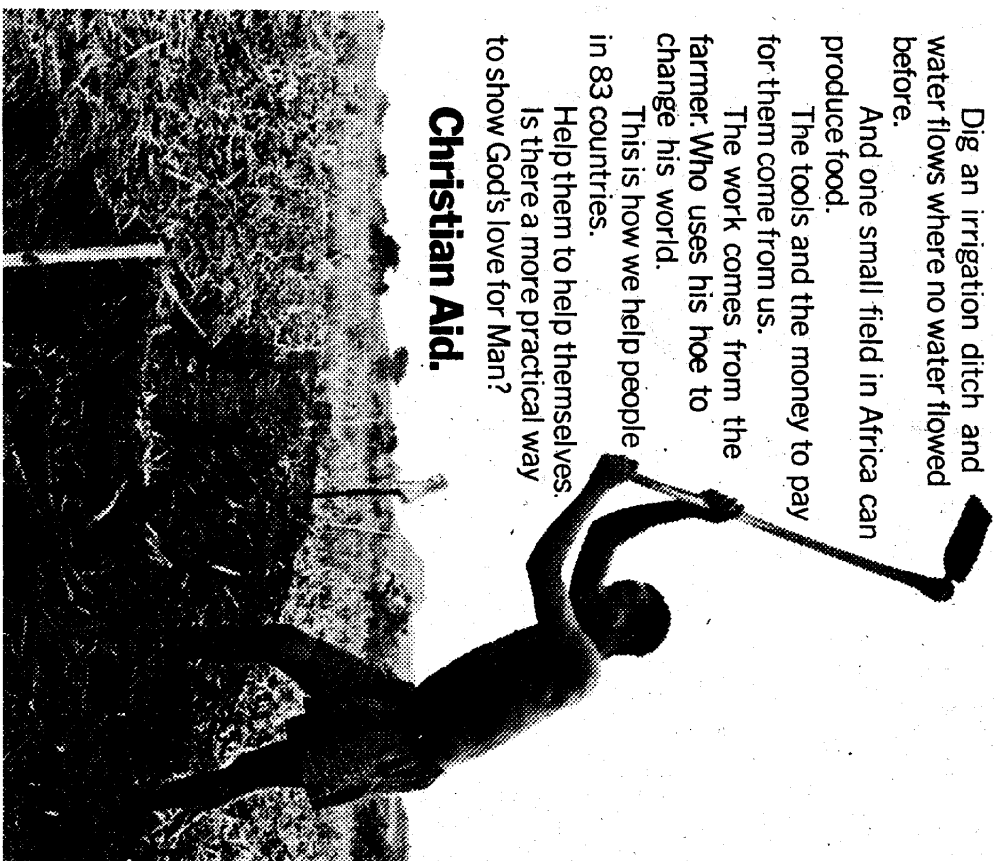
The work comes from the farmer. Who uses his hoe to change his world.

This is how we help people in 83 countries.

Help them to help themselves. Is there a more practical way

to show God's love for Man?

Christian Aid.



Christian Aid, P.O. Box No. 1, London S.W.1.

CHILDREN OF THE CHURCH

The outcome of the Parish meeting held last month is that as from Advent Sunday, 2nd Dec. Instruction will be provided at 10 a.m. in the Church Hall for those children whose parents wish to attend the Parish Communion each Sunday. In addition to this the 11.15 a.m. Instruction will continue and will take the form of a Family Service once a month on the first Sunday of each month.

It is hoped to provide instruction for the present group of Cross-bearers and Catechism during the week, having small groups meeting after school for about half an hour. This age-group would then be encouraged to attend the Parish Communion on a Sunday. This scheme will be experimental for approximately 6 months. The first Family Service will be on Advent Sunday at 11.15 a.m. which will be our usual St. Nicholas-tide Toy Service when we shall welcome all the children and their parents.

A creche for the very small children and babies will still be at the Vicarage at 10 a.m.

ABOUT PEOPLE

Congratulations and good wishes go to all those married recently. Peter Todd and Pamela Lankford. Peter Hulcup and Kathleen Quartermann. Also to Stephen Errington and Janet Humphries married at St. Edward the Confessor R.C. Church, Golders Green.

Welcome to those baptised into Christ's Family. Joanne Lesley Richens and Nigel Darrell Brooks. We remember the parents and god-parents in our prayers.

Gratitude To all those who have arranged flowers in our Church during the past year. Hardly a day goes by but someone shows appreciation and remarks upon their beauty. This does enrich our worship as well as bringing joy to all who visit the Church.

There will be a meeting on Tuesday, 20th November at 8 p.m. in the Church Hall for anyone interested in flower arranging and this will give us an opportunity to plan the rota for the next year for the Altar Flowers. We are always delighted to welcome new people on to the rota.

To all who helped to make the Over 60's Club Morning Market a great success. Nearly £65 is the grand total.

To all those children who brought gifts for Harvest Thangsgiving. These were distributed to the elderly and sick of the parish and were much appreciated.

Good Wishes to David Sheppard as he begins his career at Guildford University. The lovely new Cathedral overlooks the campus and we hope David will enjoy worshipping there.

Our thoughts and sympathy go to Mrs. Walker on the death of her husband. Mrs. Walker has been a member of the Mothers' Union for many years and we assure her and her family of our prayers at this time.

To the wife and family of Leslie Allsworth, residents of New Marston, Mrs. Allsworth has served in our Village shop for a number of years.

Also to Dr. Hewitt, who ministers to the sick in our parish, on the death of his father.

We shall also miss Mr. E. A. Webb, a regular attender at the Over 60's Club, and a former villager, who collapsed and died whilst in town recently.

To Mr. Baldwin and the family we offer our consolation on the passing of his wife, Winifred Mary.

Tony Colley's death, after his serious operation, was a profound shock to us all. A warm, friendly, and welcoming person, his death leaves a gap in the village, and to his widow and family we extend our deepest sympathies.

May all those who have been bereaved recently know the consolation of Christ's Presence.

To all the sick and those who are in hospital we send our love. They are remembered constantly in our prayers and we hope they will soon be fully restored to health.

THE MARSTON PLAYERS

The Marston Players will be performing Noel Coward's "Bithe Spirit" in the Mortimer Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8th, 9th and 10th November at 7.30 p.m. Come and support the local drama group!

RINGERS NOTES

Visit of the Oxford City Branch of the Oxford Guild to St. Nicholas' Church on Saturday, 8th December.

The A.G.M. of the Oxford City Branch of the Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers is being held at Marston this year. This will take the form of ringing, a service in Church followed by tea and a meeting and more ringing to complete the evening. Tea approx. 4.30 p.m. The ringers would be grateful for any help from ladies of the parish in serving tea and for gifts of sandwiches and cakes. If you are able to help in any way please contact the secretary, Mr. Alec Gammon, 50 Oxford Road. Tel. 46130. On past occasions the ringers have received considerable help from the parish. The welcome given has been much appreciated by the branch which visits Marston about once in 6 years.

Roy Jones.

ECUMENICAL BIBLE AND DISCUSSION GROUP

This will be meeting at 451 Marston Road every fortnight at 8 p.m. to discuss passages from St. Luke's Gospel. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 14th, and any interested are invited to go along.

Bill Cromley.

FOR SALE:

Large metal safe — 28" x 17" x 34". Buyer to collect. What offers? Apply Vicar or Churchwardens.

"GEORGIE"

Cowley St. John Upper School will be presenting the story of the famous Rev. George Moore, Vicar of Cowley, on Thursdays, November 15th and 22nd at 8 p.m. It will be produced by Humphrey Carpenter of Radio Oxford, with the cast of the radio production, and will last 90 minutes.

Admission will be 10p for adults and 5p for children under 16. Please send your remittance for tickets to the school or call at the school any weekday evening between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. (4.30 p.m. Friday).

CHURCH & LOCAL CLUBS, SOCIETIES, ETC. CHURCH

Bell Ringers. Sec.: Mr. A. Gammon, 50 Oxford Road.
Brownies: Brownie Guider: Miss I. Read, 6 Cotswold Crescent - Tel. 47370

Club Scout Leader: Mr. A. J. Roberts, 54 Cherwell Drive. Tel. 40879.
Girl Guides: Miss R. Fraser, 1 Cavendish Drive. Tel. 40098.

Parish Magazine: Deaconess O. Lodge, 5 Elsfeld Road. Tel. 47956.

Mothers' Union: Hon. Sec.: Mrs. D. Cady 110 Staunton Road, Headington. Tel. 61116.

Parochial Church Council. Sec.: Mrs. M. Harlow, Fir Tree House, Oxford Road.

Scouts. Scout Leader: Mr. N. J. Hughes, 53 Arlington Drive.
Group Scout Leader: Mr. W. Furber, 30 Colley Wood, Kennington. Tel. 34061.

Stewardship Recorder: Miss E. Warburton, Cross Cottage, Old Marston. Tel. 47339.

St. Nicholas, Marston Wives:
Group Leader: Mrs. R. B. Wells, 14 Raymond Road. Tel. 40357.
Secretary: Mrs. P. Lessiter, 62 Cherwell Drive. Tel. 43120.

Bible Reading Fellowship:
Sec.: Mrs. R. Lucas, 9 Talbot Road, Oxford. Tel. 55739.

LOCAL

Allotment Association. Sec.: Mr. R. Bowen, 135 Oxford Road.
British Legion. Marston & District Sec.: Mr. F. Thompson, 5 Temple Street, Oxford.

Marston Players: Roy Harvey, 18 Minster Road. Tel. 41228
Marston Residents' Association: Secretary: Mr. G. A. Hine, 21 Raymond Road. Tel. 40482.

Over 60's Club: Secretary: Mrs. W. Tomlinson, 35 Oxford Road.
Parish Council. Chairman: Mr. A. Gammon, 50 Oxford Road.

Parent-Teacher Association

St. Nicholas: Mr. Norman C. Jones, 52 Elms Drive.

Harlow School: Mrs. J. Hodgkins, 31 Elms Drive.

Women's Institute: Miss E. Warburton, Cross Cottage, Old Marston. Tel. 47339.

USEFUL INFORMATION

District Nurses, 6 Broughton's Close, Old Marston. Tel. Oxford 44417.
Health Visitor: Miss E. McDermott. Phone KIDLINGTON 3502.

Infant Welfare Clinic: The Village Hall, Thursdays 2—4 p.m.

Library: The Village Hall, Old Marston.

Monday and Wednesday — Closed.

Tuesday — 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

Thursday — 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Friday — 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Over 60's Club. St. Nicholas Church Hall, Mondays at 2.45 p.m.

Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, Elsfeld Road, Old Marston. Thursdays 4 to 4.30 p.m.

Village Hall. All Bookings to Mr. Tasker, 35 Mill Lane, Old Marston.

St. Nicholas' Church Hall and Committee Room. All Bookings to Deaconess O. J. Lodge, 5 Elsfeld Road, Old Marston. (47956).

Nursery School. All enquiries to: The Village Hall during School hours.

Play Group. All enquiries to: St. Nicholas Church Hall during school hours.

DIRECTORY

We hope all readers will patronise the shops advertised in this Directory where excellent service is assured :

- Baby Linen, Children's and Ladies' Wear, Wool, Slippers :** Tel. 63846
 "Joyce's," 18 Cherwell Drive, Marston.....
- Baby Linen and Ladies' Wear, Wool, etc. :** Tel. 42126
 Price, 5 Salford Road
- Bainger Stores :**
 Hardware, Toiletries, China, Glassware, Pet Foods.
 Pink Paraffin, 7 Salford Road..... Tel. 42776
- Butcher (High Class) :**
 V. C. White (Marston) Ltd., 17 Salford Rd., Old Marston ... Tel. 43177
- Caterers — Buffets & Wedding Receptions :**
 Cyril & Esme Weeks, "The Jack Russell," Salford Road..... Tel. 47668
- Chemist :**
 11 Old Marston Road, Marston..... Tel. 43824
- Christian Book Shop :**
 57A St. Clement's Street, Oxford..... Tel. 47567
- Coal Distributor :**
 Dunlops, L.M.S. Wharf, Oxford..... Tel. 42421
- Dairy :**
 J. W. Smith, Church Lane, Old Marston..... Tel. 48813
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 "Lionel" School of Motoring, R.A.C., I.A.M., M.O.T. Approved,
 12 Cotswold Crescent, Old Marston..... Tel. 42126
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 Cooper & Mills, 60 Marsh Lane Tel. 61320
- Fish-o-Fish, Poultry, Greengrocery and Frozen Foods :**
 Mrs. Tiwari, 19 Salford Road, Old Marston..... Tel. 42757
- Florists & Nurserymen. Wreaths, Crosses and Wedding Designs :**
 Joseph Austin. Specialist in wedding bouquets, wreaths and
 all floral designs. Cut flowers, plants. World-wide
 Inter-Flora, 51 George Street, Oxford..... Tel. 42383
- Funeral Directors :**
 Reeves & Pain, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford Tel. 42529
 48817
- Greengrocery and Fruit :**
 Connick, 12 Cherwell Drive..... Tel. 61736
- Grocery, Provisions and Old Marston Post Office :**
 Hayle's Self-Service, Oxford Road, Old Marston..... Tel. 49668
- Hairdressing :**
- Ladies' & Gent's :**
 S. T. Grenaway, 402 Marston Road, Oxford..... Tel. 48726
 Graham Hair Fashions, 9 Salford Road..... Tel. 41632
 (late night : Friday until 7.30 p.m.).
- Michael, Hair Fashions, 16 Cherwell Drive, Marston..... Tel. 63842**
- Hardware Stores and Paraffin Delivery Service :**
 Marston Hardware, 8 Cherwell Drive, Marston Tel. 61668
- Men's, Youths & Juvenile Wear, Alterations & Repairs & Dry Cleaning :**
 Percy's, 11 Salford Road, Old Marston..... Tel. 43212
- Newsagents, Tobacconists, Confectioners and Stationers :**
 Bakers (Oxford) Ltd., 7 Old Marston Road, Oxford..... Tel. 42123
 and 22 Cherwell Drive.
- B. J. Norton, 13 Salford Road Tel. 48932**
- Painter & Decorator, Plumbing & General Repairs :**
 S. Kushmar, 47 Ferry Road, Marston..... Tel. 47189
- Radio and Television, Rental, Sales and Service :**
 W. R. Hammond & Son Ltd., 404 Marston Road, Oxford... Tel. 47706
- Taxi — Car Hire (Long or Short Journeys) :**
 Marston Taxi Service, Mr. & Mrs. Leach,
 5 Oxford Road, Old Marston..... Tel. 47197
- Wavy Line Groceries, Provision and Frozen Foods :**
 Cherwell Stores, 2 Cherwell Drive..... Tel. 61667

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