august 1980 out of Reach

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"OUT OF REACH"

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Issue No. 47

August 1980

EDITORIAL

Although this month's and next months's issues of the magazine are "skeleton" issues I have been pleased to receive two unexpected contributions. John Robinson has written news of a former resident, Jeremy Patterson, who will be known to many of you. I was also delighted to receive through my letterbox a charming anonymous poem in praise of Reach. My thanks to the writer of it. Next month I will take a break and Janet Biggs will edit the magazine, as she so kindly does each September. If material comes to me as usual, I will pass it on to her.

I expect that most people are glad to learn that the Lodes are to be retained, the cost being met jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Anglian Water Authority. It is heartening that this decision was reached mainly through the campaign of strong objections from local people.

Congratulations to John and Jenny Reed on the birth of their son, Thomas, at the end of May. I am sorry not to have mentioned this in last month's issue, but it was brought to my notice too late for inclusion. Welcome to the Candian family who have recently moved into Ditchfield. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Eldred Harrison who recently became grandparents to Mark Edward born at Peterborough. Congratulations also to David Blocksage who was the winner of the Reach Junior Fishing Match.

Mrs. Tierney would like everyone to note that the shop is now closed on Saturday afternoons, but is open on Sunday mornings from 9.00.am. until 12.00 noon.

Happy holidays, with hopefully better weather, to all trose going away next month.

Kay Pote

LYNDA ANN - MR. DAVID

LADIES' - GENTS' HAIRSTYLISTS

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FROM THE VICAR

Having suffered nightmares about a wasp's nest I once stumbled on in a previous vicarage garden, I can understand Geoffrey Woollard's fears of stirring up a hornets' nest over the matter of religious education. So I should say at once that the following remarks are only the sound of a friendly bumble bee thinking aloud.

First, it is perhaps as well to pay a tribute to the very high quality of several of the Agreed Syllabuses worked out just after the war for the implementation of the 1944 Act. Considered purely as attempts to cover the necessary ground in an ordered way, they are still difficult to improve on.

Time, however, waits for no one, and far-reaching changes have taken place since those days. Most obviously, Britain has become a multi-racial society, so that in many, especially urban areas, Christianity has to be seen as one religion among several practised by pupils, and therefore has to be taught with a detachment or impartiality not easy to maintain, and for opposite reasons. A sincere Christian finds it hard to put the case for Buddhism, Islam or Marxism with the same conviction, insight and enthusiasm as for Christianity. Equally, and perhaps more seriously, a teacher with no religious beliefs whatever - and we have to face the fact that their number has increased since 1944 - finds it difficult to put the case for any religion with conviction when he or she is really a stranger to the power of religion as such.

But perhaps even more far-reaching are the changes in attitude to the teacher of religion resulting from the very skilled research into the way children actually learn in this very complicated way. One of the forces motivating such research was the very harsh and dismal fact revealed by the war experience that the enormous amount of faithful teaching of the Bible during the previous 20 - 30 years had made almost no impression whatever on the minds of those who had received it.

I speak as a fool here, of course, and very much open to correction, but I believe it is true that all this research has led to a profound switch of emphasis from pure information to what might be called attitudes. What is taught in schools now tends to be governed mainly by the point of psychological development the child has reached and will therefore seem to him or her to be not only intelligible but important, and make sense of the rest of their life and thinking.

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FROM THE VICAR - continued

Certainly, if I may say so, this is the basic principle adopted in our school here, which bases its teaching on the current Cambridgeshire syllabus, and it is thoroughly covered. But two things need to be said about all schools and syllabuses. First, though I haven't yet seen the Avon Syllabus referred to, all syllabuses need a lot of local adaption to make them workable in the local situation; secondly, no syllabus is of any use unless taught with genuine conviction by those prepared to be publicly counted as Christians. And we are fortunate to be able to rely on this conviction here.

The much more serious question we have to ask ourselves, if we are concerned about committal to a Christian society, is why faithful teaching in the school bears so little visible fruit in weekly worship. Even the inadequacy of the vicar, and the oddity of those already worshipping, hardly accounts for it.

J.K.B.

We have been asked to publish the following:-

? ? ? ? ? ? ?

Do you ever listen to the sermon on Sunday? If so, can you remember last week's? What was the aim of the preacher, and did he achieve it? What was good about it, and what parts of it could you improve? Did you agree with all that he said?

The problem with all these questions is that we seldom have an opportunity of getting together with others to find out what THEY think and feel, and we cannot make a really useful comment on the teaching we receive and it is neither customary, nor correct, to interrupt a sermon. So often for many of us the sermon is the only teaching we have in our Faith, and it would be so much better if we could answer back, and share our own views and feelings about the things which face us each day.

THE FOCUS CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE is set up for all Christians of every denomination and theological persuasion to look at the world, and to see just how we can apply the love of God in everyday events—and to share with other people to find out how they succeed or fail.

Why not join with a group - which is quite informal, and seldom over twelve people, meeting regularly one evening per week for one term, or two terms (or in some cases for one year or two

BRIDGEMAN AND SONS

NEWSAGENTS

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FROM THE VICAR - continued

years) - each course is different to suit different people with varying needs and interests. Most meetings take place in or near St. James's Church, Cambridge, and if you are interested to find out a bit more of the kind of courses which are being offered starting in the autumn (refresher courses - or perhaps 'brush-up' courses from the Bible to prayer, from modern scientific technology to music) why not get a prospectus* - ring Cambridge 45823 or write to the Enrolment Secretary, 2 Bowers Croft, Cambridge CB1 4RP.

We would welcome you, and are quite sure you would enjoy the course. It might help you to have even more to say about the Sermon on Sunday!

* (One of these is available at the back of St. Mary's.)

FROM THE CHURCHES

Worship in August - St. Mary's and Reach

3rd	TRINITY IX	
	8.00.a.m. 9.30.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Holy Communion (Reach) Matins and Eucharist (St. Mary's) Evensong (Reach)
10th	TRINITY X	
	9.30.a.m. 11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Parish Communion (St. Mary's - Swaffham Bulbeck worshipping with us) Family Communion (Reach) Evensong (St. Mary's)
17th, 24th, 31st TRINITY XI, XII, XIII		
	9.30.a.m. 1.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Parish Communion (St. Mary's) Family Communion (Reach) Evensong (St. Mary's) ************************************

*WE are not OUT OF REACH - for prompt attention contact

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SHIRE HALL TITBITS

As your representative on the County Council, I often get complaints regarding the various activities of Shire Hall and its departments. Obviously, many of these matters are private and, when appropriate, are treated very confidentially according to my constituents' wishes.

An example of a more public worry is the effect of Dutch Elm disease on the trees that border the BllO2, notably between Lode and Quy. The problem, which I ought to have noticed myself, is that at least six trees have died, and might pose a threat to motorists should branches fall. It was drawn to my attention by a member of Bottisham Parish Council and I in turn mentioned it to the County Surveyor's office at Ely. The tree experts will take it from there and the usual form is to contact the owners (if any) who will be asked to remove the danger. Trees on the highway verge are dealt with directly by the County.

I am so pleased that Lode and Quy have got 40mph speed limits on their sections of the Bllo2. I hope all will observe them as almost everyone in Lode, for example, crosses the road, and here I think especially of the children going to the Village Collge. I appear to have concentrated on highway matters this month, but they and the Bllo2 are important to many people and a large proportion of the commuters in my electoral division, including Reach, use the road to Cambridge. We must ensure that they do so safely.

Lastly, humble apolysies for being responsible for the partial demolition of two road signs in Burwell Road. We have had a remarkably unproductive hay-making time time this year and a bad piece of width judgment didn't help! Thank goodness for insurance - once again.

Geoffrey Woollard, County Councillor

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Parents and Friends of Swaffham Prior School
An invitation to all Parents and Friend

An OPEN MEETING will be held on Monday, September 15th at 7.30.p.m. This meeting will discuss ways of raising funds in the coming year to help the school buy essential books and equipment. If you have any ideas, opinions or talent for raising moneyPLEASE COME

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BOTTISHAM COVER THE POOL APPEAL

Aqualympics - September 13th

Mark the afternoon of Saturday September 13th down in t:e diary as an afternoon of fun for the family, and especially children. Beginning at 3.30.p.m. at Bottisham Pool there will be an afternoon of watersports in which teams of children will be competing in sometimes the craziest of competitions! There will be 20 other sideshows also, such as a Fire Engine Display, etc., and the event will finish with a monster barbecue at about 6.00.p.m. After this people who would like to stay on for the evening can do so - the pool will be floodlit and open for swimming. Admission programmes will be on sale in mid-August.

Children's teams for the watersports will be forming for the villages during the summer holidays, and we shall be contacting primary schools when school begins again. If your child hasn't got involved and would like to take part in the fun in the water just bring a swimsuit along that afternoon: there will be a scratch team made up then and there for last minute entrants.

Come along to the Pool on September 13th and have some fun!

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REACH

This place, set down beneath a china sky, A minor jewel in England's crown, Cushioned on quilt of emerald green, With promises of gold reward - This little Reach, this June.

Majestic buildings, drunken stance,
Soak in the passing time through timbers
Steeped in wine of summers past.
Venerable dames, rose complexioned, groomed,
Show beauty spots of marble pargetting.
Russet brick among the timber,
Narrow, not mean, reflects the glow of summer sun,
Retaining warmth.

Conservatories, limpet like, tap the source And groan with greenery, Vibrant, moist, warm as a lover's kiss, Gleaming panes reflect the truth, Constrained in rigid rows of right and wrong -Snow white, those frames of innocence.

Pink and white and pillars gold,
Roses veiling ancient faces, retain scent of ages past
And, sitting in the arbor, human sense is overwhelmed
As honeysuckle's heady balm drips down,
Captivating bees and lovers, passing by,
And children's laughing games enhance a quiet conversation.

We look, hold hands, still may not touch Onlookers to a game of life,
The void exists, we cannot cross
The narrow path 'tween us and them,
Forsaking all that went before
Remembering nothing, as we go creating vacuum
To smother pain and retribution.

Inside, the blackened beams demand obligatory stoop, Do not oppress Below, broad planked floors creak
In sympathy with steps of passing time.
But quiet, so quiet, before the dawn
So still the breath of sleep in dreams of love.

Time is stilled in little Reach,
As is our love, a space in time fulfilled.
Will this love die, or just grow old, as dwellings,
Side by side, relying on each other,
Drinking in the passing years, for ever,
As little Reach, in June In little Reach, too soon. Anon.

- 7 -

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JEREMY PATTERSON B. Tech

Sometimes it's nice to hear news of people who have left the village and I thought some readers might be pleased to hear the 'latest' about Jeremy Patterson, formerly of Ditchfields.

Many of you will remember that he was a member of the Village Centre Committee and for a time its Secretary and Chief Darts Tournament Organiser! He was always one of those willing helpers and he was missed greatly when he left for University.

I wasn't really surprised that he decided to continue with his studies. After spending many weekends driving my tractors it came as no shock when he announced that he was off to Bradford to study. Agricultural Engineering! What's more he did so well with his 'A' levels that David Brown sponsored him.

Now, four years later, he has obtained a First Class Honours Degree in Mechanical Engineering. Next year he is off to Silsoe (The National College of Engineering) where he will work for his Masters Degree. Jeremy still visits us occasionally - usually armed with 'David Brown' tractor pamphlets and needless to say a few worthy remarks on machinery maintenance.

J.R.

THIS MONTH'S CECIPE

Summer Chicken Salad

2½1b cooked chicken

6oz rice

15oz can peach slices

9½0z can beansprouts or ½1b fresh bean sprouts

2 large green apples

4oz stuffed olives

4 pint mayonnaise

Seasoning

2 tesp chopped parsley

paprika pepper.

Cook rice and cool. Remove flesh from the chicken in large pieces. Mix with drained peaches (keep juice), cored and sliced apples, beansprouts and olives. Blend the mayonnaise with the peach juice (sufficient to make a thinnish dressing) and mix into the chicken mixture. Season. Stir parsley into the rice and grange round the edge of serving dish. Fill the centre with the chicken mixture. Sprinkle with paprika and chill before serving.
